



Cornell University Cooperative Extension Regional Vegetable Programs

November 2011

Volume 7, Issue 27

Veg Edge

Your Trusted Source for Research-Based Knowledge



2012 Expo Adds Third Day!

Jeanette Marvin, Expo Chair, and NYS Vegetable Growers Association, Inc.

You asked for more sessions, and you'll get them at the 2012 Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo and Direct Marketing Conference, January 24 - 26, 2012 at the On Center in Syracuse, NY. This coming winter, due to overwhelming demand the planning committee is adding a third day of concurrent educational sessions and trade show. More than 1,500 growers, researchers and industry professionals flocked to the 2011 Expo featuring educational seminars and a large trade show.

2012 sessions will include: Business and Labor Management, Direct Marketing, Flower Production and Marketing, Potatoes, Tree Fruit, Tomatoes, Peppers & Eggplant, Vine Crops, Cover Crops, Berry Crops, Cabbage and other Cole Crops, Onions, Winter Greens and Storage, Sweet Corn, Processing Vegetables, Specialty Vegetables, Phytophthora Blight, Greenhouse & Tunnels, Trickle Irrigation, New Invasive Insect Pests, Pesticide Safety, Phone Apps for Ag, Food Safety, and educational sessions in Spanish. Reduced tillage speakers are included in several crop sessions.

"If you include the Becker Forum on January 23 at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY, we are actually four days of programming," says Expo Planning Board Chair Stephen Reiners of Cornell. The 2012 Becker Forum will focus on: *Farming in a Non-Farmer World: Building Trust, Engaging Communities and Finding Common Ground*.

Expo Welcomes Flower Industries, livestock marketers and dairymen!

Joining the Expo this year will be NYS Flower Industries Inc. NYS Flower Industries will conduct two, two-hour sessions focusing on growing challenges and marketing opportunities. "With the addition of Flower Industry sessions, the Direct Marketing session bringing in a speaker on livestock direct marketing, and labor sessions important to dairymen, the Expo now covers it all," laughs Jeanette Marvin, Expo Chair and NYS Vegetable Growers Assoc.

"The past several years, we've covered labor issues at the Becker Forum. In 2012, we are bringing the labor discussion to the main Expo site at the On Center. This will give those interested in labor a chance to attend DEC and CCA eligible sessions as well as a chance to visit our amazing trade show," adds Marvin.

Hotel Deals - Book Early

This year, the best hotel deal in town will be at the [Genesee Grande](#), located several blocks from the On Center Expo site and Syracuse University. A special Expo rate of \$85 per night is bound to book the hotel early, so be sure to make your reservations now. The Grande features complimentary wireless internet, fitness gym, free outdoor parking, complimentary airport shuttle, and shuttle to the Expo by request. Visit <https://www.reservations-page.com/C00264/H01405/be.ashx?pc=ESFVG> to book or call 800-365-HOME. Tell them you're coming for the Expo.

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Veg Edge is a shared publication of two Cornell Cooperative Extension teams, the **Cornell Vegetable Program**, serving 12 counties in Western & Central NY, and the **Capital District Vegetable & Small Fruit Program**, serving 11 counties in the Capital Region of NY

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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 Dept 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.**

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"Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities"

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension if you have special needs.

Cornell Cooperative Extension does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

Other featured hotels are:

The **Holiday Inn Syracuse - Liverpool**. Home to the Becker Forum and located right off the NYS Thruway. This hotel boasts a pool, and regular shuttle service to the Expo main site for all attending the Expo. Show special \$92 per night. Call 800-Holiday to book. **Staybridge Suites, Liverpool**. Attached to the Holiday Inn. Suites start at \$102 per night Expo special. Call 800-Holiday to book. **The Crowne Plaza Syracuse**. Located a few blocks from the Expo site and Syracuse University. Shuttle service available upon advance request. This hotel has undergone extensive renovations featuring an upscale contemporary design reminiscent of a Park Avenue hotel. Expo special \$93 per night. Call (800) 227-6963.

Expo Website Launch

The website for the 2012 Expo will be hosted under the NYS Vegetable Growers for the first time. But that's not the only change. The website will be able to process registrations and take credit card payments from attendees! Visit <https://nysvga.org> and click on Expo. The website will include a complete listing of Expo partners and their hosted sessions, hotel information and directions.

The 2012 Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo is sponsored by the New York State Vegetable Growers Association, Empire State Potato Growers, New York State Berry Growers Association, New York State Farmers' Direct Marketing Association, New York State Horticultural Society, Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension. For more information, contact Jeanette Marvin, NYS Vegetable Growers, at jmarvin@rochester.rr.com or 315-986-9320. ■

GAPs (Food Safety) Certification: ALL Wegmans Growers

Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program



Wegmans

While we wait for the FDA to introduce the draft of the proposed food safety regulations, here in NY, GAPs has been taken to the next level. By August 1, 2012 Wegmans will require all produce farmers, no matter what size or what products they produce to have GAPs certification in order to sell to the store. According to Bill Poole, Vice President of

Produce Purchasing, Wegmans has decided to revise their purchasing policy for next season. Due to the increased problems of contaminated vegetables over the past year, Wegmans is stepping up its requirements.

