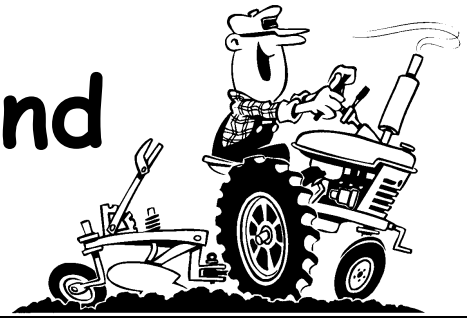


Cultivating Cumberland

February - 2016 VOL. 21, ISSUE 2



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Attachments:

- *Topics in Nursery Production
- *Philip Capaldi Scholarship
- *CC Board of Ag Scholarship
- *Food Safety for Retail and Wholesale Growers
- *Advanced Food Safety
- *SNAP EBT Farmer's Market Sign-up
- NJWEA Scholarship Application

Telecommunication Problems

The County of Cumberland has agreed to act as the lead agency on behalf of 16 communities in South Jersey to pursue a petition before the Board of Public Utilities against Verizon NJ in an effort to compel Verizon to maintain copper landline services. CC Freeholder Director Joe Derella said, "Verizon is attempting to discontinue maintenance of copper landlines which means that telephone and telecommunication services, including internet service through copper landlines will ultimately deteriorate and fail. At that point telecommunications may be unavailable and unless telephone service through Comcast or cell phone service is available there may be no landline coverage at all in many communities. The County and 16 communities are fighting against the effort by Verizon to discontinue landline maintenance".

County Counsel Ted Baker said, "The County believes the problem is more widespread than just the 16 communities involved. The County of Cumberland would like residents who are experiencing landline telephone & telecommunication problems to report them to the County so that the County may bring these problems to the attention of the BPU."

Deputy Director Darlene Barber said, "A page on the County website has been set up to allow any person who is experiencing problems with telephone and telecommunication services to inform us of the problems in order to allow us to present this information to the Board of Public Utilities. The information can be provided by going to the Cumberland County website (www.co.cumberland.nj.us) and clicking on the Verizon Questionnaire line and filling out the information requested".

Mr. Baker said, "We are hopeful that residents from all communities will present information regarding these problems and to give us a more comprehensive picture of the scope of the problem and then numbers of people who are experiencing these problems. Typically, landline service which is deteriorating will not function well during precipitation events, fog, rain, snow, sleet, etc. and static, humming or other noises will interfere with a user's ability to communicate over the copper lines and in some instances a dial tone may not be able to be achieved. With this information the County of Cumberland hopes to be able to force Verizon to continue to maintain these landlines until fiber optic service is built out throughout the State of New Jersey."

We are requesting that everyone experiencing problems go to the website and complete the questionnaire. The more information we have before the BPU the better.

**Cooperative Extension
of Cumberland County**



1915-2015

Rutgers Cooperative Extension 100 Years of Service in Cumberland County

Public Comment Period Open

Patricia Hastings, Rutgers Pest Management Office

The imidacloprid preliminary pollinator risk assessment has been published in the Federal Register (FRN) and is now formally open for comment, with a 60-day comment period closing on March 15, 2016.

Imidacloprid Registration Review; Draft Pollinator Ecological Risk Assessment; Notice of Availability: This notice announces the availability of EPA's draft pollinator-only ecological risk assessment for the registration review of imidacloprid and opens a public comment period on this document.

Registration review is EPA's periodic review of pesticide registrations to ensure that each pesticide continues to satisfy the statutory standard for registration, that is, the pesticide can perform its intended function without unreasonable adverse effects on human health or the environment. As part of the registration review process, the Agency has completed a comprehensive draft pollinator-only ecological risk assessment for all registered agricultural uses of imidacloprid, with focus on agricultural crops that are attractive to pollinators.

