



A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties: Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Oswego & Wayne

# Fruit Notes

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Lake Ontario Fruit Program

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## Plan to Attend Our August 11 Webinar – Honeycrisp Bitter Pit Prediction Models 1:15-2:15 PM

Craig Kahlke & Mario Miranda Sazo

We are excited to continue our efforts for helping WNY Honeycrisp growers to make more informed storage and marketing decisions with this difficult to grow variety.

At the 2020 CCE LOF Winter Fruit Schools we spoke about new advances in 'Honeycrisp'. As some of you may already know, several WNY growers and packing houses submitted peel samples to our team. More than 280 peel samples were quickly processed and peel sap results will be now individually sent to growers sometime next week. Preliminary results for 'Honeycrisp' blocks with a history of bitter pit (mostly grafted situations) are showing very similar trends or even higher K/Ca ratios than those from previous seasons, indicating that the probability of bitter pit may be higher in these blocks this year. Peel sap K/Ca ratios above 23-25 in July appears to be associated with higher risk of bitter pit incidence.

In this webinar, Dr. Terence Robinson, Dr. Lailiang Cheng, CCE-LOF's Mario Miranda Sazo, and Lake Ontario Fruit Inc.'s Scott Henning will present a summary of the peel sap analysis for bitter pit prediction. Dr. Chris Watkins will follow with instructions on how to use the passive prediction model. CCE-LOF's Craig Kahlke will talk about the tight timeline for growers to sample their fruit for the passive model, arrangements for fruit storage in commercial storages, along with help in evaluating the fruit. Following this, the panel will discuss scenarios in which comparisons between the 2 models would determine the potential for bitter pit risk and subsequent storage and marketing recommendations.

Here is the link to register for the webinar: [https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_HDoRGEYiSy2qdoktY5UGAQ](https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HDoRGEYiSy2qdoktY5UGAQ)

Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:15-2:15 PM.

This event is free, but pre-registration is required. Once you register, if you are calling in with your phone, you will receive an email with a password, which may be required to login. Any questions or concerns with registration please direct to Craig Kahlke at [cjk37@cornell.edu](mailto:cjk37@cornell.edu)

### Thanks to the Sponsors of our Prediction of Bitter Pit in 'Honeycrisp' Efforts!

- Niagara Fresh, Inc. (Chris Bucolo)
- H.H. Dobbins (Justin Whipple)
- Fowler Brothers, Inc. (J.D. Fowler)
- Lake Ontario Fruit, Inc. (Scott Henning)
- LynOaken Farms (Chris Oakes)
- Pomona Packing, Inc. (Phil Smith)
- Sun Orchard Fruit Co. (Steve Riessen)
- Schwab Farms (Kent Schwab)
- Valent USA & Valent Biosciences (Jim Wargo, Mike Keller, Poli Francescato, Greg Clarke)
- Wayne County Fruit Sales (Scott VanDeWalle)
- Agro-100, Lorne Bienstock  
Joliette (Quebec) Canada

Mobile: (514) 220-3444

Email: [l\\_bienstock@agro-100.com](mailto:l_bienstock@agro-100.com)



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## New Cornell Leaf Sampling Recommendation for 'Honeycrisp' in 2020

Mario Miranda Sazo and Lailiang Cheng

This year we are officially recommending that growers collect Honeycrisp leaf samples for nutrient analysis now. In the future, the new timing for leaf sample collection for Honeycrisp should be at the *end of June/early July* (about one month earlier than traditionally suggested dates for other apple varieties in early to mid-August). There are two reasons for this early leaf sampling: 1) Honeycrisp trees typically stop their shoot growth by the third week in June, earlier than many other apple varieties; and 2) development of zonal leaf chlorosis (Figure 1) affects leaf nutrient concentrations, particularly leaf nitrogen status.



**Figure 1.** Honeycrisp leaves on the outer part of the canopy already began to show leaf chlorosis in our region 15-20 days ago. The discoloration starts on the edges of the leaves and spreads to the rest of the leaves. Development of zonal leaf chlorosis affects leaf nutrient concentrations, particularly leaf nitrogen status. Honeycrisp growers should collect Honeycrisp leaf samples for nutrient analysis as soon as possible.

