

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Specialty Crops Inspection Division

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REMARKS: The following information regarding Terminal Market Inspection (TMI) certificates provided to Shippers will be added to the General Market Manual under Inspection Certificate as follows.

A copy of the certificate is to be provided to the listed shipper upon completion. Certificate copies will be provided by the certifying inspector or designated administrative support personnel via email or fax within 24 hours of completion of the certificate. Providing shippers a copy of the certificate reinforces inspection program integrity by deterring certificate tampering. This ensures that both shippers and receivers have accurate information on which to settle claims involving shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Email addresses and fax numbers of shippers with FEIRS account numbers can be found on the SCI National Shippers Contact List. Other commonly listed shippers can be found on the PACA National Shippers Contact List or via a local copy of Blue Book Services, Inc. "The Blue Book" directory. Both lists are available on the SCI Inspection Operations SharePoint site for Federal employees or via a Federal Program Manager for Federal-State employees. The SCI Document Control Team updates the SCI National Shippers Contact List when alerted to new or updated information; PACA updates its list annually. When either is updated, notification is sent to employees along with a reminder to use only the most current list. The current SCI National Shippers Contact List will have the date of the latest update in the upper right hand corner. Lists from earlier dates are NOT current and are not to be used. Employees may save lists locally to their laptop or desktop computer but will need to delete the previous version and save each current list as updated notifications are received.

Occasionally employees may receive requests directly from shippers to update or create new contacts on these lists. Updates or new contacts received will be forwarded to the SCI Document Control Team at SCIDocumentControl@ams.usda.gov to help ensure lists remain current and useful.

This PATCH represents official guidance. This PATCH is scheduled to be incorporated into the document listed above. After incorporation into the document listed above this PATCH will become obsolete. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.