There are many resources available to guide your management decisions during the season. Here’s a quick list of online resources for vegetable growers.

Surveyed farmers in New York shared their experiences and impacts with heavy rainfall in 2017. Key findings and insights are provided.

Don’t forget that most FSMA compliance or exemptions are based on annual sales averaged over the previous 3-year period and adjusted for inflation.

Field conditions before, during and after herbicide application can influence coverage, absorption, and translocation in a plant.

New FDA Clarifications for the Produce Rule on Water Testing and Inflation

Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

When dealing with federal regulations, it just seems like language and understanding of the rule isn’t always as clear as we would like. In the March 1 issue of VegEdge, I wrote an article concerning the water testing compliance dates. In the article I noted that the interpretation of the dates when water testing needed to be completed were 2 to 4 years from January 26, 2018 for the largest farms. Then for each category below, the dates would come later. Apparently that isn’t the case. Dates for water testing initiation will be in 2-4 years for each category. This change is still subject to final approval so stay tuned but it is strongly believed that FDA looking to push the water testing later into the future as they await new research data to improve the accuracy for new testing methods.

In another matter, FDA has reminded us that the category of farm size based on value of food sales adjusts each year. In a statement

Ronald Bond of University of CA-Davis shows proper method of obtaining accurate irrigation water sample. Photo: TJ Mullinax, Good Fruit Grower
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The next issue of VegEdge will be April 25, 2018.

2018 Vegetable Production Guidelines Available
Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP), Cornell

Written by Cornell University specialists, this publication is designed to offer producers, seed and chemical dealers, and crop consultants practical information on growing and managing vegetable crops in New York State. Topics include general culture, nutrient management, transplant production, postharvest handling, organic production, and managing common vegetable crop pest concerns.

Highlighted changes in the 2018 Vegetable Guidelines:
- Updated pesticide options for economically important vegetable crop pests.
- Significantly revised pest management practices.
- New onion and sweet corn IPM scouting report forms.

The 2018 Vegetable Guidelines are available as a print copy ($41), online-only access ($41), or a package combining print and online access ($57.50). Additional shipping charges will apply.

Cornell Guidelines can be obtained through your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office or from the Cornell Store at Cornell University. To order from the Cornell Store, call (844) 688-7620 or order online at http://store.cornell.edu/c-875-pmep-guidelines.aspx.
released last week by FDA, “Most of the final rules implementing the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) have compliance dates or exemptions that are based on annual sales averaged over the previous three-year period and adjusted for inflation. These baseline values were set in 2011, when FSMA became law, but have changed every year because of inflation. The FDA has updated the applicable inflation adjusted values for six of the FSMA regulations covering 2015-2017, the most recent three years for which these values are available.”

To make better sense of what they are talking about, Chris Callahan, UVM and head of the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety sent out the chart below. The term DEFLATOR is referencing the percentage factor for calculating inflation each year as it’s multiplied to the base line values set by FDA to differentiate farm size.

As you can see, since the introduction of the rule, the break off points for the categories have risen modestly. This might actually change the compliance dates for some farms. When the rule began, it was believed that the inflation calculation didn’t start until the year each farm category came on line. The reality was FDA meant for the inflation rate to begin from when the law was enacted.

As new updates and clarifications come out, stay tuned to VE for the latest news.

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Table from Chris Callahan, UVM, The Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety

Interested in Selling Your Vegetables to Schools? Grower Input Needed

Caroline Boutard-Hunt, CCE Yates County

The S2AY Network and the Farm to Cafeteria network covers the Finger Lakes region of Steuben, Schuyler, Seneca, Wayne, Yates, Ontario, Livingston, Chemung & Tioga Counties. The goal of the committee is to find ways to most effectively connect farms to local schools and to increase access to local foods within communities. We would very much appreciate growers in these counties and throughout New York taking part in a brief survey which will help us gain a better perspective from the farmer’s viewpoint about interest in selling local produce to schools as well as possible opportunities and roadblocks they see in pursuing these contracts.

