

Capital Area Ag & Hort e-Newsletter Cornell Cooperative Extension

November 5, 2011

The e-Newsletter's goal is to provide a venue for communication about upcoming meetings and other pertinent information.

Newsletter includes:

- Calendar of Events – please note some interesting new inclusions
- Opportunities

The **Beginning Farmer Barrier Id Survey – Phase 2** has finally opened! Would you please help us learn from aspiring and beginning farmers, and beginning farmer service providers by taking the survey at

https://cornell.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_e5s9Jknd8dj43IM

The survey includes questions for aspiring farmers, this includes youth as young as 10! Don't forget to share this survey with your local 4H, FFA, ag ed teacher, or other youth outreach program manager.

The information gathered in this (and Phase 1) of the Beginning Farmer Barrier ID survey will be freely shared with beginning farmer service organizations throughout the nation. More information about the Northeast Beginning Farmer Project and our work is available at <http://nebeginningfarmers.org/> Thank you so much for your time and help! Michelle Podolec, Cornell Small Farms Program, NE Beginning Farmer Project, 15b Plant Science, Ithaca, NY 14853 or 607.255.9911

Attention: Donations to Farm Families - Farm Credit East in concert with United Way is coordinating an effort to help farm families hurt by Irene and Lee with personal donations (up to \$500) to make their holiday season a little brighter. We would appreciate your help in getting the word out to effected farm families that suffered crop losses and damage as a result of the Irene and Lee disasters. This support is for any farm family with \$10,000 of crop losses/damage in designated disaster counties in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. This is not limited to Farm Credit customers.

Farm Credit East and CoBank have both agreed to put \$100,000 to this effort, so we have \$200,000 to start. Farm Credit East employees are also making contributions and Yankee Farm Credit will be contributing (for the NY and NH counties that Yankee serves). United Way of the Greater Capital Region has also made a contribution. The

actual amount of the grants to farm families will depend on the number of applications and the amount of total funds raised (up to \$500 per farm family).

Other individuals and businesses are welcome/encouraged to make a contribution and will be recognized for their contributions in a final press release on this effort. The attached press release includes information on how to make a contribution to United Way for this effort – on-line or by check. This is a charitable contribution for tax purposes.

This assistance not intended to cover business losses or make major repairs to homes and farm structures – it is intended to show “farm community concern” for the farm families hurt by Irene and Lee with the hope that their holiday can be a little nicer knowing that other folks care. In the attached release, Bill Lipinski says it better, “We just want folks to know we care and hope that they can be positive during the holidays.”

We do appreciate the on-going efforts of Northeast Congressional offices, State Departments of Agriculture, USDA, Governor Cuomo’s office and other NE state initiatives to support farmers at this time. These efforts are vital to help farms and rural communities to recover.

We are currently taking applications for this assistance – attached is the application which includes more eligibility details – folks can also apply by going on-line to www.farmcrediteast.com . The application can also be found in Country Folks. Our deadline is November 26 in order that we can work with United Way to have checks received by farm families in mid-December. United Way of the Greater Capital District has been great to work with and is receiving funds and will write the checks.

Calendar of Events

November 4, 2011 Marketing Together: Planning A North Country Farm Cooperative from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Annex II, 411 Lower Main St, Hudson Falls, NY the Cornell Cooperative Extension meeting room. A discussion between beef producers about ways to build a marketing system to enable small producers to expand and sell product. Pre-registration is not required but if you would like more information, please contact Sandy at 518-746-2560 or sab22@cornell.edu

November 5th, 2011 Fall Hops Conference The Northeast Hop Alliance and the Cornell Agriculture Economic Development Program of Madison County announce *the Fall Hops Conference* to be held on Saturday, November 5th at Brown’s Brewing Company in

Troy, New York. The conference is for anyone interested in growing hops commercially. Tremendous growth in the microbrew industry has led to a renewal of hop production in the Eastern US, especially New York and New England. Consumers are looking for quality and variety in their beer choices and locally grown hops are helping to make those brews fantastic.

