

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY MORNING, 3 NOVEMBER 1995

The Forty-fifth Meeting of the Eastern Region of the International Plant Propagators' Society convened at 8:00 AM in the Sheraton Hartford Hotel, Hartford, Connecticut, with President David Beattie, Presiding.

President Beattie: Good morning. We have many interesting speakers at our meeting but before we start our presentations Deb Donahoe will begin our meeting with a welcome from the Connecticut Nurseryman's Association and then our awards presentations will begin with Mike Johnson and his tribute to Cecil and Jim Wells.

WELCOME TO CONNECTICUT FROM THE CONNECTICUT NURSERYMAN'S ASSOCIATION

DEB DONAHOE: It is an honor and privilege to be here this morning to welcome such a prestigious organization to our State of Connecticut.

The green industry in our state is the largest economic sector of agriculture. It generates more than \$600 million on the wholesale level. More than 14,000 acres are in cultivation, more than 500 acres are under glass, and over 5000 workers are employed. We produce woody ornamentals, annuals, perennials, ornamental grasses, cut flowers, potted crops, Christmas trees, sod, and herbs.

We have many outstanding green industry professional organizations, such as the Connecticut Nurserymen's Association, Connecticut Florist's Association, Connecticut Christmas Tree Association, Connecticut Groundskeepers, and the Farm Bureau to name a few, in addition to famous horticulturalists including Drs. Sidney Waxman and Dick Jaynes.

On behalf of the Connecticut Nurserymen's Association I welcome you to Connecticut. I hope this will be a time of learning, sharing, and camaraderie and that you enjoy your stay in our state.