

**Indiana Vegetable Growers Association
Annual Report
November 3, 2009**

Membership. IVGA had 114 regular and 7 corporate members in 2009, up about 2.5% since last year.

Directories. A membership directory was printed and sent to all members. The Directory of Wholesale Vegetable Producers was updated, sent to all members, and posted on the web site.

Web Site. Traffic to the web site continues to increase over the previous year. ivga.org has received 12,489 'page requests' since Nov. 5, 2008. Also since then, the 2008-9 Wholesale Directory was requested 145 times, the 2007-8 version 2,075 times, the 2005-6 version 1,107 times, and the 2004-5 version 3,169 times. That is a total of 6,496 requests for all versions of the wholesale directory combined. The home page was requested 3,730 times. 6,386 distinct hosts (i.e. computers) have visited the site, since December 2007, and 3,371 were new in the last year. Corporate members were listed on the Corporate Member page, and a graphic included on the front page and the corporate page if one was supplied.

Arrangements with Other Organizations. In 2009 Meister Publishing offered a one-year subscription to American Vegetable Grower magazine and Great Lakes Publishing offered a one-year subscription to Vegetable Growers News at no charge to IVGA members.

Letters of Support. In 2007-2008, IVGA wrote letters of support for the Indiana Sensitive Areas Map and Website by OISC, Mid American Ag and Hort Services, Great Lakes Vegetable Working Group, and Purdue projects on high tunnels. Several of these projects have been funded.

The Indiana Sensitive Areas Map and Website has been renamed 'Driftwatch' and is in operation at driftwatch.org.

The Great Lakes Vegetable Working Group (GLVWG), received continuing support from the USDA North Central IPM Program, and continues to hold annual meetings for vegetable extension workers and researchers. This year GLVWG sponsored a multi-site evaluation of heirloom tomato varieties, and facilitated a multi-site evaluation of powdery mildew resistance in cucurbits. Learn more at glvwg.ag.ohio-state.edu.

The Indiana High Tunnel Initiative: Developing Extension-Farmer Partnerships for Education was funded by the USDA North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NC-SARE) program. This project, led by Amy Thompson, Purdue Extension educator in Monroe County, pairs 7 or 8 educators with high tunnel producers around the state with the goal of increasing educator knowledge about high tunnel production systems. Several of the high tunnel producers involved are IVGA members: Scheeringa Farms and Produce, Tuttle Orchards and Harper Valley Farms. In 2010 the project will sponsor a high tunnel program at the Indiana Horticultural Congress, host tours at high tunnel operations, and develop a publication about Indiana high tunnels. Keep an eye on the project at indianahightunnels.blogspot.com.

Gifts and Grants. IVGA donated \$1000 to Purdue University to support vegetable research and extension in the Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture.

Indiana Horticultural Congress. IVGA co-sponsored the 2009 Indiana Horticultural Congress with Purdue University and other producer organizations. IVGA provided financial services and assisted with planning the vegetable program. Total attendance was 504.