Wintertime Biocontrols

Judson Reid, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

Does wintertime mean a pause in production of vegetables in New York? No way! High tunnels, coupled with low tunnels—the combination referred to as a double tunnel—keep the crops coming, even in the cold of winter. Profitable crops for cold season production include spinach, arugula and Asian greens. These crops can survive New York winters without any additional heat. However, certain pests, such as aphids also survive our New York winters, and can even thrive. Enclosed in the double tunnel, aphids can decimate a greens crop.

How do we keep our winter crops healthy?

Beneficial insects are an excellent option for high tunnels, and in the winter we need to focus on hardy predatory species that withstand the cold temperatures and shorter daylengths. Lady beetles are our go-to for aphid control in winter high tunnels.

Lady beetles will feed on a range of insects, but prefer aphids. Adult females lay clusters of orange, bullet shaped eggs on the underside of leaves near heavy aphid infestations. The larvae that hatch from these eggs do not resemble the adults, rather are elongated and multicolored. These are voracious feeders and fun to watch! A lady beetle can consume up to 5,000 aphids during their life cycle!

Lady beetle larvae are voracious feeders and fun to watch as they chase aphids through the canopy. Photo: Judson Reid, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

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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:
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VegEdge is published 25 times per year, parallel to the production schedule of Western New York growers. Enrollees in the Cornell Vegetable Program receive a complimentary electronic subscription to the newsletter. Print copies are available for an additional fee. You must be enrolled in the Cornell Vegetable Program to subscribe to the newsletter. For information about enrolling in our program, visit cvp.cce.cornell.edu. Cornell Cooperative Extension staff, Cornell faculty, and other states’ Extension personnel may request to receive a complimentary electronic subscription to VegEdge by emailing Angela Ochterski at aep63@cornell.edu. Total readership varies but averages 700 readers.

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.

This publication contains pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly and human errors are possible. Some materials may no longer be available and some uses may no longer be legal. All pesticides distributed, sold or applied in NYS must be registered with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide usage in NYS should be directed to the appropriate Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) specialist or your regional DEC office.

CCE and its employees assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsement of products or companies is made or implied. READ THE LABEL BEFORE APPLYING ANY PESTICIDE.

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, 2023.
This chart shows effective population reduction of aphids with lady beetles. Adult lady beetles were release on November 22. The aphid population peaked December 6 correlating to when the lady beetle eggs hatched and the larvae went to work.

Currently, the Cornell Vegetable Program is tracking the aphid populations in a cooperating Erie County high tunnel, where just last week we released 18,000 lady beetle adults! These general predators are being kept within the crop canopy by low tunnels, creating an aphid buffet! Interested in learning more? Contact Lori Koenick (lbk75@cornell.edu, 301-802-3289) or Judson Reid (jer11@cornell.edu, 585-313-8912).

Berry Patch Winter Maintenance

Anya Osatuke, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Harvest New York

All Berries
Now is the time to get orders in for new planting stock. Call nurseries ahead if mailing in order forms to confirm availability.

Strawberries
Check that mulch is still covering plants throughout the field, especially if straw mulch was used. Now is still too early to remove the mulch. The risk of winter injury is high as we have temperatures close to 0°F in the forecast, sandwiched between warm spells.

When ordering nursery stock, be aware that there is a shortage of ‘Malwina’, which limits growers’ late-season options to AC Valley Sunset.

Blueberries
Prune blueberry bushes during periods of steady cold temperatures. There is an increased risk of cold injury when pruning bushes when temperatures drop dramatically within a few days of pruning.

When pruning, examine branches for discoloration. Remove branches with oval-shaped legions with a bullseye pattern (Fusicoccum canker). Remove branches with dry, brittle wood. Cut all branches out at the base of the plant.

Raspberries and Blackberries
As temperatures in February will start off fluctuating and dipping into extreme cold, I’d recommend starting off by removing only dead, diseased, and damaged wood.

Pay special attention to removing canes with bulges at the bottom, and burn those—the bulge is likely caused by a cane borer that will attack more canes in the future.