For the FRN, see https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/01/15/2016-00740/imidacloprid-registration-review-draft-pollinator-ecological-risk-assessment-notice-of-availability?utm_campaign=subscription+mailing+list&utm_medium=email&utm_source=federalregister.gov.

EPA's Public Announcement:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has opened the 60-day public comment period for its preliminary pollinator risk assessment for imidacloprid, a neonicotinoid insecticide, in a Federal Register notice. After the comment period ends, the EPA may revise the pollinator assessment based on comments received and, if necessary, take action to reduce risks from the insecticide.

The preliminary risk assessment identified a residue level for imidacloprid of 25 ppb, above which effects on pollinator hives are likely to be seen and below which effects are unlikely. These effects may include reduction in numbers of pollinators as well as the amount of honey produced.

The imidacloprid assessment is the first of four preliminary pollinator risk assessments for the neonicotinoid insecticides. Preliminary pollinator risk assessments for three other neonicotinoids, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran, are scheduled to be released for public comment in December 2016.

A preliminary risk assessment for all ecological effects for imidacloprid, including a revised pollinator assessment and impacts on other species such as aquatic and terrestrial animals and plants will also be released in December 2016.

The EPA encourages stakeholders and interested members of the public to visit the [imidacloprid docket](#), review the risk assessment and related documents, and submit comments. All comments submitted will be accounted for in our final risk assessment. The risk assessment and other supporting documents are available in the docket at: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketBrowser;rpp=25;so=DESC;sb=postedDate;po=0;dct=SR;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0844>.

The EPA is also planning to hold a webinar on the imidacloprid assessment in early February. The times and details will be posted at: <http://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/how-we-assess-risks-pollinators>

On-line GAPs Produce Safety Course

Betsy Bihn, Cornell University

The next English GAPs Online Produce Safety Course will begin February 10th. This course is intended to improve your understanding of GAPs to guide assessment of risks and implementation of practices to reduce risks on fresh produce farms. We have the following GAPs Online Produce Safety Course sessions scheduled for 2016:

10 February running through 01 March, 2016

09 March running through 29 March, 2016

06 April running through 26 April, 2016

Taking this course will not result in your farm being "GAPs Certified". GAPs certification is done by a third party (e.g. USDA, Primus, Global GAP) and involves the successful completion of an on-farm audit.

It is also important to consider that the GAPs Online Produce Safety Training Course is not currently equivalent to the required supervisor training described in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule 21 CFR Subpart C § 112.22 (c). This GAPs Online Produce Safety Training Course may, however, satisfy staff training requirements as described in the Produce Safety Rule in 21 CFR Subpart C § 112.21 (a) and (b). The **Produce Safety Alliance** will be offering training that meets this FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement in 2016. You can sign up for the list serve at the Produce Safety Alliance website: <http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/training.html> so that you will be notified of where and when these trainings will be held. We plan to have this online course updated to meet with the requirements outlined in § 112.22 (c) during the second quarter of 2016.

To register for any of the courses call 1-800-801-0287. When registering for the course, you will be asked to enter a "Group Number"—enter G000107. (Please note that these are zeros and not the letter "O"). A minimum of 10 people must be registered for us to offer the course and class size is limited to 25 people. The course price is \$190.

Please let Betsy Bihn (eab38@cornell.edu), or Don Stoeckel (dstoeckel@cornell.edu) know if you have any questions or concerns. You can get more information about the course online at the GAPs web site (www.gaps.cornell.edu).

E-mail Mark Kogut (mlk29@cornell.edu) if you wish to receive e-mail notifications of future online course dates and open registrations, or if you wish to be removed from the GAPs online course list serve.

NJWEA Scholarships

Steven Yergeau, Rutgers Cooperative Extension

The New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA) is pleased to offer its Scholarship Awards Program, named in honor of Dr. Raymond M. Manganelli, former Professor of Environmental Science at Rutgers University, and former Chair of the Association's Student Programs and Scholarship Awards Committees. NJWEA scholarship awards are available each year, ranging from \$2,000 to \$2,500 each; totaling \$38,500 annually. In addition the three regional sections of the NJWEA offer eleven scholarship totaling \$17,000. In total the program offers 28 awards with an annual value of \$55,500.