The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Take the survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RBBGRTM The survey will remain open until the end of April.

Please contact Caroline Boutard-Hunt at 315-536-5123 if you would prefer a written copy of the survey to be mailed to you. Thank you very much!

Environmental Factors Can Influence Herbicide Activity

Darcy Telenko, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Herbicide activity is influenced by light, temperature, humidity, soil moisture, wind and precipitation. Field conditions before, during and after herbicide application can influence coverage, absorption, and translocation in a plant. Temperature extremes can slow plant metabolism and reduce herbicide effectiveness. The optimum temperature for herbicide activity generally range from 65 to 85°F corresponding to ideal temperatures for crop and weed growth. High temperatures, low humidity and wind can lead to vaporization, crystallization and degradation of the herbicide. In general, moisture is required to activate many herbicides used in vegetable production. It is important to understand the specific requirements for each herbicide:

- Is there a rainfast (rain-free) period?
- Does it need rain or irrigation to be activated?
- Does it need to be mechanically incorporated?
- What’s the best timing of application?

As many pre-plant-incorporated (PPI) and PRE emergence herbicides are being put out this spring, keep in mind that soil chemistry (pH), structure and moisture can all influence the activity of soil-applied herbicides. Unevenness of plant residue in a field can influence soil moisture and herbicide activity on the target weeds and could place uneven residues into the root zone leading to crop injury. Also keep in
mind that if herbicides are being applied after plastic mulch has been put down that many labels have “for row-middle applications only” or state that “if sprayed over plastic mulch significant crop injury can occur when spray residue is concentrated in the plant hole by irrigation or rainfall.”

When detecting herbicide injury other stress factors need to be ruled out including diseases, insects, nutrient deficiencies and adverse weather conditions. Many these conditions may predispose the crop to an increased sensitivity to a herbicide leading to a multifaceted issue. A plant that is weakened and poorly growing it may not be able to grow past the herbicide treated zone in the soil or detoxify the herbicide as it would under normal conditions.

### Factors that may contribute to herbicide injury in a crop

- **Faulty Application** – usually distinct patterns within a field cause by miss application of herbicide or faulty equipment.
  - Streaks of injury due to improper incorporation.
  - Overlapping spray pattern.
  - Improper nozzle size and spacing/or boom height.
  - Worn nozzles.
  - Failure to shut off sprayer when making turns or decreased sprayer speed

- **Environmental Conditions** – conditions that favor optimum crop growth and minimize risk of crop injury are desired.
  - Planting seed too deep causes seedling to have extended contact with the herbicide risking injury.
  - Planting too shallow may result in the seed germinating in the herbicide treated zone of the soil risking injury.
  - Cool, wet conditions reduce plant metabolism and growth slowing detoxification of herbicide.
  - Warm, humid condition may increase herbicide uptake leading to injury.
  - Hot, dry conditions may magnify herbicide effects on plant since plant is under stress.

- **Selectivity of Herbicides** – most herbicides have a 4x margin of selectivity on labeled crops.
  - Under conditions that stress the crop (environmental, soil compaction or other pests) injury might occur.

- **Genetic Susceptibility** – genetic background can play a role in selectivity of herbicide on the plant.

- **Herbicide Persistence** – the length of time a herbicide remains active in soil.
  - Herbicide families with compounds that have longer persistence in soil include the triazines, uracils, phenylureas, sulfonyleureas, dinitroanilines, isoxazolidiones, imidazolinones, and plant growth regulators.
  - Follow rotation restrictions on label to avoid herbicide carryover injury.

