

Cranberry Vocabulary

acidic	having a pH less than 7.0 (opposite of basic)
bed	prepared land where the cranberries are grown; made of layers of clay, peat and/or sand (clay on the very bottom)
boom	floating plastic or wooden lengths used to coral fruit during harvest
cranberry blossom	the cranberry's flower, which appears in June and resembles the head and neck of the sandhill crane, from which the word 'cran[e]berry' (cranberry) comes from
Cranberry ecosystem	wetland community of plants, animals, soil and water, whose acidic conditions support the cultivation of cranberries
dike	wall that holds water on the cranberry bed
erosion	the wearing away of soil
fresh berries	whole berries sold at roadside stands, farmers' markets, or in grocery stores such as Shop 'n Save, Shaw's and IGA
habitat	area that provides food, water, shelter, and space for living organisms
harvester	machines used to remove the ripe fruit from the vines
IPM	abbreviation for I ntegrated P est M anagement, which is a system of controlling pests that is based on many different factors such as cost (money) and environmental and human safety (are there safer materials that could be used?)
irrigation	supplying water to the beds by mechanical means
marsh (or wetland)	an area capable of holding water for a week or more at various times throughout the year
pemmican	Native American cake similar to mincemeat; made with cranberries
pollination	the process whereby cranberry plants are fertilized; greatly increased by the work of honey bees and bumble bees
processed berries	cranberries used in juices, jellies and other cranberry products
rake	long-handled tool that is helpful at corralling the berries during a wet-harvest; can also mean the wooden or aluminum scoop used to pick cranberries during a fresh harvest
reservoir	place where water is stored; basically a small man-made pond
runners	the stems of the cranberry plant that creep or 'run' (grow outwards) along the ground, as opposed to 'uprights' which are the stems that grow upwards and bear the blossoms and berries
staple	an important food basic to human diets (cranberries are high in vitamin C and antioxidants, which are wonderful at protecting our bodies from cancer and other serious diseases)
vine	perennial creeping plant on which berries grow

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