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News Release

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WALNUT BUYING PERIOD BEGINS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

STOCKTON, CA, November 5, 2015 – Tim Pelican, the County’s Agricultural Commissioner, has declared after consultation with the walnut industry that the walnut harvest has been completed in San Joaquin County. This establishes the beginning of San Joaquin County’s official “Walnut Buying Period” as November 7, 2015, through April 30, 2016.

The announcement made by Commissioner Pelican is directed by the Purchase and Sale of Walnut Ordinance passed September 9, 2014, by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. As outlined in the Ordinance, non-processing walnut buyers may begin purchasing walnuts following the declaration of the Walnut Buying Period. Non-processing buyers must register with the Office of the Agricultural Commissioner prior to commencing the purchase of walnuts.

Any person selling less than 2,000 pounds of walnuts must possess a Proof of Ownership approved by the Commissioner. Any persons possessing less than 2,000 pounds of walnuts which will not be sold are exempted from this ordinance.

As reported in the San Joaquin County 2014 Crop Report, 62,500 acres of walnuts were harvested in the County at a value of \$500 million.

Walnut sellers can obtain a Proof of Ownership Certificate by contacting the San Joaquin County Agriculture Department Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Certificates are provided at no cost.

The San Joaquin County Purchase and Sale of Walnuts ordinance can be found on the County Website, <http://www.sjgov.org/agcomm/>.

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