

United States Department of Agriculture
 **NRCS NEWS RELEASE**
Natural Resources
Conservation Service **Massachusetts**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest Returns

Amateur photographers who enjoy capturing local rural scenes, farm animals and fresh produce are invited to enter the Massachusetts Agriculture Photo Contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. Winning photos will be featured in the **2005 *Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar***.

Twelve photos will be selected, one for each month. Photos will be selected that depict the diversity of agriculture, horticulture, and natural resources on the commonwealth's farms throughout the year. To view last year's winners, visit www.mass.gov/massgrown.

Winning photographers will be credited in the calendar, will be invited to attend a winner's ceremony at the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) in Springfield in September and tickets to the fair, and will receive copies of the calendar.

The ***Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar*** will also feature facts and figures about Bay State agriculture, horticulture and conservation, as well as other useful resources for students and teachers. The calendar will be available to schools across the commonwealth and at selected public events this fall.

Deadline for submissions is August 31, 2004. For details and an entry form, contact Rick LeBlanc at MDAR, (617) 626-1759 or Richard.LeBlanc@state.ma.us.

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Mass. Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest Rules

All photos must depict an aspect of Massachusetts agriculture or horticulture. Photos must have been taken in Massachusetts within the past three years. Entrants must be a resident of Massachusetts. Professional photographers are not eligible to enter. Photos must be taken by entrants.

All entries must be photographic prints no smaller than 4x6 inches and no larger than 8x10 inches. Slides and digital photos should be submitted as prints. Original negative or slide should be available upon request; digital photos should be available on CD-ROM, diskette or via e-mail. Photos must not be framed or mounted. Photographers may submit no more than five photos.

Type or neatly print the following information on an index card or paper, and attach with tape to the back of the photo: entrant name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, where the photo was taken, month and year photo was taken. Please do not write on the back of the photo, staple or use paper clips, as this will damage the photograph.

Winning photos will become the property of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. Winning photos will be published in the 2005 Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar, and may be used on the sponsoring organizations' websites and consumer publications. Neither the Mass. Dept. of Agricultural Resources, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, nor Mass. Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. will be held responsible for lost submissions.

Employees of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc. are not eligible to enter the contest.

Send entries to: Photo Contest, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114.