

State of New Hersey

STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

HEALTH/ ACRICA LICRE BUILDING JOHN FITCH PLAZA PO Box 330 TRENTON NI 08625-0330

JAMES E. MCGREEVEY Governor

CHARLES M. KUPERUS Secretary of Agriculture

Gregory Romano Executive Director (609) 984-2504 (609) 633-2593 FAX (609) 633-2004 May 9, 2002

Charles M. Kuperus Chairman

Members

Lewis Goldshore, Esq.

Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein, Watter, Blader, Lehmann & Goldshore, P.C. Quakerbridge Executive Center

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101 Grovers Mill Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

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Re:

Conflict Resolution Matter

Seredy, et al. v. Edison Township Zoning Board, et al.

Your client: Barton Nursery

Edison Township, Middlesex County

Dear Mr. Goldshore:

The State Agriculture Development Committee ("SADC") has reviewed the certification and documents your client has submitted in support of its request for a determination that its agricultural operation is a commercial farm as defined by the Right to Farm Act ("Act") and the regulations promulgated thereunder. N.J.S.A. 4:1C-1 et seg.; N.J.A.C. 2:76-2 et seg. Based on the fact that your client's property does not appear to qualify for differential property taxation pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," it does not meet the Act's definition of a commercial farm and hence, is not eligible for protection under the Act. N.J.S.A. 4:1C-3 and 9.

The Act defines commercial farm as

A farm management unit of no less than five acres producing agricultural or horticultural products worth \$2,500 or more annually. and satisfying the eligibility criteria for differential property taxation pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," (citation omitted) or (2) a farm management unit less than five acres, producing agricultural or horticultural products worth \$50,000 or more annually and otherwise satisfying the eligibility criteria for differential property taxation pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," (citation omitted). [N.J.S.A. 4:1C-3].

Your client may appeal this determination by submitting a letter to the SADC within 15 * ` a a days of the date of your receipt of this letter. If your client appeals this determination within 15 days, the SADC will schedule a hearing regarding whether your client's agricultural operation qualifies for the protections of the Right to Farm Act.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the above number.

Sincerely,

Gregory Romano

c: Linda Busch, Administrator, Middlesex CADB Eileen P. Kelly, SDAG

via: certified mail

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