### **Sample collection time varies by crop: (1) Tree fruit (with the exception of Honeycrisp in 2020)**

should be sampled 80-90 days after full bloom (normally the end of July, early August), (2) **strawberry leaves** should be collected within the first six weeks after harvest, or after renovation, when the first fully expanded leaves emerge, (3) **raspberry leaves** should be collected from non-fruiting canes between August 1<sup>st</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup>, and (4) **blueberry leaves** should be collected just before or during harvest, leaves from middle of this year's shoot, full sun, between July 1<sup>st</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Sample collection method for tree fruit:** Select at least 80-100 leaves for each sample. Leaves are normally collected from the middle of this current season's terminal shoots. Pick leaves that are exposed to the sun (not shaded interior leaves). Remove leaves by pulling down on the leaf so the petiole remains attached to the leaf. Take 1 leaf/shoot from a few shoots on each of 50 to 100 trees located throughout the block being sampled. Trees may be selected at random or following a pre-determined pattern. Place samples in open

paper lunch bags (separate labeled bags for each sample; get them at the grocery store, don't use plastic bags) and allow them to air dry. If there is heavy residue, the leaves should be washed and rinsed with distilled water before drying. After leaves are dried, send them to the analytical lab for analysis.

**Sample collection method for berries:** (1) Leaves should represent the average condition of the planting and should not be damaged by: disease; insects; weather or mechanical injury, (2) AVOID mixing leaves from different cultivars, (3) DO NOT mix leaves from plants of different ages, (4) a minimum of 50 grams (~ 2 oz) fresh weight from a minimum of 30 leaves are needed per sample, (4) if possible, each leaf should be taken from a different plant within the sampled area, and (5) process for analysis as soon as possible.

**Preparing berry leaves for analysis:** (1) Use distilled water for washing and rinsing the samples, (2) gently and lightly scrub the leaves together in distilled water, (3) change the water if it becomes dirty or after 8 to 10 samples (whichever occurs

first), (4) shake to remove excess water and immediately rinse the sample in clean distilled water, (5) rinse again and shake, (6) transfer sample to paper bag, with top open and dry at

room temperature until the leaves are brittle, (7) do not let leaves to stand in water – complete the washing and rinsing process in one minute or less.

## Statewide Harvest PGR and Storage Webinar on August 4<sup>th</sup>

Mike Basedow, CCE-ENYCHP

The ENYCHP and LOFP are co-hosting a Harvest Plant Growth Regulator and Storage webinar on Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-5:30PM. This meeting is proudly sponsored by AgroFresh and Valent USA.

Speakers will include Dr. Terence Robinson and Dr. Christopher Watkins, and will also include presentations by representatives of AgroFresh and

Valent USA. A detailed agenda will follow within the next few days, see <https://enych.cce.cornell.edu/>. This program is free to attend, but we ask that you please register ahead at the following link: [https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-XpFJTgdSim3LS8qTX-mKw](https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-XpFJTgdSim3LS8qTX-mKw)

## Apple Growers Strongly Encouraged to Apply for CFAP Funding

Mark Wiltberger

At last week's webinar by USDA it was made clear that **any apple grower who sold apples between January 15 – April 15 most likely should apply for CFAP funding**. Direct financial payments at a rate of \$0.05 per pound are available to growers who sold apples during that time period. For a twenty-bushel bin, the \$0.05 per pound rate amounts to \$42 per bin. However, growers must apply to receive the funding.

CFAP (the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program) is a financial relief program for farmers, created by federal legislation in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Growers can find the information they need to apply at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>.

Growers apply through their local county USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. County office contact information is available at the above [farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) link. Contact your local office to get the process started. Your FSA agent will provide you with instruction on the application process and answer any questions you may have.

For the Lake Ontario Fruit Region your county FSA office contact information is:

Niagara County	Orleans County	Monroe County
<b>Lockport Service Center</b> (716) 433-6703  <b>FSA Contact:</b> James McNeil <a href="mailto:james.mcneil@usda.gov">james.mcneil@usda.gov</a>	<b>Albion Service Center</b> (585) 589-5320  <b>FSA Contact:</b> Larry Meyer <a href="mailto:larry.meyer@usda.gov">larry.meyer@usda.gov</a>	<b>Rochester Service Center</b> (585) 473-3440  <b>FSA Contact:</b> Molly Preston <a href="mailto:molly.preston@usda.gov">molly.preston@usda.gov</a>
Wayne County	Oswego County	<b>From:</b>  <a href="https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator">https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator</a>
<b>Lyons Service Center</b> (315) 946-9912  <b>FSA Contact:</b> Alexandria Maher <a href="mailto:alexandria.maher@usda.gov">alexandria.maher@usda.gov</a>	<b>Mexico Service Center</b> (315) 963-7283  <b>FSA Contact:</b> Krista Tyrrell <a href="mailto:krista.tyrrell@usda.gov">krista.tyrrell@usda.gov</a>	

