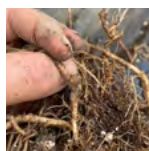




VEGEdge

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Nematodes in Tunnel Tomatoes

Judson Reid, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

This week, we have confirmed nematode infestation in local greenhouse soil with a multi-year history of tomatoes. Thanks to CCE Ag Educator Caroline Boutard-Hunt for her field support and Cornell AgriTech Plant Pathologist Frank Hay for lab support.

Northern Root-knot and Lesion Nematodes are microscopic roundworm pest species that overwinter in New York soils. These nematodes will infest crop roots and cause wilting symptoms and apparent nutrient deficiencies, as the compromised root system lacks finer hair roots necessary for crop health (Fig. 1). Further, the nematodes are sometimes associated with Verticillium Wilt.

These are a difficult set of pests to manage as they have hundreds of host species and persist in the soil over the long term. Northern Root-knot is not known to be a pest of grasses (including grains); however, Lesion Nematode does infest many grain species. Nematodes are prevalent in high organic matter soils, low soil health conditions, and poor crop rotation. Unfortunately, these describe many high tunnel soils, where organic matter is high, tomatoes are grown year after year, and soil health is an afterthought. Even in cases where cover crops are grown between tomatoes seasons, these could serve as alternate hosts, possibly increasing nematode populations, depending on both cover crop and pest species.

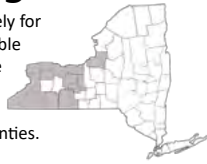
Although grasses can be a host of Lesion Nematode, the correct cover crop species, incorporated as a biofumigant, can be effective



Figure 1. Both Root-knot and Lesion Nematode species can cause thickening of the tomato root and wilting. Photo: Caroline Boutard-Hunt, Cornell Cooperative Extension

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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Our next issue of VegEdge newsletter will be produced on June 12, 2024.

at lowering populations of both Lesion and Root-knot Nematode. Biofumigant species include Sudangrass hybrid 'Trudan 8', white mustard, certain canola varieties and marigold varieties 'Polynema' and 'Nemagone', listed as very effective at reducing nematode populations. This approach would require taking the tunnel out of summer production, allowing the biofumigant cover crop to approach flower, then complete chopping, incorporation and tarping in quick succession to trap decomposition gases in the soil.

Parallel to biofumigation to control nematodes, is the use of chemical fumigants or injected nematicides. Velum Prime includes both tomatoes and irrigation applications on its label for nematode suppression. Vydate L is also labeled for Root-knot control in tomatoes. This is a 'skull and cross-bone' material with acute human toxicity. Note that the fumigant Vapam is prohibited from greenhouse use, which in NYS include high tunnels.

There are several biological or naturally based products including azadiractin labeled for nematodes.

Over the long term if biofumigation is not a viable option, the use of grafted tomatoes or containers may be the only way to continue to produce tomatoes in greenhouses with nematode infestations. ●

Beating the Heat and Protecting Yourself

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; edited by Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

[I don't know about you but having spent years out in the sun during field season has become worrisome. Hearing from farmers, workers, and colleagues having to deal with skin cancer scares or actual diagnoses is kind of scary. Also, just dealing with the heat which sure seems to be worse these days, is a worry for having heat stress-related symptoms. A good article I've come across has offered some sensible advice from the CDC through the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). ed. R. Hadad, CCE CVP]

Sun Exposure – Recommendations (2019)

Recommendations for Employers

Employers should take the following steps to protect workers from sun exposure:

- When possible, avoid scheduling outdoor work when sunlight exposure is the greatest.
- Provide breaks and plenty of water
- Provide shaded or indoor break areas
- Provide training to workers about sun exposure including:
 - Their risk of exposure
 - How to prevent exposure
 - The signs and symptoms of overexposure

Recommendations for Workers

Workers should follow these recommendations to protect themselves from UV damage from sun exposure:

