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Cornell Cooperative Extension Lake Ontario Fruit Program Volume 21 Issue 13 December 16, 2021

Cornell Cooperative Extension NYS Tree Fruit Conference January 27-28, 2022



(virtual format)

2022 Cornell NYS Tree Fruit Conference



CCE-LOF are excited to bring you another winter tree fruit conference in concert with our counterparts in Eastern NY, CCE-ENYCHP. While we held out hope as long as we could for a live event, we had to stay virtual, but we feel this program is very strong and will allow more attendees the flexibility to attend from their own homes/offices. We listened to your feedback from our conference last winter and we've made modifications. The conference will be 2 days instead of three, with more time for breaks. Each day will have 2 morning and 2 afternoon sessions, ranging from 95-120 minutes. In addition, most of the sessions are structured around ideas we've received from our stakeholders over the past year though advisory meetings, email and phone communications, and farm visits. There are 3 DEC credit-eligible sessions currently being applied for, and all should be eligible for CCA credits. We're excited to bring you high-caliber speakers, many from outside NY. An overview of the sessions are below. As with last year, our virtual conference replaces the two Lake Ontario Winter Fruit Schools, the winter ENYCHP Fruit and Vegetable Conference (tree fruit portion) and the fruit section of the Empire Producer's Expo. Last year, the cumulative attendance of our virtual conference was over 335 for the largest sessions.

> Stay Tuned for More Info and Registration in January Here: <u>https://blogs.cornell.edu/nystreefruitconference/</u>

Conference general questions? Contact Craig Kahlke at 585-735-5448 or cjk37@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.



<u> Day 1 – Thursday, January 27th, 2022</u>

Session I – Business Session I: Apple Industry Outlook and Regulatory Updates – Chaired by Mark Wiltberger, CCE-LOF

- U.S. Apple Outlook, Chris Gerlach, Director of Industry Analytics, US Apple.
- US Apple Advocacy Update, Diane Kurrle, Senior Vice President, US Apple.
- Regulatory Update for New York State, Jim Bittner, New York State Horticultural Society

Session 2 – Business Session II: New Technologies and Profitability in Orchard Systems and Apple Crop Insurance Changes, Chaired by Mark Wiltberger, CCE-LOF

- Apple Crop Insurance Policy 2023 Changes, John Fitzpatrick, Crop Growers.
- Analyzing Profitability of your Orchards, Mark Wiltberger, Cornell University.
- Adopting New Technologies for your Farm: Evaluating Orchard Management Systems, Mark Wiltberger, Cornell University.

Session 3 – Climate Change, Postharvest, and Marketing, Chaired by Craig Kahlke, CCE-LOF

- Featuring an introduction by Dr. Jason Londo, new Cornell Assistant Professor, his position will focus on *Physiology of Fruit Crop Adaptation to Climate Change*.
- A summary of several years of research on dynamic controlled atmosphere by Dr. Chris Watkins, Cornell.
- A New York Apple Association marketing update by Cynthia Haskins, ED of NYAA.

Session 4 – Integrated Pest Management I, Chaired by Janet van Zoeren, CCE-LOF – applied for 1.5 hrs NYS DEC credits

- A Brown marmorated stink bug update by Dr. Greg Krawczyk, Penn State University.
- Life history of native solitary bees by Maria van Dyke, Cornell University.
- An introduction by new Cornell Tree Fruit Entomologist, Dr. Monique Rivera, who will be housed at Cornell Agritech in Geneva.
- A presentation of how applied stress impacts tree growth in virus-infected apple trees by Dan Donahue, CCE-ENYCHP.
- A talk on fire blight susceptibility and resistance genes in apple by Dr. Ricky Tegtmeier, Graduate Student, School of Integrative Plant Science Plant Breeding and Genetics Section, with the Khan lab at Cornell AgriTech.

