

Smoke affected grapes – how do I report?

According to the California Code of Regulations (3 CCR Subsection 1661.2), “Defects” shall be considered defective grapes due to evidence of mold, rot, or mildew resulting in decomposition. The definition is very specific and does not include smoke taint.

Without this definition in the California Code of Regulations, smoke taint will need to be treated as a quality issue. We have developed several scenarios related to smoke taint to aid the industry in how to report various situations on the Grape Crush and Purchase Inquiry.

- Scenario 1:
Grapes were harvested and delivered to the winery. Winery took control of the grapes, but did not crush them due to smoke damage. Please report the purchase in Section 2, with no corresponding crush in Section 1 of the Datapage. For Section 2, please report the contract price in Column 8 and the price paid in Column 16 (even if the price paid ended up as \$0).
- Scenario 2:
Grapes were harvested and delivered to the winery, but rejected due to smoke damage. Winery did not take control of the grapes and did not crush or pay for them. Do not report the grapes on the crush report, as they were neither crushed nor purchased.
- Scenario 3:
Grapes were harvested, delivered to the winery, and crushed. However, winery chose to discard the grapes after crush due to smoke damage. Please report the purchase in Section 2, with corresponding crush in Section 1 of the Datapage. For Section 2, please report the contract price in Column 8 and the price paid in Column 16 (even if the price paid ended up as \$0).
- Scenario 4:
Grapes were harvested, delivered to the winery, and crushed. However, winery is still evaluating smoke damage and will not make a decision about keeping the grapes until after January 10. Please report the purchase in Section 2, with corresponding crush in Section 1 of the Datapage. For Section 2, please report the contract price in Column 8 and in Column 16, even if the price may change after a decision of the smoke damage is made. The price in Column 16 must be as of January 10 – if the price is adjusted after January 10, that price should not be reported to us.
- Scenario 5:
The contract was renegotiated prior to January 10 to account for smoke damage. In this scenario, they will report the renegotiated contract price in Column 8 and the actual payment price in Column 16.

- Scenario 6:

Grapes were harvested, delivered to the winery, and crushed. The winery and juice were later destroyed by fire. Please report the purchase in Section 2, with corresponding crush in Section 1 of the Datapage. For Section 2, please report the contract price in Column 8 and the price paid in Column 16 (even if the price paid ended up as \$0).
- Scenario 7:

Grapes were harvested, delivered to the winery, and crushed. However, after evaluating the smoke damage, the winery decided not to purchase the grapes. The grower decided to keep the juice, and will determine after fermentation if these grapes will be used in winemaking. The winery should report the crush in Question 4 of the General Information page of the Grape Crush and Purchase Inquiry, and in Section I of the Datapage.