- Wear sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15.
 - SPF refers to the amount of time that persons will be protected from a burn. An SPF of 15 will allow a person to stay out in the sun 15 times longer than they normally would be able to stay without burning. The SPF rating applies to skin reddening and protection against UVB exposure.
 - SPF does not refer to protection against UVA. Products containing Mexoryl, Parsol 1789, titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, or avobenzone block UVA rays.
 - Sunscreen performance is affected by wind, humidity, perspiration, and proper application.
- Old sunscreens should be thrown away because they lose their potency after 1-2 years.
- Sunscreens should be liberally applied (a minimum of 1 ounce) at least 20 minutes before sun exposure.
- Special attention should be given to covering the ears, scalp, lips, neck, tops of feet, and backs of hands.
- Sunscreens should be reapplied at least every 2 hours and each time a person gets out of the water or perspires heavily.
 - Some sunscreens may also lose efficacy when applied with insect repellents, necessitating more frequent application when the two products are used together.
- Follow the application directions on the sunscreen bottle.
- Another effective way to prevent sunburn is by wearing appropriate clothing.
 - Dark clothing with a tight weave is more protective than light-colored, loosely woven clothing.
 - High-SPF clothing has been developed to provide more protection for those with photosensitive skin or a history of skin cancer.
- Workers should also wear wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses with almost 100% UV protection and with side panels to prevent excessive sun exposure to the eyes. ●

CROP Insights

Observations from the Field and Research-Based Recommendations

ASPARAGUS

Asparagus beetle larvae are hatched and active. See VegEdge article from [May 15, 2024](#) for thresholds and treatments. As you finish cutting, take advantage of the opportunity to control weeds. Strong plantings can be mown off (tight to the ground) to restage the crop and more **aggressively go after perennials** with herbicides. That is not a good option for very young or weak stands though; let those feed and choose a different weed control option. Finally, **be on the lookout for rust** as you finish working through the field. It is likely to start on the stumps of cut spears – sunken, water-soaked, vertical ovals that become orange blisters. – EB

COLE CROPS

We're approaching a flight of cabbage maggot adults. The next flight roughly corresponds to the bloom period of daylily. Worms and flea beetles remain active and annoying. Be on top of your timing for herbicides around crop establishment. Windows can be quite tight and precise to avoid injury and achieve control. Read labels carefully. Refer to the 2024 Veg Crop Production Guidelines for recommendations. – EB

CUCUMBERS

Cuke beetles! Gross. Scout plantings for seed borne bacterial diseases prior to and after transplanting. The stress of transplanting can often force symptoms to the forefront. – EB

EGGPLANT

Flea beetles and Colorado potato beetles are active. Imidacloprid (restricted, group 4A) nicely controls flea beetles and Colorado potato beetles and offers a few weeks of systemic control for transplants. See pics of CPB adults, eggs, and first instar larvae. Risk is highest if you're in or next to a field where potatoes were last year. CPB can demolish eggplant if they get in there heavy. The adults are not so much an issue. It is the larvae. Adults lay clutches of dozens of yellow eggs on the undersides of leaves. You'll need to flip leaves to check for eggs if you're seeing adults. Usually, the larvae will feed heavily on the plant and neighboring plants, so damage can be very spotty. This means that you often don't need to treat the entire field if there is damage. Pyrethroids (restricted use, group 3A) and Radiant (conv.) or Entrust (organic) (Spinosads group 5) both are options for treating hot spots. Other options exist; see the 2024 Veg Crop Production Guidelines for up-to-date recommendations and rates. Earlier books are out of date as there have been major registration revisions. – EB



Asparagus beetle larvae. Photo: Elizabeth Buck, Cornell Vegetable Program



Colorado potato beetle (CPB) adult (left), egg mass (center), and larvae (right). Photos: Elizabeth Buck, Cornell Vegetable Program

GARLIC

Scapes are here! Take them off and be sure to provide water through the bulbing period. Starting to see *Stemphylium* moving into garlic with tips that have been yellowed and are experiencing dieback due to a variety of other causes. *Stemphylium* isn't such an issue in garlic itself, but is becoming a major issue in onions. Be mindful of your inoculum sources. A *Stemphylium* problem in your garlic could easily become an issue in your onions if they are planted nearby. – EB

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ONIONS

Nothing but rain in the forecast! The opposite of last week. Transplanting is complete. Earliest transplants of early-maturing varieties have 0.5-1" bulbs and earliest direct seeded onions are at 4-leaf stage with the majority of the direct-seeded crop at 2.5-3 leaf stage. Plants damaged from onion maggot feeding (wilted plants, maggot(s) feeding in bulb) were apparent this week. In Elba, onion transplants 6 leaves or greater were treated with Movento/Senstar last week and will be getting their second application this week. This week, transplants with 5 leaves or more have reached or exceeded the spray threshold of 0.6-1.0 thrips/week and will be getting their first application of Movento/Senstar this week. Also, direct seeded onions at 3-4 leaf stage may reach the spray threshold this week for first insecticide application for onion thrips. Since Movento works best only up until 0.5-1" bulbing, the first application of Movento/Senstar should be applied at 0.6-1.0 thrips/leaf or early bulb swell, whichever comes first. The Cornell recommendation is to apply Movento/Senstar 7-10 days apart. Since Senstar has a 14-day restriction between sequential applications, only one of the two sprays can be Senstar (and the other Movento). Hopefully, the cooler and wetter weather this week will slow the thrips down, as they have been off to races so far.

Herbicides with post-emergent weed activity were used in 2-3 leaf onions over the past week to clean up various weeds that escaped the pre-emergent herbicide programs. Goaltender and Goal 2XL generally killed pigweed and smartweed/Lady's thumb in the cotyledon to 0.5-inch in size, and some 1-inch, but most of these weeds 2-inch or greater still have the "green" eye, where all of the leaves are burned up while the growing point remains green. Herbicide injury from Goal has been variable and averaging 10%. Once onions recover to 10% injury or less, a second application of Goal to weeds with the "green" eye usually finish them off. In Elba, applications of Chateau 2 oz applied a week apart by two different growers resulted in wildly different efficacy (excellent vs. fail) for post-emergent weed control. We have not figured out why exactly (different weather conditions, spray volume, nozzle types, etc.), but this herbicide is known to be "touchy" and tends to be less effective in hot and dry conditions (like last year at this time). Its post-emergent activity to weeds tends to work much more consistently in Wayne and Oswego. Fields that were treated with Buctril 2EC 6-8 fl oz/A + Optogen 3.4 fl oz last week had a certain "look" this week (Fig. 1): weeds (e.g. perennial sowthistle) were bleached white and necrotic or DEAD! (e.g. ragweed 2-inch and less).

In Elba, we did not see any movement in leaf diseases this week. Details about the annual [Muck Onion Growers Twilight Meeting \(June 20, 2024\)](#) are now posted on the CVP website, and invitations will go out this week. – CH



Figure 1. Direct seeded onion field with heavy perennial sowthistle (PST) pressure. A) prior to herbicide treatment on May 28, onions 2.5-leaf, PST mostly in mid-rosette and late-rosette stages. B & C) "That Look" 4-5 days after treatment with Buctril 2EC 8 fl oz/A + Optogen 3.4 fl oz/A: PST early-rosettes are dead (above-ground parts), and mid-rosettes are hurt badly (bleached white and necrotic). D) PST in adjacent field without treatment: majority of PST is in late-rosette stage (= no "hold"). The PST in the Buctril + Optogen treatment will grow out of the herbicide injury in ~2 weeks, when onions will be at 4-leaf stage, the safest stage to apply Stinger, which should then kill a good portion of the PST (both above and below-ground). Photos: Christy Hoepting, Cornell Vegetable Program

SWEET CORN

Caught 1 race Z corn borer in Batavia this week and a corn earworm in Eden. Very early fields are doing well and are approaching/at flag. – EB ●

Getting the Most Out of Poast

Elizabeth Buck, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

Poast (sethoxydim) is one of several group 1 herbicides that offer control of already-emerged grasses. Much of the information will apply to other group 1 herbicide products like Select (clethodim), Assure (quizalofop-p-ethyl), and Fusilade (fluazifop-p-butyl) that offer control of already emerged grasses. I'm focusing on Poast because it is unrestricted use and is labelled in almost all common veg crops. The catchy title is a nice bonus.

The Group 1 Herbicides

Group 1 herbicides are called graminicides (gruh-MIN-ih-sides) and **only kill emerged grasses**. They are **highly selective and generally well metabolized by non-grass crops** (like vegetables). This is because they target a specific variation of a metabolic protein found in grasses and very few other kinds of plants. This includes yellow nutsedge because it is sedge, not a grass. Corn and small grains are grass crops and therefore are very susceptible to group 1 herbicides. **Do not use Group 1 herbicides in corn** unless you made a special point to purchase group 1 herbicide tolerant seed (ie "Poast Protected")!

