

# Resources Available

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## CCEA Center for Controlled Environment Agriculture

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This center was established by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station to promote interdisciplinary research and technology transfer among industry, growers, and researchers in the area of controlled environment agriculture and greenhouse technology. This cooperative effort is designed to meet the need of this industry and to continue the strong and impressive effort of technological development at Rutgers Univ. One of the primary goals of this effort is to maintain and improve an economically strong and environmentally aware industry.

Current research projects include the study of heating requirements for low-temperature cultivars of bedding plants using phase change materials as a primary heat source, the investigation of the addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to irrigation water, the development of computer software for greenhouse design and environmental control, quality inspection of lettuce transplants using computer vision and image processing, image analysis for transplant production systems using robotics, screening for insect control for reducing pesticide usage, and other work in other interesting and needed areas of research.

Membership in CCEA is composed of corporate and grower members who pay a yearly liaison fee to serve on the Industrial Advisory Board. A Scientific Advisory Panel of nine distinguished scientists serve to evaluate research proposals, scrutinize results of research, and provide vision, focus, and guidance in the operation of the center. The panel includes Robert Langhans of Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y., and Royal Heins of Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, two outstanding horticulturists, along with plant breeders, tissue culture specialists, engineers, and an extension area agent.

Associate memberships are available to grower and industry organizations interested and vitally concerned with research. Satellite membership for small growers is available. These growers are represented on the Industrial Advisory Board by one representative for each 25 members.