

Now is the time to evaluate the effectiveness of your weed management program. Weed management is as important as nutrient and disease programs.

**PAGE 1**



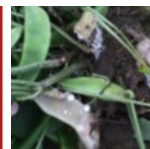
Early Blight on eggplant? The fungus that causes Early Blight on tomato has produced foliar symptoms on eggplant in local fields recently.

**PAGE 3**



Bacterial canker on tomato has been seen at several locations in our region. Whitish to yellow spotting will appear on the fruit.

**PAGE 4**



White mold is starting to show up in some early lima bean plantings. Avoid further irrigation in these fields to minimize mold development.

**PAGE 5**



# VEGEEdge

OUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

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**Cornell University**  
Cooperative Extension  
Cornell Vegetable Program

*Photo: Judson Reid*

## How is Your Weed Management Program Working? Now is the Time to Scout, Identify Escapes, and Rate the Effectiveness of Your Programs

*Darcy Telenko, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program*

A weed management plan for each field is just as important as a nutrient and disease programs to maximize crop potential, reduce weed seed production, and maximize effectiveness of management tactics within the same growing season. Now is the time to evaluate the effectiveness of your weed management program. Many factors can contribute to the presence of weeds after a herbicide application or cultivation treatment. Scouting is the only way to know which weeds escaped treatment.

Scouting will aid in documenting changes in weed populations overtime and assist in directing future weed management programs. Scouting and creating a weed map in a field should occur at least two times: 1) early season soon after planting to evaluate the success of



**Figure 1.** High broadleaf and grass weed pressure in lettuce (left), zucchini (middle), and melon (right). *Photos: Darcy Telenko, CVP*

*continued on page 3*



**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:  
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# Contents

## Contact Us

Cornell Vegetable Program .....08

## Crops

Crop Insights.....04

Eggplant: Early Blight on Eggplant?.....03

Potato/Tomato Late Blight Risk .....02

Sweet Corn Trap Network Report, 8/18/15 .....05

## General

How is Your Weed Management Program Working? .....01

## Events

Organic Management of Swede Midge Twilight Meeting .....06

Fresh Market Potato Varieties, Late Blight, and Insect Management Meeting ..06

Soil Health Field Days .....06

## Weather Charts

.....07

*The next issue of VegEdge will be produced August 26, 2015.*

## Late Blight Risk

*Carol MacNeil and John Gibbons, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program*

There is a new confirmation of late blight (LB) in our area, in Erie County. All of the LB samples in NYS and adjacent areas that have completed testing have been US-23, sensitive to mefenoxam fungicides (Ridomil mixes, etc.).

Note: Do not use IPM's NEWA website, Simcast page, for LB Decision Support System (DSS)

blight unit (BU) accumulations, since inconsistencies in the information continue.

According to the LB DSS website blight unit (BU) accumulations during the past week have generally been high.

In the few cases where the 30 BU threshold has not been reached it will

get there in another day. Long dew periods during the night contribute to LB pressure.

The BUs in the chart assume the use of chlorothalonil on 8/11, and a susceptible variety. If you are in a higher pressure area, or have parts of fields protected by woods, etc, use a fungicide with a longer residual, such as Previcur Flex, Presidio, or Ranman, with a mixing partner, or Revus Top. If you have tubers sizing up use of a fungicide with activity against tuber blight is recommended, such as: Presidio or the high rate of Ranman, with a mixing partner; or Forum with a mixing partner; or Gavel or Zing! If you are interested in info about LB contact Carol MacNeil at: [crm6@cornell.edu](mailto:crm6@cornell.edu) or 585-313-8796. ●

**Late Blight Risk Chart, 8/18/15<sup>3</sup>**

Location <sup>1</sup>	Blight Units <sup>2</sup> 8/12-8/18	Blight Units <sup>2</sup> 8/19-8/21	Location <sup>1</sup>	Blight Units <sup>2</sup> 8/12-8/18	Blight Units <sup>2</sup> 8/19-8/21
Appleton	31	21	Kendall	42	16
Arkport	54	21	Lodi	31	17
Baldwinsville	36	16	Lock/Niag F.	45	15
Bergen	33	15	Lyndonville	45	16
Buffalo	34	13	Medina	38	16
Butler	44	16	Penn Yan	52	20
Ceres	50	21	Rochester	51	15
Elba	39	16	Sodus	43	17
Farmington	38	16	Versailles	23	25
Gainesville	56	21	Wellsville	45	21
Geneva	43	16	Williamson	44	17

