

Cultivating Cumberland

January - 2015 VOL. 20, ISSUE 1

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Attachments:

Key Take-aways: Implications of Health Care Reform for Farm Businesses and Families

NJ Agricultural Convention Program

Newsletter Updates

If you are receiving this newsletter unwanted, please contact our office to discontinue your subscription.

You can discontinue your subscription by the following means:

- Call Tammy Commander at 856-451-2800 x1
- Email: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu
- Fax your request to 856-451-4206
- Send the request by mail to:

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
291 Morton Avenue
Millville, NJ 08332
ATT: Tammy

If you have any questions concerning the newsletter, please feel free to contact Tammy at the Extension Office at 856-451-2800 x1.

Revised Rutgers Fact Sheet

Fact Sheet FS848 "Monitoring and Managing Soluble Salts in Ornamental Plant Production" has been updated and is ready for downloading.

To view the fact sheet visit:

<http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pid=FS848>

WHAT AUDITORS ARE FINDING ON NEW JERSEY FARMS

Wesley Kline, Ag Agent, RCE Cumberland County
Chris Kleinguenther, Bureau Chief NJ Department of Ag

This winter as you review your food safety manuals try to answer the questions listed below. If you cannot answer some of these relevant questions, you may want to make additions and revisions.

Food Safety Training – All personnel shall receive food safety training. This means everyone from the field workers to office workers and all owners. Did all employees at least receive basic food safety knowledge as it pertains to their jobs? Did the owners receive food safety training? Remember to record the training sessions.

Water/Microbiological Testing – Water testing is microbiological testing. Are your water sources and their uses documented (Water System Risk Assessment/Water Management Plan)? If a water source is being used for potable (drinking) water, make sure the testing company isn't doing an irrigation water test that has less restrictive allowances. Water used in the packinghouse must be potable (below detectable levels for total coliform). When testing for irrigation water, an acceptable level is 126 cfu/100 ml of generic E. coli. It is the auditee's responsibility to have the sources tested for the right application at the right frequencies.

The food safety plan must contain a water system description for both the field and packinghouse. These can be photos, hand drawn maps, etc. Make sure to include risers, backflow devices, underground main, etc.

When water is reused (re-circulated) in the packinghouse, is there a water change schedule? How often the water is changed in the tanks must be recorded and be at acceptable intervals. In other words, you cannot wait until the end of the season to change the water. Also, the water must be treated with an Environmental Protection Agency approved chemical and be monitored.

Traceback – Is there a documented traceback system in place? Does your food safety plan explain in detail how the product is traced from the field to the buyer? Each operation must have their own traceback system for that operation and it must be written in the food safety plan. The plan must be followed up with records that demonstrate the plan is implemented.

A recall program is different than a traceback program. A recall program is the ability to show that if there was a food borne illness outbreak that could be traced to your operation that you could notify the next buyer concerning the recall. A grower must be able to demonstrate the ability to carry out the recall program. This can be done over the phone with a buyer. A grower needs to know how much product the buyer still has on hand and what was moved forward. You do not need to know where the product went that was not on hand. It is the buyer's responsibility to notify and follow-up with the other purchasers. Have the buyer fax a copy of the conversation on their letterhead including summary of the conversation, date, time and person. This should be kept on file for the auditor.

A recall team should be established and the information recorded in the food safety plan. The team members do not necessarily just include people on the farm. You may want to include a lawyer, accountant, etc.

Glove Use – This was the biggest issue of the 2013-14 audit season. Do you have a glove policy? If so, are your employees trained on what type of gloves are acceptable and the proper use? Where do employees obtain the gloves; how often do they need to be changed; where to dispose of used gloves, etc. If re-usable gloves are acceptable, how are they cleaned and sanitized and where to store the gloves at the end of the day or shift. Review your glove policy and make sure everyone understands it before next season.

Preharvest Assessment – There are five risk assessments in the harmonized audit. They are: Land use history, water systems, animal activity in the production areas, soil amendments and pre-harvest. There are different assessments that need to be carried out each year. As the name implies the pre-harvest assessment is done just before harvest. This can be done the day before to make sure everything is ready the

next morning. Auditors are seeing risk assessment logs stating no risk present! Is there signs of wildlife; does your neighbor have a horse or cow across the fence; is there a diesel tank for the irrigation pump at the edge of the field; or is the portapoty too close to the field? These are just some examples. Remember the auditor will be looking at the field. It is not good if an auditor observes risks when there are none noted in your assessment report.

Food Contact Containers – Does your policy state how your company stores product containers? Can they be in direct contact with the floor/ground? What types of containers are acceptable for the product? These are just a few examples. Containers should be stored in a covered area away from birds, rodents, etc. If they cannot be stored in that manner then cover them with plastic to reduce the chance of contamination. They should always be stored off the ground on pallets.

Sanitizers/Water Treatment Chemicals – Chemicals used for cleaning and sanitizing must be labeled for that use. Some chemicals have short labels on the container, but if you check their website an expanded label can be found. For example, Clorox Ultra has a fruit and vegetable label on their website. You must have those labels at the time of the audit or be able to access them. This also, is true for chemicals used in re-circulated water for hydrocoolers and dump tanks.

Toilet Facilities – Do you have the adequate number of field toilets for the number of employees? Review the N.J.S.A. 34:9A-1 et seq. Migrant Labor, Seasonal Farm Labor Act to ensure you are within the acceptable limits. Make sure next season that the toilets have a wash station outside the toilet, soap and water, single use towels and a place to dispose of the grey water and towels.

Native Grasses Presentation

Mike Haberland, RCE Cherry Hill

TOPIC: Native Grasses
SPEAKER: Chris Miller, Director of the Natural Resource Conservation Service
 Cape May Native Plant Materials Center
PLACE: Rutgers Cooperative Extension Burlington County
DATE: January 14, 2015
TIME: 9:30 am—noon

On January 14th Chris Miller, Director of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Cape May Native Plant Materials Center, will make a presentation on Native Grasses. The presentation will take place at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington County, 1301 Park Boulevard, Cherry Hill, NJ.

Chris will be talking about native grasses in general, application of these grasses for use in buffers, shorelines, stream banks, stormwater basins, or as native meadows, as well as some effects on the grasses due to climate changes.

2015 NJ Agricultural Convention and Trade Show

The 2015 NJ Agricultural Convention and Trade Show is schedule for February 3-5, 2015.

This year's convention will be held at the Tropicana Casino and Resort, S. Brighton Avenue and the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ and will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the New Jersey State Agricultural Convention.

