

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FEE SURVEY**

Estimated revenue from increased fee:

The Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture will receive an annual increase of about \$15,416 from these fees, totaling about \$62,504 in funding. The cost of these programs last fiscal year was about \$414,166. The average hourly wage of a Biologist used in the calculations is \$65 an hour.

Cost per Transaction:

Each transaction takes about 5 minutes clerical time to process at an average of \$44.96 / Hour, totaling \$3.74 a transaction which was added to all of the costs.

Hourly Rate:

The average hourly rate for employees performing this work, including benefits, is \$59.52. The hourly overhead rate for the department is \$14.26 giving us a total hourly cost of \$73.28. We plan to charge \$65.00 an hour for the hourly rate on all programs that we have the authority and need to charge by time.

Apiary Registration:

The Apiary registration is set by Food and Agriculture Code 29904.

Farmers Markets Inspections:

The Agriculture Department spends about 298 hours per year to inspect approximately 29 Farmers Markets and issues approximately 60 Certified Producers Certificates and inspects their growing grounds annually. It takes an average of 30 minutes to review and process a Farmer's Market Application. It takes an average of 15 minutes per producer's certificate plus 15 minutes to review the inspection with the market manager and about one (1) hour travel time to complete an inspection at the market. Many of the markets are on the weekend requiring overtime. The time spent issuing a Farmers Market Certificate takes on average 30 minutes, plus inspecting the growing grounds which takes about one (1) hour. At the new fee level the department will charge approximately \$8,300 incurring a cost of approximately \$17,736 for inspection time and certification issuance time alone. We feel the lower fees will not impact industry and allow us to continue to provide an essential service to this industry.

Frequency of inspection:

1-2 times per year

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Average Time to complete inspection 1-10 Certificates:	
Average of 7 Certificates	3.25 Hours
Administrative time:	2.5 Hours
Total Cost of inspection:	\$377.49

Average Time to complete 1 inspection 11-20 Certificates:	
Average of 14 Certificates	5 Hours
Administrative time:	2.5 Hours
Total Cost of inspection:	\$491.24

Average Time to complete 1 inspection 21+ Certificates:	
Average of 29 Certificates	8.75 Hours
Administrative time:	2.5 Hours
Total Cost of inspection:	\$734.99

Average Time to issue Farmers Market Certificate and inspect growing grounds:	1.5 Hours
Administrative time:	2.4 Hours
Total Cost of inspection:	\$257.24

Ground Squirrel Control:

The Agriculture Department spends about 2,234 hours a year on the Ground Squirrel control program. We purchase bait for sale in the offices. The bait is purchased 2 tons at a time, we pick it up and need to break it down and unload the bait taking about 3 hours. We need to verify the people buying the bait are licensed and qualified to use the bait. We also need to go over the use of the bait with them to make sure it is used according to the label and the law. We also need to load the bait for the customer. This takes on average 15 minutes per sale.

The surcharge for the bait is set by FAC 6027.5.	
Diphacinone .01% 50 Pounds Purchase Cost	\$43.50
Labor, Eligibility Verification, training	.28 Hours
Total Cost	\$65.44

Diphacinone .005% 50 pounds Purchase Cost	\$43.50
Labor, Eligibility Verification, training	.28 Hours
Total Cost	\$65.44

Diphacinone .005% 10 pounds Purchase Cost	\$8.70
Labor, Eligibility Verification, training	.25 Hours
Total Cost	\$28.69

Placebo Purchase Cost	\$23.50
Labor, Eligibility Verification, training	.28 Hours
Total Cost	\$45.44

Gas Cartridges Purchase Cost (each)	\$1.64
Labor, Eligibility Verification, training (for 10 smoke bombs)	.02 Hours
Total Cost	\$2.14

Bait Stations Materials	\$18.73
Labor: Manufacturing @ 22.41/Hour	.16 Hours
Labor: Transportation, Eligibility Verification, training	.08 Hours
Total Cost	\$31.25

Pest Control Registration:

The Agriculture Department spends about 8,318 hours a year on the Pesticide Regulation program. About 860 hours of that are for Pest Control Business registration and headquarters inspections.

Pest Control Operator Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.75 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$52.49

Maintenance Gardener Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.75 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$52.49

Structural Pest Control Business Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.5 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$36.24

Structural Fumigation Pest Control Business Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.5 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$36.24

Pest Control Advisor Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.25 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$19.99

Pest Control Pilot Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.25 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$19.99

Farm Labor Contractor Registration	
Average Time to Verify License and process:	.5 Hours
Total Cost of registration:	\$36.24