1 Past week Simcast Blight Units (BU)

2 Three day predicted Simcast Blight Units (BUs)

3 Threshold = 30 BUs (susceptible variety, last fungicide-shorter residual)

current season program, and 2) at or near harvest to help predict weed control practices for next year. Ideally scouting should continue at regular intervals throughout the season so weed escapes can be addressed in a timely manner before they go to seed. When scouting for weeds you should record weed species, pattern across the field, weed size and density, if they are alive or dead and if alive are they exhibiting herbicide symptomology. See below for a way to rate weed species within a field.

Weeds may have escaped management for several reasons including selection of herbicides with marginal activity on weeds that were present, poor timing of application of the herbicide (weeds were too large or seeds escaped exposure to application and germinated), environmental factors re-

duced herbicide effectiveness such as soil moisture, rain event, and soil characteristics (pH, texture and amount of organic matter), or application issues (sprayer skips, poor calibration, poor spray coverage). In addition, a number of weed species have adapted special reproductive characteristics that make them difficult to control. See table for examples and cultivations strategies that may be used to improve control.

A good weed management program should consist of mechanical, cultural, and biological (if available) tactics in addition to herbicides. A combination of diverse tactics will reduce selection pressure imposed by any single practice, such as the exclusive use of one herbicide, and reduces risk of selecting difficult to control weeds, such as herbicide-resistant weeds. Mechanical weed control tactics includes pre-plant

tillage, strip or zone tillage, in-crop cultivation, post-harvest mowing and/or tillage and hand-weeding before seed set. Cultural weed control tactics include crop rotation, choice of hybrid or variety, early or late planting, nutrient management, row spacing and plant populations, seed bed preparation (stale-seed bed), harvesting techniques, and cover crops. Herbicide tactics should utilize multiple herbicides with different mechanisms of action, mixes, sequences, and variability across seasons.

Observant records on weed populations, including their distribution and density, will aid in documenting if changes are occurring in a field and allow for you to make necessary adjustments for future weed management plans.

Reproductive characteristics that make weeds difficult to control and ways to improve control		
Reproductive Characteristics	Weed Examples	Strategies To Improve Control
<b>Roots at nodes</b>	Crabgrass, large	Cultivate prior to rooting at nodes
<b>Produces rhizomes and/or stolons</b>	Johnsongrass, Bermuda-grass, Quackgrass, Field bindweed	Cultivate and hand remove many times over the season
<b>Roots along stem</b>	Nightshade, eastern black Pigweed species	Cultivate and kill when less than 2 inches tall
<b>Tubers for reproduction</b>	Nutsedge, yellow or purple	Cultivate several times over the season
<b>Capable of surviving cultivation</b>	Pigweed species	Cultivate and control when less than 2 inches tall
<b>Succulent, resistant to drying out</b>	Purslane, common or pink	Cultivate, uproot when soil is dry to cause weed to dry out and die
<b>Establishes in wet areas of fields</b>	Smartweed	Cultivate sequentially
<b>Capable of re-sprouting from roots</b>	Perennial vines Nightshade, eastern black	Till to move roots to soil surface and cultivate sequentially

Source: Finney, D. M. and Creamer N. G. 2008. Weed Management on Organic Farms. North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. 01/2008-BS E06-45788

## Early Blight on Eggplant?

Judson Reid, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

The fungus that causes Early Blight (*Alternaria solani*) on tomato has produced foliar symptoms on eggplant in local fields recently (see photo). Although not as commonly destructive to eggplant as to tomatoes, *Alternaria* can produce fruit rots which will reduce yield. Materials labeled for control include Bravo (3D PHI), Cabrio EG (0 D PHI) and Flint (3 D PHI). Organic growers may use approved copper sprays. More importantly the appearance of this disease on eggplant reminds us of the importance of rotation away from related crops for as long as possible. Related crops include tomatoes, peppers, and potatoes. The effect of rotation exceeds that of any fungicide in soil borne diseases such as Early Blight.



