



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

New England Field Office

53 Pleasant Street Room 2100 · Concord, NH 03301
(603) 224-9639 · (603) 225-1434 (fax) · www.nass.usda.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Dave Mikelson
603-227-3121

USDA TO MEASURE CRANBERRY CROP

Concord, NH – The 2009 cranberry crop is coming to an end and many in the industry are wondering if the early season predictions came true. That is why the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will soon be contacting cranberry growers to determine the size of this year's crop.

"In August, we forecasted that Massachusetts cranberry crop at 1.9 million barrels based on growers opinions at that time." said Gary Keough, director of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) New England Field Office. "We will now be collecting final production data from growers."

Starting in early November, NASS will contact selected cranberry growers and ask for bog acreage and production data. "It's important for Massachusetts cranberry growers to cooperate in order to provide the most accurate estimate of this year's crop" said Keough.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," Keough said.

Data provided by growers will be compiled to provide information that will be published in the ***Noncitrus Fruit and Nuts Preliminary Summary*** in late January 2010. This and all NASS reports are available on the agency's web site: www.nass.usda.gov. Massachusetts statistics will be reprinted in the January issue of ***Massachusetts Cranberries***. It will be available at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS New England Field Office at 800-224-9639.