

A Message From Secretary Douglas H. Fisher

As the seasons roll in and present their annual challenges for the agricultural community our farmers gear up to meet them head-on. There is no one year that mirrors another because of the changing conditions in the natural or man-made environs. New Jersey farmers are, for sure, some of the most talented on the planet and because of this, many of the most successful. We all know it is not an easy profession but it is satisfying and rewarding. Farmers love the land and respect and appreciate the living it provides and the way of life for families to pursue and enjoy.

The Department stands ready to serve and we are always searching for ways to improve opportunities for agriculture and protect our citizens.

While we highlight in this pamphlet some of the accomplishments of the past year, there is much work that is done day in, day out by the talented and dedicated cadre of professionals in the Department that goes on without ever being showcased.

It is our pleasure to serve the agriculture community and, as the line goes in our new advertising campaign, we look forward to “another great season.”

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2014.



At Muzzarelli Farms in Buena Vista during a July Farm Stand tour.



Kicking off the Jersey Grown season with local officials in April at Brock Farms in Freehold.



With Christopher Albrecht of Eno Terra in Kingston, winner of the Jersey Seafood Challenge in June. Albrecht placed 3rd in the



Strolling a corn maze at Etsch Farms in Monroe Township in October to promote agritourism.

2013-2014 New Jersey State Board of Agriculture



Robert Swanekamp
President
 Monmouth County
Nursery Industry



Francisco Allende
Vice President
 Burlington County
Fruit Industry

The State Board of Agriculture, comprising eight members, is the policy-making body of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. Its members serve for four years, with two members being replaced each year. By law, at least four of its members must represent the top commodity groups in the state. Members serve without salary.



Hugh McKittrick
Board Member
 Monmouth County
Nursery Industry



Richard A. Norz
Board Member
 Somerset County
Hay/Grain Industry



Martin Bullock
Board Member
 Monmouth County
Hay/Grain Industry



Marilyn Russo
Board Member
 Burlington County
Vegetable Industry



David Klemm
Board Member
 Sussex County
Equine Industry



Santo John Maccherone
Board Member
 Gloucester County
Fruit Industry



2013-2014 State Board of Agriculture at the July Reorganization Meeting: (left to right) Secretary Fisher, Santo John Maccherone, Hugh McKittrick, Francisco Allende, Marilyn Russo, David Klemm, Martin Bullock, Richard Norz and Robert Swanekamp.



Former State Board of Agriculture President James Giamarese with member Martin Bullock and current President Robert Swanekamp at Rutgers' EARTH Center in North Brunswick during a tour of Middlesex County Agriculture in June 2013.

Learn more about the State Board of Agriculture at:

www.nj.gov/agriculture/about/sba/

2013 Highlights

Welcomed Governor Christie to the 2013 NJ State Agricultural Convention: Governor Christie spoke at the New Jersey State Agricultural Convention on February 6, 2013 to a packed house of more than 600 farmers, industry officials, agricultural youth and federal, state and local government representatives. He reiterated



the important role the Department of Agriculture plays in the lives of all New Jersey citizens and commended Secretary Fisher for a job well done.

Facilitated Second Annual Lt. Governor Agribusiness Tour: The Department of Agriculture hosted Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno on a tour of eight agricultural businesses in August. During that month, she visited Ellis Farms, Hamilton; Atlantic Blueberry Company, Hammonton; the Hoboken Farmers Market,



Hoboken; Russo's Fruit and Vegetable Farm, Tabernacle; F & S Produce, Rosenhayn; Cherry Grove Farm, Lawrenceville; Valley Shepherd Creamery, Long Valley; and Musky Trout Hatchery, Asbury. At each stop, the Lt. Governor spent considerable time speaking with the businessmen and women, asking them questions about their operations as well as what the state can do to help them thrive and grow.

Marked the One-Year Anniversary of Superstorm Sandy: Secretary Fisher joined the Governor, Lt.

Governor and other cabinet members in marking the first anniversary of the hurricane that devastated the Jersey Shore and many other parts of the state by participating in Sandy Service Day, a volunteering opportunity, on October 29. Secretary Fisher and state Corrections Commissioner Gary Lanigan helped work on fencing a community garden at Visitation Relief Center in Brick Township. Produce grown in the garden was distributed to those in need. The two cabinet members also were present for the official grand opening of the center, where a variety of goods and services are available to Sandy victims. Brick Township was one of the communities hardest hit by the storm.

