



The Official Newsletter of the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association ©

June 2024

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY: JOHN MASON

Hi Folks,

It's hard to believe we're halfway through the '24 calendar. With no real warmth in April and a sluggish May, the growing season is slow to kick off. I find Mother Nature has a way of catching up. I hope we all survived the weeklong stretch Jack Frost served us! I would like to give a special thanks to Glenn, staff, and all those who dedicate their time to our CCCGA Frost Committee, making the daily forecast and frost alert possible.

As we are all busy tending to our bogs and businesses, Brian and staff continue working to deliver on our strategic plan, ultimately, driving our sustainability. One example I'd like to mention; I hope you all have noticed our increased presence on social media. I have received many compliments from both industry, and non -industry folks who have noticed. Educating the public through positive messaging will be key to surviving urbanization and combatting the misinformation we fall victim to.

As you know, back in March, your board of directors made a big decision to scale down the bog tour program and create a new position, Executive Deputy Director, hiring Karen Cahill to fill that position. Thereafter, Emma Wick was offered a career opportunity that better aligned with her personal goals and decided to move on from the association. The board and I are excited to have hired Karen and wish Emma the very best. With these big changes came big challenges. I would like to conclude with the acknowledgment of our staff. Through Brian's leadership and hard work, along with the dedication and hard work of existing staff (Bonnie, Patti, and Dawn), and Karen's eagerness to come in and hit the ground running, CCCGA has not skipped a beat. With greater scope than ever, our staff continues to "fill the gaps" through our transition and deliver value to us all. Thank you!

With that, I wish you all a favorable growing season. Thank you for your continued support.

John B. Mason

President, Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association

Cell: 508-858-9663



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MISSION STATEMENT:

"TO ENHANCE THE MASSACHUSETTS CRANBERRY INDUSTRY THROUGH THE VIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CCCGA MEMBERSHIP."

CCCGA SUMMER HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:15 - 5:00 FRIDAY 8:15 - 12:15



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CHANGING ON THE FLY

BY: BRIAN WICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



With the Celtics currently shooting for their record-breaking 18th NBA championship, here are 18 things going on at your association.

1.Be sure to check out CCCGA's new website and member portal. This new system provides greater efficiency for CCCGA staff and members alike. The project has been diligently spearheaded and nurtured by Bonnie. Details can be found on page 10.

2.Karen has been working on cohesive branding for the association, which you will see implemented in different ways. The goal is to leverage the Massachusetts Cranberries logo look, while not losing our CCCGA identity. We have had both logos for several years and will strategically use them depending on the audience, but will move away from using both of them at the same time, which can be cluttered and confusing.

3.As part of our strategic communications plan to amplify messaging in local communities, Karen is contacting municipal leaders to set up individual meetings to discuss the industry, explain cultural practices and improvement projects, answer questions, and, most importantly, establish a working relationship. This will take time to build out, but we're off to a great start with meetings in Carver, Middleboro and Rochester already scheduled. Michelle McGrath, our media consultant, did the initial leg work compiling a database of relevant contacts.

4.Dawn has been keeping BOGS going strong, setting up new users, working through JBI implementation, and finalizing new features. Her knowledge of the system, coupled with her grower experience, has been instrumental in getting growers ready for the season with BOGS record keeping.

5. The search for a new UMass Cranberry Station director started with Zoom interviews the first week of June. The next step will be in-person interviews with select candidates, and grower participation will be requested at that point.

6.The recent insect clinics at the Cranberry Station, hosted by Anne Averill and Marty Sylvia, were a huge success. There is a lot to learn in scouting, identifying, and treating some of our new, and old, and new again insect pests.

7.USDA/Agriculture Research Service approved a new researcher at the Cranberry Station, focusing on soil chemistry/nutrition. In the coming months the position will be officially opened for applicants. This role will increase the capacity of research at the station.

8.CCCGA recently received a Succession Planning Grant. We'll be holding a comprehensive workshop in early September for growers to provide helpful information on planning for your farm's future.

9. The new CCCGA Technology Committee, chaired by Ben Richards, continues to meet and bring focus to areas of prioritization. Many aspects of cranberry farming and related technology needs have been discussed including: drones, water use/measurement, fertilizer rigs, grants, research needs, and more.

10.A working group of growers, researchers, industry members, UMass, and MDAR officials met recently to further outline research needs on pesticide and nutrient use via drone application this season and beyond. At some point we all hope there will be specific state regulations for drone applications.

Continued from previous page

11.On page 36 and also emailed to growers on June 3 is a bee survey from MDAR. They want to identify where managed bees are being brought into cranberry bogs and to inspect as many hives as they can this season. This helps determine the strength/health of hives and looks for any potential problems (diseases, viruses, etc.). Your participation is voluntary but will help ensure that bees brought into our industry are healthy. Participants also receive a report that can help them understand the value of their rentals.

