

Web site: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i & c/cfm.html>

Until 1977, regulations required farmers to properly pack size, and label their fresh fruits, nuts, and vegetables in standard containers to transport and sell in markets anywhere other than the farm site. Certified farmers' markets in 1977, by Department regulations, exempted farmers from packing, sizing, and labeling requirements.

The Direct marketing of agricultural products through CFM's benefits the agricultural community and consumers. CFM's provide a flexible marketing alternative without disrupting other produce marketing systems. The high quality and fresh produce brought to the CFM's by its' producers creates a diverse market and also provides the consumer with opportunity to meet the farmer and learn how their food supply is produced.

CFM's provide a great opportunity for small farmers to market their products without the added expenses of commercial preparation. This increases their net income and makes it possible for them to stay in business. There are approximately 520 certified farmers' markets and approximately 2,900 certified producers. Of these markets, 51% are year-round markets and the balance is seasonal. In a typical year, the majority of the seasonal markets operate from April through October of each year.

California Federation of Certified Farmers' Markets - Good source to find markets throughout CA.

Web site: <http://www.cafarmersmarkets.com/>

CERTIFIED PRODUCER'S CERTIFICATE WORKSHEET

The registration process is essentially simple: Name, address, telephone number, farm location, and what you grow. The locations will be checked to verify the crops grown. To make the registration process go as quickly as possible, please have the following information with you:

1. A map showing where your field/fields are located; one map per location.
2. A list of commodities grown, harvest season, and quantity grown (e.g. 1 1/2 acres or 2 rows x 100 ft. long.) The estimated production for each commodity in boxes or pounds.
3. Leases for land you farm but do not own. Leases must be current, signed by lessor and lessee, and both signatures notarized. For leased permanent crops (e.g. oranges), the lease must be entered into prior to bloom; for annual or biannual crops (e.g. lettuce), the lease must be dated prior to planting. The lease must also state the size and location of the property, the duration of the lease, the terms of the lease, and the dollar amount. (The lessee must also assume all financial risks associated with farming the leased property, perform those activities required for agricultural production of the leased property, and be in true control of the land (e.g. list the property on a pesticide permit).
4. List of the counties where you wish to sell your produce.
5. Fees in Fresno County: 0-6 months = \$150.00, 7-12 months = \$240.00

A number will be issued as part of the registration process and it will remain yours until you quit the program. Three embossed copies of your certificate will be issued to you and a copy of your certificate will be sent to the counties listed on your certificate.

When selling at certified markets, a valid, embossed copy of the certificate must be displayed. Amended certificates are issued to add locations, crops, or markets; there is no charge for amendments.

For more information:

Fresno County Department of Agriculture
1730 S Maple, Fresno CA 93702
Standards Division (559) 600-7510

ISSUING CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKETS:

Farmer's market certificates can only be issued to a **governmental agency, non-profit organization or a certified producer**. Fill out the application provided by CDFA.

Event permit from the Department of Health - Environmental Health

Market Rules should include:

The governing body of a certified farmers' market operation for or by more than one certified producer shall promulgate a set of market rules and regulations which specify procedural criteria pertaining to:

(1) Admission of any producer to the market(s).

(2) Admission of any agricultural products to the market(s).

(3) Removal of any producer from the market(s).

(4) Allowance of a certified producer selling on behalf of another certified producer as provided in Section 1392.4.

(e) The governing body of a certified farmers' market has authority to establish specific rules and regulations for any market(s) under its control which regulate the:

(1) Type and number of producers and certified producers admitted.

(2) Type and number of certified and noncertifiable products admitted.

(3) Methods of selling certified and noncertifiable agricultural products.

(f) The certified farmers' market's rules and regulations shall contain a clause, which states that the governing body and its designated agents shall implement and enforce all rules and regulations pertaining to the operation of a certified farmers' market in a fair and equitable manner.

Map:

A map of the market with cross streets and lay out of the market with location of the certified and non-certified sections laid out.

Fees:

Fees for a new market must be discussed with the Deputy in charge of the F&V Division to decide on the amount due. Fees are based on time and mileage for inspection at the market and paperwork at the office.