

# JOIN US VIRTUALLY FOR OUR CCCGA WINTER PESTICIDE TRAINING WORKSHOP

Thursday, March 3, 2022 (via zoom)

This session will be held virtually from 8 - 10 AM

Online Check in begins at 7:30 AM

2 Pesticide Credits Available

For more information please contact Bonnie at bsoule@cranberries.org

#### **AGENDA**

- 7:30 Session is open for online check-in
- 8:00 Welcome: Brian Wick, CCCGA Executive Director & Steve Ward, CCCGA President
- 8:05 Jaime Cummings, Syngenta Agronomic Service Representative:
- Update on Cranberry Pesticides from Syngenta
- 8:25 Katie Ghantous, Cranberry Institute Horticultural Advisor:
- **Pesticide Registration Process**
- 8:45 Andrea Szylvian, US EPA Region 1: Changes to WPS Certification and Training Regulations and NPDES Program
- 9:05 Kim Skyrm, MA Department of Agricultural Resources Chief Apiary Inspector/Apiary Program Coordinator: MDAR Pollinator Program
- 9:30 Marty Sylvia, UMass Cranberry Station Extension Educator:
- Pesticide Update Zone II, Insect Challenges and More

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"To enhance the Massachusetts cranberry industry through the viability and sustainability of the CCCGA membership."

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## **BLOGS AND BLURBS**

#### **US EPA NPDES Permits**

As a reminder, if you are a decision maker (not necessarily ownership) for pesticide decisions with more than 80 acres, you need to obtain a NPDES permit before applying pesticides in 2022. These permits are an actual Notice of Intent, approved by EPA, and are good for 5 years. It's important that growers fill out these permits in a consistent manner. If you have any questions or would like CCCGA to file the permit on your behalf, please contact Dawn Allen.

#### **CCCGA Bog Tour Headquarters Sought**

CCCGA is looking for a location to operate our Bog Tour program, a well as building a cranberry educational center and gift shop. We are looking for a bog location with easy access and centrally located in the growing region, as best possible. CCCGA is open to a variety of options for such a location, including a long-term lease. If you might have a location or wish to learn more, contact Brian Wick in the CCCGA office.

#### **MassDEP Reminds Growers of WMA Renewals**

MassDEP mailed the 2021 Annual Report Form for Cranberry Growers in December. All cranberry growers registered and/or permitted with the Water Management Act Program are required to complete and return their Annual Report Form by **February 28, 2022**. Please keep an eye out for this important information.

The Annual Report Form is prepopulated with your name, registration and/or permit numbers, and the river basin from which you make your withdrawal(s). The Annual Report Form for Cranberry Growers can also be downloaded off the MassDEP website at: Water Management Act Reporting and Forms | Mass.gov

If you did not receive your Annual Report Form, or if you have any questions or concerns about the information on your form or other questions associated with the Water Management Act Program, contact Shi Chen at (617) 292-5532 or by email at <a href="mailto:shi.chen@mass.gov">shi.chen@mass.gov</a>. It is not required but it may be beneficial that you return the form with tracking or some sort of receipt such that you have documentation of returning the required paperwork.

#### Non-Deductible CCCGA Dues Rate for Tax Preparation

Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code (IRC), in section 6033(e), CCCGA is hereby notifying you that 7.40% of what you paid in membership dues for 2021 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.

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#### CHANGING ON THE FLY

### BY: BRIAN WICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For those growers interested in the Bog Renovation tax Credit, we have come significantly closer to having the regulations completed. In last month's newsletter, there was notice about the regulatory process and the upcoming hearing. The hearing was held last week and now we wait for EEA to summarize what they heard and then finalize the regulations. This will still take many more weeks and likely will not be announced until close to or perhaps after the tax deadline of April 15. Because nothing is official until the regs are finished and published, I can only preview what we expect the process to look like but it's not official yet. The proposal is that growers who have a qualifying renovation completed in calendar years 2020 or 2021 will be file an amended tax return. The form and process for filing an amended return is fairly simple and straightforward. Grower will 30-days (we have asked for more) to apply for a renovation tax credit for those two years. If the total allotment for those 2 years is exceeded by all those eligible, growers will receive a weighted share of the credit. Renovations completed in 2022 will submit in January of 2023. Renovations for 2023 & 2024 will have a lottery process for eligibility. Again, one the regulations are finalized, we will be able to state with certainty how the program will work. We wanted growers to be aware of what we expect will happen, so you can best prepare.

