



Cornell Cooperative Extension Lake Ontario Fruit Program Quarterly Report April - June 2021

*A partnership between
Cornell University and the
CCE Associations in these five
counties:*

*Monroe, Niagara, Orleans,
Oswego & Wayne*

Overview: With New Yorkers getting vaccinated in record numbers from March-June, this quarter marked a return to some sense of normalcy! With the release of the CU Outdoor Meeting Policy effective June 1, we realized the summer tour we tentatively held for August 12 (~ 1 month later than usual summer tours) was a go! Planning quickly started and at press time of this report, we have the full agenda set, and strong sponsor support.

Most other educational programs this quarter continued to be held virtually, mainly via Zoom™. The precision crop load management applied research/extension outreach activities that Dr. Terence Robinson, Mario, and Craig have been pushing stakeholder participation in prior years continued into 2021.

The earlier than normal budbreak of tree fruit and berry crops caused grower stress as April and early May were cooler than normal. There were late frosts, however, damage was localized. Some early strawberry cultivars had bloom damage, but it was not widespread. In addition, some freezing temperatures (a few hours below critical temps of 26-28F) caused damage to some apples pre-bloom. These manifested as frost rings in some orchards, on some varieties. Again, damage was localized and not widespread. Later May and into most of June brought above average temperatures and below average precipitation, bringing mild to moderate drought conditions to most of Western NY. Some farms received more rain via “pop-up” and “hit or miss” rain/thunderstorm events than others. In addition, some of the severe storms brought hail. Reports at the time of this writing are localized/minor damage.

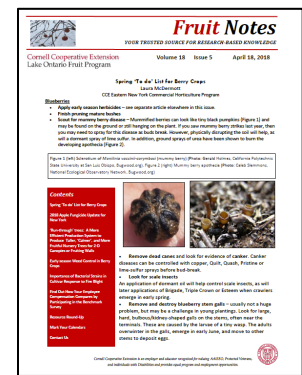
In addition to summer tour planning, most of the team was engaged in full-fledged field work this quarter. Trapline checks and reporting by Janet and Liz are a staple in the spring and early summer. Applied research projects (mainly ARDP-funded) occupied a lot of Mario, Craig’s, Janet, and Liz’ time. Mark was finishing individual farm reviews for the 2020 Fruit Farm Business Summary and continuing to guide stakeholders on COVID-related business relief funding decisions.



**Fire blight is present
region-wide for the 2nd
season in a row**



The Lake Ontario Fruit Team together for the first time since before the pandemic- over 15 months! From our June 10 Team Meeting at Orleans County CCE. Front row: Mario Miranda-Sazo, Kim Hazel, Liz Tee. Back row: Craig Kahlke, Janet van Zoeren, Mark Wiltberger.



Team Publications:	Editions:	Articles:
Fruit Notes	5	27
Email Blasts	13	N/A
Fruit Facts	18	N/A

Selected Publications by LOF Team	Periodical	Author
<i>COVID-19 Relief Funding Continues into 2021 – Key Points for LOF Growers</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 5	Wiltberger
<i>Basics of Precision Pruning for Honeycrisp in 2021</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 5	Robinson & Miranda-Sazo
<i>Managing Fire Blight in 2021</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 6	Yannuzzi, Cox, & van Zoeren
<i>Employee COVID-19 Vaccinations in the LOF Region</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 6	Wiltberger
<i>Problematic Weeds and Guidelines for their Management</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 6	van Zoeren, Basedow, and Sosnoskie
<i>Precision Chemical Thinning in 2021 for Gala and Honeycrisp</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 7	Robinson, Basedow, Miranda-Sazo & Kahlke
<i>Our Summer Tour is Green-Lighted!</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 8	Kahlke
<i>Impact of NYS Overtime Law on NY Fruit Growers – Tell Me Your Story</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 8	Wiltberger
<i>Announcing Peel SAP Analysis for Early Prediction of Bitter Pit in 'Honeycrisp'</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 9	Robinson, Miranda-Sazo, Kahlke et al.
<i>European Cherry Fruit Fly update</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol. 21, Issue 9	van Zoeren, Carroll, & Kelly



Full bloom in a tall spindle apple orchard in Niagara County.



Microsprinklers for irrigation in a 'Gala' block.



Much needed rain!

