



MDAR

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

2010 Annual Report

Massachusetts
Department of
Agricultural
Resources



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

IAN A. BOWLES
Secretary

SCOTT J. SOARES
Commissioner

An introductory letter to an annual report should not take liberties in flavoring one way or another the reader's experience and yet I cannot help but start by praising the staff of MDAR's five divisions (Administration, Agricultural Development, Animal Health, Crop & Pest Services, and Technical Assistance) for weathering the challenging fiscal climate that we saw in 2010 while at the same time expanding services of existing and new programs. In fact "doing more with less" has been a common refrain for government and non-government entities. As you will read, the MDAR certainly did more in 2010 in an effort to keep pace with the increasing demands and interest of the agricultural industry and an increasingly "ag-hungry" public.

As this report highlights, MDAR has remained committed to its 158 year old mission to promote the agricultural interests of our Commonwealth. To that end, MDAR has not only maintained but further promoted more than 30 different programs and services. To do so we have continued efforts to streamline operations, utilize more public/private partnerships, and to leverage more federal and private dollars. Continued outreach to new audiences, has also remained at the forefront of our efforts to ensure ongoing interest in a vibrant and sustainable future for agriculture in our Commonwealth.

Last year's accomplishments comprise a wide range of measured successes set against the backdrop of both planned and unplanned events. On the energy conservation front we saw continued and encouraging developments of on-farm energy conservation and renewable energy systems such as solar, wind, and anaerobic digesters. This in turn has encouraged greater investment, provided new sources of income, offset production costs, and has continued to fuel a Renaissance for locally grown and manufactured agricultural products. In September of 2010, we launched the Commonwealth Quality Program (CQP) – a pioneering and groundbreaking initiative that emphasizes standards for local products to the benefit of growers, producers, harvesters, processors, and consumers. 2010 also saw plans get under way for capital projects that will impact agriculture from Boston to the Pioneer Valley through the initiation of a year-round public market in Boston and an investment in the Northampton Three County Fair - one of our Commonwealth's historic agricultural fairs. And, on the more unanticipated side of things, such as when the Department of Public Health declared an August health emergency for Arbovirus/EEE in Southeast Massachusetts, MDAR, in partnership with our sister agencies in the Executive Offices of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Health and Human Services, quickly implemented an emergency response plan that by all accounts resulted in a successful mosquito born disease control effort.

I mentioned in my 2009 annual report introductory letter that the dedication of staff to the production of a MDAR annual report is a tough choice from an opportunity cost perspective, because it means staff are being taken offline from other tasks. Nonetheless, I fervently believe that agency transparency is important to ensuring that we never forget our mission to "cultivate" a thriving and diversified agricultural community. Without further ado, I invite you to peruse the 2010 MDAR Annual Report and thank you for your interest in our Commonwealth's agricultural identity!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Soares".

Scott J. Soares, Commissioner

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Statutory Purpose: This report is intended to not only inform the public generally, but to meet several statutory reporting requirements. The 2010 Annual report of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources covers the following;

- Chapter 310 § 11 of the Acts of 2008, an annual report of the Farm Technology Review Commission
- M.G.L. Chapter 20 § 25, an annual report of the Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee to the public
- M.G.L. Chapter 20 § 30, an annual report of the Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board to the House and Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Executive Office of Administration and Finance
- M.G.L. Chapter 94 § 14, an annual report on milk coupon programs to the Joint Committee on the Environment, natural resources and Agriculture, the Secretary of energy and Environmental Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development
- M.G.L. Chapter 128 § 5, an annual report of the entire Department
- M.G.L. Chapter 13B § 5A, a report on IPM efforts to the Clerk of the Senate and the House of Representatives and the Joint Committee on natural Resources and Agriculture
- M.G.L. Chapter 252 § 2, a report of the State Reclamation Board
- Chapter 197 of the Acts of 2010, a report on local procurement by schools.

Cover Photos: Thanks to the following MDAR staff, from left to right: Oyster beds at East Dennis Oyster Farm, by David Webber; Wind Turbine at Red Apple Farm in Phillipston, by Gerry Palano; Fresh tomatoes at the Farmers Market, by Rick LeBlanc; Pastoral scene at Allen Farm in Chilmark, by Gerard Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES



COMMISSIONER SCOTT J. SOARES

Commissioner Soares' agricultural roots go back to his childhood where his family enjoyed small-scale farming that included vegetables and livestock. This experience instilled not only a great appreciation for vegetables (one of his favorites is Brussels sprouts), it also instilled a strong work ethic that has remained a constant throughout his life.

After seven years of active and reserve service to the U.S. Army, Scott graduated Cum Laude from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth with a double major in Biology and Marine Biology and obtained graduate training at the University of Rhode Island.

Upon graduation, Scott worked for the Southeastern Regional Development and Economic Development District in Taunton to promote aquaculture in the District's 27 cities and towns. In 1996 he was then hired as the Commonwealth's very first "Aquaculture Coordinator" at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources where he was tasked with promoting growth and diversification of aquatic cultivation.

Scott was soon recognized at the Department as someone who could effectively jumpstart new programs and work across many diverse constituencies and agencies. During his time at MDAR, Scott has had an opportunity to serve in a number of capacities; these broad-breadth experiences have in turn given Scott a unique insight into the many programs and services of the Department.

Since Governor Deval Patrick appointed Scott Soares Commissioner, Scott has applied his strong work ethic and passion for agriculture towards laying a strong foundation to ensure its vibrant future through MDAR's programs and services. Important to these efforts has been the streamlining of internal operations to realize greater efficiencies. Scott has also dedicated himself to the building of partnerships at the local, state, and federal level to strengthen and enhance the state's agricultural interests.

In 2009, Scott was honored to receive the Government Leadership Award from the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association and in 2010, the Environmental Leadership Award from the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association.



OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT

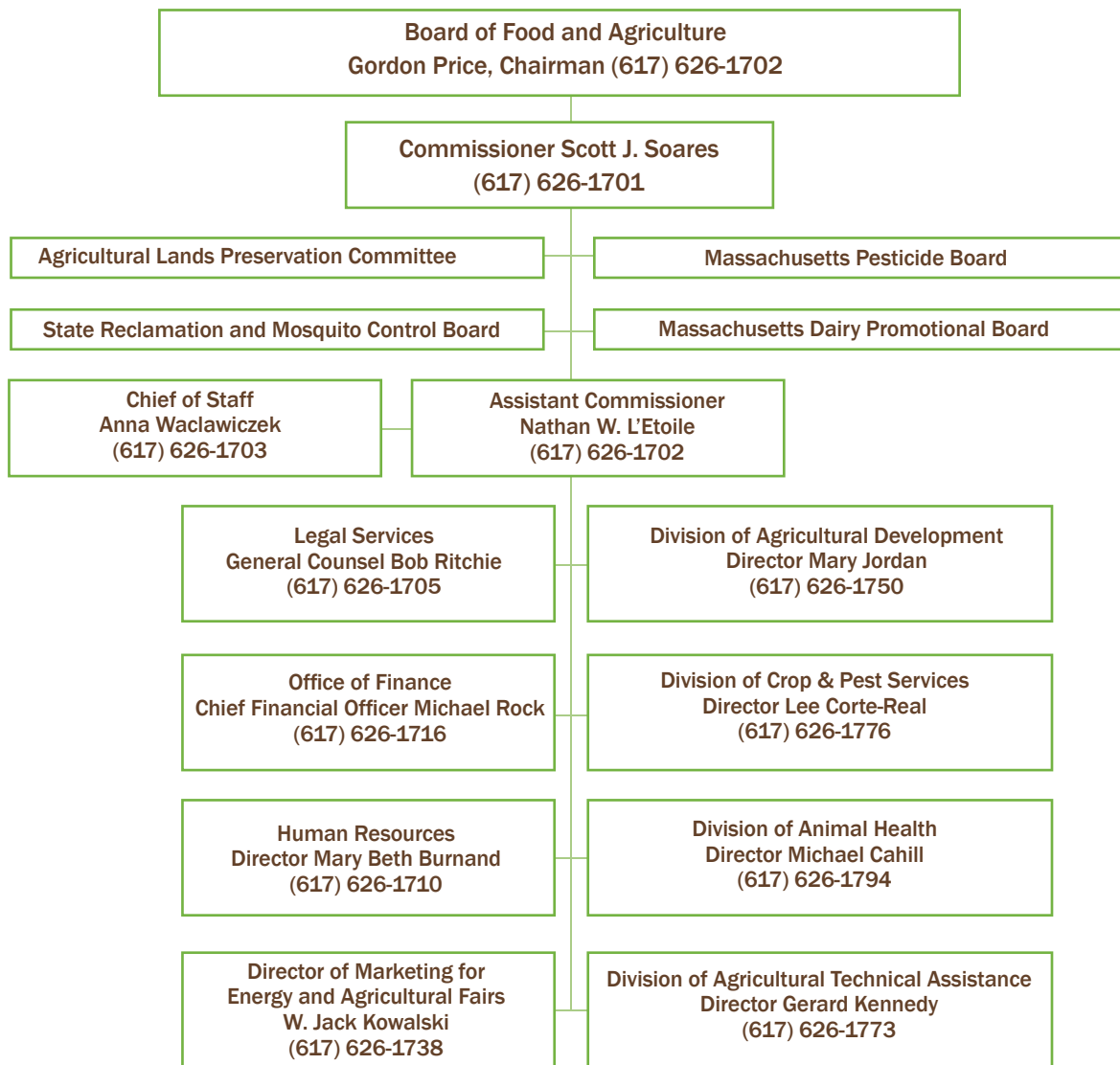
MISSION

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources' (MDAR) mission is to ensure the long term viability of agriculture in Massachusetts.

HISTORY

MDAR has a long and illustrious history dating back prior to the creation of the US Department of Agriculture. As early as 1852, the various

county presidents of the Agricultural Societies across Massachusetts came together to create the Board of Agriculture, a body that has, over the years, evolved into the current Board of Food and Agriculture and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.



OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT cont.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

The Division of Administration is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the department in providing services to the other four divisions in their regulation as well as promotion and enhancement of the agricultural industry in Massachusetts. The Division also promotes cross-pollination of all divisions to optimally achieve the Department's objectives towards a vibrant and sustainable agricultural community in the Commonwealth. MDAR's Legal Services office as well as its Human Resources and Office of Finance staff are a part of this division.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Agricultural Development fosters the sustainability of Massachusetts' agriculture through innovative marketing, business, educational and environmentally sound initiatives implemented through the Agricultural Fairs, Land Use, and Marketing and Grant Programs. The Division staff work closely with the Divisions of Agricultural Technical Assistance, Animal Health and Crop and Pest Services to coordinate improved environmental sustainability and the economic viability of the agricultural resources within the Commonwealth. The Division staff collaborate with over 50 agricultural and commodity organizations, other state agencies within the Secretariat of Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), and numerous other agencies across the state on both regional and state wide projects.

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH

The Division of Animal Health focuses its efforts on ensuring the health and safety of the Commonwealth's domestic animals. Animal Health staff work closely with the Department of Public Health, the Animal Rescue League of Boston, the MSPCA, local veterinarians, local health departments, municipal animal inspectors and animal control officers when responding to possible disease situations. Rapid response to potential outbreaks ensures the fewest number of animals and animal owners are affected. Working in concert with the

Divisions of Agricultural Technical Assistance, Crop and Pest Services, and Agricultural Development, through diligent inspection, examination and licensing, Animal Health promotes the health and welfare of companion and food-producing animals in Massachusetts.

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES

The Division of Crop and Pest Services is responsible for the regulation of many aspects of the agricultural and pesticide industries in Massachusetts through diligent inspection, examination, licensing, registration, quarantine, and enforcement of laws, regulations and orders; to improve operational efficiency and mainstreaming of programs and policies into overall EEA priorities. The division ensures the quality of farm inputs, such as fertilizer, animal feed, and seeds and inspects consumer products such as plants, fruits, and vegetables. The division prevents and minimizes the impacts of pests entering the state via imported produce and plants. The quality of farm products is monitored in conjunction with the USDA's grading program.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Working in concert with the Divisions of Agricultural Development, Animal Health, and Crop and Pest Services, The Division of Technical Assistance (DATA) provides technical and grant support to promote economically viable and environmentally sound agricultural practices in Massachusetts. DATA delivers services to improve agricultural stewardship and use of natural resources; promote energy efficiency and use of renewable energy; and ensure economic competitiveness and profitability. These programs are supported by the Division's digital based information management systems and interaction with local, state and federal partners.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

MDAR's mission to support, regulate, and promote the Commonwealth's agricultural future is enhanced by the various boards and commissions from which the Department draws expertise and guidance. Current and statutorily authorized boards include the Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee (ALPC), Board of Food and Agriculture, Farm Technology Review Commission (FTRC), Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board (MDPB), Pesticide Board, and State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB).

While the names of all board/commission members as well as contact information for the various MDAR staff liaisons are provided, please note that all Department Boards and Commissions may also be reached directly for official correspondence by US Post at:

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
Attn: [Board or Commission Name]
251 Causeway St., Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION COMMITTEE (ALPC) (M.G.L. CHAPTER 20 & 24)

CHAIRMAN

Scott J. Soares, Commissioner, MDAR

STAFF LIAISON

Carol Szocik
Carol.Szocik@state.ma.us
(617) 626-1718

The ALPC's function is to evaluate and accept or reject applications for Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) projects based upon the criteria outlined in the General Laws. There are four farmer members appointed by the Governor, two non-voting members, a designee of the Undersecretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, a designee of the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Chairman of the Board of Food and Agriculture, and the Commissioner of Agricultural Resources who serves as the chair. To learn more about the activities of this board, please see the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program on page 46.

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS

Scott J. Soares, Commissioner, MDAR
Robert O'Conner, designee of Secretary Bowles, EOEEA
Miryam Bobadilla, designee of Undersecretary Brooks, EOHED
Gordon Price, Chairman, Board of Food and Agriculture

PUBLIC MEMBERS (Appointed by the Governor)

Stephen Verrill, farmer
Warren Shaw, Jr., farmer
Frederick Dabney, Jr., farmer
George Beebe, farmer

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Barbara Miller, designee of Christine Clarke, State Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Stephen Herbert, designee of Steve Goodwin, Dean, College of Natural Sciences, University of Massachusetts Amherst

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Chairman: Gordon Price

Staff Liaison:

Nathan L'Etoile, MDAR

Nathan.L'Etoile@state.ma.us

(617) 626-1702

Public Members (Appointed by the Governor):

Gordon Price – Essex County, farmer

Richard Canning – Barnstable County, farmer

Fredrick Dabney – Bristol County, farmer

Judy Leab –Berkshire County, farmer

John Lebeaux – Worcester County, town administrator

Frank Matheson – Middlesex County, farmer

Kimberly Stevens – Franklin County, farmer

The history of the Board of Food and Agriculture rests on the agricultural societies organized in the 1790s. The county chairmen of these societies came together in 1852 to make up the first Board of Agriculture, predating the organization of the United States Department of Agriculture in 1862. The Board has served continually for 159 years to promote crop and animal husbandry in the Commonwealth. The original purpose of the Board and its staff was to represent fairly, every class of agricultural knowledge in the state.

By 1902, the Board had fine-tuned its purpose to taking an active role in the development of the Massachusetts farmer. Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, J.W. Stockwell said in his report, "This Board is on the outlook constantly for such advances in the methods of improved agriculture as shall bring comfort and beauty to the home and content and prosperity to the farmer. It has been alert and quick to protect the farmer in his productions, to investigate and urge the newer lines of safe advancement in method and product, and to stimulate to experiment and achievement in developing and demonstrating advanced agriculture for the benefit of the state."

The Secretary of the Board served the Board of Agriculture in the administration of the Board and its staff from 1852 to 1919 (the year the Department of Agriculture was formed) and took over the responsibilities of the Board.

Today the Board of Food and Agriculture represents the interests of agriculture to the Department and carries out its statutory authority to supervise and control the Department. The Board's approval is required for the appointment or dismissal of the Assistant Commissioner as well as all Division Directors. It consists of seven members appointed by the Governor, each of whom must be from a different county and four of whom shall be farmers.



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION (FTRC) (CHAPTER 310 & 11 OF THE ACTS OF 2008)

CHAIRMAN

The Commissioner of Agricultural Resources' designee, Gerard Kennedy, Director of the Division of Agricultural Technical Assistance, MDAR

STAFF LIAISON

Gerard Kennedy
Gerard.Kennedy@state.ma.us
(617) 626-1773

The role of the FTRC is to study and recommend options for the implementation of farming technology. This is a broad mandate, which includes but is not limited to: ways to promote energy conservation; collaborative purchasing; purchasing and selling of energy; and energy saving technology. In addition, the Commission will also recommend alternative options for agricultural sustainability and growth, and analyze regulations and statutes to ensure that they are not impediments to the adoption of such farming technology. The Commission consists of representatives of the Department of Agricultural Resources, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Public Health, Department of Revenue, the Clean Energy Center, the Massachusetts Cooperative of Milk Producers Federation, the Massachusetts Association of Dairy Farmers, and a Dairy Farmer Licensed as a Producer Dealer.

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS

Gerard Kennedy, designee of Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR
Ed Kunce, designee of Commissioner Laurie Burt, MDEP
Roy Petre, designee of Commissioner John Auerbach, MDPH
Dennis Buckley, designee of Commissioner Navjeet Bal, MDOR
Carter Wall, Executive Director, Clean Energy Center

PUBLIC MEMBERS (Appointed by the Governor)

James Cooper, dairy farmer licensed as a Producer Handler
Mark Duffy, Massachusetts Association of Dairy Farmers
Peter Melnik, Massachusetts Cooperative of Milk Producers Federation

For the Executive Summary of the Farm Technology Review Commission's 2010 Report to Governor Patrick and the Legislature, see Appendix 1 at the end of this document.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY PROMOTION BOARD

(M.G.L. Chapter 20 & 30)

CHAIRMAN

The Commissioner of Agricultural Resources' designee, Mary Jordan, Director of the Division of Agricultural Development, MDAR

STAFF LIAISON

Mary Jordan
Mary.Jordan@state.ma.us
(617) 626-1750

The Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board (MADPB) develops programs and policies with the objective of increasing the consumption of Massachusetts dairy products through promotion, research, and educational activities. The nine member board is made up of representatives of the Department of Agricultural Resources, Executive Office of Administration and Finance, the dairy farming industry, and the milk processing industry.

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS

Mary Jordan, designee Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR
Thom Dugan, designee Secretary Jay Gonzalez, A&F

PUBLIC MEMBERS (appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources)

Amy Godin, Garelick Farms
David Hanson, dairy farmer, Agri-Mark, Inc.
Kathleen Herrick, dairy farmer, MA Association of Dairy Farmers
Krisanne Koebke, dairy farmer, MA Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Inc.
Warren Shaw, dairy farmer, New England Producer Handler Association
Sam Shields, dairy farmer, Agri-Mark, Inc.
Darryl Williams, dairy farmer, MA Association of Dairy Farmers

For the Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board 2010 Annual Report, see Appendix 2 at the end of this document.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

PESTICIDE BOARD (M.G.L. Chapter. 132B § 3)

CHAIRMAN

The Commissioner of Agricultural Resources' designee Lee Corte-Real, MDAR

STAFF LIAISON

Lee Corte-Real

Lee.Corte-Real@state.ma.us

(617) 626-1776

The Board's responsibilities entail advising the Commissioner of Agricultural Resources with respect to the implementation and administration of Massachusetts general laws pertaining to pesticides. The Board also hears appeals of those aggrieved by the actions or decisions of the Department or the Subcommittee of the Pesticide Board. The thirteen member board consists of representatives of the Department of Agricultural Resources, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Fish and Game, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Public Health, as well as farming, commercial pesticide applicators, pesticide toxicology, the environmental community, the medical community, and citizens at large.

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS

Lee Corte-Real, designee Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR

Glen Haas (Kathy Romero, alternate), designee Commissioner Laurie Burt, MDEP

Martha Steele, designee Commissioner John Auerbach, MDPH

Priscilla Neves, MDPH-Bureau of Environmental Health Food Protection Program

Jack Buckley, designee Commissioner Mary Griffin, MDFG

Ken Gooch, designee Commissioner Rick Sullivan, MDCR

PUBLIC MEMBERS (appointed by the Governor)

Dr. Cheryl Barbanel, physician and professor

Richard Berman, pesticide applicator

Dr. Richard Bonnano, farmer

William Clark, conservation agent and extension agent

Laurell Farinon, conservation agent

Dr. Jack Looney, professor

Dr. Brian Magee, toxicologist

Over 2010, the Pesticide Board met and was provided updates on issues that might have impacts on pesticide applicators and uses in the Commonwealth. The most significant issue on which the Board was required to take action was to consider the Regulations to implement the requirements of the Protection of Children and Families from Harmful Pesticides Act. These regulations provide a regulatory framework for the requirements mandated in the Act. The Department had been enforcing the provisions of the Act under policy statements that were issued to the regulated community. The Pesticide Board adopted the proposed regulations on August 17, 2010 and they were promulgated on October 29, 2010 by the Secretary of State's office.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS cont.

STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) (M.G.L. Chapter 252 § 2)

CHAIRMAN

The Commissioner of Agricultural Resources' designee Lee Corte-Real, Director of the Division of Crop & Pest Services, MDAR

STAFF LIAISON

Mark Buffone, SRMCB
Mark.Buffone@state.ma.us
(617) 626-1777

The SRMCB oversees mosquito control in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and establishes administrative and technical policy, guidelines, and best management practices to insure that mosquito control programs are effective and safe. The SRMCB also appoints all Commissioners of the various regional mosquito control projects. The three member board is comprised of representatives of the Departments of Agricultural Resources, Conservation and Recreation, and Environmental Protection.

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS

Lee Corte-Real, designee Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR
Gary Gonyea, designee Commissioner Laurie Burt, MDEP
Anne Carroll, designee Commissioner Rick Sullivan, MDCR

For the 2010 Annual Report of the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board, see Appendix 3 at the end of this document.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH

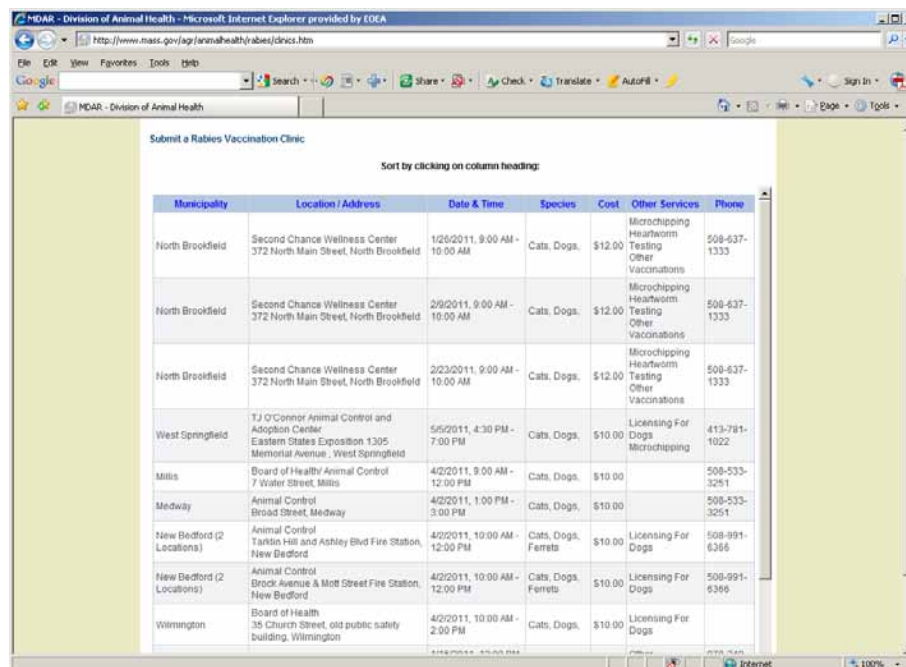
With another challenging budgetary year behind us, MDAR has aggressively sought ways to maximize outreach efforts at minimal or no cost. Social media, improvements to the MDAR website, an active press release schedule, “cross-pollination” projects, logo branding, and public speaking engagements have continued to prove invaluable tools towards getting the word out. Some examples below illustrate how outreach efforts have maximized PR opportunities.

EXAMPLE ONE

When the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscaping Association celebrated its 100th anniversary, MDAR looked across its divisions for new ways how it might promote the event. A blog was posted to Energy Smarts, (a site devoted to energy efficiency ideas). The blog highlighted not only MNLA’s achievements but MDAR’s Agriculture Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP) and *MassGrown & Fresher* as well. The blog was followed by a Twitter post which was re-tweeted by other Twitter followers including Mass.Gov.

EXAMPLE TWO

In October of 2010 the Division of Animal Health rabies coordinator realized the need to make the registration of clinics offering low-cost rabies vaccinations an easier process. Through a collaborative effort between the Division of Animal Health, the Division of Technical Assistance, and the Massachusetts Animal Coalition, MDAR worked to develop a system where clinics can easily register online. The new method promotes collaboration, consistency, and reduces the previously time-consuming process of collecting and posting information. The Division of Animal Health promoted this new online tool through e-blasts and will be promoting it again in the spring of 2011 when more clinics come online.



Submit a Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Sort by clicking on column heading:

Municipality	Location / Address	Date & Time	Species	Cost	Other Services	Phone
North Brookfield	Second Chance Wellness Center 372 North Main Street, North Brookfield	1/26/2011, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Cats, Dogs	\$12.00	Microchipping Heartworm Testing Other Vaccinations	508-637- 1333
North Brookfield	Second Chance Wellness Center 372 North Main Street, North Brookfield	2/9/2011, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Cats, Dogs	\$12.00	Microchipping Heartworm Testing Other Vaccinations	508-637- 1333
North Brookfield	Second Chance Wellness Center 372 North Main Street, North Brookfield	2/23/2011, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Cats, Dogs	\$12.00	Microchipping Heartworm Testing Other Vaccinations	508-637- 1333
West Springfield	TJ O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center Eastern States Exposition 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield	5/5/2011, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Cats, Dogs	\$10.00	Licensing For Dogs Microchipping	413-781- 1022
Mills	Board of Health/Animal Control 7 Water Street, Mills	4/2/2011, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Cats, Dogs	\$10.00		508-533- 3251
Medway	Animal Control Broad Street, Medway	4/2/2011, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Cats, Dogs	\$10.00		508-533- 3251
New Bedford (2 Locations)	Animal Control Tarkin Hill and Ashley Blvd Fire Station, New Bedford	4/2/2011, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Cats, Dogs, Ferrets	\$10.00	Licensing For Dogs	508-991- 6366
New Bedford (2 Locations)	Animal Control Brook Avenue & Mott Street Fire Station, New Bedford	4/2/2011, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Cats, Dogs, Ferrets	\$10.00	Licensing For Dogs	508-991- 6366
Wilmington	Board of Health 35 Church Street, old public safety building, Wilmington	4/2/2011, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Cats, Dogs	\$10.00	Licensing For Dogs	

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH cont.

