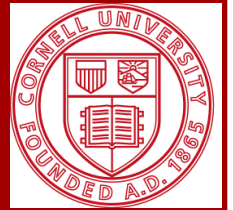




Time  
to  
prune

# FRUIT NOTES

## Lake Ontario Fruit Program



Volume 13 Issue 1

Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete, and up-to-date pesticide recommendations. Nevertheless, changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are still possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labeling. Please read the label before applying any pesticide.

January 10, 2013

### 2013 Lake Ontario Winter Fruit Schools

Approx. 3.0 DEC recertification training credits. Bring your DEC Applicator ID.

If you need DEC credits, please arrive on time to sign the roster and plan to stay all day.

**Feb 4: Niagara County CCE Training Center, 4487 Lake Ave., Lockport, NY**

**Feb 5: Wallington Fire Hall, 7863 Ridge Road, Sodus, NY**

***Bring Your Employees for a Concurrent Session for Spanish Employees at Both Locations:***

- 9:00 Tool care? (Como cuidar a los herremientos de trabajo). Speaker to be determined
- 9:30 Preventing common injuries (Como prevenir lastimarse en el trabajo) – Anna Meyerhoff, NYCAHM
- 10:00 coffee break- descanso con cafe
- 10:30 Tree & Crop Load Management – Terence Robinson, CU
- 11:15 Reporting injuries and taking care of yourself (Como cuidarse en el trabajo y comunicar en caso de lesión o herida) – Alison De Marree, CCE LOF, and Mary Jo Dudley, CU
- 11:30 Changes in immigration policy: what could it mean for you? (Cambios en las políticas de inmigración: ¿Que puede significar para usted?) – Mary Jo Dudley, CU
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:10 Improving workplace relations & communications (Mejorar relaciones y comunicación en el trabajo) – Mary Jo Dudley, CU

#### Program Schedule:

- 8:00 - 8:30 Registration and DEC credit sign-in, BRING YOUR APPLICATOR ID CARDS!
- 8:30 Welcome, Announcements and Introductions
- 8:40 Orchard management strategies for 2013 following the strange weather in 2012 – Terence Robinson, Cornell University (CU)
- 9:15 Understanding microclimates on your farm – Andrew Montreuil, CU
- 9:35 Management considerations for scab, powdery mildew, and fire blight in 2013 – Kerik Cox, CU
- 10:15 Coffee break and sponsor spots
- 10:45 An emerging pest in Fruit – Juliet Carroll, CU
- 11:05 Spraying with precision – Andrew Landers, CU
- 11:30 NY Horticultural Society Update – Paul Baker
- 11:45 New York Apple Marketing Order Reauthorization Vote – NYAA Director (TBA) and Jim Allen
- 12:00 Sponsor spots, Lunch and visit with sponsors
- 1:10 When should an orchard be removed? – Alison DeMarree, CCE LOF
- 1:35 Controlling internal flesh pigment bleeding in Idared – Craig Kahlke, CCE-LOF
- 1:55 How can the apple fruit acidity gene help apple growers? – Kenong Xu, CU
- 2:15 Managing internal lep pests, what to expect for 2013 – Deborah Breth, CCE-LOF
- 2:40 stretch break
- 2:45 Testing new insecticides for apple maggot in field and lab – W. Harvey Reissig, CU
- 3:05 Frost Protection techniques and the use of Promalin – Mario Miranda Sazo, CCE LOF
- 3:25 Plum Pox Update – Kevin King, NYS Ag & Mkts
- 3:40 Wrap-up, program evaluation, DEC certificates
- 3:45 adjourn

Please pre-register! Registration form on back page.

*Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities*

## 2013 Lake Ontario Winter Fruit School Registration

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Registration fee is \$20 to cover lunch, breaks, materials and other costs of programs. At the door, the registration fee will be \$30. If farm is not enrolled in fruit through CCE of Wayne, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Oswego, or as "Satellite" enrollee, the pre-registration fee is \$85, or \$95 at the door. **Registration form is on back page.**

## Pruning Demonstrations 2013: The Benefits of Using Motorized Platforms for Dormant Pruning and the Cornell Concept for a Fruiting Wall

Mario Miranda Sazo and Terence L. Robinson

First of all – Happy New Year! We hope we'll all have a more typical and productive year in 2013.

