

Growers' Co-Operative Grape Juice Co., Inc. 112 North Portage Street Westfield, NY 14787 716-326-3161 716-326-6566 Fax www.concordgrapejuice.com

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## **Allergen Free Certificate**

While there are over 200 foods known to cause allergic reactions in consumers, it is generally understood that in the US nine Major Allergen foods and their derivatives (peanuts, tree nuts, cow's milk, eggs, soybeans, wheat, fish, shellfish, and sesame) cause approximately 90% of allergic reactions. Growers Cooperative Grape Juice Company, Inc. is committed to ensuring that its products are free from these Major Allergens. **None of the nine Major Allergens** are a raw material, ingredient, or processing aid in any of our products. Further, of the secondary allergens and sensitizing agents, there are no artificial colors, artificial or natural flavors, artificial sweeteners, beef, benzoates, BHA/BHT, buckwheat, caramel, chicken, cinnamon, coconut, coriander, gluten, lupin, MSG, pork, or used in our facility. A related company uses mustard products, tomatoes, seed oils, and celery in a separate, isolated building on site.

There are two cases where sulfites exist in our facility. Each year, various green grapes destined for the wine industry are treated with sulfites to maintain their color and flavor. Steps are taken to ensure that these sulfites do not get into the rest of the facility. Our standard cleaning procedures have been demonstrated to remove all sulfites down to non-detectable levels. The second source of sulfites is the purchase of standard grape concentrates used in grape blends. All of these contain < 10 ppm (single strength basis) sulfites, are dedicated for specific customers, and again standard CIP practices removes sulfite to non-detectable levels. See our Sulfite Usage statement for more information on this.

To the best of our knowledge, all juices, juice concentrates, juice concentrate blends, puree concentrates and tartrates/ argols/ lees (including, but no limited to, Concord grape, other grape, blueberry, cherry, apple) produced by Growers Cooperative Grape Juice Company, Inc. are free from Major Allergens, sesame, and the secondary allergens listed above. Products that do contain sulfites are labeled as such.

Steve Cockram

Steve Cockram General Manager Growers Cooperative Grape Juice Company