12.Have you noticed more activity on our social media channels? Karen has thrown herself into this process, focusing on sharing growing practices. This is also part of our strategy to educate more people on cranberries, concentrating on our local communities.

13. The Old Colony Planning Council has procured a grant to study the water needs for their region, which includes a lot of cranberry communities. I've joined their water steering committee that will develop a report for the future needs of water in the region. It's important for CCCGA to have a voice at the table; They are focused on drinking water, but I will be there to remind them about agriculture!

14.Planning continues for CCCGA's annual meeting on August 21 at A.D. Makepeace Company's Canning Bogs. Registration and sponsorship information is coming soon. Formerly referred to as "the bogs of the future", these modern bogs are a unique location for the summer meeting that you are not going to want to miss!

15.Michelle McGrath is coordinating The Cranberry Research Foundation's annual golf tournament on July 15 at Southers Marsh Golf Club with many new sponsors, gifts, prizes, and more. Be sure to sign up and join this day of fun for the industry, which raises critical dollars for horticultural research. Your support is needed and appreciated! Details can be found on page 22.

16.The Cranberry Educational Center grant project continues with six sites under consideration. Between Farm Credit East, Saltonstall Architects, and Beals & Thomas, all facets of this project are being explored including: a feasibility and business plan, architectural considerations, site plan, zoning, etc. At the conclusion of the study, we'll have a proof of concept for the center, a business plan, and if all goes well, a location for the center.

17.The Traveling Bog made an appearance at Wareham Elementary's STEAM night May 23, with CCCGA tour guide Pam Francis providing an exceptional educational experience to attendees.

18.You will be seeing less of Patti beginning July 1, as she has decided to cut back her hours and ease into a well-deserved semi-retirement. She'll be working 1 day per week and perhaps a little more during busy periods, provided she's not out and about enjoying life! We are thankful she still wants to work and help out CCCGA.



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NOTES FROM BEACON HILL

BY: JOHN FERNANDES

As of this report, the House and Senate have both passed a budget for FY '25, which commences on July 1, 2024. Both bills offer two funding grants that support the cranberry industry. The first is for funding for the UMass Cranberry Station and the second is continued funding for the cranberry health research program at UMass Dartmouth. Rep. Bill Straus sponsored the amendments to include both provisions in the House budget, and Sen. Rodrigues was responsible for including the same provisions in the Senate budget. There are numerous differing provisions in the two budgets that will require a conference committee of members from the House and Senate to smooth out those differences into a single budget, but the fact that the two cranberry industry provisions are in both House and Senate budgets assure that they will be a part of the final budget. Thank you to Bill and Michael for that support.

In other business, an extension of the cranberry tax credit, which offers up to a total of \$2 million in annual tax credits, with individual growers eligible for a credit in an amount of up to \$100,000 each toward the costs of doing bog renovation projects. This credit is on top of any ag innovation grant money that also may be granted to growers toward those renovation costs. The tax credit program was passed in 2022 for a period of five years retroactive to 2020 and sunsetting at the end of this year 2024. The extension of the tax credit is needed to keep that opportunity available. We have the full support of your legislative delegation. We will keep you informed of the progress in this initiative.

A PFAS bill was released in the House back in March. It was sent on to the Health Care Finance Committee for further evaluation. That committee just released the bill to the House Ways and Means Committee for consideration. There is a provision in the bill for a study of the impacts on agriculture that is of concern. We are collaborating with the Mass Farm Bureau, and we discussed those concerns with leadership on Ag Day. We continue meeting with legislators to express our concerns and seek modifications to the language of the bill.

We are also following other bills that have been released over the last few months that impact the cranberry industry, some positively and others that are of some concern. We continue to advocate on those bills as well.



The current two-year session began on January 1, 2023, and ends on December 31, 2024. However, the formal session where bills that do not have unanimous support of all legislators ends on July 31. Any legislation passed from August 1 to December 31 may be held up by any one legislator. So, the next month and a half will be action packed.

I will get back to you in August to report where it all lands!





FRESH OFF THE VINE - UPDATES ON EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

BY: KAREN CAHILL



A brand new version of the "Neighbor to Neighbor" <u>brochure</u> has been finalized, sent to the printer and is almost ready for distribution. As one of the objectives of the 2023 Specialty Crop Block Grant on sustainability, the brochure will be used to "accurately and vibrantly showcase the cranberry and educate neighbors and the general population on the essential elements of cranberry farming."

Along with the new looks of the brochure and website (see Bonnie's update on page 10), a few other items have received a facelift including our cranberry fact sheet, letterhead, email signature and business cards. These updates will establish continuity and strengthen the Massachusetts Cranberries brand.