EXAMPLE THREE

In 2010 MDAR staff ramped up efforts to organize strategic events around specific agriculturally related topics. Many of these events were a win/win for all the parties involved. As an example, in November of 2010, MDAR joined students at the New England Small Farm Institute to discuss and develop composting formulas:

- New and veteran farmers had an opportunity to exchange information and ideas with one another
- MDAR staff were able to listen to the concerns of farmers as well as to impart advice on best management composting practices
- The New England Small Farm Institute (NESFI) was able to demonstrate the makings of quality composting.

In addition to lectures and classroom discussion, the participants took part in field demonstrations and laboratory exercises. They learned how to take temperature readings and measure bulk density and moisture content of composting materials. At the end of the workshop, each participant went home with a compost maturity test kit to use on their own compost back at the farm, and they were asked to take an on-line quiz so that workshop planners could gauge the effectiveness of the program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH cont.

MDAR PRESS RELEASES 2010

In 2010, a total of 39 press releases went out – the majority of which were picked up by external media outlets:

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Workshops	6-Jan
43 Grants for Environmental Improvements at Bay State Farms	8-Jan
Programs to Promote Local Dairy Farms	11-Jan
12 Energy Grants to Agricultural Businesses	9-Feb
Massachusetts Maple Month Kick-off	5-Mar
Rabies Vaccination Clinics	12-Mar
22 EBT Grant Awards for Farmers' Markets	29-Mar
Ag Day at the State House/APR Regs	8-Apr
Federal Relief for Massachusetts Farmers	8-Apr
Lawn Care Month	12-Apr
West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis	29-Apr
3 Grants to Agricultural Fairs	1-May
Mother's Day/MG&F Flowers and Nursery Products	11-May
11 Grants to Promote Specialty Crops	20-May
Agricultural Fairs and Greening Initiatives (AAA Partnership)	1-Jun
Dewey Square Market Opens with w/EBT	22-Jun
New WIC F&Vvoucher pilot program at 6 Markets	25-Jun
16 MA Food Producers Participate in Annual Food Show in Big Apple	25-Jul
Mile-A-Minute Invasive Species	30-Jul
EEE/WNV Vaccinations and Precautions	5-Aug
Local Massachusetts Food Producers Honored at Industry Trade Show	6-Aug
Asian Longhorned Beetle Awareness Month	10-Aug
MassGrown & Fresher website kick-off	2-Sep
MA Farmers' Market Week/MassGrown & Fresher	19-Aug
MA Tomato Festival Winners	23-Aug
Agritourism and Apples	9-Sep
Big E – MA Day - calendar winners	23-Sep
Commonwealth Quality Program Launch	28-Sep
MA Harvest for Students Week	4-Oct
National Energy Efficiency Council Honors MA Ag Project	18-Oct
Federal Relief for Massachusetts Farmers	13-Oct
NEEC Honors MA Ag Program	18-Oct
Energy Grants to 42 Bay State Farms	28-Oct
Grants for Energy Improvements in 25 Communities	28-Oct
Ag Business Workshop Training	24-Nov
Holiday Season Kick-Off – Xmas Tree Cutting Ceremony	26-Nov
Consultant Named to BPM	10-Dec
Locally Grown Xmas Trees and Decorations	15-Dec
Responsible Pet Adoption (eblast)	16-Dec

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH cont.

BLOGS



Throughout 2010, MDAR was a major contributor to the Secretariat's two blog sites – The Great Outdoors; and Energy Smarts. From farmers' markets to cut-your-own Christmas trees, 27 blogs (23% of total) were posted to The Great Outdoors highlighting the rich diversity of Massachusetts agriculture. A total of 12 energy-related blogs, from photo voltaic panels to wood boilers, were posted to Energy Smarts that was launched in April of 2010 (that's 19% of the total).



MASSGROWN & FRESHER

The numbers show that from its debut in April 2010 to December 2010, the updated *MassGrown & Fresher* website received over 80,000 page hits. Feedback from visitors was positive with one of the most popular pages the interactive Agri-Google map that allows consumers to easily find all of their locally grown needs in a convenient one-stop-shopping spot. In 2010 the site was twice featured on the Mass.Gov Homepage and has been referenced as a link in newspaper articles

featuring ag-related stories www.mass.gov/massgrown.



TWITTER

In February of 2010, MDAR launched AgCommishSoares Twitter. As of December 31st, the feed had 375 followers.

NEW OUTREACH INITIATIVES

A new outreach component in 2010 was an across-the-state speaking tour which brought the Commissioner of the Department to 10 Chamber of Commerce organizations to highlight the positive economic impact of agriculture in Massachusetts. Included were: Amherst, Berkshire, Cape Cod, Franklin, Greater Newburyport, New Bedford, North Shore, Plymouth Area, Springfield, and Westport.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Michael Rock

Michael.Rock@state.ma.us

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The financial portrait can be hard to give on a calendar year for an organization that operates on a fiscal year basis. What follows is a report involving both fiscal years 2010 and 2011 to give as clear a picture as possible. In 2010 the national “great” recession continued to result in sharp revenue declines for most states in the country. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has not been immune to the recession and state revenues declined dramatically in fiscal years 2009 and 2010 before starting to recover in fiscal year 2011. State agencies including MDAR have had to deal with a period of budgetary reductions and 9C cuts (midyear cuts that allow the governor to bring expenditures into balance with revenues if revenues fall below expectations). As a result of the recession the agency had to adapt to a changing economic environment of less state budgetary support. The agency has striven to provide continued uninterrupted services to the state’s agricultural community during this national recession, doing much more with much less while simultaneously seeing increasing demand for programs and services provided by the agency.

The Department of Agricultural Resources expended over \$34.5 million dollars in FY’10 just \$11K shy of the previous fiscal year expenditure of \$34.51 million. As the state funded portion of the agency’s budget has contracted, MDAR has worked diligently to expand and utilize all available federal resources. In FY’10 approximately 47% of the agency’s funding came from direct appropriations, 27% from capital funds, 25.5% from federal funds and the remaining half-percent from trust accounts. In FY’09, 51.4% of the agency’s funding came from direct appropriations, 32.2% from capital funds, 16.1% from federal funds and the remaining one-third of 1% from trust accounts. The federal portion of the agency’s budget has increased from just 8.62% two years ago to an estimated 25.5% this past year and is projected to comprise over 26% in FY’11.

At the start of fiscal year 2010 the MDAR operating budget was \$16.7 million. Subsequent 9C cuts during fiscal year 2010 reduced that budget to \$16.3 million. By fiscal year 2011 the MDAR operating budget had been reduced to \$16 million. This \$283K reduction represents a 1.7% decrease from the final fiscal year 2010 operating budget on top of a \$3.2 million or 16.6% decrease between fiscal year 2009 and 2010.

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT (2511-0100)

A 19.3% decrease in funding for the Department’s Administration Account (budget line item 2511-0100) in the past two years eliminated or sharply reduced a multitude of the agency’s programs and initiatives ranging from fairs, composting, Commonwealth Quality, Environmental Policy and Compliance Assistance Program (EPCAP), Buy Local, shellfish propagation, 4H, and YouthGROW while also significantly impacting day to day operational expenses. Of the \$4.4 million FY11 allocation:

- Approximately 88% goes toward employee’s salaries and benefits
- Approximately 2% or \$88K annually is a matching share to the agency’s \$651K bi-annual federal “Pesticide Analytical” grant and serves to fund lab services with the University of Mass Amherst Massachusetts Pesticide Analysis Laboratory
- Approximately 1.7% or \$75K funds the agency’s food coupon program and is also used as a matching share toward federal grant funding of the agency’s \$490K “WIC” (Women, Infants, and Children) and

FINANCIAL REPORT cont.

\$571K “Senior” food coupon program. These programs provide benefits to low income families and additionally provide a revenue stream for MDAR certified farmers who currently accept these coupons at the more than 200 farmers’ markets across the Commonwealth

- The remaining 8.3% supports the agency’s day-to-day operational expenses

SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD APPROPRIATION (2511-0105)

The MDAR Supplemental Food Appropriation (budget line item 2511-0105) provides for the purchase of supplemental foods for the Emergency Food Assistance program. MDAR contracts with the Greater Boston Food Bank, which is responsible for the distribution of a percentage of funds, earmarked for other Massachusetts food banks under a contractual agreement. The Food Bank program saw a decrease from a high of \$12 million funding level in fiscal year 2009 to \$11.5 million for the past two fiscal years, a 4.2% reduction. The Supplemental Food pass through appropriation comprises roughly 72% of the agency’s state-appropriated budgetary funding.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (2511-3002)

The agency’s Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program (budget line item 2511-3002) has been decimated. Funding was reduced from a high of \$303K in fiscal year 2008 to \$48K in fiscal year 2010 and 2011. This has impacted the agency’s ability to meet its statutory requirements under Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000 (“Act to Protect Children and Families from Harmful Pesticides”) and MGL Chapter 132B (Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act).

Capital funded programs include the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program, Farm Viability Enhancement Program, Agricultural Business Training, Farm to School Project, Aquaculture, Agricultural Commissions Program, Accelerated Conservation Planning, Energy and the Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program. Capital funding for the agency decreased from \$11.6 million in fiscal year 2008 to \$9.975 million for the past two fiscal years, a near 18.3% decrease. The decrease in funding resulted not only in a curtailment of some agricultural land protection programs, but also a reduction of the agency’s ability to leverage federal matching funds.

As a result of the reductions in state funding MDAR made it a major priority of the agency in this economic downturn to seek out all possible federal grant opportunities. The agency assigned a designated staff person to locate federal grant opportunities and to work with the agency’s divisions in pursuing those opportunities. MDAR federal grant spending more than tripled from fiscal year 2008 to 2010, rising from \$2.83 million to \$8.83 million. As a proportion of the overall MDAR budget, federal spending rose from an 8.6% share in fiscal year 2008 to over 25.6% in fiscal year 2010. This trend is expected to continue as the agency’s budgetary and capital funding sources continue to shrink. MDAR federal grant expenditures in fiscal year 2011 are projected at \$9.5 million, an increase of more than 7%.

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has become a revenue generating agency for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Revenue has grown by over 200% since 2003. MDAR is anticipating collecting general fund revenue of over \$5.61 million in FY11, an increase of 8.8% over FY10, through the collection of a number of fees (33) ranging from pesticide applicator and milk dealer licenses to nursery and greenhouse inspection fees. Revenue will exceed operating expenses by 24% in FY11; the third fiscal year in a row that MDAR projected revenue will exceed the agency’s operating expenses. The majority of MDAR staff

FINANCIAL REPORT cont.

is involved in revenue collection whether it is inspectors, collectors, license issuers, legal staff working on new fee regulations or staff working on pesticide registration and licensing efficiencies. Three of the agency’s four primary Divisions are involved in collecting revenue that is deposited into the General Fund. Furthermore, the agency is gearing up to implement new fees in the upcoming year (e.g. ag composting) and is working to accomplish this objective within its very limited existing staff capacity of 77 FTEs. With the above in mind and the expected continued interest and growth in agriculture and related industries and services, the revenue generating capacity of the Department of Agricultural Resources during the current and future years will offset other operating costs of the Commonwealth hereby positioning MDAR as a revenue generator for the Commonwealth.

In FY10, MDAR revenue of \$5.16 million exceeded the agency’s year end operating budget (Administration and IPM accounts combined) of \$4.59 million by over a half million dollars. A comparison of the last five fiscal years is provided below.

YEAR	\$ AMOUNT	% INCREASE
2006	\$4,089,690	-
2007	\$4,345,312	6.25%
2008	\$4,601,948	5.91%
2009	\$4,709,686	2.34%
2010	\$5,159,485	9.55%

HUMAN RESOURCES

HR DIRECTOR

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The Human Resources (HR) Office administers and oversees all HR functions for MDAR, as well as its Boards and Commissions, including the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (comprised of 9 mosquito control districts), including but not limited to implementation of all HR related policies and programs of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

- Position Management-including classification and posting requirements through hiring
- Coordinate training opportunities for employees through HRD's PACE system
- Family Medical Leave Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Diversity Initiatives and Equal Employment Opportunity
- Unemployment
- Worker's Compensation
- Labor relations
- Workforce planning

All employment opportunities for the Department of Agricultural Resources and the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Projects are posted on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Commonwealth Employment Opportunities (CEO) website at www.mass.gov/hrd.

SNAPSHOT OF MDAR EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS AS OF 2010:

SUMMARY TOTAL WORKFORCE: 77														
	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	HISPANIC	%	ASIAN	%	NATIVE AMERICAN	%	UN-KNOWN	%	TOTAL	%
MALE:	37	48.05	2	2.60	0	0.00	1	1.30	0	0.00	0	0.00	40	51.95
FEMALE:	30	38.96	4	5.19	1	1.30	1	1.30	0	0.00	1	1.30	37	48.05
MINORITIES:	--	--	6	7.79	1	1.30	2	2.60	0	0.00	--	--	9	11.69

LEGAL SERVICES

GENERAL COUNSEL

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The Department's General Counsel and legal staff represent MDAR in various legal matters, review contracts and other legal documents, assist Department staff in interpreting laws relating to agriculture and other topics relevant to Department programs, and handle litigation as assigned by the Attorney General's Office. They also conduct trainings for staff on legal issues and process public records requests. While consisting of a relatively small team of lawyers (four), one paralegal and an economist, the duties and responsibilities are broad and cover many different legal topics.

Some of the team's work throughout 2010 follows:

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION (APR) PROGRAM

Legal Services (LS) collaborated with APR Staff in finalizing the new APR regulations, and assisted in the promulgation process; additionally, LS worked closely with APR Staff in reviewing and revising the forms and procedures governing the processing and approval of APR applications to eliminate redundancy, expedite the process, and achieve a more efficient use of limited staff time. With respect to the over 750 existing APRs, LS assisted the APR Director and his staff on issues relating to baseline review, stewardship, and enforcement, with the goal of dealing with known violations. LS Staff collaborated with the APR Director and his staff to develop forms and procedures so that LS can handle closing all APR land acquisitions once titles have been completed by outside title attorneys.

PUBLIC RECORDS

Public records requests are processed by LS staff, and in 2010 LS complied with over 50 requests. In-house training was conducted on all aspects of the Public Records Law (PRL), including electronic messages,

records retention, social media, records destruction scheduling, "personal information" security, and records management and accessibility. LS also participated in meetings with EEA General Counsels to assure compliance by all Secretariat agencies with the foregoing.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

As required by the New Ethics Law (c. 28, Acts of 2009), LS designated a Liaison to the State Ethics Commission, complied with the distribution of materials mandated by statute, and facilitated the on-line training and record keeping associated therewith. LS Staff conducted "504" training for all agency personnel and mandated contractors and boards. LS established a mandated training tracking database to assure compliance with mandates under the PRL, "504," and Open Meeting Law (OML).

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Legal Services assisted the Director of Animal Health and his staff in establishing and implementing a procedure for appellate review of the Director's orders and decisions through the Division of Administrative Law Appeals (DALA). In 2010, several appeals were tried or settled using the DALA process. Staff assisted the Division Director in enforcing state laws and regulations where livestock had been transported into Massachusetts in violation of state law licensing requirements. Staff generated standardized forms and procedures to obtain administrative search warrants for use by division staff in enforcement situations. Lastly, LS assisted in drafting and promulgating new regulations relating to animal health.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Staff collaborated with the Division of Agricultural Technical Assistance in reviewing and implementing the regulations (DEP) governing agricultural composting, and the preparation of guidelines. LS Staff assisted the Division Director in working with the Farm Technology Review Commission, including training in PRL, OML, and the Conflict of Interest

LEGAL SERVICES cont.

Law (COI). Staff assisted the Division Director in collaborating with DEP to address regulatory issues affecting agriculture.

DIVISION OF CROP & PEST SERVICES

Legal Services collaborated with Division of Crop & Pest Services in drafting and promulgating new pesticide regulations under the Children and Families Protection Act.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff assisted in implementing the tax credit program, collaborating with the Department of Revenue. Staff also provided assistance in revising and strengthening the 2011 Massachusetts Farmers' Market Coupon Program Guidelines and hearing procedures for farmers and farmers' markets.

CONTRACT REVIEW

Staff established a process for the review of state contracts entered into by the Department.

STATE BUILDING CODE

Staff drafted and facilitated revision by Board of Building Regulations and Standards of the state building code as governing "agricultural buildings."

STATE RECLAMATION BOARD (SRB)

Staff continued to assist the SRB in fashioning board policy governing district budgets and budget-making transparency. LS Staff collaborated with the Attorney General in defending a lawsuit brought by Bristol County Mosquito Control Project against the SRB and State Treasurer, and assisted SRB and HRD in classifying state employees employed by the 9 mosquito control districts.

OPEN SPACE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff collaborated with EEA counsel and staff in fashioning a model "open space residential development" by-law.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA)



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Gerard Kennedy has worked at the Department of Agricultural Resources for over ten years in a variety of technical assistance, funding, and program management positions including programs dealing with pesticides and water quality. He is the Commissioner's designee to the Water Resources Commission and chairs the Farm Technology Review Commission. He has been the director of DATA since 2008.

The Division of Agricultural Technical Assistance (DATA) helps to advance the mission of the Department of Agricultural Resources to keep agriculture in Massachusetts economically viable and environmentally sound. Through its technical assistance programs, the Division delivers services to improve agricultural stewardship and use of natural resources; promote energy efficiency and use of renewable energy and ensure economic competitiveness and profitability. These programs are supported by the Division's information management systems and interaction with local, state and federal partners. The staff of 10 Environmental Analysts, Environmental Engineer and Program Coordinators deliver the following services to the agricultural community:

- Agricultural Business Training Programs
- Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP)
- APR Improvement Program
- Aquaculture Program
- Composting Program
- Energy Efficiency, Conservation, and Renewables Program
 - Agricultural Energy Grant Program
 - Massachusetts Farm Energy Program (MFEP)
- Farm Energy Discount Program
- Farm Viability Enhancement Program
- Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP)
- Matching Enterprise Grants for Agriculture Program (MEGA)
- Mobile Poultry Processing Unit

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS TRAINING PROGRAM

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The Agricultural Business Training Program (ABTP) ran a record of 6 courses between January 13 and March 31, 2010:

- Two full business planning courses (“Tilling the Soil of Opportunity”) – one in Amherst and one in Wareham – included a total of 23 farm enterprises and approximately 41 individuals
- Three “Exploring The Small Farm Dream” courses - Amherst, Ashland and Fall River (Bristol Community College) – included a total of 37 enterprise plans and approximately 53 individuals
- One pilot “Planning for Startup” course in Amherst drew 12 businesses and everybody brought a second participant for 24 individuals

ABTP used four experienced Instructors to deliver these courses and 13 guest speakers including 6 alumni farmers.

AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

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The Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP) provides support to agricultural operations to help implement conservation practices intended to prevent or mitigate sources of pollution that may arise from agricultural practices. Since 1999, the program has funded 355 projects statewide that improve water quality, conserve water, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and conserve energy. Growers and Producers have received over \$4 million dollars to help them address environmental concerns on their farms. In FY 2010, 48 projects were funded totaling almost \$675,000. For FY 2011,

another 35 farms are expected to be funded in the amount of \$475,000.

Projects are selected based upon their potential to impact the most sensitive resources including drinking water supplies, wetlands, Department of Environmental Protection priority water bodies, and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. A particular strength of AEEP is its ability to complement federal funding from the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) EQIP program for environmental practices on farms, thus enabling the completion of, for example, a costly manure management structure that otherwise the farmer could not have afforded to complete.

In addition, many operations choose to purchase the materials for their projects from local suppliers, as well as using local labor sources in the completion of their construction projects. By doing so, AEEP is contributing indirectly back to the local economy by acting as a revenue source in the purchase of local materials, and in job creation, as numerous sources of labor are required to complete these projects.

Examples of funded projects include the installation of manure management systems, pesticide storage facilities, fencing to keep livestock out of wetlands, energy efficient pumps, trickle irrigation, automated irrigation, and water control structures.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP)

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In 2010 there was an open application period for the second round of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Improvement Program. This program, enabled by the 2008 Dairy Farm Revitalization Act, provides farm viability assistance to farms with land that has been protected by an APR. The Dairy Farm Revitalization Task Force identified

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

RED FIRE FARM, GRANBY, MA – 24 KW PV SYSTEM

Red Fire Farm in Granby, MA is the largest Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) operation in the northeast with over 1,300 members. Red Fire has practiced organic methods since 2001, growing a wide variety of vegetables and berries. Ryan & Sarah Voiland are the owner/operators of the farm.



Red Fire Farm (also an APR farm) applied to the AgEnergy Program to install an approximate 24 kW capacity, free standing structure, PV system. The project was awarded a \$30,000 AgEnergy Grant in the FY10 program. The system features 110 PV panels mounted on a new, south-facing free

standing structure, the under space to be used for farm equipment and materials storage. With over 30,000 kWh/year projected to be generated by the system, the new PV system will provide a significant portion of Red Fire's annual energy needs, the predominant being refrigeration. The system was funded through a combination of MDAR, Mass CEC and USDA REAP grant and incentive programs.



the need to provide these valuable services and grants to APR farms that, prior to 2009, were not eligible to apply to the Department's Farm Viability Enhancement Program.

The purpose of the APR Improvement Program (AIP) is to help sustain active commercial farming on land protected by the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program. AIP provides technical assistance and business planning to improve farm productivity with the goal of enhancing the significance of APR farm operations and their contribution to the state's agricultural industry. The program assists with issues of economic viability, environmental sustainability,

resource conservation, ownership control, modernization of infrastructure and other issues that may enhance the long term continued use of the agricultural resource. AIP offers participant farms technical and business planning assistance that is similar to services provided by the Department's Farm Viability Enhancement Program. However, the land protection component of FVEP is omitted, as APR farmland is already restricted to agricultural uses only.

In FY 2009, \$675,000 was spent on grants to 10 pilot round farms. An additional \$71,000 was spent on technical assistance consultations and business

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

DOUBLE J FARM, WEST BROOKFIELD, MA

In 2010, the Department contributed \$12,730 towards the completion of a fencing project for a dairy farm transitioning to a grass fed beef operation. In transitioning to a grass fed beef operation, fields that were previously used for crops are now planted with grass for the herd to graze on. This created a need for fencing both to contain the animals, as well as to prevent the animals from entering brooks within the property. Fencing the animals out of these brooks prevent nutrients and bacteria from entering the watershed, as well as preventing erosion. By providing funding for this project, AEEP assisted in helping sustain the farmer in his transition into a new business venture while protecting the water quality created from this transition.



planning. In FY 2010, 19 farms applied to the second round of AIP and 12 farms were selected to participate in the program. Technical consultant teams have been formed and the business planning process is underway for each farm. Grant awards will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 per farm. The next open application period for AIP is expected to be announced in early April 2011.

AQUACULTURE PROGRAM

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The Aquaculture Program is committed to promoting the responsible culture of aquatic organisms. With 300 shellfish farms and over a dozen finfish farms, annually (producing \$18 million worth of oysters, clams, scallops, barramundi, trout, and tilapia), the state's aquaculture industry produces some of the finest farm raised seafood in the country.

As a unique realm of the agricultural world, the aquaculture industry is often required to overcome its own special set of hurdles. From regulatory advocacy to marketing assistance, the Aquaculture Program's mission is to support environmentally sustainable, economically efficient production of aquatic and marine organisms. During 2010, a total of 17 aquaculture farms were assisted with issues ranging from obtaining permits to grow shellfish, to building new wholesale facilities, to selling shellfish at farmers' markets, to integration of farm raised shellfish into the Commonwealth Quality Program, and many issues in between.

Massachusetts was the host state for the 2010 Northeast Aquaculture Conference and Exposition (NACE), a biennial event which brings together experts in the field of aquaculture for a three day event. This year's NACE event was held in Plymouth, MA, and hosted 230 attendees and 28 vendors. MDAR's Aquaculture Specialist was a member of the NACE Planning Committee and provided coordinating assistance to facilitate this conference.

The Aquaculture Program looks forward to assisting the Massachusetts aquaculture industry during 2011, and strives to help the industry become increasingly efficient and environmentally sustainable.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

HORNSTRA FARMS, NORWELL, MA

Hornstra Farms was an AIP pilot round participant that received assistance and funding from AIP to re-establish a dairy farm on APR land in Norwell. The existing dairy barn was renovated and expanded; the manure management system was updated; and two new silos were constructed. Milk produced on the farm will be provided to more than 3,200 customers from the operator's existing dairy home delivery business. Phase II plans include establishing an on-farm processing plant for dairy products including ice cream and an educational center, with 8 full-time employees. With AIP assistance, Hornstra Farms has put valuable APR land back into active production, providing a local source of fresh milk and helping to educate the public about the benefits of a working dairy farm.



COMPOSTING PROGRAM

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Agricultural composting is defined in 310 CMR 16.05(4) (c). A composting operation for agricultural wastes when located on a farm engaged in "agriculture" or "farming" as defined in M.G.L. c. 128,1A. Such composting operation may, in addition to agricultural wastes, utilize the following compostable materials, provided the operation is registered and complies with policies of the Department of Agricultural Resources.

- Leaf and yard waste
- Wood wastes
- Paper and cardboard
- Clean compostable (i.e. thin) shells
- Non agricultural sources of manures and animal bedding materials

- Less than 20 cubic yards or less than 10 tons per day of vegetative material; and
- Less than 10 cubic yards or less than 5 tons per day of food material.

In 2010 the Department had 84 Registered Agricultural Compost Sites. The program is responsible for registering new agricultural compost sites as well as renewing existing sites annually. During the course of the year the program coordinator works with personnel from federal, municipal and other state agencies to address concerns that arise in regard to the operation of sites registered by the Department.

A two day Agricultural Composting Workshop was coordinated from November 3 – 4, 2010 at the New England Small Farm Institute (NESFI) in Belchertown. Many of the farmers attending the workshop were veteran composters, eager to learn more in order to refine their operations. Some of the farmers were beginning or aspiring composters, seeking to learn the basics of compost production, site management, compost end-use and marketing. All were united

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

in their desire to transform materials that would otherwise be considered waste products into “black gold.”

In addition to lectures and classroom discussion, the participants took part in field demonstrations and laboratory exercises. They learned how to take temperature readings and measure bulk density and moisture content of composting materials. At the end of the workshop, each participant went home with a compost maturity test kit to use on their own compost back at the farm, and they were asked to take an on-line quiz so that workshop planners could gauge the effectiveness of the program.