After winter temperatures stabilize, prune canes of June-bearing raspberries and blackberries to a density of 4 – 6 canes per square foot. Remove thin canes, as they are not likely to bear as much fruit as the thicker canes.

Fall-bearing raspberries and blackberries can be pruned in the same manner as June-bearers to get a small early summer harvest, or the entire patch can be mowed down for a fall crop.
Evaluation of Downy Mildew Resistant Cantaloupe Varieties in an Integrated Program with Fungicides Applied Starting at First Symptoms

Margaret Tuttle McGrath, Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology Section, SIPS, Cornell University, Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, Riverhead, NY

Downy mildew is a common disease affecting foliage of cantaloupe crops. When it is not effectively managed, leaves die prematurely, and as a result, fruit has poor flavor and lacks sweetness. The pathogen survives over winter in southern Florida and then moves northward with the growing season, moving via its wind-dispersed spores. The specific downy mildew pathogen (clade) that infects cantaloupe also infects cucumber.

Applying fungicides on a weekly, preventive schedule (starting before symptoms) is recommended for managing downy mildew. Applying fungicides when local risk is predicted at the cucurbit downy mildew forecast website helps target application timing and avoid some unnecessary applications, but there can be several high-risk forecasts before infection occurs. By using an integrated management program consisting of fungicides applied to a resistant variety, the suppression provided by the plant’s genetic resistance could enable achieving effective control with fungicide applications started after finding symptoms in the crop.

It is helpful for growers to know how well new varieties perform in terms of ability to suppress a disease, in order to select a fungicide program to achieve desired level of control, and also to know yield and fruit quality compared to standard varieties to determine whether a new variety is suitable for their operation.

**Trial Background**

‘Trifecta’ (which was developed at Cornell), ‘Edisto 47’, and ‘Planter’s Jumbo’ are cantaloupe varieties with resistance to both downy mildew and powdery mildew. Growing a variety with resistance to both of these common diseases would enable achieving effective control with less fungicide use. ‘Trifecta’ and ‘Edisto 47’ were evaluated on Long Island in 2021. They exhibited excellent suppression of powdery mildew, which is the most common foliar disease, but their ability to suppress downy mildew was not as good as some resistant cucumber varieties or good enough to ensure no impact of diseased foliage on fruit quality. Control was improved when fungicides for downy mildew were applied to these varieties on a preventive schedule, indicating that an integrated management program (fungicides applied to a resistant variety) is the best approach for managing this important disease in cantaloupe. Additionally, an integrated approach will reduce selection pressure on the pathogen for fungicide resistance, which the pathogen has proven adept at achieving.

The goal of the 2022 Long Island Experiment was to determine if downy mildew can be effectively managed in resistant varieties by delaying the start of weekly applications of targeted fungicides until symptoms are first observed. Treatments included susceptible and resistant varieties left untreated and treated with a similar fungicide program on the standard recommended preventive schedule that begins after the first severe-risk DM forecast and the first symptom IPM schedule program. This delayed start, reduced fungicide program was also applied to the susceptible variety. Yield and fruit quality were examined as well as downy mildew control.

**Trial Procedures**

Cantaloupes were grown following standard agronomic practices for transplants on plastic mulch. The downy mildew susceptible variety (‘Ambrosia’) was also susceptible to powdery mildew. Therefore, fungicides that control only powdery mildew were applied to the whole trial so that powdery mildew would not affect yield and fruit quality comparisons.

Fungicides with targeted activity for downy mildew were applied weekly (Table 1) using a tractor-mounted boom sprayer equipped with twinjet 110° angle nozzles spaced 17 in. apart and calibrated to deliver 72 gal/A at 55 psi and 2.3 mph. The start of spraying for the preventive schedule was triggered by high risk forecasts for successful spread of the pathogen to Long Island that occurred on July 25 and 28. Spraying started on Aug 17 for the IPM schedule after seeing symptoms in most plots.

Downy mildew (% of canopy infected and severity of infection) was assessed weekly from Aug 17 through Sept 15 and compiled into a single, season-long severity value for each treatment. Defoliation was assessed on Sept 15 and 20.

