



Tips in Preparation of Herbicide Shortages in 2022



2022 Empire State Producers Expo Virtual Sessions Announced



New Book Helps Farmers Outsmart Weeds



Patent Status of Select Strawberry Varieties

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Tips in Preparation of Herbicide Shortages in 2022

Lynn M. Sosnoskie, Cornell University, and Thierry Besançon, Rutgers University

Many growers in the US have been focused on predicted herbicide shortages in the upcoming field season. While the primary concerns have surrounded glyphosate and glufosinate, there is increasing apprehension that active ingredients of importance to vegetable growers may also be affected. Although the supply change is dynamic, chemical stocks may become, and remain, tight at the local or regional level as growers try to fill gaps in their toolboxes. Heading into the new year, consider the following for the 2022 season.

Successful Weed Identification, Regular Scouting, and Detailed Field Records are Crucial for Optimizing Weed Control Success

The first step in developing a novel herbicide program is knowing what species are present and determining which combination of products will be the most effective (and affordable) at suppressing them. Not all active ingredients are equally useful against all species and careful consideration needs to be paid to each chemical's spectrum of control.

Familiarize Yourself with Chemical Substitutes Before Applying Them Over Many Acres

Some switches may be intuitive (e.g. using Poast (sethoxydim) or Assure II (quizalofop) in place of clethodim where allowed) while others may be more complicated (e.g. using a tank-mixture in place of a single product). In addition to knowing a novel product's target species, become acquainted with a new herbicide's labeled rate structure and spray volume, use patterns (e.g. application timing), environmental limitations (e.g. temperature restrictions), adjuvant requirements, and potential interactions with tank-mix partners. Not all chemicals are compatible with each other, and antagonism can reduce weed control efficacy while enhancing crop injury concerns. Contact your Extension Specialists if you have any doubt regarding physical compatibility and efficacy of herbicide mixtures. Herbicide damage may be observed across seasons so pay attention to rotation restrictions. Some active ingredients may already be part of registered pre-mixes in certain crops (i.e. bentazon, which is the active ingredient in Basagran, is also part of Varisto).

Soil-applied, Preemergence Herbicides can be Useful Tools

Soil-applied, preemergence herbicides can be useful tools for suppressing weeds that emerge with the crop; these plants are the most injurious as early season competitors are very likely to reduce yields. Like postemergence products, soil-applied herbicides

About VegEdge

VegEdge newsletter is exclusively for enrollees in the Cornell Vegetable Program, a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and CCE Associations in 14 counties.

The newsletter is a service to our enrollees and is intended for educational purposes, strengthening the relationship between our enrollees, the Cornell Vegetable Program team, and Cornell University.

We're interested in your comments. Contact us at: CCE Cornell Vegetable Program 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14224 Email: cce-cvp@cornell.edu
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Information provided is general and educational in nature. Employees and staff of the Cornell Vegetable Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and Cornell University do not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

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Help us serve you better by telling us what you think. Email us at cce-cvp@cornell.edu or write to us at Cornell Vegetable Program, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424.



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The next issue of VegEdge newsletter will be produced on March 1, 2022.

2022 Empire State Producers Expo Virtual Sessions Announced

New York State Vegetable Growers Association, 01/24/2021

We're happy to announce that many of the Empire State Producers Expo sessions will now be offered virtually in late February through mid-March. DEC credits will still be offered in appropriate sessions!

Empire State Producers



A list of sessions and more information can be found on the <u>New York State Vegetable Growers Association website</u>.

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must be carefully selected to balance crop safety with weed control needs. Pay attention to rate requirements according to soil type, as this can influence both efficacy and injury. Pre-emergence herbicides need to be moved into the soil solution (either physically or via rainfall or irrigation) where they are taken up by emerging weed seedlings; delays in incorporation can reduce overall performance if some weeds continue to germinate and emerge under low soil moisture conditions. Delays in herbicide activation may facilitate the degradation of some products susceptible to breakdown in sunlight (i.e. photolysis). When possible, use overlapping residual products to suppress weed emergence throughout the season. Some active ingredients (e.g. oxyfluorfen (Goaltender)) may have both preemergence and postemergence activity.