This Agricultural Composting workshop will be the first in a continuing series of workshops geared toward composting in the agricultural community.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY, CONSERVATION, AND RENEWABLES PROGRAM

AGRICULTURAL ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM

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MDAR’s Agricultural Energy Grant Program (AgEnergy) is an annual competitive funding program with a goal to fund agricultural energy projects in an effort to improve energy efficiency and to facilitate adoption of alternative clean energy technologies by Massachusetts farms. The Agricultural Energy Grant Program is now in its 4th year. Reimbursement grants of \$30,000 - \$50,000 have been awarded in the past but program requirements are revised on an annual basis, including technology priorities. Farms with less access to federal, state, and electric and natural gas energy efficiency incentive rebate and grant programs are encouraged to apply.



For AgEnergy FY11, 56 proposals were received in response to MDAR’s Ag Energy RFR, with requests totaling close to \$1,200,000, both new highs for the program. Available program funds for FY11 were approximately \$475,000 with program criteria limiting individual proposals to a maximum of \$30,000. Program criteria prioritized once again selective energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, including those relevant to the dairy, maple syrup and nursery sectors. Ultimately, and with thanks to the many farms who worked together with MDAR toward this effort, 42 proposals were able to be selected and awarded funds for project implementation. Of these, 19 were energy efficiency and 23 were renewable energy projects. Predominant among energy efficiency projects were: dairy parlor equipment upgrades, including plate coolers,

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

refrigeration heat recovery and variable speed driven vacuum pumps; maple syrup processing equipment upgrades including reverse osmosis (RO) machinery and evaporator heat recovery; and nurseries including thermal blankets and higher efficiency and biomass boilers. Photovoltaics (PV) dominated the renewable energy projects, with installation capacities ranging from 5 kW up to 30+ kW.

MASSACHUSETTS FARM ENERGY PROGRAM (MFEP)

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The MFEP, a collaborative effort between program administrator Berkshire Pioneer Resource Conservation Development (BPRCD), USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and MDAR, was created as a pilot in 2008 to establish a statewide farm energy program. Initial program funding originated from two grants: MDAR with \$250,000 and USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) with \$150,000 plus \$100,000 of in kind staffing support from MDAR and NRCS. Current funding for the MFEP is a grant extension from MDAR. MFEP has provided a full service technical assistance program since inception, helping agricultural producers leverage an average of 63% of total project costs. Fifty projects have been installed with average annual energy savings of \$9,468 per project, helping to improve the viability of dairy, greenhouse, cranberry, maple, fruit, horticultural, vegetable, livestock, sod, aquaculture, equine, and wood businesses across the state.

MFEP can be considered a clearinghouse for farm energy assistance while also providing energy

audits and renewable energy assessments, financial incentives for implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy recommendations, leveraging other funding programs, and developing best management practices for farm energy systems. The MFEP program mission is to increase on farm energy conservation and efficiency, promote renewable energy strategies for on-farm energy generation, reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, and improve farm viability.

In 2010, MFEP served 150 Massachusetts farms with technical and financial assistance, and partnered with federal and state agencies, public utilities, and non-profits to benefit farm energy projects throughout the state. Installed projects resulted in annual savings of over 963,000 kWh electric; 20,600 gallons of fuel oil; 10,400 therms of natural gas; 130,600 gallons of propane; and 19 cords wood, reducing agricultural emissions by over 3,200 tons of CO₂.

MFEP leveraged and committed MFEP incentives of \$1.8 million dollars. These farm energy projects created 17 jobs, helped retain 25 farm businesses, and resulted in annual energy savings of over \$373,000 – money that can be reinvested into the farming operation and local economy.

MFEP also hosted 5 community events and assisted 16 farmers with Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant applications as well as support for MDAR's AgEnergy Grant. In addition, MFEP coordinated the development of a Farm Energy Best Management Practice Guide for dairy, greenhouse/nursery, vegetable, orchard, and maple operations. These guides will be made available by farm sector to farmers and conservation planners.

Berkshire-Pioneer RC&D, MFEP program administrator, was the host of the New England Resource Conservation & Development Conference held at the UMASS Conference Center in late October. The MFEP was featured and MFEP staff conducted a bus tour of farm energy projects for over 100 RC&D members and USDA staff across New England.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.



Vacuum Pump with Variable Speed Drive



Milk Plate Cooler

MAYVAL'S DAIRY FARM, WESTHAMPTON, MA

Mayval Farm in Westhampton, the last operating dairy farm in a town with a history rich in farming tradition that goes back to 1778, offers a diversified array of agricultural products. Back in 2009, the owners decided to take a closer look at the farm's present-day energy situation.

They started with a call to the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program – a technical and financial assistance program collaboratively operated by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Berkshire-Pioneer Resources Conservation Development and MDAR. The initial contact led to a review of the farming operation and ultimately a no-cost energy audit performed by the farm's electrical utility, Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) of Pittsfield. This audit, in turn, identified three primary energy efficient improvement opportunities: replace the 30-year-old constant speed vacuum pump set with a new variable speed drive operation; replace and increase in size the milk plate cooler; and replace an old, inoperative refrigerant heat recovery system with a new "free" heater unit.

Mayval Farm is one of the many family dairy farms in our state and across the country trying to continue its family heritage by becoming more viable through energy efficiency. The new "greener" milk coming from Mayval Farm is projected to need 35-40% less energy to produce than before. Technical and financial assistance from all the organizations and agencies cited here worked together with Mayval Farm to make this another great collaborative, agricultural energy team effort! Congratulations to Mayval Farm and may their long-standing family farm operation continue onward for many more generations to come!

FARM ENERGY DISCOUNT PROGRAM

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agriculture or farming for an ultimate commercial purpose will, upon written application, be eligible for a ten percent discount on natural gas and electric rates.

MDAR is the state agency responsible for determining and certifying eligibility for the Farm Energy Discount Program ("Farm Discount"). Persons or corporations determined to be principally and substantially engaged in the business of production

In 2010, over 1,300 farms were enrolled. With a conservative estimate of \$5,000/yr average for electric/natural gas expenditures, 10% savings = \$650,000 for 2010 alone.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

FARM VIABILITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

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During Fiscal Year 2010, the Farm Viability Enhancement Program provided technical assistance to 23 farms with 22 completing business plans.

Twenty two farms received funding for modernization, capital improvements and to improve production and marketing efforts. These farms were placed under Agricultural Covenants protecting 1,886 acres. The Program impacted an additional 3,243 acres of leased land and protected land under participants' management. FY 2010 spending was \$1,000,000 in direct grants to farms and just over \$160,000 was spent on technical assistance costs to consultants and business plan writers. Twenty one farms invested additional capital of \$1,342,595 for an average participant investment of \$61,027 per farm.

Since the Farm Viability Program was initiated in 1996, some 344 farms have been protected by five or ten year covenants ensuring that 32,504 acres contribute to our agricultural industry. In total these farms received grant awards of \$13,871,772 or a cost to protect farm land for about \$427 per acre. Most impressive is the fact that over 99% of participating farms remain in active agriculture today. And 73% of farmers in the Program invest additional capital beyond the grant amount to implement business improvement strategies. The average additional investment is \$31,791 per farm.

In FY 2011, the FVEP received 46 applications. Outreach meetings to provide information on the Program were held in Greenfield and Dighton during the open application period.

Of the 46 applications, 19 had been selected for participation and by year's end had received a program orientation, met with their team leaders, and begun the technical assistance and business planning phase. Applications are accepted from April through June each year.



SPRINGDELL FARM, LITTLETON, MA

FVEP helped to construct 4 new roadside stands and assist with 4 farm market expansion projects in 2010. Springdell Farm in Littleton, expanded their farm stand by three times its original size and improved and increased their parking area to accommodate customers for their stand and the produce and meat CSAs at the farm.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MEFAP)

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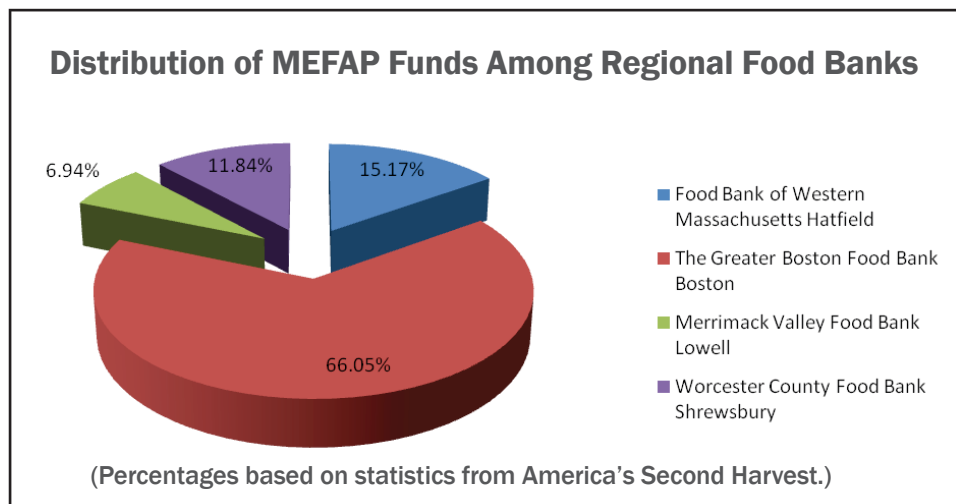
The Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP) enables the 4 regional food banks in Massachusetts - The Greater Boston Food Bank, The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, the Worcester County Food Bank and the Merrimack Valley Food Bank - to purchase food from manufacturers, distributors and farmers. All the food is then distributed to a network of over 800 food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. Through the program, a consistent supply of quality, nutrient-dense foods, including some locally grown fresh produce, has been provided to citizens in need in the Commonwealth. The Greater Boston Food Bank administers the program for all 4 food banks. Funding is provided from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources through a line item in the annual budget.

Due to a reduction of federal funding, the State Legislature established the MEFAP in 1994. Initial funding in 1995 was just under one million dollars for food purchases. Support had steadily increased to a high of \$12 million in Fiscal Year 2009. For fiscal year 2010, the MEFAP budget was \$11.5 million. The Massachusetts Department of Education serves as the state agency to provide additional operating funds to support the distribution of emergency food.

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

oversees the purchase of food and in fitting with the Department’s mission; it encourages spending on local foods like farm fresh produce, and locally produced and processed foods. The “Massachusetts Grown Initiative” earmarks a portion of the budget each year for the purchase of products from Massachusetts farmers, giving our local growers and producers another market and helping our hungry neighbors by providing nutritious, fresh produce. For 2010, \$575,000 worth of fruit, vegetables, eggs and dairy products were purchased from Massachusetts farmers and distributed through MEFAP. Among the most popular of these fresh high quality items were milk, apples, sweet corn, potatoes, onions, peppers, squash, and collard greens.

The Massachusetts Regional Food Bank system includes The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, The Greater Boston Food Bank, Merrimack Valley Food Bank, and Worcester County Food Bank. Each is a private, nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation that provides surplus, salvaged, and other donated foods. Service area population and poverty statistics developed by the U.S. Census Bureau were used to determine the allocation of MEFAP funds to the four food banks. The distribution formula for 2010 MEFAP funds is detailed below.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (DATA) cont.

MATCHING ENTERPRISE GRANTS FOR AGRICULTURE PROGRAM (MEGA)

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The Department introduced Matching Enterprise Grants for Agriculture in 2010 under the Farm Viability Program umbrella. This pilot program aims to provide assistance to new and beginning farm enterprises (one to five years in operation) that aspire to have commercially viable farm businesses. By targeting this group of farmers, the Department has recognized the importance of beginning farmers to the Commonwealth's agricultural industry, and is filling a gap in services. The growth of new farms has been evidenced by the strong response to the Department's beginning farmer agricultural business training programs, as well as the 2007 USDA Agricultural Census. However, farmers with less than five years experience are not eligible for other Farm Viability programs.

The purpose of MEGA is to provide business planning and technical assistance along with a modest infusion of capital to new farmers who have the potential to expand productivity and/or commercial significance. MEGA participants can receive grants up to \$10,000 that they must match in cash on a one-to-one basis. Because many new farmers lease, rather than own farmland, there is no land protection component to MEGA, but there is the matching funds requirement. Grant and matching funds must be spent on equipment or infrastructure improvements that will have a demonstrable positive impact on future economic viability of the farm enterprise.

A total of 29 farms applied to the new program in 2010, and 10 were selected to participate in the pilot round. The 10 farms were from across the state, and ranged from being in the first year of operation to the fifth. They represented the diversity of farm enterprises from vegetables and small fruits to meat, from fiber to value-added products. They

also represented a diversity of marketing strategies including farm stand, farmers' market, CSAs, restaurant sales, and wholesale to supermarkets. Business planning and technical assistance to these farms is currently underway. It is anticipated that grants will be disbursed in early 2011. While it is still early in the program, much has already been learned from the pilot that will help improve the process for the next round. The announcement for the next open application period should be made by April 2011.

MOBILE POULTRY PROCESSING UNIT

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As a local food economy is created at the grass roots level through farmers' markets, farm stands, community supported agriculture (CSAs) and other methods, the need for local meat processing is growing.

Many of the newly developed processing and sales methods do not fit into the categories which our existing statutes and regulations govern.

Under a pilot program a mobile poultry processing unit (MPPU), has been developed to travel from farm to farm where birds will be slaughtered for meat. 2010 saw the joint pilot MPPU project supported by MDAR, the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection enter its third year. The MPPU pilot has been a resource demanding project, but the project has ensured that all aspects of the process are thoroughly studied and the extensive effort invested will allow for an efficient process for oversight and streamlined regulatory structure for producers in the future.

For 2011, regulatory changes are expected to be made to DPH regulations and policy regarding the operation of processing units for poultry on farms.

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS)



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Lee Corte-Real has been with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources for 25 years, first as the environmental chemist and water quality specialist and subsequently for 8 years as the Pesticide Operations Coordinator. In that capacity, Lee supervised the pesticide licensing and certification program, and also the pesticide product registration program. Lee is currently the Director of the Division of Crop & Pest Services which includes the Pesticide Programs, Plant Industries, and Farm Products. Previously Lee worked for the University of Massachusetts / Cooperative Extension Service doing pesticide residue analysis and research.

Twenty agency staff including program coordinators, inspectors, and scientists with expertise ranging from chemistry to entomology and plant physiology are divided into program areas as follows:

FARM PRODUCTS AND PLANTS INDUSTRY

The Farm Products and Plant Industries (FPPI) Program staff continues to support multiple programs through their cross utilization capabilities. This effort has resulted in inspectional staff members providing coverage for programs outside of their primary area of responsibility which results in more effective program administration. Staff have provided coverage to the nursery inspection, Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS), feed, and fertilizer programs based upon the seasonal or workload needs.

The FPPI Program had a very active year, especially in the areas inspections and the registration of feed and fertilizer products. Demand for inspection of farm products, nurseries, greenhouses and apiaries continues to be very high. These quality-control programs have proven to be extremely popular and helpful with growers, farmers, shippers, sellers, buyers and consumers as demand for high quality products continues to increase.

The FPPI Program administers a number of diversified quality-control programs on farm products and nursery stock. The Program enforces the Truth-in-Labeling Laws on fruit, vegetables, commercial feed, pet food, fertilizer, lime and seeds. The Program has also expanded into the certification of farms and production facilities under the USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) requirements, which is turning into a significant new programmatic area.

The FPPI Program collects more than \$1,440,000 annually through the feed and fertilizer product registrations, nursery certification and vegetable inspection fees.

FEED PROGRAM

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In FY '10 the feed program reviewed and registered 10,091 products with receipts of registered products totaling \$1,009,100. There were 227 feed products were sampled for crude protein, crude fat and crude fiber under the Truth in Labeling law. In addition, 6 dog and chicken products were sampled for constituents due

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

to pet illness and death. Products were sampled for aflatoxin and mycotoxins. In all cases, the feed was not found to be the cause of illness or death. The program issued 139 letters to feed companies, 25 for label violations, the rest for unregistered products. Four companies were denied product registrations due to unapproved ingredients.

FERTILIZER PROGRAM

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There are over 3,200 labels of fertilizer and lime products that were reviewed and registered for the year. A total of 377 samples of fertilizer products being offered for sale in Massachusetts were taken and tested for Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potash. Assessment penalties in shortage of guaranteed levels were charged on 58 products that were deficient totaling \$4,954 in fines that were collected and turned back to the farmers or submitted to the state's treasury. Tonnage tax is assessed and collected on a semi-annual basis. The total revenues for the Fertilizer program were in excess of \$402,500 for 2010.

BRANDING LAW

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Inspections were made at hundreds of retail stores for conformance of the Branding Laws on potatoes and apples. There were 60 site visits conducted and misbranded products were relabeled or removed from sale by issuing a "Stop Sale Order." Stop Sale Orders were issued on 5 apple/potato lots that did not meet grade requirements expectations. These lots were removed from the store shelves and shipped back to the packer.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INSPECTION

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Demand for our inspection services continues to be primarily for exporting apples, with the majority of those being shipped to the United Kingdom, Canada and El Salvador. The Export Apple Inspection Program is of importance, primarily because of the demand for controlled atmosphere (CA) stored apples, including the valuable McIntosh variety. In total, over 27,484 cartons of apples were certified as complying with the US Export Apple and Pear Act. There were receipts in excess of \$810 collected for apple export inspections. The Fruit and Vegetable Inspection & Verification Program revenue for all 2010 fruit and vegetable inspections were in excess of \$5,300.

COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL PEST SURVEY (CAPS)

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In cooperation with the USDA/CAPS (Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey) program there was a survey performed by inspectors at 63 nurseries. The 2010 CAPS pests included:

- Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)
- Daylily Rust (*Puccinia horiana*)
- Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)
- Japanese cedar longhorned beetle (*Callidiellum rufipenne*)
- Mile-A-Minute Weed (*Polygonum perfoliatum*)
- Perennial Pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Viburnum Leaf Beetle (*Pyrrhalta viburni*)

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

Mile a minute and Viburnum Leaf Beetles were found in the 2010 CAPS inspections. The following CAPS surveys were also done in 2010:

- Plum Pox Virus survey was conducted at 13 orchards, with 804 samples submitted for identification with all negative
- Sudden Oak Death – Ramorum Blight (*Phytophthora ramorum*) at 15 nurseries; 147 samples submitted and all negative
- Exotic Moth Pest Survey at 20 nurseries, with 3 traps per location (3 species: light brown apple moth, European grapevine moth, variegated golden tortrix moth), no target moths found

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

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As the result of the detection of the Asian longhorned beetle in 2008 the Program conducted survey and outreach projects to provide information about this serious pest to the citizens of Massachusetts and other states. There were 84 events held during

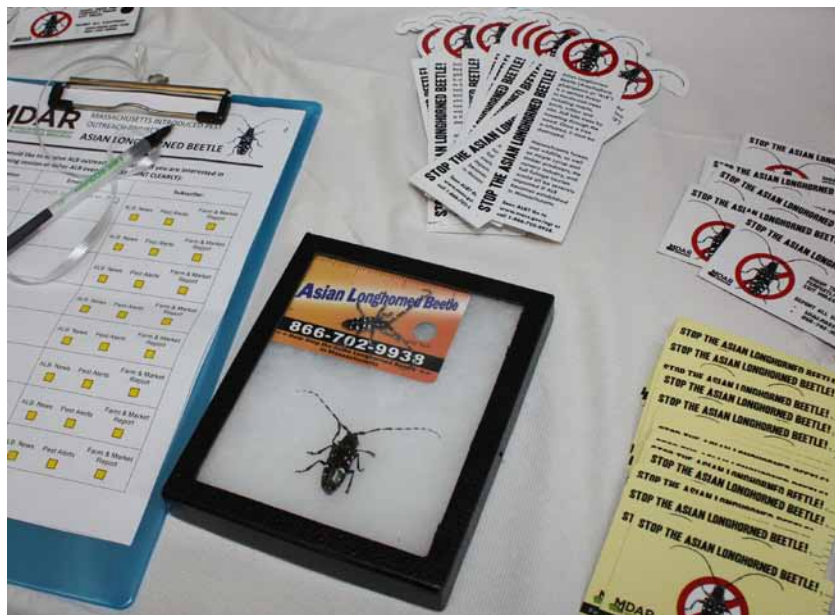
2010 in which more than 536 volunteers were trained. The program was present at events where over 160,000 people attended and where more than 117,000 pieces of outreach material were distributed, some of which were developed in-house. The program collaborated with more than 28 different organizations (including the green industry, federal, state and local governments, environmental groups, and neighborhood associations). These partners were integral in assisting in the planning of the project, helping to distribute outreach, and in many cases coordinated their own outreach events. This does not even include the dozens of teachers, students, landscapers, conservation commissions, nursery owners, and other concerned individuals who requested outreach to distribute.

NURSERY INSPECTION PROGRAM

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The Nursery Inspection Program inspects and certifies nurseries and greenhouses annually. Inspectors of FPPI conduct annual inspections of all certified nurseries in the Commonwealth to ensure that

they are free of insects and diseases. All known growers and agents are required to be licensed annually. A grower's certificate is required to sell, exchange, give, deliver or ship within the Commonwealth any tree, shrub or plant commonly known as nursery stock. An agent's license is issued to those who buy and sell nursery stock from certified nurseries throughout the country. There were 205 nursery inspections in 2010. The top pests/pathogens identified during inspection were: powdery mildew, cedar apple rust, leaf spot, and slugs.



DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

PHYTOSANITARY INSPECTIONS

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Growers in the Commonwealth who export plant material and/or seed require inspections prior to shipping. The State and Federal Phytosanitary Certificates are issued by the staff for shipment of plant and plant materials to other states and foreign countries certifying the shipment as being free from insects and disease.

In cooperation with the USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine, the Department conducts phytosanitary inspections and issues federal and state certificates. Staff inspected and issued 840 Federal Phytosanitary Certificates for Calendar year 2010. The Phytosanitary Certificates were issued for exports destined for 51 different countries including (in order of largest importer) Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the Netherlands.

Staff certified 837 shipments of plant materials for interstate commerce including: lumber (both kiln dried and green), logs, tobacco, bulbs, fruit, seeds and other plant materials. The Program also inspects houseplants that are being moved to other states.

APIARY INSPECTIONS

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Apiary inspections are made annually for monitoring of disease and insect pests throughout the state on thousands of bee hives. This inspection program aids in the safe transportation of bee hives from one state to another. There were 2 seasonal apiary inspectors hired to assist the state Apiary Inspector to survey for honeybee colonies for brood diseases and parasitic mites in the following counties: Middlesex, Norfolk, Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, and

Franklin Counties. Spot inspections as requested by beekeepers were conducted in Plymouth, Bristol, Berkshire Counties during FY10.

Apiary inspections began in mid-April and ended on October 1, 2010, and included the inspection of over 900 migratory colonies, representing five commercial beekeepers for American Foulbrood (AFB), varroa mite populations, and hive strength. Cranberry growers requested additional inspections for colony strength to ensure that sufficient populations for pollination were present. Many of these colonies had been rented for pollination on almonds in California, high bush blueberries in New Jersey, apples in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, low bush blueberries in Maine, and finally cranberries in Massachusetts. For every rental, colonies are often moved two to three times; the results are population dwindling due to drifting and due to a lack of a queen.

Migratory colony strength for the 2010 cranberry pollination season was good and AFB was not detected in any of the over 900 hives inspected. Samples were obtained during migratory hive inspection for alcohol washing to count varroa mite populations and to assess *Nosema* spp. (*apis* and *ceranae*) spore levels.

During the annual inspection in Worcester County, 845 apiary sites representing 2,226 colonies were inspected. There were 14 detections of American Foulbrood (AFB) which resulted in these colonies being killed. The equipment was saved for the Mass Bee Radiation program that runs in March. There were 16 cases of European Foulbrood which all were treated with success. There were also 29 cases of chalkbrood at levels higher than just a few cells. Also found were 12 cases of sacbrood and 12 cases of hive beetle. The varroa mite levels were low at the beginning of the season but reached heavy levels by August continuing into September.

The Apiary program also spent 7 days surveying and inspecting bee colonies in Bristol and Plymouth

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

Counties before and after the August 10th aerial mosquito spraying program to evaluate the effects from the spray and determined that there were no observed impacts. The program also inspected nuclear hives coming from Rhode Island for disease.

A portion of the inspection season was taken up supporting bee colonies for a three year experiment being conducted by the USDA Agricultural Research Service in collaboration with USDA APHIS and MDAR, and is being conducted as part of the Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program. This is a significant effort on behalf of the Department since we will be managing and monitoring these colonies to see if the tree injection of imidicloprid in Worcester, Holden, West Boylston, Boylston and Shrewsbury will have any effect on bee colonies within the application area. The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources along with the USDA is doing this as a service to all beekeepers. Samples of bees, pollen, wax and nectar were collected from these colonies to see if there are any residues or potential impacts in bee populations from the tree injections. There were also hives established in Framingham to act as controls for the imidicloprid applications to eradicate ALB in Worcester County.

STORAGE LAWS

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Records are kept on cold storage and Controlled Atmosphere apple rooms to assure compliance with storage laws. This allows Massachusetts apples to be shipped into distant markets year round especially where states have restrictions.

GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP)

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There has been an increased focus on good

agricultural practices (GAP) to verify that farms are producing fruits and vegetables in the safest manner possible. Third party audits are being utilized by the retail and food service industry to verify their suppliers are in conformance to specific agricultural best practices. The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service in partnership with the Department of Agricultural Resources offers a voluntary audit based program that verifies adherence to the recommendations made by the Food and Drug Administration. There were 11 companies that applied for USDA GAP and GHP audits which resulted in 20 site visits, with 10 farms and/or packing facilities that passed. The program collected a total of \$2,646 in fees.

PESTICIDE PROGRAMS

The Massachusetts Department Agricultural Resources is the state lead agency for pesticide regulation in the Commonwealth under the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as well as the Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act. The Pesticide Program carries out the day-to-day responsibilities of regulating pesticides in the Commonwealth and include the licensing of pesticide applicators, the registration of pesticide products and the enforcement of the statute and regulations. In addition the Pesticide Program carries out other pesticide related activities in support of the regulatory mandate such as education and outreach and water monitoring. The Pesticide Program also acts as support staff for the Pesticide Board and Pesticide Board Subcommittee.

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR AND LICENSING PROGRAM

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The Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act requires all persons who apply pesticides in public and private places used for human occupation and habitation, with the exception of residential properties with three or less dwelling units, to be in possession of a valid

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

license or certification issued by the Department of Agricultural Resources.

There are 4 types of pesticide licenses in Massachusetts: Commercial Applicator License, Commercial Certification License, Private Certification License and Dealer license. These different types of certification and license documents permit individuals to legally use pesticides including, but not limited to, purchasing, selling, applying, mixing, loading, storing, disposing, and transporting.