The Conference will include speakers from the Pacific Northwest and Eastern hop growing regions. Dr. David Gent, a leading USDA plant pathologist from Corvallis, Oregon, and Dr. Shaun Townsend, a hops researcher, from Oregon State University will share up to date information on disease management and horticultural practices for quality hop production, and harvesting. Dr. Heather Darby from University of Vermont will speak about land preparation and fertility in the hopyard, and Chris Callahan of Callahan Engineering will reveal his prototype for a small scale mobile hop harvester. Other speakers will include information on trellis design, the cost of getting started, pest management, an update on the Farm Brewery legislation in New York and more. The Northeast Hop Alliance annual meeting will be held at the conference. This is a great opportunity to meet growers, researchers and brewers and to learn about growing hops commercially in the Northeast. If you are growing hops or contemplating doing so, then you won't want to miss this event.

The program will run from 8 am to 5 pm. There is a fee for the day which will include lunch. The event is sponsored by a USDA/NYS Specialty Crops block grant and a Northeast SARE Speaker grant.

Please register before October 28th by visiting <http://nehopalliance.eventbrite.com> or check out the northeast hop alliance website at www.nehopalliance.org <<http://www.nehopalliance.org>> For more information on the conference contact Steve Miller at sgm6@cornell.edu or call 315 684-3001 x 127.

November 7th & 8th (Monday and Tuesday) 2011 Cornell Agribusiness Strategic Marketing Conference: Capitalizing on Group Action & Alliances to Improve Marketing Returns

Sponsored by the Agricultural Marketing and Management Program Work Team, Hyde Park, NY.

Consumer interest in 'local' foods and other products has increased sharply in recent years, prompting substantial changes in food supply chains. Accessing markets can be particularly problematic for smaller-scale businesses who lack sufficient volumes of products to feasibly attract and retain larger-scale and more-distant buyers. Economies

of scale can often result with producers and agribusinesses working together to address these production and marketing barriers.

At this year's conference, we are assembling an outstanding field of agricultural producers and academic, industry, and government speakers to discuss and highlight innovative agricultural marketing models that have capitalized on the benefits of group action and business alliances. On the second day of the conference, we have also assembled a team of experts to discuss the ins and outs of new agricultural cooperative development. An evening dinner at the Culinary Institute of America promises to be the tastiest networking experience you'll have all year!

With a focus on small- and medium scale agricultural producers and value-added food processors, the goal of the conference is to improve the understanding and application of innovative agricultural marketing practices to improve firm competitiveness. We strive to put forward a conference that attendees can walk away from and apply new skills and ideas to their own agribusinesses. Conference attendees also include ag-based economic development specialists, extension educators, agri-service providers, and food distributors, wholesalers, and retailers.

http://dyson.cornell.edu/outreach/strategic_marketing_conference.php

New this Year!! To encourage additional attendance by agricultural producers, funding provided by the Ruth & Will Morgan Assistant Professorship in Applied Economics and Management will help cover conference registration fees for farmers attending.
More details to come.

For more information, please contact: **Todd Schmit, Ruth and William Morgan Assistant Professor in Applied Economics and Management** Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University
Phone: 607-255-3015 Email: tms1@cornell.edu

November 7th and 8th, 2011 Northeastern Silvopasture Conference. – Watkins Glen, NY. A two-day conference devoted to sustainable woodland grazing in the Northeastern US. Learn how Silvopasturing can improve the health, performance and viability of livestock and forestry systems. Intended participants include: Conservation Professionals and Foresters, Graziers, Woodland Owners, Extension and University Faculty, Students, Ag Support Agency Personnel & Rural Community Development Advocates. The early registration rate is \$89 which covers conference meals (breakfast, lunch and breaks). The normal rate of \$129 will apply after October 23rd. The conference is sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension. Speakers are funded through the generosity of the conference partners. Space is limited, so please register

early by visiting: <http://nesilvopasture.eventbrite.com> or call Schuyler CCE at 607-535-7161 for alternative registration.

Nov. 10-13, 2011 Equine Affaire @ Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA for more info on North America's premiere equestrian gathering, visit www.equineaffaire.com

Nov. 10, 2011 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CCE-Albany Cty. 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY. Helping your farm business achieve success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

November 10, 2011 School Grounds IPM Demonstration Day, Bethlehem Central School District, Delmar, NY. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County and the New York State IPM Program are pleased to present a half day program that will cover:

- The Child Safe Playing Field Act—How can schools comply and thrive?
- The new law restricting the use of phosphorous fertilizer on turfgrass
- Cultural strategies for managing turfgrass
- Life without traditional herbicides—Heavy overseeding programs for athletic fields
- Alternative herbicides and physical weed control
- Field tour of demonstration areas of heavy overseeding and the use of alternative herbicides.