These awards are intended for both graduate and undergraduate students, including those attending county colleges and technical schools, as well as high school seniors.

Current application is attached to this newsletter. For further information, contact Steve Yergeau 732-505-3671 or email: yergeau@njaes.rutgers.edu

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Positions Available

Two county based staff positions are available at the following locations:

- **Program Associate I: Fruit IPM programming** (staff position, full time, calendar year appointment) Atlantic County, NJ. The posting can be found at <https://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/19239>
- **Program Associate II: Consumer horticulture, commercial agriculture programming**, (staff position, full time, calendar year appointment), Passaic County, NJ. The posting can be found at <https://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/19197>

All applications should be made through Rutgers Human Resources via the URLs provided above.

Center for Produce Safety Awards 11 New Research Projects

The Center for Produce Safety (CPS) announced 11 new research awards valued at nearly \$2 million. The awards are for research projects directed at answering critical questions in specific areas of food safety practices for fruits and vegetables; pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest handling; and food safety and the environment. The objective is to provide the produce industry with practical, translatable research data that can be used at all levels of the supply chain.

"We're very encouraged and excited about this round of funded research projects. The research being conducted with CPS has great relevance to all points of the supply chain - farmers, shippers, handlers and consumers. The goal for CPS and our research partners is to help identify solutions and keep fresh produce safe for everyone," said Drew McDonald, VP, Quality, Food Safety & Regulatory Affairs at Church Brothers, and the newly appointed Chair for the CPS Technical Committee. "The broad range of the projects reflects the commitment of a cross section of public and private partners from the United States and around the world. I am encouraged by the continued and growing support from industry stakeholders for the Center for Produce Safety research programs."

One of the new industry partners is the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA). Barry Bedwell, CFFA President, noted, "The California Fresh Fruit Association, which represents thirteen fruit commodities, is proud to be a partner in food safety with CPS. Their expertise and guidance helped shape a very strong research project that will confirm the industry's commitment to food safety."

The awards were made possible by funds provided by the Center for Produce Safety's campaign contributors and the California Department of Food and Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

2015 RFP Grant Recipients (projects will begin January 2016):

Kelly Bright, University of Arizona

Identification of novel indicator organisms to determine the risks of fecal contamination of irrigation waters

Michael Cahn, University of California Cooperative Extension

Microbial food safety risks of using tail water for leafy green production

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Michelle Danyluk, University of Florida

Factors that influence the introduction, fate and mitigation of foodborne pathogens on mangoes throughout the production chain

Eduardo Gutierrez-Rodriguez, North Carolina State University

Establishing die-off rates of surrogate and virulent EHEC-STEC strains from strawberry and cilantro surfaces: time, inoculum dose and chemical intervention

Xiuping Jiang, Clemson University

Validating a physically heat-treated process for poultry litter in industry settings using the avirulent *Salmonella* surrogates or indicator microorganisms

Rolf Joerger, University of Delaware

Evaluation of the efficacy of antimicrobial agents to prevent the transfer of *Listeria monocytogenes* from existing biofilms to produce or processing surfaces

Steven Pao, California State University of Fresno

Evaluation of sanitizing treatments for sizer carriers in stone fruit packinghouses

Laura Strawn, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Control of cross-contamination during field-pack and retail handling of cantaloupe

Max Teplitski, University of Florida

Comparative genomics analysis and physiological assessment of the avirulent *Salmonella* surrogate relevant to produce safety

Martin Wiedmann, Cornell University

Pathogen physiological state has a greater effect on outcomes of challenge and validation studies than strain diversity

Stefan Wuertz, University of California, Davis

Prevalence of diverse parasites on packaged salads and associated risks to consumers based on detection of viable oocysts and quantitative microbial risk assessment

To date, CPS has funded 112 projects valued at over \$18 million.

