The floriculture statistics presented in this release were compiled from interviews and estimates 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 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.

The 2007 expanded wholesale value of floriculture crops in the United States was up 2 percent from the revised 2006 valuation. New Jersey ranked eighth in the nation in expanded wholesale value of floriculture crops with a value of $162 million. The total crop wholesale value for all New Jersey growers with $100,000 or more in sales was estimated at $154 million nearly unchanged from $153 million in 2006.

The number of growers with sales over $10,000 in New Jersey totaled 337 in 2007, a decline of 2.6 percent when compared with 346 in 2006. This followed the national trend of a 6.4 percent decline in the total number of growers. The number of growers in New Jersey with sales of $100,000 or more decreased from 166 growers in 2006 to 160 growers in 2007.

Total covered area for floriculture crop production in the Garden State in 2007 was recorded at 19.8 million square feet, virtually unchanged from 2006. Nationally, total covered area for floriculture production was down 3.3 percent from 2006. Greenhouse space in New Jersey accounted for 98 percent of the total covered area with million square feet, unchanged from 2006. Film plastic structures, at 14.4 million square feet, were virtually unchanged from 2006. Fiberglass and other rigid plastic covers were down 1 percent for the year, while glass greenhouse area, at 4.2 million square feet, was unchanged from the 2006 area. Shade and temporary cover constituted the remaining 411,000 square feet of covered area, down 3 percent from 2006. Open ground usage totaled 2,299 acres, down 2 percent from the 2006 total.

In New Jersey, the total wholesale value of floriculture crops grown by operations exceeding the $100,000 sales level reached $154 million in 2007, virtually unchanged from the 2006 total. These operations, which comprised 47 percent of all growers, accounted for 95 percent of the total value of floriculture crops.

Total bedding and garden plants, the largest contributor to total value of sales for growers with $100,000 or more in sales, recorded an increase of 2 percent in wholesale value of sales to $104 million dollars. Potted flowering plants were down 8 percent in value to $26.7 million. The foliage for indoor use category was valued at $1.74 million in 2007, a decrease of 32 percent from 2006. The value of cut flowers increased by 1 percent, to $10.4 million.