Presenters include: Gregg Nolte, Bethlehem Central School District; Chuck Schmitt, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County; David Chinery, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County; Jennifer Grant, NYS Integrated Pest Management Program

Location: Bethlehem Central School District, Facilities and Operations, 65 Elm Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054

Time: 8:00am Registration, 8:30am-noon Program, Cost: \$20 in advance, \$25 day of program. Please pre-register, space is limited.

Make check to: Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County, c/o Chuck Schmitt, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12086. For more information, 518-765-3513

Catskill CRAFT Events - Catskills CRAFT was made possible through a contribution of FarmHearts (www.farmhearts.org) to the Watershed Agricultural Council (www.nycwatershed.org). "FarmHearts is delighted to have been able to support the Catskills CRAFT initiative which supports the next generation of farmers," board member Laurie McFadden commented. [Sonia Persichilli](mailto:Sonia.Persichilli@farmhearts.org), Farmheart Fellow, (914) 720-1020, 9a-5p weekdays, or email info@CatskillsCRAFT.org

November 14th East Meredith, NY Tom & Denise Warren

A family adventure, the Warrens are committed to raising happy, healthy animals and living a fun, wholesome life. Grass-fed lamb, goat, chickens, turkeys, eggs, pork, beef and organic goat milk products are raised and made on the farm. Stone & Thistle Farm's visit will focus on topics such as livestock processing, agritourism, and marketing specialty products. As the last visit of the 2011 CRAFT season, an annual meeting and 2012 planning session will be held following the visit at Fable, the farm's farm-to-table restaurant.

November 16, 2011 Washington County Toastmasters at Annex II, Cornell Cooperative Extension's meeting room from 7-9 p.m. Come and learn more about presenting yourself and your ideas in public. Call 518-746-2560 for more info.

November 19, 2011 Rural Land Ownership meeting from Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Freight Depot, off Main St. in Cambridge. Topics include: Ag District Law, Ag Assessment, Soil Group Worksheet and Land Rental information. To register or for more info, please call 518-692-9940 ext 3.

November 29, 2011 Labor Issues for Ag Employers: What to Expect in 2012 Discussion will include H2A, I-9s, e-Verify and legislative updates in Latham. Speakers include Terence Robinson Jr, attorney with Nixon Peabody, LLP; Marc Smith and Tom Maloney from Cornell University; Steve McKay from Cornell Cooperative Extension's Fruit Program and Bernadette Kowalski from NYS DOL. For more information visit <http://bit.ly/laborflyer> or call Sandy at 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

December 1, 2011 Group-Housed Dairy Calf Systems: A Symposium for Dairy Producers & Advisors, Syracuse, NY. For more info visit <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/calfsystems/index.html>

December 7, 2011 Dairy Day at Miner Institute, Featured speaker Dan McFarland from Penn State Ext. –reworking existing stalls, ventilation, etc. Visit www.whminer.org/dairy

December 7, 2011 Confused About Your 2011/2012 Financial Strategy? CCE hosts a tax and financial planning school from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at CCE-Saratoga, 50 West High St, Ballston Spa, NY. Speakers will include Chuck Radick, Radick Tax Consulting and Jill Robinson of Farm Credit East. Registration including materials and lunch is 40/person with an early bird price of \$35/person if registered and paid on or before November 20th. Make checks out to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County and Mail to 61 State Street Troy, NY 12180. Please contact Marcie for more information at 518-272-4210 or mmp74@cornell.edu

December 7, 2011 Washington County Toastmasters at Annex II, Cornell Cooperative Extension's meeting room from 7-9 p.m. Come and learn more about presenting yourself and your ideas in public. Call 518-746-2560 for more info.

December 8, 2011 Tour Day for Group Housed Calf Systems conference – ENY will visit 2 farms, more information to come.

December 14, 2011 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CCE-Columbia Cty. 479 Ste Rte 66, Hudson. Helping your farm business achieve success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

December 13, 2011 Cornell University's Ag Economic Outlook Conference, Kennedy Hall, Ithaca, NY. For more info visit www.aem.cornell.edu/

December 13-15, 2011 New England Vegetable & Berry Conference, Center of NH Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH. Please visit www.newenglandvfc.org

December 21, 2011 Washington County Toastmasters at Annex II, Cornell Cooperative Extension's meeting room from 7-9 p.m. Come and learn more about presenting yourself and your ideas in public. Call 518-746-2560 for more info.

