

Grants For Local Tree Plantings Released

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania will receive \$466,700 for new urban and community tree planting programs under a plan announced recently by Gov. Robert P. Casey at the Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Association's Arbor Day ceremony in Harrisburg.

The funding from the U.S. Forest Service is part of President Bush's America the Beautiful National Tree Planting Initiative and will be used to encourage communities to plant and maintain public trees.

The program includes hiring the state's first full-time urban forestry extension instructor at Penn State University and four regional urban forestry coordinators who will help communities develop tree planting projects and local shade tree ordinances.

The remaining funds will be distributed through challenge grants to be awarded to local governments and civic groups for the planting of trees along streets, in parks or greenbelts. Special grants also will be available to non-profit organizations to promote volunteer training for local urban forestry projects.

All grants will be awarded by a newly formed Urban and Community Forestry Council that includes representatives from the Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Association, Penn State University, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Metropolitan Edison, Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Pennsylvania Forestry Association, Root's Nurseries, Municipal Arborists, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources' Bureau of Fore-

stry. The Council will announce a timetable for the 1991 grant awards later this summer.

Pennsylvania is one of six states in the northeast region to serve as a pilot program for the \$16.6 million National Tree Planting Initiative. With a progressive urban forestry program already in place, the commonwealth received funding totaling more than three times the base amount awarded to other states.

In addition to the National Tree

Planting Initiative, Pennsylvania currently administers the following urban forestry programs:

- Municipal Tree Restoration Program. A cooperative effort including utility companies, Penn State University, and the state Bureau of Forestry. Replaces trees growing under power lines with healthy and more desirable species.

- Penn ReLeaf. A cooperative

effort including the Bureau of Forestry, Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Association, Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia Ranger Corps, Wildlands Conservancy, and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council. Conducts local workshops on urban forestry and offers community groups matching grants up to \$50 for planting trees on public property.

- Pennsylvania Forestry Association, Urban Forestry Commit-

tee. Conducts local urban forestry workshops and recognizes outstanding individuals in the field each year.

For more information on Pennsylvania's urban forestry programs or the National Tree Planting Initiative, contact the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Forestry, ATTN: America the Beautiful, P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552.

USDA Issues Payment Limitation Rules

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan recently announced that husbands and wives may qualify as separate persons under the Commodity Credit Corporation's payment-limitation rules if they do not receive payment from more than one source.

Madigan said the final rule also clarifies that an interest in an estate will not be considered another source.

These amendments form part of the final rules that govern the statutory payment-limitation and payment-eligibility provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990. Agricultural producers receive payments for participating in programs that help adjust production and may add to the soundness of the environment.

Madigan said the new payment-limitation and payment-eligibility rules modify existing rules, affecting the following:

For the first time, the wool and mohair programs fall under pay-

ment limitation rules. In 1991, payments for each program are limited to \$200,000 per person. In addition, each person must be "actively engaged in farming."

A new inheritance provision allows producers who inherit land subject to a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract to earn

Talks About Resuming Del. Seed Sales

DOVER, Del. — A delegation from Prince Edward Island, Canada's largest exporter of seed potatoes, recently visited Delaware to discuss the reopening of seed sales.

Prince Edward Island has been placed under strict quarantine as a result of the detection of PVY* in 1990, and the delegation will explain to state and industry officials the steps being taken to eradicate the virus.

The delegation is made up of both elected representatives and scientific officials. The elected representatives are Allison Ellis

and Stavert Huestis, members of the Legislative Assembly. Both are also major potato producers. Scientific officials are from the provincial and federal departments of agriculture.

Resuming Del. Seed Sales

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"Prince Edward Island is taking major steps to eradicate the virus," said Ellis. "The objective is complete eradication this year, in order to restore the Island's disease-free status."

Huestis said that the Delaware market is an important one for Prince Edward Island. "The ban on the export of seed sales to the U.S. has had a devastating effect

amount up to \$50,000.

In order for a trust to be considered "actively engaged in farming," the trust must have a valid tax identification number, unless the trust is revocable and the grantor is the sole income beneficiary. In this case, the grantor's tax identification number may be used.

on our industry," he said. "We want to explain what we are doing in order to get back into these markets".

Exports of seed sales to the U.S. were banned earlier this year by the U.S. Department of Agriculture because of the zero tolerance for PVY*. PVY* is a virus disease which is harmless to human health, and has little if any effect on potatoes, but it is damaging to tobacco and some other crops such as peppers.

During the past several months, a comprehensive eradication program has been put in place.




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