



HARVESTING THE PAST....

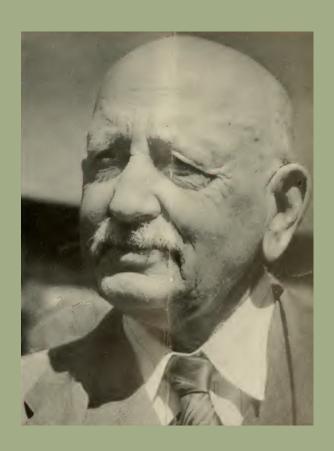
A HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE CRANBERRY INDUSTRY

BY: BONNIE SOULE

The December 1943 *Cranberries* magazine featured an article on Samuel B. Gibbs, one of the first cranberry growers in Carver and the president of the American Cranberry Exchange.

Sam grew up in a time when cranberries grew naturally in meadows where farmers cut their hay for winter. One of these meadows was right across the road from Sam's home and had been picked by Gibbs' father each fall. He helped his father care for the meadow and the natural vines by carefully mowing the grasses to let the vines get sunlight and air during the growing season. In the fall, the whole family would rake the berries using long handled rakes. He recalled screening the berries by pouring them "from a bushel basked onto a big piece of cloth spread on the ground while the wind blew out the chaff. A good breeze was desirable for this screening." These berries yielded as much as 100 barrels and they sold them for \$4 to \$5 a barrel.

As a young man, Sam joined the Carver iron work industry as a moulder at the Ellis Iron Foundry and also worked for Tremont Nail Company. On the off-season (did you know there was an off-season for iron work? I didn't!) he began working for George Bowers, the first of the notable Carver growers and an iron operator as well as a local leader. Sam carted berries for Bowers by horse and wagon at the start of 'cranberry fever' in Carver. He remembers Mr. Bowers telling him "Sam, if you can get hold of some



Continued on page 6:

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CHANGING ON THE FLY

BY: BRIAN WICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



With the CCCGA winter meeting behind us, I hope that many of you were able to attend this online platform and found the content educational. Dawn has a recap of the meeting in her article this month but I'll just pause to thank those growers who were able to attend, our sponsors, speakers and of course our dedicated CCCGA staff that helped pull it together. There are some advantages to the online platform and I anticipate that going forward, some meetings will be offered online, for the ease of having a quick meeting without the need to travel or secure a space. We are hopeful that our Annual Meeting this summer will be held in person, but we'll have to see where things are at - you all know what I'm talking about. In terms of vaccinations, CCCGA is trying to get some answers for how agriculture will be treated in the priority list. The state has its hands full in regard to vaccination web site integrity, access to vaccines, other priority groups, etc. As soon as we learn anything, we'll let you know.

Of note, we have some information on the status of the Cranberry Bog Renovation tax Credit. This was announced at the winter meeting but for those that were not in attendance, her e is a summation. First, there was a technical issue discovered in the legislation that needs toi be corrected by the State House. This fix has been filed and we await for it to move through the process. We don't anticipate any issues other than a slight delay in implementation. However, of more importance is that the state has informed us that they need to create regulations for how this tax credit will work and as you know, that is never a quick process. The state is aware of the importance of the credit and having it ready for growers to consider but it will take some time and effort to get this done right. The state agencies working on this have had an initial meeting and CCCGA has provided some input into the process. We also do not anticipate any issues in getting the regulations and the program itself into place but there are a lot of pieces to consider and we all want to be sure that it is done thoughtfully. Since the legislative fix required and the needed regulations will not be complete by April 15th, growers should consider filing your taxes as normal and then once this program is ready to go later this year, there may be the option for filing an amended return. Since we are not tax experts, any grower considering utilizing the tax credit should always talk to their accountant and/or tax preparer. We'll continue to update growers as this program comes together.

This month will be busy in allocating funding for horticultural research projects. The CCCGA Research Committee and the Cranberry Research Foundation will be meeting this week to decide on projects and the Cranberry Institute will be making their funding decisions later this month at their virtual board meeting. With construction starting soon on the cranberry station renovation and new building project, there is excitement for the future of research in Massachusetts which will help lay the foundation for cranberry management tools and techniques for years to come. We are also actively working with the USDA/ARS program housed at the Cranberry Station to maximize the efforts and future direction of this critically important research program. We are fortunate to have both UMass and USDA/ARS working on cranberries in Massachusetts.

