



# NEWS

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## **Agriculture Secretary Announces Preservation of 519-Acre Vineland Farm**

Agriculture Secretary Douglas H. Fisher today announced that the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has purchased the development rights to preserve the 519-acre Cervini farm in Vineland.

“I’m delighted that we had the opportunity to preserve this farm, which is the largest Cumberland County farm preserved through our State Acquisition Program,” said Secretary Fisher, who chairs the SADC. “The preservation of the Cervini farm represents a significant State investment in the future of agriculture in Cumberland County and in the community of Vineland.”

The farmland was part of the former Training School at Vineland. Daniel Cervini, who purchased the former school site in July 2009, sold the development rights on the farmland portion to the SADC for approximately \$2 million. When landowners sell their development rights, they retain ownership of the land but agree to deed restrictions that permanently protect the land for agricultural use.

The SADC administers the state Farmland Preservation Program. To date, 1,988 farms covering more than 189,000 acres have been permanently preserved under the program. A total of 123 farms covering 15,347 acres have been preserved under the program in Cumberland County, including 9 farms covering 834 acres in Vineland.

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