



The Cornell Vegetable Program has created a quick reference sheet, sharing 4 years of experience in aphid control in winter tunnel greens.

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The CVP received a grant to work with growers in our region to increase or diversify their cover cropping, and/or reduce tillage.

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The 2015 Becker Forum: NY Farms to NY Plates will focus on institutional purchasing across New York State.

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Before you try a new variety of potato, read the summaries of the research findings from the Cornell Potato Breeding Program on advanced lines.

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# VEGEdge

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

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**Cornell University**  
Cooperative Extension  
Cornell Vegetable Program

Photo: Judson Reid

## Aphid Management in Winter Tunnel Greens: An Information Sheet Developed to Summarize 4 Years of Experience

Judson Reid, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Growing greens in high tunnels (minimally heated or unheated greenhouses) can be an effective way to market fresh produce during the fall and winter in colder climates, but there are challenges to success. Although plant growth slows during this time, aphids continue to feed and damage greens crops in tunnels. We have found that growers can successfully manage aphids with sustainable techniques such as biopesticides, beneficial insects and variety resistance. A new guideline summarizes 4 years' experience in aphid management. Check it out online:

<http://tinyurl.com/aphidmgmt>

For a print copy of the new guideline, contact Karen Gavette at 315-536-5123. ●





**VegEdge** newsletter is exclusively for enrollees in the Cornell Vegetable Program, a Cornell Cooperative Extension regional agriculture team, serving 11 counties in Western New York.

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

We're interested in your comments. Contact us at:  
CCE Cornell Vegetable Program  
480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14224  
Email: [cce-cvp@cornell.edu](mailto:cce-cvp@cornell.edu)  
Web address: [cvp.cce.cornell.edu](http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu)

#### Editor

Carol MacNeil

#### Contributing Writers

Robert Hadad  
Christy Hoepting  
Julie Kikkert  
Carol MacNeil  
Judson Reid  
Darcy E. P. Telenko

#### Publishing Specialist/Distribution/Sponsors

Angela Parr

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Information provided is general and educational in nature. Employees and staff of the Cornell Vegetable Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and Cornell University do not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

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](mailto:cce-cvp@cornell.edu) or write to us at Cornell Vegetable Program, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424.



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Cornell Vegetable Program

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## Online Resource Available: Tomato Diseases Favored by High Tunnel Greenhouses

Cornell Vegetable Program Specialist Judson Reid recently published a webinar on Tomato Diseases Favored by High Tunnel Greenhouses. This presentation will help consultants, growers, and other practitioners in the Northern U.S. understand how high tunnels favor certain tomato diseases, and then successfully manage these diseases. Brown Leaf Mold, Tobacco Mosaic Virus and Fusarium Wilt of tomatoes are used as examples of how the unique environment of a high tunnel creates management challenges. Varietal resistance, grafting, fungicide applications and rotations are considered, concluding with the intersection of best management practices across diseases. Participants will learn what and what not to do to grow a healthy tomato crop in a high tunnel.

<http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/infocenter/topic/focusontomato/> •

## Twitter Updates on High Tunnel, Greenhouse and Fresh Market Field Research

For the latest updates on Cornell Vegetable Program high tunnel, greenhouse and field research follow vegetable specialist Judson Reid @Jud\_Reid



# Soil Health Grant Offers Veg Growers Cover Crop Evaluations and the Cornell Soil Health Test

Carol MacNeil, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

The weather extremes of drought or heavy rains have resulted in poor crop production in some fields the last several years. Soils need to be in the best health to support crops through these challenging conditions. Covering 100% of your acres with the best cover crops/combinations, and reducing tillage, (as well as improving tile drainage) can reduce your risk of crop loss or low yields over the coming years.

The Cornell Vegetable Program just received a two year grant to work with vegetable, potato and dry bean growers in our region to increase or diversify their cover cropping, and/or to reduce tillage. For cooperating growers soil sampling, soil testing, and interpretation for the Cornell Soil Health Test (CSHT) will be free. Evaluation of biomass, weed growth, nitrogen produced, crop response, etc. can be done for new cover crop plantings being tried. Reduced/zone-tilled crops planted side by side with conventional crops can also be evaluated. Field days are part of this grant, as is assistance for

grower discussion groups/grower-to-grower networking.

