



Cranberry Station Newsletter

APRIL 2007

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

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EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

<http://www.umass.edu/cranberry>

Candidates for Physiologist Position at the Cranberry Station

We are currently interviewing two candidates for the Assistant Extension Professor position at the Station. This would fill the vacancy left when Dr. Justine Vanden Heuvel accepted a faculty position at Cornell University in December 2006. We hope the successful candidate will be an innovative research scientist who provides research and extension support to the Massachusetts cranberry industry in the area of whole-plant physiology and plant-environment interactions. We interviewed Dr. Peter Jeranyama during the dates of April 4-5 and will be interviewing Dr. Sorkel Kadir during the dates of April 12-13. Below are brief biographies of those candidates. Additional candidates may be interviewed. We hope the successful candidate will be able to start around July 1, 2007. If you have any questions about the search, please contact Hilary at ext. 21.

Dr. Peter Jeranyama

Since 2003, Peter has been employed as an Assistant Professor in Plant Science/Forage Specialist at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD. He received his PhD in Crop and Soil Sciences from Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI in 1998. He has studied mechanisms of winter hardiness and developed screening techniques for cold acclimation in perennial ryegrass and alfalfa. His past research is highly regarded in the forage and grassland community in Northern state locations. He currently has funding from the US Department of Energy to study biomass feedstock production (biofuels) in terms of structural carbohydrate content and response of the feedstock to varied environmental conditions. Peter has received several honors, fellowships and grants including being a W.K. Kellogg Foundation Fellow from 1993-1998 and working as a CIMMYT (an international wheat and maize improvement program) Pre-doctoral Research Associate in 1996-1997.

Dr. Sorkel Kadir

Sorkel received her PhD in Plant Physiology from Kansas State University in 1989. She pursued several post-doctoral positions at both Washington State University and Clemson University. Last year, Sorkel began new employment as a Pomology/Viticulture Consultant in Manhattan, KS. Prior to that, she was an Assistant Professor in the Horticulture Department at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. She continues to provide expertise in plant physiology for the advancement of applied and fundamental aspects of fruit crops and viticulture science. A few notable research projects include screening methods for heat and cold-resistant cultivars, alleviating stress conditions through cultural practices and researching the efficacy of irrigation managements on plant physiology and yield components. Sorkel has been very successful in bringing in extramural funds to support her research program and has published extensively in both scientific and trade journals.

WORKER PROTECTION TRAININGS

Worker Protection Trainings for cranberry workers in the handler category will be offered in the spring of 2007: April 25, May 30, and June 27. There is a \$5 fee to cover the cost of the WPS training manual. If you have a pesticide license you do not need this training. Training will be at the Station from 2-4 PM.

Contact Martha Sylvia: 508-295-2212, ext. 20 to sign up or for additional information.

Dr. Carolyn DeMoranville, Station Director

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Deborah Cannon, Editor

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PRELIMINARY KEEPING QUALITY FORECAST

As of April 1, there are 2 points out of a possible 10 that favor keeping quality for the 2007 Massachusetts cranberry crop. The 2 points were awarded for favorable sunshine hours in March. The forecast is for **POOR to FAIR** keeping quality. The final keeping quality forecast (issued after June 1) could be upgraded if we have a cool and dry April and May. Based on the present forecast, fungicide applications and the rate of fungicides applied should not be reduced. As for the holding of late water, growers should determine whether they should hold late water, based on whether the bed was sanded, has winter injury or other stresses and its fruit rot incidence in 2006. Check the section on late water in the Chart Book for the specifics on when and when not to use this cultural practice. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Frank Caruso
Plant Pathology

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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