Timing Matters

Postemergence weed control should be undertaken when weeds are small and succulent. Herbicide labels will have specific recommendations regarding the optimal size for treatment. Because many foliar-applied herbicides can also damage crops, always follow label guidance to reduce risk of injury. For instance, in 2021 New York research trials, applications of postemergence herbicides made before the first trifoliate leaf stage in snap beans resulted in up to 20% yield loss because of crop stunting.

Optimize Herbicide Application Rate for Postemergence (i.e. foliar) Applications

Target using the lowest effective herbicide rate to stretch your herbicide supply. For example, instead of using 32 or 44 oz/acre of a Roundup brand product, consider using the standard rate on the label such as 22 oz/acre for Roundup PowerMax. Again, timing of application with regards to weed size will be critical to optimize your herbicide supply. The smaller the weeds, the less herbicide you will have to apply to control it! Therefore, frequent scouting as highlighted in point one will be very important to optimize your herbicide application and stretch your herbicide supply.

Don't Skimp on Adjuvants

If herbicides are going to be in short supply, then there may be fewer shots to control weeds. If there are fewer shots available, make every shot count as much as possible. **Follow label recommendations regarding the inclusion of water conditioners, surfactants, etc..., to maximize product efficacy.** Refer to point number two about potential compatibility concerns when tank-mix partners are involved.

Consider Non-Chemical Weed Control Strategies When and Where Appropriate

This includes hand weeding, cultivation, altering planting dates to avoid particularly troublesome species, and using stale seedbed practices. Like herbicides, physical and cultural practices are not always effective against all species. While cultivation can control many weed seedlings, particularly at the white-thread stage, soil disturbance is less effective against well-developed plants. In the case of some perennials (for example, field bindweed or Canada thistle), cultivation events can break up and disperse root fragments within and across fields, facilitating dispersal. Ultimately, plan for hand-weeding escapes prior to the weeds setting seed as this will help reducing the weed seedbank for future growing seasons.

Plan Ahead Now

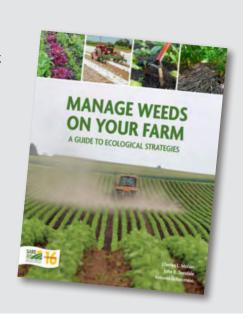
2022 could be a difficult year if many crop production and protection chemicals are limited. Herbicide shortages could impact weed control success in the coming growing season...and beyond. Weeds that are not controlled in 2022 will set seed that will cause problems in the future. Planning now can help with weed management in both the short and long term.

New Book Helps Farmers Outsmart Weeds

Cornell and USDA scientists have produced the definitive guide to understanding agricultural weeds and how to manage them efficiently, effectively and ecologically. The 416-page book, "Manage Weeds on Your Farm: A Guide to Ecological Strategies," was published by the USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program.

Chuck Mohler was a research associate with SIPS-SCS, and passed away unexpectedly last spring. This book was the culmination of his last 15 years of research and work and is going to be a wonderful resource for farmers and gardeners. "Manage Weeds on Your Farm" is available as a free download from the SARE website at https://www.sare.org/resources/manage-weeds-on-your-farm/. The print version will be available in February 2022.

<u>Learn more about the publication</u> in a news article posted on Cornell CALS website.



Farm Employers Urged to Respond to Labor Management Survey

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development

Many New York farm employers will receive a survey in the coming weeks in an envelope from our contractor, Michigan State University. This mailing is part of Cornell research about how changing labor markets and regulations are affecting the viability of farming in New York. The industry needs relevant and timely information from farms like yours to speak with authority about what is happening and find solutions for the future. We can't do this without you!

My colleagues and I have already produced a preliminary report based on the participation of farms in related research last year, see "Effects of NY Overtime Laws on Agricultural Production Costs and Competitiveness." The results from this study were used by policy makers, the press, and farm groups in the recent wage board hearings. We need your help to provide this type of work on a larger scale about farm labor management.