Ripe fruit were harvested and rotten fruit were counted on Sept 16, 21, and 27. The sugar content (Brix) of one fruit per plot was measured on each harvest date. Fruit appearance, taste, texture, and marketability were rated by volunteers on each date on a 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) scale as interpreted by the rater. All remaining fruit were counted on Oct 3.

| Table 1. Fungicides applied and dates for the two application schedules in the trial. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fungicide and Rate/A | Preventive Schedule | First Symptom IPM Schedule |
| Ranman 2.75 fl oz | July 27 | --- |
| Previcur Flex 1.2 pt | Aug 3 | --- |
| Orondis Ultra 7 fl oz | Aug 9 | --- |
| Ranman 2.75 fl oz | Aug 17 | Aug 17 |
| Previcur Flex 1.2 pt | Aug 25 | Aug 25 |
| Orondis Ultra 7 fl oz | Aug 30 | Aug 30 |
| Ranman 2.75 fl oz | Sept 8 | Sept 8 |

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Results

Effect of Resistant Variety on Downy Mildew Control
The untreated susceptible variety ‘Ambrosia’ was more severely affected by downy mildew than the untreated resistant variety ‘Trifecta’. Compared to untreated ‘Ambrosia’, untreated ‘Trifecta’ provided 29% control based on disease severity and 72% control based on defoliation; there were not untreated plots of the other resistant varieties.

Effect of Fungicide Schedule on Downy Mildew Control
Downy mildew symptoms were first observed on Aug 8 (20 days after transplanting and 12 days after the first preventive application) at a very low level: just one leaf in each of just 5 plots. On Aug 17, symptoms were found in most (8 of 12) plots designated for fungicide treatment to start after seeing symptoms, and in at least two plots of each variety, which was considered adequate for triggering start of the IPM schedule that day.

Susceptible ‘Ambrosia’ usually had more symptoms of downy mildew than the three resistant varieties receiving the same fungicide program, but differences were not significant. Applying fungicides starting after symptoms seen was as effective as the standard, preventive schedule for managing downy mildew on ‘Ambrosia’ (98% control), although it was hypothesized that this might only be the case with a resistant variety based on fungicides generally providing better control in product evaluations in which a preventive application schedule was used compared to those in which symptoms were seen at first application.

Control of downy mildew was substantially improved with either fungicide program applied to ‘Trifecta’ (100%). The first symptom IPM schedule worked equally well on all three of the resistant varieties.

While not an objective of this experiment, effective management might be possible with further reduction in applications to a resistant variety by extending the application interval or shortening the treatment period.

Variety Impacts on Fruit Quality
‘Trifecta’ had significantly higher sugar content than ‘Ambrosia’ and ‘Planter’s Jumbo’. ‘Edisto 47’ produced the largest fruit (5.7 lb) and thus, not surprisingly, the fewest fruit. ‘Trifecta’ received highest average ratings for taste, texture, and internal appearance, and all assessments had yes response for ‘would you buy?’. ‘Planter’s Jumbo’ received highest average ratings for shape and external appearance.

Impact of Controlling Downy Mildew on Fruit Quality
Applying fungicides to control downy mildew on susceptible ‘Ambrosia’ resulted in significantly larger (3.9 vs 4.9 lb) fruit with higher sugar content, which is associated with better flavor. ‘Ambrosia’ fruit from fungicide-treated plots were rated higher than fruit from untreated plots for all variables except size, most notably for taste (3.6 versus 2.4).

Conclusions
Genetic downy mildew resistance provided moderate suppression (29%) based on comparison of untreated ‘Trifecta’ and untreated ‘Ambrosia’. ‘Trifecta’ was the best variety in this experiment based on its fruit having highest sugar content (Brix) and highest average ratings for taste, texture, and internal appearance. Similarly excellent control was achieved with a conventional fungicide program applied starting after symptoms found (IPM schedule) to the resistant varieties ‘Trifecta’, ‘Edisto 47’, and ‘Planter’s Jumbo’ as well as susceptible ‘Ambrosia’. The first symptom IPM schedule may not be as effective on a susceptible variety when the quantity of symptoms present when first seen is higher than in this study.