Day 2 – Friday, January 28th, 2022

Session 5 – Integrated Pest Management II, Chaired by Dan Donahue, CCE-ENYCHP – applied for 1.5 hrs NYS DEC credits

- A presentation of apple scab management with snow cover by Dr. Juliet Carroll, of NYSIPM.
- A fire blight grower panel, featuring growers from across all of NY's commercial apple growing regions and an introduction by Dr. Kerik Cox of Cornell University. Panelists confirmed include Mark Russell & Rich Breslawski (Western NY), Andy Vega (Hudson Valley), Jessie Mulberry (Champlain Valley), and Jim Eve (Western NY and Champlain valley).
- Bitter rot management by Dr. Kari Peter of Penn State University.

Session 6 – Maintaining High Quality Orchard Soils, Chaired by Mike Basedow, CCE-ENYCHP – applied for 1.75 hrs NYS DEC credits

- Mike Basedow and Janet van Zoeren will discuss their commerical field trials on pre-emergent herbicide timings and their herbicide trunk deposition studies.
- Dr. Greg Peck (Cornell) Dr. Mark Williams (Virginia Tech), and Dr. Hazem Sharaf (Virginia Tech) will discuss how mulch and composts can be used as alternative soil fertility amendments for apple orchards, and how these inputs affect the microbial communities in the soil.
- Dr. Deborah Aller of Cornell's Soil Health Lab will present on the use of wood chip mulch in Long island apple orchards.
- Tianna Dupont, Tree Fruit Extension Specialist, Washington State University will discuss soil health in Washington orchards.

Session 7 – Managing Apple Crop Load and Tree Fruit Nutrition for Improved Tree Growth, Mineral Uptake, Fruit Quality, Color Enhancement, and Storability, Chaired by Mike Basedow, CCE-ENYCHP

- Dr. Terence Robinson of Cornell will lead off this first of two thematically linked sessions to talk about precision crop load management as it relates to improving fruit quality, color development, and storability.
- Dr. Luis Gonzalez Nieto, PostDoc in the Robinson lab, will follow with a summary of their research on rain-exclusion studies and their effect on stem water potential, fruit size/weight, and color on Gala.
- Dr. Emily Lavely, of Michigan State University Extension, will present on soil physical and moisture conditions and their impacts on root growth and nutrient uptake.
- Dr. Lailiang Cheng of Cornell will round out this session with a talk on the influence of nitrogen management for improved fruit quality and color development.

Session 8 – The Use of Reflective Fabrics and Pneumatic Defoliation to Improve Fruit Color in High Value Apple Varieties in NY State, Chaired by Mario Miranda Sazo, CCE-LOF

- Dr. Robinson will lead this second thematic session and final of the conference discussing the importance of diffuse scattering and factors that influence light interception, distribution, and reflection from the ground.
- Dr Nieto will present a summary of their research on the use of ground cover materials to increase fruit color on Honeycrisp, NY1, NY2, and Evercrisp.
- Dr. Lee Kalcsits from Washington State University will present on the use of reflective materials and the pneumatic defoliation to increase red fruit color in WA state.
- The 2 final sessions will come together with a statewide grower panel on their experiences with fabrics and pneumatic defoliation machines in New York State. Growers confirmed include Rusty Lamb & Andy Vega (Hudson Valley), Jessie Mulberry (Champlain Valley), Chris Whipple, Jimmy Zingler, Brett Kast, Kyle Wafler, Mark Russell, Rich Breslawski (all representing WNY region) and Jim Eve (Western NY and Champlain Valley).

Sponsorship Info

Dan Donahue will be reaching out to potential sponsors via email before the Holidays. Sponsor levels and other info such as opportunities for sponsoring individual sessions and playing pre-recoreded video advertisments will be nearly the same as last year. Questions? Not on the mailing list from last year? Contact Dan at <u>djd13@cornell.edu</u> or 518-322-7812.

2022 Pesticide Training

Russell Welser, CCE Ontario

A Pesticide Training and Recertification Series will take place on Wednesdays February 2, 9, 16, and 23, each day from 7:00–9:30 pm.

The exam will be on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 from 6:00—10:00 pm.