January 6 and 7, 2012 New York State Maple Producers Winter Conference at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School in Verona, New York on Friday evening January 6 and all day Saturday, January 7th. This central location provides plenty of meeting space as well as room for a large trade show with many exhibitors displaying plenty of specialized equipment for meeting maple producer needs. You will have access to the latest in research and grower experiences regarding maple sap collection, syrup production, promotion, forest management and the making and marketing of a variety of maple products. This day-and-a-half event has something for every level of maple producer. A maple conference you do not want to miss. Plan Now to Attend –Pre-registration deadline is December 15th

Advanced registration is \$15 for Friday night only, \$30 for Saturday only, or \$40 for both Friday and Saturday. The V.V.S. High School is located between Utica and Syracuse, New York on State Route 31 just two minutes from NYS Thruway Exit 33. For additional information contact V.V.S. FFA advisor Keith Schiebel at kschiebel@vvschools.org. Registration forms will also be available at the New York State Maple Producers Website: www.nysmaple.com or the Cornell Maple Program website: www.cornellmaple.com

January 14, 2011 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 9:30 a.m. to noon at CCE-Washington Cty. 411 Lower Main St, Hudson Falls. Helping your farm business achieve success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

January 18-19, 2012 The Academy for Dairy Executives II, with PRO-Dairy in Albany, NY. For more info call Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

January 18, 2012 Workshop for Landscape Architects

- **Soils, Structural Soil and Compaction;**
- **The “Landscape Below Ground”**
- **Tough Plants for Tough Sites**

At Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Cornell Cooperative Extension staff members and Jack Magai of Magai Arboriculture will present three 1 hour lectures. The morning will consist of a lecture on soil basics, using structural soil and dealing with soil compaction followed by a lecture on the landscape below ground, a positive approach showing the benefits of large trees and how they can be preserved and concluding with selecting tough plants for difficult sites. 3 LA Continuing Education Credits will be offered. Registration required. Workshop cost \$100. For more information or to register for the course, contact Chuck Schmitt at [cgs34@cornell.edu](mailto:cds34@cornell.edu) and 518-765-3513.

January 20, 2012 NY Cattle Feeder’s Conference

January 21, 2012 NY Beef Producer’s Winter Management Meeting, 2012

Both events will be held in Syracuse, NY. The Cattle Feeders conference will focus on technologies to enhance production and control market risk. The Winter Management meeting will focus on production practices along with how to interact with the consumer to present a beef friendly message.

For information on these meetings, contact Mike Baker, Cornell Beef Extension Specialist, 607-255-5923, mjb28@cornell.edu or Brenda Bippert, Executive Secretary, NY Beef Producer’s Association, 716-902-4305, or nybeefproducers@aol.com.

Jan. 20-22, 2012 NOFA-NY Winter Conference in Saratoga Springs. For more info visit www.nofany.org/events/2012-winter-conference

January 24, 2012 Be Green Organic Yards NY at Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County, 61State Street, Troy, NY 12180

Successful completion of the 7-hour training program and exam will allow attendees to apply to the NYSDEC to enter a license agreement to use the service mark. Registration required. Workshop cost \$100. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at

cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513 or David Chinery at dhc3@cornell.edu and 518-272-4210.

January 24-26, 2012 Empire State Fruit & Veg Expo, Convention Center @ OnCenter, Syracuse, NY. For more info visit www.hort.cornell.edu/expo . or stop by local extension office.

January 27 & 28, 2012 3rd Annual Winter Green-Up Grass Fed Grazing Conference, The Century House, Latham, NY for more info call 518-765-3500.

January 31, 2012 Bedding Plant Conference at The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road, (Route 9), Latham, NY 12110

Learn about innovations in greenhouse production, pest management, new varieties and other trends. DEC pesticide credits applied for. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513.

February 7, 2011 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CCE-Washington Cty. 411 Lower Main St, Hudson Falls. Helping your farm business achieve success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

February 7 - 9 & 14 - 16, 2012 30-Hour Pesticide Class for Category 3a & 25 at Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County, 61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180
Cornell Cooperative Extension horticulture staff of the Capital District will present a six day class to become licensed pesticide applicators. Successful completion of the thirty-hour training course and exams will allow participants to be licensed by the NYSDEC as Certified Pesticide Applicators. Registration required. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513 or David Chinery at dhc3@cornell.edu and 518- 272-4210.