Participated in the Governor's Third Annual Season of Service:

Secretary Fisher participated in the Governor's Season of Service in December, along with his fellow cabinet members. He joined a group of 10 Jersey Cares volunteers



on December 6 at the Garfield Senior Activity Center in Garfield to paint the facility damaged during Superstorm Sandy. On December 17, he and Health Commissioner Mary O'Dowd delivered 535 pounds of food donated by Department of Agriculture and Health employees to the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties in Neptune. The areas served by the food bank are still recovering from the hurricane.

Gained National Recognition for Choose and Cut Christmas Tree Industry: Secretary Fisher joined the Wyckoff family and the NJ Christmas Tree Growers Association in welcoming the White House Head Groundskeeper and Usher at Wyckoff's Christmas Tree Farm in White Township on October 30. They chose several trees for the White House. The Wyckoff's received the honor for winning the NJ Christmas Tree Growers Association's annual tree contest and then going on to win the National Christmas Tree Association's tree contest. The Wyckoff's delivered their trees to the White House on November 29 and met with First Lady Michelle Obama and her daughters.

Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources

State Soil Conservation Committee: Amendments to the Technical Standards for the Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Program including general edits, reorganization, improved methods to stabilize water channels on steep slopes, and specific methods to establish native vegetation in the New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve are anticipated for adoption in January, 2014. Amendments to the Standards related to soil restoration on newly proposed development sites across New Jersey continues to be evaluated. Anticipated changes include specific requirements for organic matter content, maximum bulk density of soils and site preparation prior to stabilization with vegetation.

Awarded CASE Grants: The Department awarded eight \$5,000 grants to agricultural education programs around the state to be used for program improvement by implementing Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) programs. Receiving the grants were: Penns Grove H.S., North Warren Regional H.S., Salem County Technical, Allentown H.S., Woodstown H.S., Middlesex County Technical, Northern Burlington Regional H.S., and Phillipsburg H.S. Over the summer, 18 New Jersey agriculture teachers added at least one more CASE course certification to their personal credentials and among the 18, three added the new CASE course, Natural Resources and Ecology, to their previous list of courses. Since CASE began in 2009, 28 NJ teachers have participated in 62 CASE Institutes, during which they were trained in teaching the CASE courses: Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Principles of Agricultural Science – Plant, Principles of Agricultural Science – Animal, Animal and Plant Biotechnology and Natural Resources and Ecology. New Jersey has 19 schools implementing CASE courses as a method to raise the bar for instruction in agriculture.

Held New Jersey Envirothon: For the fourth year in a row, a team of high school students from the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Sciences (MATES) in Manahawkin was the winner of the New Jersey Envirothon, held May 4 in Medford. The Ocean County students competed against 33 other teams on knowledge of natural resources-related topics, including soils, forestry, aquatics, wildlife ecology and a current environmental issue. This year's theme was "Sustainable Rangeland Management: Achieving a Balance Between Traditional Agricultural Uses with Non-Agricultural Uses on Montana Rangelands." Each of the MATES team members received scholarships. The team went on to

The Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources is responsible for a variety of services and programs that maintain and enhance the viability of New Jersey agriculture and related agribusinesses. It provides interagency coordination and assistance in the development of policy positions on land use planning issues and represents the Department on the State Planning Commission and its subcommittees. It is fully engaged in the Highlands Regional Master Plan process. It administers programs to conserve soil, water and related natural resources through the State Soil Conservation Committee and the 15 local soil conservation districts and provides and oversees the administration of financial cost-share assistance to farmers for soil and water conservation projects. The Division works cooperatively with state and federal agencies in the development of the aquaculture industry in New Jersey and administers the Agricultural Education Program, which reaches more than 2,500 students throughout the state.

place 35th in the North American Envirothon at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in August.

Held Aquaculture Workshop: In an effort to provide aquaculture business owners and operators with the tools to develop growth strategies that will help them stay competitive in a challenging marketplace, the Department of Agriculture, National Aquaculture Association and the U.S. Soybean Board held a workshop on October 17 entitled, "Aquaculture Business Management and Marketing." Twenty-seven people attended from New Jersey, New York and Delaware. The workshop provided a quick system for assessing aquaculture farm financial health. Hands-on exercises focused on interpreting financial indicators and using those indicators in management decision making was covered. Each participant received a take-home toolkit to assist them in making decisions going forward.