With a fresh, new look it's time to hit the road and spread the cranberry message. Along with Brian Wick, John Mason, Steve Ward, Lisa Blair and I attended an event for MA Attorney General Campbell on May 14, during which she was reminded that she is overdue for a visit to cranberry country! Additionally, Brian & I have begun reaching out to municipal leaders to open the lines of communication. The goal is to meet with the leaders of every cranberry growing town individually to establish a rapport, share our messages, better understand their challenges, and become a trusted source for cranberry information.



In terms of media coverage, the June 3 episode of <u>The Community Steps Up with Sarah Hewins</u> on Area 58 TV (Carver) features CCCGA President John Mason and Executive Director Brian Wick. Area 58 is also currently in production of an episode featuring Jordan and Equus Trundy of Red Meadow Farm in Carver.

Looking ahead toward harvest season (which will be here before we know it!), please contact CCCGA if your farm will be selling fresh fruit and/ or hosting tours and would like to be featured on our <u>website</u>. Additionally, if you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a tour guide and/ or working part-time behind the scenes coordinating the program, please contact me at <u>kcahill@cranberries.org</u> or 508-866-7878, ext. 16.







Pam Francis at Wareham Elementary School's STEAM



Massachusetts cranberries

Our NEW website and Member Compass are now LIVE!

Our new website is now live and we have several exciting things to tell you about! Read on to learn about your *Member Compass* and the enhanced features it provides to you as a member.



Changes...who to call and what to do!

WEBSITE UPDATE

BY: BONNIE SOULE

As you explore the new site and your Member Compass, please reach out to Bonnie or Patti in the office with any questions, if you're having any difficulties with the site, or if you just want to tell us how much you love it!

New feature: You can also click <u>Contact Us</u> at the top of the website to send an email directly to the general mailbox!

Click here to email Bonnie

Click here to email Patti

Continued on next page:

Create your login to access Members Only content and manage your profile!



Step 1: Create your login

Click on "Login" at the top of our website <u>homepage</u> then enter your email and follow the prompts. Or you can click the Follow this link in the <u>Welcome to the New Website article</u>.

Please note:

- If the email entered is connected to your profile, you'll be prompted to set your new password.
- If we do not have the entered email on file in our new system, you'll be prompted to create a new account.



Step 2: Set your password

Once you set your password, you will get an email to confirm your account, which will bring you back to the website.

Now you can see all the features and info available to members!

Manage your farm or business account including online bill pay and event registration!

Introducing Member Compass

Once you've logged in, you'll be taken to your Member Compass, our new portal for you to update your profile, see events that you are registered for, pay invoices, and more.

All logged-in users will be able to see:

- Dashboard with membership status
- Transactions billed to themselves
- Your event history
- Your order history
- Your own personal profile information

Logged in users that are assigned as the Primary and/or Billing Contact for a company, as well as users with management access, can see all of the above, as well as:

- Company Profile
- Staff List

Continued on next page:



Important updates for ALL MEMBERS to make

Once logged into your account there are some things we need you to verify and/or update.

From the Dashboard (screen that first comes up when you login see above):

- Click on **Profile**--this is your personal profile
- Your email on file will be pre-populated--Please do not change
- Update your Personal Contact information... Why? We will continue to send general information to your preferred work address and email, however sometimes it would be great to know who in our membership lives in a particular town if there is an issue that our industry needs help addressing and/or supporting locally.
- Upload your photo--not required, but we'd love to put a face to your name if we haven't met! Plus it will show on our member directory ③

If you have management access to your company's profile, please do the following:

- Click on **Company**
- Verify or update your farm/company's <u>Billing Address</u> (this is your *Mailing* address)
- Verify or update your farm/company's <u>Shipping Address</u> (this is your *Physical* address)--if it is the same as the billing address, just click *Copy Billing Address*

With management access you will also have the ability to do the following:

- View and pay transactions for the company
- View your parent company's order history and subscriptions
- Manage the staff list for the company and all sub-companies, including:
 - Add/remove staff members
 - · Edit staff member profiles
 - Edit staff member management access

**If you are assigned to more than one company...

You may need to toggle your view between different company records. Although <u>you will only have one login</u> <u>username & password</u>, the records for each company will be separate.

Click on the down arrow beside your default name & company in the top right of the website. Your profiles for each company will be available to select. Click on each to switch between them and view information for each. What you see may differ depending on your level of access.



Click here for more info on managing your account

What else is new at cranberries.org?

We're glad you asked!

The **For Members** section is JUST FOR YOU! The new website gives us the ability to lockdown information for members vs. the general public, plus we can now have dedicated spaces for our committees to save and access information. We have a lot of things still coming to this section, but for now your Grower Advisories, Bogside© newsletters and other great content is just a click away!

The **News** page includes all our updates. You can search by keyword and/or by Topic/Category!