Both the trainings and the exam will take place at the Cooperative Extension Center 480 North Main Street Canandaigua, NY. This is NOT a 30 hour credit course – you must meet DEC eligibility requirements for commercial certification to be eligible for this course and exam series.

For more information and to register, please visit <u>www.cceontario.org</u>.

USDA to Measure Financial Well-being of Northeastern Farmers and Ranchers

Hernan Ortiz, Hernan.ortiz@usda.gov or 717-787-3904

HARRISBURG, PA – Beginning in late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend several months gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across the Northeastern United States, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2021 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is the only survey that measures the current financial well-being of producers and their households as a whole," said King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office. "The results of this survey will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect farms and farm families in the Northeastern United States."

In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to more than 30,000 producers nationwide, between January and April in 2022. The survey asks producers to provide indepth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2021 ARMS survey includes a version of the questionnaire focused on farm costs and returns for standard and organic dairy and corn. This year the survey also includes questions to help measure any impacts of COVID-19 on farms, farm and household finances, and off-farm employment. "In late January, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded," said Whetstone. "We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so that their information will continue supporting sound agricultural decisionmaking."

In addition to producing accurate information, NASS has strong safeguards in place to protect the confidentiality of all farmers who respond to its surveys. The agency will only publish data in an aggregate form, ensuring the confidentiality of all responses and that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 29, 2022. That report and others are available at <u>nass.usda.gov/Publications</u>. More reports based on ARMS data and more information about ARMS are available at ers.usda.gov/arms.

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Funding Your Farm Plans

Cornell Small Farms Program

Do you have good ideas for a farm business you'd like to start, or for expanding or diversifying your existing farm business? Do you have access to all the funding you'll need to bring your ideas to fruition? It can be very difficult to navigate the process of getting grants or loans, especially if you did not come to farming with a background in finance. Our new **Access to Capital** (<u>https://smallfarmcourses.com/p/bf-104-</u> <u>access-to-capital</u>) online course will teach you what funding opportunities are available to food- and farm-related businesses, and how to apply.

This course will start by emphasizing the importance of a business plan to this process, including cash flow projections. Once we have created a baseline understanding of what work needs to be done before seeking funding, we will have guest speakers talk about funding from a bank's perspective, from Farm Credit East, from USDA's various grant programs, and from economic development agencies. We will also highlight funding streams that are particular to different groups such as minority- and women-owned businesses or veterans.

This course is for anyone who is seeking funding for a farm enterprise. Participants will get the most out of the course if they already have familiarity with basic business and financial concepts and terms, but the instructor will also explain these as the course progresses. By the end of this 6-week course, all active participants will:

- Have a better understanding of how they can prepare their business for funding
- Find funding that is out there and available

• Put in an application that has the potential to be approved

The bulk of the course happens on your own time, with discussions, readings, and assignments in Teachable, our online course platform. To add to the experience, live webinars will be held during the live instruction period — from January 10 to February 14, 2022, on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. ET. These webinars allow you to meet on a weekly basis to learn from presenters and ask questions in real-time. If you miss one, they are always recorded and posted for later viewing.

Meet the Instructor:

Myron Thurston is the Food Supply Chain Marketing Specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County and is a Senior Resource Educator in the Cornell System. His most recent position was in Agriculture Economic Development at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County and he worked with farmers there to help them prepare for expansion, diversification, and financial protection for their agribusinesses. He also is a grant reviewer for the USDA. Myron has a significant background in grant research and grant writing as he was in nonprofit fundraising and development for over a decade before coming to Cornell. He also served as the head of marketing for two nonprofits in Central New York. Myron grew up on a 100-year-old family dairy farm that milked around 350 cows and farmed on 2,000 acres in Oneida County, NY. He currently resides in Sherrill, NY with his wife, two children, a dog that loves to run with him, and a cat that is not very friendly.