The MA Department of revenue's Farmland Valuation Advisory Committee is meeting next week to determine the tax rate for Chapter 61A values for the upcoming fiscal year. As always, CCCGA is present to help educate the committee on their work and to voice our opinion as needed as the rates are discussed. As Henry Gillete used to offer, "Your voice can't be heard unless you have a seat at the table." Speaking of 61A, we continue to work on getting clarification for 61A on dual-use solar projects. There is clearly inconsistency in the agricultural tax program and the statute that governs it that needs to be sorted out but some towns are seemingly using 61A as a means to stop or delay solar projects and that certainly is not the intent of the program. We are making progress but it takes time to obtain complete stakeholder support. We are also hearing selected opposition to solar projects from some environmental groups. Apparently, the same people who want our country to be less dependent on fossil fuels are suddenly opposed to alternative energy when it's in their backyard or not a cute, boutique array that is providing enough energy for a single-family house. We'll get through these bumps but for those that are trying to navigate this process, it's frustrating.

Continued from previous page

In closing, there are a lot of initiatives being considered by CCCGA this month. Beyond what was discussed here so far, there are new grant opportunities that we are exploring, work plans for the association that the board will review next week at its board meeting, media and PR plans to put in place and more. We are actively evaluating new software that will help streamline our office efficiencies and hopefully make it easier for members to signup for meetings and programs, etc. We are looking at everything in the office, top to bottom, to make us as efficient as possible and provide more value to our loyal members. There is much more to come and report out and as always, we thank you for your support! Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or ideas on how we can collectively improve our association or the MA cranberry industry.

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Continued from cover

money, put all you can get into cranberries. You'll never regret it." And that's just what he did!

Gibbs' first bog built was on the bank of the Weweantit shortly after he was married to Caroline Morse. The land, a maple swamp, was a gift from his father. It was built as a dry bog and years later Sam put in a Morrison force pump, one of the first pumps used in Carver. He then built a second bog which was known as the "Family Bog". Italian iron workers from the Tremont mills helped with its building and several members of his family put money towards it, giving it its name.

Samuel B. Gibbs went on to build more bogs and

was a charter member of the New England Cranberry Sales Company. He saw "much of the development of the cranberry industry and as a practical grower on a large scale, contributed his full share to its development." He passed that experience along to his sons and the rest is, as they say, history.

I hope you've enjoyed reading about the beginnings of the Gibbs family in MA cranberries. *I'll be back again harvesting more of the cranberry industry from days gone* by!

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Top Reasons to Use Bumblebees

- Bumblebees forage at temperatures as low as 40°F, honeybees forage when temperatures are 55°F and higher.
- Bumblebees do not adjust foraging times to avoid wind, a honeybees foraging is stopped when wind speeds reach 15 mph.
- Bumblebees can use "buzz pollination" or sonication to release pollen from flower anthers, honeybees do not sonicate to collect pollen.
- Bumblebees can deposit larger quantities of pollen to the stigma as compared to honeybees, requiring less visits for pollination.
- Bumblebees tend to have a more erratic flight pattern than honeybees which facilitates the movement of pollen across rows.
- Bumblebees will forage in lower light conditions than honeybees.

Koppert's Quad is especially designed for outdoor pollination with four hives inside; it is buzzing with bumblebees ready to pollinate.





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and winners are.....



OUT AND ABOUT

BY: DAWN GATES ALLEN



2021 Winter Meeting Highlights

It is fair to say that based on grower feedback and from our sponsors that the 2021 CCCGA Winter Meeting was a success. We would like to thank everyone who is graciously adapting to the new virtual world. As an industry we are moving forward staying connected, I think we have more access now to incredible educational content. Prior to Covid we would have to leave the farm to attend meetings and lose precious time. I do believe there is the need when safe to hold our grower gatherings, but for now we have a pretty good system that is keeping us functioning. CCCGA hit the ground running to host a two day virtual Zoom meeting with what started at 3 credits and then hey what do you know, Brian was able to garner up 1 more credit for a total of 4 credits.