More Information
Photographs and full report are posted at the LIHREC Vegetable Pathology website. Additional information about downy and powdery mildew and management are at the Cornell Vegetables website.
WE'RE HIRING
Two Vegetable Field Research Technicians

Vegetable Field Research Technician (Albion, NY)
As a Vegetable Field Research Technician with the Cornell Vegetable Program, you will assist Cornell’s top Vegetable Specialists in all aspects of field research projects conducted on working farms in the great outdoors throughout Western New York. Pesticides, cultural practices, and fertilizer inputs are vigorously tested to determine the best strategies that are environmentally sound and cost-effective for optimum weed, disease and insect pest control, crop quality and yield. You will assist with educating New York vegetable growers on the latest research results and consequent crop management recommendations through diverse Extension and Outreach activities. Finally, you will keep your finger on the pulse of vegetable crop production through weekly crop scouting. This position will feature muck-onion production, one of the state’s most exciting highest value and most intensive vegetable production systems.

Position to be located in Albion, New York. This is an initial one-year appointment (39 hours/week) with possible extension depending on funding and performance. Working overtime (more than 40 hours/week), including evenings, is common from June through September. Pay based on experience. Healthcare benefits. The position will start in mid-June 2023.

We are looking for someone who has an excellent work ethic, appreciates agriculture, and can work in commercial vegetable fields that have been sprayed with pesticides.

To receive a link to the job posting, which will be available in early February, please email Julie Kikkert at jrk2@cornell.edu.

Seasonal Vegetable Field Research Technician (Canandaigua or Batavia, NY)
If you enjoy working outdoors and want to gain hands-on experience in research conducted on a diverse set of working vegetable farms, this position is for you! The Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) is one of the premier agricultural extension programs in New York, serving a large multi-county region in the Finger Lakes and Western part of the state. Our 2023 projects include the use of lasers to deter birds from sweet corn fields, vegetable variety trials, cover crop trials, high tunnel research, farm food safety, pest monitoring/forecasts and more! For more details about our program, see https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/.

The position (39 hours/week) is available from June through August and may be extended depending on candidate availability. Those seeking full-time or part-time work will be considered.

This position will be based at either Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County, Canandaigua, NY or Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County, Batavia, NY depending on candidate preference. Regular travel throughout our program region will be required.

To receive a link to the job posting, which will be available in early February, please email Julie Kikkert at jrk2@cornell.edu.
Farm Energy Efficiency Support

Robbie Colville, Ag Energy NY Program Manager, Cornell Cooperative Extension - Tompkins Co.

Would you like to save on your farm energy bills? Farms are often full of opportunities to reduce energy use through efficiency measures that save money, labor, and maintenance costs. Energy efficiency also helps buffer farms from high costs in energy market fluctuations. In addition to these benefits, farm energy efficiency is an important part of New York’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, reducing emissions and making it easier to transition to electric power and renewable energy. Energy inputs are required at every stage of farm production – from soil preparation and harvesting crops, to heating and lighting livestock housing. Farms can get substantial energy savings and enhance productivity through equipment maintenance, fine-tuning equipment and fertilizer rates, improving building efficiency, and installing high-efficiency motors or lighting when old equipment needs to be replaced.

What is Ag Energy NY?
Ag Energy NY is a program by Cornell Cooperative Extension, developing a resource hub to support farm energy efficiency in New York. AgEnergyNY.org includes mobile-friendly web-pages and print-friendly factsheets to help farmers learn about potential energy use and savings specific to their farm sector. Ag Energy NY focuses on the following farm sectors: crops and vegetables, beef, swine, poultry, grain drying, maple, orchards, berries, and vineyards. Ag Energy NY is part of a broader NYSERDA program, Energy Best Practices in Agriculture, which also provides support for dairy and greenhouse operations. Technology content for Ag Energy NY was developed by Daylight Savings Company based on their experience conducting agricultural energy audits in New York since 1991, along with review of technical references, peer-reviewed research, and industry standards. Other program content, such as web development and outreach materials, are developed and reviewed by extension educators, NYSERDA staff, and engineers with a focus on farm energy efficiency.