Reports on the Impact of NYS Overtime Pay on Ag, Released by Cornell and Farm Credit East

Mark Wiltberger

Researchers at Cornell CALS have released a report to NY Ag & Markets on the "<u>Effects of NY Overtime Laws</u> <u>on Agricultural Production Costs and</u>

<u>Competitiveness.</u>" The report discusses the financial effects of labor cost changes in 2020 in New York dairy, fruit and vegetable farms. It also explores the potential impact of lowering the overtime threshold to 50 or 40 hours and how farm employers said they will respond to such a change. H-2A workers were also interviewed to explore how

lower overtime thresholds and associated work hour limits would affect their willingness to return to New York Farms. Read the full report here: https://t.co/3NJzebaJyg.

On October 27th, Farm Credit East released the report, "<u>The Economic Impact of Overtime Pay for</u> <u>New York State Agriculture</u>." Pursuant to the Farmworker Fair Labor Protection Act (FFLPA), the state of New York has assembled a wage board to consider changes to the overtime wage threshold for farmworkers. The threshold is currently 60 hours per week. The wage board can recommend that the threshold remain at 60 hours, or that it be reduced. This report outlines the economic impact that changes to the overtime threshold could have on the agricultural sector in New York. The full report is here: https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledgeexchange/Reports/economic-impact-of-overtimepay-for-nys-agriculture.

Both reports address impacts on the fruit sector of the NYS agricultural industry. I conducted interviews with LOF enrollees for the fruit component of the Cornell report. Many thanks for your participation. It is because of your commitment to NYS agriculture that industry reports such as this can be made.

Winter Prevention of 2022 Gypsy Moth (Lymantria dispar) Outbreak

Anya Osatuke

Introduction

In Summer 2021 we saw a huge emergence of gypsy moth caterpillars. These voracious caterpillars emerged in June, parachuted into cropping fields from trees, and ate the leaves off of apples, blueberries, strawberries and other fruit crops with a great appetite. These caterpillars are not likely to eat raspberries or vegetable crops, as they tend to prefer trees (including Christmas and apple trees) and shrubs.

The Latin name for these insects is *Lymantria dispar*, and that's how they will be referred to throughout this article. While the term "gypsy moth" may be more familiar, entomologists are looking to rename the caterpillars to something that is not derogatory to Romani people. Translated from Latin, *Lymantria* means "destroyer" and *dispar* means "unequal". It's easy to understand why these caterpillars are called destroyers, and they are "unequal" because you can tell apart male and female caterpillars by appearance when they are about to turn into cocoons.

The 2021 generation of *Lymantria dispar* was record-setting. The warm, dry weather in May helped caterpillars emerge safely-- in wetter years, a fungus (*Entomophaga maimaiga*) will infect young caterpillars and kill many of them off.

Lymantria dispar has one generation a year. Once caterpillars turn into moths, the moths will mate and lay eggs on trees. The next year, the cycle will begin again. We have our fingers crossed that the weather next spring will be wetter.



Adult *Lymantria dispar* moth beside a fresh egg mass. **Photo credit:** Ryan Hodnett, Creative Commons BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia.

How to kill egg masses

If your farm has any trees on its property, you can take a couple hours this winter to kill off some *Lymantria dispar* eggs. **Consider doing this if you are located in Clinton, Warren, Saratoga, Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Seneca, Yates, or Orleans county.** Populations were especially high in these areas.

Examine trees on your property, looking for orange-buff egg masses 1 - 3+ inches long. Look for masses without exit holes, old masses will persist for years but have holes, empty eggs, and fade in color over time. Check out other surfaces like firewood, dead trees, and leaf litter for these masses too.

These masses can be sprayed with horticultural oil between October - November and between April - May. Any time of year, they can be scraped off of the tree and dumped into a bucket of soapy water. It's best to expose the eggs to some sort of chemical, like soap or a suffocating horticultural oil, to make sure they don't survive.

Here is a <u>YouTube video</u> showing how to scrape off these egg masses from a tree.

How to prepare for next year

Another way to prepare for *Lymantria dispar* populations in spring is to make sure you have the appropriate chemicals to control them. Spraying young caterpillars is the most effective way to kill them; as they age they become less susceptible to pesticides. We recommend Bt pesticides because of their specificity and efficacy.

