

Questions and Answers from Utah Dept. of Ag and Food on the COVID19 Food Establishment Permit Guidelines

Updated 6/22/2020

Can flowers be sold at markets right now in Orange or Yellow Phase Counties?

No

Which UDAF license do I need to sell home grown produce items?

As long as you are not doing any processing of your home grown produce items, you do not need a permit from UDAF.

What's the recommendation for reusable bags that customers bring to market?

It is not addressed in the guidelines. As long as the individuals keep possession of their own bags and vendors are not handling it, that is acceptable. Some organizations are recommending packaging produce in compostable produce bags, and then have customers put that directly into their own bags. UDAF welcomes input on this - what's reasonable and what's not reasonable?

I manage my booth on my own, will I run into a problem handling money?

Minimize the interaction as much as possible. Some vendors are doing Venmo, Square or exact cash. PayPal or Square is recommended since Venmo does not incorporate sales tax. Please see [USU COVID19 Best Practices](#) section on payments at markets.

How do you encourage shoppers to wear masks if vendors are not wearing masks?

Suggestions:

- Have signage that encourages masks or share words that masks are required. Some farmers markets are providing masks.
- Some responsibility does fall back on the market managers; need to focus marketing graphics on communicating the goals of regulations.
- Keep it positive (Cache Valley Gardeners' market has focused positive social media on this topic)

If we have vendors who have reserved multiple booths, do we have to maintain the 10ft distance between booths?

No, the 10 ft pertains to per vendor, and not per booth.

If samples are pre-wrapped and not processed at the market, are they ok to distribute?

Yes

Can samples be given to dogs or animals coming to the farmers market? Per market rules, unless it's a service dog.

How long will these restrictions be in place?

It all depends on COVID-19. It is very important that your managers contact their local health departments. We have sent the document to all of the local health departments.

Do these requirements apply to drive thru markets?

Yes

Will UDAF be rescinding permits?

At this time UDAF will not be rescinding any permits.

What if gloves are not readily available? Handwashing with hand sanitizer would be acceptable if gloves are not available.

What are other agricultural products that can be sold at markets?

Other foods can be breads, jams, etc... as long as they are packaged. As long as the salsa and jam are packaged and the person selling them already has a UDAF permit that is good. Unless your Farmers Market is going to allow vendors under the Homemade Food Act. Then you will have to follow those guidelines as well.

Are HB181 vendors are allowed as long as they follow the guidelines? Yes, there are specific guidelines for Farmers Markets to follow if they allow homemade foods that are not regulated by UDAF.

Is recorded music ok in yellow and orange phase?

Recorded music would not be OK. This would be entertainment and people may start to congregate in one area.

Please say more about POS device sanitation

The pos device can be wiped down with alcohol wipes, rags stored in unscented bleach or quaternary ammonium sanitizer. It needs to be sanitized after each transaction.

Are handwashing stations for customers or vendors or both? Can you provide clarification on how many handwashing stations are needed for a drive-thru market? The handwashing stations are primarily for vendors, but markets might want to provide additional hand washing for customers. One handwashing station for every 5 booths.

If we do the online ordering, can we sell items that aren't food? Say I have someone who makes soap, since they won't have a booth with us, it will be in their bags to pick up curbside, would that be acceptable? The Farmers Market is just the buying and selling of food items. No soap.

Is it required that all markets be permitted through UDAF to operate? Yes. For this year we are requiring all Farmers Markets, no matter what size they are, to obtain a permit.

If food trucks are doing pick up orders and customers are not permitted to eat on the premises would that be allowed? Yellow and Orange Phases - food trucks or food service are not allowed.

Vendors selling soaps, essential oils, natural cleaning supplies will they be allowed?

Only locally grown and produced foods, no arts, crafts or household items; essential oils are regulated as a dietary supplement (food), so technically they could be included.

Are sponsors allowed to table at the market during Orange and Yellow Phase? No

I have a vendor that wants to use reusable gloves for taking payments instead of using disposable gloves in order to reduce waste and cost. They would wash the gloves after each market. The person handling money would not be handling food, if for some reason they needed to handle the food they would remove the gloves they used for taking payments, use hand sanitizer or wash hands, and put on a clean pair of gloves. Is this ok?

That's what they should be doing. Reusable gloves as you have here should be OK.