After reviewing energy efficiency measures online, you can reach out to our team with questions and to connect with a NYSERDA FlexTech Consultant for farm-specific advising. NYSERDA offers no-cost, no-commitment energy assessments to help farmers prioritize areas for improvements and identify incentives to help with implementation. To get started, visit www.agenergyny.org.

Apply for a 2022-2023 Farmworker/Housing Grant

PathStone Corporation
PathStone Corporation is currently accepting applications for their 2022-2023 Farmworker/Housing Grant. This program is a matching grant of up to $3,000 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 3, 2023 and the work will need to be completed by the end of June 2023. Please help us spread the word as we want to assist as many farms as possible!
Upcoming Events

2023 Empire State Producers EXPO and Becker Forum
February 6-7, 2023: Expo
February 8, 2023: Becker Forum
Oncenter Syracuse, 411 Montgomery St, Syracuse, NY 13202

This year’s conference has been planned exclusively by the New York State Vegetable Growers Association. Each session has been planned to encapsulate what farmers want to learn and hear about. The show is going back to its roots, sessions that farmers are interested in and lots of networking opportunities. Panel discussions feature some of the top industry experts and growers in New York. Between educational sessions, attendees can visit the trade show featuring commercial vendors and non-profit exhibitors. Session topics include commodity specific programs in, sweet corn, onions, cabbage, soil health, high tunnel, disease management, tomatoes, snap beans, and cucurbits. DEC pesticide recertification credits will be offered during the appropriate educational sessions. Expo session details and registration at NYSVGA.ORG/EXPO/INFORMATION/

Sanitizing and Cleaning Resources for Your Business (SCRUB) Winter Twilight Roundtables Online
Scheduled online meetings focusing on wash/pack topics. Join other farmers and learn what they are doing to work around the topics of each session. This is a roundtable discussion with a facilitator. Bring your questions, ideas, and experiences. There is always something to learn! You will need computer/laptop access and headset (and microphone) to participate.

These roundtable discussions are FREE! Just go to the website to sign up for the session(s) you wish to attend. For more information and to sign up, visit: https://blog.uvm.edu/cwcallah/scrub-events/

Payback on Purchasing New Wash/Pack Equipment | February 7, 2023 (Tuesday) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm EST
Join experienced growers discussing how they determine when it is worth buying an expensive piece of equipment. Main topics will include payback for specific pieces of equipment like rinse conveyors, cost-benefit analysis and other calculus used by growers.

Workarounds in Washing Greens That You Can’t Live Without | February 21, 2023 (Tuesday) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm EST
For many growers, greens processing is a high-stress, pinch-point within their farms’ overall production flow. Join experienced greens growers to discuss in-the-trenches tricks and produce safety practices they cannot do without!

Parent, Farmer, and Wash-pack Manager! – Strategies to Keep Kids Happy, Employees Engaged, and Produce Safety Risks Low | February 28, 2023 (Tuesday) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm EST
Join farmer-parents to share challenges and lessons learned from running their businesses while running after their kids. Topics covered include:
- Time management
- Flow for effectiveness and efficiency
- Food safety with babies and kids
- Employee training to help with the new normal of kids on the farm

Farmers with and without kids are encouraged to attend!

What NOT to Do to Save Time in the Pack Shed | March 7, 2023 (Tuesday) | 4:00 - 5:30 pm EST
Sometimes no action can save time, increase profitability, AND lower food safety risk. Join experienced growers to discuss benefits and timing of “dry cleaning” …and other things NOT to do (or clean) in your wash pack.

How to Talk to Contractors About Your Farm Building Construction Project | March 14, 2023 | 4:00 - 5:30 pm EST
Construction of wash, pack and cold storage facilities requires special considerations (drainage, produce safety, pest prevention, lighting, etc.) and technical terms that many contractors are not familiar with. Join this group of experienced growers and the UVM Ag Engineering team to discuss essential terms and tricks for talking to your contractors.

