

Idaho Migrant Education Program

Common Idaho Crops & Qualifying Activities

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Dear Idaho Family Liaison,

This document is intended to help you as you are qualifying students into the Migrant Education Program, especially if you are just learning about agriculture in your area. We do not include dates when these activities take place, since they vary widely from one part of the state to another. However, there is room in the book for you to jot notes on beginning and ending dates for the different activities in your area.

Here is how to use the document.

1. Part I contains lists of common activities for the three main areas of agriculture in Idaho, field crops, fruit crops, and livestock, ranching and dairies. Each contains activities for crop production and initial processing. Become familiar with these terms and the associated type of agriculture.
2. Part II contains a list of common agriculture crops in Idaho, listed alphabetically. For crops that have unique tasks (e.g. detassling corn, moving sugar beets from the field to the beet dump), those terms are also listed with that crop. Feel free to mark up your document with notes about your local crops, dates, and activities.
3. This is an easy to update document. As you encounter new activities or crops, please feel free to send those to us at the SDE, so that we can make changes to this booklet.

This document replaces the *Qualifying Activities* booklet that was published several years ago. If you have a copy, please discard it. One thing to keep in mind is that Idaho is a large state with many different climates that are affected by elevation, mountain ranges, and geography. Crops and activities are affected by climate, soil, and other factors. Just because a crop or activity is in this document doesn't mean that it necessarily happens in your area. Please select activities, crops and dates based on the information you get from families.

The most frequent reason a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) is rejected is that the activity does not reasonably happen in a particular area at a particular time of year. For example, if a COE says that a worker was irrigating crops in January, there better be a comment stating that the farmer uses well-water to irrigate in a greenhouse! That being said, we hope this document will be helpful. Happy recruiting!

Sincerely,

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Part I – Common Activities

Certain activities happen with a wide variety of agricultural products, while others are very specific to certain products. This section lists a number of common activities by the type of plant or animal with which they are most often associated. (Specific terms have been listed with the associated crops on the following pages.) These terms must be used with a product (e.g. plant, animal, or fish) to create the qualifying activity on the Certificate of Eligibility. Some examples would be “irrigating onions” or “picking cherries.” Some words may be interchangeable or mean roughly the same thing (e.g. weeding or hoeing) depending on the crop. Use your knowledge of your area, specialty crops, local trends, and common sense when choosing the word that best fits the activity the worker is doing.

Field Crops	
S	Cleaning ditches
S	Cultivating – ground/soil preparation
S	Cutting
S	Fertilizing
S	Grading
S	Harvesting
S	Hoeing
S	Irrigating
S	Loading
S	Moving
S	Packing
S	Picking/Gathering
S	Planting
S	Sorting
S	Spraying
S	Thinning
S	Unloading
S	Weeding
S	Weighing

Fruit Crops	
S	Bagging
S	Boxing
S	Checking
S	Cleaning
S	Fertilizing
S	Grading
S	Grafting

S	Irrigating
S	Laying Plastic
S	Loading/Unloading
S	Mowing
S	Packaging
S	Picking/gathering
S	Prop removing
S	Propping
S	Pruning
S	Putting Bees in orchard
S	Raking brush/Cleaning orchard
S	Raking/Clearing brush
S	Removing Trees
S	Smudging
S	Sorting
S	Spraying
S	Thinning
S	Training trees
S	Trimming suckers
S	Tying
S	Weighing
S	Waxing

*Please note that these are not exhaustive lists of activities. Other activities may take place.

<i>Livestock, Ranching & Dairy</i>	
T	Branding
T	Butchering
T	Calving
T	Castrating
T	Catching
T	Cleaning
T	Cutting
T	Deboning
T	Dehorning
T	Delivering young
T	Driving to range
T	Eviscerating
T	Feeding
T	Freezing
T	Grinding
T	Hauling
T	Hanging
T	Herding
T	Inseminating
T	Inspecting
T	Killing
T	Lambing
T	Marking
T	Milking
T	Moving
T	Packing (raw meat)
T	Peeling
T	Quartering/halving
T	Rounding up
T	Skinning
T	Slaughtering
T	Tending
T	Trimming
T	Tying
T	Vaccinating
T	Washing
T	Watering

Part II – Common Idaho Crops (with Specialized Activities)

The following list of crops and the activities specific to them, are crops that are commonly grown in various parts of Idaho. Some crops on the list may only be grown in one or two areas. There may also be specialty crops only grown on one or two farms that may not be listed here.