**The deadline for applications is August 28, 2020,** however growers are **encouraged to apply as soon as possible.** The application process is straightforward, however you will need to work with your local FSA office to ensure they have the necessary documentation for your farm. If you have not worked with FSA recently on other programs, documentation establishes your eligibility for the program. The FSA agent can guide you through the documentation.

The local FSA office is the authority for CFAP applications. The local office interprets the rules from USDA, receives, processes, and approves the applications, and conducts any future audits. For definitive answers to application questions, contact your local FSA office.

At the webinar, the USDA conveyed that growers do not need to have individually suffered a price loss or other loss. The program applies to all markets of apples, including process, fresh, juice, and slice, as long as the sales were made during the sales window. The program is for growers, not packing facilities. Growers will need to work with

their packing facilities to document how many pounds of apples were sold during the sales window. The important date to be within the sales window is the sales date – the date the sales agreement or contract was made, not the delivery date or the date payment was received. To date, CFAP payments have been made relatively quickly – a matter of days as opposed to weeks. For a definitive explanation, call your local FSA agent.

USDA-FSA has a payment calculator on the CFAP page (<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>) that you can use to estimate what your CFAP payment is likely to be. This will help you determine if it is worth applying.

For a detailed explanation of how the CFAP program works for fruits and vegetables, and the recent changes in eligible crops, see Elizabeth Higgins's article ***CFAP for NYS Fruit and Vegetable Farms (as of July 2020)***, later in this issue. Contact your local FSA agent with questions. You can also contact Mark Wiltberger with questions ([mw883@cornell.edu](mailto:mw883@cornell.edu), 315-272-8530).

## **Preparing for Onboarding Harvest Employees in the Context of COVID-19**

Mark Wiltberger

Workers will be arriving soon for harvest. Below are some of the most important practices for worker arrival to keep in mind and plan for.

### **Communication and Education**

Good communication with your employees may be the single most important action you can take to lower the chance of an outbreak at your farm business. Coronavirus is unlike a food-borne illness. Because the virus is transmitted so easily through person-to-person contact, the practices of employees away from work are as important as practices at the workplace to contain the community spread of the virus. It is critical to emphasize the importance of social distancing when not at work.

Frequent and repetitious communication about the basics of the virus – what it is, how it spreads, and how to prevent the spread – from the moment workers arrive will help them understand the seriousness of this illness. Posters from the CDC at

key locations can serve as reminders. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html>).

Communicating off-work expectations of behavior (in particular, the importance of social distancing with non-household members) should start when workers arrive. Useful videos at the Institute for Food Safety at Cornell (*Training Videos for Food Processing Employees*, <https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/food-industry-resources/>) can provide a start for training for off-work and at-work practices. Rules under quarantine will be needed to be communicated upon arrival.

The migrant health clinic in your area can provide on-farm education to your employees about COVID-19. See the article on local migrant health clinics below.

## Quarantining upon Arrival

New York State is requiring quarantining of workers for 14 days upon arrival from 34 states, DC, and Puerto Rico, as of this writing. The list of states and the rules for quarantine are here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>. In addition, the NYS guidance for farms requires international workers to quarantine as well. Essential employees can work but they must not go out into the public and they must remain separate from the rest of the workforce. Quarantine of arriving workers is an important practice, because it provides a mechanism to identify sick workers early, before they spread the virus to the rest of the workforce, farm management, and the community.

Logistics for the employer with employees in quarantine is a challenge. The NYS guidance for farms ([https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/document/s/2020/05/agm-doh\\_covid19\\_cleaningfarm.pdf](https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/document/s/2020/05/agm-doh_covid19_cleaningfarm.pdf)) denotes the essential needs farms must deliver to quarantined workers. Take time to plan for how to carry out quarantine.

If you are considering testing employees for COVID-19 upon arrival, make sure you have your plan in place for where to house one or more workers who test positive. Housing for positive workers is flexible – it could be a rented or borrowed camper, trailer, or house, or vacant housing on another farm. Talk to your neighbors to identify housing that one farm could use if needed. See the article on migrant health services below for on-farm group employee testing.

