STATE OF NEW YORK

7964

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

April 16, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. KELLES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to establishing a New York native plants designation within the New York state grown and certified program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 16 of the agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-h to read as follows:

2-h. Establish, in cooperation with the department of environmental conservation, a New York native plants designation within the New York state grown and certified program, for native plants grown, cultivated, harvested, or distributed by nurseries, plant farms, garden centers, and other horticultural vendors within the state. The department, in cooperation with the department of environmental conservation, shall establish appropriate standards and guidelines for such designation and provide for the use of seals, labeling, or other appropriate identification for certified New York native plants. The department shall further provide educational materials promoting awareness and understanding of native plants under the New York native plants designation to horticultural producers, garden centers, consumers, educational institutions, Cornell cooperative extension, and relevant agricultural and environmental organizations. For the purposes of this subdivision, "native plants" shall mean non-invasive herbaceous and woody plant species that are indigenous to New York state and are likely to maintain their range or successfully adapt to anticipated climate changes in New York state and the northeastern United States.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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