To make room reservations, exhibitor information and complete program, visit: www.njveggies.org

The convention workshop program is attached to this newsletter.

Farm Bill Meetings

USDA Farm Service Agency

The New Jersey Farm Service Agency is partnering with Rutgers Extension Service to host producer meetings in January to inform the public of new programs offered by the 2014 Farm Bill.

Meeting schedule/location:

Wednesday, January 7th at 9am

Location: Vineland Produce Auction

Vineland, NJ

Contact: Angela Andreoli

856-205-1225

Angela.andreoli@nj.usda.gov

Wednesday, January 7th at 1pm

Location: Salem County Extension Office

51 Cheney Road

Woodstown, NJ 08098

Contact: Al DiBella

856-769-1126

Al.dibella@nj.usda.gov

USDA Program News

Gene McAvoy, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension, LaBelle, Florida

To view the Winter/Spring 2015 edition of USDA's AMS Fruit and Vegetable Program News, visit: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5109995>

This issue includes information about programs and additional resources offered by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) including articles on the following:

- Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee
- Fresh Produce Inspection 101
- Get to know PACA: Online Training Resources
- Training Solutions for the Produce Industry
- Growers Are You Protected?
- Private versus Government Inspections in PACA Claims
- Produce Pilot Ready to Take Root in Schools; and
- Fruit and Vegetable Program Webinar Series

GAPs 2 Day Winter Training

Betsy Bihn, Cornell University

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 one 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 two covers: writing a food safety plan for your farm. Registration includes educational materials, lunch, and refreshments. Registration costs vary by location due to grant funding available. For more info, contact the individual listed under each location.

*Please note: a laptop is required for day 2. If you need to borrow a computer, please let us know in advance! *Trainings made possible through collaboration between National GAPs Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, and Produce Safety Alliance.*

Training Dates and Locations (additional information available when confirmed):

January 12-13, 2015 in Geneva, NY

Location: NYSAES, 630 West North Street, Geneva, NY, room 251 Food Science & Technology Building **Registration cost:** \$60 per farm plus \$15 for each additional person

Registration contact: CCE Yates, 315-536-5123, https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/FoodSafetyTraining_257 **Organizer:** Elizabeth Newbold

February 5-6, 2015 in Canajoharie, NY, Location: (tentative) Canajoharie Fire House

Registration cost:

Registration contact:

Organizer: Crystal Stewart and Mary Ellen Sheehan

February 9-10, 2015 in Arcade, NY (information not yet confirmed)

Organizer: Robert Hadad

February 10-11, 2015 in Riverhead, NY (information not yet confirmed)

Registration contact: (631) 727-7850 ext. 316, srm45@cornell.edu

Organizer: Sandy Menasha

March 10-11, 2015 in Canton, NY (information not yet confirmed)

Organizer: Paul Hetzler

March 24-25, 2015 in Plattsburgh, NY (information not yet confirmed)

Organizer: Anna Wallis

*Location, cost and contact information will be published when confirmed

GAPs On-line Produce Safety Courses

The next English GAPs Online Produce Safety Course will begin **January 7th** and will run through **January 27, 2015**. 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. Here are the tentative dates for the remainder of 2015 should you be unable to participate in the January class but are still interested in the GAPs Online Course:

Feb 4-24, 2015

March 4-24, 2015

April 8-28, 2015

May 6-26, 2015

July 15-August 4, 2015

October 7-27, 2015

November 4-24, 2015

Please contact Betsy Bihn, 315-787-2625 or email: eab38@cornell.edu, if you have any questions or concerns.

To register for the **January 7, 2015** course, visit: portal.ecornell.com/corporate/landingPage.do?method=load&corporateGroupId=15606. You will need to go all the way to the bottom of the page to click the ENROLL HERE link. 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"). 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. 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.

Implementing Good Agricultural Practices is a 3 week web-based course offered through the National GAPs Program. Class size is limited to 25 people on a first come, first serve basis. A minimum of 10 participants must be registered for us to offer the course. Special arrangements can be made for large groups to ensure everyone is in the same class together.

Once the course opens, it is open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for 3 weeks so you will be able to complete the course when time permits in your schedule. There are no required hours of participation. There is an instructor. The instructor may schedule office hours but you are not required to attend these hours. You will be able to email your instructor at all times during the course and they will respond in a timely manner. All course requirements must be completed within the 3 week window. Do communicate any problems you are having to your instructor or to the eCornell help desk so that we can provide assistance and guidance.

Within in the 3 weeks you are expected to:

- Complete a pre and post test
- Read all course materials
- Turn in 4 assignments for evaluation
- Complete 2 self-tests
- Contribute to the discussion boards.

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

Calendar of Important Events

↻ Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

January 2015

January 5

Pest Management of Ornamental Landscape Plants, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9 am-4 pm; \$195 by 12/22; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 2 CORE, 8 in 2, 3A, 6B, 8C & PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 6, 8, 20, & 22

Irrigation Systems: Design and Installation, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 am-4 pm; \$695 by 12/23; \$725 after. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, Mar 6, 13, & 20

Landscape Plants: Identification, Selection & Application, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8:30am-noon; \$895 by 12/26; \$950 after. For info call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 12

Managing Diseases of Ornamental Plants, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9 am-3:30 pm; \$195 by 12/29; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 10 in 3A, 8 in 2 and 2 in 10. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

↻ **January 12-30**

Three-week Turfgrass Management Course, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8:30am-3:30 pm; \$1,995. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 13, 14 & 15

Integrated Pest Management, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9 am-4 pm; \$395 by 12/30; \$430 after (3 days); \$195 by 12/30; \$210 after (1 day); Pesticide credits: Day 1: 5 in 3A & 3B; 8 in 13; Day 1-3: 16 in 3A, 3B & 13. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 14-17

Practical Tools & Solutions for Sustaining Family Farms Conf., Mobile, Ala.. For info visit: www.ssawg.org.