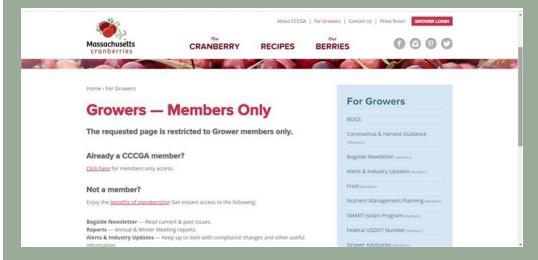
Most will say they also enjoyed the "Lunch On Me" all attendees names were labeled on this colorful wheel, while we all watched with anticipation of who our seven lunch winners would be. Not doubt there were several close calls on names and then with a blink the wheel jumped to the next attendee's name. Looking forward to next year I anticipate we will continue to utilize this color wheel that is automated as it was a success for sure. Please see page 9 for a listing of "Lunch On Me" winners.

In total we had 101 attendees, which is remarkable and hats off to Bonnie Soule, Special Projects Manager, for pulling out all the stops to make this happen. Of the 101 attendees, we also had 13 sponsorships for both days. Thank you to our generous sponsors listed on the previous page.

I highly recommend checking out these links below to recapture any educational content you would like to watch again or perhaps you missed the meeting and would like to see these presentations. If a grower or attendee needs assistance logging into the Grower link, please let me know I can assist you. We are working with MDAR to see if we can receive pesticide credits for watching the videos as an On-Demand training option. We will let you know if that becomes available.

Click on this link to access the presentations:

https://www.cranberries.org/growers/winter-meeting-presentations



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Day One Topics

- Pesticide Licensing: Taryn LaScola-Miner: MA Department of Ag Resources
- Zone II Regulations: Hotze Wijnja: MA Department of Ag. Resources, Sponsored by Blair Agency
- Fruit Quality: Peter Oudemans: Rutgers University, Marucci Center for Blueberry & Cranberry Research, Cranberry Growers Service
- Integrated Frost Management Panel: Glenn Reid, Anne Cote, Carolyn DeMoranville, McCaffrey, Sponsored by Lassonde Pappas
- Nematodes for Flea Beetle Control: Shawn Steffan: USDA/ARS, Sponsored by Monroe Tractor
- BOGS Online Growing System: Dawn Gates-Allen, CCCGA, Sponsored by Decas Cranberry

Day Two Topics

- Steve Ward: CCCGA President
- John Lebeaux: Commissioner Mass Department of Ag Resources
- John Fernandes: CCCGA Government Relations
- Empire Dones: John McGraw
- Pollinator Habitat & Protection of Cranberry Growers: Hannah Mullally Xerces Society, Sponsored by Norfolk Power Equipment
- Crop Insurance & PPP: Paul Russell & Tom Smiarowski, Umass RME
- Options for Retiring Cranberry Bogs: Alex Hackman Division of Ecological Restoration
- Bill Frantz: Cranberry Institute, Sponsored by Fruit d'Or
- Michelle Hogan, Cranberry Marketing Committee, Sponsored by Decas Cranberry
- Brian Wick: CCCGA Executive Director

CCCGA is grateful to all who presented, attended, sponsored and shared this virtual experience. The CCCGA staff will have all continuing education credits mailed shortly. If you have questions, please contact me: 508-866-7878 x 10 or dgatesallen@cranberries.org



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Notes from Beacon Hill

BY: John Fernandes



The new two-year legislative session for 2021/2022 began Wednesday, January 6th.

The first priority of the legislature after being sworn in is to elect a Speaker of the House and the Senate President. As expected, Ronald Mariano was reelected as Speaker of the House. He assumed that post late last year after the sudden announcement that Robert DeLeo, the longest serving speaker in modern history was leaving the house to assume a new role at his alma mater, Northeastern University. Speaker Mariano had served as Deleo's long time 2nd in command as Majority Leader and was well positioned to assume the Speakership seamlessly. Also as expected, Karen Spilka was reelected as Senate President, beginning her second full term in the position. The other important positions filled in January were the house and senate chairs of the Ways & Means. Your Senator, Michael Rodrigues returned to the powerful position of senate chair of the senate W&Ms committee. Aaron Michlewitz returned as chair of that house committee.