Group 1 herbicides must be taken up by the grass and transported to the growing points. Happy, healthy plants that are actively growing will do a better job of absorbing and moving the herbicide. Once at the growing points, the herbicide kills the meristem and stops cell division and new growth relatively quickly. **Within a few days to a week you will see foliar discoloration and wilting**. After a week you can begin to easily pluck the center out of your controlled grass weeds. The existing leaves can persist for upwards of 2-3 weeks. Controlled weeds will not be functionally competitive within a week after a successful application. **Lack of control looks like grasses that begin to regrow**.

Other group 1 graminicides (see list above) have vegetable uses, too. Select has many veg and horticultural crops on the label but is restricted use. Fusilade can be used in asparagus, carrots, dry bean, lettuce, onions, rhubarb, and sweet potato plus many berry crops but is not allowed on Long Island. Assure is pretty much a field crops herbicide and limited to peas, dry and snap beans. Poast has almost all major vegetable crop on the label and is unrestricted use.

Comparing these Four Graminicides

Tested against several grass species commonly found in veg systems, Poast is a useful, worthwhile tool that doesn't pack quite as much oomph as the others. Poast is rated "fair" against crabgrass and perennial quackgrass, "good" against foxtails, barnyardgrass, and fall panicum. Fusilade picks up a little activity on all of those species except barnyardgrass. Select is rated "excellent" against barnyardgrass, fall panicum, and foxtails, "good" on crabgrass and perennial quackgrass. Assure has "excellent" ratings against all five weedy species. **So, there is a trade-off between versatility and ease of access and the top-performing active ingredient**. Hence the reason to know how to get the most out of Poast.



Perennial quackgrass breaking through the plastic beds and in between the rows of eggplants. Group 1 herbicides can translocate down to the growing points of both the shoots to produce topkill and to the spreading rhizomes to reduce the amount of regenerating quackgrass. Other emerged grass seedlings would also be controlled. *Photo: Elizabeth Buck, CVP*

Getting the Most Out of Group 1 Herbicides

1. **Know the effective control size limitations on your label**. This is a combination of weed height and the maximum application rate allowed for your crop.
2. **Scout your fields** to know what species you have and how big they are.
3. **Make timely applications when weeds are small and well controlled**.
4. **Make applications to healthy, actively growing weeds**. Injured or stressed weeds are less metabolically active and will be less controlled.
5. **Better control early in the season** when there is little canopy coverage (good, exposed targets) and weeds are smaller and usually less stressed.
6. **Understand which adjuvant to use** based on your crop or weed spectrum and the weather. High temperature or high relative humidity can cause crop injury with some adjuvants. Make sure you add the correct amount of adjuvant based on type.
7. **Hold off on cultivation**. Many labels specify a no-cultivate period before and after application. This is to ensure the grass is actively growing prior to application and that there is enough time for the herbicide to translocate to the growing point and work after treatment.

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8. **Follow the application instructions. Use the nozzle type, droplet size and boom height specified.**
9. **You need good coverage.** Use higher volumes of water and drift reduction nozzles to get good coverage with effective sized droplets (medium-coarse). Don't crank the pressure to get finer droplets and create a "fog" or "roll it in" - that's extremely counterproductive, a waste of money, and a legal liability from very high drift risk.
10. **Don't be afraid to make a second application.** Many crops allow multiple applications a year and have long enough PHIs to accommodate. Species like fall panicum and witchgrass tend to germinate late which helps them routinely escape control by most early-mid season herbicide applications.

An Example of Reading the Nuances

Annual Grass Weeds

Annual Grass Weeds	Region 2 (Midwest, South, and Northeast)	
	Maximum Height (Inches)	Product Rate (pints/A)
Barley, Interseeded cover crops and volunteer ^{1,2,4}	4	1.5
Barnyardgrass	8	1.0
Corn, volunteer ^{1,2,4}	20	1.0
Crabgrass, large ¹	6	1.0
Crabgrass, smooth ¹	6	1.0
Cupgrass, southwestern	N/A	N/A
Cupgrass, woolly	8	1.0
Fescue, tall (seedling)	6	1.5
Foxtail, giant	8	1.0
Foxtail, green	8	1.0
Foxtail, yellow	8	1.0
Goosegrass	6	1.0

Excerpt from the Poast label listing maximum height of annual grass weeds controlled by given application rates. Note that 1.0 pint/Acre will control eight inch high barnyardgrass but only six inch high goosegrass and crabgrasses. On this label, the ¹ after the crabgrass and volunteer cereals indicates that you must add nitrogen to the spray tank on top of the COC or MSO adjuvant to improve control of these species. The ² indicates that you must apply before tillering. Not following these additional steps and guidance reduces control. ●

Garlic Harvest and Post-Harvest Considerations

Crystal Stewart-Courtens, Cornell Cooperative Extension, ENY Commercial Horticulture Program

Setting Up for Success at Harvest

As we move towards garlic harvest, there are a few things that growers can do to set themselves up for success. Careful water management, removing any diseased garlic from the field prior to harvest, and careful timing of the harvest will all contribute to maximizing the size and quality of the crop.