Launched Jersey Clams Study: As part of this year's Jersey Seafood Challenge event at the Governor's residence, Drumthwacket, in Princeton in June, the Department kicked off a sensory evaluation project for New Jersey clams. Guests at the event were given samples of clams from the Great Bay, Sea Isle City and Highlands and were asked to rate the clams on: saltiness, sweetness, chewiness, earthiness and the color of the meat. The purpose of the project is to show consumers there are differences in taste experience from clams grown in different areas of New Jersey, similar to oysters. In this way, the Department seeks to bring a better understanding and appreciation for the quality and taste of Jersey clams.

Animal Waste Regulations: Progress continued regarding the implementation of these regulations. Declaration Pages were submitted to the NJDA by 607 livestock operations to date, indicating that the required Animal Waste Management Plan has been prepared and implemented on the farm.

Division of Animal Health

Played Major Role in Response to Dolphin Deaths:

The New Jersey Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory (AHDL) assisted in the investigation of bottlenose dolphin deaths along the Jersey Shore. The AHDL conducted necropsies on 29 dolphins from August 28 to December, 2013. Governor Christie had directed that state resources be used to help in the investigation. The Department worked with the lead investigating agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in determining the cause of death of a vast majority of the dolphins -- the morbillivirus.

Awarded Three Animal Rescue Trailers to Counties:

In an effort to improve the ability to care for pets in the event of an emergency, Secretary Fisher and Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness Director Edward Dickson awarded animal rescue trailers to Burlington, Hunterdon and Ocean counties' Offices of Emergency Management on October 3. The three 20-foot trailers are outfitted with cages and can be used to provide temporary shelter or transportation for pets in emergencies. The trailers have heating and cooling units, electrical and water hook-ups, generators and external light sources, giving users the ability to set up a temporary animal shelter at any location. The trailers were paid for with an Urban Area Security Initiative Grant and a State Homeland Security Grant through the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. The Department of Agriculture received \$150,000 with which they purchased the trailers and bought supplies, such as disposable food dishes and litter pans, animal crates, pet pee pads and horse halters. The trailers will be used by the counties' Animal Response Teams (CART), first responders who are trained on animal issues in disasters.

Launched New AHDL Website: In September, the Department launched a new website (www.jerseyvetlab.nj.gov) geared towards veterinarians, as well as farmers, animal owners, animal organizations and universities. The user-friendly website also includes a mobile site, which provides easy access to the laboratory's services while in the field. The site gives people the ability to search for tests by keywords, animal species, discipline and cause of the disease; they will find submission forms and complete instructions on how to submit samples; training and education information; contact information; and directions to the laboratory. The AHDL is a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), a network of State and University laboratories that plays important role in animal disease surveillance.

The Division of Animal Health governs programs protecting the health and well-being of livestock, ensure the safety and security of the commercial food supply, national and international trade and the economy. It operates an animal health diagnostic laboratory to support animal disease-control programs protecting animals and NJ agriculture. During disasters, the DAH represents the Department as the NJ Emergency Support Function #11 Lead for animal, agriculture, and food. The Division is active in disaster preparedness and response, including efforts of the Animal Emergency Working Group to develop animal emergency response plans. Ongoing issues include implementing the Humane Standards for care of livestock, surveillance and response to the potential of an Avian Influenza outbreak, as well as other diseases impacting cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, aquaculture, and other animals raised for fiber and fur.

Responded to EHV-1, EEE and WNV Occurrences:

The Division swiftly responded to three separate cases of equine herpes myeloencephalopathy (EHM) reported in 2013 to stop further exposure and spread of this serious and every so often deadly, neurologic form of Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1). All three EHM-positive cases were unrelated and occurred in Somerset, Gloucester and Warren counties. With movement restriction, biosecurity measures and constant monitoring no other horses showed signs of the illness and the quarantines were lifted. The Department urged horse owners to vaccinate their animals against the mosquito-borne diseases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV) after five horses contracted EEE and one horse was confirmed for WNV. EEE and WNV are viral diseases that affect horses' neurological systems.

