



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

Capital District Vegetable & Small Fruit Program of Albany,
Columbia, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Washington, Warren, Greene,
Saratoga, Schenectady, Fulton and Montgomery Counties

Agricultural & Life Sciences Building
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The Capital District Vegetable and Small Fruit Team Proudly Hosts:

Making Reduced Tillage Work on Your Farm – A Videoconference

Friday, February 11, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

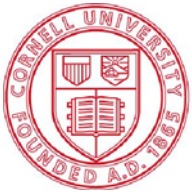
**Columbia County Cornell Cooperative Extension Center
479 Route 66, Hudson, NY 12534**

**Join us for a videoconference with four other locations from around
NYS State and New England:**

AGENDA

- 9:00 am Registration
- 9:15 am Welcome- Anu Rangarajan,
- 9:30 am DZT Equipment Options and Attachments Growers compare brands
- 10:00 am Incorporating Cover Crops into Reduced Tillage Systems: selection, establishment and management
- 10:30 am Perennial Weed Management and Killing Cover Crops- Robin Bellinder, CU and Rich Bonnano, UMASS
- 11:00 am Growers experiences with Fertility Management and RT
- 12:00 pm LUNCH provided and discussion at each site (disconnect)
- 1:00pm Local Discussion and evaluation across sites
- 2:30 pm. Adjourn

Pre-registration is requested by Wednesday, February 9, 2011. Costs: \$10.00 per person (includes lunch). To register or for more information, please contact Chuck Bornt, 518-272-4210, ext 125 or 518-859-6213.



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Making Reduced Tillage Work on Your Vegetable Farm

Anu Rangarajan, Betsy Leonard, Helene Dillard and Meg McGrath, Cornell,
Carol MacNeil, CCE – Cornell Vegetable Program,
Chuck Bornt, CCE – Capital District Vegetable & Small Fruit Program,
Sandy Menasha, CCE – Suffolk Co,
Ruth Hazzard and Andy Cavanagh, University of Massachusetts

Growers who have tested deep zone tillage have found savings in labor (between 25 and 60%) and fuel costs (between 25 and 70%) compared to their conventional tillage systems (moldboard plow plus other passes). While cost savings are significant, growers report the most important benefit of reduced tillage (RT) is the greater flexibility afforded early in the season. By speeding up primary tillage and field preparation, growers can be timelier with planting, be more efficient with labor, have lower equipment maintenance needs, and improve early-season cash flow. All growers we have worked with plan to expand RT acres on their farms. In some cases, growers have been able to expand total farmed acres because of the efficiencies and benefits afforded by reduced tillage systems.

Trying to find equipment to test RT has been a barrier for many growers. To help, we have identified several equipment dealers around NY who will have deep zone builder units available in the summer of 2010 for rental. Cornell also has three two row units available. Spring will be here before long!

The NY Farm Viability Institute has funded this project for 2011. Cost-share money for equipment rentals will be available. Questions? Contact Betsy Leonard, Project Coordinator for Expanding Use of Reduced Tillage Systems on NY Vegetable Farms, 607-254-8943, bai1@cornell.edu.

Do an On-Farm Trial

If you are interested in testing reduced tillage on your farm, please work with your local Cornell cooperative extension educators. Eastern NY: Chuck Bornt, 518-272-4210, ext 125, cdb13@cornell.edu. Western NY Carol MacNeil, 585-394-3977 x406, crm6@cornell.edu. Long Island: Sandy Menasha, 631-727-7850, srm45@cornell.edu. The NY Farm Viability Institute has funded this project for 2011. Cost-share money for equipment rentals will be available.

Local Zone Till Rental and Loaner Units available for on farm trials.

Capital Tractor

Dick Skellie
1135 State Rt. 29,
Greenwich New York 12834
Phone: 518-692-9611
Toll Free: 866-30-TRACT
rskellie@capitaltractorinc.com

Eastern NY- Cornell 2 row zone builder,
contact Chuck Bornt,
cdb13@cornell.edu ,
518-272-4210, ext 125
or 518-859-6213 (cell)

Columbia Tractor

Stu Kinne
841 Route 9 H
Claverack, NY
Phone: (518) 828-1781
skinne@columbiatractor.com

Lakeland Equipment

Chad Walker
Hall, NY
Chad Walker
585-526-6325
chadwalker@lakelandequipment.com

This project is possible in part due to grant funds from the NY Farm Viability Institute, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Specialty Crop Grant and USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment