

The Compliance Corner

by Mary Beth Williams

Reporting and Registration

Reporting - The new monthly report you file with ABC went into effect on January 1, 2013. To recap, the monthly excise tax report has been streamlined and ABC has agreed that 1 Purchase Order per month will suffice. Fillable spreadsheet versions of the [new report](#) and the [Purchase Order](#) have been added to the Tools & Resources section on the VWA website. It is a concise, 1 page report, and essentially requires a total of liters sold for the month, calculation of tax liability, and the purchase order number that covers the month. This report and your Purchase Order will be the only 2 items that need to be submitted to the state each month.

Two changes to note: 1) You NO LONGER have to create a corresponding invoice for these transfers from your bonded space to your retail space; and 2) You no longer need to include a price for the product on your monthly purchase order. Note that this report replaces only the previous "Wholesalers Summary of Wine Sales and Taxes." It does not impact your responsibility to file a shippers report if you also have a wine shippers permit.

FDA Registration- We were able to get a definitive answer from the FDA as to whether farm wineries need to complete the FDA registration as a "food facility." While acknowledging the agricultural nature of farm wineries, the FDA has classified the farm wineries as "mixed use" facilities thereby requiring registration and bi-annual renewal with the FDA. The registration can be found [here](#) and should take you about 15 minutes to complete. There is no cost for registration. As we discussed at the annual meeting, though, this does mean that you need to keep records as to the source of all items that come in contact with the wine. Keep receipts/invoices for purchases of bottles, corks, barrels, and sources of fruit or juice. The registration and recordkeeping is a regulatory requirement, and I know a number of distributors are refusing to distribute your products if you cannot provide proof of registration.

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