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING EXAMS

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Pesticide examinations are offered to individuals seeking pesticide licensure throughout the year with the majority of exams being offered in the February through April period prior to the use season with at minimum of one exam each month. In 2010 there were 26 pesticide exams offered for the four licensure types with all exam types being offered at each date.

There were a total of 1,910 individuals who registered for an exam in 2010 of which 1,714 took the exam and 196 which were no-shows. There were 1,108 individuals out of the 1,714 who took exams that passed which represents a 64.6% pass rate. The pesticide exam receipts were \$150,625 that went to the General Fund.

NEW AND RENEWAL PESTICIDE LICENSES

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Once individuals have passed the appropriate exam and have demonstrated they have acquired the necessary knowledge to handle pesticides in a safe manner, they are sent an application to obtain the pesticide license.



DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

Once an individual becomes licensed, the document must be renewed on an annual basis pursuant to state pesticide law and regulations.

There were 999 new licenses issued and over 7,200 renewal licenses issued in 2010. The issuance of new and renewed pesticide certification and licenses generated total receipts of \$927,495 for 2010 for a total of \$1,078,120 for the licensing and certification program.

All commercial and private certifications and licenses, with the exception of Dealer Licenses, expire on December 31st of each year. The Dealer License expires on the last day of February of each year. As a result, individuals eligible to renew for the next year automatically receive a renewal application. These renewal applications are mailed out in October and each applicator must renew their certification and/or license by January 1st. Applications submitted after the expiration of the current license but before June 30th must pay a late fee equal to the exam to renew their license. Applicators that do not submit renewals prior to June 30 will be required to retake and pass state examination(s) to be eligible for a certification or license for the new year.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDITS

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Every three years, license holders must attend continuing education programs and obtain contact hours to maintain as well as enhance their pesticide application knowledge. Applicators who did not meet the required number of educational hours were obligated to re-take the state examination to be re-certified or re-licensed.

During FY10 there was a random audit of pesticide applicators. A total of 454 applicators were audited to verify that they had met the required number of contact hours by the end of a three year training period. There were 353 audits approved which represents nearly a 77% compliance rate. The remaining individuals either did not return their audit or did not satisfy the educational hours required, thus they were required to re-take pesticide exams.

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CONTINUING EDUCATION (PACE)

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As in past years, CPS staff continues to lecture to the pesticide-user community regarding laws and regulations. These lectures have been sponsored by the UMASS Cooperative Extension and various industry associations and companies. During the federal FY '10 the Department approved 273 programs continuing education programs to support the recertification requirements for all applicators.

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

ENFORCEMENT

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The Enforcement program is charged with enforcing the provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act (MGL 132B) and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The enforcement program conducts routine inspections of pesticide users' establishments and the producers from which they acquire the products. Enforcement also investigates complaints regarding the misuse of pesticides in addition to providing education and outreach about Department pesticide programs.

There were a total of 391 inspections completed in 2010, which was nearly double the projection of 213 in the agreement with the EPA and included agricultural and non-agricultural use observations, records and marketplace inspections, and dealer inspections. There were also 15 Restricted Use Dealer inspections, and 50 certified applicator record inspections. There were 57 non-agricultural for cause inspections that were conducted which consist of consumer complaints and licensing violations. In addition, there 27 non-agricultural use inspections conducted in 2010.

RIGHTS-OF-WAY (ROW) MANAGEMENT

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The Rights-of-Way program is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of ROW regulations. The ROW program continued to experience significant challenges due to public opposition related to proposed vegetation maintenance activities by NSTAR on Cape Cod.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

Vegetation Management Plans (VMPs) are an



overview of an entire Rights-of-Way System. They describe potential methods of herbicide control which include pesticides, mechanical and biological methods including any Integrated Pest Management or IPM techniques. Plans must be renewed on a 5 year cycle and must be presented at public hearings in areas affected by ROW practices. Three plans (2 municipality & 1 railroad) were reviewed, brought to public hearing and approved.

YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLANS (YOP)

There were a total of 37 YOPs submitted for 2010 consisting of: 16 for Municipalities, 1 pipeline, 5 power companies, 13 Railroads, and 2 Highway.

COMPLIANCE MONITORING

There were 14 enforcement use observations conducted by Pesticide Enforcement consisting of 3 railroad, 2 highway, 8 powerline and 1 municipality. There was one Letter of Warning (LOWs) issued for Rights-of Way activities.

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

GROUND WATER PROGRAM

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REGISTRATION REVIEW

As part of its pesticide registration process, MDAR has an on-going program to assess the potential of pesticides to impact groundwater. Pesticides that are considered to be potential contaminants are restricted. During FY 2010, 4 new active ingredients (NAIs) were registered with the MA Pesticide Board Subcommittee: ipconazole, iron-HDETA, saflufenacil, and cyclanilide. None of the NAIs was classified as “potential groundwater contaminant” as defined in MA groundwater regulations (333 CMR 12.02). Potential ground- and surface water impacts were also considered with the evaluation for specific exemption (Section 18) from registration of (a.i. quinclorac for control of dodder in cranberries), with the evaluation of new aquatic herbicides for use in MA lakes and ponds (a.i. sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate/hydrogen peroxide), and with the evaluation of a new active ingredient for use as a larvicide in mosquito control (a.i. spinosad A/B).

GROUNDWATER OUTREACH

Department staff continued outreach efforts directed at the agricultural community and the general public on the state’s groundwater protection regulations. Staff addressed inquiries related to clarification of the ground water protection regulations and requirements as needed. Information on the groundwater protection program was incorporated into workshops and information sessions participated in by the Department’s staff, including the UMASS Extension Pesticide Education Program workshops during the spring of 2010. The workshops offered sessions on groundwater protection regulations that had not been offered since 2004. The sessions were intended to refresh licensed applicators on the environmental fate aspects of pesticides and groundwater protection regulations. Staff also presented on the leaching potential of pesticides used in cranberry at a pesticide safety workshop for growers organized by the Cranberry Experiment Station in Wareham, March 5th, 2010.

Staff also addressed concerns related to potential impacts to groundwater resources from aquatic herbicide application in Lake Cochituate. Staff prepared testimonial support documents for the legal procedures related to the planned application of an aquatic herbicide (a.i. diquat) in Lake Cochituate in Natick, MA. The legal action was related to concerns for impact from applied herbicide to nearby drinking water wells. Staff prepared documentation describing an environmental fate assessment of the aquatic herbicide in the lake-aquifer system. This assessment was based on the use of groundwater transport models. The assessment indicated that there is no significant migration of the herbicide active ingredient towards the groundwater and the underlying aquifer drinking water resources.

Staff continued to address concerns from citizens in Eastham related to the planned herbicide applications in a power line corridor maintained by the utility company NSTAR and potential impacts to groundwater resources. The citizens concerns and opposition against herbicide applications continues to receive attention in the media. Stakeholders agreed to a one-year moratorium on herbicide applications in rights-of-way on Cape Cod with the intent to allow stakeholders to work on efforts to fine tune the procedures for preparation (e.g., updating maps and records for private wells) and provide outreach to the citizens.

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

GROUNDWATER ENFORCEMENT

MDAR staff continues to include the enforcement of the groundwater regulations as part of their standard inspections. These inspections ensure that pesticide users understand and comply with groundwater regulations, particularly the notification requirement for the use of restricted pesticide within Zone II areas. Notifications are submitted by mail and online. No data are available on compliance rate.

In relation to an annual renewal of a pesticide management plan for the use of atrazine (a pesticide included on the groundwater protection list) in a Zone II area, the local drinking water supply in N. Hatfield was sampled during the summer of 2010. The results showed non-detectable levels of atrazine in the drinking water.

PESTICIDE USE REPORTS

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The Department requires that all licensed applicators submit annual use reports for all pesticide applications. The use report identifies the active ingredients, amounts, and use site and patterns of pesticides used in the Commonwealth. Over 7,000 reports were submitted in 2010.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PROTECTION ACT, SCHOOL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) PLAN

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The IPM-Plan provision of the Children's & Families Protection ACT (CFPA) mandates that every school and daycare program must develop and submit IPM-Plans. The number of non-compliant schools and daycare programs steadily improved in 2010. Currently approximately 96% of schools and 94% of daycare programs have IPM-Plans filed with the Department. Comparatively, in August of 2009 approximately 86% of daycare programs and 92% were listed as having IPM-Plans on file.

In FY'10, 58 CFPA inspections were completed and which resulted in 17 Letters of Warning and 3 fine assessments.

The Pesticide Board adopted new regulations (333 CMR 14.00 et seq.) that placed the requirements of the CFPA into regulatory framework. Previously the provisions of the Act had been implemented through policy statements and administrative procedures.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING ("COOL") INSPECTIONS

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Since 2006, MDAR has been working under a Cooperative agreement with the USDA to perform audits relative to the Country Of Origin Labeling (COOL) requirements of the 2002 and 2008 Farm Bills. COOL requires stores licensed under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA), grocery stores for example, to label

DIVISION OF CROP AND PEST SERVICES (CPS) cont.

covered commodities for country of origin (method of production is also required for seafood) for consumers at retail. Additionally, PACA agents must maintain or have access to records to verify COOL claims for each covered commodity.

In 2010, MDAR was assigned and completed a total of 166 COOL inspections in 102 cities and towns within the Commonwealth. Of this number our inspectors found 93 retail facilities with potential COOL violations and were referred to the USDA for follow-up.

PESTICIDE PRODUCT REGISTRATION

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Any person who has obtained a pesticide product registration from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must then apply for a registration with MDAR. The registrant or an agent acting on behalf of the registrant, is required to submit an "Application for New Pesticide Registration," a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), and a product label. A fee of \$300 dollars is also required for each different EPA registration number.

New products are usually registered on a monthly basis. Every product label is thoroughly reviewed for compliance with state and federal laws and then brought to the Pesticide Board Subcommittee for consideration. A registration is valid from a period beginning with the initial date of approval by the Subcommittee and ending on the next June 30th. Each registration must be renewed annually no later than July 1, and the cost is \$250 per EPA number.

There were 9,815 pesticide products renewed in FY'10 and 1,175 new products registered which represents receipts of \$2,368,568 and \$264,880 for renewed and new registrations, respectively,

Registrations of products with new active ingredients are assessed a fee of \$500. Nine new active ingredients were registered in FY'10.

STATE RESTRICTED USE CLASSIFICATION

Federal General Use pesticide products registered by the Commonwealth may be classified as either general use or reclassified as State Restricted Use based upon its use pattern or the potential to become a groundwater contaminant. In FY'10, 38 products were reclassified as State Restricted Use.

SPECIAL LOCAL NEEDS (SLN) REGISTRATION

When a particular agricultural problem exists that can only be mitigated through the use of a pesticide that is not federally registered for that specific purpose, a Special Local Need registration may be issued by the state under Section 24c of the FIFSA. There were no new SLNs registered in FY'10.

EXPERIMENTAL USE PERMITS (EUP)

State experimental use permits are required to control potential hazards of pesticide experimentation under outdoors, greenhouse, and domestic animal trial conditions. To obtain such a permit, a state application must be filed with the Pesticide Board Subcommittee along with a product label, a copy of the EPO EUP and a fee of \$300 dollars. There were no new EUPs granted in FY'10.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



MARY JORDAN, DIVISION DIRECTOR

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Mary began employment with the Department in 1987 as a marketing intern. Shortly after, she became a Market Specialist with the Department, until assuming the position of Director of Agricultural Development in 1996. She has coordinated the Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP), USDA Specialty Crops Block Grant Program for Massachusetts and the USDA Organic Cost-Share Program. Her current responsibilities include overseeing the Agricultural Fairs, Land Use and Marketing Programs. Mary is the Vice President of the Harvest New England Committee and the past Secretary/Treasurer of the North American Agricultural Marketing Officials (NAAMO). She also serves as Chair of the Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board, as the Commissioner's designee.

The Division of Agricultural Development fosters the sustainability of Massachusetts agriculture through innovative marketing, business, educational, and environmentally sound initiatives implemented through the Agricultural Fairs, Land Use, and Marketing Programs. The Division staff work closely with the Divisions of Animal Health, Crop and Pest Services, and Agricultural Technical Assistance to coordinate improved environmental sustainability and the economic viability of the agricultural resources within the Commonwealth. The Division staff collaborate with the over 50 agricultural and commodity organizations as well as other state agencies within the Secretariat of Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs as well as numerous other agencies across the state on both regional and state wide projects.

The staff within the Division of Agricultural Development is comprised of 12 full time employees, 1 consultant (through a USDA grant), 1 contract employee and 2 seasonal hires.

2010 SPECIALTY CROP GRANT AWARDS

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MDAR has the opportunity through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Specialty Crops Block Grant Program to annually submit proposals for projects that specifically address the goals that the USDA has for solely enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, horticulture (including maple syrup and honey), and nursery crops (including floriculture). Although MDAR makes the initial review and award recommendations to the USDA, the USDA makes the final decision concerning grant awards. Commodity Groups, Buy Local organizations, individual operations and business are all eligible for this grant program, provided their proposals meet all the specifications of MDAR and USDA. In 2010, the Department itself obtained funding of over \$80,000 for the

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

Commonwealth Quality Program and GAP training and certification. In addition, Massachusetts teamed with Vermont's Agency of Agriculture to develop a Hops Production System (MDAR contributed \$30,802 to this project).

2010 SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT AWARDS

ORGANIZATION	DOLLAR AWARD
Harvest New England	\$7,993
Massachusetts Maple Producers Association	\$6,000
CISA	\$75,000
NESFI	\$44,606
CCCGA	\$20,000
UMASS	\$80,000
Massachusetts Farmers' Markets	\$60,140
The Food Project	\$9,000
Farm to School (Mass. Farm Bureau) Farm to Institutions Program	\$25,000
Farm to School (Mass. Farm Bureau) The Kindergarten Initiative comes to Worcester	\$25,000

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION (APR) PROGRAM

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The APR Program was established in 1977 and is considered one of the first volunteer programs for farmland protection in the United States. The primary purpose of the APR program is to preserve and protect agricultural land, including soils, as a finite natural resource, from being built upon for non-agricultural purposes or used for any activity detrimental to agriculture. Further, the program was designed to keep APR land values at a level that can be supported by the land's agricultural uses and potential.



During the calendar year 2010, the APR program protected 26 farm projects covering 1,905 acres. This raised the total farm properties enrolled to 787 protecting 66,335 acres of farmland. In 2010, the Department had accomplished a significant number of closings with a combined easement value greater than \$17,065,000. The program's efforts for the year resulted in attracting about \$8,000,000 of federal investment into its future preservation goals.

Projects often require 18 months or more to go from application to closing. Bringing projects into the program requires evaluating the resource, appraising the property, performing due diligence, and working with the land owner to ensure the program will enhance the fulfillment of their legacy and agricultural goals. At the close of 2010, the APR program still had 59 projects representing over 4,600 acres that had been worked through the first stage - resource evaluation, and 14 projects involving over 850 acres that were ready to move through due diligence toward closing. Many of these projects will come to fruition in 2011, attracting an additional federal

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

investment of \$5,000,000 through the Farm and Ranch Land Protection (FRPP) program. The program's stewardship effort is a growing segment of work for the program as baseline and monitoring reporting is a key component for all APR projects, past and future. Monitoring on regular intervals is an important aspect of Preservation Programs. Based on the success of a pilot program that concluded in 2010, another agreement to do monitoring through 2011 was initiated between MDAR, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Districts. Also, MDAR has selected recipients for the APR Improvement Program which expands opportunities for transitional landowners of APR parcels from just providing business technical assistance, to now being eligible for grant funding to implement a business plan. In addition to purchasing preservation restriction, viability funding and stewardship efforts, MDAR staff continues to review its policies as it relates to the ever changing environment of the agricultural industry.



COMMONWEALTH QUALITY PROGRAM (CQP)

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The Commonwealth Quality Program (CQP) mission is to enhance and promote Massachusetts' agriculture and primary products through the establishment of a registered seal of quality. The CQP Seal will identify the organizations and products that maintain the highest quality, environmental, and safety standards, and which grow, harvest or process food produced in Massachusetts. The CQP will provide new and exciting marketing opportunities that will increase

the awareness, sustainability, and procurement of local products as well as:

- Define "local" as Massachusetts' Grown, processed, or produced
- Use a simple, easily identifiable "seal" with a single tagline
- Ensure that positive consumer perceptions for "locally grown" continue
- Ensure that businesses and consumers are aware of the high quality and freshness of Massachusetts' locally grown produce
- Utilize existing standards and practices as the basis of sector program requirements
- Integrate food safety practices as well as Best Management Practices (BMPs) into the program

In 2010, the hard work of sector advisory groups, industry groups and trade associations, as well as state and educational partners brought to fruition the official launch of the program in September of 2010. At launch, the Commonwealth Quality Program included 5 sectors; produce forestry, aquaculture, dairy and lobster. Two other sectors are currently in development and advisory groups for both the maple and apiary sectors will be formed during the winter of 2011.

Commonwealth Quality received endorsements from the New England Vegetable and Berry Growers Association, the Massachusetts Fruit Growers Association, the Massachusetts Farm Bureau, the Massachusetts Lobstermen Association, the Massachusetts Aquaculture Association and many other trade and commodity group associations.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.



Commonwealth Quality Program Launch, Boston Common, September 28, 2010.

Through the greater part of 2010, program requirements as well as supporting documentation were produced, reviewed and ratified by advisory groups, and licensing and administrative processes were identified, approved and implemented.

An educational program for the produce sector was initiated in partnership with the University of Massachusetts Agricultural Extension. Existing BMPs were updated and modified into program checklists to support participant adoption and serve as an auditing tool to verify program compliance.

A website and promotional material were developed and launched to support program participant uptake. Sign-up drives by sector commenced and will be a continued focus throughout 2011.

The program received continued funding through the USDA Specialty Crops Block Grant Program to further develop and enhance promotional material, training information, program sector requirements, as well as website updates and improvements. A second stage consumer promotional plan is currently being developed and will be initiated in 2011.

FARMERS' MARKET PROGRAM

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Department staff provide technical assistance to individuals and groups trying to start a farmers' market, help farmers find appropriate farmers' markets in which to participate, and encourages consumers to patronize farmers' markets through the publication of consumer listings, news releases, and other promotional activities.

In addition to seasonal farmers' markets operating from May until November, winter farmers' markets continued to expand in 2010. New winter farmers' markets include: Amherst, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Fairhaven, North Amherst, Somerville, Walpole and Westford increasing the total number of farmers' markets operating over the winter to 16 with 14 winter-only markets and 2 year-round markets. With interest and demand for local products increasing, more winter markets are expected in 2011.

GROWTH OF FARMERS' MARKETS

YEAR	# OF MARKETS	% GROWTH
2004	101	9
2005	114	13
2006	126	11
2007	139	10
2008	167	20
2009	202	21
2010	232	14

The Department, in cooperation with the Department of

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

Transitional Assistance (DTA) worked on expanding the use of EBT/SNAP at farmers’ markets. DTA provided \$50,000 in grant funding that was administered by MDAR to help farmers’ markets purchase or lease wireless EBT terminals, outreach, and incentives for SNAP recipients. The impact of the program was greatly increased by a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Massachusetts Farmers Market Association, Wholesome Wave, MDAR, and DTA.

Along with DTA and USDA, the Department held four workshops in the late fall of 2009 – in Amherst, Waltham, Holden and Wareham. Nearly 50 attendees learned about the process for getting their farmers’ market authorized for EBT/SNAP, promotion, and outreach ideas. Attendees also learned about the grant opportunity from MDAR.

The number of farmers’ markets accepting EBT/SNAP in 2010 doubled from 30 to 59 markets expanding access to SNAP recipients and creating additional income for growers. Additionally, SNAP redemption at those markets increased 510% from \$19,119 to \$116,813.

As farmers’ markets have grown and in an effort to maintain the benefit realized by our Commonwealth’s farming interests, it became increasingly important that farmers’ markets be adequately defined. In response, the Department finalized a policy on farmers’ markets that recognizes those markets which meet the requirements in this policy. The criteria includes the market having a minimum number of growers, set hours and location, requirements for product labeling, and rules that govern the operation of the market, including specifying criteria for vendors eligibility and product source. View them all at mass.gov/massgrown.

NEW FARMERS’ MARKETS IN 2010

BARNSTABLE COUNTY

- Dennisport
- Harwich
- South Yarmouth

BRISTOL COUNTY

- Acushnet
- Fall River

ESSEX COUNTY

- Lawrence
- Merrimac

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Charlemont

HAMPDEN COUNTY

- Holyoke
- Longmeadow
- West Springfield
- Hampshire County
- North Amherst

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

- Cambridge/Kendall Sq.
- Melrose

NORFOLK COUNTY

- Holbrook
- Medway
- Walpole

PLYMOUTH COUNTY

- Kingston
- Mattapoisett
- Pembroke

SUFFOLK COUNTY

- Grove Hall
- Hyde Park
- Jamaica Plain

WORCESTER COUNTY

- Charlton (2)
- Dudley
- Lancaster (2)
- Leominster
- Lunenburg
- New Braintree
- Spencer
- West Brookfield
- Worcester (2)

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

In August, 2010 Governor Deval Patrick signed legislation that allows Massachusetts farm wineries to sell at farmers' markets and other agricultural events for the first time. According to the legislation, agricultural events such as farmers' markets must be approved and certified by the Department before a winery can apply to the local licensing authority for the appropriate license. The Department developed a webpage along with an application and FAQ's and notified farm wineries and market managers of the application process. In 2010, 5 winter markets have been approved with 7 wineries participating.

MDAR maintains a comprehensive website of farmers' market resources on its *MassGrown & Fresher* website for consumers, growers, and market managers. A list of farmers' markets with their days, times, and locations can be found along with a crop availability guide, shopping and produce storage tips, healthy recipes, and nutrition information. In 2010 all Massachusetts farmers' markets were added to the MassGrown Agri-Google mapping feature allowing consumers to more readily identify farmers' markets close to where they are.

A Farmers' Market Managers Workshop was held in Grafton, MA at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University in the late winter. The workshop was attended by over 100 farmers' market managers and was co-sponsored by the Federation of Massachusetts Farmers' Markets and the Cooperative Development Institute. Workshops included topics such as farm inspections, using social media and market manager authority.

MDAR works to increase consumers' awareness of local agriculture and farmers' markets through media releases and special events. The Department distributed 21,000 brochures listing the dates, times and locations of all the farmers' markets in Massachusetts. These brochures were given out at special events, through tourist information centers, the American Automobile Association (AAA), and other locations throughout the state.



The Department issued several news releases about farmers' markets in 2010 including announcing the EBT/SNAP grants to markets; in June announcing the 2010 farmers' markets brochure and schedule on the web; farmers' market week and on winter farmers' markets.

Commissioner Soares visited several farmers' markets along with Department of Transitional Assistance Commissioner Julia Kehoe to promote SNAP usage at those markets. The markets visited were: Dewey Square/Boston, Jamaica Plain, Greenfield and Salem.

Massachusetts Farmers' Market Week was held the week of August 22nd with a reading of the Governor's proclamation and statewide tomato contest at Boston's City Hall Plaza Farmers' Market on Monday, August 23rd. Farmers from across the state entered their best tomatoes to be judged by food writers, chefs and other judges on taste, appearance and quality. The event was covered by several news outlets, including print, television and radio.

Farmers' markets continued to receive much media attention. Dozens of articles on farmers' markets were published in newspapers across the state. Additionally, farmers' markets also received coverage on local television and radio stations.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

FARMERS' MARKETS NUTRITION PROGRAM (FMNP)

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The Massachusetts Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) provides women and children in the Federal Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and elders with coupons redeemable at farmers' markets for fresh fruits and vegetables. WIC participants receive these nutrition benefits in addition to the regular WIC food package. Local farmers are reimbursed for the face value of the coupons, thereby enhancing earnings and supporting participation in farmers' markets.



Participation in the FMNP benefits farmers by attracting a new base of customers to farmers' markets, thereby providing additional sales opportunities to participating farmers. It also allows farmers to capture a greater share of the consumer food dollar through direct marketing and promotes diversification on small farms by encouraging the production of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

Participation in the FMNP benefits coupon recipients as well. It provides participants with coupons redeemable for nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables, introduces families and others to farmers' markets, and supports nutrition education goals by encouraging the selection and preparation of fresh fruits and vegetables. In addition, Massachusetts also seeks to serve low-income seniors who are unable to use the coupons due to access limitations by facilitating bulk purchasing of fruits and vegetables that are distributed to home bound elders with their regularly scheduled meals deliveries, or distributed at on-site meal programs.

Funding for the FMNP is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (USDA, FNS) with an additional required state match.

Massachusetts farmers' market coupons are distributed to women and children in the WIC Program, as well as eligible seniors and other individuals. Any farmer participating at an approved farmers' market may request certification to participate in the Farmers' Market Coupon Program. Certification involves discussing the regulations for the program, as well as procedures for receiving payment for redeemed coupons.

The Farmers' Market Nutrition Program began in Massachusetts in 1986, and in 1989, Congress authorized a three-year demonstration project to test the concept in 10 states. The success of the demonstration projects led Congress to enact the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Act of 1992, thereby establishing it as the 14th federal food assistance program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Since that time, the number of states participating in the program has grown significantly.

In 2010 the USDA FNS awarded Massachusetts with \$513,684 in federal "food" dollars to distribute to low income elders along with \$57,076 to use to administer the program state-wide. The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program served approximately 18,000 seniors with coupons throughout the state in 2010. The program certified approximately 200 farmers' markets and 370 growers to serve the recipients of the program

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

in 2010. The Senior FMNP home bound delivery program served 3,800 seniors in 2010 throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at 20 different local elder agencies. Participating elders received a benefit of \$30 per person for the 2010 growing season. An overwhelming majority (approximately 81%) of the seniors receiving the coupon benefit visited a farmers' market to redeem the fresh produce.

The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) served approximately 81,100 women and children through 36 local WIC agencies throughout the state in 2010 with coupons to buy fresh produce at farmers' markets. Through the FMNP approximately \$811,000 worth of coupons were distributed to WIC participants to use at Massachusetts farmers' markets. The program certified approximately 200 farmers' markets and 370 growers to serve the recipients of the program. Participants received a benefit of \$10 per person for the 2010 growing season. These funds successfully increased the purchase of \$291,475 worth of fresh, local produce by WIC participants in 2010.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Massachusetts FMNP Program: www.mass.gov/agr/markets/farmersmarkets/coupons.htm
- USDA FMNP Information: www.fns.usda.gov/fns
- Massachusetts WIC Program: www.mass.gov/WIC

MASSACHUSETTS GROWN & FRESHER MARKETING CAMPAIGN

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Each year the MDAR promotes *MassGrown & Fresher!* logo and brand. This program links consumers to locally grown farm products, specialty foods, and fun ag-tivities. In the spring of 2010, MDAR made a significant website upgrade that created a distinct look and feel. It also included a new agri-Google mapping feature that maps retail farm businesses across the Commonwealth. The new interactive map locates farms, agricultural fairs, and farmers' markets, and gives the user the ability for custom information and directions.

