

WINDOW ON AGRICULTURE

Office of the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner

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Marilyn Vernon and Suzanne Ostrom

USDA REQUESTS NOMINATIONS TO FILL UPCOMING VACANCIES ON NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking nominations to fill five upcoming vacancies on the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman will appoint persons to serve a 5-year term of office to commence January 24, 2005, and run until January 24, 2010.

The NOSB is a 15-member board responsible for developing and recommending to the Secretary a proposed National List of Approved and Prohibited Substances. The NOSB also advises the Secretary on all other aspects of the National Organic Program.

USDA is asking for nominations to fill the following five upcoming NOSB vacancies: organic producer (two positions), organic handler, retailer, or environmentalist. To serve on the NOSB, an individual must be either an owner or operator of an organic production operation, an owner or operator of an organic handling operation, an individual who owns or operates a retail establishment with significant trade in organic products, or an individual with expertise in areas of environmental protection and resource conservation. USDA will follow equal opportunity practices in all appointments to the NOSB.

Written nominations, accompanied by resumes, must be postmarked on or before June 14, 2004, and sent to Ms. Katherine E.

Benham, Advisory Board Specialist, National Organic Program, USDA-AMS-TMP-NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 4008-S, Ag Stop 0268, Washington, D.C. 20250. For more information, contact Ms. Katherine Benham at (202) 205-7806; e-mail: Katherine.benham@usda.gov; or fax: (202) 205-7808.

BUFFER ZONES AROUND SALMON HABITAT

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) now has an interactive web page to assist pesticide users in understanding limitations of use for certain pesticides near waters containing salmon.

In a January 2004 ruling, a U.S. District Court in Washington State decided that 55 specific pesticides required buffer zones when used near salmon-supporting waters. USEPA has reviewed these pesticides and the list has been reduced to 36 pesticides.

1,3-Dichloropropene (Telone)	Lindane (Lindane)
2,4-D (Weedar 64)	Linuron (Lorox)
Acephate (Orthene)	Malathion (Malaspray)
Azinphos-methyl (guthion)	Methamidophos (Monitor)
Bensulide (Prefar)	Methidathion (Supracide)
Bromoxynil (Buctril)	Methomyl (Lannate)
Carbaryl (Sevin)	Methyl Parathion (PennCap-M)
Carbofuran (Furadan)	Metalochlor(Dual)
Chlorothalonil (Bravo)	Metribuzin (Sencor)
Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban, Dursban)	Naled (Dibrom)
Coumaphos (Agridip)	Oxyfluorfen(Goal)
Diazinon (Spectracide)	Pendimethalin (Prowl)
Diflufenzuron (Dimilin)	Phorate (Thimet)
Dimethoate (Cygon)	Prometryn (Caparol)

FEE INCREASES

Disulfoton (Di-Syston)	Propargite (Omite)
Diuron (Karmex)	Tebuthiuron (Spike)
Ethoprop (Mocap)	Tryclopyr - ester (Garlon 4)
Fenbutatin-oxide (Vendex)	Trifluralin (Treflan)

General information on the limitations for using these pesticides can be found on the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's website at: www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/es/salmonid.htm

USEPA's interactive web page can be found at: www.epa.gov/espp/wtc/uselimitation.htm

By selecting the online help button on the right side of the page you will get the directions for how to use the mapping system. On this site you can identify your location and the active ingredient of the pesticide you want to use. You will then be given the specific buffer zone requirements for your use.

USEPA is continuing to review the pesticides in the court order. The limitations for use of these pesticides may change, so consult the USEPA website prior to your application, but not too far in advance to be certain that you have the most current information.

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors approved an increase of fees for the Agricultural Commissioner's office. These new fees will become effective July 1, 2004. The fees were increased due to increased costs, and inflation adjustments.

The new fees were increased based on our costs to provide services to our customers. Fee increases were made in the following areas:

Certified Producers Certificate:	\$50.00.
Certified Farmers Market Certificate:	\$50.00.
Certificate of Quarantine Compliance:	\$10.00.
Certificate of Quarantine Compliance: (Additional certificates, same visit).	\$5.00.
Level I New Vineyard or Replant: <10 acres,	\$309.00.
Level I New Vineyard or Replant, >10 acres <50 acres:	\$700.00.
Level I New Vineyard or Replant, 50 acres or more:	\$947.00.
Level II and III New Vineyard and Level II Replant, <10 acres:	\$2,675.00.
Level II and III New Vineyard and Level II Replant, >10 acres <50 acres:	\$4,013.00.
Level II and III New Vineyard and Level II Replant, 50 acres or more:	\$5,145.00.
PRMD Project Review:	\$192.00/per project