This work is important because:

- 1. New York's agricultural industry needs this important data about how changing markets and regulations affect the industry and the people who work in it. This data can affect state policies and regulations directly, as evidenced by the current wage board process.
- 2. Cornell researchers and educators need this data to help improve human resource management and workforce development in New York. A well-trained workforce is key to a viable future for farming in our state.
- 3. New York's labor challenges are not going away any time soon. We need data and insights to respond more proactively to challenges this year, and the next, and the next.

If you receive this survey in the mail from Michigan State, it is urgent that you respond. Fill out the paper survey with your farm information and return it in the provided envelope. If you need help, our Cornell team is ready to support you to complete the survey. Contact Rachel McCarthy (rpl4@cornell.edu or (607) 255-7871) to schedule assistance. Thank you!



Apply for a 2021-2022 Farmworker/Housing Grant

Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Services, PathStone Corporation

This program is a matching grant of up to \$2,000 to repair and upgrade existing farm labor housing. Examples of eligible repairs include, but are not limited to: roofing, bathrooms, plumbing, upgrading kitchens and appliances, heating, windows, ceilings, doors and other major structural components. Farm Owners must agree to provide \$1 for every \$1 provided by PathStone Corporation. This grant is available in Monroe, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Orleans, Wyoming, Livingston, and Genesee counties. If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Susan Kwik at 585-261-1779 or skwik@pathstone.org for an application. Applications will be due March 1, 2022 and the work will need to be completed by May 31, 2022. Please help us spread the word as we want to assist as many farms as possible!

Customized Food Safety Basics Training for Your Farm Workers

Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Attention vegetable growers...Need assistance with worker training in food safety for the upcoming season? We can work with you to set up a worker training to cover the food safety basics. Each farm is unique and you know what specific aspects of food safety practices you will still need to cover but we can present the nitty gritty. Contact Robert Hadad rgh26@cornell.edu 585-739-4065 to discuss how we can assist you dealing with worker training requirements.

Wash/Pack Operations and Facility Layout, Hygiene, and Sanitation Assistance

Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Before the season kicks into high gear, sign up for a farm visit for assistance with wash/pack assessments. As NYSDAM inspections step up, attention is paid to the wash/pack facility and operation. We can help to observe your set-up ahead of when you need to be running it. Making changes in the off-season saves time and energy. Contact Robert Hadad rgh26@cornell.edu 585-739-4065.

Assess Your Farm Business Health within a Farm Financial Peer Learning Circle

Cornell Small Farms Program (CSFP) and Cornell Cooperative Extension are teaming up with diversified farmers like you to analyze your farm's finances and have productive, honest discussions about the state of your business and opportunities for improving your financial outcomes.

- This winter we'll work in small groups to assess and streamline your farm's accounting system and customize your Chart of Accounts so you can make better business decisions and compare your business to standardized industry and peer benchmarks.
- Learning alongside peer farmers will help you better understand the typical, the possible, and the totally unexpected in farm finances. You'll participate in five roundtable sessions (March-August 2022) alongside peer farmers operating at similar scales throughout NYS to discuss financial decision-making opportunities, such as debt and loan assessment, labor management and costs, and price models for crops and market channels.
- You'll receive detailed financial benchmarks that compare key indicators for your farm with similar peer farms. You'll also receive a free electronic tablet. Allowing you to continue connecting with CCE and your peers for ongoing support!

Dates and Participation

- Application deadline: Tuesday, February 15, 2022. <u>Submit an Application Online</u>
- Project kick-off date: An introductory session for accepted participants will be held Thursday, February 24, 2022.
- Participants should be willing to share basic financial information, which will be standardized using a ratios format, with their small peer group. Privacy and confidentiality will be agreed upon by all.

This work is supported through the Cornell Small Farms Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension and a generous grant from the New York State Department of Ag and Markets.

If you have questions you may reach out to CSFP Project Manager, Nicole Waters.

Five Things to Think About as You Consider a Solar Lease

Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

Rural landowners across the Southwest New York Region, and New York State in general, have been receiving invitations from solar companies to lease their land for utility scale solar arrays. While this has been around for several years, the general trend of increasing renewable energy sources has spurred lots of conversations about the potential benefits, pitfalls, and logistics of hosting solar arrays on your property.

One thing to note is that solar leases are rarely something landowners should feel pressured to rush right into. Careful consideration, consultation with legal counsel, and an evaluation of the role such a lease would play into a farm business plan are all important steps before signing on the dotted line. Here are 5 things to consider as you think about leasing your land for solar.

1. The Benefits of Solar Leases

Solar energy is an important part of reducing carbon emissions and meeting statewide, national, and global efforts of increasing renewable energy sources. As a landowner, a solar lease can also provide a steady income stream, ranging from \$250 - \$2500/acre/year. While this isn't as profitable on a per acre basis as other production options, for unused or marginal land, solar leases can help diversify farm revenues. There are several companies in our area recruiting land parcels for solar development, which could work to your advantage! Research and contact developers in your area for the best lease rates and agreements.

2. Solar Leases and Your Farm Business Plan

Having a farm business plan in place is so much more than a dusty binder sitting on a shelf in the farm office. A business plan tells you where you're going, why you're doing what you're doing, and what other types of opportunities you'd like to explore. Depending on your farm's business plan, stage in the business life cycle, and succession planning goals, solar may help spur new growth or hinder new investment opportunities. A solar lease can affect how you might use that land in the future, which could include mortgages, property sale, production diversification, expansion, or generational use.

3. You'll Need Legal Counsel

Lease agreements are living documents that can be adapted to meet your needs. This could range from including provisions that protect actively farming around the solar arrays (apiaries, small ruminant grazing and market garden production), hunting, right of ways, insurance and liability concerns, and more. Leases can range in length from 20 to 40+ years, and it's important to have a sound and fair lease in place from the beginning. There's very little chance of changing the lease terms once it's in place.

4. Effect on Property Taxes

If you're currently receiving an Agricultural Assessment, or other property tax reduction, taking the land out of production agriculture and into a solar array may require paying some of those reductions back and conversion penalties (you can typically negotiate that the solar company pays these costs). A solar array can sometimes increase the value of your property and your tax obligations. Once the land is in a lease, the solar developer should also be responsible for any real property taxes, PILOT payments, etc. There is a renewable energy tax exemption that will protect increases for a 15 year period, but this often expires before the lease does - and many towns in our region have opted out of this program. Be sure to research potential tax implications prior to negotiating the lease agreement.

5. "THE UGLY"

You may have heard some horror stories related to array construction, maintenance, and disassembly. Much of this can be negotiated with sound legal counsel who is familiar with solar arrays into your lease agreement. However, things do (and probably will) happen and you should be prepared to handle these issues on your property. Some areas of concern include:

- Construction debris during the installation phase, traffic, and potential interruptions to your farming practices.
- Dismantling the solar equipment at the end of the lease and the oversight of that process, which should be laid out in very specific terms in the lease. Be sure to include specifications of the quality of the property (returning it back to production).
- Security, assurances, and/or bonds in place to cover the termination of the lease and equipment in the case of developer bankruptcy or missed payments.
- Company transitions with the nature of the renewable energy industry, your lease will likely change hands several times and you will need to navigate those ownership changes.
- Local zoning approvals may be a breeze or a community uproar depending on your area and could delay a potential project.

Great Resources for More Information

- <u>Leasing Your Farmland For Wind and Solar Energy Develop-</u> ment from New York Farm Bureau
- <u>Utility Scale Solar What You Should Know by Timothy X.</u> Terry from Cornell PRO-DAIRY
- <u>Landowner Considerations for Solar Land Leases from</u> NYSERDA
- Solar Installations in Agricultural Districts from NYSERDA
- Solar Leasing Workshop Materials from CCE Herkimer
 County

New York State Announces Two Grant Opportunities to Help New York Farmers Protect Soil and Water Quality

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, 1/31/2022

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Richard A. Ball today announced two grant opportunities totaling \$21 million for projects that will help New York's farmers reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote energy savings, mitigate water and soil quality concerns, and increase on-farm resiliency to climate change.