The application period for the new Cranberry Bog Tour and Event Manager position is closing on February 25. We have received quite a few good candidates and will begin the process of winnowing them down. As noted previously, this position will be charged with growing our bog tour and educational program, with expanding responsibilities to include assisting with the planning and coordination of CCCGA events and activities. We are hopeful this person can start in April. Again, we are also still looking for a home base location from which we can operate tour in the future, as well as have a cranberry educational center, small museum, and a gift shop. The location would need to easily accessible and have room for buses and cars. If any grower might have a location or would like more details, please give me a call.

Other activities of the association includes planning for our winter pesticide credit workshop, spring CCCGA business meeting, summer meeting, horticultural research funding, workforce development



program, preparing EPA NPDES reports (for growers with more than 80-acres of bog), evaluating and applying for grant funding, working through state legislation (John Fernandes has the update on that), assisting a few growers with some regulatory challenges, and much more as we look to deliver on our 2022 CCCGA Objectives that the board approved last month. As you all know from your own farms, there is never a loss for something to do or new "opportunities" to tackle; we look forward to continuing working on your behalf this year and beyond!



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#### Notes from Beacon Hill

#### BY: John Fernandes



A belated Happy New Year to all!

When I reported in mid-December last year, the CCCGA and growers of Massachusetts had made significant progress in securing new funding through the ARPA program. The funding bill targeted the cranberry industry with:

- 1. One million dollars for grants for capital improvements which shall prioritize grant applicants focused on innovative approaches to enhance environmental benefits and encourage increased economic activity. This is like the program that allocated \$500,000 for these activities last session.
- 2. Five million dollars for the Agricultural Innovation Fund to support the existing bog renovation and water management infrastructure improvements and system upgrades program.

We do not yet have details on how the administration will roll out this funding, but we are in constant touch with the relevant administration officials responsible for such rollout and will give updates to members as we get them.

Also, since my last report, the administration has released long anticipated draft regulations for the Tax Credit program approved this past year as well. Brian Wick has assessed the regulations. He and I have discussed his assessment and are reporting to the Board on recommended comments the CCCGA would offer at the hearing. The draft regulations can be found at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/cranberry-bog-renovation-tax-credit-program">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/cranberry-bog-renovation-tax-credit-program</a> for anyone who wishes to review them. This is an exciting new program that should benefit growers investing in their bogs and can be combined with funding from the Ag Renovation program.

Early February brought the important "Rule 10" date in the Massachusetts legislative calendar. Rule 10 of the legislative rules requires a specific date in the second year of the session by which all legislation filed should be released from the substantive committee to which it was assigned for hearing and assessment. Legislation can be released favorably, unfavorably, or sent to further study. With some 5000 bills filed each session, most legislation does

require further study and is so designated. But several hundred bills will receive favorable recommendations and move further along in the legislative process for review by a Ways & Means Committee in the house or senate. There is a process by which a substantive committee may ask for additional time to consider what action to recommend on a bill. There are often dozens of bills that get extended for consideration for a month or two. Several bills of interest as advocated by the CCCGA and growers received action on Rule 10 day:

H1017 filed by Representative Bill Straus, a bill that proposes to expand the opportunities to transfer water use registrations and permits was favorably released by the Environmental Committee and moves on to the House Ways & Means committee. Also released favorabley is a bill filed by Rep. Straus that provides legislative enactment of the Ag Innovation program. A big thank you to Rep. Straus for his hard work moving that bill along.

S589 - An Act relative to a cranberry wetland mitigation bank sponsored by Sen. Moran and Rep. Straus was also reported favorably by the Environmental Committee.

S590 filed by Senator Moran, a bill that seeks to clarify the ability to remain in 61A when engaging in dual use of solar over agricultural land was actively advocated by Sen. Moran and the CCCGA, along with other ag groups, particularly the Farm Bureau. S1940, another bill filed by Sen. Moran also seeks to protect ag use in 61A when adding solar to the property. S591 An Act relative to the Farm Technology Review Commission is another bill filed by Sen. Moran. Action on all three of those bills was extended to the end of February. We thank Sen. Moran for her hard work on behalf of the growers on these matters.

The CCCGA is also closely following legislation filed that would change requirements regarding minimum wages, overtime pay, and days off. We have met with legislative leaders considering the legislation to clearly explain the impacts of such changes on the operations of the cranberry industry and we are collaborating in such discussions with the Farm Bureau.

#### Continued from previous page

The CCCGA is also closely monitoring the activities of the special commission established to review the use of glyphosate. The commission has met a few times and is awaiting receipt of proposal from consultants to perform the legislatively required study of the use.

Stay tuned for further updates on these programs and legislative initiatives.