The FDA is expected to release a draft of their regulations sometime in early 2012. They will have a 75 day public comment period along with three public meetings held across the country during that time. After hearing from farmers, professionals, industry, and the public, a final rule will be released probably early 2013. The federal regulations currently has some exemptions for small and local market growers. Wegmans is now setting their own bar higher than what the federal standards will be.

The Cornell GAPs training team will be holding 4 two-day workshops in late 2011 and 2012. Dates and locations will be forthcoming. ■

Attention Cabbage and Cole Crop Industry: CCE Urges You to Take Survey on Pest Prevention

Survey data collected will assist CCE to improve future pest prevention and education efforts

The Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Regional Vegetable Program seeks to provide the vegetable industry with high quality educational programs and cutting-edge research-based information so this industry will remain viable in New York.

Attention Cabbage and Cole Crop Growers!

CCE urges members of the cabbage and cole crops industry to take a survey to assess the local potential for swede midge and the impact of outreach and education methods.

Survey is simple and should take 5-15 minutes to complete.

Take Survey NOW!

The survey can be filled out on-line at https://cornell.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1MuUmTW4dhoL92c

Or to request a hard copy of the survey, please contact Christy Hoepting at cah59@cornell.edu or 585-798-4265 x38.

Your responses will be anonymous and confidential.

Response to this survey is voluntary. Any reports based on this data will be made after aggregating the responses, and it will not be possible to identify individuals or farms. Thank you for your valuable contributions. ■

U.S. Dry Bean Production Down 38% from 2010

USDA NASS NY Office, 10/12

Dry bean production for the Empire State is expected to total 173 thousand hundredweight (cwt.), 39 percent below a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 1,500 pounds per acre, down 390 pounds per acre from last year. Nationally, dry edible bean production is

forecast at 19.6 million cwt down 38 percent from last year. Planted area is forecast at 1.20 million acres, down 37 percent from 2010. Harvested area is forecast at 1.12 million acres, 39 percent below last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,744 pounds per acre, an

increase of 18 pounds from 2010. Production is expected to be lower in all 18 producing States. For more information go to: www.nass.usda.gov/ny ■

Nematode Disease Diagnosis at the Cornell Plant Diagnostic Lab

George Abawi, Cornell

I just learned from Sandra Jensen, Cornell Plant Diagnostic Lab, that they are now running nematode samples for diagnosis of nematode-caused plant diseases. Growers and consultants interested in submitting plant/soil samples

should contact the lab for details regarding sample handling, packaging, background info submitted with the sample, and cost. On the website click on Services and read the sections on Service Descriptions and Sample Collection and Handling.

Go to <http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/index.html> call 607-255-7850, or email kls13@cornell.edu or slj2@cornell.edu ■

Cornell Guidelines Will be Available Soon

If the Cornell Guidelines is included with your county CCE program enrollment, or if you chose to order the Guidelines during enrollment, then you should receive your copy some time after the release date. If you aren't due a copy of the updated Guidelines but would like one (recommended) then please contact your local county CCE office.

Vegetable Crops

Tentative release: mid-December
List price: \$31.00

Berry Crops

Tentative Release: late December
List price: \$26.00

Field Crops

Release date: mid-November
List price: \$23.00 ■

Free Legal Assistance

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

New York state residents facing legal issues arising out of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee can get free legal help through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Disaster Legal Services program.

Disaster Legal Services (DLS) is a federal program operated by the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (ABA YLD) providing free legal services to persons affected by presidentially declared major disasters. Disaster Legal Services can help survivors with bankruptcy, civil rights, employment law, landlord-tenant law, FEMA benefits claims, wills, trusts and probate matters, among other issues potentially arising from disaster.

Any person affected by Irene or Lee who does not have the means to hire a lawyer is eligible. Call the Disaster Legal Services Hotline at 1-800-342-3661. The service is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday. Callers will be connected with attorneys who can provide over-the-phone assistance. When needed, callers will be referred to attorneys who can provide legal representation free of charge. All calls are completely confidential.

Visit the ABA's site at www.abanet.org/disaster, the National Disaster Legal Aid site at www.disasterlegalaid.org or www.fema.gov/assistance/process/additional.shtm#2 to find out more. ■



Crop Production Services

Fancher 585.589.6330 Avon 585.226.2700
Cohocton 585.384.5221 Sodus 315.483.9146
www.cropproductionservices.com

Hurricane Disaster Relief Services for Local Farms

NY Center for Ag Medicine & Health, Healthy Horizons Newsletter, Fall, 2011

In an effort to help local farm families struggling with the damage and devastation caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, NYCAMH is providing the following services and materials, free of charge to the farm community. Interested farmers should contact NY-CAMH offices at 1-800-343-7527 and ask for Barbara Bayes.