In addition to promoting *MassGrown & Fresher!*, MDAR promotes "Massachusetts Made with Pride" to produce stickers, price cards, and posters that are offered to farmers and the food producers online at www.mass.gov/agr/markets/logos.htm. Additionally, *MassGrown & Fresher!* supports other initiatives such as the Savor Massachusetts Program, Commonwealth Quality Program, Agri-tourism, and more.

Throughout the year, staff set up informational booths at industry and consumer shows, fairs, and festivals, to promote *MassGrown & Fresher!*, along with farm and fair publications. Our complete guide is offered on our consumer website: www.mass.gov/massgrown. In 2010 there were over 80,000 views to the website and the Department had 45 orders of marketing materials using the logo, which includes usage from farms and schools.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

STATE OWNED FARMLAND LEASE PROGRAM

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Since its creation in the Department in 1974, the Division of Agricultural Development has been making “vacant public lands” available to groups and individuals for farming and community gardening. The “vacant public lands” of primary concern were the former state hospital farmlands which were left abandoned or underutilized when the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Public Health (DPH) shut down their institutional farms in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Towns in which these institutions were located soon began requesting the “vacant” land for housing projects, town garages, etc. The Department’s goal was two-fold: to provide some level of protection for these state-owned farmlands (which have a high percentage of prime agricultural soils), and to ensure that they were used to their fullest potential.

For 2010, MDAR maintained agricultural license agreements with 17 farmers in 6 counties. State-owned farmland parcels are located in Agawam, Danvers Agricultural Reserve, former Grafton State Hospital, Lakeville, Middleborough, Northampton Agricultural Reserve, Westborough State Hospital, Western Massachusetts Hospital, former Medfield State Hospital, West Boylston County land, and land in the Wachusett Watershed.

PROGRAM GOALS:

- **Promotion of Sustainable Farming and Agricultural Markets:** The State-Owned Farmland Program makes land available to established commercial farmers as well as new entry farmers. These lands are used to augment privately owned agricultural land for a variety of agricultural enterprises such as livestock and dairy production, vegetable farms, and Pick-Your-Own (PYO) operations.
- **Protection of Agriculturally Productive Lands:** Agricultural land legislatively transferred to the Department totaled 665 acres in 2010, which includes approximately 106 acres of land transferred to MDAR in 2010. These lands are protected under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution as conservation land.
- **Development of a Framework for Sustainable Growth, Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection:** Land declared surplus to state agency needs generally contains viable agricultural land as well as non-agricultural land which may be suitable for limited development. The State-Owned Farmland Program works closely with other state agencies as well as private entities to develop comprehensive land use plans that incorporate agricultural land and development.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

AGRICULTURAL TOURISM

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Agricultural tourism (Agri-tourism) merges the world of travel with experiences of food and farming production. A visit to a farm can be an adventure for the entire family. Many farmers are becoming increasingly creative about making their farms attractive to tourists by adding farm stands, offering bus tours, corn mazes, bed and breakfasts, picnic tables, recreational activities, etc.

In the spring of 2010, the 2nd edition of the Agriculture Tourism Map was produced. With a grant from USDA Rural Development 'Rural Enterprise Business Grant Program Development, MDAR published 150,000 map directories including a total of 390 farm businesses (up from 285) that offer "ag-tivities" to the public. With assistance from Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT) and AAA, it was distributed throughout the state at various information centers and AAA offices.

MDAR is very proud of the over 390 farm attractions open to the public offering interesting and educational activities that will create memorable experiences.

Agri-tourism encompasses a variety of activities, including farm tours, farm vacations, pick-your-own operations, farm bed & breakfast accommodations, nature study, cross country skiing, picnics, hayrides, workshops, fee hunting and fishing, and more.



CULINARY TOURISM

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MDAR's Culinary Tourism Program was officially launched in 2009. Culinary Tourism is a subset of agri-tourism that focuses specifically on the search for, and enjoyment of, prepared food and drink. Culinary Tourism promotes all distinctive and memorable gastronomic experiences. It is an important marketing niche that fosters economic and community development for specialty crop growers, farm wineries, farm breweries, and hospitality and tourism professionals alike.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

Culinary Tourism in Massachusetts presents an economic opportunity to build on the current agriculture assets many growers already have in place, to assist those who may want to develop or even expand their culinary tourism opportunities and to design and develop creative and thoughtful web-based content for the culinary traveler.

2010 Program Accomplishments:

- Database of approximately 200 growers, food producers & culinary tourism participants; 50 new participants in 2010
- Hundreds of web-based resources for the culinary traveler, growers & chefs
- Monthly culinary and farm festival calendar
- Monthly featured recipe
- Web-based guide for growers named “How to get Started in Culinary Tourism”

The Savor Massachusetts Culinary Tourism Program continued to expand in 2010 with the addition of approximately 45 new culinary tourism participants, as well as an additional web-based guide for growers, named “How to Get Started in Culinary Tourism”.

In March, 2010, MDAR participated in a panel discussion on Agri-tourism and Culinary Tourism at a meeting of approximately 50 growers in Southeastern Massachusetts.

A 2010 Savor Massachusetts summer season launch included a full day Cape Cod Culinary Farm Tour for local media, chefs, elected officials and group tour operators. Sponsored in collaboration with the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism and The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, attendees received an in-depth, behind the scenes tour of four Cape Cod farms with unique culinary tourism offerings, including an Aquaponics farm, a sustainable maritime vineyard, a medicinal herb farm and an aquaculture oyster grant. The tour was well received and generated significant print and

radio coverage. The Savor Massachusetts Cape Cod Culinary Tour helped increase the awareness of culinary tourism on Cape Cod, while offering valuable information to tour operators, regional tourism council, locally minded Chefs and buy locals groups. These valuable connections ultimately benefit growers who offer unique farm tours that highlight local food.

Funding for Savor Massachusetts was provided through USDA's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

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MDAR worked with food businesses and growers to develop and expand export markets in collaboration with services and programs through Food Export USA Northeast. Additional partners included the Cranberry Marketing Committee, the Mass Export Center, the regional office of the US Department of Commerce and the MA Office of International Trade and Investment. Services ranged from identifying best markets to working with international market specialists for importer and distributor interviews. Support at domestic and international trade shows, focused trade missions, and buyers' missions were offered. MDAR was a service provider participant in the Massachusetts Export Center's Export Expo in December 2010.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, exports of food and agricultural products from Massachusetts including seafood were over \$935 million during 2010. Some of the biggest growing markets for the year include Canada, China, Mexico, Russia, and Germany. In total, there was an 8.81% increase over 2009 exports. The biggest area of growth was in the food processing/manufacturing sector, which grew over 20%.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

The Massachusetts companies participating in the Food Export Northeast programs reported sales of \$230 million last year.

Thirty-two Massachusetts companies received over \$789,434.50 from the “Branded Program,” funds from USDA administered by Food Export for MDAR. Funds promoted activities relating to the promotion of food and agricultural products including advertising and sampling, trade show support, point of sale material and label development for new export markets. For example, Edgewood Bogs, Carver; used the “Branded Program” to offset costs of exhibiting at the Natural Products Expo East trade show to unveil a new retail product while Venus Wafers, Hingham, used the program to offset exhibit costs at the SIAL Paris international trade show. Cabot Creamery, Hingham, used the program to offset costs for labeling modification for the Mexican market. Thirty-five Bay State companies participated in a variety of activities ranging from export product catalogs participation to Buyers Mission.

Buyer Missions offer a low-cost, low risk business opportunity for product feedback and to develop sales. MDAR staff worked closely with the following missions:

- Northeast Buyers Mission, Boston, February 12
- Buyers Mission to the International Seafood Show, Boston, March 13
- Buyers Mission to the Summer Fancy Food Show, New York City, July 10
- Buyers Mission to Natural Products Expo East, Boston October 13



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT

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From kindergarten to college, interest in serving locally grown foods in cafeterias is increasing in Massachusetts and throughout the northeast U.S. Feeding locally grown foods to students can be a good way for food service directors to improve the nutritional value and taste of school meals, while supporting the local economy. Selling local products to schools can be profitable for Massachusetts growers who are looking for a new way to connect with local consumers.



MDAR, through its support of the Massachusetts Farm to School Project, provides technical assistance to Massachusetts farmers and schools as they attempt to find a good match. During the 2009 and 2010 school year, 250 public school districts, private schools, and colleges reported they preferentially purchased local foods. At least 100 school districts purchased some or all of their local foods directly from more than 95 Massachusetts farms. During the 2009 – 2010 school year, there were about 522,000 students enrolled in the public schools participating in the Farm-to-School Project. This is 55% of the total state-wide enrollment of about 957,000 pupils. In addition, 77 Massachusetts colleges and private

schools reported they preferentially purchased local foods during the '09-'10 school year. For a list of school food services reporting and not reporting that they preferentially purchase locally grown foods, see Appendix 5. For the 2010 Massachusetts Farms Directory for School Food Services, see Appendix 6.

Most Frequently Purchased Locally Grown Foods for School Food Service (as reported by the Public School Districts in May 2010):

- Apples
- Beans
- Berries
- Broccoli
- Carrots
- Corn
- Cucumbers
- Greens
- Herbs
- Melons
- Pears
- Potatoes
- Squashes
- Tomatoes

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS DEVELOPMENT

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MDAR allots prize monies to agricultural fairs and supports 4-H activities in National Competitions. The staff manages the state exposition building in West Springfield, inspects fairs, conducts workshops, seminars, and training sessions, and publishes the annual Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Directory.

There were 44 fairs held throughout the Commonwealth in 2010. Commissioner Soares and staff visited over 30 fairs. The Fairs Program added the Truro Agricultural Fair to the group of fairs offering competitive agricultural exhibits. In 2010 MDAR printed 40,000 brochures which were partially distributed through AAA. Others were distributed to Chambers of Commerce, turnpike authorities, information centers, bookstores, libraries etc. The State Rosette is given to fairs upon request and is used to recognize excellence for “best in show”. Over 3 million visitors attended these fairs in 2010!

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.



AGRICULTURAL FAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AFIP)

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AFIP assists agricultural fairs in the Commonwealth by improving their viability with anticipation of sustaining the fair through the development and implementation of an Agricultural Fair Improvement Plan. This plan consists of a two-phase program. A comprehensive business plan is developed in Phase I by a team comprised of consultants engaged by the Department for their knowledge and expertise within the agricultural fair sector. Phase II requires a contract between the Department and the Fair. In

exchange, MDAR provides the Fair with funding to implement specific portions of the plan's ability to improve the economic viability and possibly the environmental integrity of the Fair.

For 2010, 3 new fairs entered the AFIP program, receiving \$50,000 each in funds. There are now a total of 9 fairs inducted into the program. These fairs included Cummington Fair, Marshfield Fair, Bolton Fair, Westfield Fair, Blandford Fair, Northampton's Three County Fair, Barnstable County Fair, Spencer Fair, and Topsfield Fair. Fair advisors include Ernest Fisher, Alvin Craig, Michael Lehan, David Whigham and Rick Connoles.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.



MASSACHUSETTS BUILDING AT THE EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION (THE BIG E), WEST SPRINGFIELD

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MDAR manages the Massachusetts Building located on the Avenue of States at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. Each year, the Department invites Massachusetts organizations and businesses to apply for the purpose of showcasing Massachusetts agriculture, commerce, culture, food or tourism through informational, educational, promotional, and retail exhibits.

In 2010, approximately 900,000 visitors came through the doors of the Massachusetts Building. There were 30 exhibitors inside the Building and 10 exhibits depicting the great outdoors on the back lawn. For Massachusetts Day (Sept. 22nd), there were a record number of participants with over 40 organizations and businesses represented. To further enhance the 'Green' initiative on the fairgrounds, those Massachusetts companies located in the MA Building served their food products on biodegradable serving items. Massachusetts Day is an opportunity to showcase the finest the state

has to offer, including entertainment and special recognitions. MDAR was very pleased to have a visit from Governor Deval Patrick. Several state legislators and officials visited the Building throughout the 17 days. The Massachusetts Building Advisory Committee is an essential group that assists with the planning of the exhibitors and events each year.

AGRICULTURAL DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE PROGRAM

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The Agricultural Directional Signage Program is managed by MDAR in cooperation with the Massachusetts Highway Department. The Ag Signage Program allows for the placement of agricultural directional signs along state roadways for farms located off those roadways. In 2010 there were five applications for signs across the Commonwealth. Criteria and application are online at: www.mass.gov/agr/markets/agritourism/signs.htm.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

FARM & MARKET REPORT

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The Farm & Market Report is the Department's bi-monthly newsletter which includes a Commissioner's Column, program/grant updates, workshop/educational updates, news from USDA, along with a calendar and classified section. The Report is the number one tool MDAR uses to communicate information and programs to the Ag industry. For 2010, MDAR published 6 Reports along with 29 extra email blasts. The state listserv started in 2004 with about 800 emails, and went over 5750 industry emails in 2010. Past issues can viewed at www.mass.gov/agr/news/fmr.

FOOD SAFETY

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The focus on food safety continues with concern about the safety of fresh produce. MDAR and UMASS Extension collaborated to coordinate resources and training sessions for USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Educational programs were presented in 2010 with participation from regulators, agency and university staff, and growers including the UMASS Research Farm during the spring, and 2 meetings of the Farm Bureau in late fall.

In addition, MDAR worked closely with UMASS and Cornell to coordinate 3 online GAP training programs to provide a flexible training alternative to the seminars. Over the course of the 3 trainings, there were some 35 participants.

The coordinated efforts of the Divisions of Crop and Pest Services and of Agricultural Development

worked to prepare growers and guide them through the GAP processes. MDAR offers mock GAP audits and worked with 6 growers assisting them with GAP updates. MDAR coordinated 9 completed GAP audits and had 4 growers participate in the GAP cost share program. The program is designed for any producer, individual, or business located in Massachusetts that successfully completes their initial USDA GAP/GHP audit to be eligible to apply for cost-share reimbursement of a maximum of \$750 annually. Funds for this project are from a USDA Specialty Crops Block Grant.

MDAR worked closely with the Massachusetts Partnership for Food Safety Education (MPFSE) to promote safe produce handling techniques and other food safety messages to consumers and food workers. MDAR worked with the MPFSE to promote food safety messages and material at the Big E. MDAR speakers were featured as part of the MA Public Health Association annual Meeting in Marlboro addressing food safety issues.



HARVEST NEW ENGLAND (HNE)

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HNE is a cooperative marketing program created by New England's state departments of agriculture in 1992 from a USDA Federal State Marketing Improvement Grant. The initial purpose of the program was to support the sale of New England-grown produce through supermarket channels.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

The program was subsequently opened to all New England food and agricultural products.

The Harvest New England Association, Inc. is a non-profit corporation registered with the states of Vermont and New Hampshire. HNE is registered with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and is recognized as a 501 (c)(5) organization by the Internal Revenue Service.

The Harvest New England Association has developed programs and activities in the past 19 years to further enhance the economic viability of New England products. In 2010 the Association prepared for the sponsorship of the 3rd Harvest New England Marketing Conference to be held in March 2011 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center, Sturbridge. The three day conference will focus on all aspects of marketing including a diverse trade show achieving to meet the needs for those marketing today's agricultural products. This past fall during the Eastern States Exposition (Big E), the Association also promoted the program to consumers on the Avenue of States through promotional banners. The Association received a USDA Specialty Crops Block Grant to assist as well as develop new promotional opportunities to enhance the use of the Harvest New England logo and program initiatives for the next three years.

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA) REVIEW

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Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution guarantees the right of residents of the Commonwealth to the conservation, development, and utilization of agricultural land. Protection of this right is declared to be a public purpose by Article 97. Pursuant to this mandate, it is the mission of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) and MDAR to protect and enhance

agricultural land and its capacity to benefit and sustain the citizens of the Commonwealth, as a finite resource.

Agricultural land has become a ready target for non-agricultural development as a result of its adaptability and physical resources. Such development is subject to review and certification under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). In addition, EOEEA has designated agricultural land as a critical natural resource. As with other critical natural resources in the Commonwealth (e.g. wetlands, floodplains), a concerted effort has been and shall continue to be made by the Commonwealth to avoid loss of agricultural land as a result of non-agricultural development. Where avoidance is not possible, MDAR policy requires mitigation for the loss of agricultural land.

MDAR developed the Agricultural Mitigation Policy in 2001 and it was subsequently reaffirmed in 2008. The keystone principle of the Agricultural Mitigation Policy is to provide three mitigation options where non-agricultural development of farmland is unavoidable. They are:

- 1) on-site mitigation
- 2) off-site mitigation
- 3) financial contribution

In addition, Executive Order 193 provides a protective tool where state agencies are directed to avoid and to mitigate against the conversion of state-owned agricultural land. The Order further provides, as a separate policy not restricted to state-owned agricultural land, that State funds and federal grants administered by the state shall not be used to encourage the conversion of agricultural land to other uses when feasible alternatives are available.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY GROUP ASSISTANCE

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MDAR works closely with more than 40 agricultural commodity groups. Staff members regularly attend commodity group meetings, speak at industry conferences, and generally serve in an outreach role to farmers.

MDAR also offers assistance to the Massachusetts Agriculture Promotion Board (MAPB) and other commodity groups as they prepare for and attend Agriculture Day at the Massachusetts State House.

ORGANIC COST SHARE CERTIFICATION

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There are some 105 farms and close to 100 processors that are certified to the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) standards in Massachusetts. Each year the numbers have been increasing. The growth in the category continues because, if given a choice, many consumers choose locally grown, organic produce.

The Department works in conjunction with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service to reimburse certified organic farmers up to 75% (\$750 dollars maximum) of the total certification cost. Funds are available to farms that are inspected and certified and/or inspected and receiving renewal of certification.

VALUE-ADDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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Making applesauce from apples is the simplest example of adding value to agricultural products! Some 50 growers looking to add value to farm

products as well as food entrepreneurs starting new businesses requested information on product development, production, marketing, federal and state regulations, training and education. Inquiries ranged from starting a yogurt business to a cookie company. The Department's Food Processors Resource Manual as well as resources through a partnership with the New England Extension Food Safety Consortium, the Massachusetts Specialty Foods Association, the MA Department of Public Health and the Center for Women and Business was shared. Referrals were often made to the 3 shared use kitchens in Massachusetts including the Western Massachusetts Food Processing Center in Greenfield. An overhaul of the Food Safety Consortium website was initiated by MDAR including a review of every link, with further review by UMASS Extension.

A Massachusetts Pavilion was coordinated at the New York Summer Fancy Food Show featuring 18 specialty food businesses from the Bay State, adding to the over 50 exhibitors from the state at the event. MDAR promoted the 7 MA food companies that won a "Sofi" award, the "Oscar" of the food world, as well as the 3 MA cheese businesses that medaled in the national American Cheese Society Competition; the 5 that won in the Big E Cheese Contest and the 7 MA wineries who medaled at the Big E Wine Competition. A second printing of the MA Wine and Cheese Trail brochure helped to promote these businesses. MDAR supported MA wineries in their efforts to be able to sell wine at agricultural events.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONS

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In January of 2010 there were 130 Agricultural Commissions and 100 Right to Farm Bylaws (RTFs). By December of 2010 there were 141 AgComs and 114 RTFs, an increase of 11 AgComs and 14 RTFs.

The Second State Wide Gathering of AgComs was held March 20, 2010 at Worcester State College and was sponsored by MDAR, Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, American Farmland Trust, Massachusetts Flower Growers Association, Murtha-Cullina, Farm Credit East, Farm Family Insurance and the Pilgrim Resource Conservation & Development Area Council, Inc. There were over 130 attendees and 15 exhibitors. Opening remarks were presented by Commissioner Scott Soares. Topics addressed in conference workshops included:

- Working Effectively with Your Board of Health
- Right to Farm Bylaws
- Working with Conservation Commissions
- Agriculture and the Wetlands Protection Act
- Achieving Greater Agricultural Self-Sufficiency
- Strategies for Connecting Farmers to Available Land
- Funding AgComs

- Conflict Management

Of significance was the result of the “Future of AgComs” discussion. Following a presentation by members of the “Future of AgComs” Steering Committee, a unanimous vote of those in attendance was made to organize a statewide association of agricultural commissions.

The highlight for 2010 was the formation of a statewide association of agricultural commissions.

In September of 2010, the Massachusetts Association of Agricultural Commissions, Inc. was legally established as a Massachusetts non-profit corporation and announced on Massachusetts Day at the Eastern States Exposition. In December, the first Board of Directors of the Association was organized.

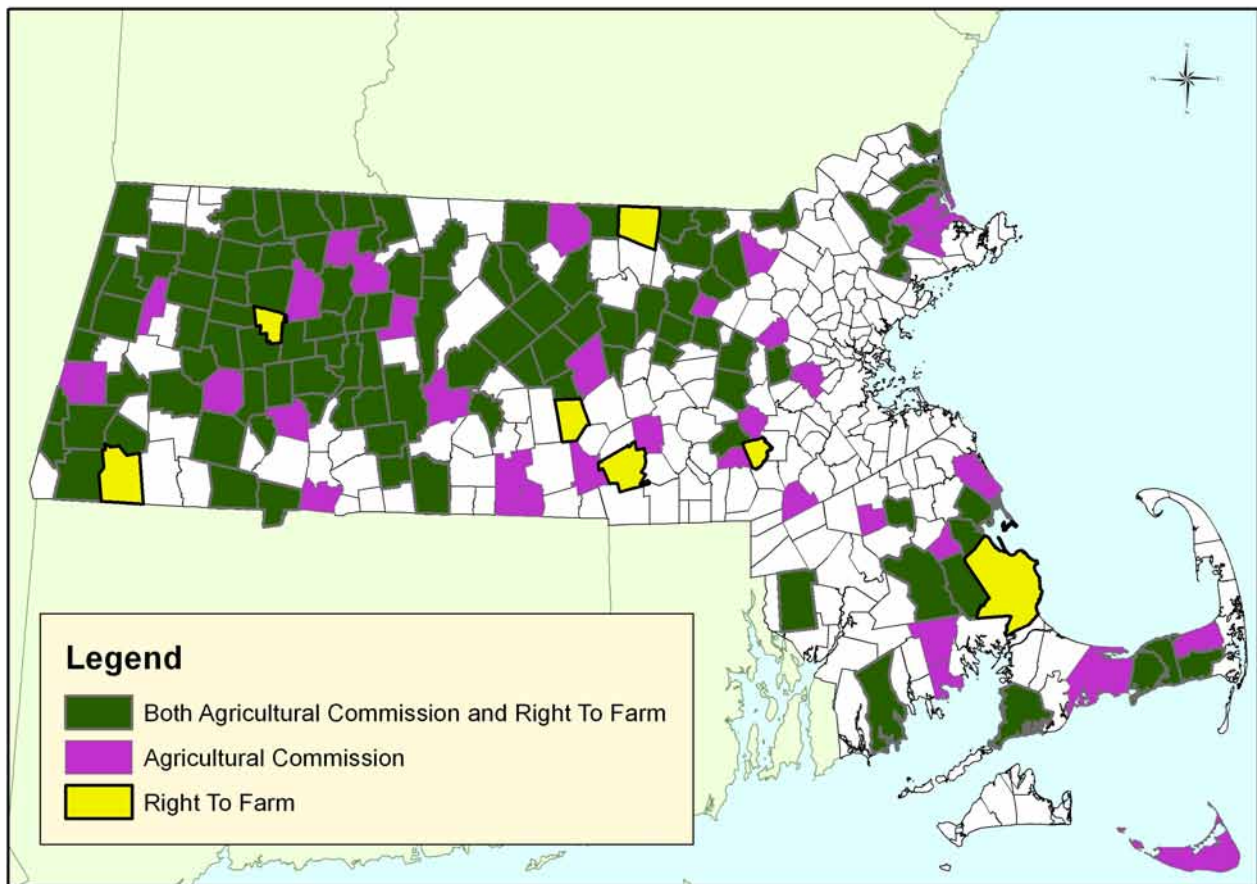
The annual statewide gathering of AgComs continues to be a catalyst for regional gatherings of AgComs. Western Mass continued its annual AgCommission gathering on Jan 9, 2010. The event was hosted by the Hancock AgCom and Hancock Shaker Village. The event was well attended, with some 60 attendees representing roughly 30 AgComs along with other organizations.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT cont.

Regional gatherings and informational meetings continue to address the concerns of local AgComs. The USDA Farm Service Agency Service Center's Conference Room in Holden continues to welcome AgCom members from a dozen communities (Holden, Sterling, West Boylston, Princeton, Rutland, Oakham, Bolton, Ashburnham, Berlin, Barre, Harvard, and Hardwick) about 6 times per year to discuss goals and accomplishments, identify resources, funding for AgCom projects, Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, Mass. Ag. In the Classroom, The Farm to School Project, and most recently working with realtors to understand the Right to Farm Bylaw.

2010 STATE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONS AND RIGHT TO FARM BYLAWS



DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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Michael Cahill has served with the Department of Agricultural Resources since 1994. His employment began as the Rabies Program Coordinator, and expanded to include the supervisory role for the 500 plus Municipal Animal Inspectors who form the Division’s first responders to detected animal disease events in the field. In 2002, he received a Merit Award from the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association in honor of his assistance to the veterinary community. He has served as the Director of the Division of Animal Health since 2008.



The Division of Animal Health oversees a vast array of programs that focus on appropriate handling, care and control of livestock, poultry, and companion animals. Developing protocols for rapid response to any emerging disease problem and enforcing the rules and regulations designed to mitigate the risk of introducing such disease are essential roles the Division fills to protect the health of the Commonwealth’s domestic animal population. Proactively establishing and promoting management practices that reduce unnecessary stresses on animals served to increase yield in production animals and further enhance the life and longevity of those animals that are a part of our lives, whether for business or pleasure.