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# VISITOR OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY



Ann Dunham stopped by to see us this month with a gift from the past....aprons!!! These famous harvest festival aprons were worn by the girls running the show years ago at Edaville. We are hoping to use them again in the future.





**Grower Contact: Jonathan Ashley** Senior Manager Grower Relations jonathan.ashley@refresco.com

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CCCGA Winter Pesticide Training Workshop (via zoom)
March 3rd 8AM ~ 2 Pesticide Credits ~ 2 hour program

UMASS Cranberry Station Respirator Training (via zoom)

March 8th 7:30 - 9:30 AM ~ 2 Credits

March 24th 5:30 - 7:30 PM ~ 2 Credits

Cranberry Institute Board of Directors Meeting
March 24th & 25th

UMass Cranberry Pesticide Safety (via zoom) April 26th 7:30 - noon ~ 4 Credits

Annual Cranberry Research Foundation Golf Tournament

Monday, July 18th

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CCCGA Annual Meeting
August 31st
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#### HARVESTING THE PAST....

#### A HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE CRANBERRY INDUSTRY

BY: BONNIE SOULE

It's almost March (can you believe it?) and that means Women's History Month. While looking for a topic, I spotted this *Cranberries* magazine article from January 1963 that fit the theme quite well. While not being that far back in the history books, the life of Miss Ellen Stillman in the cranberry industry is interesting and some of our older growers certainly remember her.

Miss Stillman was born in Brighton, MA to parents of Lithuanian descent. Her father was a dairy farmer and had lived in the country prior to coming to America. He wanted to find someplace where he could also hunt and fish and found a location in Hanson with a house and over 100 acres. Ellen moved to Hanson when she was 7 years old.

Her cranberry experiences started when she was in high school at the age of fifteen. Ellen worked for Cranberry Canners, Inc. during summer vacation doing general office work. Upon graduation from high school, she went to the Chandler School which was a secretarial school for girls. She continued to work for the cooperative through school and was employed full-time after she finished.

Miss Stillman continued her studies at Boston University during the evening studying advertising, writing and psychology where she tapped into her creative spirit.

As happens with many people who are stuck in a position that does not feed their souls, Ellen was not happy with her boring office work. She wanted something that was more creative and would allow her to advance in her career. This is where Marcus Urann, the president of Cranberry Canners, asked a question that would change her career trajectory. His simple "how do you like your work here?" question probably didn't solicit the answer he anticipated. Ellen replied "she did not like the dull work she was doing which led her no place." In fact, upon further questioning, he learned she wanted to write and "the next day Mr. Urann started her on some of the detail of the advertising work." This work Miss Stillman found to be worthwhile.

After her slow start, Ellen Stillman became advertising manager. "She started a regular publicity

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department. She built up radio and newspaper contacts, also contacts with other companies who could aid Cranberry Canners in the sales of its canned cranberries." She also started "Notes form the Cranberry Kitchen" in 1938 which they mailed out across the country for many years. She also created the very successful 1948 "Chicken 'n' Cranberry" campaign.

Miss Stillman worked her way to the position of vice president in charge of advertising for Ocean Spray. The evolution of Cranberry Canners to National Cranberry Association and the growth of the Ocean Spray program all happened during her tenure. What an exciting time to have been in cranberries that must have been!

Through all her years moving up the ladder, Ellen had kept records of the bogs "so she knew what the score on cranberry growing was" and decided to start growing them herself. Her family's Hanson property had "a fine little piece of maple swamp" and she bought a neighboring piece to help with drainage. She started off by building 6 1/3 acres and by 1960, the bog was about 21 acres split with Early Blacks and Howes. This bog was called the Indian Trail Cranberry Bog. She also purchased, with her parents, the Santuit Meadows cranberry property in Scituate in 1951.

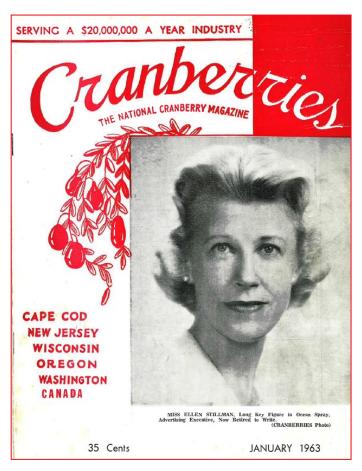
She spent time working on the bogs herself, in between her busy work schedule. Here she learned the operations of cranberry growing thoroughly, including frost protection where she would be up all night with her father.