- Mental Health Counseling
- Financial Counseling - in conjunction with Farm Net
- Packets of information on how to deal with common flood issues and where to apply for aid.
- Personal protective equipment including N95 masks, nitril gloves, hearing and vision protection for crews involved in farm clean-up.
- Fitting and information on how to appropriately use personal protective equipment.
- Farm safety surveys to assess the situation and provide guidance on solutions.
- Alcohol based hand sanitizer
- Info and advice regarding special hazards and specific risks such as barn fires due to wet and molding hay.

Resources for Hurricane Victims:

Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) - For information on how to deal with natural disasters. <http://emergencypreparedness.cce.cornell.edu/disasters/Pages/Irene-Lee.aspx>

New York Farm Bureau - For information on immediate needs, how to document and report damage and how to apply for disaster relief. http://www.nyfb.org/resources/topic_detail.cfm?ID=413

FEMA - For information on federal disaster aid programs that have been made available under President Obama's major disaster declaration. <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=57534>

LSU Ag Center - For information on how to prepare, prevent damage, recover and rebuild. http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/family_home/hazards_and_threats/floods_hurricanes/2011HurricaneSeason.htm

Dealing with Flood Damaged Crops - Information from Cornell Cooperative Extension on how to deal with flood damaged crops. <http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/EDEN/Flooded%20and%20storm%20damaged%20crops%202011.pdf> (or contact your local or regional CCE specialists)

Replacing Important Legal Documents—Information on replacing social security cards, birth certificates and other important documents. <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/communications/publications/Publications+Catalog/Disaster+Information/Disaster+Information+Resources+Series/Disaster+Information+Resources+Series.htm>

(From NYCAM at: <http://www.nycamh.com/resources/newsletter/>) ■

Vegetable Acreage & Production Survey

From USDA NASS, with NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets, www.nass.usda.gov/ny

The New York Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be conducting a Vegetable Acreage and Production survey soon. This survey will gather information on vegetable acreage planted and harvested and amount of vegetables produced in New York during 2011. NASS data is used by the USDA Farm Service Agency and crop insurance companies to determine payments to producers in the event of a disaster. Agricultural experiment stations use the information to help with research into new and better varieties of vegetables and new and better ways of controlling pests.

Response to this survey is voluntary; however, every response is important for New York's vegetable production to be accurately represented. "We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses," says King Whetstone, Director of the New York Field Office. All agricultural statistics published by NASS are available free of charge at www.usda.gov/nass/. For more information, call 1-800-821-1276. ■

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can become with a little help.*



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Crazy 2011 Weather - Do We Blame Climate Change?

Jessica Rennells, *Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Cornell, 10/11*

There was nothing “normal” about the weather in the 2011 growing season. We started out with a tremendously wet spring, making planting vegetables and field crops challenging. Yet we had no frost at all in May, which is a nice change. Then we had a miserably hot, dry July, further stressing plants, followed by record-breaking rain in August and September. As of October 9th, the NASS reports that we are more than 26” of rain ahead of historical averages for Binghamton, NY, while Ithaca is more than 12” of rain over the average. Both cities are about 450 growing degree days ahead of historical averages for the season. The crazy season leaves some of us wondering if climate change is causing a new “normal” for NY weather, or if these seasons are still going to be exceptional.

The devastating Flood of 2011 was caused by the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee. Observations at Owego, Candor, and Waverly broke records for the amount of rain in a single day with 8.35”, 6.11”, and 8.00” respectively. It was a 500-year event for Owego and Waverly, meaning that, on average, a storm of this magnitude will occur once every 500 years. It was a 100-year event for Candor. The tropical moisture brought historic rainfall, not only for 1-day totals, but also the week of the storm. Each of the three weather stations recorded over 10” that week, more than any other 7-day period for those stations. Other notable floods in Tioga County have been caused by a heavy rain event in September/October 2010, the remnants of Hurricane Ivan in September 2004, and the remnants of Hurricane Agnes in June 1972. The all-too-recent Flood of 2006 was caused by tropical moisture combined with a stalled cold front.

NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center predicted the 2011 hurricane season to have more named storms and more major hurricanes than normal based on historical fluctuations. These predictions

don’t include the tracks of the storms or whether they will go inland, because that is determined by factors present at the time of the storm. It is also uncertain what effect climate change will have on hurricanes, so flooding caused by tropical storms specifically is not easily predicted.

However, the frequency of flood-producing precipitation events is expected to increase with climate change. Heavy rainfall events (more than 2 inches in 48 hours) have occurred more often in recent decades than in the early 20th century, and this trend is likely to continue under warming conditions.