Climate Resilient Farming

The Climate Resilient Farming Grant Program helps farms reduce their operational impact on the environment and address the impacts of extreme weather events resulting from climate change. Through five rounds of funding to date, awarded projects are estimated to deliver the equivalent of 320,000 metric tons of CO2e per year emissions reductions, equivalent to removing 69,500 cars from the road for one year. The 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 State Budget, through the New York State Environmental Protection Fund, provided for a combined \$8 million in funding for this sixth round.

The Department is now accepting applications for the program, with funding available to support agricultural projects and related equipment purchases that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help agricultural producers prepare for and better manage impacts of climate change, including increased heavy storm events, overall rainfall, and periods of drought.

Applications must be for one of the following project categories: Track 1 - agricultural waste storage cover and flare systems; Track 2 -water management systems; and Track 3 - Healthy Soils NY, soil health management practice systems.

- Track 1 Agricultural waste storage cover and flare systems, \$4 million: projects will reduce methane emissions from the farm and increase the farm's resiliency to major precipitation events.
- Track 2 Water management systems, \$2 million: projects will help prepare agricultural producers for flood events and drought. The "water management" umbrella includes best management practices, which stabilize or reinforce conveyances, reduce flows, and/or store water.
- Track 3 Healthy Soils NY, \$2 million: projects will improve soil health on farms and enhance a farm's resiliency to the impacts of climate change, including benefits during times of drought, wet weather, as well as optimal growing conditions. Soil health practices can also create carbon sinks, increase water holding capacity, and improve recycling of nitrogen by crops, thereby mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.

The State's County Soil and Water Conservation Districts can apply on behalf of farmers for this competitive grant program. The application [which must go through Soil & Water agencies on behalf of the farms, ed. J.Kikkert, CVP] and additional information are available on the Department's website at https://agriculture.ny.gov/funding-opportunities.

Project proposals are due at 4:30 p.m. on March 28, 2022.

Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement and Control Program

In addition to the Climate Resilient Farming Grant Program funding, an additional \$13 million is available to support agricultural water quality conservation projects across the State through Round 28 of the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program.

The Agricultural Nonpoint program awards projects that focus on either environmental planning or the implementation of best management practice systems to protect New York's watersheds. Projects include conservation measures, such as nutrient management through manure storage, vegetative buffers along streams, and conservation cover crops.

The State's County Soil and Water Conservation Districts can apply on behalf of farmers for this competitive grant program, which is also funded through the New York State Environmental Protection Fund. The application [which must go through Soil & Water agencies on behalf of the farms, ed. J.Kikkert, CVP] and additional information are available on the Department's website at https://agriculture.ny.gov/funding-opportunities.

Project proposals are due at 4:30 p.m. on May 2, 2022.

Are You a Veteran? Consider Taking the Farmer Veteran Survey

The Northeast Region of the Farmer and Rancher Stress Assistance Network is trying to better understand the unique stressors facing local farmer-veterans. They are collecting insight from farmer veterans to determine what kind of resources and assistance is most needed.

If you're a veteran, please consider taking this survey. It has 35 questions, will take about 20 minutes to complete, and all responses will be kept strictly confidential and anonymous. Respondents will be entered into a drawing to win one of twenty (20) cash awards of \$125.

Patent Status of Select Strawberry Varieties

Anya Osatuke, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Harvest NY

Dayneutral, or everbearing, varieties marked with an asterisk (*) are recommended for commercial fruit production in New York.

All listed short-day, or June-bearing, varieties are recommended for commercial fruit production in New York.