Changes to the February 11 Food Safety Workshop at the Agricultural Convention

We will not be providing the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety certification training in Atlantic City. The Food and Drug Administration has not given us approval for the training modals which were developed over the last two years. They continue to review the modals which means we will not be doing the training until fall 2016 at the earliest. Following is the program for the Food Safety Workshop.

8:30 am – 9:30 am	Final FSMA Produce Safety Rule: How Does It Impact Your Farm Operation Wesley Kline , Agricultural Agent, Cumberland County
9:30 am – 10:00 am	FSMA Produce Safety Rule: Are you in or are you out? Navigating Exemptions, Exclusions, and Farm Definitions Gretchen Wall , Coordinator, Produce Safety Alliance
10:00 am – 10:30 am	The Difference Between FSMA Requirements and Your Third Party Audit Requirements Meredith Melendez , Agricultural Agent, Mercer County
10:30 am – 10:45 am	<i>Break</i>
10:45 am – 11:45 am	Update on Salmonella and Food Safety Research in the Mid-Atlantic Region Dr. Kali Kniel , Professor, Microbial Food Safety, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, University of Delaware
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	How Effective Is Your Handwashing Meredith Melendez , Agricultural Agent, Mercer County
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Water Testing, Geometric Means, and Statistical Threshold Values – Oh My! Gretchen Wall , Coordinator, Produce Safety Alliance
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Using ATP tests for Evaluate Your Packinghouse Sanitation Program Meredith Melendez , Agricultural Agent, Mercer County
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	<i>Reflections & Questions</i>
3:00 pm	<i>Adjourn</i>

Calendar of Important Events

↻ Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

February 2016

February 5

Pest Management of Landscape Turf, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$210; 9am-3:30 pm. Credits: 2 Cat. 13; 11 Cat. 3B & PP2. For info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271.

↻ **February 8**

Designing and Installing Retaining Walls, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$270; 9am-4pm. For more info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271.

February 6-12

IFTA 59th Annual Conference, Michigan. For more information visit: www.ifruittree.org

February 9-11

New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show, Harrah's Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ. For more information visit: www.njveggies.org

February 9-10

Beds and Borders Seminar, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$430; 9am-3:30pm. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271.

↻ **February 12**

Tree Planting and Installation, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$270; 9am-3:30pm. For more info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271

↻ **February 16**

Tree Pruning, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$270; 9am-3:30pm. For more info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271

February 16-17

Athletic Field Maintenance and Construction, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$395. For more info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 8 categories 13 and 3B.

↻ **February 17**

Plant Health Care, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$270; 9am-3:30pm. For more info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 6 each categories 2, 3A and PP2

↻ **February 17 (Rain date: February 19th)**

Grapevine Pruning Workshop, Rutgers Ag Res. & Ext. Ctr, 121 Northville Rd., Bridgeton, NJ; 1-3pm; pre-registration required. For info call Joan Medany 856-307-6450 or email: jmedany@co.gloucester.nj.us

February 18

Sustainable Landscape Design, Rutgers Cont. Ed., New Brunswick; \$195 by 2/4; \$210 after; 9am-3:30pm. For info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 3 cat. 3A, 6B, 8C, 13 & PP2

February 19

Natural & Integrated Pest Management Strategies for Sports Turf, Rutgers Cont. Ed., New Brunswick; \$175. For information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 9 cat. 3B and 13

February 23

Baseball & Softball Skin Surface Selection & Management., Rutgers Cont. Education, New Brunswick; \$175. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 4 cat. 3B & 13.