What about climate change can cause more heavy rainfall events? According to Dave Wolfe, professor in Cornell’s Horticulture Department, rising ocean temperatures (and these are already being measured; they aren’t just theoretical) mean that tropical storms are more likely to keep their strength as they travel northwards over the ocean. Warmer waters evaporate more moisture into the air, so there is more moisture available to create a stronger storm. Additionally, warmer air can hold more water. So, whether over land or ocean, warm air can hold more water vapor, which can condense into more precipitation.

For communities along the coast, rising ocean levels are also a factor. Sea levels rise as polar ice melts, and as ocean temperatures rise in general (warm water expands). The ocean level at NYC harbor has risen about 16 inches in the last century. Higher ocean levels will mean that storm surges will likely reach further in-land than they have historically.

It cannot be determined if a single event, including the Flood of 2011, is a result of climate change. In a warming climate there is expected to be an increased probability of extreme rainfall events, but it is impossible to determine whether any particular storm would have occurred with or without climate change. For example, a bag holds white marbles, representing normal rainfall, and red marbles, representing “normal” extreme rainfall. Climate change adds more red marbles to the bag. If you randomly grab a red marble, you don’t know if it was an original marble or one that was added by climate change. ■



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Survey of NY Fruit & Vegetable Farm Employers

Thomas Maloney and Nelson L. Bills, *Applied Economics & Management*, Cornell, 8/11

Copies of the full report may be obtained by going to: <http://dyson.cornell.edu/research/rb.php> or by contacting Sue Snyder at sms237@cornell.edu or at Cornell University, 216 Warren Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to gather information from fruit, vegetable and dairy farm employers regarding agricultural workforce issues in New York agriculture. The survey provides new insights into five key topic areas; the number of workers on New York farms, employee wages and benefits, characteristics of the Hispanic workforce, attitudes among farm operators regarding proposed State labor law changes, and Federal immigration reform.

Expanded survey estimates of the peak agricultural workforce in this study, including part-time and full-time workers,

totalled 33,200. **The focus of this report is on the fruit and vegetable industry** where the number of hired employees in the fruit industry is estimated to be 14,700 and the number of hired employees in the vegetable industry is estimated to be 8,900.

Fruit farm employers reported that experienced general laborers were paid an average of \$10.65 per hour and inexperienced general laborers were paid an average of \$8.52. Vegetable farm employers reported that experienced general laborers were paid an average of \$9.98 per hour and inexperienced general laborers were paid \$8.25 per hour. Hispanic workers play an increasingly important role in the New York fruit and vegetable industry. The survey found that 11,200 (47%) fruit and vegetable workers speak Spanish as their first language. Regarding their Hispanic workers, farm employers reported that the two issues requiring the most assistance

were immigration issues and English training.

At the time the survey was conducted, New York's labor advocates and farm employers were debating legislation that would have required farm employers to provide their workers overtime pay and collective bargaining rights. The majority of fruit and vegetable farmers surveyed indicated that they would be very concerned if their workers were allowed to form unions or if they were required to pay overtime. Regarding Federal immigration reform, survey participants were asked to rate the importance of national immigration reform, a path to citizenship and a guest worker program to their business. While all three issues were important to farm managers, a path to citizenship was reported to be slightly less important than national immigration reform or a guest worker program. ■

Plan Now for Winter Storage of Pesticides

Christina Curell, *Michigan State University Extension*, 10/11

The best way to ensure that there is no chance of problems with pesticides carried over winter is to return any extra product to a pesticide dealer. If returning pesticide to a dealer is not an option, farms need to have proper pesticide storage. When pesticides are not properly stored there is a chance that products could freeze, containers could be compromised, posing a threat to people, livestock, and the environment.

The easiest way to reduce the risk of pesticide exposure to humans, livestock, and the environment is to have proper, separate pesticide storage. The building should be locked, have a spill kit and a chemical fire extinguisher. The floor should be sealed, with concrete curbs to contain any spills. The building should be clearly marked as a pesticide storage. If a farm is unable to dedicate a building for pesticide storage at the very least

there should be a cabinet dedicated to storing pesticides. As with the building, the cabinet needs to be locked and clearly labeled as pesticide storage.

Once the storage location is set farmers need to be concerned with how they store pesticides. Shelving units should be metal or plastic with a lip. Wood should not be used since it will absorb spills. It is also important to put any dry formulations on the top shelves above any liquids to prevent cross contamination if liquid containers leak. Pesticides should be separated by type i.e. herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, etc. The oldest product should be in front so that it will be used first next spring. It is also very important that all pesticides are clearly labeled. If the label is missing or unreadable contact your chemical dealer to obtain a new label. Remember to affix the label on the container.