Held Animal Emergency Response Recognition Ceremony:

The Department recognized the achievements of the state's County Animal Response Teams in 2012 during a ceremony on February 2 in Sayreville. During Superstorm Sandy, hundreds of pets were evacuated and housed in emergency shelters and many more left behind or lost in the storm had to be rescued.

Trained Animal Emergency First Responders:

The annual Animal Emergency Working Group Symposium was held in April during which County Animal Response Teams were trained in aiding animals in house, barn and forest fires. In July, 70 CART members and other emergency personnel received hurricane preparedness training.

Disease surveillance and humane investigations: The investigation potential foreign animal diseases and unusual health events is part of the Divisions' regular activities. In the past year field staff investigated 18 disease outbreaks and well over a hundred cases of inhumane treatment of livestock.

Division of Food and Nutrition

Awarded Gleaning Grant: The Department awarded a \$100,000 Gleaning Support Grant, made possible through the Department of Agriculture's State Food Purchase Program to Farmers Against Hunger. On November 20, Secretary Fisher visited Eastmont Orchards in Colts Neck, where he joined volunteers in harvesting Brussels sprouts that was distributed by Farmers Against Hunger (FAH) to agencies preparing Thanksgiving dinner baskets for those in need. Eastmont is one of 33 farms that donated their surplus produce to FAH in 2013. Farmers Against Hunger plans to use the Gleaning Support Grant for general operations including staff, truck fuel, maintenance and programmatic expenses.

Awarded Team Nutrition Mini-Grants: Grants were awarded to eight child care centers and 11 elementary and middle schools in the state with the goal of helping children make healthier food choices and improve their overall health. The grant program was expanded for the 2012-2013 cycle to include for the first time early childhood centers. The Christie Administration received the \$324,151 Team Nutrition Training Grant from the USDA in 2012. The eight childcare centers received mini-grants of \$1,500 each. Four elementary and middle schools that were part of the 2010-2011 Team Nutrition Training Grant program received \$1,000 each. The seven new schools received \$2,500 each. The funding will be used to plant school gardens, help students make healthier food choices and train personnel on a variety of wellness issues.

Received Farm to School Grant: The Department received a \$62,713 USDA Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program grant to continue work with Rutgers Food Innovation Center on a project to bring Made with Jersey Fresh items to schools throughout the state. A previous \$51,000 grant developed several menu items using Jersey Fresh produce that meet National School Lunch Program nutrition requirements. The new grant will be used to launch these processed items and pave the way for distribution to schools. The purpose of the grant program is to develop innovative ways to help farmers.

Advanced Farm to School Efforts: The third annual Farm to School Week was held the last week in September; the Department recognized successful programs in Salem City, Vernon Township, Mountainside and Long Branch schools. The 2013-2014 school year's

The Division of Food and Nutrition operates programs providing millions of pounds of federally donated food annually to schools, institutions, summer camps, day care centers and those most in need. The Division administers the federal School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and works with the Department of Defense to provide nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables to schools. The Division administers a School Nutrition/Wellness Policy, which sets nutritional standards. Ongoing issues include administering increased food-purchase funding and working with gleaning organizations to serve hundreds of food pantries, homeless shelters and soup kitchens throughout New Jersey.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program included almost 76,000 students in 144 New Jersey schools in 14 counties. The USDA allocated \$3,934,586 for New Jersey for the program, which provides fresh produce to students during the school day, along with nutrition education.

Celebrated Nutrition Month with Superstorm Sandy-impacted Students: Secretary Fisher and Patricia Dombroski, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, on March 25 celebrated National Nutrition Month with 85 8th grade students displaced from Union Beach Memorial School since Superstorm Sandy flooded the school, as they ate lunch with fellow 8th grade students in their temporary home at Keyport High School in Keyport. Union Beach's 205 middle school students attended Keyport High School and Central School for several months while repairs were made to their home school. The Union Beach district provided all its displaced students with a free National School Lunch Program (NSLP) lunch until they returned to Memorial School. NSLP meals must meet strict federal nutrition guidelines, which include more fruits and vegetables and whole grains, fat-free or low-fat milk and fat-free flavored milk.

Expanded Eat Right, Move More Program: The Department and the NY Jets kicked off the 2013-2014 school year Eat Right, Move More Program on December 3 at Roosevelt Elementary School in Rahway with new spokesman, kicker Nick Folk, and the addition of the Jets Play 60 program. As the grand prize winner, at least 100 Roosevelt students must log 60 minutes of physical activity a day for four weeks. Several runner-up schools will be selected to win prizes based on their participation in the Play 60 program.

Honored Healthier US School Challenge Schools: The Department joined with USDA officials to honor 30 schools in 10 municipalities for attaining various levels of the HealthierUS School Challenge award, which recognizes schools for promoting good nutrition and increased physical activity. Each school received a cash reward of between \$500 and \$1,000 for making positive changes to the school meals menu and school environment.

Division of Marketing and Development

Awarded Specialty Crop Block Grants: The Christie Administration received a \$777,044 Specialty Crop Block Grant for 2014 to fund 13 initiatives benefitting Garden State crops such as fruits, vegetables, as well as horticulture and nursery. The grants are part of USDA efforts to promote specialty crops in the nation and stimulate food-and agriculturally-based community economic development. Most of New Jersey agriculture falls into the specialty crop category, which account for \$882.4 million in sales annually in the Garden State. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture will use a portion of the funding to support the popular Jersey Fresh and Jersey Grown programs. A majority of the projects support agricultural marketing and cooperative development. Several research projects also are included.

Launched New Jersey Fresh Ad Campaign: The Department premiered its new Jersey Fresh advertising campaign during the annual State Agricultural Convention on February 7, with its sports-themed “Another Great Season.” The new campaign is the first update to the Jersey Fresh promotional program since 2006. The new Jersey Fresh campaign highlights there is always something wonderful being harvested in the Garden State. The campaign included signage for retailers, utilization of social media, including a new Jersey Fresh Facebook page, radio, television and print ads.

Promoted NJ Seafood Industry Through Seafood Cook-off: Christopher Albrecht, Executive Chef at Eno Terra in Kingston was the winner of the 2013 Jersey Seafood Challenge held on June 20 at Drumthwacket, the Governor’s residence in Princeton. for his signature dish, Golden Tilefish and Green Vegetable Chowder. As the champion, Albrecht and his sous chef, John Crawford Koeniger, were New Jersey’s official representatives at the Great American Seafood Cook-off in New Orleans in August in which they placed third.

Kicked off First Annual New Jersey Wine Week: Secretary Fisher marked New Jersey Wine Week by visiting 4 JG’s Orchards and Vineyards in Colts Neck. Governor Christie signed a proclamation declaring September 20 to 29 New Jersey Wine Week, honoring the wine industry for being a growing contributor to the state’s economy. New Jersey has more than 48 licensed wineries. Four JG’s Orchards & Vineyards is a 60-acre farm named after its four owners, John and Janet Giunco and their two children, John and Jill. The Giunco family

The Division of Marketing and Development administers inspection programs for eggs, milk, fresh fruits and vegetables, and other items, including feed and fertilizer. It oversees the Jersey Fresh quality grading and promotion campaign for fruits and vegetables, as well as the Jersey Grown program for ornamental plants, the Jersey Seafood program for fish and shellfish, and the Jersey Bred program for equine. The Division also works to develop regional, national, and international markets for agricultural products. Helps organize and support urban Community Farmers Markets, bringing fresh produce to downtowns and shortening the market chain between producers and consumers. It protects farmers through the licensing and bonding program, administers the state’s dairy program, administers the Sires Stakes horse-racing program, and works to promote pleasure horse breeding programs.

has farmed in Monmouth County for more than 60 years. John’s parents raised apples and peaches. John, a lawyer, and Janet, a former IBM marketing employee, opened 4 JG’s in 1999. The Giuncos hand-harvest their grapes at this time of year to produce a variety of “estate” wines, made only from grapes grown on their property. In addition, they sell many tons of grapes to other New Jersey wineries.

Celebrated the NJ Equine Industry during the Month of the Horse: Secretary Fisher celebrated the Month of the Horse on June 11 at Showplace Farms in Millstone, one of the country’s premier harness-racing training facilities. During his visit, Secretary Fisher took a ride with trainer Linda Toscano in a jog cart several times around the facility’s 1,000-meter track with Bettors Edge, a horse that won more than \$500,000 last year.

