

# NYS Honeyberry Conference

Saturday, June 29, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Location:

CiTi BOCES  
179 County Rte 64  
Mexico, NY 13114

## Check in time:

8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Honeyberry jam & crackers provided beforehand.

Jam to be donated by Duane Smith, owner of Seaway Coldhardy Berries, Evans Mills, NY.

## Time:

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Draft Agenda:

### Session One: 8:30 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.

- **Dr. Bob Bors** - Assistant Professor Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources
  - Introduction to haskap: scientific and common names, native distribution, biology, basic characteristics, subspecies characteristics, early history, uses

### Session Two: 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

- **Dr. Bob Bors** - Assistant Professor Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources
  - Breeding and research at USASK & other notable programs
  - Growing haskap: planning an orchard, planting, pruning, pollination, etc.

### Session Three: 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

- **Dr. Bob Bors** - Assistant Professor Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources
  - Harvesting and using Haskap: harvest time, machinery, food products, potential for health products
  - Future: research, breeding and marketing needed

Breakout Session: 11:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Try fresh fruit if available

Produced by Ron Loiacono, owner of Loiacono Farm, West Winfield, NY

Produced by Kent Marrs, ORAC Farms, Waterford, VA

Lunch: 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

List of local restaurants within the village of Mexico will be provided

Session Four: 1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.

- **Duane A. Smith** - Owner of Seaway Coldhardy Berries, Evansmills, NY specializing in cold hardy fruiting plants and berries
  - A grower's perspective: fruit production, making value-added products and the importance of consumer education

Breakout Session: 1:50 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Try honeyberry gelato samples. Made by Chiara Alteri from Alteri's La Bella Dolce. Frozen berries donated by Duane Smith, owner of Seaway Coldhardy Berries, Evans Mills, NY.

Session Five: 2:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

- **Michael Davis** - Farm Manager, Willsboro Research Farm, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station
  - Challenges and Opportunities: working with Honeyberries on Cornell's Willsboro Research Farm

Session Six: 3:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

- **Jim & Bernis Ingvaldson** – Owners of Honeyberry USA, Bagley, MN (*virtual*)
  - Key Lessons on Establishing a Honeyberry Farm with Upick Operation
- **Kent Marrs** – Owner of ORAC Farms, Waterford, VA
  - Growing & Marketing Haskap in Hotter Climates of Northern Virginia

Breakout session: 3:50 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Try honeyberry juice. Donated by Kent Marrs, ORAC Farms, Waterford, VA

Session Seven: 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **Anya Osatuke** – Small Fruit Berry Specialist, Cornell Cooperative Extension Harvest NY
- **Joshua Vrooman** – Agriculture Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oswego County

**Optional farm tour after conference ends:**

Farm Tour: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Jim Maryinuk  
Maryinuk Farm  
29 Besaw Road  
Phoenix, NY 13135

Maryinuk Farm is located 15 minutes south of CiTi BOCES. The farm visit is optional for those who wish to stay after the conference. Jim Maryinuk is a local honeyberry grower with over

eight years' experience with honeyberries. Jim has over 300 honeyberry plants, including a young planting from last fall and a mature planting from eight years ago. Dr. Bob Bors will help lead the tour, alongside Jim Maryinuk who will also share his knowledge and experience with attendees.

---

For more information, please contact Joshua Vrooman, Agriculture Educator for CCE Oswego County at [jwv33@cornell.edu](mailto:jwv33@cornell.edu) or 315-963-7286 ext. 200 or Anya Osatuke, Small Fruits Specialist for CCE Harvest NY at [aco56@cornell.edu](mailto:aco56@cornell.edu) or 607-752-2793.