There are instances when a farm has outdated, unusable, or even banned pesticides. In these cases pesticides can be taken to a Clean Sweep site during local collection. Clean Sweep accepts unwanted pesticides and disposes of them properly.

(Temperature requirements for storing liquid pesticides are very specific, so read the label! Some should not be stored below 40°F, others not below 32°F, while for others cold temperatures are not a problem. C. MacNeil, CCE, CVP)

From the NYS DEC: Spill containment materials, fire extinguisher, personal protective equipment and water for emergency eyewash and routine wash-up should be near but not in the pesticide storage area.) ■

Upcoming Meetings

2011 Cornell Agribusiness Strategic Marketing Conference: *Capitalizing on Group Action & Alliance to Improve Marketing Returns*

Monday & Tuesday, November 7 - 8

Hyde Park, NY

Innovative marketing and business alliances for smaller-scale producers, and new ag cooperative development. Training on food safety for farm direct marketers following. Go to: <http://marketingpwt.dyson.cornell.edu>

Field Crop Dealer Meeting

Monday, November 21

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location that is convenient for you
(see meeting description)

\$10 payable the day of the meeting, lunch available for a cost, 2012 Cornell Guide for Integrated Field Crop Management will be available. DEC and CCA credits will be offered. Pre-registration **required**. Contact Mary McKellar at 607-255-2177 or mem40@cornell.edu.

Jordan Hall, NYS Ag Experiment Station, Geneva - live meeting.

CCE offices in Albany, Cayuga, Cattaraugus, Clinton, Genesee, Jefferson and Oneida counties - Interactive real-time broadcasts.

Labor Issues for Ag Employers: What to Expect in 2012

Tuesday, November 29

9:00 am

The Century House Conference Center
997 New Loudon Rd/Rt 9, Latham

Include H2A, I-9s, e-Verify and legislative updates. Registration (\$60) includes lunch. Contact Sandy at 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu

Processing Sweet Corn & Snap Bean Advisory Meeting

Friday, December 2

9:30 am – Coffee

10:00 am – Sweet Corn

11:30 am – Lunch

12:30 – 3:00 pm - Snap Beans

NYS Ag Experiment Station
Jordan Hall, Geneva

DEC pesticide and CCA credits available. Free, including lunch, no reservation required. For more info contact: Julie Kikkert at jrk2@cornell.edu or 585-394-3977 x404.

Growers, processors, and ag business reps will discuss the season, hear results from projects funded for 2011, and make priorities for research funding in 2012 by the NYS Vegetable Research Assoc/Council.

Upstate NY Potato Advisory and Cornell Potato Breeding Line Show & Tell

Thursday, December 8

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

CCE Ontario County
480 N Main St, Canandaigua

The **30th annual meeting** is coming up! Growers, processors, packers, extension, college and state personnel will discuss the concerns, needs and opportunities of the industry. In addition, Walter De Jong, Cornell potato breeder, will host his annual Show & Tell of the most promising potato lines coming along. Weather related closure questions? Contact Carol MacNeil at 585-313-8796. Reservations required **by Monday, December 5th**. Contact Don Halseth at 607-255-5460 or deh3@cornell.edu

Processing Pea, Beet and Carrot Advisory Meeting

Tuesday, December 13

9:30 am – Coffee and Donuts

10:00 am – Pea, Beet & Carrot Mtg

First United Methodist Church
8221 Lewiston Rd/Rt 63, Batavia

DEC pesticide and CCA credits available. Free, including lunch, and no reservation required. For more info contact: Julie Kikkert at jrk2@cornell.edu or 585-394-3977 x404.

Growers, processors, and ag business reps will discuss the season, hear results from projects funded for 2011, and make priorities for research funding in 2012 by the NYS Vegetable Research Assoc/Council.

