

FARM AND RANCH RULES & REGULATIONS CHECKLIST

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Business

- ___ Fictitious Business Name: File with the county and newspaper <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/launch/choose-your-business-name-register>
- ___ Liability Insurance: a critical component to protecting your farm; need farm liability, product liability may be required by Certified Farmers Markets, buyers or others involved in marketing
- ___ IRS Employer Identification Number EIN, Tax ID Number: <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/apply-for-an-employer-identification-number-ein-online>
- ___ Licenses and Permits: Refer to state or city laws. Needed for Christmas tree sales. <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/launch-your-business/apply-licenses-permits#section-header-2>
- ___ CalGOLD Search: Search for regulations specific to your area. Permits are needed inside city limits, so use the filter on the right hand side of the page calgold.ca.gov

Employees

- ___ Employment Development Department EDD Number: eddservices.edd.ca.gov
- ___ Workers Compensation Insurance: dir.ca.gov/DWC/
- ___ Payroll Taxes: irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed
- ___ OSHA Farm Safety Posters: osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.athruz?pType=Industry&pID=81
- ___ California Department of Industrial Relations Workplace postings: dir.ca.gov/wpnodeb.html

Production: Livestock

- ___ USDA inspected slaughter: aphis.usda.gov/import_export/downloads/slaughter_list.pdf
- ___ Transportation across state lines requires a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), and many species require an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit. cdfa.ca.gov//ahfss/Animal_Health/Entry_Requirements.html
- ___ Milk and milk products: cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Milk_and_Dairy_Food_Safety/index.html
- ___ Beef Check off: producer-funded marketing and research program designed to increase domestic and/or international demand for beef. beefboard.org/checkoff/frequently-asked-questions/
- ___ Organic Livestock: Comply with National Organic Program standards; certify production practices and slaughter through 3rd party certifier. ams.usda.gov/about-ams/programs-offices/national-organic-program
- ___ Brand Inspection cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Livestock_ID/index.html#Inspection
- ___ Scrapie Ear Tag: for sheep and goats aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_scrapie_recordkeeping.pdf
- ___ Sales by weight must use a certified scale, certified by your County Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights & Measures

United States Department of Agriculture, University of California, Placer and Nevada Counties cooperating.

Bees

California requires all beekeepers to register their apiaries with the County Agricultural Commissioner where the apiaries are located.

Poultry

20,000 bird Federal exemption govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2012-title9-vol2/pdf/CFR-2012-title9-vol2-sec381-10.pdf

Overview of On-farm Poultry Processing with USDA Exemption ucanr.edu/sites/CESonomaAgOmbuds/Poultry_Processing_Exemptions/

Nevada County Poultry Resources including 1,000 Bird Processing Exemption, HAACCP sanitary operating procedures mynevadacounty.com/1280/Poultry-Resources

Label requirements: fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/f4af7c74-2b9f-4484-bb16-fd8f9820012d/Labeling_Requirements_Guide.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

CSA Poultry Slaughter and Marketing Guidelines cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/mpes/pdfs/CSAPoultrySummary.pdf

Proper processing and storage: cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/PFR_FAQ.aspx

Eggs

CDFA Egg Handler's Registration: cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/mpes/pdfs/EggHandlersRegistrationApplication.pdf

Requirements for egg handlers include: labeling, quality, refrigeration, and defects.

Production: Crops**Food Safety**

Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) regulations fda.gov/food/guidance-regulation-food-and-dietary-supplements/food-safety-modernization-act-fsma

California Small Farm Food Safety Guidelines: CSA and Producer's Certificate requirement: cdfa.ca.gov/is/i_&c/sffsg.html

Marketing

Certified Farmers Market and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): Register through California Department of Food and Agriculture: cdfa.ca.gov/is/i_&c/cfm.html

Farmers Market: Certified Producer's Certificate: cdfa.ca.gov/egov/farmersmarket/

Farm Stand: regulated by Ag Department and/or Environmental Health; rules vary by county.

Produce Stand or Farm Store: State regulations changed as of January 1, 2015. Contact your county ag department for current regulations.

Scales must be sealed annually by County Ag Commissioner in the county where produce is grown.

Labeling: Fresh Produce Container Labeling and Proof of Ownership Requirements mynevadacounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/15725/Proof-of-Ownership-and-Container-Labeling-Requirements-Handout-PDF?bidId=

Flowers

Direct sales: California State Board of Equalization to charge sales tax (not necessary with wholesale) salestaxapplication.net/california-state-sales-tax-online-registration/

Nursery Starts

Nursery License Application: Issued by CDFA through County Ag Departments. Fee waived for sales under \$1,000 in the county of origin. cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pe/nsc/docs/nipm/nipm_2_1_nsy_lic_app.pdf

Seeds

Apply to sell seeds through the California Department of Food and Agriculture cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pe/nsc/docs/seed/SeedSalesApp_Instructions.pdf

Organic

Registered Organic: Register with the state to begin the organic process. If your annual gross farm sales are less than \$5,000, and you follow NOP Standards, you may state that your products are organic without being certified. cdfa.ca.gov/is/organicprogram/

Certified Organic: If your annual gross farm sales are more than \$5,000, you must be certified organic by a USDA accredited certifying agency. CCOF is a commonly used certifier. ccof.org/

Pesticide Registration and Reporting

State and federal laws regulate pesticide use but the laws are enforced by the counties. If you use pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, miticides, rodenticides, etc.) on commercial crops, including pasture for commercial livestock, you must have an operator ID or pesticide applicators' license.

Placer County: placer.ca.gov/1559/Online-Use-Reporting

Nevada County: mynevadacounty.com/1056/Pesticide-Use-Reporting

Water

If your water comes from an irrigation district, the district holds the water rights. The California Water Resources Control Board regulates water rights and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regulates physical access to water bodies for purposes of diversion (pumping or otherwise).

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Irrigated Lands Program. If you irrigate land for commercial crop or livestock production, you must join a watershed group OR obtain your own permit and monitor your own water quality. Placer-Nevada-South Sutter-North Sacramento (PNSSNS) Subwatershed Group is our local watershed group. cleanwaters.info



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