

Oregon Strawberry Commission PO Box 55252 Portland, OR 97238 503-274-5458 www.oregon-strawberries.org oregonstrawberries@gmail.com

TO:	Oregon Strawberry Fresh Market Growers
FROM:	Oregon Strawberry Commission
RE:	2023 Fresh Market Grower Assessment Report

The Oregon Strawberry Commission (OSC) was established in 1967 and was the first Oregon berry commission to be created by the state. The OSC's mission is to benefit strawberry growers through promotion, research, and education. These are funded with assessment dollars collected from each crop season.

The Oregon Strawberry Commission average grower/packer fresh-market price for 2023 assessments is \$1.00 per pound. This number is generated as an industry average to be used by the commission for assessment purposes only. The current assessment rate is to be calculated at 1% of the gross value of the raw product. Fresh market growers will use the estimated average price above to calculate this assessment.

Assessment reports are due on September 15, 2023 for the assessment period of December 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023. Reports must be postmarked by September 15, 2023 to avoid late fees. Any report postmarked after September 15, 2022 will be charged a 10% late fee plus 1.5% interest per month. Please complete and submit the enclosed report form, additional report forms may also be found on our website at www.oregon-strawberries.org.

Exemption Note: Under *any* of the following circumstances, assessment payments are not required. Please complete and return the report form indicating your exemption if applicable:

- All of your strawberries are sold directly to a processor, or
- You sell less than 1,000 pounds of strawberries (total pounds sold reporting required, see report form), or
- You are a *Certified Organic strawberry grower (**report required** see below).

*An organic producer will be exempt from assessment if the producer presents the following information to the commission by September 15th of each year:

Either: A current certificate from a certifying agent under the Organic Foods Production Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6501-6522 and its implementing regulations;

or

A statement of exemption from certification under the Organic Foods Production Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6501-6522 and its implementing regulations;

and A production report signed by the producer containing the producer's name, mailing address, species of berries, and pounds and price for each species.

If you have questions, please contact the business office and we will be glad to help. If you are no longer growing strawberries and do not expect to grow strawberries in the future, please let us know so that we may remove your name from our mailing list.