Cornell Economic Outlook Conference Tuesday, December 13 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Statler Hotel Ballroom (LOCATION CHANGE), Cornell, Ithaca	National economic outlook, outlook for crops, dairy, fruits & vegetables, and immigration laws, plus Marcellus Shale Development: implication for agriculture. Go to http://dyson.cornell.edu/outreach/ag_outlook_conference.php for registration and program info, or contact Carol Thomson at cmt8@cornell.edu or (607) 255-5464.
New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference and Trade Show Tuesday - Thursday, December 13 - 15 Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH	Go to http://www.newenglandvfc.org/
Basic Farm Business Management Planning 5 dates and locations, choose the one most convenient for you	Helping your farm business achieve success, \$25. Choose the site, time most convenient for you. Contact Sandy Buxton at 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu December 14 - CCE-Columbia Co, 479 Ste Rte 66, Hudson, 6:00 – 8:30 pm January 14 - CCE-Washington Co, 411 Lower Main St, Hudson Falls, 9:30 am to noon. February 7 - CCE-Washington Co, 411 Lower Main St, Hudson Falls, 6:00 – 8:30 pm. April 4 - CCE-Albany Co, 24 Martin Rd, Voorheesville, 6:00 – 8:30 pm. May 10 - CCE-Greene Co, Acra, 6:00 – 8:30 pm.
NYS Dry Bean Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Friday, December 16 9:30 am - 3:00 pm LeRoy Country Club 7759 E Main Rd, LeRoy	Growers, handlers, processors and agribusiness reps will discuss the season, hear results from projects funded for 2011, and set priorities for research funding in 2012 by the NYS Dry Bean Industry Committee. About 1.7 DEC, plus CCA credits will be available. <i>Sponsor opportunities are still available!</i> Reservations required by Monday, December 12th . Weather related questions? Contact Carol MacNeil at 585-313-8796 or crm6@cornell.edu .
Soil Management for Field & Vegetable Crops Monday, December 19 1:00 - 3:00 pm Sam Yoder's Farm, 12041 Northeast Rd, Conewango Valley	Prevention of vegetable diseases with rotations and cover crops; field crop rotations; choosing the right cover crop. DEC credits will be available. Contact Dean Sprague at 716-699-2377 x123 or das57@cornell.edu . <i>From Conewango Valley:</i> At the intersection of NY83 and US62, go east on US62N for 1.5 mi. Continue straight on NY241 when US62 turns. Northeast Rd is the next left. Go 1.5 mi to Yoder's shop on the left. <i>From US86:</i> Take exit 16, go east through Randolph to NY 394E and follow it. Shortly, turn left onto NY241. Go ~6 mi to the stop sign at Seager Hill and turn left, staying on NY241. Shortly, turn right onto Northeast Rd. Go 1.5 mi to Yoder's shop on the left.
2012 NOFA-NY Winter Conference: The Cooperative Economy Friday - Sunday, January 20 - 22 Saratoga Springs	Key speakers: John Ikerd, Professor Emeritus of Ag Economics, U. of MO, Kathlyn Terry, Appalachian Sustainable Development, and Paul and Maureen Knapp, 2012 NOFA-NY Farmers of the Year. Food donations for the conference ; Contact Stephen Rees at 585.255.0050 or Nofa2012conference@gmail.com . Program and registration, go to https://www.nofany.org/events/winter-conference
Empire State Fruit & Vegetable Expo, Direct Marketing Conference and Becker Forum Monday - Thursday, January 23 - 26	OnCenter Convention Center, Syracuse, and Holiday Inn, Syracuse – Liverpool. See cover article in this issue. Program will be on the website in late October and mailed to enrollees around Thanksgiving.
Pesticide Recertification Day Thursday, March 15 The Century House 997 New Loudon Rd/Rt 9, Latham	Pesticide use, safety, pest management, up to 6 DEC credits. Morning - core credits; afternoon - category specific credits for 3a, 1a, 7a and private categories. Registration required. Contact Chuck Schmitt at 518-765-3513 or cgs34@cornell.edu

New York Onion Production Down 4 Percent

USDA-NASS NY Office, with the NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets, www.nass.usda.gov/ny

New York's onion crop for 2011 is forecast at 2.95 million hundredweight (cwt.), down 4 percent from last year's crop of 3.09 million cwt., according to

King Whetstone, Director of USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. Harvested acreage is estimated at 8,200 acres, down 16 per-

cent from last year's acreage of 9,800. Yields are expected to average 360 cwt. per acre, up from 315 last year. ■

Will Your Colorado Potato Beetle Insecticide be Effective Next Year?

Carol MacNeil, CCE, Cornell Vegetable Program

The Colorado potato beetle (CPB) has long been known for rapidly developing resistance to insecticides. I observed the development of resistance to Pyrethroid insecticides in just three seasons a number of years ago where growers were using the relatively cheap insecticides exclusively in continuous potatoes.

In spite of Cornell entomologists' warnings Admire/Provado and other imidacloprid formulations in the Chloronicotinyl Class (4) remained effective for a long time in spite of annual use in some areas. That time is drawing to a close, however, for a number of potato growers. Control has been failing sooner and sooner the past few years. There are a number of Chloronicotinyl Class insecticides which contain active ingredients different from imidacloprid (Admire, Provado, Gaucho, etc). These close relatives such as Cruiser, Platinum, Actara (all thiamethoxam), and Assail (acetamiprid), are providing control for a number of growers, though it's doubtful they will last for many years since the CPB already has resistance to a related insecticide.

They won't last, that is, unless growers adopt the principles of Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM) and conscientiously alternate with insecticides from other Classes. The April and May *Veg Edge* issues listed all the labeled seed and in-furrow treatments, and foliar insecticides, for CPB control, grouped by Chemical Class, to assist potato growers with CPB IRM.