AND...if you are not logged in to your account and try to access something for members only, you will be met with this screen



Content Locked

Restricted Page

We're sorry, but you don't have access to this page. You may have access once logged in.

Login

We can't wait for you to check out all the new site has to offer! More updates will be made over the next several months to enhance the member experience and continue to add value to your membership. If you have any questions or ideas for future changes, please contact the office.





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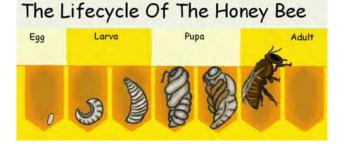
BY: PATTI SILVIA



Welcome back to the second article about our fabulous honeybees! The Trundys had their first bee inspection on April 30. We suited up and headed for the bee shed, checking on the condition of the hive and the queen. There I was, surrounded by hundreds of bees, I could barely contain the excitement.

There are 4 stages of the bees life:

- 1. The queen lays her eggs, which become larvae, resembling long white grubs with no legs. After 3 days the eggs hatch into larvae.
- 2. Larvae is a name given to the stage where the bee hatches from the egg. During the larval stage they consume as much honey and pollen as possible, given to them by the worker bees.
- 3. The worker bees make sure the larvae have enough food to grow into the next stage which is the pupae. When the larvae are big enough the worker bees cover the cell with wax. The larvae then spin into cocoons and develop into pupae.
- 4. When the pupae are done developing they become an adult. The adults chew through the cocoon and wax and proceed to the hive. This entire process takes between 16 and 24 days, depending on the type of bee, queen, worker or drone.



Bee shed boxes 1 through 5 are the Italian bees, we did not find a queen today, yet the frames looked good and the larvae and honey are mounting up. The Italian bees were manageable and not too excited. It was incredible pulling the frames out and inspecting the honey and larvae building process. It was a wonderful experience to be so close to the bees in my protective gear.

Boxes 6 & 7 are filled with the Carniolan bees, and they are a whole different story. This is where it got a little hairy. They were extremely excited and



rather agitated. They change the tone of their buzzing as they get angry and protective of their queen. Finally, releasing a smell (pheromone) to alert everyone to be on guard. It smells like bananas!!!!! Go figure! These bees were not jovial, and they let us know! The little beasts stung Jordan twice and Equus a whooping six times. I admit at that point I decided to leave the hive area and go to the other side of the glass door to watch. Again, we did not find a queen, and the inspection halted for the rest of the day. It was then time for hive inspection record keeping, and off with the suits. I headed home and Jordan and Equus headed to the house for doses of Benadryl. (Ouch)!

Hives 8 through 10 resumed with a smoker on another day.





Continued from previous page

Jordan and Equus were vacationing in Italy last month and they found out bees were once part of the papal insignia. Bees were considered very important by a few figures, one being Pope Urban VIII of the Barberini family. An interesting tapestry in the Vatican Museum from 1633 included bees! The bee was the crest of the Barberini family. Picture below courtesy of Jordan Trundy.



Another interesting part of bee history is Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth (1810-1895). Langstroth was an American apiarist who was considered the "father of beekeeping". He was popularly credited with discovering the "<u>bee space</u>," though this discovery had already been implemented in European hives. The discovery was that if a larger gap was present, the bees did not close it with wax. This allowed movable frames which could be kept free of each other. This was considered the first movable frame beehive in America, which Langstroth patented in October 1852. Langstroth hives are still in use today. Thanks, Jordan, for making me aware of this fabulous piece of information.



Last month I left you with a question, do you know when the first honeybees arrived in North America? Well, here you go.... Honeybees are not native to North America, they were imported by English settlers to the east coast of North America as early as 1622. It took the little Apis mellifera (honey bearing bee) 231 years to reach the west coast.

This month's trivia question involves drones. Do you know what makes the drone different from other bees? Find out next time!

Next month we will be checking the frames to see if the honey is ready to harvest. I am looking forward to wearing my bee suit again.

ATTENTION GROWERS!!!



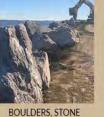
The Cranberry Institute is updating their Massachusetts grower information. If you do not receive emails from the Institute, this is important so you can receive the yearly pesticide charts, newsletters and more. If you previously received emails and have changed your address or email, let them know so they can update their files now.

Please email Anne at acote@cranberryinstitute.org.

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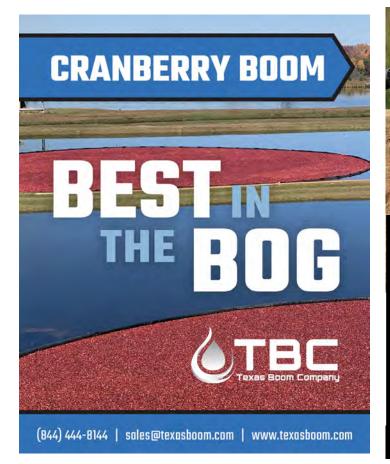
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The summer is officially here, and we are excited for the opportunity to support our local cranberry grower's community once again.