January 15-16

Upper Midwest Regional Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conf., St. Cloud, Minn. For more information visit: www.mfvga.org

January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, & Mar. 6

Landscape Design I: The Basics, Rutgers Cont. Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 1 pm-4:30 pm; \$745 by 1/2; \$795 after. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 16-17

Oklahoma/Arkansas Horticulture Industries Show, Holiday Inn City Center, Fort Smith, Ark. For more information visit: www.hortla.okstate.edu

January 17

Pesticide Calibration, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8am-noon; \$210. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 19-21

2015 OPGMA Congress, Kalahari Resort & Conv. Center, Sandusky, Ohio. For more information visit: www.opgma.org

January 20-21

Ontario Processing Vegetable Industry Conference, Four Points by Sheraton, London, Ontario. For more information call 519-681-1875, email: opvg@opvg.org or visit: www.opvg.org

January 20-22

Empire State Fruit & Vegetable Expo, Oncenter Convention Center, Syracuse, NY. For more information contact Jeanette Marvin at: nysvga@twcny.rr.com

January 20-22

Indiana Hort Congress, Wyndham Indianapolis West, Indianapolis. For more information visit: www.inhortcongress.org

January 20

Managing Insects & Diagnosing Plant Disease Problems, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn; 9am-noon; \$20. Pesticide credits: 6 in 13, 1A, 3A and PP2. To register/more information call Tammy at 856-451-2800 x1 or email: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu

January 21-22

WSCGA Winter Meeting & Trade Show, Wisconsin Cranberry School, Stevens Point, Wis. For more information visit: www.wiscran.org

January 22-23

Upper Midwest Regional Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conf., for more information email Paul Hugunin at Paul.Hugunin@state.mn.us

January 25-27

2015 Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference, Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells, Wis. For more information visit: www.wisconsinfreshproduce.org

January 26

Ag Literacy for Growers, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, 325 University Drive, Hershey PA.; 1-4 pm. For more information contact Tara Baugher 717-334-6271 or email: tab36@psu.edu

January 27-29

Mid-Atlantic Fruit & Vegetable Convention, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA. For more information contact William Troxell 717-694-3596 or visit: www.mafvc.org

January 27

Basic Entomology, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, 9am-noon; \$20. Pesticide credits: 4 in 13, 7A & 7B. To register or for more information call Tammy at 856-451-2800 x1 or email: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu

January 28

Organic Turfgrass Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 8:30-3:15pm; \$195 by 1/14; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 3/1A & PP2; 8/3B and 9/13. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu.

January 29-30

Iowa Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association Conf., Ankeny, Iowa. For more information visit: www.ifvga.org

February 2015**February 1-6**

30th Annual NAFDMA Convention, Nashville, Knoxville, Tenn. For more information visit: www.nafdma.com

February 2

Sustainable Landscape Design, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 1/19; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 3 each in 3A, 6B, 8C, 13 and PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 3

Natural and Integrated Pest Management Strategies for Sports Turf, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8am-12:30pm; \$175 by 1/20; \$195 after. Pesticide credits: 9 each in 3B and 13. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 3-5

NJ Agricultural Convention & Trade Show, Tropicana Casino & Resort, Atlantic City, NJ. For more information visit: www.njveggies.org

February 3-5

National Council of Agricultural Employers Annual Meeting, Washington DC. For more information contact Frank Gasperini 703-790-9039, email: frank@ncaeonline.org or visit: www.ncaeonline.org

February 3-6

2015 North American Strawberry Growers Association Conference and Symposium, Crown Plaza Hotel, Ventura, CA. For more information visit: www.nasga.org

February 4

Concrete Pavers, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-4pm; \$245 by 1/21; \$270 after. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 5

Turfgrass Establishment, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9am-3:45pm; \$195 by 1/22; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 7 each in 3B and PP2; 2 category 10. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 6

Pest Management of Landscape Turf, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 1/23; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 2 category 13 and 11 each in 3B and PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 9

Designing and Installing Retaining Walls, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-4pm; \$245 by 1/26; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 10

Managing Insect Pests of Ornamental Plants, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 1/27; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 3 in 13; 10 each in 2, 3A, 6B, 8C and PP2. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 11-12

Beds and Borders Seminar, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 am-3:30 pm; \$395 by 11/28; \$430 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 17

Baseball & Softball Skin Surface Selection and Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8am-noon; \$175 by 2/3; \$190 after. Pesticide credits: 4 each in 3B and 13. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 17

Outdoor Entertainment Spaces: Kitchens, Fire Pits and More, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 2/3; \$270 after. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

✦ **February 17**

Tree Planting and Installation, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 2/3; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

✦ **February 18**

Tree Pruning, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 4/4; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 18-19

Athletic Field Construction and Maintenance, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 8:30am-4pm; \$395 by 2/4; \$430 after. Pesticide credits: 4 in 13 and 10 in 3B. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

✦ **February 19**

Plant Health Care, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 2/5; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

✦ **February 19-21**

Farmers Market Manager Training Conference, Ramada Inn, Liverpool, Syracuse. For more information call 315-637-4690 or visit: <http://www.nyfarmersmarket.com/annualconference>

✦ **February 20**

Turfgrass Disease Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 2/6; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 2 in 13; 10 in 3B, 3C, 6B and PP2. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 21-25

58th Annual International Fruit Tree Association Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia. For more information visit: www.ifruittree.org

February 24-27

North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference, Chancellor Hotel, Fayetteville, Ark. For more information visit: www.raspberryblackberry.com or email: info@raspberryblackberry.com

✦ **February 24**

Park Management and Liability Issues, Rutgers Cont. Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 2/10; \$210 after. For information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 25-26

2015 Harvest New England AG Marketing Conference & Trade Show, Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA. For information contact Jaime Smith 860-713-2559 or email: Jaime.smith@ct.gov

✦ **February 26**

Hazardous Tree Identification, Rutgers Cont. Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 2/12; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 26-28

MOSES Organic Farming Conf., La Crosse, Wis Midwest Organic & Sustainable Ed Service. For more information call 715-778-5775 or visit: www.mosesorganic.org

✦ **February 28**

Grape Expectations Symposium, Forsgate County Club, 375 Forsgate Drive, Monroe Township, NJ. For more information contact Dr. Gary Pavlis 609-625-0056 or email: pavlis@njaes.rutgers.edu

March 2015**March 2-6**

The 26th Annual Florida Postharvest Horticulture Tour, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. For more information contact Steven Sargent 352-273-4780 or email: sasa@ufl.edu

✦ **March 2**

Irrigation Systems: Repair and Maintenance, Rutgers Cont. Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-4pm; \$245 by 2/16; \$270 after. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 3-4

Mississippi Greenhouse Tomato Short Course, Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Raymond, Miss. For more information contact Rick Snyder 601-892-3731 or email: rick.snyder@msstate.edu

✦ **March 6**

Roadside and Right-of-way Vegetation Management, Rutgers Cont. Ed, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 2/20; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 4 CORE & 3B and 6 in 6B. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