The next priority of the session was the filing of legislation. The normal deadline for all legislation to be filed is the 3rd Wednesday in January. That deadline was extended because of Covid to February 19th. Not unexpectedly, more than 6,000 bills were filed by that date. Several bills were filed that are sponsored on behalf of the CCCGA and include the following as filed by either Senator Moran or Representative Straus. We thank them both for taking the lead on the legislation:

SD.1265: An Act relative to a cranberry wetland mitigation bank

(this bill will assist those looking to retire some or all their cranberry acreage by creating a pilot program that will create a bank of cranberry bogs that can be used by developers, municipalities, state, etc. to offset wetland mitigation needs; recommended by the Cranberry Industry Revitalization Task Force)

SD.1266: An Act encouraging the use of renewable energy on agricultural land

(this bill looks to provide clarity and consistency for those growers looking to utilize dual-use solar on production agricultural land in the Commonwealth, particularly regarding Chapter 61A and zoning)

SD.1267: An Act relative to the Farm Technology Review Commission

(this bill looks to re-establish this existing commission of dairy stakeholders and state agencies and broadens its reach to include other sectors of agriculture, including cranberry; they would be charged with evaluating current and future programs/policies to help improve opportunities for growers surrounding technology, energy, etc.; recommended by the Cranberry Industry Revitalization Task Force)

HD.1831: An Act relative to a cranberry water use transfer program

(this bill will assist those looking to retire some or all of their cranberry acreage by creating a mechanism to monetize their Water management Act Registrations/Permits to municipalities looking for mitigation credits; recommended by the Cranberry Industry Revitalization Task Force)

HD.3357: An Act relative to a cranberry bog improvement tax credit

(this bill looks to provide for a tax credit for incorporated growers that renovate their cranberry bogs; recommended by the Cranberry Industry Revitalization Task Force)

In addition to the legislative priorities listed above, we are tracking other legislation filed by all legislators that may impact growers, such as efforts to revise the overtime regulations, or institute new pesticide regulations. More on those to come as bills are assigned to committees, hearings begin, and testimony starts to

Continued from previous page

flow in. The CCCGA government affairs committee and board of directors are also looking at more than a dozen other issues that may be non-legislative in nature. We will keep you informed on those as matters are taken up.

The third important action that takes place in the early part of the year is committee appointments, chairs, vice chairs and members, and the selection of the speaker's and senate president's leadership teams. The most anticipated changes were in the house as Speaker Mariano selected a new leadership team and new chairs of committees. Of most importance to the CCCGA is the leadership of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (to which we can expect our and other agricultural matters to be sent and heard) and Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (to which we can expect any solar legislation involving solar and agriculture to be sent and heard).

The Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture committee has all new leadership and membership. Representative Carolyn Dykema of the 8th Middlesex District, and Senator Rebecca Rausch of the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex District will chair the committee. The Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy will be chaired by Representative Jeffrey Roy of the 10th Norfolk, and Senator Michael Barrett of the Third Middlesex District. CCCGA leadership intends to be active in engaging the chairs and the committee members to educate them on the issues of interest and concern to growers. I expect that legislation will soon be moving to committees from the senate and house clerks' office and hearings will start in April at the latest.

The fourth priority for the first few months of the new year is the filing of the budget by the governor, which starts the budget process for the FY '22 fiscal year that begins July 1, 2021. The legislature, through the Ways & Means committees, and the governor through his Secretary of Administration and Finance conduct joint revenue hearings in February and March to secure the information needed to achieve a consensus agreement on anticipated revenue expectations and new growth for the coming year, which number will guide the creation of a balanced budget as required by the Massachusetts constitution. The house is expected to take up its budget in April, the Senate in May, followed by a house/ senate conference committee that will meet in June to get a reconciled house/ senate budget to the Governor for his final consideration before July 1st.

Stay safe as we get closer to mass vaccinations that will allow us all to return to a sense of normalcy.



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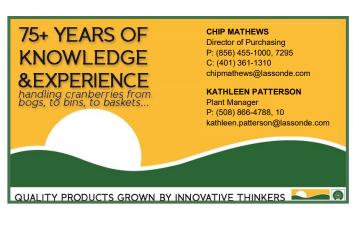
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UPDATES FROM THE CMC

BY: KAREN CAHILL



In early March, all growers were mailed a copy of their most recent six years of cranberry production as reported by handlers. Growers are asked to review their records of production for accuracy and to report any discrepancies to Dotty Pipher at 508-291-1510, ext. 4, or dpipher@uscranberries.com.

As part of its strategic planning process, the Cranberry Marketing Committee will be soliciting feedback from cranberry growers in the form of an online survey in late March/early April. We hope that you will take a few moments to share with us the issues that are most important to you. Participation in this survey is a critical first step towards planning for the future of the CMC.

