Environmental Horticulture in New England

is many types of businesses...
There are more than 10,500 firms in the region. These include wholesale and retail nurseries and greenhouses, retail garden centers and florists, and landscape and tree services.

is growing...
Income increased an average 27 percent per firm, for six out of every ten firms. Over a three year period, industry income grew an estimated 15 percent. Over the last six years, industry income grew an average of four percent per year.

provides many jobs...
An estimated 148,000 people are employed in this industry. An additional 30,000 employees are needed. An estimated 72,000 jobs are full time. In firms with ten or more employees, almost half the positions are full time and almost two-thirds are either full or part time. This industry paid an estimated $2.2 billion to employees in 2004. Over a three year period from 2001 to 2004, an average 28 percent more was spent on labor.

supports the economy...
Businesses in this industry paid almost $418 million in taxes in 2004. Taxes increased for over half the firms. The average increase per firm was 25 percent.

protects agricultural land and green space.
This industry is keeping more than 194,000 acres in agriculture, of which half is open space and a third is in a land preservation program.
Environmental Horticulture is the fastest growing sector of American agriculture today, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and New England’s overall contribution to this growth is significant. The value added to our local economy through New England’s wholesale nursery and greenhouse growers, retail garden centers and florists, landscape and tree care services in 2004 surpassed $4.6 billion. Additionally, the Environmental Horticulture Industry substantially impacts the region through active stewardship of the environment.

This study surveyed New England’s Environmental Horticulture Industry—comprising more than 10,500 businesses that earn at least half their income from green industry activities. The results clearly quantify the many positive ways this industry affects the regional economy including volume of business, cost of doing business, employment opportunities, tax contributions and future growth potential.

The industry is made up of multi-generation, family businesses whose hard work in challenging conditions has put New England on the map as producing the country’s hardiest plants. Their success, coupled with that of expert growers, cutting-edge garden centers, innovative landscape contractors and designers, progressive tree care professionals and other visionary members of the regional green industry, promises a continuing bright future for Environmental Horticulture in New England.

Environmental Horticulture
We grow, sell, install, maintain and preserve the living landscape.

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9 ..... New Hampshire Two-thirds of plant sales income came from plants grown by the seller.
11 ... Rhode Island Plant sales make up 75 percent of total state industry income.
13 ... Vermont Two-thirds of firms increased their income an average 38 percent over three years.

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For more details on this survey, please visit our web site: http://pss.uvm.edu/ppp/nesurvey/index.htm