

## FLORICULTURE

New York floriculture production ranked seventh in the nation for total commercial sales in 2008. The overall value of commercial sales for operations with more than \$10,000 in sales decreased 3 percent to \$202 million. Bedding and garden plants continued to be the highest component of the total value of sales at \$107 million. Potted flowering plants were second with a value of sales of \$41.6 million, even with previous year. Propagative materials ranked third at \$19.5 million, a decrease of 6 percent from 2007.

During 2008, there were 824 growers. The open ground area used to produce floriculture crops in the state was up 11 percent to 1,184 acres. Greenhouse space for operators exceeding the \$10,000 sales level decreased 9 percent to total 23.3 million square feet in 2008. This decrease brought the total covered area down to 23.8 million square feet, 9 percent less than 2007.

Nationally, the total wholesale value of floriculture crops grown by operations with \$100,000 or more of sales in the 15-State program is \$4.04 billion for 2008, down 2 percent from the revised 2007 total. These largest operations account for 96 percent of the total value of floriculture crops, but comprise only 41 percent of all producers. Bedding and Garden plants wholesale value of bedding and garden plants, at \$1.84 billion, is up 1 percent from the previous year. Potted flowering plants for indoor or patio use are valued at \$698 million, down 1 percent from 2007. The value of 2008 foliage plant production, at \$630 million, is down 4 percent from the previous year. Value of cut flowers, at \$403 million, is down 5 percent, while cut cultivated greens, at \$93.5 million, is down 5 percent from 2007.