In order to be a cooperator in this grant program, growers and their fields need to be in the Lake Ontario Watershed (most of CVP region is). Growers also need to be state or federal program eligible, which can be accomplished this winter. To do this, first get farm and tract numbers established with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). Farm practices need to be in compliance with the 1985 Food Security Act Highly Erodible Land and Swampbuster provisions, determined by Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) staff. Growers should be ready to identify a natural resource concern (i.e. - excessive erosion, a need to improve soil health due to compaction, etc.). For opportunities and requirements see: *State & Federal Program Opportunities to Improve Soil Health for Vegetable Producers*, in the October 2014 issue of VegEdge.

This winter is the perfect time to visit local NRCS and/or county Soil & Water

Conservation District (SWCD) offices to work on this paperwork with staff, so the CVP can do sampling for the Cornell Soil Health Test in April. A big advantage of completing the paperwork for program eligibility is that growers can then apply for cost-sharing for new cover cropping practices (new cover crops or combinations) and/or reduced tillage practices, with the next funding cycle. More money than ever is available as an incentive for adoption of good soil health practices. **The cost share for a cover crop, or cover crop mix, that you haven't used before was from \$60 - \$100/acre under the 2014 EQIP program.** Cost share for reduced tillage practices was \$13 - \$16/acre.

For the location of the nearest FSA and/or NRCS office go to: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=NY>

For the location of the nearest SWCD office go to: [www.agriculture.ny.gov/SoilWater/contacts/county\\_offices.html](http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/SoilWater/contacts/county_offices.html) •

## NY Farms to NY Plates: Becker Forum on Institutional Purchasing across NYS

2015 Becker Forum: NY Farms to NY Plates

Monday, January 19, 2015

8:15 AM - 3:30 PM

Holiday Inn, Electronics Parkway, Liverpool (Syracuse), NY (I-90 exit 37)

Come hear from NYS farmers and institutional buyers who have been working together. Break-out sessions are planned for those interested in working with large state institutions, medium-sized institutions (colleges, school systems), or with individual nursing homes, hospital, etc. There will also be plenty of networking time and a trade show. NYS Ag Commissioner Richard Ball, NYS Office of General Services Commissioner RoAnn Destito, and Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, will describe recent promising developments in NYS. Other speakers/panelists include representatives from: NYS Corrections, GrowNYC, Farm to Institution NYS, National Farm to School Network, Reeves Farm & Upstate NY Growers & Packers, Mento Produce, and Cornell University.

\$95 per person if registered by January 9, 2015; \$125 per person after 1/9/15 or at-the-door. Return form and fees to: NYS Vegetable Growers Association, Inc., 8351 Lewiston Rd #3-304, Batavia, NY 14020. Make checks payable to **NYSVGA** with *Becker Forum* in the memo line. Or, register online at <https://nysvga.org/register-for-meeting-online/> •



✂

Registration for the 2015 Becker Forum: NY Farms to NY Plates

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendees \_\_\_\_\_ x\$95



## UPCOMING EVENTS *view all Cornell Vegetable Program upcoming events at [cvp.cce.cornell.edu](http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu)*

### 2015 Finger Lakes Produce Auction Growers Meeting

January 8, 2015 | 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Finger Lakes Produce Auction, 3691 Rt 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527



This course will educate produce growers on pest management, varieties and marketing issues in vegetables grown for auction. Topics include disease resistant varieties, pest ID, responsible spray options, food safety and attributes of successful auction growers. 2.25 DEC Category Credits in 10, 1a and 23. FREE. See the [full agenda](#) on the CVP website at [cvp.cce.cornell.edu](http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu) or call Judson Reid at 585-313-8912.

### Updated Farm Food Safety (GAPs) Training for Produce Growers

January 12-13, 2015 | 8:30 AM registration; 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM training

NYS Ag Experiment Station, 630 W North St, Food Science & Technology Building, Rm 251, Geneva, NY 14456



Are you a farmer interested in produce safety? Are your markets asking for food safety plans or third party verification? Do you want to understand produce safety issues and Good Agricultural Practices as well as the FSMA proposed Produce Rule and third party audits? If so, join us for this multi-day workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and leave with a farm food safety plan for YOUR farm! Day 1 covers: what GAPs are, how you can implement GAPs, what GAPs mean for your farm operation, FSMA overview, and information about third-party audits. Day 2 covers: writing a food safety plan for your farm.

\$60 per person includes lunch. Add \$15 for each additional attendee from the same farm. Register online at [https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/FoodSafetyTraining\\_257](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/FoodSafetyTraining_257) or call Elizabeth Newbold at 315-536-5123. Pre-register by Sunday, January 11, 2015. Space is limited!

