

**State Agriculture Development Committee Meeting Summary
November 1, 2007**

Acting Chairperson's Report

The public question on next week's ballot would provide \$73 million to fund farmland preservation efforts in FY2009.

The Pinelands Council is working on its next draft of the Pinelands Regional Master Plan, which it hopes to release on November 19th.

Executive Director's Report

Susan Craft noted that the vacancy in the Chief of Legal Affairs position has slowed the process of responding to public comments on the SADC's proposed equine rules. Staff also continues to review public comments to the proposed commercial nonagricultural use rule.

Amorosi (Marlboro Township, Monmouth County) Right to Farm Decision

The SADC adopted the hearing officer's report and an addendum in the matter involving neighbors' complaints about a sawmill operation and tree harvesting activity. It concluded that the operator is entitled to protections of the Right to Farm Act only if he meets a number of conditions and recommended that the County Agriculture Development Board conduct more rigorous investigation or testing to determine whether the operation is in compliance with the state noise control standards at various times of the week, times of day and weather conditions.

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/rtfprogram/conflictres/formal/rtfdecamorosi.pdf>

Administrative Budget for Farmland Preservation and Right to Farm Programs

For FY2009, the SADC approved a \$2.855 million budget for the Farmland Preservation Program and a \$100,000 budget for the Right to Farm Program.