

BOGSIDE



JANUARY 2024

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY: JOHN MASON

Happy New Year!

First off, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your CCCGA president. I would like to give a special thanks to former president Steve Ward who rewrote the script on how to fulfill the responsibility. We all gained strength through Steve's leadership, and we are fortunate to have him continue as 2nd vice president and chairman of the Environmental and Governmental Affairs Committee. Thanks for all your help Steve!

I know for many, 2023 was a growing season we're happy to put in the rearview mirror. With the quirky frost events, unceasing rain, and warm temperatures, it was a season full of challenges to say the least. A mentor once told me that when growing cranberries, you often work the hardest during the lower yielding seasons and that certainly felt true in 2023. I for one, welcome 2024 in hopes for a revised plan from Mother Nature.

As we all hope for a favorable growing season in 2024 (and maybe a winter at all), the CCCGA goes to work against the more tangible challenges and opportunities. Thanks to our membership, staff, board of directors, and the many industry folks that assist, the CCCGA is firing on all cylinders. These winter months might be slow on our farms but at the association, it is a very busy time for all that fuel the ship. The staff and board work to get budgets and work plans ironed out, setting a clear path forward. The various sub committees rely on this slower time to engage their participants, tackling challenges and seeking opportunities to drive member value further.

My goal, stepping up as the youngest board member, is that I can motivate the youth of our industry to get involved and become the leaders we need. Our various sub committees are a great opportunity to get your feet wet and start to understand the necessity of industry leadership. Please reach out to me, staff, or any board member if you would like to get involved. We can't just sit back and expect things to take care of themselves. We need your involvement to sustain our cranberry livelihoods!

Yours truly,

John Mason

Cell: 508-858-9663



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CHANGING ON THE FLY

BY: BRIAN WICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



With the start of the new year and people's list of resolutions, it's also time for CCCGA's resolutions. In this case, it's the CCCGA board's 2024 objectives and subsequent work plan. Unchanged from last year, the major objective categories are "Drive Member Value", "Enhance CCCGA Organizational Profitability", "Enhance CCCGA Organizational Structure", and "Expand Public Relations/Promotion." Then there are sub-objectives that fall under each of those target areas. The work to accomplish these objectives falls to CCCGA as a whole and involves the board of directors, our various committees, the CCCGA office team, and our consultants. Collectively, this group will work to fulfill these objectives for the betterment of all CCCGA members.

The details of the objectives are below. Some of the highlights include, in no particular order, regulatory support (advocacy and direct grower assistance at the federal, state, and local level), government affairs (advocacy on programs, policies, etc. at all levels of government), workforce development (developing a program and creating relationships with local schools to help attract and attain workers), improving local officials understanding of cranberry agriculture (local regulators need more exposure to what, why, and how growers perform normal maintenance and improvement practices), and increasing our messaging with the public on cranberry practices (more opportunities with traditional media, social media, events, and more). We also have work to do with the BOGS Online record keeping system, the bog tour program, office efficiencies, and more. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, I hope you'll be part of CCCGA in 2024. The work that we do is extensive and important for the future of our industry in Massachusetts. There truly is strength in numbers!

CCCGA 2024 ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES

APPROVED, JANUARY 17, 2024

A. Drive Member Value (Value: 30%)

- 1) Engage State Government Affairs Activities on Programs, Policies and Legislation
- 2) Strengthen Regulatory Stability and Messaging
- 3) Pursue Workforce Development Program
- 4) Offer Direct Service Support for Members
- 5) Support Horticultural Research Program & Explore New Tools/Approaches
- 6) Develop Future Industry Leaders
- 7) Communicate and Promote CCCGA

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B. Enhance CCCGA Organizational Profitability (Value: 20%)

- 1) Maintain Existing Membership While Identifying New Opportunities for Growth
- 2) Increase Bog Tour Program Profitability
- 3) Identify Grant Opportunities
- 4) Maintain BOGS Online Grower System Profitability
- 5) Execute Cranberry Educational Center Feasibility/Design Study
- 6) Develop Bog Restoration Support Program for Growers (fulfill grant requirements)

C. Enhance CCCGA Organizational Structure (Value: 30%)

- 1) Evaluate Roles & Responsibilities of CCCGA Team (office & consultants)
- 2) Evaluate Policies & Procedures, Employee Handbook, Compensation
- 3) Increase Board Involvement in Programs & Activities
- 4) Reconfigure Committees with Fresh Membership and Involvement

D. Expand Public Relations/Promotion (Value: 20%)

- 1) Improve Public Officials' Understanding of Cranberry Farming
- 2) Enhance Presence of MA Cranberry Industry to Local/Regional Audience
- 3) Increase PR/Media Opportunities
- 4) Expand Bog Tour Program Offerings

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IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING OUR CCCGA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES



Donald Murdock Raymond
April 12, 1941 - September 4, 2023

Donald, a resident of both Plymouth, MA and Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas passed unexpectedly September 4, 2023. He leaves his wife, Patricia, of 45 years, his daughter Stephanie and family. After proudly serving in the United States Air Force, Donald took over operations as an Ocean Spray cranberry grower on Raymond Farm. He was a long time member of the CCCGA and would stop by the office in his signature cowboy hat. He loved his family, the land, Texas and wildlife. Our deepest sympathies. Donations in Donald's memory may be made to [Tunnel to Towers](#) or the [Wounded Warrior Project](#).