- **Herbicide Drift** – off-site movement of herbicide can cause injury to non-target areas by spray-particle drift, vapor drift and herbicide-contaminated soil (see photos).
  - Glyphosate (Roundup) – EPSP synthase inhibitor depletion of key amino acids needed for protein synthesis - plants gradually turn yellow, leaf chlorosis.
  - Dicamba (Vision) – growth regulator –leaves become cupped and strapped and plant stems twist (epinasty), emerging leaves may appear chlorotic, growth slows and plants appear stunted.
  - Oxyfluorfen (Goal 2XL) – protoporphyrinogen oxidase (PPO) inhibitor starts a reaction that causes cell membrane to leak–spots can be observed where herbicide contacted the leaves, expanding leaves become crinkled due to contact burn on the edges.
Tools Available to Guide Management Decisions
Darcy Telenko, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

As warm spring weather approaches and crops begin to be planted there are numerous resources available to guide management decisions during the season. The Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) Specialists have varying areas of expertise but work as a team to provide educational programs and information to commercial growers, processors and agri-business professionals in Western New York. As a team we try to keep you updated of issues we see in the field and will put updated information here in our VegEdge newsletter, on our website, and on social media (see below). In addition, here are a few resources for various issues that might appear.

Cornell Vegetable Program links
➢ Cornell Vegetable Program website https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/ – Include information on CCE resources, upcoming events in the region and various other contact information for vegetable production
➢ Cornell Vegetable Program Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/cccvp/
➢ CVP YouTube Channel - https://www.youtube.com/user/cccvp
➢ Twitter Handles - @DTelenko @Jud_Reid @CornellVeg

General vegetable production and a starting points for numerous Cornell resources
➢ Cornell Vegetables https://www.vegetables.cornell.edu/ – Supports commercial growers and educators by connecting them to Cornell programs and resources. It is a project of Cornell’s Vegetable Program Work Team (PWT).
➢ New York State Integrated Pest Management https://nysipm.cornell.edu/agriculture/vegetables – IPM resources for vegetables in NY, includes organic resources and guidelines for various pests.

Other useful links
➢ Vegetable MD Online: http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/index.html – Vegetable disease factsheets and guides.
➢ Cornell Climate Smart Farming: http://climatesmartfarming.org/ – Climate resources and tools for New York and Northeastern US.
➢ Pethybridge Lab website: http:// evade.pppmb.cals.cornell.edu/ – Epidemiology research on vegetable crops
➢ Smart Lab website: http://blogs.cornell.edu/smartlab/ – diseases of vegetable crops, focusing on population genetics, detection, and disease management.
➢ 2017 Cucurbit Downy Mildew Management Guidelines by Margaret McGrath: https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=230
➢ Phytophthora blight: http://phytophthora.pppmb.cals.cornell.edu/ – Resources and factsheets to identify Phytophthora blight, how it survives and spreads, and what you can do to manage it.
➢ Late Blight Forecast for US https://usablight.org/map – A national website that acts as an information portal on late blight.
A wet spring, followed by higher than average precipitation and heavy rainfall events (e.g. the heaviest 1% of all daily rainfall events) during the 2017 growing season (NRCC) led to saturated soils and flooding on many farms throughout New York State (NY). The frequency of heavy rainfall events have already increased by 71% in NY over the last half century (NCA 2014), and this trend is predicted to continue in the future (Wuebbles et al. 2014). Given this, and to get a sense of how farmers were affected by these conditions, as well as how they coped, we surveyed farmers across NY State throughout September of 2017. The survey was distributed online and in paper format with help from Cornell Cooperative Extension, The Farm Bureau, and New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets. A majority of the 45 farms in 24 counties were in areas of the state that experienced the heaviest rainfalls, and we had fewer responses from farms in the Adirondacks region and southeastern part of the state, where heavy rains and flooding were less prevalent (Fig. 1).

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We also gave farmers a list of soil health practices and asked them to tell us if, for the ones they use on their farm, any of them lessened the impact of heavy rainfalls in 2017 (Fig. 5). Aside from “the use of mulches”, which 67% of farmers said did not help them, a vast majority said other soil health practices did help. Over 70% of farmers said that practices such as “use of winter cover crops”, “reduced tillage”, “use of composts or manure”, “leaving crop residues”, and/or “changing crop rotations” did lessen the impact of the very wet 2017 season. To learn more about soil health check out https://blogs.cornell.edu/soilhealthinitiative/.

Insights for Extension Educators, Researchers and Policy Makers
Over half of the farmers reported experiencing issues on their farm related to heavy rainfalls or flooding every 1 to 4 years. The other 46% reported this occurrence rarely or only every 5 to 6 years. While climate projections for NY indicate that we are likely to expect more heavy rainfall events, as well as more short-term summer droughts in the future (NCA 2014, Wuebbles et al. 2014, Sweet et al. 2017), our survey results suggest that, though farmers were concerned about the impacts of these events in the future, they are not as convinced that these events will occur more frequently in the future. For instance, 49% of farmers said they were “extremely or very” concerned that heavy rainfalls and flooding will negatively impact their farms in the future. Yet, only 38% said they were similarly concerned that such events may occur more frequently in the future.

With climate change, NY farmers are likely to continue facing unique challenges related to both increased heavy rainfall events as well as short-term summer droughts. Resource managers and planners, engineers, researchers, extension agents, NGO’s and other farm support organizations need to prepare to help farmers adapt to and become more resilient to an uncertain future. Information collected from farmers about how they might adapt to future climatic events suggests there could be potentially dramatic consequences not only for farmer livelihoods and food production, but also for NY natural resources. For example, certain adaptation practices could impact downstream water quality and availability.

Based on our survey results, here are some ideas farmers had on how the above-mentioned organizations might help farmers better prepare for and cope with heavy rainfalls events in the future:

- Low-cost loans or “in kind” grants to help with costs of improving drainage (e.g. drainage ditches and tiles)
- Continued education on nutrient management planning
- Advice on how to increase soil organic matter for improved drainage capacity
- Information about cropping options and strategies to cope with heavy rainfalls
- Lower cost and better fungicides for wet years
- Increased town drainage (e.g. more funding for ditch digging and for clearing debris out of ditches)

References:
NRCC – Northeast Regional Climate Center. URL: http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu/regionalmonthly/monthly.html
Wuebbles et al. (2014). URL: https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/BAMS-D-12-00172.1
This project was funded by Cornell University’s Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future and The Nature Conservancy. For more information, contact Shannan Sweet: 126 Plant Science Bldg., Ithaca, NY 14853; 607 255 8641, ska286@cornell.edu.
2018 Cabbage, Dry Bean and Processing Veg Crops Grants Awarded

Julie Kikkert, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

The following projects have been awarded by the respective industry funding programs for applied research and extension in 2018.

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<td>Smart</td>
<td>Relative susceptibility of commercial cabbage varieties to different NY isolates of the black rot pathogen.</td>
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<td>Comparison of new and standard dry bean varieties at NYSAES research farm.</td>
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<td>Griffiths</td>
<td>Breeding, evaluation and development of dry bean varieties that are highly adapted to NYS growing environments and markets.</td>
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<td>Cool School Food: Encouraging the use of dry beans in school lunches, and promoting the health aspects of dry bean consumption.</td>
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<td>Towards a durable management strategy for white mold in dry beans in NY Part II.</td>
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<td>Zuefle</td>
<td>Determine the magnitude and distribution of Western Bean Cutworm, and the risk to dry beans, in the major production area in New York.</td>
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<td>Pethybridge</td>
<td>Enabling the registration of Miravis Top for Cercospora leaf spot control in table beet.</td>
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<td>Refining weed control tactics in New York processing vegetables.</td>
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WE'RE HIRING

EXTENSION ASSISTANT

The CCE Cornell Vegetable Program is looking for an individual that is passionate about supporting the vegetable industry of Western New York. This position will work directly with farmers, Extension Specialists and Cornell faculty to conduct applied research that will advance understanding and adoption of best management practices in season extension, pest management, soils and cultural techniques. Responsibilities will include collecting samples from farms, entering data, analyzing statistics, writing for publications, social media presence and public presentations.