## Screening

Daily screening of workers with a health questionnaire and temperature check is a required practice for NYS farms. In addition, this is an important practice because it provides the best chance of identifying a sick employee early and preventing spread of the virus to the rest of the workforce and the community. Training multiple managers to conduct screening can make daily screening less time-consuming for a large workforce. Identify and procure the screening tools and PPE quantities you will need well before worker arrival.

## Local Health Clinics Provide On-Farm COVID-19 Testing, COVID-19 Education, and Other Health Services to Farm Owners and Agricultural Workers

Mark Wiltberger

All of the Lake Ontario Fruit Program counties are included in the service areas of two local migrant health clinics, which can provide on-farm COVID-19 testing, COVID-19 education, and other health services to farm owners and agricultural workers.

**West of Rochester: *Oak Orchard Health***, <https://www.oakorchardhealth.org/>. Niagara County, Orleans County, and western Monroe County. Estela Sanchez-Cacique, Patient Engagement Manager, 585-589-5613 x152, [esanchez-cacique@oochc.org](mailto:esanchez-cacique@oochc.org).

**East of Rochester: *Finger Lakes Community Health***, <https://localcommunityhealth.com/>. Oswego County, Wayne County, and eastern Monroe County. Juan Saldana, Mobile Medical Program Coordinator, 1-800-724-0862, [juans@flichealth.org](mailto:juans@flichealth.org). Employee group testing can be requested online at <https://localcommunityhealth.com/>

These health organizations are migrant health clinics. Part of their mandate and funding is to perform on-farm services. Services include:

- On-farm COVID-19 diagnostic testing
- On-farm COVID-19 education in multiple languages
- On-farm general health screening

These services are available to farm owners and management as well, since they are agricultural workers.

For COVID-19 diagnostic testing, clinics first check to see if the test is covered under insurance. If the test is not covered under insurance, the clinic can often partially or fully reimburse the cost via other funding sources. For more information on the cost of COVID-19 testing, contact the health clinic.

## Food Industry Virtual Office Hours are Now Offered Every Other Week

Food Industry Virtual Office Hours to answer questions on COVID-19 via Zoom *are now offered every other week*. The Extension Team within the Department of Food Science at Cornell University (Ithaca, NY) and Cornell AgriTech (Geneva, NY) are hosting a weekly Q&A and facilitated discussions

during their online Food Industry Virtual Office Hours. You may submit questions when you register, email them in advance to [foodsafety@cornell.edu](mailto:foodsafety@cornell.edu), or ask them live during the session.

### Food Industry Virtual Office Hours Thursday, August 6, 2020, 12-1 PM

Join us for a Q & A and facilitated discussion to address questions from the food industry on COVID-19. Speak directly to subject matter experts in sanitation, epidemiology, microbiology, virology, food safety culture, business continuity and the food safety of dairy foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, and processed foods and beverages. General food industry virtual office hours are now being offered every other week.

Do you have a question for the panel but do not want to ask it live? You can submit questions in advance:

- 1) When you register,
- 2) Anonymously on the IFS@CU website ([instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/content/submit-question-virtual-office-hours](https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/content/submit-question-virtual-office-hours)),  
or
- 3) Via email (mail to: [foodsafety@cornell.edu](mailto:foodsafety@cornell.edu)).

Visit the IFS@CU's website ([instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-](https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-)

[covid-19/virtual-office-hours](#)) to learn more about upcoming sessions.

**Intended audience:** Open to anyone in the food industry from farm to fork.

**Cost:** Free

**Registration required:**

[cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrfu2oqiMsGtE0H8FANT9BWKLftflsieqB](https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrfu2oqiMsGtE0H8FANT9BWKLftflsieqB)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information to join the session.

#### Subject matter experts on the panel

##### **Cornell University:**

- Dr. Sam Alcaine, *Assistant Professor*
- Dr. Elizabeth Bihn, *Senior Extension Associate*
- Dr. Olga Padilla-Zakour, *Professor*
- Dr. Aljosa Trmcic, *Extension Associate*
- Dr. Martin Wiedmann, *Gellert Family Professor in Food Safety*

**Additional Invited Panelists Availability TBD**

## Food Industry Resources on COVID-19

### ***Looking for more information on COVID-19 as it relates to your food business?***

We are keeping our website ([instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/food-industry-resources](https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/food-industry-resources)) updated with current information and resources on COVID-19 for the food industry.