SCRUB is a USDA - NIFA funded Food Safety Outreach Program sponsored by the Cornell University, U. Vermont, Michigan State University, and National Farmers Union. The purpose of the project is to provide customized support to improve the food safety practices associated with cleaning and sanitizing for produce farms. If you have questions on farm food safety for wash/pack practices, facilities, buyer requirements, federal regulations, or any other related issues, contact Robert Hadad, Cornell Vegetable Program Food Safety Specialist at 585-739-4065, rgh26@cornell.edu.
Upcoming Events continued

**Chautauqua Winter Vegetable Meeting**  
February 10, 2023 (Friday) | 8:30 am - 12:30 pm, lunch provided following the educational event  
Dutch Village Restaurant, 8729 W Main St, Clymer, NY 14724

Meeting will feature growers from Ohio sharing their production know-how and thoughts on food safety. Other topics include weed control, pesticide safety, and the impact of poor crop nutrition. 1.25 DEC credits requested in categories 1a and 23, and 0.5 in CORE. Trade show booths available. See the full meeting agenda at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

**COST and REGISTRATION:** Meeting cost is $20/person and includes lunch and educational materials. **Registration required by 12:00 pm on Friday, February 3.** Call CCE Chautauqua at 716-664-9502 or register online.

**Orleans Regional Vegetable Meeting**  
February 15, 2023 (Wednesday) | 12:45 pm - 4:00 pm  
CCE Orleans County, 12690 Route 31, Albion, NY 14411

Offering presentations in pesticide safety, tips for managing diseases in vegetable crops, how to attract beneficial insects to your field, herbicide options for cole crops, and strawberry disease information. DEC credits available: 2.25 in 1a and 10; 2.0 in 23; 1.5 in 22; and 0.5 in CORE (used in all categories). See the full meeting agenda at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

**COST and REGISTRATION:** Meeting cost is $10 per person, payable at the door via cash or check. **Pre-registration requested by 5:00 pm on Monday, February 13** by calling Elizabeth Buck at 585-406-3419.

**Dry Bean Production in the Northeast**  
Two-Part Webinar Series

This webinar series on dry beans is hosted by the University of Vermont and Cornell University and features 7 speakers. The webinars are FREE! Register for one or both webinars at https://uvm-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtdOGtrjvG9XmOoAR_fmnMVvDm3CJIY0W.

**Growing Dry Beans in the Northeast | February 17, 2023 (Friday) | 12:00 - 1:30 pm**
Farmers and producers from the Northeast will share their experiences with dry beans, from harvesting and cleaning to storage and markets.

**The Basics of Dry Bean Production | March 3, 2023 (Friday) | 12:00 - 1:30 pm**
Features a presentation from Scott Bales, a dry bean specialist at Michigan State University.

For more information on the webinars and speakers, visit https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Northwest-Crops-and-Soils-Program/2023 Events/dry_bean_webinar_flyer.pdf

**2023 Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture Program Fruit & Vegetable Conference**  
February 22-23, 2023 (Wed-Thurs)  
The Desmond Conference Center, 660 Albany Shaker Rd, Albany, NY 12211

The Fruit and Vegetable Conference is back in-person with two full days of informative sessions, many of which will offer DEC credits. Registration link: https://enych.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=1742

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023:**
- Tree Fruit Sessions, King Street Ballroom, 9:00 am - 3:50 pm
- Small Fruit Sessions, Shaker Room, 9:20 am - 3:30 pm
- Vegetable Sessions, Town Hall, 9:15 am - 3:50 pm
- Trade Show Social will be held after the sessions in the Fort Orange Courtyard.

**Thursday, February 23, 2023:**
- Tree Fruit Session, King Street Ballroom Rooms 2 & 4, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Vegetable Sessions, King Street Ballroom Rooms 6 & 8, 9:15 am - 3:00 pm
- Grape Session, Shaker Room 9:00 am - 11:45 am

Conference brochure with agenda details: https://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/event_new/pdf111.pdf

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Upcoming Events

Ontario (Canada) Fruit & Veg Conference
February 22-23, 2023
Niagara Falls Convention Center, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Examples of sessions: problematic pathogens of tomatoes and peppers, maximizing your fertility dollars, innovations in weed management, berries, irrigation, brassica pests, pumpkins & sweet corn plus a large trade show.

