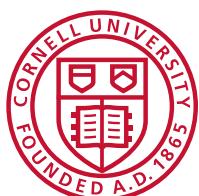


Review & 2025 2026 Preview



Regional Commercial Vegetable Specialists

The Cornell Vegetable Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and County Associations in 14 counties—Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates—serving the commercial vegetable, greenhouse, potato, and dry bean industries in New York.





A Message from Julie Kikkert

Team Leader, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program



Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Vegetable Program 14-County Region

This region accounts for nearly 60% of New York's vegetable industry acreage, with 1,137 vegetable farms, and a farm gate value exceeding \$258 million.¹

4,752

farm visits and crop consultations made by the Cornell Vegetable Program

93

educational meetings and presentations given by the Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists

4,002

people increased their knowledge by attending presentations given by the Cornell Vegetable Program

As we reflect on 2025, I want to thank you for your partnership and continued support of the CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, New York's team of specialists addressing issues that impact the commercial vegetable industry in the western and central portion of the state. Inside you will find highlights of some of the many research and educational programs led by our team members over the past year plus a look ahead at some of our plans for 2026.

Our talented and passionate staff combine their awareness of industry needs with resources at Cornell and beyond to stay at the cutting edge of vegetable production. Advances in technology bring exciting new possibilities to agriculture and we continue to work with farms and faculty on relevant projects illustrated in the highlight on page 3—Integrating Laser Weeders into Muck Onion Production.

Large projects often take multiple partners and years to complete such as the Cover Crops highlight on page 4. Make sure to look at the dollar value and other environmental gains from the project. Variety trials (page 6), pest management (page 7 – 8), and food safety education (page 7) are mainstays of our work. Growers continue to benefit from expertise in mushroom production (page 7). New interactive pesticide safety training was launched in 2025 (page 5) and will continue into 2026.

Without the generous support of area producers, agribusinesses, and grant makers, the Cornell Vegetable Program could not offer the level of support that we provide to the New York vegetable industry. On-farm trials and in-field meetings are the backbone of our program. In 2025, 78 farms and organizations provided in-kind donations (page 10) and 14 more (page 11) made financial contributions to our team to support our work in the region! Thank you!

While we are proud of our accomplishments in 2025, we are excited for you to see what we have planned for 2026. Be sure to sign-up for our program through the Cornell Cooperative Extension office in your county during their annual enrollment campaign going on through March. VegEdge newsletter remains our primary means of reaching our enrollees with timely information, but you must be enrolled in the Cornell Vegetable Program to receive it.

If you have any questions about our program or suggestions for us, please contact me at 585-394-3977 x404 or by email at jrk2@cornell.edu.



Max Torrey, Big O Farms, Elba and his Carbon Robotics laser weeder (left). It is equipped with 30 x 150 W diode lasers, 42 cameras and 9 LED light panels (right). It is trained using artificial intelligence machine-learning to distinguish between weeds and onions with great precision. Photos by Dylan Sorbello.

Integrating Laser Weeders into Muck Onion Production

In 2024, Big O Farms in Elba (owned/operated by Maxwell Torrey) introduced the first laser weeder to direct seeded muck onion production in New York. This year, Big O introduced two more units, while Triple G (Elba) and Sorbello & Sons (Fulton) introduced their first units. Clearly, laser weeders are trending for weed control in onion. Onions compete very poorly with weeds and require 5-8 applications of herbicides, plus hand-weeding to achieve satisfactory control. Heavy herbicide use can injure the onion crops and reduce yields, while hand weeding costs are steadily increasing (currently ~\$250/acre). The Carbon Robotics brand of laser weeder uses computer vision, artificial intelligence and CO₂-lasers to target and kill weeds by burning out their growing points. Because the laser weeders are slow (0.5-1.5 acres per hour), the weed pressure is high in muck (slowing down laser weeding operations) and the laser weeders cannot be used after mid-July (because they are too destructive to the onion crop) herbicides are still needed with laser weeders albeit at reduced rates.