The Division of Animal Health is comprised of 19 full time employees, including program managers, veterinarians, inspectors, and support staff. Staff work within several programs with funding provided by the United States Department of Agriculture through cooperative agreements. This financial support allows the Division to continue important disease surveillance and response efforts by maintaining or even increasing staff levels even when the Commonwealth’s budgetary constraints threaten to hinder these necessary activities. For 2010:

Animal Disease Traceability (formerly National Animal Identification System)	\$10,912.76
Foreign Animal Disease	\$3,519.65
Notifiable Avian Influenza (formerly Avian Influenza and National Poultry Improvement Program)	\$89,639.06
Scrapie	\$5,460.58
Swine Garbage Feeding Surveillance	\$43,777.99

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

ANIMAL IMPORTS AND LIVESTOCK MARKETS

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All livestock, horses, poultry, waterfowl, and other animals, including cats, dogs and other pets entering Massachusetts from other states must comply with Commonwealth regulations that require a veterinarian's certificate stating the animal is healthy prior to travel. Additionally, some species may require certain testing to ensure negative status for diseases of concern depending on their state of origin. These measures significantly reduce the possibility of introducing contagious disease to the Commonwealth's domestic animal population. To further enhance these efforts, livestock dealers and transporters are licensed and their equipment and facilities are inspected. There were 39 licensed livestock dealers in Massachusetts in 2010.

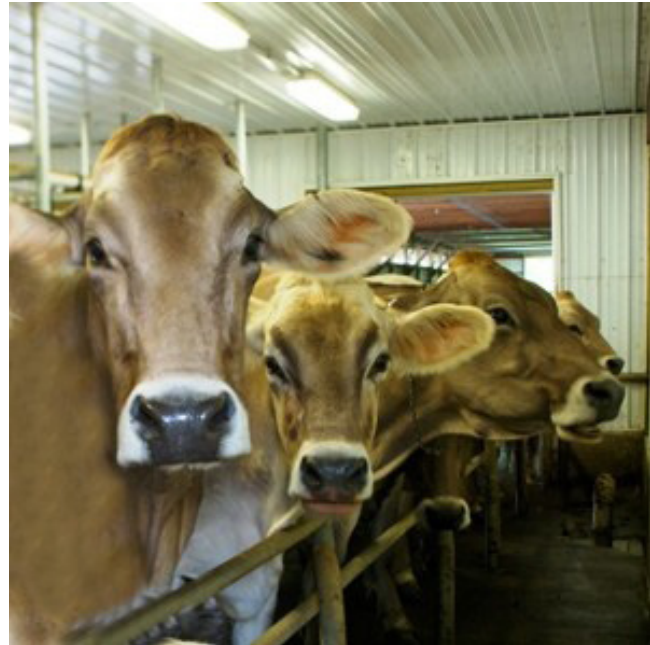


DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

DAIRY PROGRAM

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The Dairy Program ensures a healthy environment for livestock and a safe, high quality supply of milk at fair prices for consumers, processors, and dairy farmers. This requires careful inspection and monitoring to enforce the relevant laws and regulations. The Program monitors milk production, hauling, distribution, pricing, marketing, and inspection of dairy farms to assure a safe and healthy supply of milk to processors, and ultimately consumers. Many factors influence the quality and quantity of milk produced by a dairy farm. Bacteriological counts measured through testing of milk samples helps determine the quality of milk. When the counts exceed regulatory standards, a dairy farmer is required to return to compliance within a timely fashion.



ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:

In 2010 there were 161 bovine farms and 16 caprine farms certified as dairies. The Division utilizes a progressive enforcement protocol consisting of a Letter of Warning for violations required to be corrected within the following 10 days, a Letter of Warning for test results indicating 2 of the last 4 samples were out of compliance with standards, a Shut-Off Order for test results indicating 3 of the last 5 samples were out of compliance with the standards, and an immediate Cease and Desist order for any test results that were excessively beyond the range of accepted standards.

In 2010 the Division issued:

10-day Letter of Warning	9
2 out of 4 Letters of Warning	56
3 out of 5 Shut-Off Orders	13
Cease and Desist	11
Antibiotic Residue Shut-Offs	5

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

In 2010, the Division continued administering the programs established by the 2008 Dairy Farm Preservation Act. These programs included the Dairy Farm Tax Credit and the couponing program for fluid milk sold in retail outlets.

DAIRY FARMER TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

The Dairy Tax Credit Program was established as a mechanism to offset the cyclical downturns in milk prices paid to dairy farmers. In any given month within the calendar year when milk prices drop below the cost of production financial assistance up to \$4 million dollars could be issued in the form of a tax credit. The amount distributed would be based on the number of months the sale price fell below the cost of production and the production amount sold by the dairy farm. In 2008, low sales prices in 10 of 12 months resulted in \$3.33 million dollars being distributed in the form of tax credits. In 2009, 12 out of 12 months triggered the tax credit resulting in payouts totaling \$4.0 million dollars. During 2010, the cost of production remained relatively stable while milk prices paid to the farmers increased. As a result, no tax credits were offered to dairy farms this year. Questions were also raised regarding the accuracy of the USDA estimate for cost of production for Vermont. These questions led the USDA to discontinue providing state cost of production estimates and has required MDAR to revisit the regulations associated with calculations of the Massachusetts Dairy Farmer tax credit.

THE RETAIL COUPON FOR FLUID MILK PROGRAM

The Retail Coupon for Fluid Milk Program was established to allow for the use of fluid milk coupons in promotional and marketing campaigns of milk and cream for consumer use in an effort to increase in fluid milk consumption. According to Department regulations, these promotions must not result in a sale of milk that is below the cost of production or appear to be predatory towards any Massachusetts dairy farmer who directly markets and sells their own fluid milk to consumers. In 2010, there were 111 notifications of promotions within the state,

52 of these promotions were 'cross-promotions' where two entities are marketed jointly so that a benefit in the purchase of one product is earned by the purchase of the other product. For these cross promotions the non-dairy entity covers the cost of the promotion, the milk is non brand specific, and the promotion is offered state wide. The remaining 59 approved promotions consisted of 43 'cents off' coupons ranging in price from \$0.50 to \$1.25; 11 promotions where the purchase of milk resulted in a future purchase savings between \$1.00 to \$3.00; and 5 promotions where buying a certain quantity of milk resulted in a free gallon of milk. With these promotions the offer was not valid until all units of milk were purchased and the value of the offer equaled the cumulative value of the discount per individual units of milk. Three promotional campaigns proposed were denied because they had either not supplied all of the required information, they failed to provide the required 30-day notification period, or the promotion resulted in a below-cost sale of milk.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

EQUINE PROGRAM

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The Division of Animal Health administers a number of programs involving horses and other equine species. Licenses are issued to horseback riding instructors and the riding schools/stables where they operate. Riding stable licenses are also issued to any business where horse-drawn hay rides, horse-drawn sleigh rides, carriage rides, pony rides, and trail rides are offered to the public for a fee. The Division also requires a license for anyone engaged in the business of dealing, auctioning, or transporting equine animals. This licensing includes record keeping requirements that seek to bolster other programmatic disease control efforts. The Division also organizes the registration program for the Massachusetts State Racing Commission which promotes the breeding and racing of thoroughbred and standardbred horses in the Commonwealth. For 2010 MDAR issued 2,157 licenses for riding instructors and licensed 562 riding stables.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:

In 2010, 2 stables were found operating without licenses. Both operations were issued Cease and Desist orders from the Division of Animal Health. Both were required to obtain the necessary licenses before resuming operations.

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL INSPECTOR PROGRAM

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The Division of Animal Health is responsible for appointing municipal animal inspectors for each and every city and town in the Commonwealth. These inspectors act as agents of the Division of Animal Health in the communities they serve. The primary duty of the municipal inspector involves issuing quarantines to owners of animals that have been exposed to, or are potentially spreading the rabies virus. The other major role the inspectors fulfill for the Division is conducting the annual inspections of all domestic livestock and poultry housed on properties in their respective cities and towns. These inspections are a part of MDAR's disease surveillance system and assist in ensuring animal owners provide basic necessities for the animals in their care. Municipal Animal Inspectors may also be called upon to serve as first responders to assist in implementing disease response plans in the event of an outbreak. During 2010, there were 529 municipal animal inspectors appointed to fulfill the above duties for cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

PET SHOP PROGRAM

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The Division of Animal Health has the statutory responsibility to license all pet shops. For 2010 there were 165 duly licensed. Pet shop inspections are required for licensure and for subsequent annual license renewals of all Massachusetts pet shops. Each establishment must meet strict facilities requirements designed to maximize sanitary conditions which promote animal health. These requirements are in place to protect the health of the animals, as well as that of the visiting public and the employees who work in these shops.

In 2010, there were 3 pet shops found to be operating without the required license. Each of these operations was issued a Cease and Desist order and required to come into compliance before continuing operation.

Fines were issued to 6 different stores that failed to comply with the regulations following Letters of Warning.

Two stores received significant Department oversight, including visits by staff from the Division of Crop and Pest Services during operations to resolve rodent infestations.

POULTRY PROGRAM

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The Poultry Program strives to educate producers and consumers about the benefits of local poultry and poultry products. Massachusetts law requires that all live poultry or hatching eggs moving within the Commonwealth originate from currently certified *Salmonella pullorum* clean flocks. The testing to achieve this status is provided by the Division of Animal Health for free. Other testing available to

Massachusetts poultry producers include screening for avian influenza, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, *Mycoplasma meleagridis*, and *Salmonella enteritidis*. The poultry program provides producers and consumers with educational materials, flock inspections, production support, and information on egg safety and egg handling. The local food movement and the growth in consumer interest in how their food is produced have both led to an upswing in backyard poultry and egg production, and an expansion of commercial activity in Massachusetts (see MPPU, page 39). These increases have added significant inspectional responsibilities to the Division's poultry staff during 2010.

Through the 2010 testing season, a total of 12,507 birds were tested for the presence of *Salmonella pullorum*. Screening tests identified 5 flocks with reactor birds. In each flock the positive birds were removed, submitted for necropsy and in each case, no pullorum was isolated from any of the birds. There were a total of 407 premises visited during this time period in response to requests from flock owners wanting to acquire their state "pullorum-typhoid passed" or "pullorum-typhoid clean" status.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

One Massachusetts producer supplying turkey poults to other producers requested the services of Division staff to draw blood and submit 300 samples for *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* testing, 100 samples were tested for *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and 100 for *Mycoplasma meleagidis*. All of these samples were negative. These tests were done as part of a free service offered by the Department to Massachusetts producers. In 2011, the Division expects another producer to expand his operation to include sales of hatching eggs and day-old poults, which will necessitate this same testing.

In 1983 the poultry division began an Avian Influenza (AI) screening program. This was initiated due to 2 recent, major outbreaks of AI in the commercial industry. Ten percent of the total samples collected from any flock for pullorum testing, are also screened for AI. In 2010 there were 3,735 blood samples tested for avian influenza from backyard and fancier flocks. Four flocks with a history of AI reactors were retested. Out of the 4, 3 had repeat reactors. Follow-up screening was conducted on these flocks. No avian influenza virus was isolated from any of these flocks. During the same time period 330 blood samples collected for AI testing to allow for bird movements into the Live Bird Marketing System. Massachusetts has 4 live bird markets, at which the consumer can choose a bird and have it slaughtered on the premises to ensure freshness during food preparation. Many birds raised in Massachusetts are shipped to live bird markets in New York. All of the 330 blood tests performed for this purpose proved negative. As a part of the Departments' cooperative agreement with the USDA to do AI surveillance, staff sample 8 flocks per month. Five random birds from each flock are sampled by taking a swab. During the 2010 testing season 975 chickens were sampled. Also, 55 waterfowl were sampled. All of these samples were tested negative. To further cooperation with the USDA, the Department started surveillance at swap meets, exhibitions and fairs, randomly swabbing 30 birds at each event. A total of 7 samples were collected in 2010, all of which were negative.

ENFORCEMENT ACTION:

The department issued a Cease and Desist order against a hatchery in Maryland for illegal importation of chicks into Massachusetts.

In the last year we have seen a dramatic increase in the numbers of households raising backyard poultry flocks for pleasure and fresh eggs, including suburban and urban areas. This interest has raised questions from cities and towns that have not traditionally had experience in any agricultural endeavor. In an effort to educate both the municipalities and those enthusiasts who wish to keep and raise poultry, the Division developed a document, "Best Management Practice for Backyard Poultry Keepers." The Division also developed a companion document detailing safe egg handling procedures for backyard producers. These Best Management Practices (BMPs) seek to educate cities and towns, as well as bird owners by detailing appropriate management methods that will serve to reduce potential conflicts with abutting neighbors. The Division supports the keeping of poultry when it is done in a responsible manner that benefits the birds, the bird owners and the communities in which they live.

RABIES PROGRAM

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Rabies is a viral disease that can affect all mammals, including humans. The virus attacks the central nervous system and can be secreted in saliva. Because rabies affects people as well as animals, control of this disease has become a top priority for the Division of Animal Health. With the cooperation of the Department of Public Health, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and Municipal Animal Inspectors every aspect of potential rabies exposures is addressed in order to prevent further spread of the virus.

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

At the time this document was produced, the data for 2010 indicated there were:

- 2,697 domestic animal bites or scratches to humans or other domestic animals
- 2,542 possible domestic animal exposures to rabies during the same period
- 119 exposures were to animals confirmed to be rabid by the State Lab

To enhance the numbers of vaccinated domestic animals in Massachusetts the Division, through its rabies program, has implemented a user friendly registration for municipalities and entities holding rabies clinics. The registered clinics are posted on the MDAR website for the public's information. In 2010, there were 143 rabies vaccination clinics promoted through this service.

As part of the 10th annual outreach effort by the Division to increase awareness about rabies, laws requiring vaccinations for cats and dogs, and the benefits of vaccinating domestic animals, the rabies program distributed literature throughout Massachusetts. Staff also attended various MDAR and stakeholder events, including appearances as guest speaker.

REPORTABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

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Reportable diseases may be foreign animal diseases which are not currently affecting the state, diseases which have serious public health consequences, or diseases that MDAR has either previously eradicated from Massachusetts or are very close to eradicating. Veterinary practitioners are required to report suspected or positive cases of these diseases to the Division of Animal Health promptly. The Division seeks early detection in order to mount a rapid response in an effort to reduce the number of

animals and animal owners affected by a disease outbreak.

In addition to the rabies cases mentioned previously, there were 174 suspected cases of reportable diseases:

- 137 cases of Parvovirus (dog)
- 22 cases of Panleukopenia (cat)
- 5 cases of Calcivirus (cat)
- 4 cases of Strangles (horse)
- 3 cases of Tularemia (cat)
- 2 cases of Babesia (1 dog, 1 captive deer)
- 1 case of Psittacosis (pet bird)

ANIMAL SHELTER/RESCUE PROGRAM

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The Division of Animal Health's Shelter/Rescue Program ensures the health and safety of animals being offered to the public for adoption. Through registration of individual shelters and rescue groups who operate adoption programs within Massachusetts and those that adopt animals into Massachusetts from other states, the Division enhances the overall health of the companion animal population. Since many of the animals that wind up in these channels have no, or very limited routine veterinary care, this disadvantaged portion of the domestic animal population requires more attention.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH cont.

The rules in place serve to protect the animals and those who make an effort to help them.

During 2010 there were 243 registered shelters and rescues operating in Massachusetts.

During 2010, the Division issued 29 Cease and Desist orders to shelters and rescues that had failed to register with the Department and operate within the prescribed rules (1-AHO-05).

Administrative fines were issued to 4 groups that failed to comply with issued Cease and Desist orders.

SWINE PROGRAM

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The Massachusetts swine program includes permitted garbage feeders, licensed swine dealers, as well as Classical Swine Fever, Brucellosis and Pseudorabies testing. The word “garbage” is defined as any meat waste, or meat waste combined with food waste, resulting from handling, preparation, cooking, and consumption of foods, including animal carcasses or parts thereof. Anyone raising swine to be sold for public consumption and feeding garbage must obtain a permit from MDAR’s Division of Animal Health and USDA/APHIS Veterinary Services. The issuance of this permit requires a facility inspection and garbage cooker temperature check. All garbage, regardless of previous processing, must be heated to 212 degrees for a minimum of 30 minutes prior to being fed to swine. These strict regulations were implemented to mitigate the risks associated with feeding meat scraps to swine herds. For the same reason pork products must be cooked thoroughly to destroy harmful pathogens that could be in the meat, the meat fed to swine must also be cooked to reduce the risk of introducing those pathogens in the first place.

During 2010, there were 21 permits issued to swine operations feeding garbage. Three individuals were found running swine garbage feeding operations without the required permit. Each was issued a Cease and Desist order and was required to discontinue the practice until achieving full compliance with the regulations.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES: THE YEAR AHEAD

As you read through the MDAR 2010 annual report, I hope it is evident that the agency accomplished a great deal last year. Looking ahead it seems as though 2011 will be very similar – full of challenges and increasingly greater opportunities either directly or indirectly associated with the strengthening, expansion and development of agriculture in our Commonwealth. Regarding challenges, although we are certainly seeing recovery, the economy continues to impact our agricultural businesses. Fortunately, however, we have also seen an increasing number of opportunities for our primary industries to reduce production costs while at the same time growing to meet the demands of an increasingly supportive consumer base. From the Department's perspective, we will continue to aggressively identify and offer resources, services and programs aimed at strengthening our Commonwealth's agricultural identity. We will continue to build upon increasingly important partnerships across a broad spectrum of interests that are either directly or indirectly connected to agriculture. Looking ahead, we will also see many organizations gearing up for the drafting of the next federal Farm Bill, an effort undertaken every 5 years that governs federal programs and services that have become increasingly important to the Department and the industry we serve. In fact, we and our northeast counterparts have recognized the significance of this legislation and look forward to regional collaboration that will contribute to greater success and opportunities for us all.

Critical to the success of farming enterprises is access to quality workable landscapes. We are proud to maintain the oldest state farmland protection program in the country, one of our Nation's first farm business viability enhancement programs and recent program developments that have enhanced the ability of owners of permanently protected farmland to expand their businesses and to contribute to our Commonwealth's green energy future. We will continue to promote preservation and prosperity of Massachusetts farms, through a multi-pronged effort aimed at increasing the viability of farm businesses and protection of the land on which they operate. We will remain a national leader in these areas by promoting program evolution that meets the needs of today's and tomorrow's farmers.

Beyond the beneficial impact to local, state and regional economies, agriculture has increasingly been recognized for its impact on personal and community health. In the year ahead we will continue to do our part to increase access to local agricultural products. We will do this through the continuation, and where possible expansion, of programs and services that promote universal access to our increasingly diverse offerings of locally generated goods. Our efforts will include market development and expanded distribution opportunities through wholesale and direct marketing such as increasingly popular farmers' markets, as well as through new and exciting opportunities like the creation of a year-round public market in our capital city (watch our progress on this one at www.mass.gov/publicmarket).

We will also assist our Commonwealth's farms in doing their part to help protect the environment through the use of alternative energy, environmental enhancement, and being a solution to the challenge of removing organics from the waste stream. Projects like anaerobic digesters, solar power processing operations, and community wind farms were once just ideas. With an eye toward sustainability, they are now becoming realities as our farmers – through a combination of environmental and business investments – continue to make our communities healthier, cleaner and safer for the next generation. Onward!

APPENDIX 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION'S REPORT TO GOVERNOR PATRICK AND LEGISLATURE

This report is provided pursuant to the requirements of Section 11 of Chapter 310 of the Acts of 2008, The Dairy Farm Preservation Act

The Farm Technology Review Commission ("FTRC" or "Commission") was created as a result of the 2008 Dairy Farm Preservation Act ("the Act") with the recognition that existing regulations and statutes can negatively impact the agricultural industry by preventing the adoption and implementation of new technology, thereby impacting on economic development within the Commonwealth.

Chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources, Scott J. Soares, the Commission is comprised of state officials and farming representatives. State agencies participating include the Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP"); the Department of Public Health ("MDPH"), the Department of Revenue ("DOR") and the Clean Energy Center ("CEC"). Three dairy farmers representing the Massachusetts Association of Dairy Farmers, the New England Producer Handler Association, and the Massachusetts Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, respectively, have also been appointed. Each member serves for a term of three (3) years.

In addition to specific requirement to focus on energy issues, a key task of the Commission is to analyze regulations and statutes to ensure that they are not impediments to the adoption of farming technology. To more effectively address these mandates, the Commission has focused its attention on three broad areas:

1. Revenue and Taxation; 2. Regulatory Issues; and 3. Energy

Over the course of 2010-2011, the Commission examined taxation issues as they relate to agricultural equipment; explored the issues of anaerobic digester technology adoption on farms; investigated the issue of access to slaughtering and processing capacity for producers and continued to provide input into MassDEP's deliberations on the issue of waste and wastewater management on farms.

In its 2010 report the FTRC developed a number of recommendations. Activities around these issues along with any findings of the Commission are outlined in the following pages.

1. REVENUE AND TAXATION

The FTRC identified a need for MDAR to provide guidance to the agricultural community on state taxation implications as they relate to renewable energy installations and net metering. Furthermore, MDAR was directed to work with DOR to review the issue of how taxation relates to other areas of diversification such as composting for farm operations. In addition, discussions also centered around the benefits that could be drawn from classifying agriculture as a manufacturing activity in the tax code.

ACTIVITIES

- **Letter Rulings on Wind Turbines and Anaerobic Digesters:** The Department of Revenue developed Letter Rulings on Wind Turbines and Anaerobic Digesters. MDAR developed an Administrative Law Memo (ALM) on Sales Tax Implications for Anaerobic Digesters. The rulings concluded that the component parts of both projects were largely exempt from sales tax because they were producing electricity to be sold and/or for exclusive use in agricultural production.
- **Taxation Exemptions:** A potentially beneficial approach for the Commission to take may be to propose legislation, or support proposed legislation to secure taxation exemptions for farms involved in agricultural production that are on a par with those for a manufacturing corporation whether the farm is incorporated, or an individual under Chapter 62, the income tax statute.

APPENDIX 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION cont.

2. REGULATORY ISSUES

MEAT AND POULTRY SLAUGHTERING AND PROCESSING: The Commission has requested more information about the regulatory process at the state and federal level in order to review the issue of access to slaughtering facilities. Possible options for the Commission to consider include an evaluation of federal and state statutes relative to local meat and poultry processing.

ACTIVITIES

- Slaughtering and Processing: FTRC commissioners conducted a field visit to the Adams slaughter facility in Athol in April. In June the FTRC meeting featured a presentation on “Regional Capacity for Animal Slaughtering and Processing” and included participation from the manager of the Adams facility.

In October, the FTRC again featured the issue of slaughterhouse capacity at its Amherst meeting in which farmers participated. The New England Small Farm Institute(NESFI) Mobile Poultry Processing Unit (MPPU) was present for viewing outside. And in November, the FTRC featured a presentation by staff from the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

FINDINGS

- The slaughter industry is highly seasonal with business peaking in the late Fall.
- Processing capacity and the types of processing services offered at the MA slaughterhouses, not the actual slaughtering process itself, may be a limiting factor.
- USDA regulations are clear and are not insurmountable for most needs.
- Many existing custom slaughtering operations could serve as a potential answer to the need for slaughtering options at the local level if upgraded to USDA status.
- A different slaughter infrastructure, other than just bricks and mortar facilities, might work to meet the needs of some producers.
- The Commission is in agreement that the needs of some producers are currently not being addressed by the existing slaughtering and processing infrastructure in the state.

WASTE AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT: Continue to work with MDAR, MassDEP and agricultural stakeholders such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to develop a mechanism to ensure that farmers can maximize the resource potential of their operations while complying with environmental regulations. The FTRC Regulatory Subgroup should also continue to support the efforts of the MassDEP intra-agency workgroup.

ACTIVITIES

MassDEP is planning to propose regulatory revisions that will help clarify and streamline regulatory oversight in the following areas:

- Making direct land application of manure exempt from MassDEP permitting requirements. Right now the language is unclear and it was never intended that manure applications would be captured by MassDEP regulations or permitting.
- Allowing wastes that are mixed with manure, or even wastes themselves, that are applied as a nutrient supplement or soil amendment to be exempt from MassDEP’s groundwater permitting program if they are

APPENDIX 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION cont.

managed according to the provisions of a certified nutrient management plan.

- Ensuring that there are provisions which will allow the management of other farm generated waste streams that can be adequately managed through a Nutrient Management Plan rather than through MassDEP permitting.

Once internal reviews and senior management approvals have been obtained, DEP will publish proposed draft regulatory changes addressing the above issues for public review and comment.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH: Additional areas for future consideration include: education and outreach to local officials and Boards of Health in matters pertaining to innovative and evolving technologies such as anaerobic digesters in collaboration with MassDEP and MDPH; to seek alternative mechanisms to fund the Linked Loan Program established under the Dairy Preservation Act and the MA Farm Energy Program; education and outreach to farms in matters pertaining to net metering and Farm Energy Discount program.

ACTIVITIES

- In October Commission members delivered a presentation at the Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) on Anaerobic Digesters and the changing approach to waste management on farms.
- Modifications to Farm Energy Discount Program are underway. In a change to the program for 2011, farms were automatically renewed this year. A brochure is being created to help promote the program. An online application process is under development.
- Continued engagement by the FTRC and MDAR with Boards of Health to ensure that officials at the local level develop an understanding of agricultural issues and that they are supportive of efforts to implement alternative manure management approaches. Regular participation in MHOA meetings for example should be pursued. Distribution of notices of the meetings to MHOA is also recommended.

3. FARM ENERGY ISSUES

The FTRC is also required by legislation to study options for updating farming technology as it pertains to energy practices, including but not limited to:

- ways to promote energy conservation,
- collaborative purchasing,
- purchasing and selling of energy,
- energy saving technology, and
- alternative options for sustainability and growth.

Collaborative purchasing was assessed and completed during last year's activities. For the current year the FTRC recommended a number of activities to further this effort.

APPENDIX 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION cont.

