



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Host Successful Summer Meeting  
and Look Forward to Winter Meeting in Grantville, Pa.**

The Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association (PCTGA) held its Annual Summer Meeting from Thursday, July 29 through Saturday, July 31, at Bustard's Tree Farm and Yenser's Tree Farm in Lehighton, Pa. The meeting included group sessions where attendees had the chance to discuss topics like northern climate exotics and how marketing affects a plan to plant. There were also various networking opportunities like a "Mix and Mingle" on Thursday night at Bustard's Tree Farm, as well as a membership meeting, reception and dinner on Friday night at the Flagstaff Banquet Hall in Jim Thorpe, Pa.

On the final day – Saturday, July, 31 – attendees had the chance to visit stations at Yenser's Tree Farm where shearing, mowing, spraying and alternative management systems to chemical mowing were demonstrated.

The Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Russell Redding, spoke to the PCTGA members on location during the event as well. In addition to the Pa. Secretary of Agriculture, the meeting brought out big names like Rick Bates, Associate Professor of Horticulture for Penn State University; Andy Beck, Extension Educator and Paul Shealer County Extension Director (now retired) for the Penn State Cooperative Extension; General Manager Darryl Bowersox of Hill View Christmas Tree Farm; Larry Downey of Pepiniere Downey Nursery, Inc. and the owners of Bustard's Christmas Trees, Glenn and Jay Bustard.

Almost 30 vendors also exhibited at the event and came from across the state to be a part of the much-anticipated Summer Meeting. Sponsors of the event were Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit, Sheerlund Products and Jim Rockis.

"The 2010 PCTGA summer meeting was outstanding," said Jay Bozman, Sr. of P & J Tree Farm. "Both Bustard's and Yenser's tree farms are well managed and made everyone feel welcome. The topics were important to growers and all the speakers were well informed."

PCTGA staff and volunteers are now planning the next successful meeting to be held in Grantville, Pa. from January 19 – 21, 2011. "We are working on an excellent program to follow up from the great summer meeting hosted by Drew Yenser and Jay Bustard," said Melissa Holby, 2011 Winter Meeting Chair for PCTGA. The details of the event are currently being worked on and will be announced shortly.

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*The PA Christmas Tree Growers Association (PCTGA) represents over 250 growers of Pennsylvania Christmas trees. PCTGA works to promote and develop a community of interest among growers of Christmas trees in Pennsylvania and adjoining states, as well as to raise public awareness about Christmas trees. To find a Christmas tree grower near you, visit our Website at [www.christmastrees.org](http://www.christmastrees.org).*