In 2025, CVP Onion Specialist, Christy Hoepting teamed up with Cornell Weed Scientist, Lynn Sosnoskie, and Cornell Onion Entomologist, Brian Nault to study reduced herbicide use when integrated with a laser weeder using a systems approach, investigating not only the effects on weed control and crop safety, but also the side-effects on pests and pathogens. Two trials were conducted in Big O muck onion fields in Elba where treatments included high intensity herbicide program with no laser weeder (grower standard), compared to medium and low intensity herbicide programs in combination with laser weeding. In the treatments with the laser weeder, we reduced the total rate of Prowl herbicide from 14 pt/A in high to 11.5 pt/A in medium to 8.25 pt/A in low and moved Outlook herbicide timing from preemergent-to-onion to 2.5-leaf stage.

In our first year of study, reducing herbicide inputs increased early weed pressure, although laser weeding provided effective control. High herbicide use reduced onion stand establishment, vigor, and leaf number, resulting in smaller, more stunted plants. The most exciting result was the improved onion vigor that we observed at the 2-6 leaf stage in June when the medium and low intensity herbicide programs teamed with the laser weeder had 75% less stunting than the high intensity herbicide-only program. Thrips levels and pink root disease were unaffected, however Stemphylium leaf blight (SLB) incidence increased 2-5x with laser weeder treatments. Increased SLB in the reduced herbicide + laser weeder programs may be related to changes in canopy microclimate (i.e., a denser canopy facilitating infection and disease development) or later use of post-emergent herbicide Goal 2XL. In the high intensity herbicide-only program, incidence of Iris yellow spot virus was double that of the laser weeder treatments. At harvest, boiler and small bulbs were unaffected, but laser weeder treatments produced more market-preferred medium onions. The high intensity herbicide-only program produced more jumbo bulbs but with nearly twice the bulb rot. Clearly, there are a lot of interactions occurring as laser weeders are integrated into muck onion production that require further investigation.



Using reduced preemergent herbicides and delaying their timings with a laser weeder improved onion stand and reduced stunting by 75% when onions were at 4-6 leaf stage in June. Improved onion vigor without compromising weed control is exciting! Photos: Lynn Sosnoskie, Cornell

Cornell Vegetable Program Advances Cover Crop Research

Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) educators Judson Reid and Lori Koenick successfully completed a USDA grant this year, leveraging connections to faculty, growers and multiple labs. In collaboration with Cornell University, Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies, and 12 vegetable growers, we investigated three management approaches for high organic matter soils: pH adjustment, cover cropping, and calibrating soil test results to account for bulk density. Throughout the project period, we conducted 132 soil samples in 84 unique locations on 18 farms.

Our work documented higher microbial indicators in our high performing cover crop treatments, indicating that our techniques can improve soil and crop health and farm profitability. Farm profitability can be realized from the nitrogen that is scavenged or fixed by our cover crops.

What is the value of these treatments we developed?

Given current prices for conventional soluble nitrogen, values could range between \$528.36/acre and \$886.44/acre! We can also apply this analysis for certified organic sources of fertilizer of up to \$4,984/A! This means farmers implementing our results gain nearly \$5,000 per acre.

We achieved a 6.7% increase in organic matter with cover cropping. For every 1% increase in organic matter, soil can hold an additional 20,000 gallons of plant-available water per acre. So, farmers adopting our methods filter an additional 134,000 gallons of water per acre. That is the equivalent of 5 inches of rain!

To extend this knowledge to the industry, we gave 52 presentations and workshops reaching 2,686 participants. We made 438 farm visits and 304 off-farm consultations. Project publications included two fact sheets, eight newsletter articles, five urban case studies and one technical research report.

In an assessment of knowledge gained and adoption outcomes, growers revealed:

- 92% learned new soil management strategies
- 100% increased their ability to manage soil health on their farm
- 85% are better able to understand soil test results
- 92% increased their understanding of soil biology
- 100% have used one or more soil management practices on their farm as a result of this project:
 - 70% increased crop yield
 - 77% increased crop quality

When answering an open-ended question, “What is something you are taking away from this project and what considerations would you share with growers new to these practices?”, grower comments included:

“These relationships between farmers and scientists/researchers are so important and vital!”

“I feel more capable of reading soil test results and making strategic decisions to care for soil health. I also feel more connected to our local extension office and confident in my resources!”



Top: Buckwheat as a cover crop on an urban farm. Our collaborative research shows cover crops can improve organic matter. Bottom: The intensive cropping patterns of high tunnels can impair soil health. Our research fine tunes management techniques to sustain soil productivity over the long term.

The CVP would like to acknowledge the contribution of our Cornell faculty Jenny Kao-Kniffin, the USDA NRCS (Conservation Innovation Grant NR212C31XXXXG002) and, of course, our farmer cooperators.