Selected Presentations by LOF Team	Periodical/Meeting:	Presenter:
<i>Tree Fruit IPM</i>	Guest lecture for high school Intro to Horticulture class at Bishop Kearney high school (Monroe Co, May 14).	van Zoeren
<i>Honeycrisp Virtual Meetup – Crop Load Management (June 3) - Introduction, Q & A, Discussion</i>	CCE-WSU-MSU Honeycrisp Meetup 4 Part Webinar/Discussion Series.	Miranda-Sazo
<i>Introduction, Q & A, Discussion</i>	WNY 12 mm Thinning Meeting (Zoom™), May 24	Miranda-Sazo

Business Consultation

Specialist	Site Visit	Phone/Texts/Emails
Kahlke	7	90
Miranda Sazo	0	75
van Zoeren	34	130
Wiltberger	10	36

Research

Activity/Proposal/Grant	Person(s)	Funded (Y/N) or Unfunded/ Preliminary Research (UPR)
<i>Roots and Rapid Apple Decline</i>	van Zoeren (Khan PI)	Yes-NIFA
<i>A Statewide Effort to Manage Crop Load, Nutrient Status and Biter Pit of Honeycrisp</i>	Miranda Sazo & Kahlke (Robinson PI)	Yes-ARDP
<i>Precision Orchard Management</i>	Miranda Sazo, Kahlke, Tee (Robinson PI)	Yes-SCRI & ARDP
<i>Black Stem Borer</i>	van Zoeren (Agnello PI)	Yes-ARDP
<i>Impact of NY Overtime Farm Labor Law on NY farmers</i>	Wiltberger (Wolf PI)	Yes-NYSDAM
<i>New York Agricultural Labor in Transition</i>	Wiltberger (Stup PI)	Yes-USDA RME
<i>Weed Management</i>	van Zoeren, Basedow	Yes-ARDP
<i>Testing the Role of Latent Viruses in the Decline of Apple Trees on G935</i>	van Zoeren & Miranda-Sazo (Fuchs PI)	Yes-ARDP
<i>Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Monitoring</i>	van Zoeren	no

Selected Professional Development and Training

Activity	Team Member(s)	Comments:
Attended CALS webinar, “NYS Climate Policy Updates and Implications for NYS Agriculture w Julie Suarez” April 2	Wiltberger	Zoom™
Attended and helped facilitate (virtual) “NE IPM Stupid Question” sessions, to drill down on finding answers from the group to perennial pest management questions (April-June)	van Zoeren	Zoom™
Attended weekly “Berry Call” sessions, to learn about berry management and regional trends (April-June)	van Zoeren	Zoom™
Attended weekly “Morning Brew” sessions, organized by Peter Jentsch at Hudson Valley (April-June).	van Zoeren	Zoom™
Attended 2021 Center for Produce Safety research Symposium webinars on June 15 & 22	Kahlke	Zoom™
Attended 2021 virtual Crunchtime Apple Growers Annual Meeting June 24	Kahlke, Wiltberger	Zoom™

Fruit Quality Management – Craig J. Kahlke

Educational Programs/Presentations

- 2021 Virtual Statewide Pink Meeting, April 26th via Zoom™
 - Organized meeting (with CCE-ENY) and worked with Mario, Janet, Mike, Dan, and Terence Robinson to set the agenda
 - Secured sponsor support
 - Hosted meeting
- 2021 Virtual Statewide Bloom Thinning Meeting, May 3rd via Zoom™
 - Organized meeting (with CCE-ENY) and worked with Mario, Mike, Dan, and Terence Robinson to set the agenda
 - Secured sponsor report
- 2021 Virtual WNY Petal Fall Thinning Meeting. May 17th via Zoom™
 - Organized meeting and worked with Mario and Terence Robinson to set the agenda
 - Secured sponsor report
- 2021 Virtual WNY 12mm Thinning Meeting. May 24th via Zoom™
 - Organized meeting and worked with Mario and Terence Robinson to set the agenda
 - Secured sponsor report
- 2021 Virtual WNY Rescue Spray Meeting. June 2nd via Zoom™
 - Organized meeting and worked with Mario and Terence Robinson to set the agenda
- On-Farm Readiness Reviews

