

# New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station... Helping New Jersey Grow!

#### **Youth Development**

NJAES focuses on educational outreach and enrichment programming for youth in grades K-12, through 4-H clubs, special interest programs, school enrichment, and after-school child care education programs. It emphasizes science education and the expressive arts through a learn-by-doing approach to teach responsibility, community awareness, and character development. **Each year, 4-H Youth Development reaches more than 50,000 New Jersey youth. They are supported by over 2,000 adult volunteers, who each contribute more than 200 volunteer hours, valued at approximately \$11 million annually.** 

#### **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

NJAES faculty and staff assist commercial farms and fisheries, governmental agencies, agribusinesses, and residents with information, field research, and consultation on various issues related to agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, the environment, natural resources management, and integrated pest management. Twenty years of research investment in fruit, vegetable, nursery, and aquaculture have created disease-resistant, drought-tolerant, and high-yield products (e.g., turf, cranberries, oysters, hazelnuts, and tomatoes). These products are used by New Jersey commercial producers, significantly enhancing New Jersey's food and agricultural system, which directly contributes more than \$126 billion annually to the state economy and employs more than 440,000 workers, or approximately 1 out of every 8 jobs.

### Food, Nutrition, and Health

NJAES emphasizes nutrition education, well-being, exercise, and fitness to improve quality of life and reduce health care costs. Its faculty and staff partner with schools, civic organizations, municipalities, state agencies, and families. **The New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station helps to combat obesity and obesity-related illnesses, the health care and related costs of which have grown from \$2.2 billion in 2008 to a projected \$9.3 billion in 2018.** 

## **Continuing Professional Education**

Rutgers Cooperative Extension provides programs, classes, and certificates around a broad range of topics, including workforce development, turf management, beekeeping, food safety, and pest management. Our Youth Employment and Education Success Centers in Camden and Newark, and the Youth Success Network in Ocean County, connect adjudicated youth to school and employment opportunities.

Each year, more than 28,000 New Jersey residents take classes and attend other educational programs offered by the NJAES Office of Continuing Professional Education.

For more information about the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, our research and extension programs, and their impact on the people of New Jersey, visit njaes.rutgers.edu.

