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Form **990-EZ**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Short Form**
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

- ▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
- ▶ Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-1150

2015**Open to Public Inspection**

A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning , and ending

B Check if applicable:
☒ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Final return/terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

C Name of organization
NORTH AMERICAN STRAWBERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION
 Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 992400
 City or town State ZIP code
REDDING CA 96099-2400
 Foreign country name Foreign province/state/county Foreign postal code

D Employer identification number
31-0994392

E Telephone number
(613) 258-4587

F Group Exemption Number ▶

G Accounting Method ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) ▶

I Website: ▶ **WWW.NASGA.ORG**

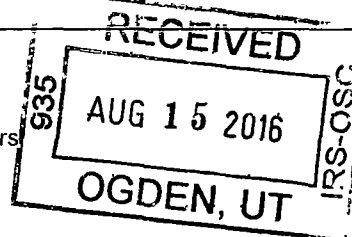
J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — ☐ 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c) (5) (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

K Form of organization ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ **170,552**

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☒

Revenue		Expenses		Net Assets	
1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1		18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	145,617	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	20,210	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)
4	Investment income	4	2,795	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	1,930		
5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	1,510		
5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	420		
6	Gaming and fundraising events				
6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a			
6b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b			
6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c			
6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d			
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a			
7b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b			
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c			
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8			
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	169,042		
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	10,443		
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11			
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12			
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	25,036		
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14			
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	8,302		
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	80,556		
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	124,337		



For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form **990-EZ** (2015)

HTA

66 4

Part II Balance Sheets. (see the instructions for Part II)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☒

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	88,402	22	136,457
23 Land and buildings		23	
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24	
25 Total assets	88,402	25	136,457
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	800	26	4,150
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	87,602	27	132,307

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☐

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? STRAWBERRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)

28 <u>TWO CONFERENCES SERVED 250 PEOPLE</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	28a	
29 <u>RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AND UNIVERSITIES</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	29a	
30 <u>FOUR NEWSLETTERS SERVED 250 MEMBERS IN US, CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	31a	
32 Total program service expenses. (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated – see the instructions for Part IV)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
BLAINE STAPLES PRES	Hr/WK 1 00			
GARY BARDENHAGEN PAST PRES	Hr/WK 1 00			
SCOTT THOMPSON VICE PRES	Hr/WK 1 00			
JAMI SIMMONS TREAS	Hr/WK 1 00			
CHARLES GRAY DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
LINDA PRITCHETT DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
KEVIN EDBERG DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
WILLIAM KROHNE DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
TOM HEEMAN DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
PAM FISHER DIR	Hr/WK 1 00			
	Hr/WK			
	Hr/WK			

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V. ☐

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		X
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)		X
35 a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		X
b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		X
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N		X
37 a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions 37a		
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
38 a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?		X
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 38b		
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39a		
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b		
40 a Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 40a , section 4912 40b , section 4955 40c		
b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 40c		
d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization 40d		
e All organizations At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T 40e		X
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed 41		
42 a The organization's books are in care of 42a See Attached Statement Telephone no 42b Located at 42c City 42d ST 42e ZIP + 4 42f		
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country 42b See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR)	Yes	No
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country 42c		X
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year 43		
44 a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ 44a		X
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ 44b		X
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year? 44c		X
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O 44d		X
45 a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? 45a		X
45 b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions) 45b		X

- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II

	Yes	No
47		
48		
49a		
49b		

- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

- 49 a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

- b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None"

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Name None				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			

- f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None"

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
Name None		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		

- d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A

☐ Yes ☒ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Sign Here	Signature of officer	Date
	Type or print name and title	

Paid Preparer Use Only	Preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN
	Thomas V Johnson	Thomas V Johnson	8/8/2016		P00609008
	Firm's name	Firm's EIN			
	Firm's address	Firm's EIN			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☒ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

NORTH AMERICAN STRAWBERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

31-0994392

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 10, Grants Paid Activity GRANT, Grantee NASGA RESEARCH

FOUNDATION, Cash Grant 5,443, Relationship

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses Supplies 279

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses Telephone 732

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses BANK FEES 32

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses CONFERENCE - SITE EXPENSES 68,791

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses PAY PAL AND CREDIT CARD FEES 4,782

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses DUES & CONTRIBUTIONS 1,170

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses INSURANCE 343

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses STAFF TRAVEL 1,500

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses WEBSITE EXPENSES 2,107

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16, Other Expenses INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEE 820

Form 990-EZ, Part II, Line 26, Liabilities ACCOUNTS PAYABLE Beginning of year 800, End of

year 4,150