You may have heard that Dead River Company acquired Roby's Propane. We will continue to operate as an independent brand and will be managed locally to provide the best support to our most important customers.

With this acquisition, we can provide the latest technology by supplying growers with tank monitors. We are hopeful that we can ease the burden for you during both frost and picking seasons.

We want to extend the warmest thanks to you, because of your continued support we can better protect and power your crop with the responsiveness, dedication, and professionalism you deserve year after year.

As the weather cools down, we are always thinking about the best way to provide the service that you have come to rely on from Roby's Propane and welcome any suggestions to better serve you. Please contact David Fallon our new GM, he has an open-door policy and will work with all customers to personalize their needs.

We appreciate your trust, and we are pleased to bring you the top-quality fuel delivery and service that you have come to expect from us.

As always, we look forward to providing the same excellence in service and quality that you have come to know and expect from Roby's.

CRF GOLF TOURNAMENT

BY: MICHELLE MCGRATH



Hello CCCGA members,

It is a great pleasure to serve as producer for <u>Cranberry Research Foundation's 26th Annual</u> <u>Golf Tournament</u> on Monday, July 15, 2024 at member-owned Southers Marsh Golf Club. Having served CCCGA as public relations consultant for nearly a decade, I've witnessed the value of the Foundation's mission to all growers, and am proud to be invited to take action this season. The tournament has a memorable history spanning more than a quarter century, supporting the industry, research, and providing vital funds for the future.

I'm reaching out to ask for your kind support and response. We're working to make this year's tournament an enjoyable and successful event for all. **Early registration** is critical to keeping the event plans on schedule, so please commit today!

Have you registered competing golfers, considered sponsorship, contributed a donation, or provided a raffle/auction item?

You're likely aware that Cranberry Research Foundation raises vital funds for cranberry research projects in Massachusetts, entirely directed to UMass Cranberry Station, supporting essential research initiatives focused on cranberry production sustainability, benefiting every grower in Massachusetts. CRF's work, and this tournament, is fundamental to maintaining the viability and heritage of the Massachusetts cranberry industry, so your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Can we count on your support as an event sponsor, by providing an in-kind item or service for our silent auction and raffle, or by offering a financial donation to energize our commitment to vital agricultural research initiatives? In Memoriam commemorations are also available to recognize those that have passed paired with a donation to support the industry.

Adjacent to this letter, review the tournament's sponsorship opportunities (open to all businesses this year!), and the sponsor and golfer registration/donation forms. Please **register all commitments no later than Friday, June 28, 2024,** to ensure inclusion in branded materials:

Online: Access online registration at <u>tinyurl.com/5n6eyex2</u>

By Email: Fill out the registration form and return files to crfgolf@cranberries.org

By Mail: Email <u>crfgolf@cranberries.org</u> to request a print packet delivered via U.S. Mail

CRF is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, so all tournament donations are tax deductible according to state guidelines. Payments can be made via mailed check to Cranberry Research Foundation, 265D South Meadow Road, Plymouth, MA 02360, or are invoiced on request for payment at your earliest convenience.

Please be in touch with any questions, I look forward to continuing the conversation.

Respectfully, **Michelle McGrath** Founding President, <u>McGrath PR</u> | Media Relations Arts • Culture • Nonprofits • Small Business Producer, <u>CRF's 26th Annual Golf Tournament</u>

TOURNAMENT



Research Fonnulau

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ANNUAL

30 Southers Marsh Lane, Plymouth

COMPETITIONS

- Closest to the Pin
- Hole-in-one
- 50/50 Hit the Green
- Longest Drive

Early Bird Triple Mulligan Bundles available during registration

REGISTER NOW: Deadline: June 28 tinyurl.com/5n6eyex2

REGISTRATION:

Foursome + dinner \$ 600 Golfer + dinner \$ 150 Oinner only \$ 50

SCHEDULE

12 noon - 1 pm 1:00 pm 5:30 pm

Golf Registration, Lunch Available Shotgun Start for 100+ Golfers Social Hour **Buffet Mixed Grill Dinner** Raffles, Awards & Presentations

Sponsor, silent auction, raffle, donation, and In Memoriam support opportunities available

Register Now:

Southers Marsh Golf Club



Proceeds Benefit Massachusetts Cranberry Research





Sponsor & Registration Deadline: Friday, June

Sponsor Registration

Tournament Sponsor: \$4,000	4
Banquet Sponsor: \$2,500	-
Platinum Sponsor: \$1,500	-
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Hole Sponsor: \$ 250	-
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Longest Drive: \$ 300	_
Closest to Pin: \$ 300	_
50/50 Raffle: \$ 300	, i

In Memoriam Donation: \$

Contact name:	Form of	Payment
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Sponsorship opportunities are available first come, first serve. Alternate selection allowed if first choice unavailable. Make checks payable/mail to: Cranberry Research Foundation, 265 South Meadow Rd. Unit 2D, Plymouth, MA 02360 Invoice requests will be issued upon receipt of mailed forms.

26TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT





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Section Foursome: \$600 Name:	-	
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Raffle & Silent Auction Donations

Team/Company Name: _______ Contact Person: ______ Phone/Email: ______ Donation Item Name: ______ Description (if needed) ______ Value: \$ ______

Please deliver donations to Massachusetts Cranberries office by Friday, June 28. Your donation is greatly appreciated, thank you!

All funds raised support cranberry research in Massachusetts.

<section-header>

For more information call (920) 246-9130 or visit hortau.com

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REMINDER TO BOGS USERS

Please remember to select "**Market Type**" under your Bog Information. Selecting Market Type creates cautions in the event you use a pesticide that has a handler restriction. To edit this in BOGS, select **Growers** > **Bog Information** then click on **Edit** located in the far right column for each bog section and <u>verify your market type</u>. Questions please call Dawn Gates-Allen 508-726-6052.

BOG RENOVATION TAX CREDIT UPDATE

Tom Anderson, program manager of the Cranberry Bog Renovation Tax Credit program, has 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.Tom can be reached at <u>thomas.anderson@state.ma.us</u> or (617) 519-4587.

WEBSITE CHANGES

Observant visitors may have noticed a new look to our website! Our new site went live with a soft launch on May 29 and we are very excited about the opportunities having this new site and member portal functionality will offer the association and its members. More info was emailed on June 6 on how you can access the **For Members** area and your member account! *If you require access to any of the grower advisories or other locked down member-only content before you have your account ac-tivated, please contact Bonnie at* **bsoule@cranberries.org**

Continued from previous page:

MA PESTICIDE USE REPORTS

Due date: June 30

As a licensed and certified pesticide applicator or pesticide dealer you are required to submit annual use and sales reports. All reports for Calendar Year 2023 are due by June 30, 2024. The link below will take growers directly to the MDAR Portal to report all pesticides.

https://massgov.formstack.com/forms/pesticide_use_report

<u>BOGS users</u> can print out a report of their 2023 pesticides to use as when filling out the state's form. Log into your BOGS account then select **Reports > More Reports > 2023 > Pesticides > Pesticide Use Report (State-MA) which will download a pdf you can then print with your information.

BOGS UPDATE FOR JBI WORK ORDERS

The season is ramping up for BOGS users. Growers needing aerial applications for fertilizer or pesticides by JBI must use the BOGS tool. The system can be used to its full potential or very simply just for your work orders. We do caution growers not to wait until the last minute to get your account set up properly. Growers wishing to have JBI fly on material need to be set up in BOGS to send a test work order sooner rather than later. JBI will be using coordinates within your BOGS account to locate your bog sections for all aerial applications.

- If you have not setup a BOGS Online account yet, please contact Bonnie Soule at <u>bsoule@cranberries.org</u> with your name and company. You will then be issued a username and password for a BOGS account.
- If you are new to BOGS or unsure how to input a Nutrient Work Order please call or text Dawn Gates-Allen at 508-726-6052.
- CCCGA will invoice each BOGS user in September as follows: \$100 user fee and \$3.50/acre plus sales tax (software sales tax is mandated by the MA Department of Revenue). Technical support is offered by Dawn for up to 60 minutes at no charge, and then \$85/hour for higher lever technical assistance after that. Simple calls, email or texts will not be charged.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources 100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114 www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey GOVERNOR Kimberley Driscoll LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR Rebecca L. Tepper SECRETARY Ashley E. Randle COMMISSIONER

TO: Massachusetts Cranberry Growers

FROM: Taryn LaScola, Director of Crop and Pest Services Kim Skyrm, Ph.D. Chief Apiary Inspector, Apiary Program

REGARDING: Cranberry Pollination Services

DATE: 2024 Pollination Season

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, Apiary Program ("Program") is charged with protecting honey bee health in the Commonwealth and does so by conducting health inspections of colonies and equipment that are brought into the state including those used for commercial pollination of cranberries. Most of the honeybees utilized in cranberry pollination are coming into the Commonwealth after pollinating other crops within other states. This frequent movement from one location to another can cause added stress to the honeybees which may lead them to be more susceptible to diseases and can affect their health. To ensure that diseases do not spread throughout the state to Massachusetts honeybees and that the cranberry growers are receiving a quality service, colony inspections are necessary.