Upcoming International Activity:

World Mithai & Namkeen Convention (India) April 8-12 April 27-30 Bakery China Show (Shanghai, China) April-August Weibo Campaign with SINA (Online, China)



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UMASS CRANBERRY STATION NEWS

BY: HILARY SANDLER



UMASS Cranberry Station News:

Can you help us? This spring, we are renovating a portion of State Bog to support research (supported by Federal Hatch dollars) to evaluate the performance of new cranberry hybrids in MA. We will be planting 12 hybrids from NJ and WI in replicated blocks (similar to our Checkerboard, but smaller). We hope to have the areas prepped and ready for planting by late May 2021.

Our biggest expenses will be SAND and TRUCKING; we will also need to buy irrigation pipe and new heads. We are renovating 0.7A of Section 1. So, we would need about 1000 cubic yards of sand and trucks to haul it from source to the Station. If you can help through donations or reduced pricing, we would be grateful. We can provide paperwork so you can use your contribution for tax purposes.

Please contact Hilary at the Station (508-295-2212, x21) or Rick at 413-230-1865.

Kerb. We have received notification from the EPA permitting the use of KERB for control of dodder for 2021. This is an Emergency Exemption use for 2021 only and is valid from April 15 through June 30. Remember, Kerb is a restricted use pesticide due to groundwater concerns. The Section 18 label will be posted on the UMass Cranberry Station web site under "Services/Special Pesticide Labels" and should be available at all points of purchase. If you use Kerb, you will need to submit a use report to MDAR; this form will also be available on our web site.

Chart Books. The 2021-2023 Chart Books will be available by late March-Early April. Please see our most recent newsletter to have it mailed to you for \$6 per book (order form is in our February newsletter or contact Robyn at x10). Contactless, pick up (free!) times will be Fridays April 2 and 9 (8-10 AM) and Wednesdays April 7 and 14 (1 am- 1 pm). We will be set up in the parking lot. If the weather is inclement, we will be in the garage.





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THE BOG BRIEF



WINTER MEETING PRESENTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CCCGA WEBSITE AT https://www.cranberries.org/

growers/winter-meeting-presentations

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2020 CCCGA MEMBERSHIP TAX DEDUCTION

Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code (IRC), in section 6033(e), CCCGA is hereby notifying you that 6.88% of what you paid in membership dues for 2020 is not deductible as a business expense due to lobbying activities of the organization. You may need to provide this information to your accountant for proper tax recordings. If you have any questions, contact your accountant or the CCCGA office.

SENATOR THERESE MURRAY

CRANBERRY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP



Dear Grower:

The Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association is pleased to announce that applications for the Senator Therese Murray Cranberry Educational Scholarship are now open. This year the CCCGA will be offering one \$1000.00 scholarship.

Applicant must be an immediate family member of a CCCGA Grower member or their year-round or part-time regular employee. Applicants must also be currently enrolled at an institution of higher learning (post-high school) with a GPA of 2.5 or better. The application guidelines, requirements and form are online at: https://tinyurl.com/TMaward

The **fully completed** application form must be submitted electronically **12:00 PM**, **Wednesday**, **May 19**, **2021**. An email confirmation will be sent to you and without that acknowledgement of acceptance, the applicant should not consider his/her application submitted. Only electronic applications will be accepted. If anyone is unable to send in their completed application electronically, please contact Patti at psilvia@cranberries.org.

Recipients will be notified by email no later than June 25, 2021.

Regards,

Executive Director

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COVID-19 VACCINE FOR AG WORKERS

The state has announced that agricultural workers are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, starting Monday, March 22. This includes all growers and their employees. The definition of an essential ag worker is as follows: "All staff involved in the production, processing, storage, transport, wholesale and retail sale, preparation, and service of food and consumer goods, including farm and other agricultural workers, including farm stand and nurseries."

Ag workers can pre-register now on the state's web site and starting Monday, will become eligible for a COVID vaccine at one of the state's mass vaccination centers. Using the state pre-registration system may be easier for some than what can often be a frustrating process of trying to obtain an appointment online. You may also be able to receive a vaccine at one of the local vaccination centers such as a pharmacy, doctor's office, etc.

The state's pre-registration system can be found at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/
preregister-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-appointment

To search for a vaccination appointment at https://vaxfinder.mass.gov

What has not been made clear is what sort of identification may be required to identify you as belonging to agriculture. Each vaccination site may treat this differently. The state's pre-registration web site is a self-reporting, honor system. We have heard that some facilities are requiring a note from your company and/or a recent pay stub to prove you are in agriculture. Other vaccination sites have not asked for any verification of what group you may belong to. Once we learn more definitive answers on the identification requirements, if any, we'll be sure to pass it along.