- Fruit Farm in Wayne County on May 27
- Fruit Farm in Chautauqua County on June 29
- In-Depth Planning for our LOF Summer Tour August 12th
 - Secured lunch stops
 - Provided other specialists with suggestions for farm stops
 - Set up sponsorship
 - Advertised in our publications

Publications

Fruit Notes

- Articles Written: Fruit notes newsletter
 - *Stay Tuned for our Virtual Pink Meeting* – Volume 21, issue 5.
 - *Our Summer Tour is Green-Lighted!* – Volume 21, Issue 8.
- Edited 5 newsletters in the quarter.
- Sorted through numerous announcements about workshops/conferences/meetings/surveys and along with the pertinent on-line registration links, put them in the newsletter.

Email Blasts

- Sorted through numerous announcements about workshops/conferences/meetings/surveys and along with the pertinent on-line registration links, put them in the email blasts.
- Worked with Mark Wiltberger in deciding who would send out email blasts
 - Craig sent out 10 email blasts in the quarter, and Mark sent out 4 - (see Mark's section of Qtly Report)
 - 4/26 – *Reminder – This Afternoon's Statewide Virtual Pink Meeting*
 - 4/29 – *Correction in Yesterday's Fruit Notes – Next Week's Virtual Statewide Bloom Meeting is from 4-5 PM (Monday, May 3).*
 - 5/4 – *2021 Statewide Virtual Bloom Thinning meeting now posted on our YouTube Channel*
 - 5/19 – *Western NY Petal Fall Thinning Meeting now available on our YouTube Channel*
 - 5/24 - *2021 Western NY 12mm Thinning Sprays Meeting (May 24) now available on our YouTube Channel*
 - 5/26 – *2021 Western NY 12 mm Thinning Sprays Meeting (May 24) now available on our YouTube Channel*
 - 5/28 – *LOF Announcements & Some Very Sad News*
 - 6/3 – *Western NY Rescue Thinning Sprays Meeting now available on our YouTube Channel*
 - 6/8 – *LOF Announcements*
 - 6/16 – *LOF Announcements*

Applied Research

- ARDP Project "*Precision Orchard Management*" (Robinson PI)
 - Secured two grower blocks for the experiments
 - Flagged & mapped the trees, measured trunk diameters, counted flower clusters
 - Assigned bud loads and applied sequential thinning sprays using the Malusim ap and the Fruit Growth Rate Model
 - Measured fruitlets at regular intervals
 - Thinned to 1 fruit/cluster

- ARDP Project “A Statewide Effort to Manage Crop Load, Nutrient Status and Bitter Pit of Honeycrisp” (Robinson PI)
 - Worked with the PI and other cooperators to prepare season’s workload and tasks
 - Solicited growers and crop consultants to collect fruitlet samples at 50-60g weights for peel sap analysis
- Valent – Worked with several reps with this company on the possibility of doing some pre-harvest PGR trials in grower blocks
 - Secured 2 grower blocks
 - Awaiting budget approval

Team and Other Duties

- Team Leader Administrative Duties
 - Approved invoices and vouchers as needed.
 - Attended WNY AMG Meeting May 14 (Zoom™).
 - Organized a Statewide Planning meeting (Zoom™) for Tree fruit educational in-person meeting planning on April 5- in the event that the CU/NYS outdoor and indoor meeting policies will expand
 - Set a calendar hold for a tentative LOF Summer Tour in Wayne County for August 12 (among the latest possible dates before apple harvest begins)
 - Received more support for a multi-day WNY Tree Fruit conference in January or February
 - Sent out possible dates to key organizers
 - Reviewed budget and monthly financials.
 - Approved timesheets/vacation/sick leave hours for team members as needed.
 - Disseminated pertinent info to rest of team as needed from:
 - Monthly Team Leader Zoom™ calls
 - Group and other email lists
- Organized and led weekly team (Zoom™) meetings on April 5, 13, 20, 26, May 4, 11, 25, June 22, 29.
- Organized and led first in-person Team Meeting in over 15 months! (June 10 at Orleans County CCE).
- Secured full industry funding for a new gas chromatograph (GC) to be housed at KM Davies (replacing old one) in Williamson for apple testing for the Harvest Maturity Program
 - Arrange for delivery of the GC and a new computer
- Submitted Jan.-Mar. 2021 quarterly report
- Mileage Reporting for funded grants

Professional Development

- Participated in training and agreed participation with American Fruit Scouting on the use of Smartphone pictures for apple fruitlet size estimating for precision thinning (Zoom™) May 28
- Attended 2021 Center for Produce Safety research Symposium webinars on June 15 & 22
- Attended 2021 virtual Crunchtime Apple Growers Annual Meeting June 24

Stakeholder Contacts

- Seven site visits to assist growers (3 Niagara, 3 Orleans, 1 Wayne).
- Assisted stakeholders via texts, phone, and email (~90).