### Winter Wednesday Vegetable and Small Fruit Production Webinars

January 14, 2015 | Current Issues in Strawberry Pest Management – Kathy Demchak, Penn State

February 11, 2015 | Soil Health Through Reduced Tillage and Cover Crops – Carol MacNeil, CVP, and Thomas Björkman, Cornell

March 4, 2015 | Using Sanitizers in Wash Water – Luke LaBorde, Penn State

March 25, 2015 | Tomato Nutrition in High Tunnels – Judson Reid, Cornell Vegetable Program, and Steve Bogash, Penn State  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM via webinar

Penn State, Cornell University, and Cooperative Extension have teamed up to present a series of webinars to keep you informed about critical production issues. This series provides convenient access to timely updates in commercial vegetable and small fruit production for extension educators, producers, and industry representatives in Pennsylvania, New York, and surrounding states.

Cost: \$10 per webinar or \$35 for the series of five webinars (payable by check or credit card). For more information on the entire series and to register, go to [Penn State Extension's website](#) or call 724-627-3745.

### 2015 Empire State Producers Expo

January 20-22, 2015

Oncenter Convention Center, Syracuse



This conference combines the major fruit, flower, vegetable, and direct marketing associations of New York State in order to provide a comprehensive trade show and educational conference for the fruit and vegetable growers of this state, as well as the surrounding states and Eastern Canada. The Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists are involved in organizing sessions on Processing Vegetables, Potatoes, Onions, Cabbage/Cole Crops, Soil Health, Managing Herbicide Resistance, Tunnels, and Ethnic Vegetables. Online registration is now available on the NYS Vegetable Growers Association website at <http://nysvga.org/expo/information/>.

### 2015 NOFA-NY Organic Farming & Gardening Winter Conference

January 23-25, 2015

Saratoga Springs Hilton, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



Join us for NOFA-NY's 33rd Annual Organic Farming & Gardening Conference. The theme for the conference — "Soil: The Root of the Movement" — honors the invaluable nature of healthy soil and highlights how it is the key to organic agriculture. Register, and see the detailed agenda of presentations and workshops at: <http://www.nofany.org/events/winter-conference> Pre-registration closes January 16. Walk-in registration available for an additional fee. Questions? Contact Stephanie at 585-271-1979 x509 or [register@nofany.org](mailto:register@nofany.org)

### 2015 Pesticide Training and Recertification Series

February 2, 9, 16, and 23 | 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

CCE Ontario County, 480 N Main St, Canandaigua, NY 14424



Anyone interested in obtaining a pesticide certification and meets the DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) experience / education requirements **OR** current applicators seeking pesticide recertification credits should attend. 2.5 recertification core credits will be available for each class. \$150 for certification, includes the training manuals and all 4 classes. (Note: The \$150 class fee does NOT include the \$100.00 exam fee.) Exam: Monday, March 2, 2015 at 6:30 PM - 11:00 PM. Recertification is \$25.00 per class.

For more info, contact CCE Ontario County, 585-394-3977 x 427 or [nea8@cornell.edu](mailto:nea8@cornell.edu). Registration form available at [www.cceontario.org](http://www.cceontario.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS *view all Cornell Vegetable Program upcoming events at [cvp.cce.cornell.edu](http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu)*

### Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting – High Tunnel School

February 4, 2015 | 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Erie County CCE, 21 South Grove St, East Aurora, NY 14052



This beginner level school is for new high tunnel growers and will focus on best management practices, with an emphasis on tomato production. The school is strongly encouraged for growers with 2 or fewer seasons of tunnel growth experience, those considering getting a tunnel in the next few seasons, or NRCS EQIP recipients. Topics will include site selection and structural considerations, crop and variety selection, cultural management, disease management, and an experienced grower panel. Lunch is included. Find [more info](#) on the CVP website. Cost for Cornell Vegetable Program Enrollees or Erie County Ag Enrollees: \$20.00 per Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting. Cost for non-enrollees: \$35 per Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting/\$65 for both Erie Vegetable Growers Meetings (see February 5). Registration with payment is required by January 30, 2015. Please [register online](#) or contact Megan Burley at 716-652-5400 x138 or [msb347@cornell.edu](mailto:msb347@cornell.edu). Location is subject to change. Check the [Erie County CCE website](#) or call 716-652-5400 x177 just prior to the meeting to confirm the location.

### Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting – Addressing Issues in Vegetable Production

February 5, 2015 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Erie County CCE, 21 South Grove St, East Aurora, NY 14052



All vegetable producers are encouraged to attend this day-long meeting featuring Cornell Plant Pathologist Sarah Pethybridge, Vegetable IPM Coordinator for the NYS IPM program Abby Seaman, and Regional Vegetable Specialists. Topics will include weed biology and management, herbicide resistance in weeds, disease biology and management, marketing, spotted wing drosophila management, beneficial insects and rotation in organic vegetable production systems. 4.0 DEC recertification credits will be offered. Cost for Cornell Vegetable Program Enrollees or Erie County Ag Enrollees: \$20.00 per Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting. Cost for non-enrollees: \$35 per Erie Vegetable Growers Meeting/\$65 for both Erie Vegetable Growers Meetings (see February 4). Registration with payment is required by January 30, 2015. Please [register online](#) or contact Megan Burley at 716-652-5400 x138 or [msb347@cornell.edu](mailto:msb347@cornell.edu). Location is subject to change. Check the [Erie County CCE website](#) or call 716-652-5400 x177 a day or two prior to attending the meeting to confirm the location.

### Niagara Vegetable Growers Meeting – Addressing Issues in Vegetable Production

February 6, 2014 | 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Niagara County CCE, 4487 Lake Ave, Lockport, NY 14094



All vegetable producers are encouraged to attend this half-day meeting featuring Cornell Plant Pathologist Sarah Pethybridge, Vegetable IPM Coordinator for the NYS IPM program Abby Seaman, and Regional Vegetable Specialists. Topics will include weed biology and management, concepts of plant pathology and disease management, variety selection and spraying in high tunnels, and how to recognize and use beneficial insects to your advantage. Lunch included if registered by January 30, 2015. 3.0 DEC recertification credits will be available for growers that attend the entire meeting. Cost for Cornell Vegetable Program enrollees or Niagara County ag enrollees: \$20.00 per attendee; \$35 per attendee if not enrolled. Register and pay online by 1/30/15 at <http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=282> or call Darcy Telenko at 716-652-5400 x178. Registration will be accepted at the door but lunch will not be guaranteed.

### Updated Farm Food Safety (GAPs) Training for Produce Growers

February 9-10, 2015 | 8:30 AM registration; 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM training

Village of Arcade Fire Department, 145 North St, Arcade, NY 14009



Are you a farmer interested in produce safety? Are your markets asking for food safety plans or third party verification? Do you want to understand produce safety issues and Good Agricultural Practices as well as the FSMA proposed Produce Rule and third party audits? If so, join us for this multi-day workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and leave with a farm food safety plan for YOUR farm! Day 1 covers: what GAPs are, how you can implement GAPs, what GAPs mean for your farm operation, FSMA overview, and information about third-party audits. Day 2 covers: writing a food safety plan for your farm.

\$60 per person includes lunch. Add \$15 for each additional attendee from the same farm. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/GAPs2015-Arcade> or contact Don Gasiewicz at 585-786-2251 x113 or [drg35@cornell.edu](mailto:drg35@cornell.edu). Pre-register by Sunday, February 8, 2015. Space is limited!

### Farm Food Safety for Post-Harvest Handling and Small-Scale, Low-Cost Facility Design

March 9, 2015 (Ithaca area - location TBD)

March 23, 2015 (Finger Lakes area - location TBD)



There will be workshops held in various locations (TBD) that will focus specifically on washing/packing facility low-tech & low-cost design for very small farms. Topics will also cover wash water sanitizer usage, sanitizer level monitoring, handling and other aspects of post-harvest handling using farm food safety good agricultural practices.

More information on registration, exact locations, and several other dates/locations for similar workshops will be available soon. Contact Robert Hadad at [rg26@cornell.edu](mailto:rg26@cornell.edu) or 585-739-4065 for more info.

# Advanced Lines from the Cornell Potato Breeding Program

Walter DeJong, Cornell, 12/3/14 (edited by C. MacNeil, CCE CVP)

(This is a summary of info presented by Walter DeJong, Cornell potato breeder, at the December 3, 2014 Cornell Potato Variety/Line Show & Tell in Ithaca. Some NY potato certified seed growers may have seed, or very small quantities may be available from Cornell on request. Contact Carol MacNeil at [crm6@cornell.edu](mailto:crm6@cornell.edu) or 585-394-3977 x406.) For the New York Certified Seed Potato 2014 Crop Directory, Grower Info and Varieties Grown, go to: [http://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc\\_49.pdf](http://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc_49.pdf) The info below is based on research trials conducted at Cornell farms, and in growers' fields, by Walter DeJong and Don Halseth, Cornell. When trying a new variety always do so on a small scale!)

