



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

January 16, 2019

**2019-2020 Fiscal Year Assessment Rate Established
For the California Melon Research Board**

TO CALIFORNIA MELON PRODUCERS AND HANDLERS:

Based on the recommendation of the California Melon Research Board, the California Department of Food and Agriculture has established the 2019-2020 fiscal year assessment rate on all melons produced for commercial purposes (cantaloupes, honeydews, honeyballs, casabas, crenshaws, Persians, Santa Claus and similar varieties *except watermelons*) in order to fund melon research activities.

The total 2019-2020 fiscal year assessment rate has been set at **\$0.02 per cwt.** which is to be split evenly at \$0.01 per cwt. for both producers and handlers. This assessment applies to all melons delivered by producers to handlers and marketed by handlers during the period March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020. The 2019-2020 fiscal year assessment rate is the same as the 2018-2019 fiscal year assessment rate.

The Melon Research Board will supply monthly assessment report forms to all handlers who receive melons from producers. Handlers must pay the total assessment but are authorized to deduct the producer's assessment from any monies owed to the producer. Any producer who is also a handler shall pay both the producer and handler assessments.

Persons who produce or market less than 5,000 standard boxes of melons, or the equivalent, during the 2019-2020 fiscal year season and who pay assessments may apply for a refund of those assessments after February 29, 2020.

If you have questions regarding this assessment or about the activities of the California Melon Research Board, please call J.D. Allen, Manager of the Board, at 559-591-0435. You may also call Dennis Manderfield of this office at 916- 900-5018.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief
Marketing Branch

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