Type of Strawberry	Can the Variety be Propagated Commercially?		
	YES	NO	
Dayneutral, everbearing	 Aromas - patent expired in 2016. Released by UC Davis (USA). *Everest - patent expired in 2018. Released by Edward Vinston (UK). Mara des bois - patent expired in 2011. Released by Jacques Marionnett (France). *Seascape - patent expired in 2010. Released by UC Davis. Tribute - no patent. Released by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). High disease resistance to red stele, powdery mildew, verticillium wilt. Tristar - no patent. Released by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). High disease resistance to red stele, powdery mildew, verticillium wilt. 	 *Albion - patent expires in 2024. By UC Davis. Cabrillo - patent expires in 2035. By UC Davis. *Evie 2 - patent expires 2026. By Edward Vinston. *Monterey - patent expires in 2028. By UC Davis. Moxie - patent expires in 2040. By UC Davis. *Portola - patent expires in 2028. By UC Davis. San Andreas - patent expires in 2028. By UC Davis. Royal Royce - patent expires in 2039. By UC Davis. Valiant - patent expires in 2038. By UC Davis. 	
June-bearing	 Camarosa - patent expired in 2013. By UC Davis. Early season. Highly susceptible to fusarium wilt crown rot. Darselect - patent expired in 2016. By Societe Civile Darbonne (France). Midseason. Darolyal - patent expired 2018. By Societe Civile Darbonne. Early season. Earliglow - patent expired 1995. By United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Early season. Moderately resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Elsanta - patent expired 1995. By Plant Research International B.V. (Netherlands). Midseason. Flavorfest - no patent. By USDA. Midseason. Some resistance to anthracnose. Honeoye - patent expired in 1999. By CUAES. Early season. Sensitive to terbacil (Sinbar), susceptible to black root rot. Jewel - patent expired in 2005. By Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station (CUAES). Midseason. Susceptible to many soilborne diseases. Ovation - no patent. By USDA. Late season. Adapted for annual plasticulture. Resistant to red stele and moderately resistant to anthracnose crown rot. Seneca. Patent expired in 2011. By CUAES. Midseason. Sparkle - patent expired in 1964. By Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES). Late season. Sweet Charlie – patent expired in 2012. By Florida 	 AC Valley Sunset - patent expires 2034. By Agriculture and Agri Food Canada. AC Wendy - patent expires 2025. By Agriculture and Agri Food Canada. Cabot - patent expires in May 2022. By Agriculture and Agri Food Canada. Clancy - patent expires in 2024. By NYSAES. Late season. Resistant to red stele. Dickens - patent expires in 2039. By NYSAES. Midseason. Resistant to powdery mildew, spider mites, and red stele. Galletta - patent expires 2028. By North Carolina Agricultural Research Service. Early season. Malwina - patent expires 2031. By Peter Stoppel (Germany). Late season. Resistant to verticillium wilt and red stele. Any named variety will have its patent expire 20 years after it was issued in the United States. 	

How to Propagate a Variety that is Patent-Protected

To obtain rights to propagate a patent-protected variety, contact the breeding program that released it.

UC Davis

- Patent-protected varieties as of 2022: Albion, Aromas, Cabrillo, Monterey, Portola, San Andreas, Rolls Royce, Valiant.
- Contact Isaac Rainwater at (530) 304-6266.
- Growers will pay a \$300 one-time fee for rights to propagate the variety, and need to submit a report of sales twice a year. Growers will pay \$9 per every 1,000 plants sold.

Cornell / NYSAES

- Patent-protected varieties as of 2022: L'Amour, Archer, Herriot, Clancy, Dickens
- Contact Jessica Stein at (607) 227-1916.
- Growers will pay \$0.02 per every plant sold. Reporting annually.

Upcoming Events

Free Agricultural Ergonomic / Injury Prevention Training

February 7, 2022 (Monday) | 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm Free to Attend Zoom Online Workshop

A 1-hour virtual "lunch and learn" workshop designed to reduce the risk of repetitive-use musculoskeletal injuries frequently associated with working in a farming or agricultural setting. This workshop will teach safe work behavior and body mechanics through hands-on practice of the techniques. It will also teach appropriate stretching and strengthening exercises that can be performed on the job. This workshop is a positive, dynamic, interactive, and educational experience for all participants. Register online: https://cceulster.mahaplatform.com/events/tifln1cd5c

Chautaugua Winter Veg & Fruit Meeting

February 9, 2022 (Wednesday) | 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

CCE Chautauqua offices at Jamestown Community College, Carnahan Building, 525 Falconer St, Jamestown, NY 14701

Topics for this free meeting include projected herbicide shortages & alternative options, Soil & Water district technical assistance & conservation programs, insights on the economics of marketing through auction, disease management in vine crops, blueberry pruning, production systems for June bearing & day-neutral strawberries, and raspberry & strawberry propagation.

