# Vegetable Growers Prepare For Meeting

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey will once again return to the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort in Atlantic City for their 1994 annual meeting on January 18-20.

Educational sessions, a trade show, spouses program, and dinner show are the featured events of this year's meeting.

Growers and the vegetable industry are looking forward to another successful meeting in the large and spacious facilities of the

## **Ivy Topiary** Care

Topiaries in the shape of trees, spheres, hearts and even animals are popular holiday gifts for gardeners. If you are the lucky recipient of a topiary house plant or plan on giving one as a gift, here for some tips for helping them stay

• Ivy likes a dry/wet cycle. Allow the plant to dry slightly and then water it until the root ball is well soaked. During the winter the plant will require less water.

• As long as the plant is producing new leaves it may be fertilized with a diluted fertilizer solution. Choose a fertilizer specifically formulated for house plants that is high in nitrogen.

· Ivy thrives in cool temperatures; even 50° is not too cool and the plant will produce the most new growth when room temperature ranges from 50-60°. Keep the plant away from forced air vents that blow dry air. Ivy requires high humidity.

• Place the plant in bright light. Windows that face south or east receive the most light especially during the winter. Spider mites are the biggest pest problem for ivy topiaries. A good sign of mite infestation is mottled leaves that keep dropping from the plant. Minor mite problems can be cured by washing them off the leaves with warm water. If you observe tiny spider webs between the leaves and stems, the plant is in serious trouble. Ivy can be treated with a house plant insecticide, but the best cure is to avoid the problem by providing the plant with the proper growing conditions.

Once a month give the plant a warm shower to help clean dust off the foliage.

Ivy likes to be potbound and can remain in the same pot for several years. Keep the topiary looking at its best by snipping off leaves or shoots that grow too far away from the wire support system.

Taj Mahal, located on the boardwalk. Plans are being completed to house the more than 2,000 attendees, which includes growers, agribusinessmen, county agents and state specialists from New Jersey and the eastern United States. This meeting is one of the largest of it's kind on the entire East Coast.

VGANJ Secretary, Phil Traino, is coordinating registration. Dr. Steve Reiners and Dr. Steve Garrison of Rutgers Cooperative Extension are coordinating the educational sessions, and Rocco DiGerolamo is coordinating the trade

The trade show area with space for 150 exhibits is available in the Grand Ballroom of the Taj Mahal. Agribusiness representatives will display new tillage, irrigation, planting, seeding, packing, and pesticide application equipment. Suppliers and distributors of fertilizers, pesticides, containers and other farm supplies will be available to discuss the use of their products.

Once again, lunch will be available in the exhibit area, allowing participants to enjoy their meal without waiting in long hotel lines. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about new products and services, and to exchange information with other growers and

## Candlelight **Tours**

WEST CHESTER (Chester Co.) — Hibernia Mansion will host its annual Christmas Candlelight Tours, Thursday through Sunday, December 2 to 5. The 19th century mansion will be decorated with greens and private collections illuminated solely by candlelight.

The tours are sponsored by the Friends of Hibernia County Park using the theme, "Christmas in the Twenties.'

Hibernia Mansion dates back to 1765. The mansion today is the result of renovations and extensions made between 1895 and 1920 by Colonel Franklin Swayne, a Philadelphia real estate lawyer.

The Christmas Tours are Thursday-Saturday, December 2-4, 6:30-9 p.m., and Sunday, December 5, 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$1.50/Adults, \$1.00/Children and

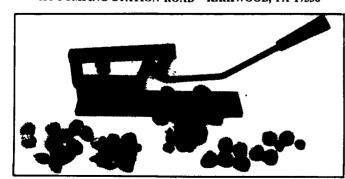
Drivers should look for signs featuring a candle, which will mark the way. For additional infermation, call Hibernia County Park at (215) 384-0290.

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industry representatives.

This year, the educational program committee has developed 16 sessions and workshops on topics and issues of special concerns to growers. Featured speakers at this year's meeting include leading researchers, extension specialists and agents, industry scientists, and growers willing to share their expertise and success.

Speakers from Massachusetts, North Carolina, Florida, North Dakota, California, Ohio, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maryland will all participate in this year's sessions.

Rutgers research and extension

faculty as well as personnel from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the Department of **Environment Protection and Ener**gy will provide growers with the latest information on regulations, pesticides, IPM, and cultural practices for the New Jersey grower. Core and category pesticide recertification credits will be offered in most sections.

On the evening of Wednesday, January 19, the annual dinner show will again be the social highlight of the three-day event. All ticket holders will be able to enjoy an exciting variety show in the Tiara Ballroom.

Anyone buying a ticket for the dinner show is automatically entered into a drawing for a vacation trip for three days and two nights at the Tai Mahal. Proceeds from the dinner show help support a scholarship fund for students studying vegetable culture at Cook College.

For more information on meeting registration, call Phil Traino at (609) 985-4232. For information on the trade show, call Rocky DeGerolamo at (609) 561-9522. On educational sessions, call Dr. Steve Reiners at (908) 932-9395 or Dr. Steve Garrison at (609)

#### Dial Phone For Cheese Consumers

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — More than 11,600 consumers picked up the phone and dialed 1-800-NY-CHEESE in response to the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council's (ADADC) free coupon booklet offer for New York state cheeses during the October television

The 30-second commercial was filmed in Rochester, New York in August and aired for three weeks in October on ABC, NBC and CBS local affiliates in Syracuse (WIXT-TV Channel 9, WSTM-TV Channel 3, and WTVH-TV Channel 5). The 800 number con-

campaign in the Syracuse market. cept was being tested as an alternative way of distributing coupons to consumers.

> Based on the overwhelming response to the 800 number, ADADC is considering introducing this strategy into other markets in its region.

> > <u>ALEXANDRIA</u> MAX ISENBERG

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MECHANICSBURG JOHN JONES 717-766-8582

ZUG FARM & DAIRY EQUIPMENT

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**ORANGEVILLE** FRANKLIN D. HESS

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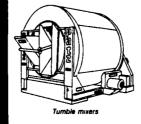
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