



September 11, 2019

California Asparagus Commission to be Suspended Based Upon Outcome of Producer Vote

TO THE CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS PRODUCER ADDRESSED:

At the request of the Board of Directors of the California Asparagus Commission (Commission) the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) conducted a 30-day referendum among California asparagus producers to determine if they favored suspension of the Commission. The vote took place between July 29, 2019 and August 27, 2019.

According to the Commission Law, the Department shall suspend the operation of the Commission if at least 40 percent of the total number of eligible producers participate in the referendum and either one of the following occur:

- 65 percent or more of the producers who vote in the referendum vote in favor of suspension, and the producers so voting marketed a majority of the total quantity of asparagus in the 2018 marketing year; **or**
- A majority of the producers who vote in the referendum vote in favor of suspension, and the producers so voting marketed 65 percent or more of the total quantity of asparagus in the 2018 marketing year.

A summary of the referendum results is presented below.

Voter Participation

Portion of All Eligible Producers Who Participated by Casting Valid Ballots:	44.4%
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Favoring Suspension

Portion of Those Producers Voting Who Favored Suspension of the Asparagus Commission:	100%
Portion of the Voted Volume Represented by Those Producers Favoring Suspension of the Asparagus Commission:	100%

Opposing Suspension

Portion of Those Producers Voting Who Opposed Suspension of the Asparagus Commission:	0%
Portion of the Voted Volume Represented by Those Producers Opposing Suspension of the Asparagus Commission:	0%



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The referendum results indicate that **the voting criterion required for suspension have been met.** Therefore, as prescribed by the Commission Law, **the operation of the Asparagus Commission shall be suspended at the end of the current Marketing Year, which is December 31, 2019.**

If you have questions concerning the referendum results, please call Kacie Fritz at this office at (916) 900-5095. If you have questions about the activities of the California Asparagus Commission or the winddown of the Commission, please call Cheri Watte, Program CEO, at 916-690-3111.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Diaz-Cretu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathy Diaz-Cretu, Interim Chief
Marketing Branch