Monday, February 13th - Northeastern NY Fruit Program Annual Meeting, Lake George, NY. For more information and to register, please call Kevin Iungerman, 518-885-8995 or email kai3@cornell.edu.

Tuesday – Friday, February 14-17th – Hudson Valley Annual Fruit Winter Meeting, Kingston, NY. For more information and to register, please call Mike Fargione, 845-691-7117 or email, mjf22@cornell.edu. Also visit the web page and check the calendar of events, <http://hudsonvf.cce.cornell.edu/index.html>.

February 25, 2012. "Farming Our Future" at Taconic Hills Central School, Craryville, NY, a one day conference. For more info, contact Steve Hadcock at 518-380-1497.

February 28, 2012 Organic Turf & Landscape (a "Be Green" credit course)
at Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer, County, 61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180
Cornell Cooperative Extension horticulture staff will present the latest on managing turfgrass and landscapes using organic methods. Participants will receive credits applicable to maintaining a current Be Green license agreement with the NYSDEC. Registration required. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513 or David Chinery at dhc3@cornell.edu and 518-272-4210.

March 7, 8 & 23, 2012 CNLP Review Session at Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186 A 3-day review session and exam. Topics include botany, soils, and plant identification. This review session will prepare students for the CNLP exam. Registration required. For more information about the training and the CNLP program, contact Chuck Schmitt at cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513.

March 14-15, 2012 The Academy for Dairy Executives II, with PRO-Dairy in Lake George, NY. For more info call Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

March 15, 2012 Pesticide Recertification Day At The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road, (Route 9), Latham, NY 12110
Learn the latest on pesticide use, safety, and pest management for the upcoming season. This program features up to 6 DEC recertification credits. Morning sessions offer core credits and afternoon sessions offer category specific credits for 3a, 1a, 7a and private categories as well. Registration required. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at 518-765-3513 or at cds34@cornell.edu

March 27, 2012 Garden Center Training at Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186
Learn the latest in NYSDEC regulation changes, how to control the most common garden center pests problems and how Cornell Cooperative Extension can help your business grow. Registration required. For more information contact Chuck Schmitt at cds34@cornell.edu and 518-765-3513. or David Chinery at dhc3@cornell.edu and 518- 272-4210.

April 4, 2012 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CCE-Albany Cty. 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville. Helping your farm business achieve

success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

May 10, 2012 Basic Farm Business Management Planning 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CCE-Greene Cty. Acra, NY. Helping your farm business achieve success. Registration is \$25. For more info contact Sandy Buxton 518-380-1498 or sab22@cornell.edu.

Opportunities

For Sale – 50KW Surge Generator – PTO operated, price \$2500 OBO, call 518-632-5798 for more information.

On-Farm Renewable Energy Generation Workshops

As part of the PRO-DAIRY Dairy Environmental Systems group anaerobic digester workforce development project, we will be holding five workshops across the state targeted at extension professionals, county government officials, soil and water technicians, USDA Rural Development, and related participants. All workshops focus on presenting a basic overview of on-farm anaerobic digestion and energy utilization, in addition to providing on-farm digester system tours at nearby sites. Please pass this announcement on to relevant audiences in your area, or reply to this message with the contact information of parties you think would be interested.

The first two workshops will be held on November 7th and November 17th:

November 7th, 2011

10am – 2pm (Lunch: \$10)

Belleville Firehall (7981 State Rte 289 Belleville, NY) and Sheland Farm (Adams, NY)
Workshop and tour of newly installed on-farm AD substrates lab

November 17th, 2011

10am – 2pm (Lunch \$10)

Synergy Farm (6534 Lemley Road Wyoming, NY 14591)

Workshop and tour of newly installed vertical mixed AD system

Registration is required for both these events, please contact Jenny Pronto at (jlp67@cornell.edu) to receive an advertisement flyer for the Synergy farm workshop with additional details and directions.

There are 3 additional workshops being scheduled for delivery next spring that will present similar materials and also offer AD system tours. The target locations for these workshops are: Auburn, Troy and Plattsburg, so look for the workshop nearest to you, however, feel free to attend more than one workshop since the tours will vary between

sites. If you have questions regarding the workshops, please contact Jenny Pronto (jlpr67@cornell.edu).

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Every effort has been made to provide complete, accurate and timely information. No endorsement of products or businesses is implied.

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

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