



February 28, 2020

**Notice of the 2020 Assessment Rates for the
California Processing Tomato Inspection Program**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Upon a recommendation from the Processing Tomato Advisory Board (Board), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) has established a base inspection assessment rate of \$13.00 per load of processing tomatoes for the 2020 season. This is \$1.25 higher than the base rate that was in effect for the 2019 season.

The assessment rate applies to loads of processing tomatoes weighing more than six tons that are delivered by California producers for inspection at stations operated by the California Processing Tomato Inspection Program. This assessment is shared equally among the producer and the processor. Specifically, a base rate of \$6.50 per load is levied on the producer and a base rate of \$6.50 per load is levied on the processor. The actual inspection assessment will vary by inspection station, based on a three-year average of labor productivity at each station. A schedule of assessment rates by inspection station is enclosed.

Loads of processing tomatoes weighing six tons or less are not required to be inspected, but are subject to an administrative-only assessment. The administrative-only assessment rate for the 2020 season is \$0.32 per ton, which represents an increase of 7 percent from last year. This assessment is shared and handled in the same manner as the assessment on inspected loads.

The Board will be sending out assessment forms to processors prior to the beginning of the season. Processors are authorized and required to deduct the producer's share of assessments due from any monies owed to producers from whom they received processing tomatoes.

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All assessments due under the California Processing Tomato Inspection Program should be remitted directly to the Processing Tomato Advisory Board. Checks should be made payable to the Processing Tomato Advisory Board and sent to:

Processing Tomato Advisory Board
P. O. Box 1800
Davis, CA 95617-1800

Assessment payments are due and payable on the first day of each week following the week in which processing tomatoes are received for inspection from producers. If assessments are not paid (postmarked) by the first day of the week following the week in which they are due, they will be considered delinquent. Processors whose assessment payments are delinquent may be subject to the penalty provisions of the California Food and Agricultural Code.

If you have any questions regarding the assessment rates for the California Processing Tomato Inspection Program, please contact Karen Moreno, Manager of the Processing Tomato Advisory Board, at (530) 759-7501 or Justin Ellerby with the Department's Marketing Branch at (916) 900-5018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Monson".

Joe Monson, Branch Chief
Marketing Branch

Enclosure

**Processing Tomato Advisory Board
2020 Inspection Fee Distribution
\$13.00 Average Base Rate**

Inspection Station	Inspection Fee per Load
Dixon	\$13.76
Escalon	\$14.00
Hanford	\$13.54
Hollister	\$15.74
Ingomar	\$12.54
JG Boswell Kern	\$13.14
JG Boswell Kings	\$13.34
Liberty Williams	\$12.80
Los Banos	\$12.64
Los Gatos	\$12.66
Oakdale	\$13.40
Patterson	\$16.86
PCP	\$12.80
Santa Nella	\$12.56
Stanislaus	\$12.94
Toma Tek	\$13.04
Valley	\$13.62
Exempt Tonnage (per ton)	\$0.32