

MEMO

To: All Cultivated Blueberry Handlers
From: U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council (USHBC)
Date: April 28, 2009
Re: USHBC 2009 Crop Assessments due November 30, 2009

Enclosed for your use in calculating and paying your 2009 cultivated blueberry assessment is a copy of the U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council (USHBC) *Blueberry Promotion, Research and Information Order (7 CFR 1218) First Handler Report for 2009* as well as a guide for use in determining the weight equivalent of various fresh blueberry pack sizes when calculating assessments. The USHBC assessment of \$12 per ton on the 2009 cultivated blueberry crop is **due to the USHBC by November 30, 2009.**

As stated in Section 1218.52 of the Blueberry Promotion, Research and Information Order (Part 1218), *"The collection of assessments on domestic blueberries will be the responsibility of the first handler receiving the blueberries. In the case of the producer acting as its own first handler, the producer will be required to collect and remit its individual assessments."*

Please be advised that:

- Assessments on all highbush (cultivated) blueberries the producer (grower) markets through a handler will be collected by the handler and sent by the handler on to the USHBC along with the *First Handler Report*. Note that failure of a handler to collect the \$12 per ton assessment does not release the handler from the responsibility of paying the assessment and submitting their report to the USHBC.
- Any grower producing less than 2,000 pounds of blueberries annually can apply to the USHBC for exemption from assessment.

Payment instructions, due date and late payment fees are detailed on the reverse side of the report. Reporting forms and assessment checks are to be sent in the enclosed envelope to:

USHBC #1
C/o El Dorado Savings Bank
3963 Park Drive
El Dorado Hills, California 95762

Should you have any questions concerning the USHBC, or these assessment requirements, please contact our office at (916) 983-0111.