As a reminder, we have several templates/documentation for controlling the spread of COVID-19 in food facilities under [Templates and Trainings](#) . There is a [new](#)

[SOP](#) for actions to take if an employee is being tested for and/or tests positive or develops symptoms of COVID-19. A [Spanish version of the SOP](#) is also available for download. In addition, the [COVID-19 Decision Tree](#) for what to do when an employee tests positive for COVID-19 has been updated.

### ***Need assistance finding resources on the IFS@CU website?***

Reach out to us directly at [foodsafety@cornell.edu](mailto:foodsafety@cornell.edu).

## CFAP for NYS Fruit and Vegetable Farms (as of July 2020)

Elizabeth Higgins, ENYCHP Ag Business Extension Specialist

CFAP, or the Corona Virus Assistance Program, helps agricultural producers impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak by providing direct payments to producers of eligible commodities. There are currently CFAP payments available for dairy, livestock (beef pork lamb), non-specialty crops (corn, malting barley, soybeans, wheat, oats), wool AND specialty crops (fruits, vegetables, and herbs). This fact-sheet focuses on the latter.

Generally, to be eligible for a CFAP payment, a farmer must have sold (or tried to sell) a specialty crop between January 15 and April 15, 2020 that USDA has determined suffered a 5- percent-or-greater price loss over a specified time resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak or faces additional significant marketing costs for unsold inventories. In NYS these would generally be crops harvested in FY2019 and in storage or crops that matured and were ready to sell in January-April (winter crops or greenhouse crops).

In July USDA greatly expanded the number of specialty crops that are eligible for CFAP and increased the amount of funding for some crops that were eligible so more specialty crop farmers should look at this program. If you sold apples, potatoes, onions, garlic, greens, greenhouse herbs, and micro-greens, or greenhouse vegetables you should be looking at this program! For these crops there is now an automatic payment based on crop sold rather than based on losses. The full list of eligible specialty crops (as of July 10) is at the end of this fact sheet.

Other specialty crops will be announced in a future NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) as losses due to COVID-19 market disruptions are better understood. Nursery crops and cut flowers are still under consideration but have not yet been included.

### How are payments determined?

There are three possible payments for eligible crops:

1. CARES Act Payments for crops that USDA has determined had a five percent-or-greater price decline in sales price that were sold between

January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020. This does not mean that YOUR prices needed to decline by more than 5%! If a crop you sold is on this list you are eligible for the payment.

2. CARES Act Payments for eligible crop shipments that left the farm by April 15, 2020 and spoiled due to no market or the buyer did not (could not) pay.
3. CCC Payments for eligible crops that did not leave the farm by April 15 2020 (for example were harvested but sitting in crates on the farm) or mature crops that were unharvested by that date (for example were plowed under) due to lack of buyers and which have not been and will not be sold. This could also include crops you donated because the market dried up.

Payments for eligible specialty crops will be 80% of the sum of:

- (1) For eligible specialty crops that were sold between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 the quantity sold multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 2**; Producers must maintain records such as a bill of sale documenting that they sold the crop and the amount sold.
- (2) For eligible specialty crops listed that were harvested and shipped off the farm between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 producers must obtain documentation such as a letter from the buyer explaining non-payment or other record validating non-payment. This applies to producers who have met contractual obligations in delivering the crop to the buyer but have not been paid the harvested and shipped quantity that spoiled (or was unpaid) multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 3**.
- (3) For eligible unpriced specialty crops listed that did not leave the farm or mature crops that remained unharvested between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 due to loss of marketing channel or crops that were donated, the sum of the quantity of crops that did not leave the farm (in acres in this case) or the quantity of mature crops that remained unharvested multiplied by the payment rate in **Column 4**.

Table 1: Example Eligible Crops and Payment Rates – full list of crops and payments is available on the USDA CFAP website.

