



2017 Orange County Onion School: Final Schedule
18 Seward Ave Suite 300, Middletown, NY 10940

- 8:45-9:15 Sign In, DEC Credit Registration, Coffee
- 9:15-9:20 Welcome, **Ethan Grundberg- Ethan Grundberg- CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program**
- 9:20-9:30 Two Sponsor Announcements
- 9:30-10:15 2016 Herbicide Trial Results and Recommendations, **Christy Hoepfing- CCE CVP**
Christy Hoepfing will share the results of her herbicide trials completed on the Elba muck with the cooperation of commercial onion growers. Recommendations will be made for an integrated weed management plan for common annual weed species in muck onion production based on those results.
- 10:15-10:45 Food Safety Modernization Act and GAPs Updates for 2017, **Erik Schellenberg- CCE Orange County**
Food Safety specialist, Erik Schellenberg, will update growers on implications of the Food Safety Modernization Act going into effect in 2017 as well as review procedures and considerations for GAP certification.
- 10:45-11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00-11:30 Allium Leaf Miner: Identification, Damage, and Management, **Dana Roberts- PSU Dept of Entomology**
Allium leaf miner was first identified in Pennsylvania in December 2015. There is reason to believe that the non-native species is making its way into the lower Hudson Valley. Dana Roberts is a research technologist in Dr. Shelby Fleischer's entomology lab at Pennsylvania State University and will share strategies for monitoring and identification, potential damage to allium crops, and best known integrated pest management approaches for the new threat to Orange County onions.
- 11:30-12:00 EPA Worker Protection Standard Updates for 2017, **Cathy Ahlers/Chris Hertel- NYS DEC**
Changes to the EPA WPS will go into effect in 2017. Representatives from the Department of Environmental Conservation will review relevant updates, especially the new "exclusion zone" concept for aerial and land pesticide applications and new training timeline requirements for new employees.
- 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- 12:50-1:05 Orange County GleanMobile Donation Program, **Stiles Najac- CCE Orange County**
The GleanMobile program works to eliminate food waste in Orange County by partnering with farmers to accept donations and organize volunteer gleaning sessions of produce to provide to area food rescue and emergency food access programs. Stiles Najac, Food Security Coordinator, will discuss the opportunities and benefits to farms to working with the program.



- 1:05-1:15 Two Sponsor Announcements
- 1:15-2:00 Bacterial Bulb Rot Management, **Dr. Steven Beer- Cornell University Dept. of Plant Pathology**
Dr. Beer will discuss the biology and environmental conditions that promote the development of the three major pathogens responsible for bacterial bulb rot in onions. Dr. Beer will also present the results from the second year of his research on the efficacy of sodium hypochlorite and potassium hypochlorite in managing bacterial bulb rot in addition to addressing cultural practices, such as limiting overhead irrigation and timely rolling of onion tops, to reduce the incidence of rot.
- 2:00-2:30 Crop Insurance and Onion Production Budgets, **Liz Higgins- CCE Eastern NY Commercial Hort. Program**
Agricultural business management specialist Liz Higgins will review changes to federal crop insurance programs relevant to onion growers in the state. Liz will also introduce her work on updating onion production budgets for the region, both for transplanted and direct seeded crops, to better inform crop insurance valuations.
- 2:30-3:15 IPM for Onions: Thrips, Serpentine Leaf Miner, and Bulb Mites, **Dr. Brian Nault- CU Dept. of Entomology**
Dr. Nault will present the results of his two year efficacy and cost analysis of different pesticide spray programs for thrips management in onions. Dr. Nault will also share detailed life cycle, monitoring, and damage information for serpentine leaf miner and bulb mites, as well as how chemical management of these pests may be integrated into a broader strategy for pest management that includes thrips.
- 3:15-4:00 2016 Fungicide Trial Results and Stemphylium Leaf Blight Management, **Christy Hoepting- CCE CVP and Dr. Frank Hay- CU Department of Plant Pathology**
Stemphylium leaf blight (SLB) has emerged as a serious fungal disease in onion production in the region. Christy Hoepting will share the results of her 2016 fungicide trials on the Elba muck, specifically as they pertain to the spray timing for management of SLB and botrytis leaf blight. Dr. Hay will also share the preliminary results of his collaborative work with Christy Hoepting on identifying resistance genetics for SLB and ramifications for its management.
- 4:00-4:15 Wrap Up and Coffee Break, **Ethan Grundberg- CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program**
- 4:15-4:45 OPTIONAL: Grower Advisory Session
Help establish the research priorities for Cornell University's onion specialists Christy Hoepting, Dr. Steven Beer, Dr. Brian Nault, and Dr. Frank Hay. Researchers will solicit input from the audience on emerging issues in their production systems and discuss strategies to improve communication between Cornell and onion growers in Orange County.