Nominations open for Wisconsin Cherry Board

Release Date: March 1, 2017

Media Contacts: Rick Hummell, 608-224-5041, <u>Richard.hummell@wi.gov</u> or Bill Cosh, Communications Director, 608-224-5020, <u>william2.cosh@wi.gov</u>

MADISON – Wisconsin tart cherry growers may now nominate candidates for one board member position on the Wisconsin Cherry Board, Inc. The Board was reconstituted in 2016, following the 2015 Referendum which changed Board representation from districts to At-Large Directors. The Board is working to stagger elections to adjust to three-year terms within the new structure.

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) will accept nominations postmarked by April 1, 2017. Completed nomination forms must include signatures from at least five eligible growers other than the nominee. The affidavit of eligibility, located on the nomination form, must also be completed and notarized.

DATCP will mail nomination forms to eligible growers. Growers who have not received nomination forms by March 15 or who have other questions about the nomination process should contact DATCP's Debbie Gegare, Market Order Coordinator at 608-224-5116 or Debbie.Gegare@Wisconsin.gov. Forms can also be downloaded from https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/CherryBoard.aspx

DATCP will conduct the Wisconsin Cherry Board election from May 15 through June 10. The elected producer will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2020.

DATCP administers elections for Wisconsin commodity marketing boards. To learn more about market order boards, visit https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/About_Us/MarketingBoards.aspx

XXX