✦ **March 9-10**

Managing Turfgrass and Landscape Weeds, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ, 9am-3:30pm; \$395 by 2/23; \$430 after. Pesticide credits: 4 CORE, 8 in 3B, 6B, 8C and 16 in 2, 3A and PP2. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 17

Turf Pest Problems/Management, Rutgers Cooperative Ext., 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, 9am-noon; \$20. Pesticide credits: 6 in 13, 3B and PP2. To register/information call Tammy at 856-451-2800 x1 or email: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu

March 4-5

Landscape Lighting: Design and LED Technology, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm(Day 1) & 9am-noon (Day2); \$395 by 2/18; \$430 after. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 7-10

California Small Farm Conference, Marriott Mission Valley, San Diego, Ca. For more information call 888-712-4188 or visit: www.californiafarmconference.com

March 12

Introduction to Pruning Techniques, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 2/26; \$210 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 16

Better Business Management Skills for the Landscape Professional, Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 3/2; \$210 after. For info call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 17

Irrigation Systems: Principles of SMART Controller Programming; Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$195 by 3/3; \$210 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 18

Safe Pest Management Practices for Schools, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 8:30am-4pm; \$275 by 3/4; \$295 after. Pesticide credits: 3 CORE, 7 in 13; 2 in 7A and 7D and 1 in 8B. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 19

Advanced Pruning Techniques, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 3/5; \$270 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 23

Irrigation Systems: Two-Wire Electrical Troubleshooting, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9am-1pm; \$195 by 3/9; \$210 after. For more information call 848-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 26-28

Viva Fresh Conference and Expo, Texas International Produce Association, Austin, Texas. For more information visit: www.vivafreshexpo.com

April 2015**April 23-25**

Bee-ginner's Beekeeping, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/BEES

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

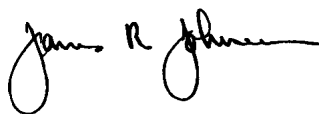
<p>✓</p> <p>Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule—Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2015</u></p> <p>Feb 19 May 21 Oct 1</p> <p>To Register call 609-984-6614 For directions call 856-451-2800</p> <p>*****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board Soil Conservation Office 1516 Highway 77 Deerfield Street, NJ 08332</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2015</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Jan 14</td> <td>Feb 11</td> <td>Mar 11</td> <td>Apr 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 13</td> <td>Jun 10</td> <td>July 8</td> <td>Aug 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sep 9</td> <td>Oct 7</td> <td>Nov 18</td> <td>Dec 9</td> </tr> </table> <p>Reg. Meetings start at 7 p.m. Call DeAnn at 856-453-2211</p> <p>*****</p>	Jan 14	Feb 11	Mar 11	Apr 8	May 13	Jun 10	July 8	Aug 12	Sep 9	Oct 7	Nov 18	Dec 9	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel) 7 pm meetings</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2015</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Jan 15</td> <td>Feb 19</td> <td>Mar 19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr 16</td> <td>May 21</td> <td>Sep 17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct 15</td> <td>Nov 19</td> <td>Dec 17</td> </tr> </table> <p>For info call Shirley Kline, President 856-685-3784</p> <p>*****</p>	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Sep 17	Oct 15	Nov 19	Dec 17
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Apr 16	May 21	Sep 17																					
Oct 15	Nov 19	Dec 17																					

**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

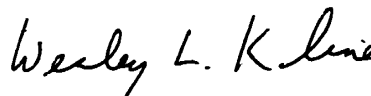
Questions? Call Division of Ag & Natural Resources, NJ Dept. of Ag 609-292-5532

2015 Dates published upon receipt

Sincerely,



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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/>

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RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

Key Take-Aways: *Implications of Health Care Reform for Farm Businesses and Families* (Ahearn et al.)

<http://aepp.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2014/09/30/aepp.ppu030.short> (*Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 9/14)

Summarized by: Dr. Barbara O'Neill, CFP®, Specialist in Financial Resource Management, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
oneill@aesop.rutgers.edu

Abstract

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has implications for the source of health insurance for farm households and potentially how much of their time they allocate to off-farm jobs and even the rate at which new operators enter farming. **The Act will likely have impacts for the 1% of farms defined to be large employers, which are required to provide coverage for their workers or pay a penalty. While a very small share of all farms, they account for upward of 40% of the production for some commodities.** How they adjust their use of farm labor in response to the Affordable Care Act has implications for farm structure.

- ◆ Not all ACA implementation regulations and unforeseen consequences are yet known (read: the ACA could still be “tweaked” some more as implementation continues to unfold).
- ◆ The ACA has implications for farm operators as both individuals required to buy health insurance and firms (employers) that hire farm labor. It includes both “carrots” (subsidies) and “sticks” (penalties for noncompliance).
- ◆ Firms with 50 or more workers will be required to provide health insurance coverage in 2015 (100+ employees) or 2016 (50+ employees). See <http://kff.org/infographic/employer-responsibility-under-the-affordable-care-act/>.
- ◆ The ACA “shared responsibility provision” (individual mandate) went into effect on 1/1/14 and requires most U.S. citizens and legal residents to enroll in some form of public or private health insurance.
- ◆ By 2016, when the ACA is fully phased in, individuals without health insurance will be required to pay a penalty (via their tax return) between \$695 and 2.5% of taxable income, whichever is GREATER.
- ◆ State/federal government-facilitated exchanges link uninsured individuals with private health insurance carriers.
- ◆ Plans offered on health exchanges are ranked according to their actuarial value (the percentage of allowed costs that are paid): bronze (60%), silver (70%), gold (80%), and platinum (90%).
- ◆ An individual/household filing a tax return with health insurance purchased on an exchange and income no more than 400% of federal poverty level is eligible for health insurance premium tax credits based on personal factors.
- ◆ Farm employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt from the employer mandate, which requires large businesses to provide insurance coverage to their workers. Failure to do so, when required, results in tax penalties.
- ◆ Both full-time and part-time labor figures into a farm’s employee count. Seasonal workers do not count toward the number of workers if an employee is not on the payroll for more than a 120-day period.
- ◆ Coverage provided by employers must be *adequate* (covering at least 60% of costs) and *affordable* (not costing more than 9.5% of an employee’s household income). Penalties apply for each requirement and are assessed per year per worker over 30 workers. Employers are required to pay the *lesser* of the two penalties, not both.
- ◆ Small employers who are NOT required to purchase insurance for their workers can receive a tax credit of up to 50% of the cost of employee-only coverage if they have fewer than 25 employees paid average annual wages of less than \$50,000. See <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Small-Business-Health-Care-Tax-Credit-for-Small-Employers>.
- ◆ Small businesses with fewer than 100 employees (50 employees until 2016) can purchase insurance through the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP), a health insurance marketplace for small businesses.