CHANGES TO THE CRANBERRY RESEARCH FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Changes to the Cranberry Research Foundation Board of Directors

Recently the Cranberry Research Foundation (CRF) made some changes to the leadership positions on their board of directors. After many years of service, Lyon Carter has stepped down as chair and he has been replaced by Don Badeau. Lyon's thoughtful and even-handed approach as chair served the board well and his enthusiasm for the work of the foundation was infectious. We thank him for his service and time but are comforted in knowing that he's staying on the board, where his experience can continue to be shared. Also, Dawn Gates-Allen has agreed to take over the clerk responsibilities from Brian Wick. Our phonetically aligned board members, Don and Dawn, are both well poised to continue to foster their direction and commitment to CRF in their new leadership positions. With a solid base and a dedicated board, CRF is well poised to help support and direct horticultural research in Massachusetts for years to come.

The CRF Board of Directors is as follows:

Don Badeau, Jr. – Chair Heather Bragdon John Mason

John Davison – Treasurer Lyon Carter Ben Richards

Dawn Gates-Allen – Clerk Kirby Gilmore George Rogers

Susan Gilmore Brian Wick





FOR SALE: Vintage Ford Tractors

These are completely re-furbished and have not been used or been outside since being reconditioned.

1953 Ford Jubilee: \$8,500

1953 Ford: \$6,500

Call Jeannette at 508-428-2639

FOR SALE: 8 bog sanders \$5000.00 each, negotiable if buying multiple sanders.

Please contact: Oiva Hannula & Sons

8 Rochester Rd., Carver Ph# 508-866-1075

FOR SALE: 13.38 acres of cranberry bogs in Carver. Property consists of Ben Lears & Early Blacks and have been good producing bogs over the years. Property consists 10 acre reservior & 45 acres of upland. A section of upland has 3 possible house lots with right-aways leading to them. If someone is just interested in the bogs and reservoir, willing to just sell that portion. Asking \$280.000. or best offer. House lots \$100,000. each or best offer. Please call Virgina Weston at 508-866-4916 or PO Box 164, South Carver 02366.

FOR SALE:

Pruning head for St. Jacques Machine 4X4 sander with heated body 4X4 wheeler off Hydraulic sander Contact Scott 508.942.4511

FOR SALE: 300 fresh fruit dry bins. Excellent shape. Call 774-263-8768

FOR SALE: Hayden lift pump 20 inch , 20,000 GPM 14 foot shaft. Price: Make an offer Contact Alan 774-313-6560 or Ben 508-237-9252

FOR SALE: One Kubota four cylinder motor with clutch and Berkley pump. Runs fine. \$5000. Two four wheel drive bog sanders with Wisconsin motors and International drive trains - \$4000. or best offer. Over 100 Rainbird #30 H sprinklers or risers 12" -14" \$10. each. Four Wisconsin motors for use or parts - make an offer. Please call John at 508-509-3584 with any questions.

BOG FOR LEASE: Ocean Spray Cranberry A-pool bog for lease, will negotiate 8 acres. 4.5 acres of Early Black, 2 irrigation pumps, 1 lift pump 4 1/2 acres of pop-up, 3 1/2 acres of traditional sprinklers Spring fed reservoir. Bog located in West Wareham. Please call 508-748-1137

WANTED: Local cranberry grower wanting to update picking machines. Looking for hydraulic, oscillating, new or used machine. Gephart style with rotating head or harrow. Call Bruce at 508-728-7631

WANTED: Pruner Walk-behind or ride-on pruner. Attached rake or similar a plus. Please contact Rick Leibe at UMass Cranberry Station. 413-230-1865.

WANTED: 2 - 40' x 4" aluminum irrigation

pipes. Call: 774-306-1247

WANTED: Cranberry picking machine or plans /project to build new one. Machines need to be "Furford" type, can be complete or without engine. contact only via email

WANTED: Running running 6 wheel dump truck.. Contact: call or text Ben at 508-237-9252 or Alan 774-313-6560.

WANTED: Dry cranberry harvester. New or used in any condition. Also plans to build a working harvester. Contact: Wojciech Zuber at zuber.wojciech@gmail.com or 1-403-894-0865