

Floriculture 2008

The following floriculture statistics were compiled from interviews of all known growers of floriculture crops in New Jersey. Growers must have annual gross sales exceeding \$10,000 of all floriculture crops to be included in the state tabulations. Individual crop details, including quantity sold, price, and value, are summarized only from growers whose gross sales of floriculture crops are above \$100,000.

Value of Production: New Jersey ranked eighth in the nation in expanded wholesale value of floriculture crops with a value of \$180 million. The total crop wholesale value for all New Jersey growers with \$100,000 or more in sales was estimated at \$170 million down 4 percent from \$176 million in 2007. These operations, which comprised 41 percent of all growers, accounted for 94 percent of the total value of floriculture crops. The 2008 expanded wholesale value of floriculture crops in the 15 major producing states totaled \$4.22 billion for 2008, compared with \$4.32 billion for 2007.

New Jersey's total bedding and garden plants sales, the largest contributor to total value of sales for growers with \$100,000 or more in sales, were \$108 million, a decrease of 3 percent from a year earlier. Potted flowering plants were down 13 percent in value to \$23.7 million. Foliage for indoor use was valued at \$1.77 million in 2008, an increase of 4 percent from 2007. The value of cut flowers increased by 5 percent to \$13.3 million.

Number of Producers: The number of producers with sales over \$10,000 in New Jersey totaled 374 in 2008, a decline of 6 percent when compared with 397 in 2007. This followed the national trend of a 3 percent decline. The number of growers in New Jersey with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 167 growers in 2007 to 152 growers in 2008.

Production Area: Total covered area for floriculture crop production in the Garden State in 2008 was 21.2 million square feet, virtually unchanged from 2007. Greenhouse space in New Jersey accounted for 98 percent of the total covered area with 20.9 million square feet. Film plastic structures totaled 15.8 million square feet, glass greenhouses totaled 4.3 million square feet, fiberglass and other rigid plastic covers totaled 806 thousand square feet, and shade and temporary cover totaled 347 thousand square feet. Open ground usage totaled 2,621 acres, up 3 percent from 2007. The covered and open production areas for the 15 major producing states were both down 5 percent.

Hired Workers: The 15 major producing states had 7,189 floriculture operations, and 5,313 of these operations hired workers. The average peak number of workers hired during the year was 17.0 workers. Operations with sales of \$100,000 to \$499,999 hired an average peak number of 9.4 workers, while operations with \$500,000 or more sales hired an average of 52.4 worker

NEW JERSEY GROWING AREA: BY TYPE OF COVER, 2007 - 2008

Type of Cover	All Operations with \$10,000 + Sales		All Operations with \$100,000 + Sales	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<u>1,000 Square Feet</u>			
Total Greenhouse Cover	20,970	20,883	18,256	17,904
Glass Greenhouses	4,749	4,256	4,603	4,021
Fiberglass and Other Rigid Greenhouses	802	806	688	695
Film Plastic Greenhouse	15,419	15,821	12,965	13,188
Shade and Temporary Cover	350	347	295	291
Total Covered Area	21,320	21,230	18,551	18,195
	<u>Acres</u>			
Open Ground	2,549	2,621	2,198	2,260