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A MESSAGE FROM JBI HELICOPTERS TO ALL OF THEIR CUSTOMERS:

In an effort to streamline the administrative process of cranberry nutrient applications, JBI Helicopters has adopted an online-only nutrient work order model and has chosen BOGS Online as their selected platform. This means that any customer of JBI that wishes to utilize their services for the 2024 growing season will need to use CCCGA's BOGS system to place work orders. This includes any helicopter function that JBI provides to cranberry growers, including mud mats and fresh fruit bin lifting.

JBI Helicopters recognizes the importance of optimizing operations in cranberry farming. According to Kurt West, President of JBI Helicopters, the decision to transition to an online-only nutrient work order model aims to simplify, expedite, and eliminate errors in the process of nutrient applications, benefiting both growers and their pilots. After considering other application options, BOGS Online stood out as the ideal choice for JBI thanks to the platform's focus on the intricacies of Massachusetts cranberries, its user-friendly interface, helpful features, and seamless integration process. This ensures that cranberry growers working with JBI Helicopters can easily submit and manage nutrient work orders through a centralized and efficient system.

Over the coming weeks, JBI will be reaching out to growers as to why they made this decision and how growers can comply. JBI has stated that they will not be accepting any work orders except those generated through BOGS. This means no phone calls, faxes, or paper work orders will be accepted. Please be aware: BOGS Online can only be used by CCCGA members in good standing, so any grower that wishes to hire JBI this season will first need to join the Association and then purchase a separate BOGS subscription. CCCGA will help growers with membership, setting up BOGS, and any necessary training.

CCCGA did not have any part in JBI's decision to move online or in their selection of BOGS Online as their work order platform. This was an internal decision for JBI, and CCCGA has assisted with their online integration. BOGS was a tool that they identified as the best fit for them and their customers, and will overall help to better serve our members.

If you have any questions about JBI's business decision to move work orders online, questions about their selection of the BOGS Online system, or how they are going to execute work orders this season, please contact Kurt West at 603-225-3134 or at kurt@jbihelicopters.com. If you are not a member of CCCGA, please see our [online membership form](#) or contact Patti Silvia in the CCCGA office at psilvia@cranberries.org or 508-866-7878 ext. 15. For BOGS-specific questions, please contact Emma Wick at 508-866-7878 ext. 10 or at ewick@cranberries.org.



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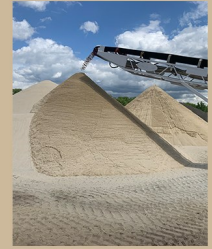
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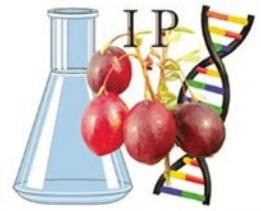
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- The CCCGA will affix the labels from our mailing list and place the final items in the mail.
- Direct mailings can be requested on an as needed basis throughout the year.
Payment is due in full upon submission of mailing to the CCCGA.
The CCCGA membership lists are private property and are not available to anyone for purchase.
(No exceptions)
- Direct mailings are sent to all grower members and will be distributed subject to the approval of the CCCGA prior to mailing. CCCGA reserves the right to decline the entry of any advertising it feels is inappropriate to CCCGA policies. We do not sort by grower demographics.

2024 CCCGA MEMBER TO MEMBER EMAIL MARKETING

Email Blast Rate: Member \$150

- The CCCGA will distribute email blasts upon request. Advertisements will ONLY be accepted in JPG, PNG or text format.
- Email Blasts can be requested on an as needed basis throughout the year.
Deadline for Email Blast: 7 days prior to delivery.
Payment is due in full prior to the delivery.
- Emails are sent to all grower members, and will be distributed subject to the approval of the CCCGA prior to sending. CCCGA reserves the right to edit or decline the entry of advertising it feels is inappropriate to CCCGA policies. We do not sort by grower demographics.
- The CCCGA membership lists are private property and are not available to anyone for purchase.
(No exceptions)

For more information please contact Patti Silvia at psilvia@cranberries.org
Direct Mailings and Email Marketings are available for members.