Unfortunately, 16 commonly used CPB insecticides are, or contain, chemicals in the Chloronicotinyl Class. All of the seed

and in-furrow treatment materials are. Five commonly used foliar insecticides are. Of the other foliar insecticides 11 are, or contain, chemicals in the Pyrethroid Class (3). (A Pyrethroid may be effective for a season or two if no Pyrethroids have been used for many years.) One needs to work at an IRM to alternate Chemical Classes for CPB control.

Some alternatives to the Chloronicotinyl Class foliar insecticides are:

- Radiant, Entrust/Blackhawk, in the Spinosyn Class (5)
- Altacor – Diamide Class (28)
- Voliam Xpress – Diamide and Pyrethroid Classes (28/3)
- Agri-Mek/Abba - Abamectin Class (6)
- Avaunt – Oxadiazine Class (22).

Only Altacor and Voliam Xpress have activity against adult CPBs.

Other Chloronicotinyl alternatives are Bts, Trigard, cryolite and azadirachtin, all primarily effective against small larvae when first applied at egg hatch.

Eight growers/farms responded to a survey on Colorado Potato Beetle Management at the Aug. 31st Potato Meeting at Williams' Farm in Marion. Five of the 8 farms grew continuous potatoes. Three of the eight, all with continuous potatoes, had recently switched from imidacloprid to other insecticides in the Chloronicotinyl Class, such as Cruiser, Assail or Endigo, because of failing CPB control. The other 2 farms with continuous potatoes still used imidacloprid effectively. The farms which rotated potatoes every other year either still successfully used imidacloprid or used insecticides in other Chemical Classes. Two farms had used lower than label rates of

CPB insecticides.

The 8 growers (7 responded) were given the following list of insecticides and were asked to check which ones were in the Chloronicotinyl Class:

Admire Pro, Cruiser, Avaunt, Endigo ZC, Altacor, Leverage, Provado, Gaucho and Assail.

Two growers got them all correct; 3 growers missed 1 – 2 insecticides; and, 2 growers missed 4 – 6! There were 7 Chloronicotinyl insecticides in the list. Only Avaunt and Altacor are not.

Check your April and May issues of *Veg Edge*, pgs 22 and 13 respectively, and save the charts with CPB insecticides by Chemical Class, to plan for your insecticide buying. If you get *Veg Edge* emailed to you click on the link to the 2011 *Veg Edge* archives to find those issues. If you'd like a copy of these charts contact Carol at 585-394-3977 x406 or crm6@cornell.edu. ■

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More Pale Cyst Nematodes Found in Idaho

APHIS – USDA

(Note: The Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN) was detected in an 11th field in Idaho in August. The PCN is closely related to the Golden Nematode (GN) found in NYS. Because these nematodes are being found in Canada as well as multiple states in the US new regulations have been put in place so that US and Canadian potatoes can move in international trade. In addition, there is now a process for deregulating fields which have tested negative for these nematodes for a number of years. The towns of Elba and Byron were removed from the GN regulated area recently. They had been included since 1977. C. MacNeil, CCE, CVP)

Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN) Stakeholder Update 5/23/11:

A 10th PCN-infested field was confirmed on March 18, 2011. The 164-acre field is located in Bonneville County, ID, about 1.5 miles from the nearest infested field. This detection brings the total infested area to 1,264 acres. The detection was made in samples collected in 2010 as part of ongoing cooperative monitoring efforts by APHIS and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA). In response to the 10th field detection the total regulated area (infested and associated fields) is now 7,808 acres, due to their primary association with the infested fields. Survey of these fields is currently underway. To date, more than 247,000 soil samples have been collected in Idaho to ensure Idaho's freedom from PCN outside of the known infested fields. For more information on PCN or GN go to: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/index.shtml and scroll down to those pests. ■



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Beginning Women Farmer Program Provides Tools for Personal & Professional Growth

Crystal Stewart, CCE Capital District Vegetable and Small Fruit Program

(Note: Workshops continue with one scheduled in January. Go to: <http://newfarmerproject.wordpress.com/2011/10/05/whole-farm-planning-for-beginning-women-farmers-2/>. C. MacNeil, CCE, CVP.)

It is rare to see a group of all women circled in a farm field, kicking at the dirt and talking about the weather. But across the northeast for the last two years, women have been getting together to do just that, and to gain all the benefits that come from having a group to talk farming with. These women, who totaled roughly 180 over two years, came together through a program organized by Holistic Management International, an organization which advocates balancing the social, environmental and economic aspects of farming to increase quality of life. Funding was provided by a USDA/NIFA grant, which has allowed all participants to attend ten days of training free of charge.


In the winter of 2010 women gathered at farms and community centers in New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Maine intent on learning to be better farmers. Some were fresh out of school or internships and were thinking of starting their own farm in the next few years; some were looking to use their land for agri-

culture during retirement. Many had already begun farming, and were especially eager to learn how to do a better job of everything from marketing product to purchasing the right equipment. Among the eager faces in each room were two women farmer mentors, ready to meet with each beginning farmer individually over the course of the season and help with specific issues during on-farm meetings.

