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January 10, 2006

Name
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Dear Name:

Plant Industries, Delaware Department of Agriculture is proud to host the 81st annual meeting of the Eastern Plant Board. The meeting will be held at the Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center, Rehoboth Beach, DE from April 3-April 6, 2006. Eastern Region CAPS and HIS meetings will be held in conjunction with the Plant Board Meeting.

The Planning Committee of Randy Ciurlino, Tom Durkis, Ann Gibbs, Jim Kroon, Faith Kuehn, Carl Schulze, and Vicki Smith have worked hard to design a meeting that will address important topics such as emerging pests, biotechnology, and partner updates. The meeting will begin with a special Delaware Welcome Reception, starting at 5:30PM on April 3. The final meeting session will be an Invasive Plant Species Roundtable on Thursday morning, April 6. An optional, Fire Ant Workshop will be held from 9:00AM-3:00PM on April 3. In addition to the formal sessions, there will be some great networking opportunities. A gourmet Seafood dinner at the Dogfish Head Brewing Company is planned for Tuesday evening, April 4.* A Fire Ant Fiesta will be held in the Hotel's Beach House on Wednesday evening. Contact Randy Ciurlino (Randolph.Ciurlino@state.de.us, 302-698-4585) for details and rules.

The Atlantic Sands is offering a special room rate of \$71/night. They are also extending this rate to the weekend before the meeting, if you wish to arrive early and take in the Boardwalk and Atlantic surf. The number to make reservations is: 1-800-422-0600, specify "Eastern Plant Board".

Looking forward to seeing you all in April, and to a great meeting. A DRAFT agenda is enclosed. Details and a final agenda will follow within a few weeks.

Sincerely yours,

Faith B. Kuehn
Plant Industries Administrator

* a non-seafood/vegetarian alternative will be available