Bacillus thuringiensis, or Bt (trade name DiPel) is an organic pesticide that is highly recommended for *Lymantria dispar* control. This is because it has no impact on humans, aquatic life, or bees. It has a 4-hour re-rentry interval and a 0-day pre-harvest interval. If you are purchasing DiPel forcontrol, keep this in mind:

Ensure that the DiPel that you have lists either "*Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies <u>kurstaki</u>" (BtK), or "<i>Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies aizawai*" (Bt aizawai) as the active ingredient (there are other strains of Bt that are <u>not</u> effective against moth caterpillars).

You can use the USA Pest Networks' <u>Pest Forecasting Tool</u> to track populations of *Lymantria dispar*, as well as <u>other</u> <u>pests</u>.

References and further reading:

- Field Protocol for Sampling Gypsy Moth Egg Masses | NYS DEC
- <u>Gypsy Moth</u> | NYS DEC
- <u>A Virus and a Fungal Disease Cause Lymantria Dispar Outbreaks to Collapse</u> | Michigan State University IPM
- <u>Gypsy Moth Damage in Blueberry</u> | Berry Diagnostic Tool
- <u>People are Talking about Gypsy Moths</u> | Cornell IPM

Apple Disease and Diversity Tour 2021

Ian Mellon and Awais Khan (Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology, Cornell University, Geneva) and Janet Van Zoeren (Lake Ontario Fruit Team CCE)

Overview

On October 2nd, we hosted an 'Apple Disease and Diversity' Tour at Cornell AgriTech for graduate students in Cornell University's School of Integrative Plant Science. We had 26 students attend from the fields of plant breeding, pathology, horticulture, and crop science. The main aim of the tour was to provide an opportunity to the students to learn about apple genetic diversity, genetics of disease resistance in apples, disease management in the orchards, and the potential use of the wide diversity found in both cultivated and wild species for apple breeding. As the next generation of plant scientists and extension educators, cultivating interest in these students about sustainable disease management methods is a crucial goal for the future of orchard protection. The event was divided into three parts: expert talks, guided tours on genetic diversity in apples and disease management, and a photo contest for disease identification and outreach.

The feedback received from students who attended the event was overwhelmingly positive, and we hope to offer the tour again in the future. We may expand it to include apple growers, extension educators, and crop consultants if there is interest from these groups.

The History of Apple Domestication and the Importance of Disease Resistance Breeding

The event began with a discussion of the history of apple domestication. Special thanks to Richard Tegtmeier, plant breeding graduate student at Cornell University, for speaking on this at the event. Malus sieversii, the main progenitor of modern apples found in Central Asia and Tian Shan mountains, are larger and sweeter than many other wild Malus species but still only vaguely represent the fruit we recognize in supermarkets today. Larger and sweeter fruits of M. *sieversii* were selected by animals and this process was continued by humans, leading to the domestication of apples. M. x domestica was brought east and west and hybridized with other native *Malus* species, especially M. sylvestris, M. orientalis and M. baccata along the Silk Road trading route. This process of hybridization and gene-flow from these *Malus* species has led to the modern apple cultivars we see today.

The importance of disease resistance and the challenges that apple breeders face when trying to develop resistant cultivars was a focus of the event. Many wild *Malus* species have resistance to common apple pathogens, but their fruit quality is so low they are not ideal for apple breeding. Apples have a juvenile period of 5-6 years which lengthens the time to develop apple cultivars with commercial value and disease resistance.

The role of Cornell Cooperative Extension and activities of the CCE Lake Ontario Fruit Program team were discussed. The significance of communication between growers and research scientists and how extension helps to further strengthen the interaction between the two was emphasized. The CCE team ensures that the most cutting-edge research at Cornell University and around the country is made available to growers, bringing specific recommendations while also directly communicating growers' needs and concerns back to researchers.