New, Interactive Pesticide Safety Programming Protects Farmer Health

Do you have the right gloves?

Using the correct chemical gloves when working with pesticides reduces risk of pesticide exposure by 99%. But it isn't always easy to figure out where to buy the correct personal protective equipment (PPE). Few local retailers carry gloves that are appropriate for pesticide use. In most places, PPE that provides adequate protection is only available online or through mail-order catalogs, if you can find one. This is an especially large challenge for growers who have poor or non-existent internet access.

Many gloves available at big box and other local retailers are made of the same materials as gloves that are designed for pesticide protection. This causes confusion and can leave people believing these affordable, at-hand products are suitable and safe for use with pesticides. Unfortunately, most of them are not.

Determining which readily available gloves might be safe to use with pesticides is very difficult. Key safety details like material thickness, whether gloves have an internal lining in the fingers or palms, and if they are meant for chemical use can be absent from or buried in fine print on the packaging. Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) staff even found one big box retailer used signage promoting certain gloves for various chemical uses, but those very same gloves declared "not for chemical use" on the package.

Because of ease of access, affordability, and confusing packaging, there are farmers who have accidentally bought and used gloves that don't provide them enough pesticide protection. This is concerning. Growers need to know the common shortfalls of readily available retail outlet gloves and understand how to evaluate if a pair of gloves meets their PPE needs in order to keep themselves safe.

The Cornell Vegetable Program developed an interactive, bite-sized pesticide safety lesson focused on how to decide if a pair of gloves is right for your pesticide usage needs. Called "Gloves Part A", the lesson has four objectives:

1. Demonstrate the poor/inappropriate utility of most gloves that are the easiest to find (big box store options).
2. Familiarize growers with glove-related label sections and have them practice skills finding, reading and interpreting language on pesticide labels related to gloves.
3. Introduce farmers to a glove chemical classification reference chart and have them practice using it. (They received a reference copy to take home.)
4. Lead growers to reflect on their current gloves and decide whether their current selections are adequately meeting all of their pesticide PPE needs.



We taught this lesson to a diverse group of small to medium sized fresh market growers at a summer field meeting in Orleans County in July. The audience included beginner, life-long, organic-minded, conventional, plain community and "English" growers.

This lesson was incredibly successful, so much that even project staff were surprised! Through the exercise, we successfully led the growers to self-realizing that they could improve their pesticide risk management by rethinking their gloves approach. By working in small groups, they were able to practice and develop skills in reading labels and determining whether a glove was an appropriate choice for a sample pesticide label and learned how to use reference material given to them.

Folks were engaged and had fun, and the small groups did a great job of co-learning and helping each other work through their learning points and all arrived at a better understanding. **In the end, the participants all agreed that they felt better able to determine if their gloves were a fit for the pesticides they intended to use.** This was an impactful piece of CVP programming that directly contributes to on-farm safety and empowers growers with essential professional knowledge and skills.

This is material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2024-70027-42540.



**NORTHEAST
EXTENSION
RISK
MANAGEMENT
EDUCATION**



**National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Specialty Potato Variety Trial Tests Varieties During a Hot Growing Season

Western New York is home to the highest potato producing counties in New York State, and the Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) works with potato growers of all scales producing chipping and table stock varieties. Over the past few years, the CVP has planted a fresh market potato variety trial to test commercially available potato varieties with the small-scale New York potato grower in mind. Local growers have shared information on which varieties they grow that are farm staples and popular with consumers, as well as varieties that are not yielding as hoped leaving room for improvement or better varieties. This information helps inform us on which varieties we choose to include in our trial. In 2025, we included four white varieties, four yellow varieties, three red varieties, two purple varieties, and three russets.

This year, we saw high variability in yields due to high heat and low rainfall during the growing season which led to stressed plants. Some varieties showed higher tolerance to heat and drought than others, making it an interesting trial.

- Baltic Rose, a red potato with yellow flesh, was our highest yielding variety this year, and has been a standout variety in our trial over many years. It has a nice red color, and a creamy and flavorful taste.
- Belmonda, a yellow potato, also continues to perform well and was our second highest yielder this year.
- The two purple varieties included in the trial, Purple Viking and Blackberry, yielded about the same and performed well compared to other varieties.
- Eva was our best performing white potato this year, producing about double the yield of the other white varieties.
- Of the three russet varieties included, Rocky Mountain Russet was a new addition to our trial and performed the best out of the three. Though, with the high temperatures and low rainfall we did see lower yields and smaller sizes in our russet potatoes.