## **NY140 (NY121 x NY115, 1998)**

Late season; dual purpose chip and tablestock. High yields of large tubers; lightly textured skin. Susceptible to common scab, comparable to Katahdin.

- Tuber dormancy about 6 weeks longer than Atlantic. Specific gravity has averaged 0.012 less than Atlantic, which will limit where it can be grown for chips. Chip quality has generally been somewhat better than Snowden. Good resistance to blackspot bruise. Some internal necrosis and hollow heart.
- Resistant to races Ro1 and Ro2 of the golden nematode. Moderate resistance to late blight as well as early blight in PA trials in 2007 - 2009.

## **NY141 (R6-4 x NY115, 1998)**

Early to mid-season tablestock, large, tubers not as bright white as some.

- Tompkins County marketable yields over 12 years have averaged 99% of Atlantic.
- Wayne County (muck) yield over four years averaged 99% of Atlantic.
- Typically 2 to 3% knobs. Sets about 7 tubers per ft, with an average weight of 6.1 ounces. Tuber dormancy - 2 weeks longer than Atlantic. Very good resistance to blackspot bruise.
- Good resistance to common scab. Resistant to race Ro1 of the golden nematode.

## **NY148 (NY128 x Marcy, 2003)**

Late season, high gravity chipstock, quite susceptible to blackspot bruise

- Tompkins County yields over seven years, 16 trials, averaged 112% of Atlantic.
- Wyoming and Steuben County yields over five years averaged 96% of Atlantic.
- Tuber size similar to Snowden. In 2010 in one trial, two-thirds of tubers exhibited internal necrosis. Scurfy skin. Tuber dormancy comparable to Atlantic.



Chip color from 44°F storage not quite as good as Snowden.

- Good resistance to common scab to date. Resistant to potato virus Y. Some resistance to early and late blight in PA in 2012. Resistant to race Ro1 of the golden nematode.

## **NY150 (NY121 x Salem, 2005)**

Niche market, early season tablestock. Produces many small tubers with bright white skin. Need closer chains to harvest.

- In 13 Tompkins County trials yields, tubers 1 – 1.9" averaged 171 cwt/acre; between 1.9 – 2.5" averaged 152 cwt/acre. Only 17 cwt/acre over 2.5".
- Wayne County in 2014, tubers 1 – 2.5" yielded 309 cwt/acre.
- Few internal or external defects, and retain appearance after long storage. Specific gravity averaged 0.010 less than Atlantic.
- Intermediate reaction to scab. Resistant to potato virus Y. Some resistance to late blight in PA in 2012 and 2013. Resistant to race Ro1 of the golden nematode.

**NY151 (NY121 x Salem, 2005)**. Late season, white tablestock with good yield and relatively smooth skin.

- Tompkins County marketable yields over five years averaged 106% of Atlantic.
- Low levels of defects, but 23% brown center in one trial out of ten in 2014. Specific gravity is low. Tubers do not darken or slough appreciably after boiling. Tuber dormancy comparable to Atlantic.
- Moderate resistance to common scab. Resistant to race Ro1 of the golden nematode. Moderate resistance to late and early blight.

## **NY154 (B38-14 x Marcy)**

Late season chipstock, good chip color, better than Snowden, good yield, few defects. Specific gravity 0.007 less than Atlantic. Good resistance to scab. **Susceptible to race Ro1 of the golden nematode.** ●



## USDA Program for Producers of Crops Not Covered by Crop Insurance

Andy Novakovic, Cornell, with info from USDA and Dianne Button, FSA, Canandaigua, NY

USDA recently announced the release of a reinvigorated Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). This is a result of opportunities created by the Farm Bill of 2014, and a general interest in covering more crops under the increasingly important policy umbrella known as crop insurance. NY legislators have been pushing for more creativity to provide safety net programs for producers of horticultural crops that do not have other crop insurance alternatives. Crop insurance is currently not available for all crops. For vegetable crops covered by crop insurance, it is often not available in all counties.