The ten week program began not with discussions of crop or animal specific issues, but with a bigger picture question: What is your whole farm plan? Who has a say in decisions on the farm, and what do those people want their lives to be like both now and in the future? How does the farm work to enhance that goal? All other decisions would be made with this whole farm plan in mind, from choosing enterprises to adjusting management practices.

After pin-pointing the goal for the farm and its decision makers, weeks were spent hashing out the details. First, participants tackled finances. This was a tough couple of weeks for many people, particularly those who had not previously spent time determining if their enterprises or potential enterprises were profitable. Quite a few were not. Fortunately, everyone had time to care-

fully look at their expenses and their income. Groups helped each other brainstorm ways to cut maintenance costs while protecting wealth generating enterprises and later helped each other develop better marketing plans to increase revenue. If an enterprise simply couldn't be profitable, groups brainstormed other enterprises that could be, and still fit into the farmer's whole farm plan. In looking back on the class recently, Mary Beth Welsh, a farmer from the 2011 class said of the financial planning sessions, "[this] portion of the class made it very clear that to be successful, understanding the financial issues and "catching" errors early is essential to keep moving forward ..." When asked immediately after the sessions about attitude change, 95% of participants said they had gained confidence about writing a business plan. Five months after the course was finished, 43% of survey respondents indicated that they had actually developed a financial plan. One farmer survey respondent wrote the following about financial planning's effect five months later: "The budget planning that we did at the beginning of the season set me and my husband on a solid path for our first season of farming: we exceeded our planned profit, in part thanks to the decision making and budgeting tools I learned from HMI."



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As the weather warmed sessions moved outdoors, and focused more on “nuts and bolts” aspects of farming including soil health, biological monitoring and management of animals to improve the land and increase productivity/profitability, and infrastructure planning. Many of these sessions took place on participants’ farms, where the group was able to first assess the situation and then brainstorm improvements. Lunch-times during these summer sessions were filled with talk of animal breeds, cultivation equipment, and countless tips and tricks. Tours of each farm were a highpoint for many participants, many of whom had not been able to spend so much time on another person’s farm. The diversity of farms was seen as a positive, even if the enterprises were not exactly in line with what each participant was doing. Tricia Park, 2010 class participant, noted, “It was interesting to see the age differences and different types of farms- but we all had a common goal: Doing what we love and making it successful.”

Another highpoint for some participants came during biological monitoring sessions, when lawn darts were used to take a detailed inventory of what was happening in pastures rather than making “windshield assessments.” Participants quickly learned how to identify signs of biological activity, healthy nutrient and water cycling, and efficient energy flow, all of which contribute to the productivity of the land. They learned to be thorough, and to look for positive change from year to year in a given field.

The benefits of the last two years’ programs will continue on based on the relationships formed by participants in the program. A listserve has been created for participants to keep in touch and ask questions, and some states have decided to keep meeting, often combining years one and two. One of my favorite thoughts from my conversation with Mary Beth was on this very topic: “Being part of this group has opened up an entire network which also includes women from previous and future classes - women I haven’t even met yet.” ■

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Katherine Moxhet, EnSave, on behalf of NYSEG/RG&E

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Dates to Remember...

November 7-8 - 2011 Cornell Agribusiness Strategic Marketing Conference, *Capitalizing on Group Action & Alliances to Improve Marketing Returns*, see page 8.

November 21 - Field Crop Dealer Meeting, see page 8.

November 29 - Labor Issues for Ag Employers: What to Expect in 2012, see page 8.

December 2 - Processing Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Advisory Meeting, see page 8.

December 8 - Upstate NY Potato Advisory and Cornell Potato Breeding Line Show & Tell, see page 8.

December 8 - Growing Cherries: 2011 in Review, 9:00 - 11:00 am, Hector Fire Hall, Rt 414, Hector. Brown rot, spotted winged drosophila and brown marmorated stinkbug covered in detail. DEC credits. \$10/person or \$15/farm. Pre-register 607-687-4020, meh39@cornell.edu.

December 13 - Pea, Beet and Carrot Advisory Meeting, see page 8.

December 13 - Cornell Economic Outlook Conference, see page 9.

December 13-15 - New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference and Trade Show, see page 9.

December 14, Jan 14, Feb 7, April 4, or May 10 - Basic Farm Business Management Planning, see page 9.

December 16 - NYS Dry Bean Industry Advisory Committee Meeting, see page 9.

December 19 - Vegetable & Field Crop Soils, Fertility and Pest Meeting, see page 9.

January 20-22 - 2012 NOFA-NY Winter Conference, see page 9.

January 24-26 - Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo, Farmers' Direct Marketing Conference & Becker Forum, see front cover.

March 15 - Pesticide Recertification Day, see page 9.

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