Alternaria on eggplant. Photo: Judson Reid, Cornell Vegetable Program

## COLE CROPS

Mark your calendars! **Organic Management of Swede Midge Twilight Meeting**, September 1, 2015, 6:30 pm at Muddy Fingers Farm, 3859 Dugue Road, Hector, NY. CCE Cornell Vegetable Program will share their recent research findings regarding management of this serious pest of at-risk small-scale organic Brassica growers, including a demonstration of insect exclusion netting.

## DRY BEANS

The earliest fields are maturing, while beans in later fields are growing and filling pods. The latest beans have pin pods and small pods. The cooler weather we had when some beans were flowering reduced the amount of blossom drop but some pods aren't completely filled.

### Western bean cutworm

(WBC) moth catches on Aug. 18 were down a lot. It is not understood at this time why the date of high moth catch varied from July 28 to August 11. Split or extended high moth catches may be due to

varying temperatures and WBC development. A cumulative catch of 100 moths is the threshold of concern, indicating where corn, and then bean pod scouting, should occur. Pod damage becomes visible 10-20 days after peak moth catch. Not all the pod damage shown in the photo last week was caused by WBC. Some was likely caused by European corn borer. Smaller WBC larvae may cut off pin pods, but soon they begin feeding on pods, causing a round hole which goes all the way through the pod wall into the pod cavity. Once inside they feed on the bean seed. Larvae move down to the ground at dawn. See the close-up photo of pod damage. If bean pod damage is seen, or if there's 5% infestation in nearby corn, an insecticide spray is recommended. Pyrethroids like Warrior are recommended in conventional production. Entrust is recommended in organic production. Jim Sattleberg, large MI dry bean grower and processor/elevator (Everbest Organic) says any WBC damage is sorted out by routine use of the electric eye, in addition to gravity separation.

**Western Bean Cutworm Moth Catches - 2015\***

Location	28-Jul	4-Aug	11-Aug	Season Total	Comments
Caledonia	49	5	5	77	Trap obstructed
Geneva	30	15	52	103	
Lima	53	17	45	155	2% egg masses in corn
Riga	92	50	14	195	2% egg masses in corn
Sparta	9	14	25	51	Low catch
Stafford	84	23	13	143	
Attica	67	204	84	384	
Wyoming	134	155	73	502	high catch from 21-Jul
Avoca	33	72	30	138	possible pod damage
Wayland	12	15	5	35	Low catch

WBC moth catches in nearby sweet corn

Pavilion	120	136	184	466	1% egg masses in corn
Bellona	NA	33	108	141	

\*Earlier dates and data not shown



Actual WBC dry bean pod damage. Photo: C. Difonzo, Michigan State

## FRESH MARKET FIELD NOTES

Aphids are showing up in brassicas especially Brussels sprouts as well as lettuce. Slugs are problematic with the cool wet nights. Even in high tunnels, slugs are causing damage to greens, brassicas, and tomatoes.

Melons are really taking a hit from downy mildew and the wet conditions have made for bland tasting fruit. Some drier areas have produced sweeter melons when the foliage was protected from disease.

Cucumber prices are high at the wholesale level terminal markets, with prices for good quality 1 1/9bu between \$24-\$28. Having a good DM and bacterial protection strategy with plants spaced narrow enough for spray equipment to reach can be profitable for this time of year. Good weed management is also critical. Late season cucumbers should be well planned for and not an afterthought. Few late season slicing cucumbers and picklers are grown in August across the state or region.

Tomato bacterial issues still a concern. Canker has been seen at several locations. Please refer to the Cornell Vegetable MD website for a detailed article on tomato bacterial diseases: [http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Tom\\_Bacter\\_06.html](http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Tom_Bacter_06.html)



Bacterial canker on tomato with necrosis on leaves (left), canker of the stem with internal rusty discoloration (middle), and whitish to yellow spotting on fruit (right). Photos: Tom Zitter, Cornell

continued on next page

## ONIONS

Looks like the crop is going to make good size. Many fields are still standing with healthy foliage and lodging just beginning. The rule of thumb is that onions should dry down naturally, not from diseases or insects. If diseases and/or OT pressure is high, it would be sensible to include fungicides and/or insecticides with the sprout inhibitor spray. If thrips and diseases are in check, sprout inhibitor is all you need.