- ◆ About a third of farm operators are age 65+, Medicare eligible, and not influenced (as consumers) by the ACA. The farm operator population has a much higher share of seniors than the general U.S. population.
- ◆ Nearly one-fifth (17%) of 1.61 million farm families nationwide with members under age 65 had incomes below 138% of federal poverty level, making them eligible (in 25 states, including New Jersey, that expanded Medicaid eligibility) for inclusion in Medicaid, an income-based federal/state government health insurance program. This interactive map tracks where states stand on Medicaid expansion decisions:
<https://www.statereforum.org/Medicaid-Expansion-Decisions-Map>
- ◆ Many farm families with incomes low enough to qualify for Medicaid have a high net worth. The median net worth of farm families is more than 5 times that of the median U.S. household. The ACA does NOT have an “asset test,” however, for eligibility for Medicaid expansion or premium tax credits. Only income and family size are considered. Lack of an “asset test” is a significant advantage for farm families who may have low cash incomes.
- ◆ More than three-quarters (78%) of 2.1 million U.S. farms do NOT hire labor. Rather, labor is provided solely by operators and family members. For these farmers, the employer mandate obviously does not apply. The only way that these farmers are affected by the ACA is through the individual mandate to purchase health insurance.
- ◆ Based on 2009 data, less than 1% of farms (a total of 1,582; mostly fruit and greenhouse/nursery enterprises and located in the West) have 50+ workers and are affected by the employer mandate. It is likely that some of these farms already provide health insurance to recruit/retain workers, especially in areas with farm labor shortages.
- ◆ About 11% of all farms hire from 1 to 24 full-time workers and they could be eligible for employer tax credits if they cover at least 50% of the cost of single (not family) coverage for each employee and the average annual wages of employees is less than \$50,000.
- ◆ Another 11% of farms with 25 to 49 workers are not eligible for tax credits but are eligible to purchase health insurance at a lower price via SHOP marketplace plans.
- ◆ Research conducted by Ahearn et al. (2014) using data about the 1,582 large farms with 50+ workers that are affected by the ACA employer mandate, found that ACA implementation increased labor costs only slightly (2% to 5%, depending on farm size). These very large farms have very large variable expenses.
- ◆ There are cost-benefit considerations with respect to the purchase of health insurance by farm operators: the cost of coverage and the benefit of increasing the likelihood of a more stable work force.
- ◆ Data are not available from farm labor contractors. Many contract workers are known to be undocumented and they and their employers prefer not to participate in *any* program that could bring their workers’ legal status to light. Large employers in this situation may elect not to provide mandated coverage and incur the penalty.
- ◆ Undocumented workers and legal noncitizens who have not been in the country for at least 5 years are not eligible for health care coverage under the ACA.
- ◆ The full implications of the ACA on farm families will continue to evolve as more people sign up for coverage and provisions of the law are implemented over time (e.g., the full rollout of the employer mandate in 2016 and the integration of ACA penalties with income tax returns).
- ◆ A clear ACA benefit to farm families is that those who had preexisting conditions or purchased health insurance from private vendors without the benefits of a group plan can obtain lower-cost coverage from health exchanges.
- ◆ Access to affordable health care can positively affect farm succession planning because farm assets will not be at risk of liquidation due to the possibility of extreme (catastrophic) medical expenses.

- ◆ A challenge to farm families is highly variable year-to-year incomes because household income helps determine Medicaid expansion eligibility (up to 138% of federal poverty level) and premium tax credit eligibility. Farmers do, however, have more flexibility (than average workers) to manage their taxable income via timing of the receipt of income and expensing of capital items.
- ◆ As noted above, farm families, on average, are unique (compared to typical U.S. households) with regard to their combination of low incomes and high net worth. The ACA's reliance on income-based implementation, while disregarding the value of household assets, means that many farm families will be eligible for health insurance coverage options like Medicaid that have generally only been available to low income/low net worth households.
- ◆ Farm households should proactively consider ACA implementation in their annual tax planning and strive to maintain consistent year-to-year outcomes that result in eligibility for ACA premium tax subsidies and/or expanded Medicaid eligibility (if available in their state of residence, such as is the case in NJ).
- ◆ There is some evidence that employer-provided health insurance is an incentive for many farm operators and their spouses to participate in the off-farm labor market. Thus, the option to obtain health insurance through sources outside the labor market (i.e., insurance marketplace or expanded Medicaid) could decrease "job lock" among farm households (e.g., reduce off-farm labor of farmers' wives, especially among small farm households).
- ◆ A decrease in off-farm employment as a result of the ACA is expected to be negligible, however, because most farm families with a member who works full-time off the farm depend on this off-farm income.
- ◆ Large farm operators had already been considering ways to reduce their use of hired labor (e.g., robotics) due to concerns about labor supply availability. The ACA has provided additional incentives to those with more than 50 employees to reduce or alter their use of labor. This could lead to a greater use of contract labor or farms reorganizing into smaller units to avoid the employer mandate. However, if labor contractors are required to provide coverage and the cost of their services increases accordingly, farm operators may decide to hire workers directly themselves and benefit from a stable workforce.