ACTIVITIES

- Furthering through funding assistance, project implementation and regulatory framework the farming technologies associated with anaerobic digesters, “green” farm structures, geothermal, biomass, bio-fuels, biogas, high efficiency heat pumps and solar applications: Through MDAR’s annual Agricultural Energy Grant Program and the MA Farm Energy Program (MFEP), FTRC will continue to prioritize these technology applications. MDAR and MassCEC will work together to assess additional funding opportunities for these technologies that may be created through the MassCEC.
- Promotion of energy conservation through working with farms, trade groups and utilities in the formation of their new energy efficiency programs: MDAR through the MFEP continued promoting and providing the direct technical and financial assistance to help more agricultural businesses implement energy conservation projects. Utility energy efficiency programs will continue to be a financial incentive while trade groups assist in the outreach effort to get farms involved.
- Furthering and advancing the existing MA Farm Energy Program (MFEP) as a permanent state program: The MFEP was created as a pilot program in 2007 through federal and state (MDAR) grant funding. Based on the success of the MFEP, it is desirable to now establish this program as a permanently funded annual program. More work is required toward this end, including the identification of possible annual funding sources.
- Seek alternative mechanisms to fund the Linked Loan Program established under the Dairy Preservation Act: The Dairy Preservation Act of 2007 established the structure of a Linked Loan Program that would allow participating banks to borrow and lend state funds at a low interest to all farming sectors. The sources for the Linked Loan Program however would be excess state revenues which have not been generated under our current economic challenges. It is desired to find different resources that could contribute to this program as upfront capital to implement farm energy projects is a barrier to many farms wishing to become more energy efficient and energy sustainable. More work needed toward this effort.
- Education of local officials: As described above the Commission has actively reached out to Boards of Health and presented at the Massachusetts Health Officers Association on innovative technologies on farms. As importantly, the initiation of agricultural anaerobic digester (AD) projects has contributed to the surge of interest for more and larger commercial scale projects. As well, EEA and the Secretariat have prioritized the increase of organic capacity in our recycling efforts and have created a Task Force devoted to fully understand the barriers and challenges to further this effort. This wider realm and larger scale effort will significantly compliment the FTRC’s efforts to educate local officials regarding the environmental and economic benefits of this technology.
- Similar efforts have been conducted by DOER, MassCEC and MDAR by presenting and speaking at town building commission and zoning board meetings with regard to proposed agricultural wind projects.
- Criteria Developed to Identify Agricultural Business for Purpose of Net Metering: MDAR has developed criteria to provide the Commissioner with the information he needs to identify a business operation as an agricultural net metering facility. MDAR has also educated the farming community on the concept and application of net metering in general and agricultural net metering in specifics through a variety of energy related workshops and training sessions.

APPENDIX 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FARM TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMISSION cont.

- **Sustainable Revenue Source:** MDAR and CEC have been exploring the possibility of a sustainable revenue source to support the development of agricultural renewable energy projects. One concept would be to work with an electrical utility (ies) where ratepayers would have an option of selecting a green energy mix for their energy supply that would include agriculturally generated renewable energy. Initial investigations have begun though more time and work is required to better understand the feasibility of accomplishing such, including any regulatory needs.
- **Database to be created by MDAR staff of farms interested in being nominated for excess net metering credits:** Based on criteria established by the Green Communities Act, there are seven net metering zones served by the four utilities required to provide net metering in MA and it would be valuable to farmers to be able to identify other agricultural operations willing to receive the credits. A database of interested farms within each net metering zone would be the product. Net metering credits can play a role in financing projects with investors and banks. MDAR will continue to work toward development of this database.
- **SREC Aggregator:** MDAR to identify approach for farms to aggregate RECs and SRECs. There are currently 17 businesses that are aggregating SRECS and 3 providing marketing/brokerage services for RECs, all found and listed as such on DOER's website. Creating relationships with existing aggregators for agricultural projects and/or helping to establish an agricultural aggregator may have merit as an option to pursue. A cooperative approach may also be productive given the significant commissions that some of the aggregators and marketing/brokerage firms are taking. This work continues.

APPENDIX 2: MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY PROMOTION BOARD 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

This report is provided pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 310 of the Acts of 2008

OVERVIEW

The Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board (MDPB) develops programs and policies with the objective of increasing the consumption of Massachusetts dairy products through promotion, research, and educational activities. The nine member board is comprised of representatives from the dairy farming associations, milk processors, the Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), and the Executive Office of Administration and Finance (A&F).

2010 BOARD MEMBERS (APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE MDAR)

- Chairman - Mary Jordan, Designee for Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR
- Vice Chairman - Sam Shields, Agri-Mark
- Secretary - Krisanne Koebke, MA Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, Inc.
- Treasurer - Darryl Williams, MA Association of Dairy Farmers
- Amy Godin, Massachusetts Food Association
- David Hanson, Agri-Mark
- Kathleen Herrick, MA Association of Dairy Farmers
- Warren Shaw, New England Producer Handler Association
- Tom Dugan, Designee for Secretary Jay Gonzales, the Executive Office of Administration and Finance (A&F)

MDPB BACKGROUND:

MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY FARM REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE

On May 10, 2007 the acting MDAR Commissioner, Scott J. Soares issued a Declaration of Crisis in the Dairy Industry as a response to the Dairy Farmer Petition for Relief. One result of the Declaration was immediate action by the Governor and the Legislature to provide emergency relief to dairy farmers and to establish a Dairy Revitalization Task Force. As a result of the crisis conditions, Gubernatorial and Legislative action yielded Chapter 42 of the Acts of 2007, which provided \$3.6 million in emergency relief for dairy farmers to assist them in recovering from the events of 2006 and established the Dairy Farm Revitalization Task Force. The Task Force consisted of 17 members including three dairy farmers, six legislators, a milk processor representative, and seven various members of the Executive Branch. The Task Force was co-chaired by the acting Commissioner of the MDAR and Philip Griffiths, the Undersecretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA). The purpose of the Task Force was to:

“...investigate short and long-term solutions to preserving and strengthening the dairy farm industry in the Commonwealth. Said investigation shall include methods to promote the innovation in, and the revitalization of, the Massachusetts dairy farming community, including without limitation, investigating the impact of increased fixed costs borne by the dairy farming community including, but not limited to, fuel prices, healthcare and insurance; promoting locally produced milk; and promoting alternative and renewable energy uses for farmers.”

The Task Force met seven times during the summer and fall of 2007. On November 9, 2007 a report to the Legislature was filed. The task force divided its recommendations into four categories; Alternative and Renewable Energy, Marketing and Promotion of Massachusetts Dairy Products; Technical and Financial Assistance to Dairy Farmers and Financial Safety Net Measures. The Task Force concluded that a state-qualified milk promotion and research program be established. The Task Force recommended enacting legislation to establish a Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board (M.G.L. Chapter 310 Sec: 30(a)).

APPENDIX 2: MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY PROMOTION BOARD 2010 ANNUAL REPORT cont.

The Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board began meeting in 2008 and then monthly in April of 2009, and as stated in M.G.L. Chapter 310 Sec. 30(d), assesses a fee of 10 cents per hundredweight of all milk production that is commensurate with the credit allowed for producer contribution to state qualified programs (QP's) under the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983. MDPB verifies production reports with the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board semi-annually to assure compliance with the assessment provisions of the Act.

The following are actions taken by the board in accordance with the mission to develop programs and policies with the objective of increasing the consumption of Massachusetts dairy products through promotion, research, and educational activities.

2009 ADOPTED MOTIONS:

- Approved allocation of \$8,000 for Eastern State Exposition Massachusetts Dairy Promotion sponsorship of the Mallery Agricultural Complex butter sculpture and educational signage in the Hampden County 4-H Dairy booth
- Approved allocation of \$250 to Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom for MDPB June calendar sponsorship
- Approved allocation for \$9,800 for "A Market Analysis to Identify Promotional Opportunities for the Massachusetts Dairy Industry" conducted by Dr. Nora Barnes, the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Center for Market Research
- Approved allocation of \$10,000 for the NE Dairy & Food Council "Fuel Up to Play 60" school wellness and nutrition initiative.
- Approved allocation of \$25,000 to the NE Dairy & Food Council to add five new Massachusetts school to their "New Look of School Milk" program
- Approved allocation of \$9,500 for MDPB logo and website stage I creative development with Fuseideas Design Firm

2010 ADOPTED MOTIONS:

- Approved allocation of \$5,000 to the New England Dairy Promotion Board – Keep Local Farms initiative for local milk promotion targeted to several Massachusetts Universities
- Approved allocation to extend the NE Dairy & Food Council contract to a three year commitment totaling \$150,000 (\$50,000 each school year) for school wellness and nutrition. To date, 275 Massachusetts schools are currently implementing the "New Look of School Milk" program
- Approved allocation of \$8,000 for Eastern State Exposition Massachusetts Dairy Promotion to include the Mallery Agricultural Complex butter sculpture, the use of Massachusetts milk in the Hampden County 4-H booth, a static exhibit in the Farm-A-Rama, and MDPB signage in the Big E Cheese Shop
- Approved allocation of \$5,000 for MDIP Milk Booth Sponsorship at the Eastern State Exposition to purchase 7,000 - 20 oz. reusable milk cups with MDPB logo & MDPB website, www.massdairy.com
- Approved allocation of \$250 to Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom for MDPB June calendar sponsorship.
- September 30, 2010: MDPB Coordinator selected. Board awaits final approval from the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs.

APPENDIX 2: MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY PROMOTION BOARD 2010 ANNUAL REPORT cont.

- Approved allocation for up to \$30,000 for an impact study focusing on three aspects of the dairy business: the economic impact, the environmental impact, and the social impact.
- Approved allocation of \$2,000 to support MADF 2011 Annual Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2010:

Total Deposits 2009	\$168,164
Total Deposits 2010	\$228,645
Grand Total Deposits:	\$396,809
Total Expenses 2009:	\$9,250
Total Expenses 2010:	\$105,378
Grand Total Expenses:	\$114,628
2010 Balance:	\$282,180

Respectfully submitted and approved on February 18, 2011 by:

- Chairman - Mary Jordan - designee for Commissioner Scott J. Soares, MDAR
- Vice Chairman - Sam Shields, Agri-Mark
- Secretary - Krisanne Koebke, MA Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, Inc.
- Treasurer - Darryl Williams, MA Association of Dairy Farmers
- Amy Godin, Massachusetts Food Association
- David Hanson, Agri-Mark
- Kathleen Herrick, MA Association of Dairy Farmers
- Warren Shaw, New England Producer Handler Association

APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB)

This report is provided pursuant to the requirements of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 252, Section 2

THE BOARD AND MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECTS

The State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (the Board) oversees mosquito control in Massachusetts. Its legal authority is derived from statute, specifically Chapter 252 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Board appoints Commissioners to a specific term of service to oversee the regional mosquito control project in a particular area. In the Commonwealth, there are nine (9) regional mosquito control projects/districts providing mosquito control services to 193 or approximately 55% of the state's municipalities (see the map below). The areas covered by mosquito control coincide with major population areas, well-known tourist areas, and areas where mosquito-borne disease such as EEEv and WNV are endemic.

Each regional mosquito control project employs a director or superintendent to manage the day-to-day operations. The 9 regional mosquito control programs in the established areas have equipment, materials, and credentialed professionals who have many years of experience and expertise. The Board, through its project administrator position and a full time staff person, manages and insures that all accounting and fiscal transactions for all 9 mosquito control projects and districts are in compliance with all state requirements.

The infrastructure of mosquito control continues, but the mission has evolved to include more than only alleviation of annoyance and nuisance. Since the discoveries that mosquitoes could transmit illness, mosquito control activities have shifted to serve a vital public health function. In fact, many of the 51 species of mosquitoes thought to only cause nuisance in Massachusetts are linked or suspect in carrying various arboviruses such as West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEv). Mosquito-borne illness such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEEv) and West Nile Virus (WNV) represent a real threat to the citizens of Massachusetts. In addition to these health threats, today's mosquito control programs bear the challenge and responsibility to insure a balance program when conducting its activities to control mosquitoes; one that is effective and one that takes into account minimizing environmental impact.

2010 ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD AND MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECTS

During 2010, the Board conducted 9 meetings where the Board dealt with a number of issues, most notably, there were two issues of significance that kept the Board very busy. These issues revolved around a new budget policy and outbreak of Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEv).

Throughout the year the Board developed and voted on a new budget notification and compliance policy. This policy became effective on March 4th and further revised on October 27th. The policy addressed a number of concerns pertaining to the Board's responsibility to certify mosquito control budgets which totals \$9,538,932 million dollars of public money. The policy establishes a process where individual communities have the opportunity to review and be more aware of mosquito control funding for their region and community enhancing the level of transparency and documentation. In other words, it assures that mosquito control program budgets have been thoroughly vetted.

This policy also dovetailed with other Board obligations to insure that each of the nine mosquito control programs highlight their annual accomplishments for the preceding mosquito season as well as outline their budget and plans for the upcoming fiscal year.

APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) cont.

On August 4th, the Board held an emergency meeting regarding the need for aerial application to combat the serious threat from Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEEV). At this meeting, the Board unanimously adopted a motion supporting an aerial adult spraying intervention to immediately reduce mosquitoes infectious with the virus.

2010 BUDGETS

The Board certifies to the Division of Local Services and State Comptroller that trust fund expenditures for any fiscal year will not exceed assessments against cities and towns for that fiscal year. The same mechanism applied in that cherry sheet assessments are still estimated and assessed by the state through the Department of Revenue Division of Local Services.

In June, the Board approved and certified the mosquito control budgets. At this meeting, the Board voted to level fund all mosquito control budgets recognizing that the state was struggling with deficits and weak revenues. 2010 continued to be a year with economic uncertainties and reductions in local aid distributions to communities receiving mosquito control services. As a result, the Board continued to champion reforms especially pertaining to mosquito control budgets to insure that core services were maintained and to reduce the fiscal pains to member communities. There were two modifications of the vote to level fund all projects. One pertained to Berkshire County where the Board was compelled to meet on June 9, 2010 to vote to accept a new total budget amount of \$202,800 dollars due to the addition of the city of Pittsfield to the project. Also, the Board approved the revised amended budget amount for Cape Cod Mosquito Control Project; an increase of 2% for an amount totaling \$1,638,171.

The mosquito control budgets are ultimately derived from state funding in the form of local aid distributions which are intercepted for the purpose of funding mosquito control assessments and other charge programs. By law, the Department of Revenue (DOR) must provide municipalities with estimates of cherry sheet receipts and assessments; one such program is for mosquito control services. In the case of the mosquito control program, the DOR quarterly assesses the municipality receiving mosquito control services.

The total budget for the 9 regional programs totaled \$9,583,932 dollars which includes the administrative budget for the Board. The following breakdown highlights the budget amounts:

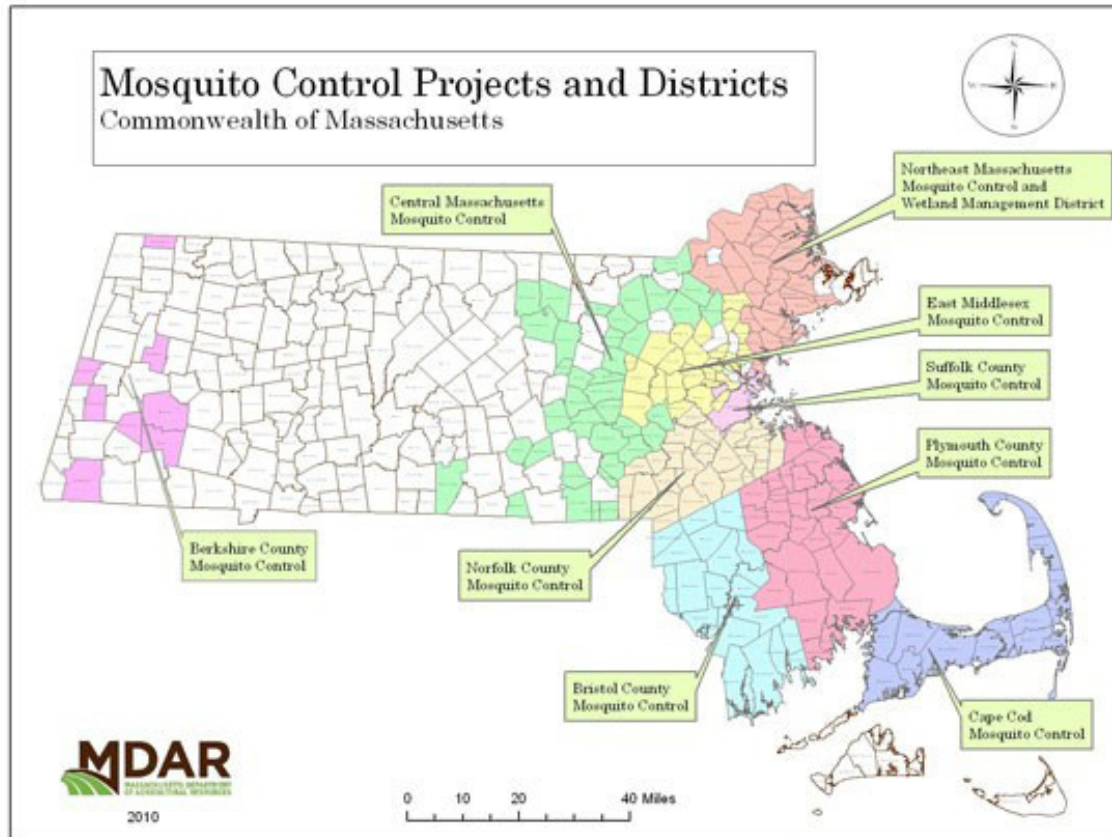
2010 FUNDING LEVELS OF THE VARIOUS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICTS AND PROJECTS

Berkshire County Mosquito Control Project	\$ 202,800
Bristol County Mosquito Control Project	\$ 794,609
Cape Cod Mosquito Control Project	\$1,638,171
Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project	\$1,671,893
East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project	\$ 586,692
Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project	\$1,437,177
Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito & Wetland Management District	\$1,518,953
Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project	\$1,319,167
Suffolk County Mosquito Control Project	\$ 230,283
State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board	\$ 139,187
Total:	\$ 9,538,932

APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) cont.

2010 STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD ANNUAL SUMMARY

The 2010 mosquito season started and ended as busy as a one-eyed cat watching two mouse holes. The spring of 2010, notably the months of March, April, and May, in Massachusetts were very warm and wet. In fact, the spring of 2010 was the warmest on record. In addition to warm temperatures, several early rain events soaked the ground, elevated ground water, and were slow to recede. In particular, on March 13th-15th, 4-7



inches of rain fell, then again on March 22nd, 2-3 inches of rain occurred and finally during March 29th-30th, the “straw that broke the camel’s back” in additional 4-9 inches of rain many areas creating catastrophic flooding. The flooding was significant in a number of member communities of the regional mosquito control programs especially communities within Bristol and Plymouth County Mosquito Control Projects. For example, the amount rainfall recorded at the Blue Hills weather observatory was a record of 18.81 inches, the most for any month since record-keeping began in 1885. The conditions were so bad that the Governor requested funding assistance from the President declaring these areas a major disaster for public assistance and hazard mitigation. These conditions led to an earlier than usual emergence of spring mosquitoes.

Nationwide it was the 4th warmest summer, but for Massachusetts, it was the second-warmest summer on record (much above normal).

The wet followed by hot and dry summer conditions lead to contraction of wetlands with an apparent

APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) cont.

concentration of birds and mosquitoes in smaller areas leading to rapid viral amplification in the natural cycle of a mosquito called *Culiseta melanura* (a swamp mosquito that feeds primarily on birds). More importantly, the sustained hot weather led to accelerated emergence and development of important mosquitoes species such as *Coquillettidia peturbans* with staggered emergence which is considered a mammal-biting “bridge vector” of EEE virus from the bird reservoir to animals and humans.

Despite overall lower abundance of mosquitoes in general due to dry down conditions, there was enough rain especially in July where mosquito numbers began to rise and a horse from Middleboro was diagnosed with EEE. Shortly after the confirmed EEEv positive horse (onset July 20th), there was a significant spike in EEEv mosquito pools and infection rate during the week of July 25-31st. Twenty-four (24) mosquito pools were confirmed EEEv (22 of the 24 pools were collected from Plymouth County and 2 pools from Bristol County). The predominant species of mosquito found positive for EEEv were aggressive mammal biter *Coquillettidia perturbans*, the cattail marsh mosquito. 12 pools or 50% of the positive pools consisted of this species which develops in cattail marshes that were flooded earlier in the year and even into the hot summer held a lot of water allowing this species to emerge earlier and in staggered manner. The other pools of mosquitoes positive for EEEv were found in *Culiseta melanura*, another important species the EEEv cycle. This created a worrisome situation since these results was evidence of high viral load and many collections of mammal-biting mosquitoes positive. While *Culiseta melanura* abundance was still relatively low in July, the infection rate was increasing; the abundance of *Coquillettidia perturbans* was high and with a high infection rate. The extent of EEEv positive mosquito pools was unprecedented, and indications were that these conditions would persist). The focus of EEEv activity was Plymouth and Bristol counties.

In light of the conditions at the end of July, with unprecedented numbers of EEEv positive mosquito pools, including pools of mammal bites, especially *Coquillettidia perturbans*, the Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), through the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (the Board), in coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH) planned, implemented, and supervised an aerial mosquito control spray operation over a large part of Southeastern (SE) Massachusetts during August 2010.

The aerial adulticiding was conducted with the goal of preventing human cases in August when human cases are most likely to occur. Infection by EEEv often leads to a life-threatening disease of human beings as well as elevated morbidity and mortality in certain mammals and birds. Mortality rates in people are expected to approach 50%. Severe life-long abnormalities can occur in nearly 90% of survivors. Based upon the documented conditions acknowledged to reflect the serious public health threat, a *Certification of Public Health Hazard* was signed on July 31, 2010 by the MA DPH Commissioner. This document certified that the aerial application of was necessary to protect the public in areas of SE Massachusetts where infected adult mosquitoes were most prevalent. Anvil 10+10 ULV (EPA # 1021-1688-8329), which contains the active ingredients d-phenothrin (sumithrin) and the synergist Piperonyl Butoxide (PBO), was the product of choice and selected with prior interagency assessment. The total amount of product consumed for the entire aerial mosquito control spray operation was 1,420 gallons using 2 aircraft at a rate of 0.62 oz/acre (the maximum allowable amount permitted by the pesticide product label), and at a height of 300 feet above the ground with a swath width of 750 feet for aircraft N61Q and 1,000 feet for aircraft N78D.

The recommended area for aerial application was based on the location of infected mosquito pools, as well as to address the primary area of virus amplification in the Hockomock swamp system located in Bristol

APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) cont.

County. The goal was to knock down the numbers of older infectious mammal biting adult mosquitoes immediately. In addition, the intervention is intended to achieve a slow down or reduce the ability of the virus to perpetuate in the area. In addition to the aerial application truck mounted ground spraying continued in areas where risk was high to critical. More importantly the public was advised to remain vigilant in avoiding mosquito bites.

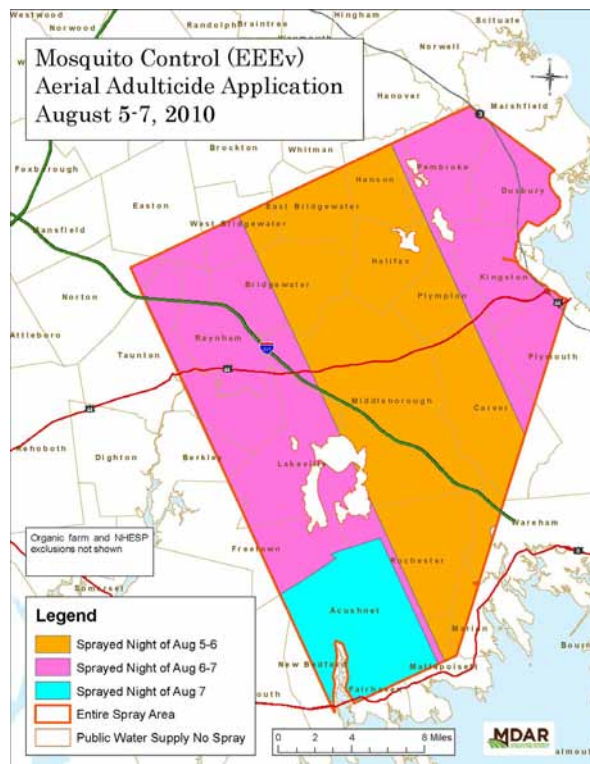
The aerial mosquito control operation covered a total area encompassing 288,143 acres over three nights beginning the evening of Thursday, August 5, 2010 and ending on the evening Saturday, August 7, 2010 over defined portions of Bristol and Plymouth County, Massachusetts. The treated area included all or parts of the following 27 municipalities: Acushnet, Berkley, Bridgewater, Carver, Dartmouth, Duxbury, East Bridgewater, Easton, Fairhaven, Freetown, Halifax, Hanson, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, New Bedford, Norton, Pembroke, Plympton, Plymouth, Raynham, Rochester, Taunton, Wareham, and West Bridgewater.

The populations of mosquitoes considered to mainly feed upon mammals (and to pose greatest immediate risk to people) were diminished by 90%: overall, mosquito populations in the treated area were reduced by 80%. Although mosquitoes collected prior to the intervention repeatedly were found to harbor EEEV, none sampled immediately after the intervention were infected, nor were those sampled between August 10th -20th. In particular, the Bristol County Mosquito Control entomologist noted that the aerial spraying reduced the target species (mammal biting species) *Coquillettidia perturbans* 87.0% on night two (6-7 Aug 2010) and 89.7% on night three (7 Aug 2010). The Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project entomologist reported an overall reduction of 80.84% of all mosquito species, including 87.71% reduction of *Coquillettidia perturbans*. Similarly, the MA DPH arbovirus program field coordinator also reported a significant decrease in mosquito abundance, with overall control of 76.6% with

reductions of the targeted mammal biting species *Coquillettidia perturbans* by 89.45%.

Environmental Monitoring did take place to confirm the absence or presence of negative impacts to the environment as a result of the aerial mosquito control spray operation. Bees, drinking water supplies, macroinvertebrates, cranberries and pesticide illness surveillance, non-target species/rare or state listed rare species were all monitored and/or evaluated by different state agencies regarding the aerial mosquito control spray operation. Detectable and/or significant or permanent detrimental impacts to the environment were primarily absent or those found were well below levels of public health concern.

The entire cost of the aerial mosquito control spray operation totaled \$869,898 dollars.



APPENDIX 3: REPORT OF THE STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB) cont.

SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY

According to the Massachusetts Department of Health, the arbovirus surveillance for 2010 included mosquito, animal and human surveillance for both EEEv and West Nile virus (WNV) disease in Massachusetts. A total of 3558 mosquito pools (97,000 mosquitoes) were submitted and tested. Of these, 65 were EEEv (positive) and 121 were WNV (positive). Of the EEEv mosquito isolates, 21 were identified in the aggressive human biter, *Coquillettidia perturbans*; while 42 isolates were identified in the enzootic vector species, *Culiseta melanura*.

Test results confirmed 7 human cases of WNV with clinical presentations ranging from fever to encephalitis; and 2 EEE cases with clinical presentation of encephalitis (one a RI resident). EEE was confirmed in 4 horses from two counties, while WNV mammal activity included a WNV positive horse identified in Middlesex County.

APPENDIX 4: STAFF DIRECTORY

For an up-to-date listing of Department staff, please see: www.mass.gov/agr/about/whoware.htm

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APPENDIX 4: STAFF DIRECTORY cont.

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APPENDIX 4: STAFF DIRECTORY cont.

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APPENDIX 4: STAFF DIRECTORY cont.

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APPENDIX 4: STAFF DIRECTORY cont.