**Apply maleic hydrazide (MH) to storage bound onions when 50% tops are down and plants have 5-8 green leaves** to ensure translocation into the bulb. If MH is applied too late when the onion has less than 3 green leaves, it will not be absorbed properly and the onions will start sprouting in storage. If MH is applied to an onion that is still producing new leaves, cell division will be stopped but individual cells will continue to grow in size. This will produce spongy bulbs where the scales pull away from each other. **Humid weather and temperatures less than 75°F are ideal for applying MH.** Low humidity and high temperatures (i.e. > 80 – 85°F) may cause MH to crystallize on the leaves, thereby inhibiting uptake. Rain within 24 h after application also reduces uptake.

Do not pull onions and leave them in the hot sun when temperatures are in the high 80s and into the 90s, because they can get **sunscauld**, especially if the relative humidity is high and they are pulled on the green side. Secondary bacterial pathogens invade tissue damaged by sunscald resulting in rotten bulbs. A common technique used for field drying is to orient the pulled onions so that the leaves lay over top of the bulbs. Some small-scale growers move the pulled onions with the tops on into a greenhouse or high tunnel to dry. Temperatures should be held below 85°F, which will probably require leaving everything wide open. Black shade curtain/cloth over the house can also help to moderate temperature. Ensure good air movement. Do not harvest onions when conditions reach 90°F and 90% relative humidity, because **black mold** could develop. Harvest dry onions during the cooler part of the day as long as they are not wet from dew or rain or wait until a cooler day.

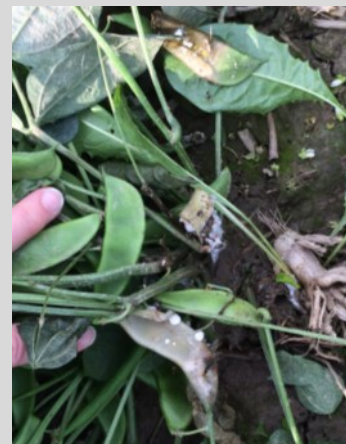
## POTATO

Rains over the past week have been spotty but some areas were hit hard. More vine-killing is occurring and harvest of the main crop is beginning. Be sure to continue applying fungicides regularly for **late blight (LB)**, and delay harvest, until foliage and stems are dead and dry. Copper is adequate once most foliage is dying.

**Pink rot (PR)** is a possibility in fields that have had too much rain, especially if they have a history of the disease. It can enter lenticels in wet conditions to infect tubers, or can get started on stems at the soil line and run down stolons to tubers. The following fungicides can help suppress PR: Ranman or Phostrol, each with a mixing partner or in combination, or either of those fungicides with a mefenoxam (Ridomil, etc.) fungicide. Note: A few years ago about 50% of PR infected tuber samples from potato farms showed resistance to mefenoxam. Such an application will also provide protection from late blight. A combined approach of varietal resistance, crop rotation, fungicides, and water management, however, is needed against this difficult disease. If you have PR wait until tubers breakdown in the field to avoid harvesting them. NJ is now reporting bacterial **blackleg, Erwinia Dickeya**, in some fields. If you had signs of this disease in your field there's a greater chance that you'll see **soft rot** in tubers, so dig some hills and check for it. Keep harvested tubers from any fields suspected of tuber disease dry. To avoid condensation don't bring in air any warmer than the tuber temperature.

## PROCESSING CROPS

**White mold** is starting to show up in some of the early lima bean plantings, which are nearing harvest. Avoid further irrigation in these fields to minimize mold development. Look for wilted, brown leaves or stems and then follow the stem to the base of the plant which will often reveal cottony mounds of fungal mycelia (photo). The fungus that causes white mold in beans, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, first colonizes senescing flowers and then spreads to stems, leaves and pods. Preventative fungicides must be applied during bloom. Take note of fields where white mold is present and avoid planting susceptible crops for at least 5 years. **Tan spot** of lima beans continues to be observed, with as many as 95% of leaves in some fields having at least one spot per leaf. Despite this, the plant canopies are dense and dark green. It is not yet known if leaf spots in lima beans reduce yields. Research continues at Cornell on this disease.



Mounds of white mycelia on lima bean pods and stems are diagnostic of white mold disease.  
Photo: Julie Kikkert, Cornell Vegetable Program

## WNY Sweet Corn Trap Network Report, 8/18/15

Marion Zuefle, NYS IPM Program; <http://sweetcorn.nysipm.cornell.edu>

Twenty-two sites reporting this week. Ten sites reporting European corn borer (ECB)-E and ten sites reporting ECB-Z. Corn earworm (CEW) was caught at ten sites with seven sites high enough to require either a 6, 5, or 4 day spray schedule (see table on next page). Thirteen sites reporting Fall armyworm (FAW), which has shown a slight in-

crease over the last week. Western bean cutworm (WBC) was still caught at eighteen sites but the average catch was down significantly from the previous week.

Fields that are in whorl or early tassel stage should be scouted for WBC egg masses with a 4% threshold for pro-

cessing sweet corn and a 1% threshold for fresh market sweet corn. It takes between 5-7 days WBC eggs to hatch. It is critical that sprays are timed before the larvae have a chance to enter the ear. The egg mass will become purple in color approximately 24 hours before egg hatch. Watch a video from

Purdue at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rlt9NftKTjA&feature=youtu.be> on scouting for WBC egg masses and larvae. Corn in the tassel emergence stage should be scouted for ECB and FAW damage and larvae. 🍷

#### WNY Pheromone Trap Catches: August 18, 2015

Location	ECB-E	ECB-Z	CEW	FAW	WBC	WBC to Date
Baldwinsville (Onondaga)	0	0	0	7	23	136
Batavia (Genesee)	5	0	9	0	3	22
Belfast	4	0	0	1	0	4
Bellona (Yates)	14	5	0	40	53	194
Eden (Erie)	0	3	0	10	65	941
Farmington (Ontario)	1	3	0	0	1	20
Hamlin (Monroe)	5	0	1	4	45	88
LeRoy (Genesee)	0	3	3	0	37	74
Lockport (Niagara)	0	6	4	0	4	29
Pavilion	0	1	1	65	47	513
Penn Yan (Yates)	2	9	2	12	1	65
Seneca Castle (Ontario)	4	0	2	0	2	18
Spencerport (Monroe)	2	7	6	1	4	8
Waterport (Orleans)	0	0	1	0	0	7
Williamson (Wayne)	0	0	0	0	0	0

ECB - European Corn

CEW - Corn Earworm

FAW - Fall Armyworm

WBC - Western Bean

NA - not available

DD - Degree Day  
(modified base)

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

### Organic Management of Swede Midge Twilight Meeting

September 1, 2015 | 6:30 PM

Muddy Fingers Farm, 3859 Dugue Rd, Hector, NY



Christy Hoepting and Cordelia Hall will share their recent research findings regarding management of this serious pest of at-risk small-scale organic Brassica growers, including a demonstration of insect exclusion netting. Contact Christy at 585-721-6953 with questions.

### Fresh Market Potato Varieties, Late Blight, and Insect Management Meeting

September 2, 2015 | 5:30 PM - 8:45 PM

Williams Farms, 5077 Russell Rd, Marion, NY 14505



View standard and new fresh market potato varieties and lines in potato breeder Walter DeJong's Cornell trial, hear how to reduce risk in this year's late blight epidemic from Plant Pathologist Bill Fry, and discuss Colorado potato beetle and other insect management. 1.25 DEC credits and CCA credits will be available. *Sponsored by Bayer CropScience.*

Cost: Enrolled in the Cornell Vegetable Program - \$10; Not enrolled in the CVP - \$15. **Preregister for dinner by Thursday, August 27** – Carol MacNeil at [crm6@cornell.edu](mailto:crm6@cornell.edu) or 585-313-8796. If you have special needs: Call a week ahead so we can accommodate you.

