



Compliance Monitoring: Produce, plants, etc.

Introduction:

Schenectady Greenmarket is committed to creating a diverse marketplace with the highest quality products produced locally by our vendors. It is against the policy of Schenectady Greenmarket for any member to purchase items and resell them at the market. Only items which are produced by a member, or his/her household or employee, on land owned or rented by that member may be sold.

In an effort to ensure that all products for sale at the market fall under our producer-only rule and that vendors are abiding by the Rules and Regulations set-up by Schenectady Greenmarket, we are compiling Compliance Monitoring Documents for each category of vendor. These documents will help all vendors as they determine their product mix.

Customers are increasingly concerned about where their food comes from and how produce they eat is grown. Schenectady Greenmarket's priority is to ensure that the produce available for sale at the market are raised with the highest of standards.

Allowed products under the fruit and vegetable category

- A. Fruits – grown by the vendor
- B. Vegetable – grown by the vendor
- C. Dried fruit and vegetables – only from fruit and vegetables grown and dried by the vendor
- D. Cider and fruit juice – sold only by the producer of the fruit
- E. Field and greenhouse grown plants, flowers, cut flowers and herbs – grown by the vendor from seeds, plugs, dormant roots or bulbs or cuttings.
- F. Hay, straw and feed products – grown and produced by the vendor

Fruits and Vegetables

Schenectady will allow only fruits and vegetables grown by the vendor. There is no allowance for products purchased from a second party, wholesale operation, etc. The market restricts the sale of genetically engineered plants (GMOs) and the produce grown from such plants. At time of inspection, all seed, plug, bulb, etc. purchases must be shared with the market for review.

All products must be marketed in an honest and forthright manner. When asked by a customer how products are grown, vendors and their sales staff are required to answer honestly; if an item is certified organic, conventional, no-spray or somewhere in between. The market prides itself on its transparency and accountability not only for marketing purposes but also for our customers who have health concerns such as allergies, reduced immune systems, etc.

Altered fruits and vegetables

The sale of frozen fruits and vegetables is permitted by the market however the product frozen must be solely grown and produced by the vendor. A co-packer may be used in the flash

freezing of fruits and vegetables. An invoice or agreement must be provided if a co-packer is used for the freezing of product.

Dried fruits and vegetables are allowed by the market but they must be only from fruit and vegetables grown and dried by the vendor.

Schenectady Greenmarket allows for the sale of cider and juice at the market. Sale of cider and juice may only be sold by the producer of the fruit.

Schenectady Greenmarket recognized that vendors may use a co-packer for the production of value-added and/or enhanced product. Please refer to the separate Co-Packer Compliance Document for further information.

Field and Greenhouse Plants, etc.

Schenectady Greenmarket allows for the sale of plants, flowers, cut flowers and herbs grown by the vendor. These items must be grown from seeds, plugs, dormant roots, bulbs or cuttings. If the items are grown in a greenhouse, the vendor must provide the market with the proper licensing.

Rental Land

Schenectady Greenmarket allows for the use of rental land in the production of vegetables, small fruits and hay. Rental of orchards is permitted by members who are in full control and supervision of the individual steps of production with a majority of their own machinery and labor. Any other arrangement in the rental of land for production must be submitted in writing with the member's application. A document must be submitted with the application, clearly indicating the location of rental land, number of acres in use, the name and address of the owner, along with documentation of a rental or use agreement.

Additional Documents Needed

Purchase orders and/or invoices for seeds, plugs, dormant roots, etc.

Invoice and/or agreement with co-packer for each item contracted

Ownership or rental agreements for land used in the production of produce

NYS Nursery license (if applicable)

Weekly inventory/sales sheets for the prior 12 months