

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program

Vegetable News E-Alert ~ July 14, 2021

In this issue:

- Crop Notes
- Harvesting Garlic from Muddy Fields
- Botrytis in High Tunnel Tomatoes
- Summer Cover Crop Options
- Do You Need Produce for Your Farm Stand? Consider Buying from a NYS Produce Auction
- Funding Opportunities Update
- Upcoming Events
- New Veg News Podcast: Palmer Amaranth in Specialty Crops with Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie
- Corn Trap Counts

Crop Notes

- **Alliums:** Garlic harvest is well underway across the region. Most garlic is not approaching over-maturity, so if you need to wait for better weather to harvest the window is still flexible. Feel free to text me pictures if you are worried about timing: 518-775-0018 (Crystal). Many onion thrips and moderate leek moth damage seen in north.
- **Chenopods:** Cercospora pressure seems quite high this season. Second flight of leaf miners hasn't been noted yet.
- **Sweet Corn:** Western bean cutworm (WBC) moths are now flying in the North Country, but pressure is low so far and no egg masses have been detected in scouted fields. Little caterpillar pressure observed in north overall so far this season.
- **Cucurbit:** No downy mildew found yet in fields scouted in Clinton and Essex Counties this week, however, a suspected case was confirmed in Saratoga County. Risk remains high for southeast NY and moderate for east-central NY. Cloudy conditions protect spores from lethal UV sunlight and rain brings spores from air currents down onto leaves. Additionally, wind is moving DM from known occurrences toward NY, resulting in high risk of successful pathogen spread. See <https://cdm.ipmpipe.org/forecasting/> to see up-to-the-minute forecasts. Also see https://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc_985.pdf for an updated CDM Fungicide table. Two-spotted spider mites seen on many cucurbit (and other) crops in North, favored by high temps and dry weather earlier this season.
- **Legumes:** Many fields observed with hopper burn.
- **Solanaceae:** Early blight (Alternaria) is beginning to show up in early field tomatoes. Botrytis (gray mold or ghost spot), bacterial canker, and early blight seen in high tunnel tomatoes. See article below for botrytis cultural and chemical control options.
- **Other:** Chlorpyrifos Phase-Out Reminder: Pesticides containing chlorpyrifos (e.g. Lorsban) are prohibited from being sold, distributed, possessed, and used in NYS after July 31st, which is rapidly approaching. 15 products remain registered for all labeled uses until the end of the

Harvesting Garlic from Muddy Fields

Crystal Stewart Courtens, CCE ENYCHP

I've been getting a lot of calls from growers in the last week wondering what to do about their very muddy garlic fields. Most of the garlic I've seen isn't yet approaching over-maturity, which is usually assessed by clove tips pushing outward from the scape to the point where you can clearly feel them. Many growers have been concerned that the wet weather will increase disease in the harvested crop, but we aren't particularly worried that this will happen. This wet period may cause the dying wrapper leaves to decompose faster, which is a bit alarming, but it should not affect the healthy wrapper leaves. As long as you still have four healthy wrappers or more, the garlic should make it through drying and cleaning intact. As a reminder, any garlic that looks bad at harvest should be discarded at harvest and not brought into storage. Garlic that was dying already will certainly die faster in this weather, so you may see isolated plants looking worse right now. In a way this is helpful, since they would have broken down slowly in storage.



The second common question is about washing garlic if harvesting in mud. This is the only time that I'd recommend washing, because you aren't drying then wetting then drying the garlic. Layers of mud dry slowly, which can lead to increased post-harvest diseases, and they can be very hard to clean off. Either washing or doing a quick rub down as the garlic does dry will help mitigate this issue. It is better to avoid harvesting from mud if possible, but of course that doesn't always work out. As always, please reach out if you have questions. This time of year text is best—518-775-0018.

