



## MASSACHUSETTS



Thanks to this funding, CCCGA was able to hold workshops and have on-site demonstrations showing how to implement GAP standards for cranberry growers. Growers were taught how to self-assess their operations and create GAP plans. One hundred of the state's 133 growers were reached through these programs.

Walker was one of these growers, and she said of the program, "The workshop I attended and the materials the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association produced helped me work through some of the issues of Good Agricultural Practices on my farm."

Specifically, Walker said, "From keeping better records to identifying possible safety issues, this project allowed me to initiate Good Agricultural Practices."

With food safety standards rising nationally and internationally, it is vital that Massachusetts cranberry growers become GAP compliant. Thanks to funding from the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education, growers are getting the tools they need to keep their businesses thriving.

### Massachusetts Cranberry Growers Learn to Manage Risk with GAP

As a Massachusetts cranberry grower, Annie Walker is familiar with Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), but she is also familiar with the costs of becoming GAP compliant. "As a three-acre cranberry grower, introducing new practices such as GAP can be difficult because of additional costs." That's why Walker chose to attend the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association (CCCGA) sessions, "Managing Risk Through Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)."

The sessions were led by Jeffrey La Fleur and funded by a grant from the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education. As 31% of fresh cranberries in the United States are grown in Massachusetts, getting the state's 133 growers GAP compliant, especially with the ever growing rigidity of food safety standards, is of the utmost importance.

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# EXTENSION RISK MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

*“Helping America’s farmers and ranchers manage risk.”*

The Extension Risk Management Education program provides training to help producers learn new strategies to manage complex and growing agricultural risks. Extension Risk Management Education accomplishes this by encouraging and funding innovative programs across the country, and helping programs focus on accomplishing tangible results.

Projects are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Funded projects must identify targeted results that will help producers manage risk and then describe how the project will measure those results.

Commitment to funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration allow you to view the accomplishments of all funded projects online at: [www.ExtensionRME.org](http://www.ExtensionRME.org)

Section 524(a)(3) of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 authorized the Partnerships for Risk Management Education and provided \$5 million dollars annually to be administered by USDA-NIFA. Extension Risk Management Education is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions.

## Extension Risk Management Education Regional Centers

### Southern Center

University of Arkansas  
(501) 671-2165

### Northeast Center

University of Delaware  
(302) 831-6540

### Western Center

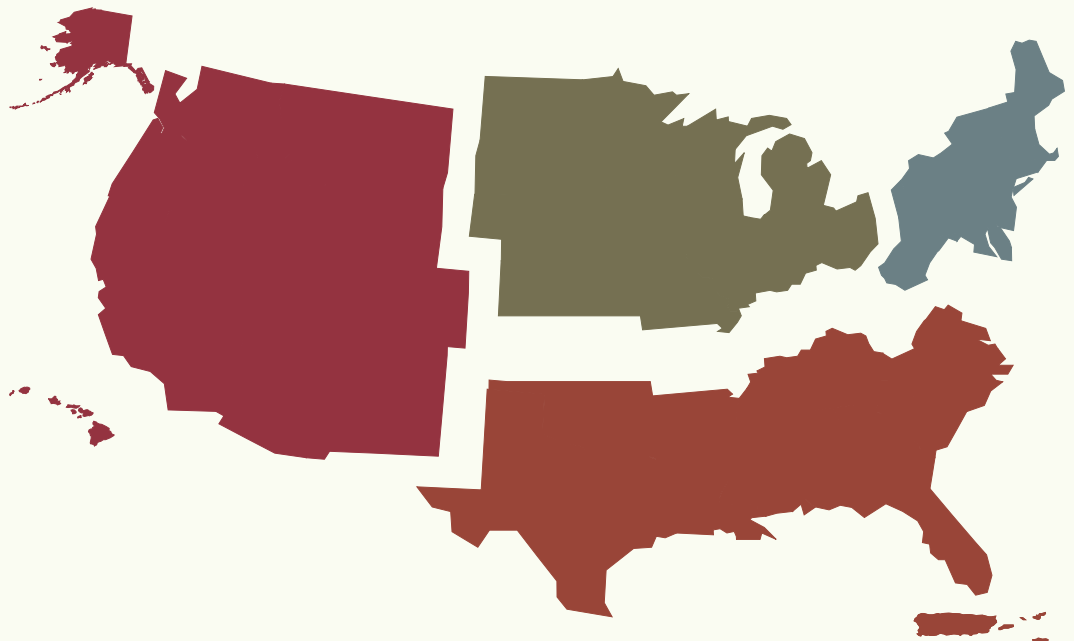
Washington State University  
(509) 477-2176

### North Central Center

University of Nebraska  
(800) 535-3456

### Digital Center

University of Minnesota  
(612) 625-1964



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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