Tuesday Morning, February 3, 2015

Pest Management	Sweet Corn	State Policy Issues Session	Organic I	Workshop for New Wine Grape Growers I
Mambo 1 & 2	Mambo 3 & 4	Castanet 1 & 2	Castanet 3 & 4	Bongo 1 & 2
Joe Ingerson-Mahar Vegetable IPM Coordinator, RCE	Ray Samulis Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE	Brian Schilling Extension Specialist in Agricultural Policy, RCE	Joe Heckman Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility, RCE	Gary Pavlis Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE
<p>9:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>9:45 - Update on Brown Marmorated Stinkbug, -- George Hamilton, Chair Department of Entomology, Rutgers</p> <p>10:15 - Fall Armyworm Migrations and Implications for NJ Farmers, -- Robert Meagher, Jr., Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS CMAV</p> <p>10:45 - New Insecticides for Vegetable Crops, -- Tom Kuhar, Professor and Extension Vegetable Entomology Specialist, Virginia Tech</p> <p>11:15 - Making Sound Insecticide Choices, -- Kris Holmstrom, Research Project Coordinator, Vegetable IPM Program, RCE</p> <p>11:45 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=4, 10=4 CORE=1 CCA Credits: IPM=2.0</p>	<p>9:30 - Understanding the New Sweet Corn Weed Threat from Palmer Amaranthus -- Bill Bamka, Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>10:00 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>10:15 - Trends in Sweet Corn Insect contro l- Worm Complex and Aphids” -- Kris Holmstrom, Research Project Coordinator, Vegetable IPM Program, RCE</p> <p>10:45 - Market trends of the NJ/National Sweet corn Market -- Bruce Eckland, NJ Director of National Agricultural Statistics</p> <p>11:15 - 2014 Trial Results of Bicolor Sweet Corn Varieties and Bird Management Update -- Ray Samulis, Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>11:45 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=3, 10=3 CCA Credits: CM=0.5 IPM=1, PD=0.5</p>	<p>9:30 - Farmland Preservation in NJ - Evaluating the Outcomes -- Brian Schilling, Ag Policy Extension Specialist, RCE</p> <p>9:45 - Farmland Assessment - Changes in 2015 -- Patricia Wright, Deputy Director, Compliance & Enforcement and Property Administration NJ Division of Taxation</p> <p>10:15 - Farmland Access/Leasing Initiatives (including a demonstration of a new farmland linking website) -- Erica Evans, Beginning Farmer Program Coordinator, NOFA-NJ -- Lucas Marxen, Assistant Director of Research Technology Rutgers - NJAES Office of Research Analytics -- Jeff Everett, Chief of Ag Resources, SADC</p> <p>11:15 - Agricultural Conflict Resolution - Update on the Agricultural Mediation Program. -- Jeff Everett, Chief of Ag Resources, SADC</p> <p>11:45 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>12:00 – Questions and Comments</p> <p>CCA Credits: PD= 0.5</p>	<p>9:30 - Organic Farming and Food Safety -- Meredith Melendez, Mercer County Senior Program Coordinator, RCE</p> <p>10:00 - Organic Certification -- Erich Bremer, Supervisor, Organic Certification Program, NJDA</p> <p>10:30 - Organic Farming with Cover Crops -- Justine Cook, NOFA</p> <p>11:00 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>11:15 - Soil Management -- Howard Vlieger, Iowa Farmer and Crop and Livestock Nutrition Advisor.</p> <p>11:45 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=2, PP2=2, 10=2 CCA Credits: SWM=1.0, PD=1</p>	<p>9:30 – Should You be Growing Grapes? Pros, Cons, and Site Selection. -- Gary C. Pavlis, Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE.</p> <p>10:00 – What Should You Grow; Grape Variety Selection. -- Joseph Fiola, Small Fruit Specialist, Univ. of Maryland.</p> <p>10:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>10:45 – Controlling Weeds in the Vineyard. -- Brad Majek, Extension Specialist in Weeds, RCE</p> <p>11:15 – Vineyard Establishment -- Dan Ward, Extension Specialist in Pomology, RCE.</p> <p>11:45 – The Economics of Growing Grapes -- Dan Ward, Extension Specialist in Pomology, RCE.</p> <p>12:00 Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=3, PP2=3, 10=3 CCA Credits: IPM=0.5, CM=1.5</p>
12:00 to 1:30 pm	Mandatory Annual Training Documents for the FMNP Vendors with Q&A Tambora Rm -- Dorothy Ngumezi and Jose Quann, both from the NJDOH and Bill Walker, NJDA			

Tuesday Afternoon, February 3, 2015

High Tunnels	Peppers	Specialty/Ethnic/ Greens/herbs	Organic II	Workshop for New Wine Grape Growers II Bongo 1 & 2
Mambo 1 & 2	Mambo 3 & 4	Castanet 1 & 2	Castanet 3 & 4	
A.J. Both Extension Specialist in Ag Engineering, RCE	Andy Wyenandt Extension Specialist in Vegetable Plant Pathology, RCE	Jenny Carleo Cape May County Ag Agent, RCE	Bill Sciarappa Monmouth County Ag Agent, RCE	Dan Ward Extension Specialist in Fruit Crops, RCE
<p>2:15 - Greenhouse Production on Long Island -- Nora Catlin, Floriculture Specialist, Cornell University</p> <p>2:45 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>3:00 - Covering Materials for Greenhouses and High Tunnels -- Blair Busenbark, COO/Sales, Adaptive Plastics, Inc.</p> <p>3:30 - Cold Season Crop Production in High Tunnels -- Becky Sideman, Sustainable Horticulture Specialist, University of New Hampshire</p> <p>4:00 - High Tunnel Construction and Operation Update -- A.J. Both, Extension Specialist in Ag Engineering, RCE</p> <p>4:30 - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=3, PP2=3, 10=3 CCA Credits: CM=2.0</p>	<p>2:15 - Management of Bacterial Leaf Spot of Pepper, Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going? -- Richard Raid, Professor, Everglades Research and Extension Center, Univ. of Florida</p> <p>2:45 - Update on Pepper Weevil in New Jersey, -- Joseph Ingerson-Majar, Vegetable IPM Coordinator, RCE</p> <p>3:15 - Update on Pepper Disease Control, -- Andy Wyenandt, Extension Specialist In Vegetable Pathology, RCE</p> <p>3:45 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>4:00 - Update on Pepper Phytophthora Tolerance Research at RAREC -- Wesley Kline, Cumberland County Agricultural Agent, RCE</p> <p>4:30 - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=5, PP2=5, 10=5 CCA Credits: IPM=2</p>	<p>2:15 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>2:30 - African Crops, -- Rick VanVranken, Atlantic County Agent RCE</p> <p>3:00 - Early Season Money: Growing Greens with Row Covers -- Lisa and Ralph Turner, Laughing Stock Farm, Freeport, Maine</p> <p>3:30 - Emerging Diseases on Popular Herbs and Their Control -- Richard Raid, Professor of Plant Pathology, University of Florida's, (IFAS)</p> <p>4:00 - What Chefs Want -- Lucas Manteca, Owner/Operator Fincas del Mar farm and The Red Store Restaurant</p> <p>4:30 - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=1, PP2=1, 10=1 CCA Credits: IPM=0.5, CM=0.5, PD=1</p>	<p>2:15 - Pest Management for Organic Production -- Dr. Jacqueline A. Ricotta, Delaware Valley College</p> <p>2:45 - Protecting Crops from Disease with Soil Fertility -- Joseph Heckman, Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility, RCE</p> <p>3:15 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>3:30 - GMO Concerns of Organic Farming -- Howard Vlieger, Iowa Farmer and Crop and Livestock Nutrition Advisor.</p> <p>4:30 - Storage and Spills- Managing Risk. -- Pat Hastings, Pesticide Education Coordinator Rutgers</p> <p>5:00 - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=3, PP2=3, 10=3 CORE=1 CCA Credits: IPM=1.5, PD=1</p>	<p>2:15 - Pruning and Canopy Management. -- Joseph Fiola, Small Fruit Specialist, Univ. of Maryland.</p> <p>2:45 - Insect Pests in the Vineyard -- Ann Nielsen, Extension Specialist in Entomology, RCE</p> <p>3:15 - Controlling Diseases in the Vineyard -- Peter Oudemans, Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology, RCE</p> <p>3:45 - What Works and What Doesn't. Panel of NJ Grape Growers.</p> <p>4:15 - What Resources Are Out There for You? -- Dan Ward, Ext. Specialist in Pomology, RCE</p> <p>4:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>4:45 - A Word About Wine -- Gary C. Pavlis, Atlantic County. Ag Agent, RCE.</p> <p>5:00 - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=3, PP2=3, 10=3 CCA Credits: IPM=1 CM=1</p>