As we begin this winter's dormant pruning season, we invite you and your employees to attend **two pruning demonstration sessions** (each followed by a mini-tour showing the use of more motorized platforms being used in Western NY) scheduled for **Feb. 18 and 19, 2013**. We will continue learning about the benefits of proper pruning, minimal pruning, limb renewal pruning, and limb bending. **This year Dr. Robinson will introduce the Cornell Fruiting Wall Concept** using Tall Spindle Trees and Mechanical Pruning at the VanDeWalle site (only at the Wayne County site). At each of the pruning sites,

we will have platforms for you to prune with loppers, pneumatic pruners, and a chainsaw with a pole. A short mini-tour showing other motorized platforms will follow after each pruning session in the afternoon. The use of motorized platforms has increased in Western NY in the last three years. Several growers have realized that dormant pruning can be done more efficiently, cheaper, and faster with the use of platforms (self-propelled or pulled by a tractor and single row or 2-row types). By using platforms, dormant pruning work is definitely less physically demanding for workers when they no longer have to climb ladders while carrying pruning tools.

<b>Monday February 18, 2013 Wayne County (9:00am-noon)</b>	Workshop hosted by grower Scott VanDeWalle. Travel to intersection of Rt. 104 and Rt. 14 in Wayne Co., Alton, NY. Turn north on Rt. 14, and travel 0.3 miles, then turn right on Ridge Rd. and go 50 feet, then turn left on Shaker Rd., go 0.9 miles and look for the Cornell signs. <b>Note:</b> This activity will be <b>followed by a mini-tour</b> visiting the use of other motorized platforms at nearby grower farms in the afternoon.
<b>Tuesday February 19, 2013 Niagara or Orleans County (9:00am-noon)</b>	Location to be announced at the 2013 LOF Winter Fruit Schools and in an upcoming LOF newsletter. <b>Note:</b> This activity will be <b>followed by a mini-tour</b> visiting the use of other motorized platforms at nearby grower farms in the afternoon.

One of the goals of dormant pruning, which we will stress in the workshops, is to prune the top portion of your trees to eliminate any vigorous growth that will shade the lower part of your trees leaving only small diameter fruiting wood in the upper 1/3 of the tree. We continue to see too many large branches in the top portion of mature Tall Spindle apple trees in Western NY. To maintain high-density Tall Spindle orchards over the long term the trees must be kept narrow and columnar with the top narrower than the

bottom. When Tall Spindle trees are mature, the tree height must be limited annually by cutting the leader to a small side branch and then eliminating the upper large branches with a bevel cut to maintain the narrow columnar shape of a Tall Spindle tree. This upper tree work can be done more efficiently and cheaply with a platform. In addition a better quality job is achieved when the worker is positioned near the top of the tree. By doing this you will maximize light interception without causing excessive shading

and avoid the loss of productive branches of the lower canopy. This is the time of the year to correct this!

Last year we began trials of using summer sidewall shearing to reduce dormant pruning costs and develop a fruiting wall. A long-term pruning strategy that we envision is to use annual side-wall shearing of Tall Spindle trees for 3 successive years with no other dormant pruning but in the third year to add a dormant winter corrective pruning to remove limbs that have become large and are causing internal canopy shading and poor fruit quality. Such a pruning strategy could reduce total annual pruning costs in Tall Spindle orchards by about 65% (averaged over 3 years) and result in a narrow, tall

fruiting wall. This will help you remain profitable and competitive.

At the Wayne County demonstration at VanDeWalle Orchards (Alton, NY) we will show what the fruiting wall looks like using mature Gala and Linda Mac Tall Spindle trees on M.9 rootstock. This research plots compare mechanical shearing using a vertical cutting bar positioned at one or two foot from the main trunk. Hedging treatments were applied the first week of June, first week of July and first week of August 2012. You are invited to see the “manicured” look of the Tall Spindle apple trees and the shoots with a terminal bud, which likely will be flower buds this coming spring.