Botrytis in High Tunnel Tomatoes

Elisabeth Hodgdon, CCE ENYCHP

Botrytis (aka gray mold or ghost spot) is a fungal disease of tomato that is prevalent in the environment and occurs frequently in high tunnels and greenhouses. High humidity, lack of air flow, and cloudy weather favor this disease, which causes foliar spots, mold growth on the fruit calyx (top of fruit near stem), and round "ghost spots" on the fruit. Cultural control is the first step toward managing Botrytis: Avoid crowding and high plant densities, prune lower leaves, install fans and increase air flow through the tunnel to reduce humidity. Chemical control is needed when weather doesn't cooperate and preventative measures fail. Scala, Decree, Luna Sensation, Luna Tranquility, and Switch are fungicide options to manage Botrytis. See Cornell Vegetable Program's [Elizabeth Buck's article](#) in VegEdge for fungicide rotation and usage recommendations.



Botrytis on green tomato calyx and shoulder (left) and ghost spotting on ripe tomato (right). Photos: E. Hodgdon (left) and L. McDermott (right).

Summer Cover Crop Options

Elisabeth Hodgdon, CCE ENYCHP

At this point in the summer, short season crops, such as lettuce, first brassica plantings, peas, and other crops may be ready for you to till under. You might consider putting in a cover crop to fill the space in your rotation to improve soil quality through the fall.



Forage radish in October, seeded in late July/early August with dense canopy, suppressing weeds.

There are many benefits to cover cropping: increasing organic matter, improving soil nutrient dynamics, structure, and water holding capacity, boosting soil microbial communities, reducing erosion, weed and disease control, and more. But why try to squeeze them in during the growing season? Why not wait for fall? Getting a start on them now means that you have more options for species, and more time for the land to reap the aforementioned benefits.

Cover crops that can be planted in late July and August include buckwheat, sorghum-sudangrass, ryegrass, oats, hairy vetch, clovers, mustards, and radishes.

Which cover crop is best for you? It all depends on what you want to get out of it. Buckwheat is great in that it produces a lot of biomass and feeds pollinators. Sorghum-sudangrass produces a lot of biomass, but try to seed it before August. Oats and ryegrass have fine fibrous root systems that help improve soil structure, and are in the grass family, which is great for rotating with vegetables in other families. If you're interested in boosting soil nitrogen, vetch and clovers are great choices. Vetch in particular produces a lot of biomass, but can become a weed afterwards.

Lastly, brassicas are an option, but beware that brassica cover crops, such as mustards and radishes, can host some of the same diseases and pests that affect our brassica vegetables. Radishes in

particular germinate quickly and are very effective in suppressing weeds.

Check out Cornell's covercrop.org website for cover crop profiles, including planting date, benefits, and other information.

Do You Need Produce for Your Farm Stand? Consider Buying from a NYS Produce Auction

Elizabeth Higgins, CCE ENYCHP

NYS is home to eight produce auctions. Produce auctions in New York State serve as aggregation points that allow local farmers to sell their produce in wholesale lots to buyers from across the region. An increasing number of farms with produce stands are finding that produce auctions provide an opportunity to source high quality, local produce at an affordable price. This allows farms to offer produce at their markets that they cannot grow economically.

No time to attend the auction yourself? Most auctions have an order buyer who is a member of the auction house staff that will make produce purchases on behalf of others following the quantity and pricing specifications given by the buyer.



For more information about the buying process see: [How to Purchase at the New York State Produce Auctions, 2018 \(cornell.edu\)](https://cornell.edu/produce/auctions). Contact information for the auctions is available at: [New York State Produce Auctions: Locations and Contact Information \(cornell.edu\)](https://cornell.edu/produce/auctions/locations)

Funding Opportunities Update

Elizabeth Higgins, CCE ENYCHP

As part of the Pandemic Assistance for Producers Initiative, the USDA announced in March that it will allocate up to \$20 million in additional organic cost share assistance. These funds will be available to organic producers and producers who are transitioning to organic. There isn't additional information about what is included in this, but currently USDA-FSA is taking applications for the **Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP)**. The program provides organic producers and handlers with financial assistance to reduce the cost of organic certification. The program reimburses producers and handlers for a portion of their paid certification costs. Once certified, organic producers and handlers are eligible to receive reimbursement for 50 percent of certification costs each year, up to a maximum of \$500 per certification scope—crops, livestock, wild crops, handling, and State Organic Program fees. For the 2021 program year the deadline for applications is November 1, 2021 for expenses paid between October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. To apply, contact your local USDA-FSA office. [Find Your Local Service Center | Farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov). For more information see [organics fsa fact sheet 040221 final.pdf \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/organic/fsa/fact-sheet-040221-final.pdf)

USDA has also announced that there will be \$700 million available for **Pandemic Response and Safety Grants** to reimburse producers, processors, distributors, and farmers markets (including seafood processors and vessels) for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other worker protection measures associated with pandemic response. Stay tuned and keep your receipts and documentation of your expenses.