Educated Farmers About Federal Food Safety Regulations: The Department and Rutgers University’s New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station co-sponsored an informational meeting on the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) for farmers in New Jersey, Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania on October 22 in Columbus. The meeting included presentations on FSMA from key personnel on the topic for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the agricultural community, followed by a nearly two-hour Panel Discussion and Q&A Session dedicated to the topic of what FSMA means in practical terms for New Jersey’s farmers.

Received Crop Insurance Education Grant: The Department was awarded a \$282,000 crop insurance education grant from the USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA) to ensure producers get the information they need to effectively manage risk and ensure their businesses are productive and competitive. This is the 13th year the Department has received the grant. The funds will be used for education and outreach to producers so they are fully informed of existing and emerging crop insurance products.

Division of Plant Industry

Eradicated the Asian Longhorned Beetle from New Jersey: The 11-year battle to eradicate the Asian longhorned beetle, an invasive, tree-killing pest, from New Jersey ended on March 14 with the announcement in Linden that the infestation of the bugs in the Middlesex/Union County Zone is officially over. The Department of Agriculture joined USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service officials in making the announcement in an area of Linden discovered infested with the beetle in 2004. A separate beetle infestation in Hudson County, dating back to 2002, was declared clear of the bug in 2008. Eradication efforts involved the removal of 21,981 trees. Nearly a third of those trees were replanted.

Collaborated with NJDEP on State's Mosquito Control Efforts: During the 2013 mosquito breeding season, more than 30,000 *Macrocyclus albidus* were reared at the Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory and released at three study and evaluation sites in Ocean, Burlington and Morris counties. Under the terms of a mutual PABIL and NJ Department of Environmental Protection agreement, field data is being compiled and analyzed by the NJDEP to determine how to best utilize fresh water copepods in an integrated mosquito suppression program.

Continued Gypsy Moth Suppression Efforts: Due to continued low gypsy moth populations, there was no spray program in the spring of 2013. The annual summer aerial defoliation survey showed populations increased over the previous year, when the state had the lowest recorded defoliation since the Department's Gypsy Moth Suppression Program began in 1970. This year there were 2,887 acres of trees in 51 towns in 17 counties that received moderate to severe damage from the leaf-eating invasive pests. Fall 2013 egg mass surveys carried out in 39 municipalities showed low populations again with no need for a spray program. Surveillance will continue in 2014.

Conducted Extensive Invasive Pest Survey: No Emerald Ash Borers were detected in New Jersey during the 2012 survey in 11 counties around the state. The Department, along with the NJDEP and USDA APHIS, deployed 389 traps. EAB has been detected very close to the Garden State's borders in Pennsylvania and New York. The elusive pest can kill ash trees within two years of infestation.

The Division of Plant Industry provides disease and pest protection for food and ornamental crops, forests and other plant resources through detection, control and eradication. It also works to enhance marketability of New Jersey-grown plant products, through annual inspections of nurseries and plant dealers. The Division also operates the Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory, where insects are bred to control pests and diseases without the use of pesticides. Ongoing major issues include the effort to eradicate the Asian longhorned beetle, continuing to suppress the gypsy moth population and ensuring sufficient honeybee colonies for plant and crop pollination.

Conducted Honey Bee Survey: The apiary program participated in the 2013 National Honey Bee Survey. Sampling took place at 24 New Jersey apiaries for the USDA. This survey was conducted in 30 states to assist the USDA in developing an overall baseline for colony health. This is the third year NJ has participated. It showed varroa mite levels are increasing. This was the first year NJ was included in pollen collection sampling to determine pesticide levels. The average for NJ hives was four pesticides per sample.

State Apiarist in Washington D.C.: State Apiarist Tim Schuler made presentations at the U.S. Botanic Gardens in Washington, DC. in October. He educated Botanic Garden staff on the lifecycle of honey bees as well as provided a demonstration about how to inspect and work their bees. Another presentation was made to the general public about the status of the honey bee and the issues facing the industry and was attended by tourists as well as congressional aids from Capitol Hill.



Bee Classes: This was the sixth year the State Apiarist has taught three beginner beekeeping classes during the year and public interest in beekeeping remains very strong. The three classes continue to sell out. An Advanced Beekeeping class also is taught once a year. In the last several years, more than 2,500 beekeepers have received training through the collaboration between the NJ Department of Agriculture and Rutgers Continuing Education program.

