



New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County
4000 Kozloski Road
PO Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033

njaes.rutgers.edu/extension

732-431-7263 4-H
732-431-7260 ARMA
732-431-7271 FCHS
732-431-7271 SNAP-Ed
732-303-7614 Master Gardeners
732-409-4813 Fax

May 1, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in regards to the hydroponic greenhouse production system for fresh vegetables and herbs to be produced by Hydro Sun Farms, Inc. The ag operation is located in Atlantic Highlands and assisted by a professional grower. After consulting with representatives of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture through Bill Walker (Al Murray, Larry Hardwick, Anne Marie Ference, etc.), they confirmed my initial opinion that this small operation will not need any special certification or permits regarding sales of unprocessed/raw food items.

The NJDHSS Food & Drug safety program **considers Hydro Sun Farms, Inc. the same as a farmer**. As long as they're simply growing and selling their own products, then there are no further questions or issues. If they buy produce from others that they didn't grow and then turn around and sell to a retailer as if they were a wholesaler, then they are a wholesaler and issues arise. If they process and/or value-add their crops in any way before selling them, then they are a processor and subject to additional rules and regulations.

From my discussions with them, they do not plan to chop or ship produce from the greenhouse, import produce or sell in a large scale wholesale manner. If there are any further questions, please feel free to contact me for further information.



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Bill Sciarappa, Ph.D.

Agriculture & Resource Management Agent
Rutgers University - NJAES

County Department Head
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Monmouth County
PO Box 5033, 4000 Kozloski Rd.
Freehold, NJ 07728

p. 732-431-7260 Ext. 7278
f. 732-409-4813
sciarappa@njaes.rutgers.edu

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Of Chosen
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