



January 13, 2020

NOTICE OF 2020 CALIFORNIA PRUNE BOARD NOMINATION MEETINGS

To the Independent Prune Producer addressed:

The current two-year term of office for all members and alternate members of the California Prune Board (Board) expires on May 31, 2020. In accordance with the Marketing Order for California Prunes (Marketing Order), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) is calling district meetings for the purpose of receiving nominations of independent producers qualified to fill positions on the Board. A complete schedule of the meetings and a current listing of the Board’s members and alternate members is enclosed. The table below summarizes the independent producer positions on the Board that will be filled through this year’s nomination and preference voting process:

Independent Producer - MEMBERS	Independent Producer - ALTERNATES
7 Members (one from each district) and 1 Member At-large (may be from any district)	5 Floating Alternates (may be from any district)

There will be a total of **eight** independent producer **member seats on the Board** for the 2020-22 term of office. Seven of these positions will be filled to represent each of the seven districts defined in the Marketing Order. Additionally, since the tonnage of prunes handled by the independent processors as first handlers exceeded the tonnage of prunes handled by any cooperative as a first handler in the preceding crop year, one at-large member position will be allocated to independent producers for the upcoming term of office. The at-large position will be filled without reference to a specific district.

There will be a total of **five** independent producer **alternate member seats on the Board** for the 2020-22 term of office, and these positions will continue to be classified as “floating alternates”. This means that at Board meetings, such alternates will be able to serve in the absence of any independent producer member rather than just for one assigned member. These positions will be filled by independent producers without reference to a specific district in the state. Nominations for alternate member positions on the Board will be received at

(over)



each district meeting, and five of the nominated candidates will be appointed through the subsequent preference voting process conducted by mail. This “floating alternate” concept will also continue to be used for the processor sector represented on the Board.

All independent producers of prunes in California are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in these meetings. To make nominations at the meetings or to be eligible for appointment, you must be an independent producer of prunes in your district. Entities that qualify in more than one district must choose one district in which they wish to make nominations. Entities owned by the same person count as separate entities as long as each operation has its own legal standing and representative at the meeting. If you wish to nominate a person to serve on the Board, you should determine the candidate’s eligibility and willingness to serve prior to the nomination meeting. *Voting by proxy is not permitted.*

Representatives of the Marketing Order will be present at each meeting to receive nominations and answer questions regarding the operations of the Marketing Order. **All meetings will be held in conjunction with a no-host lunch or dinner.** At each meeting, Donn Zea, the Board’s Executive Director, will give a presentation on the Board’s generic marketing campaign and prune industry statistical data, followed by a discussion on industry strategy. All California prune producers are welcome to attend the meetings and to participate in the discussions, but only independent producers (growers other than cooperative members) may participate in the nomination portion of the meetings.

Following the close of the nomination procedures, the names of qualified candidates will be printed on ballots and mailed to all independent prune producers for preference voting. If you have questions about the nomination process or meetings, please call Becky Poland, Executive Coordinator of the California Prune Board, at (916) 749-3442, or Kacie Fritz, of the Department’s Marketing Branch, at (916) 900-5018.

Sincerely,



Joe Monson, Branch Chief
Marketing Branch

Enclosure

NOMINATION MEETING SCHEDULE
(See below for District Boundaries)

DISTRICT(S)	DATE	LOCATION	MEETING TIME (NO-HOST MEAL)
2, 3 & 6	Thurs, January 30, 2020	Marcello's (click for info) 1235 Bridge Street Yuba City, CA 95991 Ph: (530) 674-2171	5:30 – 7:00pm (Meeting/Dinner)
1, 4 & 5	Wed, February 5, 2020	East Coast Pub 426 Walker Street Orland, CA 95963 Ph: 530) 865-2550	5:30 – 7:00pm (Meeting/Dinner)
7	Mon, February 4, 2020	Tommy's (click for info) 130 N. Encina Visalia, CA 93291 Ph: (559) 627-6077	12:00 – 1:30pm (Meeting/Lunch)

If you have any questions regarding the nomination meetings, please contact Becky Poland at bpoland@californiaprunes.org or via phone at (916) 749-3442.

NOTE: The district boundaries remain unchanged from the current term. Please review them carefully to determine your district.

- District No. 1** The counties of Colusa, Glenn, Solano and Yolo
- District No. 2** That portion of Sutter County **north** of the line extending along Franklin Road easterly to the Yuba County line and westerly to the Colusa County line
- District No. 3** That portion of Sutter county **south** of the line extending along Franklin Road easterly to the Yuba County line and westerly to the Colusa County line
- District No. 4** The counties of Alpine, Amador, Del Norte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Tehama and Trinity
- District No. 5** Butte County
- District No. 6** Yuba County
- District No. 7** The counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Benito, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Tulare and all other counties not included in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

INDEPENDENT PRODUCER REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE CURRENT TERM (2018-2020)

<u>PRUNE MARKETING COMMITTEE</u>			<u>CALIFORNIA PRUNE BOARD</u>	
DISTRICT	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	MEMBER	FLOATING ALTERNATES
1	Mike Vereschagin	Richard Conte	Mike Vereschagin	Matt Bozzo Tyler Christensen Joe Mitchell Sandra Mitchell
2	Perminder Bains	Manjit Gosal	Perminder Bains	
3	Sandra Mitchell	David Waters	Neill Mitchell	
4	Curt Eller	Tyler Christensen	David Wohletz	
5	Dan Bozzo	Jonathan Lavy	Dan Bozzo	
6	Ranvir Singh	Tirath Johal	Ranvir Singh	
7	Lucille Demetriff	Jim Demetriff	Jim Demetriff	
At-large	N/A	N/A	N/A	