### Some of 2013 D.E.C. CORE Competency/Recertification classes

Date/Time	Topic
1. Jan 29, Tuesday 1:00 – 4:15 PM	<b>DEC Rules and Regulations, Updates</b> – Gail Mortimer, NYS DEC, Pesticide Control Specialists. <b>3 CORE credits</b>
2. Jan 31, Thursday 1:00 - 4:15 PM	<b>Pesticide CORE Competency I</b> – Mike Helms, Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP) Cornell University. <b>3 CORE credits</b>
3. Feb 14, Thursday 8:00 AM – 12:15 PM	<b>Water Quality – Ecology and Environmental Considerations of Pesticides and Fertilizers</b> – Andy Sansone, Monroe County DES. <b>3 CORE credits.</b>
4. Feb 14, Thursday 1:00 – 4:15 PM	<b>Pesticide CORE Competency II</b> – Walt Nelson, CCE Monroe County. <b>3 CORE credits</b>
5. Feb 21, Thursday 9:00AM - 12:15 PM	<b>Personal Protective Equipment and Interpreting Pesticide and Fertilizer Labels</b> - Ron Gardner, Cornell University, Department of Entomology. <b>3 CORE credits</b>

All classes are 3 hours long plus a break. Morning classes will run from 9 am to 12:15 pm with a fifteen minute break at 10:15. Afternoon classes will run from 1:00 pm to 4:15 pm with a fifteen minute break at 3:00. Individual sessions are \$40 for Monroe County enrollees, \$47 otherwise. Contact Karen @ 585.461.1000 x 225 or ksk8@cornell.edu for registration or further information.

**The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation requires:**

- Late-comers will not be permitted to sign the roster or receive credits.**
- Recertification students are required to attend entire class session to receive credits.**
- Any student needing to leave the room at any time during class will be asked to sign out and in on a time sheet.**

**Please detach and return the registration form with your payment to:**

**CCE Monroe County 249 Highland Ave. Rochester, NY 14620**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the classes you wish to attend:**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check made payable to “Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County”

## 2013 GAPs Trainings

### Online registrations available now for the first 2 workshops in Geneva & Mt. Morris

There are 5 planned 2-day Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) workshops scheduled for this winter and spring. This is for those farmers who are being required by buyers to provide third party verification of their food safety practices and for farmers thinking about moving in this direction. With the newly released Food Safety Modernization Act draft of FDA regulations on January 4th, the timing of these workshops is paramount. Although the 2-day workshops will cover the vast majority of what most 3<sup>rd</sup>-party audit companies require, it will be geared towards the new Harmonized GAPs standards that Wegmans and many other retailers are requiring. These are sponsored by Genesee Valley Regional Market Authority (except the Long island training), Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell University, the Produce Safety Alliance, and the New York State Department of Ag & Mkts.

1. January 15-16, Food Science Bldg., Room 251, NYSAES, Geneva  
The focus is on berries, but all fresh produce growers are invited. To register or for more info, go to

<http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/>, events listings on the right side of the home page.

2. January 30-31, Focus on Potatoes, location: Mt. Morris -to register or for more info, go to <http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/>, events listings on the right side of the home page. The focus is on potatoes, but all fresh produce growers are invited.

3. February 7-8, General GAPs training for all fresh produce growers, location: Batavia.

4. March 6-7, General GAPs training for all fresh produce growers, location: CCE-Yates, Penn Yan.

5. March 13-14, General GAPs training for all fresh produce growers, host CCE-Suffolk, Riverhead.

For more information and updates, see:

<http://www.gaps.cornell.edu/eventscalendar.html>

Registration info will be up approximately 4-5 weeks before the workshops. For more info, contact Craig Kahlke at [cjk37@cornell.edu](mailto:cjk37@cornell.edu) or 585-735-5448.

## FSMA Produce Safety Draft Rule Released Public Comment Period is Open

Craig Kahlke

The long-awaited release of FDA's draft of the produce safety rule, titled "Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption" as part of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), was released on January 4. The link to this 547 page behemoth document is found at: [http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00123\\_PI.pdf](http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00123_PI.pdf).