This specialty fresh market potato trial continues to benefit small-scale growers in our region, and we hope to continue it in the years to come.



CVP Specialist Lori Koenick harvesting potatoes in the 2025 small-scale fresh market potato trial.



Lori Koenick demonstrating how to inoculate a wine cap mushroom bed. Photo by A. Gupta Verwiebe

Mushroom Enthusiasm Grows

Urban growers gathered in 2025 for a mushroom inoculation workshop led by Cornell Vegetable Program Specialist Lori Koenick. The group explored mycology basics, different mushroom cultivation methods, and partook in a hands-on wine cap mushroom inoculation.

I took away knowledge on... “what nourishes mushroom growth, best practices to grow mushrooms outdoors, and how to safely grow mushrooms.” – grower participant



wine cap mushrooms

Equipping Sweet Corn Growers for an Emerging Disease: Tar Spot

CCE Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists Julie Kikkert and Elizabeth Buck teamed up with Cornell Vegetable Pathologist Sarah Pethybridge to provide the New York sweet corn industry with the knowledge needed to detect and manage tar spot. Caused by a fungal pathogen, tar spot was first detected in New York in 2021 in field corn in Erie County. Each year the disease has spread, and currently 26 of New York's 62 counties have at least one positive report. The disease only affects corn and overwinters in crop debris. In sweet corn, tar spot causes crop loss by contributing to defoliation, reducing the size and affecting the shape and uniformity of ears, reducing the recovery of kernels for processing sweet corn, and reducing the marketability of ears by unsightly tar spots on the husks.

In 2025, to enhance previous years' work on awareness and crop scouting for this potentially devastating disease, the Cornell team:

- Produced a [tar spot of sweet corn fact sheet](#)
- Strategically monitored fresh market and processing sweet corn fields throughout the season.
- Planted and evaluated an on-farm variety trial at J. Hurtgam Farms in Niagara County with 13 fresh market varieties and 3 processing varieties.
- Conducted a processing sweet corn variety trial at Cornell AgriTech in Geneva, NY with 8 processing varieties.
- Tested 14 fungicide treatments in a field trial at Cornell AgriTech in Geneva, NY.
- Spoke about tar spot identification and management to 144 growers/industry members at 5 events, including the Niagara Region Summer Meeting in August which featured a tour of the sweet corn variety trial.
- Kept growers up to date throughout the season with regular articles in the VegEdge newsletter and personal communications.



Sweet corn is produced on 977 farms in New York (2022 Census of Ag), and in 2024 was produced on 21,900 acres with a value of \$31.4 million (Vegetables Annual Summary, Feb. 12, 2025, USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service).

Funding was provided by:

- The New York Vegetable Research Association/Council (processing vegetables)
- Cornell Cooperative Extension Smith-Lever project 2024-25-188
- New York Farm Viability Institute project FVI R1 21



Farm Food Safety Educational Outreach

Increased consumer awareness of food safety issues coupled with revised federal regulations governing food safety—particularly related to the water used to grow and process vegetables—leave farmers seeking food safety learning opportunities, educational resources, and problem-solving assistance. Since 2005, the Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) has been addressing farm food safety needs and remains committed to responding to regulatory changes and produce buyer requirements of farmers.

Market demand for safe food comes from consumers seeing more news coverage of foodborne disease outbreaks in fresh produce. Further scrutiny of the agricultural water supply and water used by growers to wash produce required more attention paid to these topic areas. Due to CVP food safety outreach stressing the need for water testing, one water testing company noted they have seen a significant increase in produce farmers having their water tested across the region. Reducing contamination of fresh produce from contaminated water helps to protect the tens of millions of dollars of food our region's vegetable farmers grow and sell.

Cleaning and sanitizing wash/pack facilities remains a priority of the CVP's food safety outreach to vegetable farmers. On-farm visits, calls, and programs have focused on the correct use of sanitizers and cleaning techniques to keep food contact surfaces clean with greater efficiency and cost savings. One of the biggest bacterial contaminate of concern is *Listeria monocytogenes*. It is estimated that 1,250 people are infected each year and over 160 die from this problem. Cleaning and sanitizing food contact surfaces are the top measures needed to curtail potential establishment of the bacteria inside of wash/pack facilities.