State Agriculture Development Committee

Celebrated 30 Years of Farmland Preservation, Right to Farm:



New Jersey's Farmland Preservation and Right to Farm Programs marked their 30th anniversaries in 2013. The two programs were established on January 26, 1983 and intended to work together to permanently protect the agricultural land base and ensure that farmers are not unduly restricted in their efforts to operate successful farming businesses. Thirty years later, New Jersey is considered a leader in preserving farmland and protecting the right to farm, with 28 percent of the state's agricultural land base permanently protected and New Jersey's Right to Farm protections viewed as among the strongest in the nation.

Approval Expected for On-Farm Direct Marketing AMP:

The SADC in early 2014 is expected to adopt rules that will establish an On-Farm Direct Marketing agricultural management practice (AMP). The AMP will provide performance-based standards that commercial farms must meet to be eligible for Right to Farm protection for retail farm markets and for various agriculture-related educational and farm-based recreational activities and events. The AMP was developed by an SADC working group that included farmers and representatives of New Jersey Farm Bureau, Rutgers University, county agriculture development boards and the planning community. The rules also include provisions to streamline the Right to Farm site-specific AMP and complaint processes.

Grew Farmland Preservation Totals: Seventy-five farms covering 5,919 acres were permanently preserved in 2013, including eight farms covering 792 acres in the Pinelands and 10 farms covering 842 acres in the Highlands. At year's end, a total of 2,220 farms covering 207,081 acres had been preserved since the inception of the Farmland Preservation Program, including 97 farms covering 12,675 acres in the Pinelands and 462 farms covering 38,320 acres in the Highlands.

Helped Counties, Towns Plan for Preservation:

SADC staff continued to coordinate with counties and municipalities in the development and updating of their comprehensive farmland preservation plans. Eighteen counties and 46 municipalities have developed

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) administers the state Farmland Preservation Program and promotes innovative approaches to maintaining the viability of agriculture. It administers New Jersey's Right to Farm program, which administers the Right to Farm Act that protects responsible commercial farms from restrictive municipal ordinances and public and private nuisance actions; staffs the Transfer of Development Rights Bank that works to promote and advance the implementation of TDR statewide; and operates a Farm Link Program to assist farmers in locating land and other resources.

comprehensive farmland preservation plans that target the permanent protection of approximately 205,000 additional acres of farmland over the next 10 years.

Improved Municipal Tools for Preservation:

Governor Christie in August signed into law a bill that amended the Municipal Land Use Law to provide municipalities with enhanced ability to use contiguous and non-contiguous clustering and lot-size averaging for farmland, open space and historic preservation. SADC staff had worked closely with New Jersey Future and others in providing input on the bill. Municipalities that are clustering for farmland preservation purposes are required to use an agricultural restriction template prepared by the SADC or to obtain SADC approval of their deed restrictions. The SADC at year's end was drafting model deed restrictions.

Adopted Rules for Solar Energy on Preserved Farms:

The SADC adopted rules for solar energy generation on preserved farms, effective in June. The rules were the second set of regulations developed pursuant to P.L. 2009, Ch. 213, which requires the SADC to promulgate rules for solar, wind and biomass energy on preserved farms and for the purpose of providing Right to Farm protection for such energy generation on commercial farms. The SADC in 2011 had adopted an agricultural management practice (AMP) establishing the standards for qualifying for Right to Farm protection for solar energy generation on commercial farms. The SADC is working to adopt rules for wind energy generation on preserved farms and to develop an AMP for wind energy generation on commercial farms in 2014.

Offered Leasing Resources:

The SADC, in collaboration with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA-NJ), published a new guidebook, "Leasing Farmland in New Jersey: A Guide for Landowners and Farmers." The guidebook is designed to assist farmland owners and farmers who are interested in entering into leasing agreements for any type of farming operation. It includes information on getting started, suggestions on creating and maintaining a lease, sample leases, profiles of various leasing arrangements, and additional resources to assist with leasing issues.

