

## FLORICULTURE



New York floriculture production ranked sixth in the nation for total commercial sales in 2007. The overall value of commercial sales for operations with more than \$10,000 in sales decreased 2 percent to \$199 million. Bedding and garden plants continued to be the highest component of the total value of sales at \$110 million. Potted flowering plants were second with a value of sales of \$41.1 million, a decrease of 16 percent. Propagative materials ranked third at \$18.3 million, an increase of 6 percent from 2006.

The number of commercial growers decreased for the fifth consecutive year. During 2007, there were 698 growers. The open ground area used to produce floriculture crops in the state was down 11 percent to 838 acres. Greenhouse space for operators exceeding the \$10,000 sales level decreased 4 percent to total 24.2 million square feet in 2007. This decrease brought the total covered area (*offset by an increase in shade and temporary structures*) down to 24.8 million square feet, 3 percent less than 2006.

Nationally, the total wholesale value of floriculture crops grown by operations with \$100,000 or more of sales in the 15-State program is \$3.94 billion for 2007, up 2 percent from the revised 2006 total. These largest operations account for 96 percent of the total value of floriculture crops, but comprise only 47 percent of all producers. Bedding and Garden plants wholesale value of bedding and garden plants, at \$1.76 billion, is down 3 percent from the previous year. Potted flowering plants for indoor or patio use are valued at \$661 million, 6 percent more than in 2006. The value of 2007 foliage plant production, at \$630 million, is up 19 percent from the previous year. Value of cut flowers, at \$416 million, is up 1 percent, while cut cultivated greens, at \$92.5 million, is down 5 percent from 2006.