

# High Tunnel School Agenda: Getting the Most Out of Your High Tunnel

Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013- Batavia, NY

Register by Dec. 1. Registration information available at [cyp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php](http://cyp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php)

## **Welcome, Introductions, and Coffee**

**9:30-10:00am**

- Our Warm Season Tunnels

*Paul & Sandy Arnold, Pleasant Valley Farm, Argyle, NY*

10:00 – 10:45am

Paul & Sandy will share lessons learned regarding profitable growing for direct markets.

## **Break**

**10:45 – 11:00am**

- Structures and Site Considerations

*Judson Reid, Cornell Vegetable Program*

11:00-11:30am

Understanding how to select the best site for a high tunnel will go a long way toward ensuring crop health and structural stability. In this session learn which considerations are important for minimizing crop disease, including soil type and airflow. Hear input from growers on which makes and models they have used and would recommend.

- Irrigation Basics

*Robert Hadad, Cornell Vegetable Program*

11:30am – 12:00pm

How to make the most of your watering efforts, minimize disease and maximize yields.

## **Lunch**

**12:00-12:45pm**

- Which Crops Work In Tunnels

*Judson Reid*

12:45-1:45pm

The economics of growing vegetables are just as important as the know-how. Explore the economics of the most popular high tunnel vegetables including tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and greens. Appropriate management and marketing will also be discussed.

- Crop Culture and Spacing

*Amy Ivy, Eastern NY Horticulture Program; Growers*

1:45 – 2:15pm

The art of growing tomatoes in high tunnels is complex. Amy will shed some light on which practices will help tomato plants thrive for the entire season. Topics to be covered include training, pruning, the pros and cons of determinate and indeterminate varieties, and the role of foliar diseases in guiding these decisions.

- Tunnel Management

*Judson Reid, Cornell Vegetable Program; Nelson Hoover, Maple Lane Produces*

2:15-3:00pm

Discover the essentials of maintaining a functional and efficient high tunnel. This session will be broken into the following segments:

- Temperature management and ventilation and their impact on crop health
- Snow loads and winds



Get your vegetable crops to market when demand and prices are high! This means growing in low tunnels, high tunnels and greenhouses. We will meet at CCE Genesee (Batavia) to learn about the techniques to extend the season including cool season pest management techniques. We are very pleased to announce special guest speakers Paul and Sandy Arnold of Pleasant Valley Farms in Argyle, NY. We will also tour a local organic farm in Kent to see firsthand how to use a high tunnel for early and late season vegetable production. Experienced and new growers will benefit from this unique educational opportunity. NRCS cooperating farms are particularly encouraged to attend.

\*\*\*An outstanding, local, healthy, and satisfying lunch will be provided both days as well as network opportunities.\*\*\*

DAY 1, Wednesday, December 4, 2013, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

## WINTER GREENS HIGH TUNNEL MEETING AND TOUR



Consumer attitudes about food are changing. How can farmers grow products that meet the converging demands for local, natural, and high quality vegetables year round? A variety of season extension techniques such as high tunnels can help growers generate revenue 12 months of the year. Crop plans and markets are critical to success, but

holistic planning is the basis for a sustainable system.

- Profitable Winter Greens Productions in High Tunnels for Farmers' Markets – Paul and Sandy Arnold
- Cool climate pest management
- How and why we are growing winter crops with tunnels – Ken Bowman
- Tunnel Tour at Bowman and Hill Farm, Kent, NY

*Please note: This event immediately precedes our High Tunnel School focusing on warm season crops at CCE Batavia. You can attend for one or two days, however, we strongly encourage people to register for both days.*

Re-certification credits are estimated at 1.5 hours in categories 1a, 10, 23 and 24. 3.0 CCA credits will also be available.

DAY 2, Thursday, December 5, 2013, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

## GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR HIGH TUNNEL

This program is targeted for commercial growers new to high tunnels. NRCS cooperating farms are particularly encouraged to attend. All who are interested in improving their crop yield, quality and profitability by using high tunnels are welcome. Our focus is tomatoes and other warm season crops.



- Our warm season tunnel – Paul & Sandy Arnold
- What to look for when selecting a tunnel
- Site considerations
- What crops work for tunnels?
- Best Management Practices to improve profits
- Growers' perspectives, lessons learned

Re-certification credits are estimated at 2.5 hours in categories 1a, 23 and 24.

3.5 CCA credits will also be available.

### Please register by December 1.

Pre-registration with payment is required to reserve your space. Cost is \$25 per person, per day or \$40 to attend both days.



Fill out the attached registration form and mail to CCE Yates County, 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527. Call 315-536-5123 with questions. You may also register online at <http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=138>



Sponsored by CCE Clinton County in collaboration with the Cornell Vegetable Program and the Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program and is funded in part by NE SARE and a Specialty Crops Research Initiative block grant through the NYS Department of Ag & Markets.



**Cornell University**  
**Cooperative Extension**

Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension office if you have any special needs. CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service. This program is solely intended to educate consumers about their choices

# HIGH TUNNEL WORKSHOP

SUMMER AND WINTER  
PRODUCTION

featuring  
**PAUL AND SANDY ARNOLD**  
of Pleasant Valley Farms  
in Argyle, NY



*February Lettuce at our tour site,  
Bowman and Hill Farm, Kent, NY*

December 4, 2013  
and  
December 5, 2013  
(choose one or two days)

Doors open & coffee at 9:30 am  
Program 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

CCE Genesee County  
420 East Main Street  
Batavia, NY 14020



**Cornell University**  
Cooperative Extension  
Yates County

417 Liberty Street  
Penn Yan, New York 14527  
315-536-5123



High Tunnel Workshop; Summer and Winter Production    December 4 & 5, 2013

Please return this form with payment by **December 1** to: **CCE Yates County, 417 Liberty St, Penn Yan, NY 14527**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How many will be attending?: Day 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Day 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed at \$25 per person one day; \$40 per person two days: \_\_\_\_\_

(Checks payable to: CCE Yates)