The new program provides better coverage options, and attempts to be especially friendly to smaller scale or "limited income" farmers. The Web tool, available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap) allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for coverage. It also gives them an opportunity to explore a variety of options and levels to determine the best protection level for their operation. The ability of the tool to provide complete information hinges on FSA having determined factors for expected county yield and market prices. This information is not available for all crops. For a detailed fact sheet on the new NAP program see [The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for 2015 and Subsequent Years](#) on the CVP website at [cvp.cce.cornell.edu](http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu) under the Business category.

If the application deadline for an eligible crop has already passed, producers will have until January 14, 2015, to choose expanded coverage through the new Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. The deadline for garlic is passed. For very early spring planted vegetables the deadline is February 1, with later planted crops having a later deadline. See [New York State – NAP Deadlines by Crop, Crop year 2015](#) at the CVP website.

If you have questions, contact the nearest FSA office. Go to: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=NY> ●

## USDA Declares Disaster for 7 Western NY Counties Due to Snowstorm

US Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, and Representatives Brian Higgins and Chris Collins

On December 10th US Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, and Representatives Brian Higgins and Chris Collins, announced that the US Department of Agriculture has approved primary and contiguous disaster designations for seven Western New York counties, due to losses caused by excessive snow, flooding, freeze, and high winds that occurred from November 17 - 24, 2014. The Secretarial natural disaster declaration will apply for the following counties: Genesee, Erie, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming.

This disaster declaration means our Upstate farmers and growers will have access to critical emergency loans and more, at a time when they need it the most," said Senator Schumer. "It will enable those who lost greenhouses, barns, processing facilities, harvesting equipment, animals, trees, vines, and crops to access resources that will help them as they recover and begin planning for a new growing season.

Farmers in the eligible counties will have eight months from the date of the Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. The programs available with a USDA disaster declaration are as follows:

- [Emergency Farm Loans](#) - low interest loans.
- [Disaster Set-Aside Program](#) - borrowers located in designated disaster areas or contiguous counties who are unable to make their scheduled payment on any FSA debt can set-aside one payment after a disaster. ●

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## VEGEdge

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VegEdge is the award-winning newsletter produced by the Cornell Vegetable Program in Western New York. It provides readers with information on upcoming meetings, pesticide updates, pest management strategies, cultural practices, marketing ideas and research results from Cornell and Cornell Cooperative Extension. VegEdge is produced every few weeks, with frequency increasing leading up to and during the growing season.

### VEGETABLE SPECIALISTS

**Robert Hadad** | 585-739-4065 cell | 716-433-8839 x228 office | [rgh26@cornell.edu](mailto:rgh26@cornell.edu)  
food safety & quality, organic, business & marketing, and fresh market vegetables

**Christy Hoepting** | 585-721-6953 cell | 585-798-4265 x38 office | [cah59@cornell.edu](mailto:cah59@cornell.edu)  
onions, cabbage and pesticide management

**Julie Kikkert** | 585-313-8160 cell | 585-394-3977 x404 office | [jrk2@cornell.edu](mailto:jrk2@cornell.edu)  
processing crops (sweet corn, snap beans, lima beans, peas, beets, and carrots)

**Carol MacNeil** | 585-313-8796 cell | 585-394-3977 x406 office | [crm6@cornell.edu](mailto:crm6@cornell.edu)  
potatoes, dry beans, and soil health

**Judson Reid** | 585-313-8912 cell | 315-536-5123 office | [jer11@cornell.edu](mailto:jer11@cornell.edu)  
greenhouse production, small farming operations, and fresh market vegetables

**Darcy Telenko** | 716-697-4965 cell | 716-652-5400 x178 office | [dep10@cornell.edu](mailto:dep10@cornell.edu)  
soil health, weed management, plant pathology

### PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

**Elizabeth Buck** | 607-425-3494 cell | [emb273@cornell.edu](mailto:emb273@cornell.edu)

**John Gibbons** | 716-474-5238 cell | [jpg10@cornell.edu](mailto:jpg10@cornell.edu)

**Cordelia Hall** | [ch776@cornell.edu](mailto:ch776@cornell.edu)

**Nelson Hoover**

### ADMINISTRATION

**Angela Parr** | 585-394-3977 x426 office | [aep63@cornell.edu](mailto:aep63@cornell.edu)

**Steve Reiners** | [sr43@cornell.edu](mailto:sr43@cornell.edu)

**Mark Giles** | [fmg4@cornell.edu](mailto:fmg4@cornell.edu)

For more information about our program, email  
[cce-cvp@cornell.edu](mailto:cce-cvp@cornell.edu) or visit us at [CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU](http://CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU)



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**Cooperative Extension**  
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