$55 tradeshow only, $80 single day, $120 two-day entry. All prices in Canadian Dollars.

Full details available online at OFVC.CA

NYS DEC: How to Get Certified Course
March 2, 2023 (Thursday) | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
CCE Wyoming County, 36 Center St, Suite B, Warsaw, NY 14569

Course FREE to attend! Discussion topics include NYS pesticide laws and regulations, certification requirements, certification exam process, EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS). Sponsors: CCE Wyoming County and New York State DEC, Bureau of Pesticides Management. For more information, contact Don Gasiewicz, 585-786-2251 x113.

DEC Certification Exam: March 16, 2023 (Thursday) | 9:30 am
CCE Wyoming County, 36 Center St, Suite B, Warsaw, NY 14569

Same-day registration for the exam. $100 Exam Fee (Payable to NYDEC). Exam paperwork provided and completed onsite.

NYS Processing Vegetable Industry Roundtable Meeting
March 15, 2023 (Wednesday) | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
First United Methodist Church, 8221 Lewiston Rd (Route 63), Batavia, NY 14020

Processing vegetable industry members who grow, manage, or support crop production for Nortera, Seneca Foods and/or Love Beets, are encouraged to attend this roundtable meeting. Attendees will:

• Network at this in-person meeting.
• Learn the results of industry-funded research.
• Have a voice in Cornell research and extension.
• Earn DEC pesticide applicator and CCA recertification credits

This event is broken into sessions:

• Morning Session: ALL Processing Crops – offering 2.0 DEC credits in categories 1a, 10, 23, and 3.0 CCA recertification credits
• Afternoon Session: Beets and Carrots – offering 2.0 DEC credits in categories 1a, 10, 23, and 2.0 CCA recertification credits

This FREE event includes lunch! Pre-registration is required for lunch. For more information about this meeting, email Julie Kikkert at jrk2@cornell.edu or call 585-313-8160. Full event details and registration are available at https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=1745.

2023 NYS Dry Bean Meeting and Cutting Event
March 22, 2023 (Wednesday) | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (Meeting); 1:00 pm (Cutting)
Cornell AgriTech, Jordan Hall Second Floor Auditorium, 630 W North St, Geneva, NY 14456

The NYS Dry Bean Meeting is back in person this year, and will be paired with the annual Dry Bean Cutting Event! The morning meeting will include presentations on the latest dry bean research in New York, with topics including market updates, white mold management, western bean cutworm and soybean cyst nematode management, dry bean variety testing, and incorporating NY dry beans into schools. 2.0 DEC credits will be available.

COST: $10 for CVP enrollees; $15 for Non-enrollees. See the full agenda and REGISTER ONLINE at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU.

The Dry Bean Cutting will follow the meeting and showcase the canned dry beans from the 2022 Dry Bean Variety Trial. Lunch will be provided in between the two events.

Questions or interested in sponsoring the meeting? Contact Margie Lund at mel296@cornell.edu or call 607-377-9109.
Upcoming Events continued

Oswego Co. Muck Onion Growers’ Pre-Season Roundtable Meeting Featuring Nematodes
March 22, 2023 (Wednesday)  |  1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Duskees Sports Bar & Grill (upstairs), 8 Bridge St, Phoenix, NY 13135

Muck onion growers are encouraged to join us for this open discussion about pathogenic nematodes. Share your experiences and help design research trials and experiments for 2023 to better understand and manage this pest. The full agenda is posted at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

2.0 DEC recertification credits will be available in categories 1a, 10, and 23. This event is FREE!

Pre-Season Elba Muck Onion Grower Roundtable Meeting
March 23, 2023 (Thursday)  |  10:00 am - 12:00 noon
Big O Farms, 5520 North Byron Rd, Elba, NY 14058

Attention Elba muck onion growers! Share your experiences as we provide our updates on our perennial sowthistle research, onion thrips and Iris yellow spot virus trials. Your input will help us develop research plans for the 2023 field season! See the full meeting agenda at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

2.0 DEC recertification credits will be available in categories 1a, 10, and 23. This event is FREE!
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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