BLOGS AND BLURBS



BOG RENOVATION TAX CREDIT UPDATE

Tom Anderson, program manager of the Cranberry Bog Renovation Tax Credit program, has provided an update. He said that applications are still being accepted for renovation projects from calendar years 2024 and 2023. 2022 may still be accepted but you should call him first to discuss. He is working on credits from qualified 2023 applications since tax filings will be happening soon. He's trying to work through as many of those as possible and then will be returning to any outstanding applications from previous tax years. Tom can be reached at thomas.anderson@state.ma.us or (617) 519-4587.

After 2024, the bog renovation tax credit program will expire. CCCGA is working to extend the program, which will take a legislative effort. We'll have more news on the success of this initiative in the coming months.

WATER MANAGEMENT ACT ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

This is a reminder that MassDEP Water Management Act Annual Reports are due February 29, 2024. If you haven't filed your report yet, don't delay! Failure to turn in your report could result in the loss of your registration or permit. The report from MassDEP comes pre-populated for your convenience. If you can't locate it, you can download a blank report template [here](#) or contact Branden Costa at MassDEP in Lakeville at branden.costa2@state.ma.us, or 781-719-7967 (cell) with any questions.

BOG RENOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Growers should now have heard from MDAR if you were accepted for the most recent round of bog renovation funding. At the suggestion of CCCGA, and based on grower feedback, MDAR was able to increase the per acre allotment, as well as the overall amount for the program.

NRCS PROGRAM DEADLINES ANNOUNCED

NRCS recently announced FY2024 program deadlines.

[Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#) and the [Agricultural Management Assistance Program \(AMA\)](#) application ranking cutoff dates are **January 5, 2024, March 8, 2024, and May 10, 2024.**

[Conservation Stewardship Program](#) application cutoff dates are **November 3, 2023 and March 8, 2024**

For complete information on these programs, visit our [Alerts & Industry Updates](#) page or click on the individual program links above.

BLOGS AND BLURBS CONTINUED

Continued from previous page:

Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code (IRC), in section 6033(e), CCCGA is hereby notifying you that 6.58% of what you paid in membership dues for 2023 is not deductible as a business expense due to lobbying activities of the organization. If you have any questions contact your accountant or the CCCGA Office.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

Just a reminder that the 2024 membership dues have been sent and are due by January 31st. Please contact Bonnie at bsoule@cranberries.org or Patti at psilvia@cranberries.org for a form if you didn't receive one.



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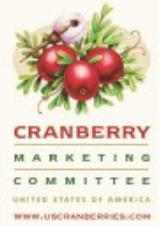
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UPDATES FROM THE CMC

BY: KAREN CAHILL



CMC Annual Winter Meeting

The next meeting for the Committee is scheduled for February 15, 2024, and will be virtual only.

EU Tariffs

In December the U.S. and the European Union agreed to further extend the suspension of steel and aluminum tariffs until March 31, 2025. This avoids the potential re-imposition from January 1, 2024, of 25% EU tariffs on U.S. products, including cranberry concentrate and SDCs. This is not a permanent resolution of the dispute. Instead, it moves the deadline for the reintroduction of tariffs back until after the U.S. election cycle and aims to provide more space for negotiators to reach a permanent agreement.

CMC Termination

The proposed rule for the termination of the Cranberry Marketing Committee was published in the Federal Register (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>) on December 7, 2024. This proposed action invites comments on the proposed termination of the Federal marketing order regulating the handling of cranberries grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York and the rules and regulations issued thereunder (Marketing Order No. 929). The data collection, reporting and recordkeeping requirements applicable to cranberries not subject to the cranberry marketing order would also be terminated.

This proposed rule is intended to solicit input and other available information from interested parties on whether the Order should be terminated. USDA will evaluate all available information prior to making a final determination on this matter.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this proposed rule no later than February 5, 2024 in one of three ways:

MAIL

Docket Clerk
Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA
1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237
Washington, DC 20250-0237

FAX

(202) 720-8938

INTERNET

<https://www.regulations.gov/> (search for document number **2023-26887**)

Comments should reference the document number [**2023-26887**], the date [**December 7, 2023**], and page number [**85130-85133**] of this issue of the Federal Register and can be viewed at: <https://www.regulations.gov/>. All comments submitted in response to this proposal will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of the individuals or entities submitting the comments will be made public on the internet at the address provided above.