Health inspections of imported honey bee colony shipments are conducted by the Program after notification of import and after colonies are placed in the cranberry bogs for pollination services. To ensure that the Program can inspect as many colonies as possible, the Program as asking for assistance from the growers that contract for these services.

The Program requests that growers notify the Program just prior to or when the honey bees are delivered to their bogs. A grower can notify the MDAR Apiary Program by the following methods:

Email: bees@mass.gov

Call: (508) 281-6784

Online form: https://forms.office.com/g/tq0Wnk35sf

As a result of notifying the Program, you may be selected for a colony inspection. If selected, the Program will notify you prior to arriving at your bogs. Additionally, the Program will provide you with a honey bee health inspection report which will summarize the health of the bees that you have contracted.

The Program thanks you in advance for any assistance you may be able to provide in this matter. If you have any questions please feel free to contact: Kim Skyrm, Ph.D. (857) 319-1020 or email: kim.skyrm@mass.gov.

2024 Boston Local Food Festival Early Bird Discounts!

Boston Local Food Festival

Sunday, September 15, 2024 11 AM to 5:00 PM At The Rose Kennedy Greenway



The <u>Boston Local Food Program (SBN MA)</u> wants to personally invite your farm or food business to vend at the <u>2024 Boston Local Food Festival</u> on Sunday, September 15, 2024, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Grab your spot now! We want to help you showcase your fabulous food and share it with the Boston community!

To register as a vendor for the 2024 Boston Local Food Festival, simply click on the link below:

Vendor Registration Boston Local Food Festival

FARM CREDIT EAST SEEKS MODERN AGRICULTURE PHOTOS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$100

Farm Credit East is currently seeking creative images of modern Northeast agriculture, commercial fishing and forest products to fill the pages of its 2025 Agricultural Views calendar. Upload picturesque images from the farm, woods or dock at <u>FarmCreditEast.com/Calendar</u> by July 31 for a chance to win \$100.

"Each year, we receive upwards of 800 images from dozens of talented photographers illustrating progressive agriculture operations," says Kristie Matuszewski, Farm Credit East director of marketing and communications. "We look for fresh imagery that represents Northeast farming, horticulture, forestry and commercial fishing during every season, as well as shots that celebrate rural life in New England, New York or New Jersey."

Photos are selected based on technical quality, clarity and composition, as well as photos that capture unique views of modern agriculture and life in the country. From all entries, 14 photos will be selected for a \$100 prize each. Additional photos will be selected to fill the calendar pages, each earning a \$25 prize. Winning photographs will be featured in Farm Credit East's 2025 calendar.

Only digital photos are accepted. Contest rules and an entry form, as well as inspiration from previous calendars, can be found at <u>FarmCreditEast.com/Calendar</u>. **The submission deadline is July 31, 2024.** <u>https://www.farmcrediteast.com/about/NewsRoom/press-</u>releases/240515FarmCreditEastSeeksModernAgriculturePhotos

Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar 2024 Photo Contest



Photographers who enjoy capturing images of Massachusetts agriculture; including farms, farm products, and horticultural products are invited to enter the annual Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest. Winning entries will be published in the **2025 Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar**. The annual contest and calendar is sponsored by Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. (MAC), The Massachusetts State Grange, and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR).

Twelve photos will be selected, one for each month, along with possible honorable mentions. We seek photos that represent "*MassGrown*" crops (maple, cranberries, livestock, flowers/plants, fruits and vegetables), as well as innovative farming methods such as renewable energy systems and/or urban agriculture. View last year's winners at <u>www.aginclassroom.org/calendar</u>. Winning photographers will be credited in the calendar and will receive complimentary copies as well as invited to the Big E on Massachusetts Day! Winning photos will be also be featured on MDAR's "MassGrown" website, <u>www.Mass.gov/Massgrown</u> as well as throughout the year on its' social media sites.

Rules

- 1) The contest deadline is July 1, 2024.
- All photos must depict an aspect of Massachusetts' agriculture or horticulture. Photos must have been taken in Massachusetts within the past three years. Photos taken on farms will be given higher rankings.
- 3) Professional photographers (photography as a primary source of income) are not eligible to enter.
- 4) Entrants may only submit their own original photographs No more than five photos per entrant.
- For photos showing people, entrants should have permission from the subject or the subject's parent or guardian if the subject is under 18 years old, and be able to provide written documentation upon request.
- 6) Submission of Photos Two options to submit:
 - a. Online Visit and download up to 5 photos here: www.massnrc.org/calendar, or
 - b. Print: 5x7 or 8x10 inches. On an index card or paper, type or print the following information and attach with tape to the back of each photo:
 - Entrant name, address, telephone number and/or email address.
 - ✓ Where the photo was taken and information relating to the subject matter
 - Month and year photo was taken
 - Fill out and send the entry form at the bottom along with the photos to: Photo-Contest 2024, MDAR, 225 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772

Questions: Contact Rick LeBlanc at Richard.LeBlanc@mass.gov, 617-655-3529.

