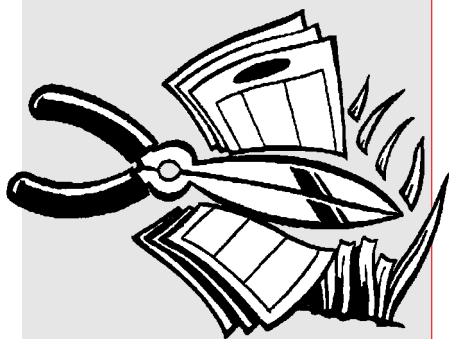


Clippings

The goal is to document the amount of turfgrass acreage in New York and the economic value of turf, turf production, services, and expenditures. NASS expects to send out 15,000 questionnaires.

The survey will increase knowledge about this important industry and ultimately enable the public, industry and government to work together to ensure its continued growth and benefit to all New Yorkers.



**New York
Turfgrass Survey a
Reality**

The New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), in cooperation with the New York Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, will conduct the first New York Turfgrass Survey this fall. The goal is to document the amount of turfgrass acreage in New York and the economic value of turf, turf production, services, and expenditures. NASS expects to send out 15,000 questionnaires and to have about a 30-40% return rate.

According to Steve Ropel, NASS State Statistician, "The development of a quality mailing list is essential to making the survey a success." NYSTA, working closely with the agencies involved, is developing a targeted list of turf management professionals in a variety of related industries including landscape, sod farm, golf course, parks and recreation, highway rest areas, and cemeteries. Residential properties, corporate sites and schools also will be evaluated in order to obtain an accurate assessment of

turfgrass acreage in New York State. The list of all known operations in each segment of the turfgrass industry will then be combined and a sample will be selected from the resulting list. Turf managers in this sample will be contacted to complete a questionnaire and data collected will be statistically expanded to represent all of New York.



Steve Griffen, NYSTA President and co-owner of Saratoga Sod Farm, Inc., said that the survey, which has been initiated by NYSTA and partially funded by members over the past several years, will increase knowledge about this important industry and ultimately enable the public, industry and government to work together to ensure its continued growth and benefit to all New Yorkers.

The target date for the first questionnaire is September and the final report is expected to be completed by the spring of 2004. Once the survey is tabulated, a publication will be prepared. Anyone receiving a questionnaire may request a copy of the publication by checking a box on the survey form. Others may contact the New York State Agricultural Statistics Service by mail at 1 Winners Circle, Albany, NY 12235; by phone at (518) 457-5570 or (800) 821-1276; by fax at (518) 453-6564; or by email at nass-ny@nass.usda.gov. The publication will also be available, when completed, on the NASS web site, www.nass.usda.gov/ny.

The New York State Turfgrass Association is made up of individuals in the green industry

who have joined together to share technology, promote environmental stewardship, support education, advance research, and disseminate

research findings. For more information, please contact the New York State Turfgrass Association, at (518) 783-1229, nysta@nysta.org, www.nysta.org.

*Denise Lewis
NYSTA*

Send Us a Letter

We often receive letters from our readers reacting to the articles and information presented in *CUTT*. Encouraging a free-flowing, two-way communication between our readers and Cornell's Turfgrass Team can only make

CUTT a better, more relevant publication. Accordingly, we will be instituting a "Letters to the Editor" section. Send your comments via regular mail to *Cornell University Turfgrass Times*, 20 Plant Science Building, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, or via email to fsr3@cornell.edu.