There is a 120 day public comment period that will likely be extended due to the size of the draft regulation. We will have a summary of the proposed federal rule and how it will impact growers, packers, and other food handlers in a later issue. For now, you can submit either electronic or written comments on the proposed rule by May 16, 2013. For electronic

comment submissions, go to the Federal Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. For written submissions, you may Mail/Hand Deliver/Courier (for paper or CD-ROM submissions):  
Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Agency name and Docket No. FDA2011-N-0921 and Regulatory Information Number RIN 0910-AG35 for this rulemaking. All comments received may be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>. More will follow on this in a future Fruit Notes issue.

## **Census Provides Local Opportunities to Help Shape Farm Programs and Services 2012 Census of Agriculture Arriving in Mailboxes across New York**

Just as New York farmers are sitting down to make decisions for next year's growing season -- or finishing end-of-year farm paperwork -- the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is reminding them to complete and return their 2012 Census of Agriculture form. Conducted only once every five years by NASS, the Census is much more than a count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It is a look at land use and ownership, production practices, expenditures and other factors that affect the way farmers do business and succeed in the 21st Century.

"The results of the Census are used by companies, cooperatives, planners and lawmakers who serve New York farmers and communities -- including federal, state and local governments, agribusinesses, trade associations and many others," said King Whetstone, Director of NASS New York Field Office. "Farmers and ranchers also use Census data to help make informed decisions about the future of their own operations."

Taking part in the Census is increasingly important to New York producers and communities because it provides a snapshot of the agriculture industry in every county of the state. This local information can

affect policy decisions as well as influence community growth and development.

"The Census provides producers an opportunity to help shape farm programs, boost rural services and grow your farm future," added Whetstone. "Many companies review Census data when determining where to establish or expand their businesses, and even when looking for where they can go for supplies of locally-produced food and agricultural products -- all examples that emphasize the importance of responding and supplying accurate Census information."

All New York farmers and ranchers should have received a Census form in the mail in late December. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2013. Farmers can return their forms by mail or online by visiting a secure website, <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/index.php>. Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in the Census and requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential. For more information about the Census, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov) or call 1-888-4AG-STAT (1-888-424-7828). The Census of Agriculture is your voice, your future, your responsibility.

### **Educational event calendar:**

- **Jan 21: NYS Producers EXPO, Becker Forum** -- <http://nysvga.org/expo/info>. Please pre-register now!
- **Jan 22-23: NYS Producers EXPO, Tree fruit and Berry Sessions**, other sessions on Jan 24. See complete program and registration. <http://nysvga.org/expo/info> or in last Fruit Notes!
- **Feb 4-5: Lake Ontario Winter Fruit Schools** -- Feb. 4 in Niagara CCE, Feb. 5 at Wallington Fire Hall in Sodus, details inside.
- **Feb. 6-8: Viticulture 2013** --Details at <http://vit2013.com/>.
- **Feb 18, 19, 2013: Pruning workshops**, details inside.
- **Feb. 23-Mar 1: IFTA Annual Conference**, Boston, MA -- Details at <http://www.ifruittree.org/?page=AnnualConference2013>
- **March 4** - The Labor Management Meeting on Developing & Using Employee Handbooks will be on Monday, in the Lilac Room, Monroe County Cooperative Extension, 249 Highland Avenue from 9:30 am until 3 pm.
- **March 13 and 18: Pesticide Applicator Exam Preparation Class** at Wayne Co. CCE. More details to come. New core manual is needed if taking exam in 2013!
- **March 14-15: In-Depth Fruit School** -- "Precision Fruit Production Summit" in Geneva. Details to come.
- **March 19:** LOF Advisory Meeting, Monroe County CCE, Rochester, NY, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

**Lake Ontario Fruit Program  
Cornell Cooperative Extension  
12690 NYS Rt. 31  
Albion, NY 14411**

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**Check with your county CCE for enrollment status.**

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**Registration Form:**

Feb. 4, Niagara Co. Location \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish Session \_\_\_\_\_  
(number attending) (number attending )

Feb. 5, Wayne Co. Location \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish Session \_\_\_\_\_  
(number attending) (number attending)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_ submitted

Names attending \_\_\_\_\_