Tours of Research Orchard at Cornell AgriTech

Next, attendees were given guided tours of the disease research apple orchard 'Darrow Farm' at Cornell AgriTech, focusing on different aspects of orchard disease management and disease resistance breeding. The Darrow Farm orchard is a unique resource for conducting disease resistance breeding projects. It contains 4 replications of more than 200 accessions representing the core collection of domesticated and wild Malus species, which represents only a small set of the total Malus germplasm available to the USDA-ARS-Plant Genetic Resources Unit (PGRU) in Geneva, NY. We do not use any disease management program in this orchard to ensure optimum conditions to promote disease development. This high disease pressure allows for more accurate disease screening. We also use this orchard to perform controlled crosses to develop mapping populations for identifying new sources of disease resistance.

Tours were divided into 3 groups, focusing on different aspects of orchard disease management and *Malus* diversity. One tour showed the significance of orchard management for effective disease prevention. For example, if weeds are not properly managed, it can create the perfect environment and humidity for insects and pathogens to thrive, and not clearing diseased leaves and mummified fruits between seasons allows for pathogen inoculum to build up to increase outbreak severity.

Another tour group focused on identification of the 5 most common apple diseases faced by NY growers. This included apple scab, fire blight, powdery mildew, cedar apple rust, and frogeye leaf spot. Other disease problems that attendees were exposed to in this orchard included: brown rot, flyspeck, sooty apple blotch, nectria canker, and insect damage including stink bugs and apple maggots.

The last tour group examined the importance, history, and future of apple disease resistance breeding. This included introduction to *M. floribunda* '821' which contains the scab resistance genes *Rvi6* and *Rvi7*. *Rvi6* from this accession was the most commonly used gene in scab resistance breeding, but apple scab pathogen populations that can overcome this gene have been steadily rising since the deployment of these resistant genes. Within the past two years, populations of *V. inaequalis* that can overcome *Rvi6* resistance were identified within this orchard, marking the first time this has been reported in North America.

Photos for Disease Identification and Outreach Activity

The final activity of the tour was a photography contest where attendees took photos of diseased leaves and fruits in the orchard, and competed in different photo categories i.e. the most severe infections, clearest photos, and greatest number of diseases on a single leaf and fruit. This contest gave students hands-on experience identifying common orchard diseases and provided photos that Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Khan Lab will use for outreach and education.



Mark Your Calendars

Meeting Title	2021 Cornell Tree Fruit Conference
Date	January 27 & 28, 2022
Time	All day, 2 morning session and 2 afternoon sessions.
Location	Virtual
Cost	TBD
Contact for	https://blogs.cornell.edu/nystreefruitconference/
Info/Registration	
Brief Description	See Promo on pages 1-3 of this newsletter.
of Meeting	

Meeting Title	Access to Capitol Small Farms course
Date	January 10 – Feb 14, Monday nights
Time	6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Location	Virtual
Cost	\$299, discounted pricing available
Contact for	https://smallfarmcourses.com/p/bf-104-access-to-capital
Info/Registration	
Brief Description	See page 5 of this newsletter.
of Meeting	

Meeting Title	2022 Pesticide Training and Recertification Series
Date	Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022; Exam Wednesday, March 2,
	2022
Time	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm. Exam: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Location	Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ontario County, 480 North Main Street,
	Canandaigua, NY 14424
Cost	\$225.00 for certification which includes the training manuals and all 4
	classes. Does not include the \$100.00 exam fee. Recertification is
	\$40.00/person/class.
Contact for	Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ontario County, 585-394-3977 x 427 or x
Info/Registration	436 or email <u>nea8@cornell.edu</u> or <u>rw43@cornell.edu</u> Registration form is
	available on the website www.cceontario.org
Brief Description	Anyone interested in obtaining a pesticide certification and meets the DEC
of Meeting	(Department of Environmental Conservation) experience / education
	requirements OR current applicators seeking pesticide recertification
	credits should attend. 2.5 recertification core credits will be available for
	each class.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Lake Ontario Fruit Program 12690 Rt. 31 Albion, NY 14411

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Contact Us

Fruit Notes

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

Fruit Specialists



Craig Kahlke | 585-735-5448 | 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 Cultural Practices

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



Janet van Zoeren 1 585-797-8368 1 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 Business Management

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