Entrant Name:	E-mail:	E-mail:		
Address:				
City:	State:	Zip:		
Phone:	Number of photos	Number of photos submitted:		

Photographers retain the copyright to their photographs. MDAR and MAC retain the rights to reproduce the winning photographs in publications, social media, promotions, and on website. Neither the MDAR, nor MA Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., and MA State Grange will be held responsible for lost submissions.









USDA Farm Service Agency U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Southeastern MA FSA County Office 8 Thatcher Lane Wareham, MA 02571

The Southeastern County Farm Service Agency is conducting their County Committee Elections. We are currently searching for 2 Committee Members. For election purposes, counties are divided into local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA nominates and elects one producer to serve a three-year term of the Farm Service Agency County Committee. Each year, an election is hosted when a committee member's 3-year term is up. The 2024 election will include the following LAAs:

Local Administrative Area 2: Middleboro, Lakeville, Rochester, Marion, and Mattapoisett.

Local Administrative Area 4: Bourne, Sandwich, Falmouth, Mashpee, Gosnold, Aquinnah, Chilmark, West Tisbury, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, and Edgartown.

To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate. Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others. Organizations representing minorities and woman also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign an FSA-669A nomination form. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at County Committee Elections (usda.gov) The county committee nomination period begins on June 17th, 2024. Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the Plymouth/Barnstable/Dukes/Nantucket County FSA office by close of business on August 1st, 2024.

Nationwide, there are approximately 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. These individuals make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support, loan programs, and other agricultural issues. Committees consist of three to eleven members who are elected by eligible producers.

Sincerely,

Francine Kealey County Executive Director Phone: (508) 295-5151

Farm Service Agency USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

In Memoriam

REMEMBERING OUR CCCGA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES



Waldo N. Roby Sr., 92 of Lakeville passed away May 21, 2024.

Waldo was the Owner/Operator of Roby's Propane Gas for over 60 years. He was also the founder of the MJR Foundation in honor of his late wife Mildred, giving thousands of dollars in scholarships each year. He had many hobbies and an enormous impact on his community, serving on many boards and committees.

He is survived by his wife, Norma, his children Janet and her husband Alex, Lee Ann Beaulieu, Waldo Jr. and his wife Alison. His stepchildren Frank and wife Hollie, Lori and husband Gary. His also leaves behind several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A private service will be held in Lakeville. Donations in Waldo's name would be appreciated to Damien's Food Pantry, PO Box 730, East Wareham, MA 02538

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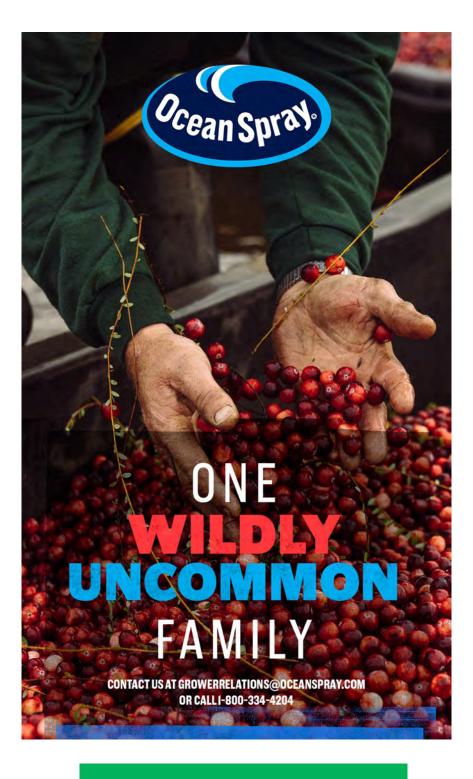
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Grower Contact: Jonathan Ashley Senior Manager Grower Relations jonathan.ashley@refresco.com



CRANBERRY RESEARCH FOUNDATION 26TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT SOUTHERS MARSH GOLF CLUB JULY 15

CCCGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING CCCGA OFFICE JULY 25 8AM

CCCGA ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW AD MAKEPEACE COMPANY CANNING BOGS 124 CRANBERRY ROAD - CARVER AUGUST 21 10AM

https://www.cranberries.org/events/cccga-annual-meeting-2024

THE BIG E - MASSACHUSETTS DAY SEPTEMBER 19



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

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FOR SALE: 43' Berry trailer. Tractor driven 4" Pacific berry pump and 13000 watt tractor driven generator. Call Wayne: 508-941-4220 **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: 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: 13-100 Ft Lengths of Used Cranbarrier \$4.00 per foot Please contact Oiva Hannula & Sons at 508-866-1075

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