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ROBERT J. WINGLASS
COMMISSIONER

CHRIS BOUDREAU
DIVISION DIRECTOR

June 29, 2012

Dear Employer:

I am writing to let you know about this year's *Blueberry Field Worker Wage* survey. We are required to conduct this survey as part of a Federal program that determines the prevailing wages paid to field laborers in Maine.

Typical duties of blueberry field workers include: Spray fertilizer or pesticide solutions to control insects, fungus and weed growth, and diseases, using hand sprayers. Operate or tend equipment used in agricultural production, such as tractors and irrigation equipment. Attach farm implements such as plows, discs, sprayers, or mechanical harvesters to tractors, using bolts and hand tools. Irrigate soil, using portable pipes or ditch systems, and maintain ditches or pipes and pumps.

This survey asks employers to provide the pay rate, hours worked, total wages and residence of blueberry field workers during one week of the peak season. **The payroll week selected for this year's survey will be the week which includes June 29th.**

We ask that you complete the enclosed forms and return them to us by Friday, July 27th in the enclosed postage paid envelope. If you had no employment of blueberry field workers during this week, please *complete* the survey of prevailing practices and return it in the envelope provided, we need this information regardless. We know this is a busy time for you and so the forms have been simplified to reduce the task as much as possible. Examples are given. If you would rather send a copy of your payroll records for the survey week, feel free to do so. All information regarding individuals and employers will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions, or desire assistance with the survey, please contact Constance Bodine at (207) 621-5193, e-mail at constance.a.bodine@maine.gov, or fax to (207) 287-2947. You can visit our survey website for copies of forms and information:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/wageSurveys.html>

Very truly yours,

Chris Boudreau
Division Director

cab: Enclosures