Wednesday Morning, February 4, 2015

Energy	Retail Marketing & Agritourism	Field & Forage Crops	Small Fruit	Tomatoes
Mambo 1 & 2	Mambo 3 & 4	Castanet 1 & 2	Castnet 3 & 4	Bongo 1 & 2
A.J. Both Ext. Specialist in Ag Engineering, RCE	Bill Hlubik Middlesex County Ag Agent, RCE	Bill Bamka Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE	Peter Nitzsche Morris County Ag Agent, RCE	Kris Holmstrom North Jersey IPM, RCE
<p>9:30 - Energy Issues for Indoor Crop Production -- Scott Sanford, Rural Energy Specialist, University of Wisconsin</p> <p>10:00 - Farm Energy Audits -- Tom Manning, Project Engineer NJAES, Rutgers University</p> <p>10:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>10:45 - On-Farm Cold Storage -- Scott Sanford, Rural Energy Specialist, University of Wisconsin</p> <p>11:15 - LED Lighting -- A.J. Both, Extension Specialist in Ag Engineering, RCE</p> <p>11:45 – Questions and Comments CCA Credits: PD=2</p>	<p>9:30 – Personalizing Your Retail Farm Business to Keep Customers Coming Back - My Adventures in CSA's -- Jeff Tober, Farm Manager, Fernbrook Farms, Chesterfield NJ.</p> <p>10:00 – Results of On-Farm SWOT Analysis for Running a Successful Agri-tourism Operation -- Michele Casella, Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>10:30 - Growing your Agritourism and Direct Marketing Business and Harvesting the Profits -- Tim VonThun, VonThun Farms, Monmouth Junction, NJ.</p> <p>11:00 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>11:15- How to make a corn maze that will draw the crowds -- Bill Hlubik, Middlesex County Ag Agent, RCE -- Tim VonThun, VonThun Farms, Monmouth Junction, NJ.</p> <p>11:45 Talking to Customers About GMO's and the Safety of our Local Food Supply -- Bill Hlubik, RCE</p> <p>12:00 – Questions and Comments</p> <p>12:00 - NJ Farmers Direct Marketing Meeting -- John Hauser Presiding</p>	<p>9:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>9:45 - Rutgers Field Crop Research Update -- Dave Lee, Salem County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>10:15 - Field Crop Disease Management: Soybean Sudden Death -- Nathan Kleczewski, Extension Plant Pathologist, Univ. of Delaware</p> <p>10:45 - High Oleic Oil Soybeans -- Matt Scuffham, Area Sales Manager, Pioneer</p> <p>11:15 - Palmer Amaranth is Here, Now What? -- Bill Bamka, Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>11:45 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=3, 10=4 CCA Credits: IPM=1, CM=1</p>	<p>9:30 - Overview of the National Strawberry Sustainability Initiative -- William Hlubik, Middlesex County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>10:00 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>10:15 - Update on Rutgers NJAES Strawberry Breeding Program. -- Peter Nitzsche, Morris County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>10:45 - Beach Plum a New Commercial Small Fruit Crop. -- Jenny Carleo, Cape May County Ag Agent, RCE</p> <p>11:15 - Growing and Marketing Small Fruit at Stanton's Feura Farm -- Tim Stanton, Stanton's Feura Farm, Feura Bush</p> <p>11:45 – Spotted Wing Drosophila Management in Berries -- Anne Nielsen, Extension Specialist in Entomology, RCE</p> <p>12.15 - Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=1, 10=2 CCA Credits: CM=2</p>	<p>9:30 – Update on New Jersey Tomato Variety Selections, -- Tom Orton, Dept. of Plant Biology and Pathology, Rutgers</p> <p>10:15 - Tomato Variety Selection for East Coast Growers. -- Chris Gunter, Veg. Production Specialist, NC State Univ.</p> <p>10:45 - Update on Tomato Insect Pest Management -- Tom Kuhar, Professor and Extension Vegetable Entomology Specialist, Virginia Tech</p> <p>11:15 – Update on the NJDA transplant inspection program. -- Paul Kurtz Plant Pathologist, NJDA</p> <p>11:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical</p> <p>11:45 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=5, PP2=2, 10=5 CCA Credits: IPM=0.5, CM=1</p>
12:00 to 1:30 pm	<p>Mandatory Annual Training Documents for the FMNP Vendors with Q&A Tambora Rm -- Dorothy Ngumezi and Jose Quann, both from the NJDOH and Bill Walker, NJDA</p>			

