

Lt. Gov. Donohue Awards \$520,000 For Agricultural Development

GENEVA, N.Y. — Bacterial cultures don't often oscillate in front of New York State Lieutenant Governor Mary O. Donohue.

But biotechnology was front and center during her announcement of the recipients of \$520,000 in funding from the Grow New York's Agricultural Research and Development Grant Program at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, in February.

Twenty agricultural projects throughout the state received funding. Commodities ranged from hay to beef, brandy to maple syrup, onions to apples, and potatoes to wine. The projects targeted economic development, feasibility analysis and project research aimed at addressing New York's agricul-

tural development needs and opportunities.

In choosing a state-of-the-art lab at the Experiment Station in Geneva for the press conference, the Lieutenant Governor acknowledged the strong role Geneva has played in supporting New York's fruit and vegetable industry through the development of good farming, food storage and food processing practices.

"Agriculture is a vital component of the rural economy. In fact, every New Yorker benefits from a viable and profitable food and agriculture industry," said Donohue. "In order to maintain the industry's strong economic impact, we must encourage and assist the research and development of new concepts and products in

the marketplace. I am extremely pleased to award these 20 grants to projects that will help strengthen New York's agricultural industry."

The Agricultural Research and Development Grant Program awards matching funds of up to \$50,000 to individual farmers and various agricultural businesses, organizations, local governments and institutions. The funded, eligible projects focused on developing and expanding markets for New York agricultural products, improving production capacity, creating new technologies or improving efficiency in agriculture. It was the first year of the program. Another \$500,000 is slated to be awarded in 2002.

Of the 20 projects, Cornell

University-related projects received four grants, including \$17,913 for the development of a NYS Beef Quality Assurance Program with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) in Cortland County; \$24,500 for an economic feasibility analysis of a producer meat processing consortium with CCE in Oneida County; \$40,000 for a New York State "onions with attitude" branding program with CCE in Oswego County; and \$21,300 for a project to maximize the potential of MCP, a post-harvest compound that helps control premature apple ripening, with Christopher Watkins on the Ithaca campus and Steve Hoying, of the Lake Ontario Fruit Team.

Promising to "put the crunch back" in the New

York apple, Hoying said, "This gives us a wonderful opportunity to improve our market for the first-class apples produced in New York." MCP is a revolutionary new compound that improves apples' response to storage.

The wine and grape industry of New York garnered five of the 20 awards, including \$50,000 to the New York Wine & Grape Foundation to create an awareness and appreciation for New York agriculture campaign in New York City. The \$25,336 to a Seneca County alliance to promote production of Finger Lakes Pinot Noir also furthers the research of NYS Agricultural Experiment Station enologist Thomas Henick-Kling and viticulturist Robert Pool.

Vidalia Onion Growers In Georgia To Vote On Marketing Order

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The USDA recently announced that Vidalia onion growers in Georgia will vote June 4-22 on whether to continue their federal marketing order.

The order requires holding a continuance referendum every six years. To be eligible to vote, growers must have produced Vidalia onions within the designated production area of Georgia during the period Jan. 1, 2000, through Dec. 31, 2000.

For the order to continue, at least two-thirds of the growers voting in the referendum, or growers representing

at least two-thirds of the volume of these onions, must vote for the order.

Notice of the referendum was published in the April 30 Federal Register. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, which oversees the marketing order, will mail ballots and voting instructions to all growers of record.

Eligible growers not receiving ballots may request them from William G. Pimental, USDA/AMS Southeast Marketing Field Office, P.O. Box 2276, Winter Haven FL 33883-2276, (863) 299-4770 or fax (863) 299-5169.