February 24-25

6th Annual NJ Plants Show, NJ Convention Center; 9am-4pm. Pesticide credits are being offered. For more information visit: www.njplantshow.com

February 25-27

MOSES Organic Farming Conference, La Crosse, Wis. For more info visit: www.mosesorganic.org

February 26

Turfgrass Disease Mgt., Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick; \$195. For info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 10 cat. 3B, 3C, 6B & PP2 and 2 category 13

February 26

Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting, Ag Building, 4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, NJ. Pesticide credits requested: 5 CORE, 4 each categories 1A & PP2 and 2 category 10; \$25 includes lunch. For information call Joanne 732-431-7260.

March 2016**March 2-4**

2016 North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference, Williamsburg, Va. For more information visit: www.raspberryblackberry.com

March 7-8

Managing Turfgrass & Landscape Weeds, Rutgers Cont. Ed, New Brunswick, \$395. For info visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu or call 848-932-9271. Credits: 4 in CORE; 16 in 2, 3A & PP2 and 8 in 3B, 6B & 8C.

March 19

Volunteer Rose Pruning Event, Colonial Park Gardens, Franklin Township, Free with suggested donation, 8am-noon. For more info call 732-873-2459 x21.

April 2016**April 2**

NJ Junior Breeder and Young Farmer Symposium, Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Science, Round House, College Farm Road, New Brunswick. For more info call 609-984-4389 or email: lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us

April 2

Spring Pruning Demonstration, Colonial Park Gardens, Franklin Township, \$15, 9-11 am (rain date April 9), 30 people limit. For more info or to register call 732-873-2459 x21.

May 2016**May 14**

"Flower Buds-Let's Get Growing" Children's Garden Workshop, Colonial Park Gardens, 10am-noon (rain date May 21); \$15 per child ages 5-8 (limit 10 & must be accompanied by an adult). Pre-registration by Friday, May 6 required. For information call 732-873-2459 x21.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

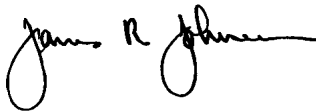
<p>✓</p> <p>Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule—Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p><u>2016</u></p> <p>Mar 24</p> <p>Sept 22 Oct 20</p> <p>To Register call 609-984-6614 For directions call 856-451-2800</p> <p>*****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board Soil Conservation Office 1516 Highway 77 Deerfield Street, NJ 08332</p> <p><u>2016</u></p> <p>Feb 10 Mar 9</p> <p>Apr 13 May 11 Jun 8</p> <p>Jul 13 Aug 10 Set 14</p> <p>Oct 12 Nov 9 Dec 14</p> <p>Reg. Meetings start at 7 p.m. Call DeAnn at 856-453-2211</p> <p>*****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p>7 pm meetings</p> <p><u>2016</u></p> <p>Feb 18 Mar 17</p> <p>Apr 21 May 19 Sept 15</p> <p>Oct 20 Nov 17 Dec 15</p> <p>For info call Hillary Barile, President 856-453-1192</p> <p>*****</p>
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**Cumberland County Improvement Authority (CCIA)
Pesticide Container Recycling**
9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon
Cumberland County Solid Waste Complex
169 Jesse's Bridge Rd. (located off Route 55 Exit 29)
Deerfield Township, New Jersey

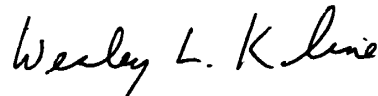
Questions? Call Division of Ag & Natural Resources, NJ Dept. of Ag 609-292-5532

2016 Dates published when received

Sincerely,



James R. Johnson
Agricultural Agent
Nursery Management Commercial
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Pesticide User Responsibility: Use pesticides safely and follow instructions on labels. The user is responsible for the proper use of pesticides, residues on crops, storage and disposal, as well as damages caused by drift.

Use of Trade Names: Trade names are used in this publication with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied. In some instances the compound may be sold under different trade names, which may vary as to label.

Have you visited the Cumberland County website for the Present and/or past issues of "Cultivating Cumberland"? It's a great resource for information and dates.....

<http://Cumberland.njaes.rutgers.edu/>

Public Notification and Non-discrimination Statement

Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 848-932-3584.

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