

California Walnut Board

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TO: ALL CALIFORNIA WALNUT GROWERS

FROM: Robert Verloop, Executive Director

DATE: February 24, 2025

RE: **California Walnut Board Elections (Grower Candidates)**

Every two years, the California Walnut Board conducts elections for the Board of Directors under the supervision of the USDA. The packet you have received contains the guidelines for the election process and the forms required to be nominated and placed on the grower's ballot.

The California walnut industry requires the involvement of growers and handlers of all types and sizes to lend their ideas, critical thinking, and time to advance the industry. Guided by the 2023 Strategic Plan, growers and handlers can contribute to the industry in many ways, including serving on the Board of Directors and/or one of several committees. We encourage individuals who recognize the importance of board functions and are willing to put their "company" hats aside and think and act for the betterment of the overall industry. Elected board members serve a critical role in guiding our industry, offering their unique knowledge and expertise, representing the interests of growers and handlers in their regions, and providing oversight and governance functions to the California Walnut Board.

Eligible walnut growers can petition to have candidate names included on the grower ballots by using the enclosed form(s) and the procedures outlined on the form(s) (refer to the district map on the reverse side of this memo for more information). The nomination petition forms must be postmarked and filed with the California Walnut Board no later than April 1, 2025, in order to have the candidate name(s) on the grower ballot, which will be mailed in early April.

Getting involved with the board is especially important for young people, who represent the future of California walnuts. Many California walnut farmers are from multi-generational farm families that want to see their agricultural legacies live on – and your sons and daughters hold the ticket. Please encourage them to get involved with the industry!

California Walnut Board	
2025 Election Timeline	
Nomination Period	March 1-31
Election Period	April 14 – May 16
USDA Certification	June
Results Announced	August

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Verloop at the California Walnut Board at (916) 932-7070.