

# Preserving Ferolbink Farm

## The United Nations declares 2008 the International Year of the Potato just in time to save Ferolbink Farm

Known for its Irish potatoes, Ferolbink Farm – working farmland for more than 300 years in both Little Compton and Tiverton – stands on the threshold of change

**With your help**, The Nature Conservancy must raise \$1 million by the fall of 2008 in private funds to assist in the protection and preservation of the historic Ferolbink Farm, which overlooks the Sakonnet entrance from Tiverton's Punkateest Neck. This will eliminate the threat of subdivision and development into 40 lots.

The United Nations must have had Ferolbink Farm in mind when it declared 2008 The International Year of the Potato. This official declaration was intended to raise awareness of the importance of the potato – and of agriculture – to the world's population in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment.

Ferolbink Farm has great significance for the communities of Little Compton, Tiverton and beyond:

**Ecological significance** – its coastal bluff and maritime shrub land are important feeding and nesting grounds for migratory songbirds, and its marshland and brook provide important habitat for herring and shellfish.

**Agricultural significance** – its 125 acres of prime designated farmland



Photography Nat Rea

This isn't saved yet, but with your help we can permanently protect one of Rhode Island's most magnificent working farms – Ferolbink.

is one of Rhode Island's most productive farms for food.

**Landscape significance** – the site offers one of the best preserved coastal scenic vistas in the state, and the commanding view to the Atlantic is one of Tiverton's finest.

**International significance** – the potato ranks as the planet's 4<sup>th</sup> most important food crop and is on the front line in the fight against world hunger and poverty.

Partnership is at the heart of this protection effort. The Nature Conservancy is working in conjunction with local land trusts including Tiverton Land Trust, Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust, and Sakonnet Preservation Association.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management has taken the lead in securing both the Federal

and State funding commitments for the project. In addition, the Conservancy is working closely with The Champlin Foundations and the owner of Ferolbink who is donating a portion of the value of the farm. To date, the \$4 million funding goal is divided as follows:

Federal:	\$ 1,850,000	committed
State:	\$ 1,000,000	committed
Local:	\$ 150,000	pending
		Local Land Trusts
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Total:	\$ 3,000,000	pending
Private	\$ 1,000,000	uncommitted
		The Nature Conservancy

**Project Cost: \$ 4,000,000**

Your gift will help save one of Rhode Island's finest farms.