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MONTANA NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION CERTIFIES INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

MISSOULA, MT, September 20, 2007 — Four nursery and horticulture professionals from Montana passed the difficult Montana Nursery & Landscape Association Certified Plant Professional (CPP) examination held earlier this month. Newly certified are: Nickolas Ott and Sarita Cantu of Sweet Pea Landscaping in Bozeman; Sarah Ann Boyle of Native Landscapes & Reclamation in Livingston. Julie Schairer of Moeller's Nursery in Kalispell successfully passed the plant identification portion of the exam to renew her certification for an additional five years.

The exam tests participants' knowledge and recognition of plants and includes two parts — an actual plant identification exam and a written exam that tests participants' knowledge of general horticultural practices. While most of the plant material used in the exam is relatively common to our state, the test includes a terrific variety of plants, as well as some materials less common to our region. Since the CPP examination was introduced in our state by the Montana Nursery & Landscape Association more than ten years ago, it has gained a reputation among nursery professionals for being tough, and achievement of the coveted "CPP" initials after one's name carries a great deal of prestige.

The most recent exam was given in Belgrade on September 6, 2007 during the Montana Nursery & Landscape Association's Fall Tour.

The Montana Nursery & Landscape Association is a trade association of approximately 350 members from the United States and Canada. Its goal is to provide education, information, and opportunities for professional development to its members.

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