



NEWS

New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 13, 2022

Heidi.Winzinger@ag.nj.gov (609) 913-6576

New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program Taps Long Time Employee & Lifelong Farmer for Deputy Executive Director Post



The New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has named Charles "Chuck" Roohr as its new Deputy Executive Director.

Chuck has been with the SADC since 2000 and has worked extensively in all aspects of the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP), including the Right To Farm program, acquiring easements and the purchase and resale of farms in fee simple, and stewardship of preserved farmland. Since 2019 Chuck has been the SADC's Chief of Agriculture Resources, responsible for managing all post-preservation aspects of preserved farmland, including applications for solar installations, agricultural labor housing, house replacement, and division of preserved farms. He has also led in developing and implementing programs to support New Jersey's agricultural

businesses, including deer fencing, soil and water cost-share grants, and the SADC's one-time "business development" grants program.

Chuck was born and raised on his family's central jersey farm, which specializes in vegetables, fruit, grain, and pheasants. His first-hand knowledge of the challenges of operating a farm in New Jersey, coupled with his over two decades of work within the SADC, uniquely positions him to help lead the agency's future. He has continued to farm nights and weekends actively throughout his professional career.

"His program experience, excellent customer service skills, farming background, and ability to communicate effectively with the agricultural community and government agencies alike, make Mr. Roohr an ideal candidate for the position of Deputy Executive Director," says New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture and Chairman of the State Agriculture Development Committee, Douglas Fisher.

The New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) administers New Jersey's Farmland Preservation Program, including Farm Preservation across the state, Right to Farm, Agricultural Mediation, and Agricultural Development grants to preserved farm owners and operators.

To date, more than 2,812 farms covering approximately 247,947 acres have been preserved under the New Jersey State Farmland Preservation Program. To learn more about preservation and the SADC, visit:

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/>