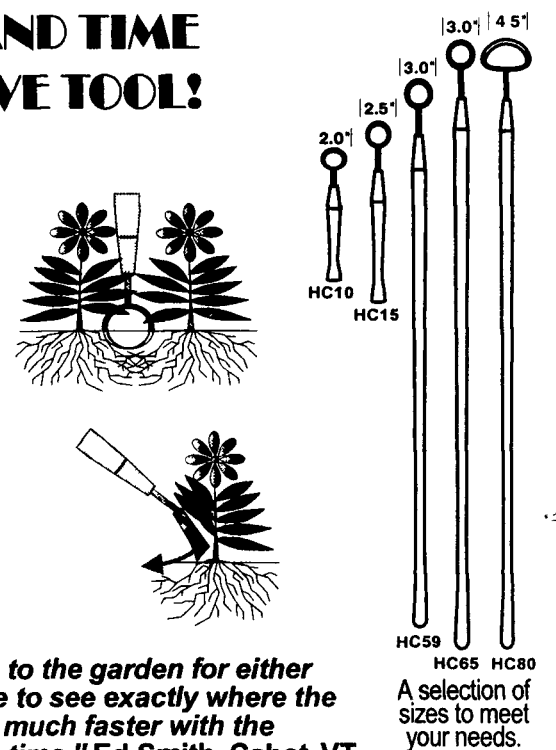
Agriculture Yields Fruitful Results



Lancaster Farming
Check out our web site

www.lancasterfarming.com

SAVE LABOR COSTS AND TIME WITH THIS INNOVATIVE TOOL!



Brilliant, simple design slices effortlessly through weeds virtually eliminating danger of cutting plant stems or roots

Small blade is ideal for use in pots and containers of all sizes

Sharp leading edge slices through weeds just below the surface with very little ground disturbance

"The circlehoe is always the one I take to the garden for either weeding or cultivating. I like being able to see exactly where the hoe blade is at all times. I can work so much faster with the circlehoe that the whole job takes less time." Ed Smith, Cabot, VT Author of The Vegetable Gardener's Bible

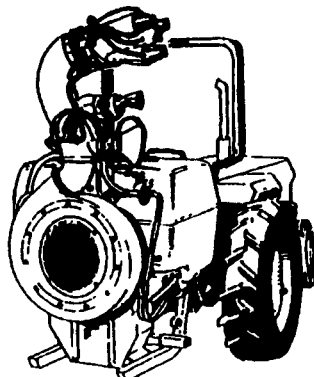
TO FIND A STORE NEAR YOU CALL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

800.735.4815 / www.circlehoe.com
Index Innovations Inc, Sebastopol, CA

SPRAYERS

Martin's Repair has the size sprayer you need - from small backpacks to large 3 pt. and trailer models. Call us today and let us help you select the sprayer you need.

cima Atomizers



We are all endeavouring to profit from the best possible yield from our crops. Fighting disease and insects with chemicals is an on-going process. Chemicals have proven to be effective, but the secret is in the application. Atomizers have been used since the 1970's in actual field experience, and insure clean, blemish-free, bountiful crops.

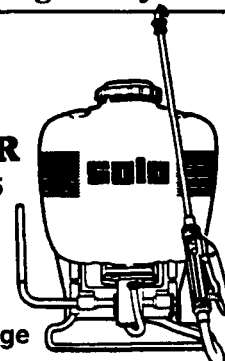
If you are interested in reducing cost, saving time and effort and preserving the environment, while getting the most from your harvest, call for more information.

SOLO Outperforms

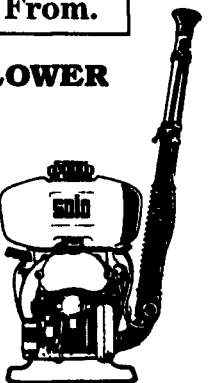
We have a Solo Sprayer for all your needs. Can be used for crop spraying fly spraying or foliage feeding.

Call us today for more information and pricing. Many Models to Choose From.

MODEL 425 SPRAYER
Reg. \$114.95
Our Price \$99.95
\$7.00 Shipping Charge



MIST BLOWER Model 450
Sale Price \$659.00
\$10.00 Shipping Charge



Martin's Repair, LLC

We Ship UPS

Parts - Sales - Service

28 E. Trout Run Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522

(717) 733-3015