New York State has a new COVID assistance program, the **COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program**, which is targeted to small businesses whose income on their schedule C or schedule F (or other business tax form) declined more than 25% between 2019 and 2020 and did not receive more than \$100,000 in PPP loan funding. For those that received the PPP funding or other federal assistance, it did not make up for their losses. There are other restrictions, but for those farms that were significantly impacted by COVID this could be a useful program. For more information see this [PowerPoint Presentation \(constantcontact.com\)](https://constantcontact.com).

Upcoming Events

Onion Pest Update 2021

Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Modern Produce

77 Skinner's La.

Goshen, NY 10924

This 1-hour program will feature a variety of onion topics on pest identification and management. NYSDEC Pesticide Recertification Credits have been applied for in: 1A, 10, 23

Fee Details:

\$25/person before 7/16

\$35/person after 7/16

Cash or check only at the door.

Credit card only for on-line pre-registration.

Lunch Provided

*Report dietary restrictions in your registration!

Register: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/ONIONUPDATE2021>

Berry Production Twilight Meeting

NEW DATE: Tuesday, July 27th from 5-7:30 pm

Rulfs Orchard

531 Bear Swamp Rd, Peru, NY

Cost: FREE

Join us for a twilight meeting focused on berry production at Rulfs Orchard. Rulfs is a diversified fruit and vegetable operation owned and operated since 1952 by the Rulfs family. Farm staff, CCE specialists, and Cornell research station staff will discuss the following topics:

- Low tunnels for June-bearing strawberry production
- Managing strawberry pests using beneficial nematodes
- Strawberry weed management and renovation
- Spotted wing drosophila (SWD) management in blueberries and raspberries
- Juneberry (aka Saskatoon berry or Amelanchier) production in NYS

DEC Pesticide Recertification Credits: 2.5 in categories 1A, 10, 22, and 23

Please pre-register at <https://enych.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=1549>

Questions: Contact Elisabeth Hodgdon (518-650-5323) or Laura McDermott (518-791-5038).

Field Day at Philia Farm

Thursday, August 5 from 4-6 pm

Philia Farm

134 Miller Rd, Johnstown, NY

Join Cornell Cooperative Extension's Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program for a field day at Philia Farm in Johnstown, NY from 4-6 pm on August 5th. The meeting will showcase a variety of research projects, including:

- High tunnel pea variety trial
- Storage onion trial
- Leek trial
- Biofungicide trial on beets
- Mesotunnel insect netting trial
- Reduced tillage trial for fall vegetable crops

DEC Pesticide Recertification Credits: 2 in category 23

The cost of the meeting is \$10 for ENYCH members and \$15 for non-members. Please pre-register at <https://enych.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=1553> by August 3rd so that we can order refreshments!

Questions: Contact Crystal Stewart-Courtens (518-775-0018).

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Eastern NY Vegetable News Podcast

New Eastern NY Veg News Podcast Available Now!

Weed scientist Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie discusses the threat posed by Palmer amaranth to specialty crops in the region with specialist Ethan Grundberg. Specific topics include Palmer amaranth identification, herbicide resistance, and management strategies.

Listen to the podcast here: <https://soundcloud.com/easternnewyorkvegnews/palmer-amaranth-in-specialty-crops-with-dr-lynn-sosnoskie>

Corn Trap Counts

County	ECB-E	ECB-Z	FAW	WBC	CEW
Albany	0	0	0	2	0
Clinton 1	0	0	0	4	0
Clinton 2	0	0	0	1	0
Columbia	0	0	0	3	4
Dutchess	1	0	0	0	0
Essex	0	0	0	0	0
Orange	0	0	0	1	8
Ulster 1	1	0	0	0	1
Ulster 3	2	0	0	0	0

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