Cultural Practices – Mario Miranda Sazo

Educational Programs/Presentations

Presentations Given – Conference Presenter/Organizer:

- In conjunction with team, planned/conducted the 2021 spring webinar series (Zoom™) for chemical thinning and crop load management (with invited speaker Terence Robinson, all short 5-10 mins presentations plus Q&A sessions)
 - Statewide pink meeting (April 26) – 127 attendees
 - Statewide bloom meeting (May 3) – 80 attendees
 - WNY petal fall meeting (May 17) – 69 attendees
 - WNY 12 mm thinning meeting (May 24) – 85 attendees
 - WNY rescue meeting (June 2) – 39 attendees
- Generated idea/worked closely with two colleagues from WSU (B. Sallato) and MSU (A. Wallis) for the development of a nationwide Honeycrisp summer webinar series, via Zoom™
 - Webinar topics/dates/attendance:
 - Crop load management (June 3) – 260 attendees
 - Rootstock (June 17) – 101 attendees
 - Nutrient management (July 1) – 96 attendees
 - Pre- and Post Harvest (July 15) – to be conducted this week
- Wrote an article titled “How to Prune a High Density Apple Orchard” in the Spanish language.
- It was published by the U. of Maryland and it is available online at <https://extensionesp.umd.edu/2021/04/26/como-podar-un-huerto-de-manzanos-de-alta-densidad/>

CCE LOF YouTube™ Videos – Other social media efforts and collaborations

- This quarter Liz posted 4 new videos to our YouTube channel:
 - Planting potted trees - 78 views
 - 2021 CCE statewide pink meeting – 227 views
 - 2021 CCE statewide bloom thinning meeting – 179 views
 - WNY 12mm thinning spray meeting – 141 views
 - WNY rescue thinning spray meeting – 140 views

Publications

Fruit Notes: - Wrote/modified/summarized/requested articles including:

- “Basics of precision pruning for ‘Honeycrisp’ in 2021” (T. Robinson and M. Miranda Sazo), Vol. 21, Issue 5, pages 1-2.
- “Fertilization of ‘Honeycrisp’ with consideration of rootstock to manage bitter pit” (T. Robinson, L. Cheng, G. Fazio, and M. Miranda Sazo), Vol. 21, Issue 6, pages 8-9.
- “Precision chemical thinning in 2021 for Gala and Honeycrisp” (T. Robinson, M. Basedow, M. Miranda Sazo, and C. Kahlke), Vol. 21, Issue 7, pages 1-5.
- “Announcing the 2021 virtual Honeycrisp meetup summer series” (M. Miranda Sazo, A. Wallis, and B. Sallato), Vol. 21, Issue 7, pages 5.
- “New recommendation for return bloom sprays applied in 2021 for good repeat bloom in 2022” (T. Robinson), Vol. 21, Issue 8, page 1.

- “Announcing peel sap analysis for early prediction of bitter pit in Honeycrisp” (T. Robinson, L. Cheng, C. Watkins, M. Miranda Sazo, C. Kahlke, and M. Basedow), Vol. 21, Issue 9, pages 1-2.

Fruit Facts: Several recommendations related to planting of trees, nutrient management, chemical thinning.

