



## Walk With Care in Cranberry Beds

### Protect the plants.

**Cranberry vines are delicate.** Drive or walk on the dike whenever possible. If you are sampling on two ends of the same bed, drive to site 1, walk to take your sample, return to the dike, drive to site 2, walk to take your sample, and return to the dike.

**Disturb vines as little as possible.** Take large, gentle steps. Cranberry vines are trained by harvest equipment. Never walk against the vines. You may walk with the vines, or at 90 degrees to them. At WCRS, beds 1, 2, 3, and 4 are trained counter-clockwise. All new beds are trained clockwise.

**Step Carefully.** Step, pick up foot; step, pick up foot. If there is fruit, do not spin your foot—you could knock the berries off or “juice” the berries on the vine. The goal is to not damage the fruit (short term) or the plant (long term).

**Don't spread pathogens.** Carry a spray bottle of 20% bleach solution in your vehicle. Spray the sides and bottoms of your boots before you enter a bed, to avoid cross-contamination.

**Don't spread insects or weeds.** Check your clothes and pants cuffs for insects or weed seeds. If you are sweeping, use a different net on each marsh.



### Protect yourself.

**Check for recent applications.** When crop protection chemicals have been applied, signs will be posted at the entry to the property.

**Verify re-entry intervals.** Verify re-entry intervals (REIs) by checking the posting boards (one in station and one in the shop will have the same information). If you must enter a bed before the REI is complete, use the personal protective equipment required by the product's label.

### Protect the crop.

**Keep foreign material out of the beds.** Properly secure foreign materials (pens, soda cans, etc.) to avoid jams at harvest time. Cigarette butts must not be discarded on the marsh property.

**Keep antigens/allergens out of the beds.** Foods with human antigen risk (such as nuts) should not commingle with the crop.