Cornell Vegetable Program Specialist Lori Koenick presenting pest management strategies at the Resilient Gardens Symposium at Cornell AgriTech on June 20. Photo by Ainsley Rothschild, Cornell

Sustainable Pest Management for New York Urban Farmers

In 2025, Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) Specialists Judson Reid and Lori Koenick, and Harvest NY Urban Agriculture Specialist Sam Anderson wrapped up a multiyear project exploring non-spray pest management options that are economically and environmentally sustainable for urban farms.

Through routine farm visits, grower interviews, and a needs assessment, the project team identified that most urban growers already actively use integrated pest management practices. Even so, growers reported that lack of knowledge or confidence, and labor made it difficult to use these tools effectively. Many growers reported interest in more training on identifying insects and diseases and knowing when and how to use management strategies.

To meet these needs, the project team worked with 15 farms across Buffalo, Rochester and New York City to host demonstration trials showcasing non-chemical pest management strategies such as host resistance, release of natural enemies, pest exclusion, adjusted planting dates, and regular scouting and trapping. The on-farm trials provided growers the opportunity to observe the benefits of pest management practices first-hand and allowed us to document the impact of these management practices on urban farms with a focus on profitability, feasibility and yields.

Additionally, throughout the project, team members delivered 39 workshops for a total of 71 hours of educational programming and reaching 1,077 participants. Workshops focused on pest and disease identification, scouting, cultural and mechanical controls, beneficial insects, and habitat management. At the end of the project, we developed a [New York Urban Farms Sustainable Pest Management fact sheet series](#) which highlights pest management techniques from demonstration trials including row covers, disease resistant crop varieties, biocontrols and taking a 'brassica break'. Fact sheets were translated into Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese (Mandarin).

Farms that implemented a sustainable pest management practice in this project saw on average an \$30,404/acre increase in revenue. All 15 growers surveyed at the end of the project reported increases in knowledge, skills, and confidence—93% reported they were better at identifying pests and diseases and had learned new management strategies as a result of the project. Growers shared that extension support, hands-on learning, and practical tools made pests feel more manageable.

This project helped shape CVP Specialists Koenick and Christy Hoepting's successful grant proposal "Managing the Invasive Swede Midge on Organic and Urban Farms" which began in 2025. Stay tuned for future results!



Lori Koenick presenting a creative seeding technique for cover cropping in small spaces using a reused parmesan cheese shaker. Photo by Andrea Lista, CCE Monroe County

In 2026...

“In 2026, I am looking forward to continuing work with Cornell IPM to conduct trials in processing sweet corn and snap beans to determine the risk of seed corn maggot and other early season pests in fields planted with seeds with or without Cruiser insecticide (a neonicotinoid) treatment. This is part of a statewide neonicotinoid task force in response to the NYS Birds and Bees Protection Act.”

– Julie Kikkert

“I’m excited to see the CVP work across their areas of respective expertise. For example, Lori and Christy working together on Swede Midge research in Erie and Monroe Counties.” – Judson Reid

“I am excited about the direction that weed management in muck-grown onions is going in. For example, Big O Farms in Elba (owned/operated by Maxwell Torrey) are now integrating pre- and post-emergent herbicides, laser weeders, spot sprayers, drone sprayers and hand weeding into their weed management strategy in direct seeded onions. I have been working on late season preemergent herbicide applications to extend residual weed control through harvest for about 3 years and see this strategy as ‘untapped potential’. Now, I see even more opportunities to use late season applications of preemergent herbicides with laser weeders as lower rates of preemergent herbicides are used early in the season (laser weeder will pick up increased weed escapes) that can be moved to later in the season where we can capture even more benefits. Furthermore, the improved vigor of onions at 2-6 leaf stage that we see in laser weeder + reduced herbicide programs may allow for heavy post-emergent herbicide use at this stage that could deliver improved control of weeds that escape both herbicides and laser weeder (e.g. perennial sowthistle) with improved crop safety. In our 2025 laser weeder on-farm trials, we discovered interactions with diseases (Stemphylium leaf blight, Iris yellow spot virus and bacterial bulb rot) between standard herbicide-only programs and laser weeder + reduced herbicide programs. So interesting! And, I have plans to study all of this in 2026 – can’t wait to learn more!”