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APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

This report is provided pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 197 of the Acts of 2010

Abby Kelley Foster Reg Chtr. School
Acton Public School
Acton-Boxborough School Dist.
Agawam Public School
Amesbury Public School
Andover Public School
Arlington Public School
Assabet Valley Reg Voc. School
Athol-Royalston Reg School Dist.
Attleboro Public School
Auburn Public School
Barnstable Public School
Baypath Reg Voc. Tech. School
Bedford Public School
Belchertown Public School
Bellingham Public School
Belmont Public School
Berkley Public School
Berkshire Hills Reg School
Blackstone Valley Voc. Reg Dist.
Blackstone-Millville Reg. School
Blue Hills Reg Voc. Tech.
Boston Public School
Boston Public School
Boston Renaissance Chtr.
Bourne Public School
Boxborough Public School
Boxford
Boylston Elementary School
Braintree Public School
Bridgewater/Raynham Reg. School
Bristol County Agricultural School
Brookfield Public School
Brookline Public School
Cambridge Public School

Canton Public School
Carlisle Public School
Carver School Dist.
Central Berkshire Reg School Dist.
Chelmsford Public School
Chesterfield-Goshen Reg School
Chicopee Public School
Cohasset Public School
Concord Carlisle Public School
Concord Public School
Conway Public School
Danvers Public School
Dartmouth Public School
Deerfield Public School
Dennis-Yarmouth Reg School Dist.
Dover Public School
Duxbury Public School
East Longmeadow Public School
Easthampton Public School
Easton Public School
Edgartown Public School
Essex Agriculture & Technical Institute
Everett Public School
Fairhaven Public School
Farmington River Reg School
Fitchburg Public School
Florida Public School
Foxborough Public School
Framingham Public School
Franklin County Technical School
Franklin Public School
Freetown Public School
Freetown/Lakeville Reg. School Dist.
Frontier Reg. School Dist.
Gardner Public School

APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST cont.
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

Gateway Reg School Dist.
Georgetown Public School
Grafton Public School
Granby Public School
Greater Fall River Voc. School Dist.
Greater Lowell Reg Voc. Technical
Greenfield Public School
Hadley Public School
Halifax Public School
Hampden-Wilbraham Reg School Dist.
Hampshire Reg School Dist.
Harvard Public School
Haverhill Public School
Hingham Public School
Holbrook Public School
Holland Public School
Holliston Public School
Holyoke Public School
Hull Public School
Kingston Public School
Lakeville Public School
Lanesboro Public School
Lawrence Public School
Leominster Public School
Leverett Public School
Lexington Public School
Lincoln Public School
Lincoln-Sudbury Reg Sch Dist
Littleton Public School
Manchester Essex Reg. School Dist.
Marblehead Comm Chtr. School
Marion Public School Dist.
Marlboro Public School
Marshfield Public School
Martha's Vineyard School Dist.
Marthas Vineyard Public Chtr.

Maynard Public School
Medfield Public School
Medford Public School
Medway Public School
Melrose Public School
Mendon-Upton Reg Sch Dist.
Middleborough Public School
Middleton Public School
Milford Public School
Millbury Public School
Millis Public School
Milton Public School
Minuteman Career & Technical High
Montachusett Reg Voc Tech Dist
Mt. Greylock Reg School Dist
Narragansett Reg School Dist.
Nashoba Reg School Dist.
Needham Public School
New Salem/Wendell School Dist.
Newburyport Public School
Newton Public School
Norfolk County Agricultural School
Norfolk Public School
North Attleborough
North Brookfield Public School
North Middlesex Reg School Dist.
North Reading Public School
Northampton Public School
Northampton-Smith Voc.
Northborough-Southborough Reg.
Northeast Metropolitan Reg Voc. Tech.
Oak Bluffs Public School
Old Rochester Reg School Dist.
Orange Public School
Oxford Public School
Palmer Public School

APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST cont.
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

Peabody Public School
Pioneer Valley Reg School Dist.
Pittsfield Public School
Provincetown Public School
Quaboag Reg School Dist.
Quincy Public School
Ralph C. Mahar Reg School Dist.
Randolph Public School Dist.
Revere Public School
Richmond Public School
Rockland Public School
Rockport Public School
Saugus Public School
Seekonk Public School
Sherborn Public School
Shrewsbury Public School
Silver Lake Reg School Dist.
Smith Voc. High School
Somerville Public School
South Hadley Public School
Southwick-Tolland Reg School Dist.
Spencer-East Brookfield Reg School Dist.
Springfield Public School
Stoneham Public School
Sturbridge Public School
Sunderland Public School
Swampscott Public School
Tantasqua Reg School Dist.
Tisbury Elementary School
Topsfield-Boxford Elementary School
Wachusett Reg School Dist.
Wakefield Public School
Walpole Public School
Waltham Public School
Ware Public School
Wareham Public School

Wayland Public School
Webster Public School
Wellesley Public School
Wellfleet Public School
Westborough Public School
Westfield Public School
Westford Public School
Westport Community School
Williamsburg Public School
Williamstown Public School
Wilmington Public School
Winchendon Public School
Winchester Public School
Winthrop Public School
Worcester Public School
Wrentham Public School

APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES **NOT** REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

Abington Public School
Academy Of The Pacific Rim
Acushnet Public School
Adams-Cheshire Reg School Dist.
Algonquin Reg High School
Amherst Public School
Amherst-Pelham Reg School Dist.
Apponequet Reg High School
Ashburnham-Westminster Reg School Dist.
Ashland Public School
Atlantis Chtr. School
Avon Public School
Ayer Public School
Benjamin Banneker Chtr. School
Ben Franklin Classical Chtr.
Berlin Public School
Berlin-Boylston Reg School Dist.
Beverly Public School
Billerica Public School
Boston Day and Evening Academy Chtr.
Brimfield Public School
Bristol-Plymouth Reg Voc. Tech.
Brockton Public School
Burlington Public School
Cape Cod Reg. Voc. High School
Chatham Public School
Chelsea Public School
Clarksburg Public School
Clinton Public School
Codman Academy Chtr. School
Community Day Chtr. School
Conservatory Lab Chtr. School
Dedham High School
Dighton-Rehoboth Reg. School Dist.
Douglas Public School
Dracut Public School

Dudley-Charlton School Dist.
East Bridgewater Public School
Erving Public School
Fall River Public School
Falmouth Public School
Foxborough Reg Chtr.
Gill-Montague Reg. School Dist.
Global Learning Chtr.
Gloucester Public School
Granville Public School
Greater Lawrence Reg Voc
Greater New Bedford Reg Voc. Tech
Greater New Bedford Reg School Dist.
Groton School
Groton-Dunstable Reg School Dist.
Hamilton-Wenham Reg School Dist.
Hancock Public School
Hanover Public School
Harwich Public School
Hatfield Public School
Hawlemont Reg School Dist.
Hopedale Public School
Hopkinton Public School
Hudson Public School
Ipswich Public School
King Phillip Public School Dist.
Lawrence Academy
Lee Public School
Leicester Public School
Lenox Public School
Longmeadow Public School
Lowell Community Chtr. School
Lowell Middlesex Acad. Chtr.
Lowell Public School
Ludlow Public School
Lunenburg Public School

APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST cont.
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES NOT REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

Lynn Community Chtr. School
Lynn Public School
Lynnfield Public School
Malden Public School
Mansfield Public School
Marblehead Public School
Masconomet Reg School Dist.
Mashpee Public School
Methuen Public School
Mohawk Trail Reg School
Monson Public School
Mystic Valley Reg Chtr.
Nahant Public School
Nantucket Public School
Nashoba Valley Reg Voc. Tech.
Natick Public School
Nauset Reg Middle School
Neighborhood House Chtr. School
New Bedford Public School
North Adams Public School
North Andover Public School
North Shore Reg Voc. Technical
Northbridge Public School Dist.
Northern Berkshire Reg. Voc. Tech.
Norton Public School
Norwell Public School
Norwood Public School
Old Colony Reg Voc Tech
Orleans Public School
Pathfinder Reg Voc Tech
Pembroke Public School
Pentucket Reg. School Dist.
Petersham Public School
Plainville Public School
Plymouth Public School
Plympton Public School

Quabbin Reg. School Dist.
Reading Public School
Rising Tide Chtr. School
Rochester Public School
Rowe Public School
Roxbury Prep Chtr. School
Sabis Foxborough Reg Chtr. School
Salem Public School
Salem Academy
Sandwich Public School
Savoy Public School Dist.
Scituate Public School
Seven Hills Chtr. School
Sharon Public School
Shawsheen Valley Reg Voc Tech
Shirley School Dist.
Shutesbury Public School
Somerset Public School
South Boston Harbor Academy Chtr.
South Middlesex Reg Voc Tech
South Shore Reg Voc Tech
William E. Norris Elementary
Southborough Public School
Southbridge Public School
Southeastern Reg Voc Tech
Southern Berkshire Reg School Dist.
Southern Worcester Cnty Reg Voc Tech
Southampton
Stoughton Public School
Sudbury Public School
Sutton Public School
Swansea Public School
Taunton Public School
Tewksbury Public School
Tri-County Reg Voc Tech Sch
Triton Reg School

APPENDIX 5: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - MASS. PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT LIST cont.
 SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES **NOT** REPORTING THEY PREFERENTIALLY PURCHASE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS (MAY 2010)

Truro Public School
Tyngsborough Public School
Up-Island Reg School Dist.
Upper Cape Cod Reg Voc Tech
Uxbridge Public School
Wales Public School
Watertown Public School
West Boylston Public School
West Bridgewater Public School

West Springfield Public School
Westhampton Public School
Weston Public School
Westwood Public School
Weymouth Public School
Whately Public School
Whitman-Hanson Reg Public School Dist.
Whittier Reg Voc Tech
Woburn Public School

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES

BARNSTABLE COUNTY

EAST FALMOUTH

Coonamesett Farm
Salad mix
Ron Smolowitz
(508) 563-2560
cfarm@capecod.net

BERKSHIRE COUNTY

CHESHIRE

Whitney's Farm
Sweet corn, pumpkin, tomatoes, peppers
Eric Whitney
(413) 822-9723
www.whitneysfarm.com

DALTON

Holiday Brook Farm
Produce, maple syrup, beef, pork
Desirée or Jesse
Robertson-DuBois
(413) 684-0444
www.holidaybrookfarm.com

GREAT BARRINGTON

Windy Hill Farm
Apples
Judy Mareb
(413) 298-3217
whfinc@verizon.net
www.windyhillfarminc.com

HANCOCK

Ioka Valley Farm
Maple syrup, beef
Rob Leab
(413) 738-5915
iokavalleyfarm@taconic.net

LANESBOROUGH

Lakeview Orchards
Fruit
David Jurzak
(413) 448-6009
www.lakevieworchard.com

LEE

High Lawn Farm
Milk and dairy products
Helen Christensen
(413) 478-0549
helen@highlawnfarm.com
www.highlawnfarm.com

LENOX

River Valley Farm
Mixed vegetables
Lisa Dachinger
(413) 637-1290
lisa@raresheepwool.com
www.raresheepwool.com

PITTSFIELD

David's Melon Farm
Musk melon, watermelon, various colors and
flavors
David Leavitt
(413) 442-0484
northmelonbc@gmail.com

SHEFFIELD

Equinox Farm
Salad mix, various potatoes and other
vegetables, extended season
Ted Dobson
(413) 229-2266
equinoxfarm@yahoo.com

Howden Farm
Corn
Bruce Howden
(413) 229-8481

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

BRISTOL COUNTY

DARTMOUTH

Dartmouth Orchards
Apples and vegetables
Brian Medeiros
(508) 999-5801

DIGHTON

Reed Farm
Vegetables, fruit, flowers
Steven Reed
(508) 669-4088

REHOBOTH

Oakdale Farm
Vegetables, berries
Richard Pray or Laura Smith
(508) 336-7681
oakdalefarm@juno.com
www.oakdalefarms.com

SEEKONK

Four Town Farm
Vegetables
Chris Clegg
(508) 336-5587
www.fourtownfarm.com

DUKES COUNTY

EDGARTOWN

Morning Glory Farm
Mixed vegetables
Cheryl Harary
(508) 627-9003
(508) 627-3955 (fax)
morninggloryfarm@verizon.net
www.morninggloryfarm.com

SOUTH DARTMOUTH

Eva's Garden
Culinary herbs, flowers
Eva Sommaripa
(508) 636-5869

Forbidden Fruit Farm
Vegetables, Asian pears, frozen fruit,
extended season
Barbara Purdy or Chip Higgins
(508) 207-2193
(508) 990-8837 (fax)

WESTPORT

Noquochoke Orchards
Vegetables, 90 varieties of apples
George Smith or Doris Mills
(508) 636-2237
info@noqorchards.com
www.noqorchards.com

Paradise Hill Farm
Vegetables
Shirley Robbins
(978) 590-6537

Sampson Farm
Potatoes, butternut squash, sweet corn,
extended season
Jerome Sampson
(508) 674-2733
Sampson_farm_lp@yahoo.com

OAK BLUFFS

Whippoorwill Farm
Mixed vegetables
Rusty Gordon or Andrew Woodruff
(508) 693-5995
info@whippoorwillfarmcsa.com
www.whippoorwillfarmcsa.com

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

ESSEX COUNTY

AMESBURY

Cider Hill Farm
Fruit, berries, vegetables
Ed or Glenn Cook
(978) 388-5525
www.ciderhill.com

HAVERRILL

Tower Hill Farm
Melons, vegetables
Alan Schwartz
(617) 988-4051

IPSWICH

Appleton Farms
Mixed vegetables
Jamie or Melissa
(978) 412-9587
jbarrett@ttor.org

METHUEN

Pleasant Valley Gardens
Lettuce, vegetables
Rich Bonanno
(978) 682-9563
rbonanno@prodigy.net
www.pleasantvalleygardens.com

PEABODY

Brooksby Farm
Apples, vegetables, peeled butternut squash
Pat K or Joanne
(978) 531-7456
(978) 531-1631 (fax)
Joanne.rodén@peabody.ma.gov

WEST NEWBURY

Long Hill
Orchard & Farm
Apples, vegetables
Cindy Adams
(978) 363-2170
adamslho@verizon.net
www.longhillorchard.com

FRANKLIN COUNTY

ASHFIELD

Clark Brothers Orchards
Apples, pears, peaches, grapes, extended season
Aaron Clark
(413) 625-2492
clarkbrothers
orchards@gmail.com

Sidehill Farm
Yogurt
Amy Klippenstein or Paul Lacinski
(413) 625-0011
info@sidehillfarm.net

COLRAIN

Pine Hill Orchards
Cider, jellies, apples, extended season
David or Matt
(413) 624-3325
(413) 624-3413 (fax)
shearer2659@hotmail.com

DEERFIELD

The Bars Farm
Mixed vegetables, extended season
Allison Landale
(413) 772-1031
(413) 773-0055 (fax)
thebarsfarm@comcast.net
www.thebarsfarm.com

Clarkdale Fruit Farms
Apples, tree fruits, cider, extended season
Tom Clark
(413) 772-6797
info@clarkdalefruitfarms.com
www.clarkdalefruitfarms.com

Warm Colors Apiary
Honey
Dan Conlon
(413) 665-4513
warmcolors@verizon.net
www.warmcolorsapiary.com

Williams Farm, Inc.
Maple syrup, corn, cucumbers, butternut squash
Sandy Williams
(413) 834-3875
(413) 773-1900 (fax)
williamsfarminc@comcast.net

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

FRANKLIN COUNTY cont.

LEYDEN

Dancing Bear Farm
Vegetables, tomatoes, greens, extended season
Tom Ashley
(413) 774-2021
dancingbearfarm@mac.com

NEW SALEM

Hamilton Orchards
Apples, berries: fresh and frozen, rhubarb
Barbara Hamilton
(978) 544-6867
(978) 544-6121 (fax)
b.j.hamilton@earthlink.net
www.hamiltonorchards.com

New Salem Preserves and Orchards
Apples
Carol Hillman
(978) 544-3437
cbhillman@gmail.com

ORANGE

Seeds of Solidarity Farm
Salad greens, tomatoes
Ricky Baruc
(978) 544-7564
www.seedsofsolidarity.org

SHELBURNE

Apex Orchards
Apples, organic apples, peaches, cider vinegar,
honey
Tim Smith
(413) 625-2744
info@apexorchards.com
www.apexorchards.com

SOUTH DEERFIELD

Atlas Farm
Organic vegetables, watermelon
Sara or Gideon Porth
(413) 230-4833
(413) 773-3412 (fax)
wholesale@atlasfarm.com
www.atlasfarm.com

Long Plain Farm
Vegetables, extended season
Scott Hutkoski
(413) 665-1210
(413) 575-2598 (cell)
shutkoski@charter.net

Nourse Farms, Inc.
Small fruits, processed raspberries
Nate Nourse
(413) 665-2658
(413) 665-7888 (fax)
info@noursefarms.com
www.noursefarms.com

SUNDERLAND

D. A. Smiarowski Farm
Asparagus, sweet corn, potatoes
Dan Smiarowski
(413) 665-7522
dasmiarowski@comcast.net

The Kitchen Garden
Tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes, head lettuce
Caroline Pam
(413) 387-5163
info@kitchengardenfarm.com
www.kitchengardenfarm.com

Riverland Farm
Organic mixed vegetables, extended season
Meghan Arquin
(413) 687-5781
info@riverlandfarm.com
www.riverlandfarm.com

WENDELL

Diemand Egg Farm, Inc.
Turkey, turkey products
Anne Diemand
(978) 544-3806

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

HAMPDEN COUNTY

BRIMFIELD

Little Rest Farm
Mixed vegetables
Chris Sturgeon
(413) 245-1110
sturge1970@yahoo.com

CHICOPEE

McKinstry's Market Garden
Mixed vegetables
Bill McKinstry
(413) 297-3338

GRANVILLE

Mountain Orchard
Peaches, nectarines, apples, extended season
Ed or Anne Jensen
(413) 357-8877
(413) 357-6381 (fax)
www.mountainorchard.com

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

AMHERST

Atkins Farm
Tree fruits, cider, extended season
Pauline Lannon
(413) 253-9528
(413) 256-3117 (fax)
www.atkinsfarms.com

BELCHERTOWN

Austin Brothers Valley Farm
Beef, pork
Michael or Roxanne
(413) 668-6843
www.austinfarm.com
Cold Spring Orchard
Tree fruits, extended season
Kristen Hanley
(413) 323-6647
kmhanley@psis.umass.edu
www.coldspringorchard.com

EASTHAMPTON

Mountain View Farm
Vegetables, extended season
Ben or Liz
(413) 329-0211
mountainviewfarmer@hotmail.com
www.mountainviewfarmcsa.com

WESTFIELD

Kosinski Farms
Blueberries, strawberries, apples, frozen berries
Gene Kosinski
(413) 896-0475
kosinskifarm@comcast.net

WILBRAHAM

Green Acres
Fruit Farm
Apples, extended season
Kathleen Smedberg
(413) 596-3016

GRANBY

Red Fire Farm
Organic vegetables, extended season
Ryan Voiland
(413) 467-7645
ryan@redfirefarm.com
www.redfirefarm.com

HADLEY

Boisvert Farm
Maple syrup, vegetables, peeled butternut squash,
extended season
John Boisvert
(413) 585-8820
(413) 586-3447 (fax)
www.northhadley.sugarshack.com

Joseph
Czajkowski Farm
Vegetables, including some partially processed,
small fruits, extended season
Joe Czajkowski
(413) 237-2615
www.czajkowskifarm.com

Mapleline Farm
Milk
John Kokoski
(413) 549-6486

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY cont.

HATFIELD

Swazlowski Potato Farm
Potatoes, onions, extended season
Shelly Swazlowski
(413) 247-9240
swazfarms@hotmail.com
www.swazpotato.com

Teddy C.
Smiarowski Farm
Asparagus, potatoes, strawberries
Bernie Smiarowski
(413) 247-5181

Wendolowski Farm
Onions, extended season
Anthony or Helen
(413) 247-5476

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

ACTON

Butter Brook
Organic Farm
Organic vegetables, chicken, eggs, extended
season
Guy McKay
(978) 263-1936
butterbrookfarm@aol.com
www.butterbrookfarm.com

BEDFORD

Chip-In Farm
Eggs, call for availability
Paul Couvee
(781) 275-2545
www.chip-infarm.com

CONCORD

Verrill Farm
Vegetables, herbs
Steve Verrill
(978) 369-4494
www.verrillfarm.com

GROTON

Autumn
Hills Orchard
Apples, tree fruits, grapes
Evan or Lyn
(978) 448-8388
info@autumnhillsorchard.com
www.autumnhillsorchard.com

SOUTHAMPTON

Bashista Orchards
Apples, pears, peaches, plums, extended season
Thomas Bashista
(413) 527-9091
skyline@crocker.com
www.bashistaorchards.com

WESTHAMPTON

Outlook Farm
Apples, peaches, vegetables, extended season
Brad or Erin Morse
(413) 529-9388
(413) 529-0421 (fax)
www.outlookfarm.com

HOLLISTON

Reseska Apiaries, Inc.
Honey
Adelaide Reseska
(508) 429-6872
reseska-apiaries@verizon.net
www.bostonhoneycompany.com

LITTLETON

Springdell Farms
Mixed vegetables
Jamie M. Cruz
(978) 486-3865
springdellfarms@verizon.net
www.springdellfarms.com

STOW

Carver Hill Orchard
Apples, peaches
Chuck Lord
(978) 897-6117
www.carverhill.com

TOWNSEND

King Farm, Inc.
Mixed vegetables
Bart King
(978) 597-2866
www.kingfarminc.com

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

NANTUCKET COUNTY

NANTUCKET

Bartlett Ocean View Farm
Vegetables
Larry Belka
(508) 228-9403
www.bartlettsfarm.com

NORFOLK COUNTY

COHASSET

Holly Hill Farm
Produce, herbs, education, school gardens
Jon Belber
(781) 363-6565
jbelberhollyhill@hotmail.com
www.hollyhillfarm.org

FRANKLIN

Fairmount Fruit Farm
Apples
Johnny or Charles Koshivas
(508) 533-8737
www.fairmountfruit.com

NORFOLK

Jane and Paul's Farm
Tomatoes, sweet corn, butternut squash, strawberries
Jane or Paul Newton
(508) 528-0812
(508) 528-0862 (fax)
janeandpaulsfarm@verizon.net

SHARON

Ward's Berry Farm
Vegetables, berries, extended season
Jim Ward
(781) 389-2349
(781) 784-1650 (fax)
wardfarm@aol.com

PLYMOUTH COUNTY

HINGHAM

Penniman Hill Farm
Mixed vegetables, some pre-processed
Tony
(781) 749-5443
www.pennimanhillfarm.com

PLYMOUTH

Cranberry Hill Farm
Organic cranberries, fresh, frozen and dried
berries
Rob or Kristine Keese
(508) 888-9179
(508) 888-9179 (fax)
cranhill@capecod.net
www.organiccranberries.com

PLYMPTON

Sauchuk Farm
Vegetables
Scott Sauchuk
(781) 585-1522
info@sauchukfarm.net
www.sauchukfarm.net

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

WORCESTER COUNTY

ATHOL

The Farm School
Organic vegetables
Patrick Connors
(978) 249-9944
patrick@farmschool.org
www.farmschool.org

BARRE

Many Hands
Organic Farm
Organic salad greens, mixed vegetables
Julie Rawson
(978) 355-2853
(978) 355-4046 (fax)
julie@mhof.net
www.mhof.net

HARVARD

Carlson Orchards
Cider juice boxes, fresh cider
Frank Carlson
(978) 456-3916
(978) 456-3916 (fax)
www.carlsonorchards.com

Westward Orchards Farm Store
Apples, fruit trees
Stephanie Green
(978) 456-8363
www.westwardorchards.com

HUBBARDSTON

The Country Hen
Organic eggs
Jim Barry
(978) 928-5333
jimbarry@countryhen.com
www.countryhen.com

LEICESTER

Little Bit Farm
Vegetables, honey, eggs, meat
Dianna or Bruce Provencher
dprovencher@cmrpc.org

LEOMINSTER

Sholan Farms
Apples, berries
Mike Meehan
(978) 660-4556

LUNENBURG

Lanni Orchards
Apples, organic apples, tree fruits, vegetables,
some partially processed, extended season
Pat Lanni
(978) 582-6246
mac2go@net1plus.com
www.lanniorchards.com

NEW BRAINTREE

Howe Farms
Vegetables, fruits, berries
Chip Howe
(508) 829-2517
Stillman's Farm
Apples, winter squash, corn, beans
Glenn or Genevieve
(508) 867-7193
stillmans@verizon.net
www.stillmansfarm.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD

Brookfield Orchards, Inc.
Apples, extended season
Dorothy Civin
(508) 867-6858
brookfieldo@aol.com
www.browsethebrookfields.com

Dan Kittredge Farm
Organic greens, vegetables, extended season
Dan Kittredge
(978) 257-2327

NORTHBOROUGH

Berberian Farm
Fruits, vegetables, corn
Mike Berberian
(508) 393-8079
(508) 243-8079 (cell)

Davidian Bros. Farm
Tree fruits, mixed vegetables
(508) 393-3444
info@davidianbros.com
www.davidianbros.com

Tougas Farm
Apples, peaches
Andre Tougas
(508) 641-7256
andre@tougasfarm.com
www.tougasfarm.com

APPENDIX 6: FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT - DIRECTORY FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES cont.

WORCESTER COUNTY cont.

OAKHAM

Linabella's
Garlic Farm
Pesto
Jeff or Michelle Howard
(508) 882-3030

PETERSHAM

Sweetwater Farm
Mixed vegetables
Benjamin Purdon
(413) 320-1349
benjamin.purdon@gmail.com
www.sweetwaterfarmma.org

PHILLIPSTON

Red Apple Farm
Apples
Al Rose
(978) 249-6763
al@redapplefarm.com
www.redapplefarm.com

STERLING

Clearview Farm
Tree fruits, berries, mixed vegetables,
cut/peeled/cored apples
Rick and Diane Melone
(978) 422-6442
clearviewfarm@comcast.net
www.clearviewfarmstand.com

SUTTON

Silvermine Farm
Salad greens, vegetables
Martha Cole
(508) 865-5335
www.silverminefarm.com

WARREN

Breezeland Orchards
Apples, pears, peaches, cider, extended season
Mark Tuttle
(413) 436-7100
(413) 436-7122 (fax)

WEST BROOKFIELD

Honeybee Orchards
Apples, pears
Bill Haseotes
(508) 826-6607
(508) 867-4200 (fax)

Ragged Hill Orchards
Apples, extended season
Keith Arsenault
(508) 867-2187
arsenaultk@charter.net
www.raggedhill.com



Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1700
www.mass.gov/agr