<b>Example Eligible Crop</b>	<b>Column 2 crops you sold between January and April (per lb)</b>	<b>Column 3 crops that left the farm to be sold between January and April, but pmt. not received (per lb)</b>	<b>Column 4 mature crops that never left the farm (could have been donated or destroyed) (per acre)</b>
Apples	\$0.05	\$0.22	\$1500.00
Cabbage	\$0.04	\$0.07	\$367.00
Collard Greens	\$0.04	\$0.21	\$560.00
Garlic	\$0.17	\$1.10	\$3410.00
Greens	\$0.08	\$0.16	\$420.00
Kale	\$0.00	\$0.22	\$748 .00
Green Leaf Lettuce	\$0.44	\$0.60	\$2611.20
Dry Onions	\$0.01	\$0.05	\$540.10
Potatoes, fresh (not russets)	\$0.01	\$0.04	\$449.00
Potatoes, fresh (russets)	\$0.07	\$0.09	\$898.00
Strawberries	\$0.84	\$0.72	\$7042.00
Tomatoes	\$0.64	\$0.38	\$6122.90

### Should you apply?

USDA-FSA has a payment calculator on the CFAP page (<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>) that you can use to estimate what your CFAP payment is likely to be. This will help you determine if it is worth applying. If your crop is eligible for a payment in column 1 it is almost certainly worth applying as the application process is easy. USDA FSA has made this program very accessible (by USDA standards). Unfortunately for NYS specialty crop growers without crops in storage or early season crops, currently summer and fall crop losses for 2020 aren't covered as the crops needed to be mature and harvested by April 15<sup>th</sup> (or were destroyed but would have been ready for sale by April 15<sup>th</sup>).

USDA is aware that there are probably some specialty crops that suffered losses that weren't

included in the most recent NOFA. If you suffered significant losses from a specialty crop that isn't covered USDA is collecting data to consider including other crops. Examples of these could include maple syrup and nursery plants. Contact FSA if you produce a specialty crop that suffered losses that aren't reflected here.

### What do you Need to Apply?

Sign ups for CFAP began on May 26 and will run through August 28. The application for CFAP is available at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>. Forms are on-line. The program is first come first served at the national level. Links to local FSA offices are also on that website. The word on the street is that this is a very easy application process. All applicants need to be signed up with USDA FSA to be able to apply for these funds. If you have NAP have had a USDA-FSA loan or have USDA NRCS



cost-share funding you are probably already in their system. Because USDA disaster payments almost always require you to be signed up with FSA, even if CFAP payments are not much, signing up with USDA-FSA would get you into the USDA system to be eligible for future programs. Also, by being in the system, USDA is more likely to see how disasters impact your farm.

### List of Specialty Crops eligible for CFAP as of July 10, 2020

Alfalfa Sprouts <sup>1</sup>, Almonds , Apples <sup>2,3</sup> , Anise <sup>1</sup> , Artichokes <sup>3</sup> , Arugula <sup>1</sup> , Asparagus <sup>3</sup> , Avocados, Basil <sup>1</sup> , Beans , Bean Sprouts <sup>1</sup> , Beets <sup>1</sup> , Blackberries <sup>1</sup> , Blueberries <sup>2,3</sup> , Broccoli , Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup> , Cabbage , Cantaloupe <sup>3</sup> , Carrots , Cauliflower , Celeriac (Celery Root) <sup>1</sup> , Celery, Chives <sup>1</sup> , Cilantro <sup>1</sup> , Coconut <sup>1</sup> , Collard Greens <sup>1</sup> , Corn sweet , Cucumbers <sup>3</sup> , Dandelion Greens <sup>1</sup> , Eggplant , Garlic <sup>2,3</sup> , Grapefruit, Greens (others not listed) <sup>1</sup> , Guava <sup>1</sup> , Kale Greens <sup>1</sup> , Kiwifruit <sup>3</sup> , Lemons , Lettuce Boston <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce green leaf <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce iceberg , Lettuce Lolla Rossa <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce oak leaf - green <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce oak leaf - red <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce red leaf <sup>1</sup> , Lettuce romaine , Marjoram <sup>1</sup> , Mint <sup>1</sup> , Mushrooms <sup>3</sup> , Mustard Greens <sup>1</sup> , Okra <sup>1</sup> , Onions dry , Onions green, Oranges, Oregano <sup>1</sup> , Papaya <sup>3</sup> , Parsnips <sup>1</sup> , Passion Fruit <sup>1</sup> ,