**Interested in sponsor opportunities?** Contact Angela Parr at: [aep63@cornell.edu](mailto:aep63@cornell.edu)

### WNY Soil Health Field Day

September 2, 2015 | 12:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Duppengiesser Dairy Co., 7835 Butler Rd, Perry, NY



Nationally recognized soil health experts Ray Archuleta, "Ray the Soils Guy," NRCS, and Frank Gibbs, known for his "tile line smoke machine," formerly NRCS, will be speaking on good soil health, and demonstrating how to evaluate your soil's health. Cover crop planting equipment will be on display and discussed, and there will be a Cover Crop Walk. \$10 if preregistered by 8/19, \$15 at the door, for the afternoon and dinner.

An Advanced Soil Health Morning Session will be held from 10 AM – noon, limited to 50 preregistrations. Bring a root ball, your soil health test results, and questions for discussion. \$50 for the Advanced Morning Session, lunch, afternoon, and dinner.

**Preregistration or questions:** Wyoming Co. SWCD at: [wcsxcd@frontiernet.net](mailto:wcsxcd@frontiernet.net) or 585-786-5070. *Sponsored by WNY Crop Management Assoc., USDA, and American Farmland Trust*

### Central NY Soil Health Field Day

September 4, 2015 | 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Cuddeback Farms, 466 State Rte 38A, Skaneateles, NY 13152



Nationally recognized soil health experts Ray Archuleta, "Ray the Soils Guy," NRCS, and Frank Gibbs, known for his "tile line smoke machine," formerly NRCS, will be speaking on good soil health, and demonstrating how to evaluate your soil's health. Also, taking advantage of the Cornell Soil health Test, and interseeding cover crops into cash crops. FREE but **pre-register by September 1** to Jason Cuddeback, Cayuga County SWCD, [jcuddeback@cayugaswcd.org](mailto:jcuddeback@cayugaswcd.org) or 315-252-4171 x3.

## Weather Charts

John Gibbons, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

### Weekly Weather Summary: 8/11 – 8/17/15

Location	Rainfall (inch)		Temp (°F)	
	Week	Month August	Max	Min
Albion	0.17	2.49	87	54
Appleton, North	0.36	1.16	86	54
Baldwinsville	0.99	1.27	88	58
Buffalo*	2.95	3.45	85	52
Butler	0.96	1.94	91	54
Ceres	0.62	1.68	86	52
Elba	0.65	2.57	83	47
Farmington	0.83	1.53	88	51
Gainesville	0.44	1.58	83	45
Geneva	0.51	0.68	88	55
Lodi	0.72	0.86	92	51
Niagara Falls*	0.69	1.51	86	51
Penn Yan*	0.70	0.90	88	56
Rochester*	0.37	2.84	88	53
Romulus	NA	NA	89	54
Silver Creek	0.18	1.17	82	54
Sodus	0.94	3.13	89	54
Versailles	NA	NA	85	49
Williamson	0.83	4.96	88	54

### Accumulated Growing Degree Days (AGDD)

Base 50°F: April 1 – August 17, 2015

Location	2015	2014	2013
Albion	1871	1691	1811
Appleton, North	1619	1495	1614
Baldwinsville	1877	1831	1864
Buffalo	1912	1749	1916
Butler	1886	1782	NA
Ceres	1651	1510	1531
Elba	1434	1367	1608
Farmington	1787	1677	1714
Gainesville	1479	1333	NA
Geneva	1826	1724	1801
Lodi	1991	1883	2004
Niagara Falls	1787	1676	1818
Penn Yan	1939	1833	1886
Rochester	1976	1834	1968
Romulus	1866	1770	NA
Silver Creek	1757	1667	1811
Sodus	1671	1624	NA
Versailles	1752	1630	1780
Williamson	1710	1618	1785

\* Airport stations

\*\* Data from other station/airport sites is at: <http://newa.cornell.edu/> Weather Data, Daily Summary and Degree Days.

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**Cornell University**  
**Cooperative Extension**  
**Cornell Vegetable Program**

480 North Main Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

# VEGEdge

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

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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.



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