Email blasts:

- 6/2- *Western NY Rescue Thinning Sprays meeting is today (Noon-1 PM)*

Applied Research Projects/Collaborations

Precision Chemical Thinning trials at Dobbins and Two Club Orchards (ARDP/Robinson)

- Helped Craig and Liz to prune Gala and Honeycrisp trees in May

ATS sprays guided by Pollen Tube Growth Model trial at Hermetet (ARDP-SCRI/Robinson)

- Liz and I set up plots, counted blossom clusters at pink
- Monitored and counted number of kings/tree/Trt
- Measured styles
- Guided grower when/what time to spray ATS to respective trts-rows
- Liz and I took fruit size diameter measurements and photos for a collaboration with AFS, WA
- Final fruit counts/tree were evaluated by Liz and Janet on July 8

Testing the use of Apogee and NAA for bitter pit control on Honeycrisp (ARDP/Cheng and Miranda Sazo – third year in collaboration with Robinson and Gonzalez in 2021)

- This quarter we conducted two almost identical bitter pit trials at:
 - Cornell Agri Tech
 - With grower cooperator Jordan Doyle, North Rose, Wayne
 - For both trials, all sprays were applied by PostDoc Luis Gonzalez in May
 - Fruit sampling will occur early July for peel sap analysis

Cornell AgriTech experimental orchard (ARDP/Fuchs, Miranda Sazo, van Zoeren)

- This quarter MMS and JvZ pruned trees in May and trained trees to the wires
- Data collection (trunk diameter, initial tree height, shoot length, return bloom) taken by MMS and JvZ
- Light crop load adjustments were conducted with helpers from Fuchs’ lab
- Trickle irrigation was conducted when needed by Spenser Howden in May/June
- Fire blight strikes were removed as needed this quarter

On-farm nursery project (ARDP/Robinson and Miranda Sazo)

- MMS coordinated the bench grafting of trees with Sergio Rosario in early April
- Stored bench grafts at KM Davis until day of planting in May
- Provided consultation for all aspects related to ground/foliar nutrition, irrigation, de-shooting, chemical branching, and trellising
- Pruned first set of grow-through Fuji trees after planting in May
- Nurseries trees grew very well and a very robust/innovative mini-trellis was established by grower cooperator

Statewide effort to manage crop load, nutrient status, and bitter pit of Honeycrisp (ARDP/Robinson)

- WNY fruit sampling will occur early in July, 2021
- Processing of frozen peels for peel sap analysis will be conducted in Ithaca

Latino project (USDA-BF/Rangarajan)

- Served as a Cornell panelist and communicated Spanish educational needs to a group of NY senators during a hearing hosted jointly by the Committees on Agriculture, Labor, and Social Services on April 13
- Highlights of this participation can be found at Cornell Chronicle:
<https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2021/04/cornell-experts-advocate-ag-diversity-food-security>
- During this quarter Nicole and I began developing two ideas:
 - A summer celebration with all Master Graduates and their families (2018/19 classes) to be conducted in Rochester on August 7
 - 2021 CCE LOF Spanish Summer fruit tour to be conducted on August 28

Ph.D. Related Course/Research Work in Ithaca (Cheng)

- In addition to the whole tree destruction conducted at the dormant stage in late March, this quarter I conducted three additional whole tree destructions at the following stages:
 - Bloom (May 13-15)
 - End of spur growth (June 7-9)
 - End of shoot growth (June 24-25)
- There were other evaluations and tasks conducted:
 - Return bloom/trunk caliper evaluations (May 1-3)
 - Several crop load adjustments per tree
 - Grinding of samples

Team and Other Duties

- Attended LOF team meetings and conference calls as needed
- Attended Zoom™ meetings as needed for the planning of 2021 Cornell Fruit Conference
- Worked last minute details with team members and TR for LOF spring Zoom™ meetings
- Set up Zooms for petal fall, 12mm thinning, and rescue thinning meetings
- Reported fleet mileage as needed during this quarter, changed oil, etc.
- Authored and submitted two articles to LOF newsletter editor
- Submitted Jan-March 2021 quarterly report
- Continued working closely with two growers, M. Basedow, and Janet for the development of an SH initiative
- Communicated and strategically worked with Cornell Small Farm Program (mainly with Nicole)
- Developed idea/ assembled a nationwide extension team/led a Honeycrisp summer webinar series
- Attended LOF team meetings and conference calls as needed
- Four more YouTube videos were uploaded in our channel this quarter
- Worked closely with JvZ and wrote as many Hort notes as needed for *Fruit Facts* during Q2
- Mileage Reporting for funded grants

Stakeholder Contacts

- Assisted eight growers via 20 emails, 20 phone communications, 30-40 texts (pics, videos, voice messages, etc.).