For more information and to apply,
visit https://tinyurl.com/CVPExtensionAssistant

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Cornell Vegetable Program
UPCOMING EVENTS
view all Cornell Vegetable Program upcoming events at

2018 Special Permit Training
April 4, 2018 | English 8:30 AM registration, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM; Spanish 1:00 PM registration, 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM
CCE Wayne Co, 1581 Route 88N, Newark, NY 14513

April 5, 2018 | English and Spanish 8:00 AM registration, 8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon
Orleans Co. Cooperative Extension Fairgrounds Trolley Bldg, 12690 Rt 31, Albion, NY 14411

Same program format as in 2016 and 2017. Special Permits (SP) will only be issued for 11 specific pesticide labels and SP trainees will have to pass a test. This will relieve the certified pesticide applicator from “on-site within voice contact” supervision of non-certified pesticide applicators when they are handling federally-restricted-use pesticides for which they hold a Special Permit. The labels that will be covered include Lorsban Advanced, Endigo ZC, Warrior II with Zeon Technology, Agri-Mek SC, Beseige, Gramoxone SL 2.0, Leverage 360, Danitol 2.4EC, Mustang Maxx, Asana XL, and Lannate LV.

New York DEC notes that the Special Permit process is intended for farm workers with English language skills that are not adequate to pass the DEC private applicators exam. All others are encouraged to apply for their private applicators license via taking the certification exam.

Workers requiring general pesticide training/Agricultural Worker Protection Standard Handler training who do not need special permits are welcome to take the class; they will not be tested and will receive a course participation certificate.

$20 per DEC Special Permit / General Pesticide Training. Pre-registration was required by March 30, 2018 but late registrations can be taken for an additional fee. Call Kim Hazel, 585-798-4265 x26 to register.

Respirator Fit Testing Clinic, DEC Region 8
May 15-17, 2018 | by appointment only (1 hr each)
CCE Ontario County, 480 N Main St, Canandaigua, NY 14424

The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) is providing respirator fit testing clinics in DEC Region 8, Finger Lakes (Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates). During the clinics NYCAMH will provide medical evaluations; respirator fit tests; and WPS complaint trainings on how to properly inspect, put on, take off, fit, seal check, use, clean, maintain, and store respirators. Clinic appointments are 1 hour long, and groups of 4 workers can be seen at a time. Medical evaluations, fit tests, and trainings are available in both English and Spanish.

You must schedule an appointment to attend. You may contact NYCAMH between April 16 and May 11 to schedule your appointment. Call 607-547-6023 or 800-343-7527, Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM and ask to speak with the farm respirator clinic scheduler. When calling to schedule an appointment, please have the following information available: total number of people attending from your farm, name of each person being scheduled, language spoken by each attendee, and make and model of each respirator to be tested. If a worker wears more than one respirator style, including filtering facepieces, they must be fit tested for each one.

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315-789-4155
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Crop Production Services
585-589-6330 | www.cpsagu.com
“Profit from our Experience”

Growmark FS - Filling Your Crop Needs
Elba Muck 716-474-0600 | Caledonia 585-538-6836
Knowlesville 585-798-3350 | Batavia 585-343-4622

Harriss Seeds
Call 800-544-7938 for sales or visit www.harrisseeds.com
A Grower Friendly Company

SEEDWAY Vegetable Seeds
800-952-7333 | www.seedway.com
We are focused on quality seed and service!

Siegers Seed Co.
Blake Myers, 585-303-3252
vegetableseeds@aol.com
www.siegers.com

Our Vision... “To be the first choice for growers in all of our marketplaces.”
www.StokeSeeds.com
VegEdge is the award-winning newsletter produced by the Cornell Vegetable Program. It provides readers with information on upcoming meetings, pesticide updates, pest management strategies, cultural practices, marketing ideas and research results from Cornell and Cornell Cooperative Extension. VegEdge is produced every few weeks, with frequency increasing leading up to and during the growing season.

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