For further information contact: Jennie M. Varela, Marketing Specialist, or Christian D. Nissen, Chief, Southeast Region Branch, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA; Telephone: (863) 324-3375 or Email: Jennie.Varela@usda.gov or Christian.Nissen@usda.gov.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**UMASS CRANBERRY STATION UPDATE MEETING
ZOOM AND IN PERSON OPTIONS
CONTACT UMASS CRANBERRY STATION FOR DETAILS
JANUARY 30**

**CRANBERRY MARKETING COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 15**

**CCCGA BUSINESS MEETING
ROSEBROOK EVENT CENTER - WAREHAM
MARCH 14**

**CCCGA WINTER PESTICIDE TRAINING VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
MARCH 28
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW**

**AG DAY AT THE STATE HOUSE
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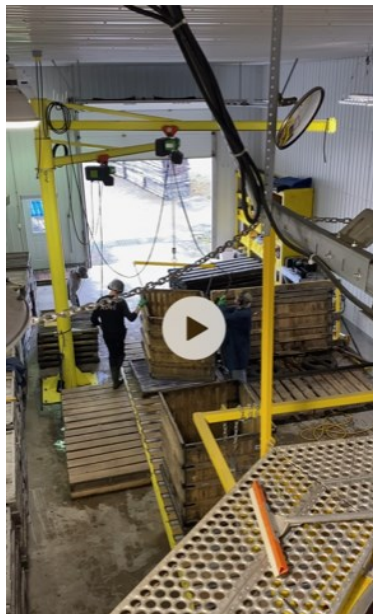
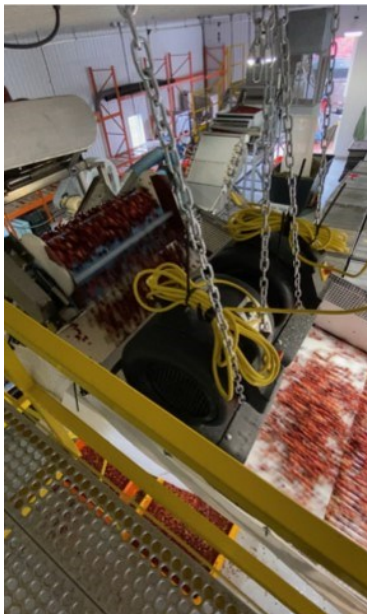
Acadian Cranberries Inc. in New Brunswick, Canada is selling it's cranberry cleaning line due to a lack of seasonal qualified workers in the fall.

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 - Air cleaner
 - Double level vibratory scalper (large and small solid debris)
 - Quadruple brusher machine
 - Dewatering shaker
 - 2 dual plenum air knives with turbines
 - Dewatering conveyor
- Elevation conveyor
- Centrifugal berry drier with turbines
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- Roller system to move assembled empty bins towards filling station and scale
- Dosatron chemical injection system for brusher machine and washing water sanitation
- Walkways, stairs and railings for elevated portions of line
- *Spare parts, motors, shakers and gear boxes for all components of line

Price to be discussed

For more information: Benoit Richard, 506-523-3844 or brichard@aernet.ca



FOR SALE

WANTED

FOR LEASE

FOR SALE: 43' Berry trailer. Tractor driven 4" Pacific berry pump and 13000 watt tractor driven generator. Call Wayne: 508-941-4220

FOR SALE: 13- 100 Ft Lengths of Used Cranbarrier \$4.00 per foot Please contact Oiva Hannula & Sons at 508-866-1075

BOG FOR SALE OR LEASE: Interested purchasing or leasing bogs located in Bourne or Falmouth. Number of acres to be purchased/leased is negotiable depending on current condition and location. Please contact Dan Ward: dan@wardaquafarms.com

FOR SALE: IAS Automation systems. 8 boxes with 467 boards . 1 new back up 467 board. \$500. Or B.O. Call 508-866-1149 or 508-269-3693

FOR SALE: Like new Alamo RM165 3pt Boom Mower in Raynham, MA for sale at a very reasonable price. Please call Kevin @ United for details...781-706-3430

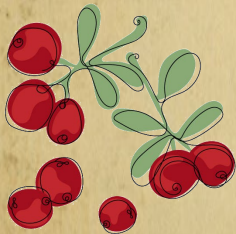
FOR SALE: 10 acre Chevy irrigation pump \$5500. Used aluminum flumes 36,24,15 inch good shape \$BO - 6 inch PVC mainline pipe - Berkeley 12 in flow pump B10GRMBM, \$1200.
Call 508-866-1149 or 508-269-3693

HELP WANTED: Full time employment offered for work on cranberry bogs in Bourne and Falmouth, MA. Employment includes benefits. Contact Brian Handy at 508-958-4586.

WANTED TO RENT: Inside storage area.
Call Wayne: 508-941-4220

WANTED: Furford picking machine call Ben at 508-237-9252 or Alan 774-313-6560

WANTED: Pickup Trucks Needed. UMass Cranberry Station is looking for used pickup trucks (small and large) for purchase or donation. Please contact Rick at 413.230.1865 if you have something that might work for us.



PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

HERE!!

FREE TO OUR MEMBERS!