– Christy Hoepting

“Looking forward to collaborating on a new project focusing on educating growers using technology in irrigation to use water more effectively and efficiently. The drought of 2025 really hurt profits. Providing new tools for vegetable farmers to use to keep their crops growing well despite extreme weather conditions is critical.”

– Robert Hadad

“In 2026, the CVP will introduce and deliver 15 more interactive, short format pesticide safety and compliance lesson plans. I’m really looking forward to using these new resources in winter programming and helping growers feel confident and well-trained when using pesticides. I think these lessons will have a lot of impact, especially since we’ve gotten feedback from growers that traditional pesticide safety teaching methods can be too dense, dry, or difficult to practically apply. We’ve designed this suite of 16 new lessons centered on 4 themes of pesticide use competencies to be the exact opposite of traditional. I can’t wait to start teaching them!”

– Elizabeth Buck

“In 2026, I look forward to continue learning alongside our incredible community of vegetable growers. It is an honor to support gatherings bringing folks together across our region such as the Rochester Urban Agriculture Conference and I am excited to continue exploring pest management practices for swede midge on urban farms.”

– Lori Koenick

“In 2026, I’m excited to explore using different and emerging technologies for pest management to help NY farmers.”

– Margie Lund



Photo by Dylan Sorbello

Support

Without the financial and in-kind donations by area vegetable producers, agribusinesses, and grantmakers, the Cornell Vegetable Program could not offer the level of support that we provide to the New York vegetable industry. Thank you!

In-Kind Donations (ie. land, labor, equipment, supplies, presentations, meeting host)

5 Loaves Farm – Matt Kauffman
Abe Dathyn Farms – Kevin Dathyn, Mike Johnson
Agricultural Consulting Services – Jessica Dueppengiesser
Alan Tomion Farms – Paul Tomion
Amos Zittel & Sons – Mike Wright, Dave Zittel
BASF – Lupe Zamora
Big O Farms – Max Torrey
Bushart Farms – Brent Bushart
C. Mark Farms – Cory Mark
Crop Advantage – Don Sweet
CY Farms – Craig Yunker
DiSalvo Farms – Joe DiSalvo
Dunsmoor Farms – Joe Burghart
Duyssen Farms – Dan Duyssen
Farm Fresh First – Mike Gardinier, Roger Ward, Buzz Lowe, Steve Lashbrook, Mike Lynch, Mike Riner
Fenton's Produce – Paul Fenton
Foodlink Community Farm – John Miller
G and S Orchards – Gary Craft, Stephanie Ludwig
Ross Ganze
Gary Swede Farms – Jay Swede, Ryan Swede
Genesee Valley Bean – Mark Callan
Genesee Valley Produce Auction Board
Gianetto Farms – Nick Gianetto
Gowan Seed Company – Dan Eggert
Groundwork Market Garden – Mayda Pozantides
Hansen Farms – Ed Hansen, Jr., Eric Hansen, Brian Wickham
Harrington's Produce – Andy Harrington
Helena Agri-Enterprises – Joe Foster
Henry W. Agle & Sons – Jonathan Agle
J. Hurtgam Farms – Jeff Hurtgam
Jacobson Farms – Adam Jacobson
Joe Bezon & Sons – Joe Bezon
John Dunsmoor Farms – John Dunsmoor
John R. Wallace Farms – John Wallace
Johnson Creek Produce – Levi Stauffer
K.S. Dathyn & Sons – Eric Tuttle
Andrew Leid
Mahany Farms – Gary Mahany
Maple Lane Produce – Nelson and Ruth Hoover
Maple Valley Farm – Sam and Magdalena Miller
Martens Farm – Peter Martens
Massachusetts Avenue Project – Katie Pfohl
M-B Farms – Dave Paddock
MCR Farm – Marty and Caroline Rosiek
Morgan Brothers Farm – Mark Morgan
Munsee Farms – David Munsee
My-T Acres – Jason Gaylord, Phil Call, Greg Harloff
Nutrien Ag Solutions – Nicholas Brown
NYS Vegetable Growers Association – Maureen Torrey, Mark Henry
Orchard View Farm – Allen Stauffer
Pick 'n Patch – Drew Wickham
Providence Farm Collective – Beth Leipler, Mo Mberwa
R. L. Jeffres & Sons – Tom Jeffres
Mosie L. Raber
Root Brothers Farm – Robin Root, Don Swan
Rupp Seeds – Jeff Werner
Seedway – Greg Curcio
Seminis Vegetable Seeds – Dave Kepner
Seneca Foods – Jay Westfall
Seneca Vegetable Research – Tim Whitwood
Sorbello & Sons – Rane Sorbello
Stokes Seeds – Sara Christ
Jesse Stoltzfus
Henry Stutzman
Syngenta – Evelyn Zaleski, Cassidy Neilitz, Shawn Damen, Larissa Smith
T&S Crop Services – Erin Keane
Timac – Trystan Sandvoss
Triple G Farms – Peter Smith
Urban Fruits and Veggies – Allison DeHonney
Votypka Farm – Dave Votypka
W.D. Henry & Sons/Kreher Family Farms – Dan Henry
Werner Farms – Jeff Werner
William Harris Farm – Bill Harris, Tom Corcoran
Williams Cattle Farm – Garret Williams
Wilson Street Urban Farm – Mark Stevens
Woody Acres Farm – Dave Woodward
Dwight Zimmerman – Dwight Zimmerman

