

Cranberry Impact

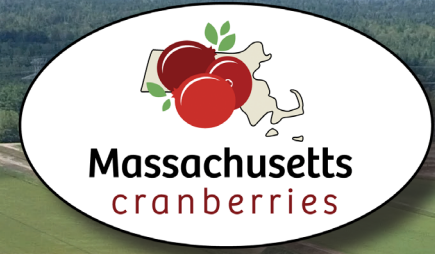
COMMERCIAL FARMING BEGAN ON CAPE COD IN 1816



Left behind by melting glaciers, used by Indigenous peoples and first cultivated by Revolutionary War veteran Captain Henry Hall, cranberries have an important and rich history in southeastern Massachusetts. As the oldest and second-largest growing region in the U.S., Massachusetts recognizes cranberry as the official state color, fruit and juice drink.



Since 1888, the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association (aka Massachusetts Cranberries) has been dedicated to the success of the Massachusetts cranberry industry. As a member-based organization, CCCGA offers assistance with regulatory compliance, professional development, local outreach and other activities.



CCCGA has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in cranberry research to help improve the efficiency and environmental compatibility of cranberry farms. CCCGA is working to ensure that Massachusetts cranberry farming can survive urbanization and that open space and clean water, both vital to cranberry growing, are preserved for generations to come.

For more information on cranberry growing in Massachusetts, visit cranberries.org.

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Hello, Neighbor

What to expect when living near a cranberry bog

60,000+ ACRES OF OPEN SPACE PROTECTED BY BOGS



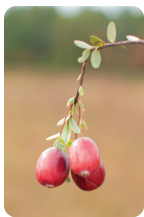
A healthy cranberry industry means more open space, as every acre of active cranberry bog needs 3-5 acres of support land. This undeveloped space provides a unique environment for native plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species.

\$1.7 BILLION & 6,392 JOBS TIED TO MA CRANBERRY



With more than 13,000 acres harvested, cranberries are the Commonwealth's No. 1 food crop. This industry's economic contribution is important to the overall strength of the Massachusetts' economy and vital to dozens of communities and non-farm businesses as a result of the economic multiplier impact.

A SUPERFRUIT WITH UNIQUE HEALTH BENEFITS



Fat, sodium and cholesterol free, cranberries contain antioxidants and the flavanol proanthocyanidin, responsible for anti-adhesive properties not found in other fruits and vegetables. Studies have shown cranberry's positive impact on oral, heart, urinary tract, gut health and more.

learn more at cranberries.org



Heavy equipment is used during normal agricultural practices for any farm. Massachusetts bogs, some hundreds of years old, may require renovation to withstand the rigors of a changing climate and marketplace. Large trucks

are used to transport berries to receiving stations during fall harvest. Sand is an essential part of good bog management and can be applied by custom-built spreaders, barges, or by heavy equipment machines. Sand stimulates the development of new roots; suppresses insects, weed seeds, and fungal spores; and improves drainage of surface water.

All farmers must adhere to regulations and standards set forth in the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act.



Helicopters are often used to work the bogs in lieu of driving heavy equipment on the sensitive vines. Helicopters administer fertilizers in the spring and summer; haul off heavy ditch mud in the winter, spring and fall; and transport dry-harvested berries in the fall.



Cranberry growers use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) - a science-based approach to managing pests that combines biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks.

IPM reduces, but does not eliminate, the use of pesticides to control or prevent serious damage caused by various insects and diseases.

Most pesticides are applied at night or early morning, never in the presence of wind, and not before/after heavy rain. Some pesticides have an odor that marks their presence, but does not necessarily equate to human danger. Through training and continuing education, cranberry growers are able to obtain and maintain pesticide licenses from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources.

To supply nutrients needed for growth, fertilizers are applied to cranberry bogs in spring and summer via helicopters, irrigation systems, rotary spreaders, or motorized vehicles. Chemical use on farms is closely monitored and regulated by federal and state agencies with specific allowances, rates, and timing of application, among other restrictions.



Cranberry flowers do not self-fertilize, so growers rely on native pollinators and migratory bees to move pollen from one flower to another. Rented bees are introduced in June and remain until mid-July.

Cranberry growers follow science-based Best Management Practices developed by the UMass Cranberry Station: ag.umass.edu/cranberry



Cranberry vines need about one inch of water per week during the growing season. Growers also use water to protect cranberry plants from damaging frost, extreme heat or drought. Bogs are flooded during wet harvest in the fall

and to protect vines and allow for sand spreading in the winter. Land and water conservation is vitally important to cranberry growers. As such, growers follow comprehensive conservation plans and utilize technology to preserve resources and reduce their carbon footprint. Many growers use tailwater recovery ponds to create a closed-loop system that captures and reuses water from the bog.