Wednesday Afternoon, February 4, 2015

Marketing in th Garden State	Food \Safety	Alternative Crops	Blueberries	Vine crops
Mambo 1 & 2	Mambo 3 & 4	Castanet 1 & 2	Castanet 3 & 4	Bongo 1 & 2
Richard VanVranken	Meredith Melendez	Steve Komar	Gary Pavlis	Michelle Casella
Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE	Mercer County Senior Prog. Coordinator, RCE	Sussex County Ag Agent, RCE	Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE	Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE
2:15 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr , Helena Chemical	2:15 - Introduction/Welcome -- Meredith Melendez Mercer County Senior Program Coordinator, RCE	2:15 - Hops as a Potential Value-Added Crop -- Bill Bamka Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE	2:15 - Update on Valdensinia Leaf-Spot Disease -- Seanna L. Annis , Prof. of Mycology, University of Maine	2:15 - Update on Vine Crop Diseases and Controls. -- Andy Wyenandt , Extension Vegetable Pathologist, RCEs
2:30 - Today's Challenges for Agriculture -- Edwin Kee , The Honorable Secretary of Agriculture in Delaware	2:30 - Sanitizer For Packing Operations -- Eduardo Gutierrez-Rodriguez , Extension Specialist, NC State University	2:45 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr , Helena Chemical	2:45 – The Soil Microbiome, What does it tell us? -- James Polashock , Plant Pathologist USDA-ARS and -- Peter Oudemans , Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology, RCE.	2:45 - Identification of Cucurbit Insect Pests and Plant Symptoms -- Michelle Infante-Casella , Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE
3:00 – What's Trending Now - Are You? -- Brock Nemecek and Mackenzie Michel Account Marketing Manager, DMA Solutions, Inc., Irving, TX	3:00 - Food Safety Decision Trees -- Gretchen Wall , Produce Safety Alliance Program Coordinator, Cornell University	3:00 - Current Trends in New and Emerging Crops for the Northeast -- Stephen Komar Sussex County Ag Agent, RCE	3:05 – Evaluation of a Novel Attract-&Kill Technology for Control of Oriental Beetle -- Cesar Rodriguez-Saona , Ext. Specialist in Entomology and -- Robert Holdcraft , Plant & Soils Tech, RCE.	3:15 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr , Helena Chemical
3:30 - Why You Should Have a Business Plan, -- Kieth Dickinson , Business Consultant, Farm Credit East	3:30 - Food Safety and Greenhouse Production -- Sally Miller , Professor Ohio State University	3:30 - How Agricultural Policy and Consumer Demand Impact New Crop Development -- Brian Schilling Ag Policy Extension Specialist, RCE	3:25 – Advances in Black Shadow Research, -- Peter Oudemans , Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology, RCE.	3:30 - High Tunnel Vine Crops Production -- Lewis Jett , Extension Specialist in Horticulture, University of West Virginia
4:00 - Marketing to the Big Guys - Is Sustainability the Next Hurdle? -- Rick VanVranken , Atlantic County Agriculture Agent, RCE	4:00 - What Auditors are Finding on New Jersey Farms -- Chris Kleinguenther , Chief, NJDA Bureau of Commodity Inspection and Grading	4:00 - Canola as a Potential Value-Added Crop for the Northeast -- David Lee Salem County Ag Agent, RCE	3:45 – Can we Delay Bloom in Blueberry? (and why we might want to do so?), -- Mark Ehlenfeldt , USDA-ARS.	4:00 - Causes and Identification of Abiotic Disorders in Vine Crops -- Michelle Infante-Casella , Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE
4:30 - Questions and Comments	4:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr , Helena Chemical	4:30 – Questions, Comments and Re-certifications Credits 1A=3, PP2=3, 10=3 CCA Credits: CM=1.5, PD=0.5	4:05 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr , Helena Chemical	4:30 – Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=2, 10=4 CCA Credits: CM=1, IPM=1
	4:45 – Questions, Comments		4:20 - Update on Spotted Wing Drosophila Research and Monitoring Practices -- Dean Polk , Fruit IPM Agent, RCE and -- Cesar Rodriguez-Saona , Ext. Specialist in Entomology, RCE	
			4:50 – Questions, Comments and Re-certification Credits 1A=4, PP2=4, 10=4 CCA Credits: IPM=1	

Thursday All Day, February 5, 2015

Food Safety

Carousel A, B, & C as a classroom
 Carousel D, E, & F as a classroom

Wes Kline

Cumberland County Ag Agent, RCE

9:30 - Writing a Recall Plan and How to Carry It Out
 -- **TBA**

10:30 - Food Safety Modernization Act and the Impact on New Jersey's Retail and Wholesale Growers.
 -- **Wesley Kline**, Cumberland County Agricultural Agent, RCE

11:45 - Microbial Testing of Water Sources in Maryland: Observations and Mitigation Measures.
 -- **Donna Pahl**, GAPs Educator, University of Maryland

Lunch on own

2:15 - Concurrent Workshop Sessions on Developing Food Safety Plans and Third Party Audits.

Session I - Third Party Audits and How to Develop a Plan for the Wholesale Market.

-- **Wesley Kline**, Cumberland County Agricultural Agent, RCE
 -- **Chris Kleinguenther**, Bureau Chief, Inspection and Grading. New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Session II - Writing a Food Safety Plan for the Retail Grower - Hands on Workshop.

-- **Meredith Melendez**, Mercer County Senior Program Coordinator, RCE

4:45 - Questions and Comments
 -- **Wayne Knerr**, Helena Chemical

10:45 - Information from Our Exhibitors

Basil Downy Mildew Workshop

Pagent Suite A, B, & C

Andy Wyenandt

Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, RCE

8:30 AM - Strategies for Improving the U.S. Responses to Fusarium, Downy Mildew and Chilling Injury in Production of Sweet Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*): An Overview of the National Basil Consortium.
 -- **Jim Simon**, Professor Rutgers University

9:00 AM - Downy Mildew and Its Occurrence Across the USA.
 -- **Meg McGrath**, Cornell University

9:20 AM - Fungicides for Managing Basil Downy Mildew, New Jersey.
 -- **Andy Wyenandt**, Rutgers University

9:40 AM - Efficacy of Conventional and Organic Fungicides for Managing Basil Downy Mildew. Long Island.
 -- **Meg McGrath**, Cornell University

10:00 AM - Importance of Drench or Soil Fungicide Treatments for Successful Downy Mildew Control.
 -- **Rick Raid**, University of Florida

10:30 AM - Economics and Costs of Basil Downy Mildew Control.
 -- **Ramu Govindasamy and Bill Sciarappa**, Rutgers University

11:00 AM: Panel Discussion with Basil Growers

12:00 - Group Lunch

- Survey Completion as to Impact and Injury of Basil Downy Mildew

1:00 PM: Moving into Genetics and Breeding for Resistance: A Rapid Screening Approach to Identify Resistance to Basil Downy Mildew.
 -- **Robert Pyne**, Rutgers University

2:00 PM - Breeding Basil for Resistance to Downy Mildew and Fusarium: Where We are Now?
 -- **Jim Simon**, Rutgers University

2:30 PM - Questions, Comments, and Re-certification Credits
 1A=8, PP2=5, 10=8
 CCA Credits: IPM=3.5