New York Vegetable Industry Support



CVP Support Specialist Lori Koenick leads CU Entomologist Sam Willden through an Ontario County greenhouse, scouting for pests.



Go big or go home! It took this 8-person team from the CVP and Cornell AgriTech Entomology (left to right: Marcelo Dimase, Sarah Mertson, Christy Hoepting, Oleander Vetrovec, Sarah Caldwell, Nathan Hesler, Brian Nault, Leo Selgado) all day (Apr 28) to establish this 80-plot cabbage maggot trial, hosted by Root Brothers Farm in Oakfield, NY. Root's cabbage transplanting crew is in background. The goal of this project is to find cheap, easy and effective alternatives to chlorpyrifos (now banned) for cabbage maggot control in transplanted cabbage. Photo by Leo Selgado, Cornell AgriTech.



Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists Margie Lund, Elizabeth Buck, and Robert Hadad planting the fresh market potato trial.

26 

Research grants and projects managed by the Cornell Vegetable Program*



\$897K

Value of research grants and projects managed by the Cornell Vegetable Program*

78 

Farms and organizations offered in-kind donations to support Cornell Vegetable Program research trials and events

Contributions 

Abe Datthy Farms – Kevin Datthy

Amelee Farms – Michael Amelee

Chad Amsler

Brightly Farms – Paul Brightly

Growmark FS – James Pacello

Kast Farms – John Kast

Daniel Nolt

Ontario Produce Auction

Gary Patterson

Reeves Farms – Mark Reeves

Root Brothers Farms – Robin Root

Walnut Hill Farm – Darvin Weaver

Walstead Farms – William & Donna Walz

Williams Farms – John Williams

* some are multi-year projects

**Strengthen the NY vegetable industry
by supporting our program!**

[Make a donation](http://CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU/DONATION_INVOICE_NEW.PHP) at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU/DONATION_INVOICE_NEW.PHP



About Us

The Cornell Vegetable Program works with Cornell faculty and Extension educators to address the issues that impact the New York vegetable industry. The team offers educational programs and information to growers, processors, and agribusiness professionals in pest management, variety evaluation, cultural practices, market development, and farm food safety.

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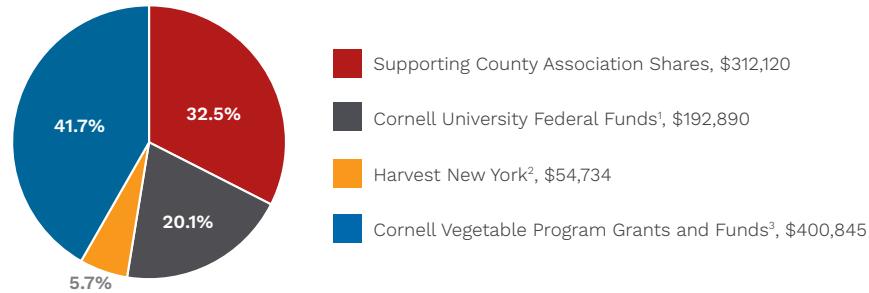
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2025 Operating Budget by Funding Source



¹ USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Smith Lever Funds

² New York State funds

³ Includes funds from industry, state and federal grants, event registrations, sponsor support, and Cornell Vegetable Program reserve accounts

Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Vegetable Program

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