Cull diseased garlic now: Removing any garlic that is prematurely wilting/yellowing between scaping and harvest will help to ensure that you don't bring diseased garlic into storage, where it could spread disease throughout the crop. If you don't recognize a problem that you are seeing, seek help from your local CCE educators to get it properly identified, especially if it's spreading.

Provide one inch of water per week to the crop: Alliums are essentially delicious water balloons and need adequate moisture to reach full size. If on plasticulture plan to irrigate to deliver this amount of water weekly, and if on bare or mulched ground, plan to supplement with irrigation if rainfall isn't adequate. Stop watering at least one week before harvest to facilitate digging.

Harvest at peak maturity: Allowing garlic to reach peak size creates a better seal between the clove wrappers and the clove and between the outer wrapper leaves and the bulb. That seal is part of what decides a bulb's longevity. Waiting until the tips of the cloves have started to pull away from the scape (hardneck), the cloves are bumpy rather than forming a smooth circle on the bulb, and a small gap forms between the cloves and the scape on the interior of the head are all signals that the garlic has reached peak size.

Post-Harvest Handling Best Practices

There are a number of steps growers can take to help garlic dry quickly, which is the best way to reduce post-harvest disease issues. Topping the garlic, curing it in a warm, dry environment with good air flow, and then moving it to a cooler but also dry environment will help avoid issues ranging from black mold to eriophyid mites.

Topping garlic: We have conducted numerous studies on topping garlic prior to harvest and consistently find that it speeds drying and may also decrease the total mass loss over time. The height of the initial cut may range depending on your cutting tool, with anything longer than 1.5 inches working well.

Cure warm and dry: Similarly, curing at between 85° and 110°F with low relative humidity consistently yields garlic with reduced disease issues. Curing at the high end of this range at the end of the process may also help to kill eriophyid mites which are in the garlic bulb. Growers achieve these temperatures passively in high tunnels with shade cloth and fans running directed at the garlic.

Store cool and dry: When the garlic is dry, all wrapper leaves to the scape will feel dry to the touch. At this point you should move the crop out of the warm curing environment and into a cooler space. Any temperature below 75°F and 75% RH will avoid most surface molds, though temperatures much cooler, down to 40°F, will also slow eriophyid mite development if that is a concern. ●

Buckwheat as a Summer Cover Crop for Weed Suppression

Thomas Björkman, Professor Emeritus, Section of Horticulture, Cornell AgriTech

For summer weed suppression, New York growers have a great management tool in buckwheat. Buckwheat has been proven many times to be **the best weed-suppressing summer cover crop**. Better than species that grow bigger, and better than any cover crop mix. As a side benefit, buckwheat **provides valuable erosion protection against rain and mellows the soil** for the next crop.

In practice, buckwheat cover crops are often used to keep weeds from establishing in areas that have not been planted yet, as well as areas that have been harvested. Across a vegetable farm, sequential plantings and harvests often leave areas of open land that quickly become weed infested, replenishing that awful seedbank. Buckwheat helps suppress weeds, including perennials like quackgrass and even some of the recent glyphosate-resistant weeds.

The weed-suppression mechanism is simple: **buckwheat outcompetes the weeds**. To succeed with a buckwheat cover crop, focus on making it win that competition.

Tried-and-True Keys to Cover Crop Success

Fast Start

The goal is to have emergence from the soil on day 3.

- **Use vigorous seed.** Commercial seed is excellent, but barn storage reduces vigor considerably in one year and too much in two years. Saved seed should be cleaned to remove weed seeds and keep only the fattest buckwheat kernels.
- **Plant when the soil is warm enough:** over 65°F average of day and night. In much of New York, that is after Memorial Day. Check the forecast.
- Plant into some soil moisture, but no deeper, and get the best seed-soil contact you can achieve.
- For buckwheat to outcompete the weeds, **weeds cannot have a head start**. Make sure all the weeds, even those in white-thread stage, are dead. A shallow cultivation during or just before planting can accomplish that.