Peaches <sup>3,5</sup> , Pears , Peas Green (English/Garden Snap and Sugar) <sup>1</sup> , Pecans , Peppers bell type , Peppers other , Pineapples <sup>1</sup> , Pistachios <sup>1</sup> , Potatoes fresh - other <sup>2,3,4</sup> , Potatoes fresh - Russets <sup>2,3,4</sup> , Potatoes processing <sup>2,3,4</sup> , Potatoes seeds <sup>2,3,4</sup> , Radicchio <sup>1</sup> , Raspberries <sup>2,3</sup> , Rhubarb <sup>3,5</sup> , Rosemary <sup>1</sup> , Sage <sup>1</sup> , Savory <sup>1</sup> , Spinach , Squash , Sorrel <sup>1</sup> , Strawberries, Sugarcane table <sup>1</sup> , Sweet potatoes, Swiss Chard <sup>1</sup> , Tangerines <sup>2,3</sup> , Taro <sup>2,3</sup> , Thyme <sup>1</sup> , Tomatoes , Turnip Tops Greens <sup>1</sup> , Walnuts, Watermelons

*1: Commodity added in response to Notice of Funding availability, effective July 10, 2020*

*2: Expanded eligibility to include CARES Act funding for sales losses because USDA found these commodities had a 5 percent or greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*3: Payment rate corrected per notice published in Federal Register July 10, 2020.*

*4: Divided potatoes into fresh russets, other fresh, processing and seed, with payment rates attributed accordingly.*

*5: USDA determined that peaches and rhubarb no longer qualify for payment under the CARES Act sales loss category.*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- August 4<sup>th</sup> – Statewide Harvest PGR and Storage Webinar, 4-5:30 PM. See article this issue or register at: [https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-XpFJTgdSim3LS8qTX-mKw](https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-XpFJTgdSim3LS8qTX-mKw)
- August 6<sup>th</sup> – Food Industry Virtual Office Hours – See article this issue or register at: [cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrFu2oqjMsGtE0H8FANT9BWKLfTflsieqB](https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrFu2oqjMsGtE0H8FANT9BWKLfTflsieqB)
- August 11<sup>th</sup> – Honeycrisp Bitter Pit Prediction Models Webinar, 1:15-2:30 PM. See article this issue or register at: [https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_HDoRGEYISy2qdoktY5UGAQ](https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HDoRGEYISy2qdoktY5UGAQ)

## Cornell Cooperative Extension

### Lake Ontario Fruit Program

12690 Rt. 31

Albion, NY 14411

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Plan to Attend Our August 11 Webinar – Honeycrisp Bitter Pit Prediction Models 1:15 – 2:15 pm

New Cornell Leaf Sampling Recommendation for “Honeycrisp” in 2020

Statewide Harvest PGR and Storage Webinar on August 4th

Apple Growers Strongly Encouraged to Apply for CFAP Funding

Preparing for Onboarding Harvest Employees in the Context of COVID-19

Local Health Clinics Provide On-Farm COVID-19 Education, and Other Health Services to Farm Owners and Agriculture Workers

Food Industry Virtual Office Hours are Now Offered Every Other Week

Food Industry Virtual Office Hours Thursday, August 6, 2020, 12-1 PM

Food Industry Resources on COVID-19

CFAP for NYS Fruit and Vegetable Farms (as of July 2020)

Mark Your Calendars

Contact Us

# Fruit Notes

**YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE**

## Fruit Specialists



Craig Kahlke | 585-735-5448 | [cjk37@cornell.edu](mailto:cjk37@cornell.edu)  
Team Leader, Fruit Quality Management

**Areas of Interest:** Fruit Quality and factors that affect fruit quality before, during, and after storage,  
**Crops:** Blueberries, Raspberries / Blackberries, Strawberries, Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums



Mario Miranda Sazo | 315-719-1318 | [mrm67@cornell.edu](mailto:mrm67@cornell.edu)  
Cultural Practices

**Crops:** Blueberries, Raspberries / Blackberries, Strawberries, Apples, Apricots, Asian Pears, Cherries, Currants, Gooseberries, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums



Janet van Zoeren | 585-797-8368 | [jev67@cornell.edu](mailto:jev67@cornell.edu)  
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

**Areas of Interest:** IPM of tree fruit and berry pests, biological control, and pollinators.  
**Crops:** Blueberries, Raspberries / Blackberries, Strawberries, Apples, Apricots, Asian Pears, Cherries, Currants, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plum



Mark Wiltberger | 315-272-8530 | [mw883@cornell.edu](mailto:mw883@cornell.edu)  
Business Management

**Crops:** Apples, Cherries, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums

For more information about our program visit us at [lof.cce.cornell.edu](http://lof.cce.cornell.edu)