Pre-registration requested by 12:00 pm on Monday, Feburary 7. Call 716-664-9502. *Please plan to wear a mask to prevent the spread of COVID-19.*

2022 Fruit and Vegetable Conference

February 15-17, 2022 (Tuesday through Thursday) Virtual Sessions

This conference, hosted by CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program (ENYCHP), will kick off with a focus on berry crops. All of the sessions on 2/15 will cover different aspects of berry production. On the next day, presenters will discuss vine crops in the morning and sweet corn in the afternoon. The final day of the conference will start off with climate change and agriculture-- a growing work focus in Cornell Cooperative Extension-- and end off with a session about brassica crops.

This is an entirely separate agenda from the 2022 EXPO, so if you enjoy our virtual seminars, we hope you'll attend!

Most of the sessions will offer DEC pesticide recertification credits. If you would like DEC credits, email a photo of your license to enychp@cornell.edu.

The cost to register for all sessions is \$60, reduced to \$40 for ENYCHP members. If you would like to attend but find the cost prohibitive, email Chelsea Trueheart at ct478@cornell.edu. Contact Chelsea if you have any questions too!

Registration link for the sessions.

Conference Agenda

Feb 15, 8:15am - 10:00am: Strawberry Soil Health

Focusing on soil health and good soil management and the impacts soil has on plant health. Strategies to decrease tillage and incorporate cover crops and rotations will be discussed. Dr. Kerik Cox of Cornell will talk share tips to identify and manage soil borne disease, and ongoing work using anaerobic soil disinfestation (ASD) will be explained.

1.50 credits available in categories 10, 1a, 22, and 23

Feb 15, 10:15am - 12:00pm: Strawberry Production Systems

Dr. Marvin Pritts (Cornell), Dr. Becky Sideman from the University of NH and Dr. Elisabeth Hodgdon (CCE ENYCHP) will help clarify the nuances of the strawberry plant and the different options growers have with planting, cropping and wintering these unusual plants.

1.50 credits available in categories 10, 1a, 22, and 23

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Upcoming Events

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Feb 15, 12:45pm - 2:30pm: Raspberry & Blackberry Production

Dr. Courtney Weber (Cornell) will discuss progress in breeding plants with improved flavor and better tolerance of root diseases and even SWD. Dr. Greg Loeb (Cornell) will share results form ongoing work into SWD chemical ecology and behavior as the basis for management and Dr. Juliet Carroll (Cornell) will discuss efforts to simplify SWD monitoring and what that could mean for growers. Bramble farmers will share successful strategies for cane berry production.

1.50 credits available in categories 10, 1a, 22, and 23

Feb 15, 2:45pm - 4:30pm: Blueberries

This session will feature a deeper dive into virus identification and management by Dr. Timothy Miles of Michigan State University. Organic blueberry management from the farmers point of view will be covered and Dr. David Handley of the University of Maine will close the program with valuable information about the impact of pruning on blueberry production.

1.25 credits available in categories 10, 1a, 22, and 23

Feb 16, 9:00am - 11:45am: Vine Crops

In this year's vine crop session learn from Cornell University's Dr. Meg McGrath first-hand what fungicides are and aren't working for Cucurbit Powdery Mildew and Downy Mildew. She will share her results from samples taken right here in the Capital District. Sandy Menasha from CCE Suffolk County will share variety updates and Natasha Field from CCE ENYCHP will also share interesting facts on hull-less seeded pumpkins. We will also hear the latest results with using ultra violet lighting to control powdery mildew from Nick Skinner from Mount Sinai, Icahn School of Medicine. The session will wrap up with Chuck Bornt reviewing herbicides options and best use practices for 2022.

DEC recertification credits have been requested for this session.