Buckwheat cover crop between corn plantings. Photo: J. Reid, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

No Gaps

A young buckwheat plant **will suppress weed seedlings out about five inches**. Therefore, any gaps bigger than 9 inches will get weedy. Whatever the seeding method, make sure the soil preparation and the seeding tools make a gapless stand. **Uniformity is much better than just using more seed. Crowding makes the buckwheat plants smaller and less effective** as a cover crop.

Kill on Time

Buckwheat's **value peaks at 35 to 40 days after seeding**, both for weed suppression and active-carbon contribution. **The time to kill is easy to see, because the planting turns from green to white with flowers**. Put the termination date on the calendar just in case. Letting the buckwheat grow longer results in volunteer buckwheat seedlings in fall and spring. **Volunteers can be a problem because buckwheat is so competitive against crops as well**.

Mowing is a common first step in termination. **The residue dries in hours** so the ground can be prepared with cultivation for the next crop or left to rest until the remaining area is ready.

More information is available in the [Buckwheat Cover Crop Handbook](#) and my [cover-crop website](https://covercrop.org/cover_crops/buckwheat/): https://covercrop.org/cover_crops/buckwheat/. ●



Got berry questions?

Drop in for an informal conversation about berry production with Laura McDermott and Natasha Field of the ENY Commercial Horticulture Program, and Anya Osatuke of CCE Harvest NY. Come chat berries with us!

Wednesday mornings, 8:30 - 9:00 am EDT
May 15 through July 3

Join the [Zoom meeting](#): Meeting ID: 962 9520 5493; Passcode: 12345
Call in to: 646-876-9923

Upcoming Events

Tour, Tarps & Talk!

June 12, 2024 (Wednesday) | 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Kirby Farm Market, 9739 Ridge Rd (Rt 104 West), Brockport

We will **view two tarping demos** to see the effect of overwinter tarping on nitrogen availability and best practices for terminating large cover crops using a tarp. **Chad Kirby will then give us a short tour** of his production spaces near the market, which include vegetable, tree fruit and floriculture crops. Then it is time to snack, network, and talk shop with other growers! We'll have disposable plates, forks, cups, etc but we invite you to bring your own to help us make a more sustainable event! Bring your own folding chairs.

COST: FREE but **registration by June 10** requested so we can provide light refreshments. Call CCE Orleans at 585-798-4265.

Muck Onion Growers Twilight Meeting

June 20, 2024 (Thursday) | 4:00 - 6:50 pm meeting, catered dinner at 7:00 pm
Dunsmoor Farms, 7965 NY 104, Oswego, NY 13126

Open to all Onion Enthusiasts, the Muck Onion Growers Twilight Meeting will feature new fungicide recommendations for 2024, and onion insect pest management updates featuring seed treatment combinations for onion maggot control. View our onion herbicide trial with pre- and post-emergent control of marsh yellowcress, Lamb's quarters and ragweed. This educational event is immediately followed by a catered dinner; both are **FREE thanks to generous sponsors! No RSVP required.**

2.0 DEC recertification credits available in categories 1A, 10 and 23, and 0.5 credits in category 5. CCA credits will also be available.

This event is organized by CCE Cornell Vegetable Program and Oswego County Vegetable Growers and Improvement Association.

New York State Honeyberry Conference

June 29, 2024 (Saturday) | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
CiTi BOCES, 179 County Rte 64, Mexico, NY 13114

Join CCE Oswego and CCE Harvest NY for a state-wide conference on a new emerging fruit called Honeyberry, also known as Haskap (*Lonicera caerulea*). Honeyberries are a dark blue color, like blueberries, but with a distinct oval shape. The taste is most associated with raspberry and blueberry, while also containing its own distinctive flavor. What makes the fruit unique is that it ripens from the middle of June through early July. This allows the fruit to sit comfortably between the strawberry and blueberry season. When fully mature plants can produce 6 to 10 lbs. of berries, which can be eaten as a fresh fruit or made into value-added products.

The conference will cover the history of the fruit, best growing practices, processing, value-added production, and marketing. Guest speakers will include growers and researchers from the US and Canada, including Dr. Bob Bors from the University of Saskatchewan. Attendees will also be able to network and attend an optional farm tour immediately after the conference.

COST: \$40. Registration required. To [learn more about the conference or to register](#), please go to the CCE Oswego website.

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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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