The article goes on to say, "a large part of the present prestige of Ocean Spray products of the nation and in foreign countries, as a matter of face, may be laid to the tireless and inspired activities of Miss Stillman." In addition to the chicken and cranberry campaign, she started the fall cranberry festivals at Edaville and directed cranberry pageants. All these festivals drew large crowds and provided important cranberry publicity.

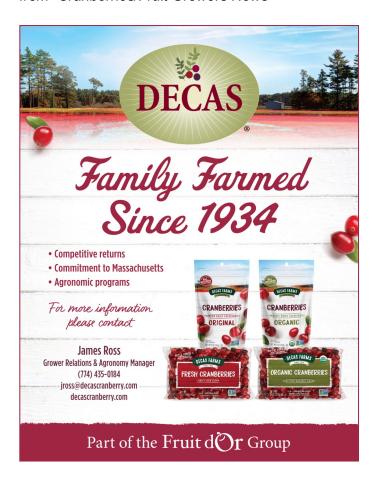
Miss Stillman ultimately moved on from Ocean Spray and worked for other national and international advertising agencies in Boston. She was elected "Advertising Woman of the Year" twice by the Advertising Club of Boston. While not an employee, she did remain involved as a director of Ocean Spray.

Miss Ellen Stillman lived to be 100 and it's apparent that with all of her work and travels, she certainly blazed a trail for other women.

I hope you've enjoyed reading about Miss Stillman. I'll be back again soon harvesting more of the cranberry industry from days gone by!



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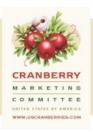
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#### UPDATES FROM THE CMC

#### BY: KAREN CAHILL



Crop Year 2021 Q1 Position Summary reports are now available at  $\underline{\text{www.uscranberries.com}}$  under Industry  $\rightarrow$  Data & Reports. Total Domestic Acquired was 6,684,528 barrels, the lowest since 2007. A few general observations comparing the 2020 vs. 2021 Crop Years Q1 cycles are as follows:

Domestic production decreased overall by -13.5%

Domestic sales were down -1%

Export sales increased by +17.5%

There was a decrease in total ending inventory of -16%

The CMC's annual winter meeting took place February 24 and 25, 2022. The Committee went through its process of estimating 2022 U.S. production, which is expected to total 8,048,000 bbls, with a Massachusetts estimate of 1,877,000 bbls.

February meeting materials and presentations can be downloaded from the CMC's homepage at www.uscranberries.com > Web Resources > Annual Meeting Materials.

**Upcoming International Activity:** 

March	
March 8-12	AAHAR – International Food & Hospitality Fair (New Delhi, India)
March 15-17	FIC Trade Show (Shanghai, China)
March-April	Advertising and Consumer PR (India)
March-April	Digital Promotions (India)
March-April	E-Commerce and In-Store Retail Promotions (India)
March-April	Wholesale Promotions (Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, and Hyderabad, India)
March-June	Bakery Promotions (India)
March-June	Health Professional Engagement (India)
March-December	Food Industry Influencer Group Partnership (India)
March-December	Ethnic Indian Food Promotion with Food Manufacturers (India)
March-December	Retail Promotions (China)
March-December	KOL Marketing (China)
March-December	WeChat Advertising (China)



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**FOR SALE**: Beautiful, secluded 100 acre property in Carver, MA. 35 acres of ocean spray dry picked cranberries, 4 acres of Christmas trees, cranberry museum and gift shop that caters to Argo tourists. Please call 339-933-0207 for more information or to make an offer!

**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

FOR SALE: Three "vintage" Wisconsin engines. York Rake, 8' 4", good condition, with a grading blade (Scarafer"), York Rake RW Serial #2323 Eight (8) foot water picker, side arm reel in front. "Vintage" cranberry boxes, excellent condition, stored inside, \$15.00 each. Call 508-746-0916 for more information.

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

**FOR SALE:** New-Unused Furford Cranberry Picker and Pruner Selling at Cost Harvester - \$13,900. Shipping From Washington state - \$685. 20 Burlap bags - \$77. Expenses - \$38. Total Cost \$14,700. Call John 207-985-1288



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**WANTED:** looking for a 6 wheeler dump truck or a trash box for a 6 wheeler dump call Call Alan at 774-313-6560 or Ben at 508-237-9252

**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

**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 adamtomczuk4@gmail.com

**WANTED:** Diesel Ford or Massey Ferguson tractor 30-40 hp. Contact: call or text Ben at 508-237-9252 or Alan 774-313-6560.

**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:** Up to 100 feet of used Cranbarrier boom to coral pond weeds, I am a local Carver resident from Beaver Dam Road. Contact: Bonnie at 508-333-6708

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