Integrated Pest Management – Janet van Zoeren

Publications

Fruit Notes Articles Written:

- Yannuzzi, I, K Cox and J van Zoeren. *Managing Fire Blight in 2021*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 6. P 1-3.
- van Zoeren, J, M Basedow, and L Sosnoskie. *Problematic Weeds and Guidelines for their Management*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 6. P 3-7.
- Mellon, I, A Khan and J van Zoeren. *Updated 'Database of Apple Diseases'*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 7. P 5-7.
- van Zoeren, J, M Basedow and L Sosnoskie. *Post-emergent (Burndown) Herbicide Damage – Signs and Symptoms*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 8. P 5-7.
- van Zoeren, J, J Carroll and M Kelly. *European Cherry Fruit Fly update*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 9. P 2-4.
- Mellon, I, A Khan, and J van Zoeren. *Varietal Resistance to Apple Scab (*Venturia inaequalis*)*. Fruit Notes, Volume 21, Issue 9. P 4-6.

Fruit Facts Articles Written:

- 18 issues

Applied Research Projects/Collaborations

Weed Management (ARDP; PI-Mike Basedow):

- Weed assessments (April 16, April 26, May 20, June 3, June 16)
- Post-emergent herbicide application to “control” treatment (May 6)

Ambrosia beetle (black stem borer) management (unfunded):

- Monitoring using lured bottle traps and ethanol-soaked limb bolts (April-June)

Virus (ARDP; PI-Fuchs):

- Tree care – fertilization, pruning and crop load adjustments (Apr 14, May 27, June 11)
- Return bloom assessment of all treatments (Apr 30 and May 12, May 19)

Roots and Rapid Apple Decline (USDA NIFA; PI-Khan):

- Meetings (via Zoom™ and on-site, respectively) with PIs and possible collaborators to coordinate summer research efforts and priorities (Apr 28, May 12)
- Flagging and tree decline “heat map” made with MMS, put into spreadsheet map and sent to collaborators (May 19)

Grant Submissions, Re-Submissions, Letters of Support, Proposal Meetings

- Submission for no-cost extension to brown marmorated stink bug ARDP funding from 2020.
- Working with Cornell Soil Health Initiative group to develop USDA grant proposal.
- Letter of support for national brown marmorated stink bug management grant proposal.

Team and Other Duties

- Worked together with team to coordinate and facilitate the spring virtual meetings programming.
- Worked together with LOF and ENY tree fruit team to begin organizing winter programming.
- Attended virtual and in-person team meetings.
- Mileage Reporting for funded grants

Committee & Board Meetings

- Served on planning committee for the 2021 Ag Extension Retreat.
- Facilitated stakeholder discussion group for the hiring process of the new Geneva-based Tree Fruit Entomologist position (June 1-2, 7-8, 14-15)

Other Area-Wide Education and Advocating

- Worked with extension team to implement virtual Special Permit Training for 2021.
- Insect trapline to monitor phenology and abundance across Niagara, Orleans, Monroe and Wayne cos (collaboration with Liz Tee).
- Collaboration with Trece Inc to find a more grower-friendly best monitoring practice for early spotted wing drosophila detection (collaboration with Liz Tee).
- Participated in Cornell Soil Health Initiative group (meetings every Friday to discuss research priorities and grant submissions)
- Attended European Cherry Fruit Fly stakeholders meeting to help advocate for cherry growers in NY (virtual, April 20)
- Guest lecture on “Tree fruit IPM” for high school Intro to Horticulture class at Bishop Kearney high school (Monroe Co, May 14).

Professional Development:

- Attended (virtual) “Morning Brew” sessions, organized by Peter Jentsch at Hudson Valley (April-June).
- Attended (virtual) “Berry Call” sessions, to learn about berry management and regional trends (April-June)
- Attended and helped facilitate (virtual) “NE IPM Stupid Question” sessions, to drill down on finding answers from the group to perennial pest management questions (April-June)

Stakeholder Contacts:

- On farm visits – 34 total (3 Niagara Co., 7 Orleans Co, 5 Monroe Co, 17 Wayne Co, 2 Oswego)
- Conversations via text, phone calls or email – 130

Consultant Contacts:

- Conversations – 3

Faculty/Industry Collaborations:

- Conversations – 12

Production Economics & Business Management – Mark Wiltberger

Educational Programs/Presentations:

- Data Collection for the 2020 Fruit Farm Business Summary
 - I had 12 meetings with farms to collect data for the 2020 Fruit Farm Business Summary in April and May. As people started to get vaccinated for COVID-19 February-May, this meant I could resume in-person meetings with growers to collect their data. Although I was able to make virtual farm business meetings work during the crisis in 2020, it felt like a world of difference meeting growers in person. (See *Quarterly Highlight*)
- Spring Virtual Grower Meetings
 - As part of the LOF Team, I participated in the planning of the virtual spring meetings, mainly moderating of the sessions, including managing questions from attendees.
 - April 26, 2021 Statewide Virtual Pink Meeting
 - May 3, 2021 Statewide Virtual Bloom Thinning Meeting
 - May 17, 2021 WNY Petal Fall Zoom™ Meeting
 - May 24, 2021 WNY '12mm thinning sprays' Zoom™ meeting
 - June 2, 2021 WNY Rescue Thinning Meeting
- 2021 LOF Summer Tour
 - Worked with team to begin to organize the 2021 LOF Summer Tour for August 12.
- 2021 Farm Management Retreat
 - Joined the planning committee in the farm management specialists group to help plan the 2021 Farm Management Retreat in September 2021.
- 2022 WNY-ENY Winter Meeting Plans. LOF and ENY fruit specialists met to begin to plan 2022 winter programming.

Publications:

Fruit Notes, Author:

- *“COVID-19 Relief Funding Continues into 2021 – Key Points for LOF Growers”* Mark Wiltberger. Volume 21, Issue 5, April 14, 2021.
- *“Employee COVID-19 Vaccinations in the LOF Region”*. Mark Wiltberger. Volume 21, Issue 6, April 28, 2021.
- *“Impact of NYS Overtime Law on NY Fruit Growers – Tell Me Your Story”*. Mark Wiltberger. Volume 21, Issue 8, June 2, 2021.
- *“A Tool for Forecasting Your 2021 Orchard Revenue”*. Mark Wiltberger. Volume 21, Issue 8, June 2, 2021.

Fruit Notes, Edited:

- *“More COVID Relief Funding is Available - CFAP, Extended PPP and additional Grant \$\$\$”*. Elizabeth Higgins. Volume 21, Issue 5, April 14, 2021.
- *“Federal Farm Labor Law Compliance”*. Richard Stup. Volume 21, Issue 5, April 14, 2021.

- *“How to Talk About COVID-19 Vaccination with Your Employees”*. Mary Kate MacKenzie, Richard Stup, and Mary Jo Dudley. Volume 21, Issue 6, April 28, 2021.

Email Blasts Sent:

- 4/12 – LOF Announcements
 - *“Digital Agri-Marketing Mondays”*
 - *“Online Farm Financial Management Tuesdays: Farm Business Education in April 2021”*
 - *“Social Media Tips & Tricks – Effective Marketing Tips for Your Farm”*
- 6/8 – *“Supervisory Leadership certificate program: Join us for the next course-brought to you by the CCE Agricultural Workforce Development Program”*

Applied Research/Funded Projects:

- *“New York Agricultural Labor in Transition,”* USDA-SCRI, Richard Stup, PI. Met with Richard and collaborators to formulate the survey that is the basis of the research.
- *“Impact of NY Overtime Farm Labor Law on NY farmers,”* NY Ag & Markets, Chris Wolf, lead. Met with Chris and collaborators to plan the interviews with farmers about impact of overtime law.

Professional Development:

- Attended CALS webinar, *“NYS Climate Policy Updates and Implications for NYS Agriculture w Julie Suarez”* April 2
- Attended CALS webinar, *“NY Forests & Climate Change: A Science Based Discussion from SUNY ESF & Cornell CALS”* June 4

Team and Other Duties

- Participated in weekly and monthly team meetings.
- Wrote 2021 1st LOF Quarter Report for Business Management and Production Economics.
- Reported mileage on personal vehicle.

Cornell & Other Industry Meetings

- Attended Bi-weekly Farm Business Management Specialist Calls.
- Attended Weekly Premier Apple Coop Marketing Calls.

Stakeholder Contacts:

- Phone calls/texts: 15
- Stakeholder meetings: 16. 10 in-person, 6 via Zoom™.
- Emails: Approximately 15.