New Jersey Agricultural Statistics

Leading Commodity Groups (2012)

Fruits and Vegetables	\$462.9 million
Nursery/Greenhouse/Sod	\$444.8 million
Field Crops	\$131.6 million
Livestock	\$103.1 million
Poultry & Eggs	\$32.8 million
Equine	\$25 million
Dairy/Milk	\$24.2 million

New Jersey ranks as a top-ten national producer of (2012):

	Rank	Production	Prod. Value	Harvested Acres
Cranberries	3 rd	550,000 barrels	\$29.9 million	3,000
Bell Peppers	3 rd	120.3 million lbs.	\$30.4 million	3,400
Spinach	3 rd	25.9 million lbs.	\$12.7 million	1,400
Peaches	4 th	30,000 tons	\$39.6 million	5,300
Blueberries	5 th	51.5 million lbs.	\$80.8 million	7,500
Cucumbers	5 th	73.1 million lbs.	\$15.7 million	3,400
Squash	6 th	43.4 million lbs.	\$17.8 million	3,100
Tomatoes	7 th	56.7 million lbs.	\$30.8 million	2,700
Apples	8 th	34 million lbs.	\$28.5 million	1,900
Sweet Corn	9 th	68.4 million lbs.	\$23.1 million	7,200
Snap Beans	10 th	8.4 million lbs.	\$3.7 million	2,700

New Jersey Wine (2012)

As of December 2013, New Jersey has 48 licensed wineries. New Jersey ranks 10th in the nation in wine production with 1.56 million gallons of wine produced.

New Jersey Seafood (2011)

The value of New Jersey's commercial seafood catch was \$211.7 million with 175.5 million pounds of seafood landed.

New Jersey Agriculture At a Glance



Aquaculture

Angelfish
Bluegill
Brook trout
Brown trout
Comet
Discus
Eastern oysters
Fathead minnow
Hybrid striped bass
Koi
Largemouth bass
Mummichog
Northern quahog
Rainbow trout
Tilapia
Triploid grass carp
White sucker
Yellow perch
Various ornamental plants

Christmas Trees

Canaan fir
Frasier fir
Concolor fir
Norway spruce
Blue spruce
White pine
Scotch pine

Field Crops

Barley
Corn
Hay
Potatoes
Soybeans
Sweet Potatoes
Winter Wheat

Floriculture/Nursery

Aquatic Plants
Bedding/Garden Plants
Bulbs
Chrysanthemums
Foliage
Geraniums
Hostas
Impatiens
Lilies
Marigolds
New Guinea Impatiens
Pansies
Petunias
Poinsettias
Potted Plants
Shrubs
Sod
Trees

Fruit

Apples
Blackberries
Blueberries
Cantaloupe
Cranberries
Nectarines
Peaches
Raspberries
Sour cherries
Strawberries
Watermelon

Herbs

Arugula
Basil
Cilantro
Dill
Marjoram
Methi
Mint
Oregano
Parsley
Sage
Tarragon
Thyme

Livestock/Poultry

Alpaca
Bees
Bison
Cattle
Chickens
Cows, beef and milk
Deer
Donkeys
Ducks
Elk
Emus
Geese
Goats, meat and milk
Horses
Llamas
Mules
Ostriches
Pheasants
Pigeons
Pigs
Rabbits
Quail
Sheep
Turkeys

Specialty Products

Asian Fruits and Vegetables
Baby Arugula
Baby Spinach
Chestnuts
Corn Stalks
Cut Flowers
Garlic

Grapes and Wines

Hay
Honey
Indian Corn
Maple Syrup
Mums
Popcorn
Shell Eggs
Straw
Tomatillos

Vegetables

Asparagus
Beans, green, pole and snap
Beets
Bok Choy
Broccoli
Broccoli Raab
Brussels Sprouts
Cabbage, red, green, Chinese, Savoy
Cauliflower
Celery
Collards
Corn, sweet
Cucumbers
Dandelion Greens
Eggplant
Eggplant, Sicilian
Escarole
Fennel
Horseradish root
Kale
Kohlrabi
Leeks
Lettuces
Mustard greens
Okra
Onions
Parsnips
Peas
Peppers
Pickles
Potatoes
Pumpkins
Radishes
Rhubarb
Rutabaga
Shallots
Spinach
Squash
Sweet Potatoes
Swiss Chard
Tomatoes
Turnips
Turnip Greens

