

College of Natural Resources and the Environment

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Competitive Agricultural Systems in a Global Economy

Sustainable Vegetable Crop Production in Massachusetts

Issue

Vegetable production in Massachusetts is a multimillion-dollar industry. Many growers operate their farms near urban areas where there are strong developmental pressures and also concerns about environmental contamination. For agriculture in Massachusetts to be continued without further relative declines in importance, its farmers must maintain or expand their production and marketing of crop products. Sustainable systems will be researched and implemented that will increase production without compromising the environment.

What has been done?

Eryngium foetidum (L.) is a popular crop among Latinos and Asians found in Massa-

chusetts. An experiment was implemented to learn basic information on this crop for production and marketing in this state. There are many brassica species that are popular among Asian populations found in Massachusetts. Information was learned on marketing and production aspects of these brassica species introduced to 30 cooperating farmers in Massachusetts.

Impact

Data suggests that producing this crop in a greenhouse and selling, as a bedding plant is the most feasible for the climate in Massachusetts.

Primary impact area(s)

- Research
- Education
- Extension

Funding sources

- Hatch Act

Topics

- Economic Response in Changing World
- Horticulture
- Precision Agriculture
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Urban Agriculture

Contacts

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