

USDA and Citrus Administrative
Committee
Seeks Diversity

Citrus Administrative Committee

- The Citrus Administrative Committee administers Federal Marketing Order No. 905, which regulates the minimum grade and size of fresh Florida citrus fruit shipments to interstate and export markets.
- The Committee conducts its business through in-person and virtual meetings. The Committee typically meets 3-4 times annually.
- Though the Committee is not currently engaged in research and promotion, the order does authorize such activities.

Committee Structure

- To date, the Committee has been comprised of members and alternate members designated as growers and shippers. However, new rule language expected to receive approval, will simplify Committee Members and Alternates to a single designation of Grower Members.
- The new Committee Structure will require ten Grower Members and ten Alternates – each of whom produces citrus fruit for the fresh market south and east of the Suwanee River.
- The Committee also has a Public Member and Alternate Public Member who have no direct financial interest in the production or marketing of citrus fruit. These are set for next two years

Nomination Process

- Requests for nominations will be publicized in all industry trade press and through your trade associations. USDA recently instructed each marketing order committee to place increased emphasis on seeking a more diverse slate of applicants. Guidance provided by USDA AMS related to diversity states:
- *USDA-AMS policy is that the diversity of the board should reflect the diversity of their industries in experience of members, methods of production and distribution, marketing strategies, and other distinguishing factors that will bring different perspectives and ideas to the table. When submitting nominations, the industry must consider the diversity of the population served and the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the members to serve a diverse population.*
- We might add to this statement, that diversity may include gender, minority groups, persons with disabilities, etc. All are welcome and encouraged to seek nomination.

Nomination Process

- The nomination of Members and Alternate Members may be conducted in person, by mail, by electronic mail or other means according to rules and regulations recommended by the Committee and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- All persons nominated shall, prior to selection by the Secretary of Agriculture, qualify by filing a written qualification and acceptance statement indicating such person's qualifications and willingness to serve in the position for which nominated.

Please consider potential nominees and to contact
the CAC office with suggestions.

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