Feb 16, 1:00pm - 3:30pm: Sweet Corn

The sweet corn session features several out of state speakers including Dr. Mark VanGessel from the University of Delaware to discuss herbicide management practices in Delaware and Kris Holmstrom, Rutgers University Pes Management Specialist who will discuss worm management with Bt varieties and insecticides. The afternoon will wrap up with variety updates from various seed companies.

1.25 credits available in categories 10, 1a, and 23

Feb 17, 9:00am - 11:00am: Climate Change

Presentations from farmers and scientists followed by small group opportunities, will help this session to support resilience and strategy over fear and confusion. There will be some pre-session work that will be recommended, but all are welcome to join this participatory virtual workshop.

Feb 17, 1:30pm - 4:00pm: Brassica Crops

Our conference concludes with a mighty brassica session with experts Elisabeth Hodgdon and Christy Hoepting from Cornell and Gordon Johnson from the University of Delaware focusing on a variety of disease, heat stress and varietal topics for broccoli, cauliflower and cabbages – all pertinent to the retail market grower. Brussels sprout production will be covered by Jan van der Heide of Bejo seeds and grower input will also be included. If you grow brassica crops – don't miss this!

Grass Weed Identification for Crop Production

February 16, 2022 (Wednesday) | 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm Online via Zoom

Identifying grass and grass-like weeds can be challenging but is necessary for good weed management. During this program we will discuss what traits to look for when identifying grasses, go over some of the common crop grass weeds, and share some resources for grass weed management. 1.0 DEC credits available, 1.0 CCA credits available in category PM

Registration: https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_skC9zzukQfqkzGvuuJ-6fw

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Upcoming Events

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Northeast Cover Crops Council Conference March 10-11, 2022 | 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Online Conference

Dr. Mitch Hunter, a sustainable agriculture and climate resilience expert, and an American Farmland Trust research director, will give a presentation, "All the C's: Congress, Cover Crops, Climate, Carbon and Conservation," covering a number of topics of importance to farmers and researchers.

Registration is \$75, payable by noon on March 7. Certified Crop Advisor credits are available. For conference details or to register, visit the NECCC website.

On March 10, concurrent sessions will focus on three main areas: cover crops and integrated pest management, cover crops and tarping in vegetable systems and on-farm research. Topic areas for the second day will be precision sustainable agriculture, corn and soybean research and cover cropping strategies for weed management. Participants also will receive information on cover crop tools, including the seeding rate and cover crop selector tool.

Hosted by NECCC, PASA and University of Vermont Extension in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the University of Minnesota Digital Center for Risk Management Education Center.

2022 NYS Dry Bean Meeting – Save the date! March 16, 2022 (Wednesday) | 12:00 noon - 3:00 pm Virtual Meeting via Zoom

The NYS Dry Bean Meeting will be back online again this year, with presentations covering the latest research in NY dry beans. Topic areas include market updates, white mold management, western bean cutworm and soybean cyst nematode management, dry bean variety testing, and incorporating NY dry beans into schools.

This event will be held virtually via Zoom, and 1.5 DEC credits will be available. Price: \$10 for CVP Enrollees, \$15 for Non-enrollees. Information on registering for the meeting will be released and available on the CVP website in the coming weeks.

GAPs Farm Food Safety Training

tentatively March 28, 2022 (Monday) | 9:00 am - 4:00 pm **Virtual Zoom Training**

This workshop will cover the principles and practices of farm food safety for fresh produce farmers. Whether a buyer is asking for you to have a GAPs audit/certification or you just want to learn about improving food safety practices, this workshop is for you.

Topics are broken down into sections covering assessing situations where risk of microbial contamination is a problem. These include land use, appraising adjacent land issues, handling manure/ compost, wildlife and domestic animals, water sources/quality, pre-harvest, harvest, and post-harvest operations, wash/pack procedures, facility hygiene and sanitation, and worker training.

Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$25/farm. We need a minimum of 10 farms to run this training. Contact Robert Hadad for more info: rgh26@cornell.edu or 585-739-4065.

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VegEdge is the highly regarded 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 University 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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Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Vegetable Program

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