Alfalfa

S	Baling
S	Cutting/Swathing
S	Raking/Turning
S	Stacking

*See Field Crops

Apples

*See Fruit Crops

Apricots

*See Fruit Crops

Asparagus

S	Burning weeds
S	Cutting

*See Field Crops

Barley (See Alfalfa)

*See Field Crops

Beans

*See Field Crops

Beets (See also Sugar Beets)

*See Field Crops

Bell Peppers

*See Field Crops

Berries

*See Fruit Crops

Carrots

*See Field Crops

Carrot Seeds

S	Bagging
S	Rogueing
S	Separating

*See Field Crops

Cattle – Ranching

*See Livestock, Ranching & Dairy

Cherries

*See Fruit Crops

Chicken Farms

T	Egg Gathering
T	Debeaking

*See Livestock, Ranching & Dairy

Chiles

*See Field Crops

Christmas Trees

S	Bailing/Wrapping
S	Gathering Trimmings
S	Loading on truck
S	Marking
S	Purning
T	Removing Stumps
S	Replanting
S	Seeding
S	Shaping
S	Shearing
S	Stacking
S	Tagging

*See Field Crops

Corn

S	Detassling
S	Husking/Stripping

*See Field Crops

Dairy

T	Cleaning Barns/Corrals/Cow Pens
T	Milking

*See Livestock, Ranching & Dairy

Eggs

T	Cleaning Chicken Houses
T	Injecting
T	Rotating Chickens
T	Sorting Eggs

*See Livestock, Ranching & Dairy

Forestry/Logging

T	Bucking
T	Burning
T	Clearing brush
T	Cutting shrubs
T	De-barking
T	De-limbing
T	Digging
T	Extracting
T	Felling
T	Grading
T	Loading
T	Marking
T	Moving
T	Netting
S	Planting/Replanting
S	Reforestation
T	Skidding
T	Slash Burning
T	Slash cutting
T	Thinning
T	Unloading
T	Watering

Grapes

S	Netting
S	Tying

*See Fruit Crops

Grass – Seed

S	Bagging
S	Burning
S	Cleaning
S	Grading

*See Field Crops

Green Beans

*See Field Crops

Hay (See Alfalfa)

*See Field Crops

Honey Bees

S	Checking for honey
S	Cleaning bee hives

S	Collecting honey combs
S	Feeding bees
S	Moving
S	Placing bees into boxes in field
S	Putting queen bee in orchard
S	Taking honey from honey combs

Hops

S	Cutting strings
S	Fastening Vines
T	Moving posts
S	Planting (seeds or seedlings)
S	Prepare roots
T	Preparing posts
T	Repairing posts
T	Setting/Creating new field
S	Stringing/Tying
S	Training vines
T	Wiring

*See Field Crops

Sod (Grass)

S	Mowing
S	Trimming
S	Rolling

*See Field Crops

Mint

S	Bundling roots
S	Distilling
S	Mashing
S	Packing roots
S	Rogueing
S	Stomping

*See Field Crops

Nursery

S	Cutting
S	Digging
S	Potting
S	Pruning
S	Repotting
S	Sowing
S	Tagging

S	Transplanting
S	Trimming/pruning
S	Tying

*See Field Crops or Fruit Crops

Oats (See Barley)

*See Field Crops

Onion Seed (See Carrot Seed)

*See Field Crops

Onions

S	Cleaning
S	Drying
S	Inspecting
S	Sizing
S	Topping

*See Field Crops

Peaches

*See Fruit Crops

Pears

*See Fruit Crops

Peas

*See Field Crops

Peppers

*See Field Crops

Potatoes

S	Bagging
S	Boxing
S	Checking
S	Cleaning seed
S	Clearing brush
S	Cutting (raw)
S	Cutting seed
S	Digging
S	Rogueing

*See Field Crops

Pumpkins

S	Washing
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*See Field Crops

Sheep Ranching

T	Shearing
T	Tagging

*See Livestock, Ranching & Dairy

Sugar Beets

S	Moving to beet dump
S	Sampling
S	Specking
S	Topping

*See Field Crops

Watermelon

S	Laying plastic
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*See Field Crops

Wheat

S	Cleaning
S	Storing on farm

*See Field Crops