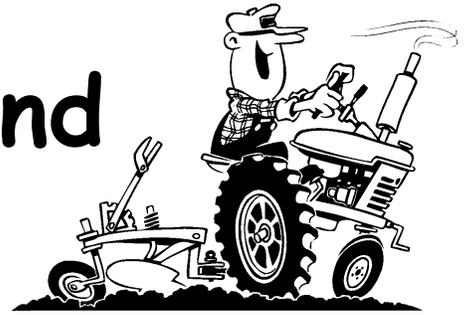


Cultivating Cumberland

October - 2015 VOL. 20, ISSUE 10



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Public Comment Period

As was mentioned in the last newsletter the New Jersey Department of Agriculture has reopened the public comment period to obtain comments concerning negative economic impacts, imposition of financial burdens and possible costly requirements of this rule. Please note below the closing date and where you send comments. When commenting be specific – How is the rule going to impact your business either positively or negatively. Just saying “I will make more money or loss money does not help without details.” How much do you anticipating making or losing. How much more product do you anticipate selling or will you lose market share.

Locally Grown - Reopening of Public Comment Period

Take notice that the Department of Agriculture Division of Marketing and Development is reopening the public comment period for 30 days from the publication of Notice in the New Jersey Register for further comments specifically limited to the basis or rationale for comments that were received during the initial comment period concerning a perceived negative economic impact from the proposed new rules. The new rules were originally proposed on May 4, 2015, New Jersey Register at 47 N.J.R. 847(a). A public comment period ended July 3, 2015. The Department is seeking information concerning the basis or rationale for general comments concerning a negative economic impact, imposition of financial burdens and costly new requirements.

Submit written comments on this issue by October 8, 2015 to:

Alfred Murray, Director
Division of Marketing and Development
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
PO Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625 0330

Attachments:
Agricultural Worker Protection Standard Comparison
2015 Jersey Fresh Festival Scholarship Application

Food Safety and Modernization Act Final Rules

The Risk-Based Preventive Controls for Human Food final rule was published in the Federal Registry September 17, 2015. This is the first of two which may directly impact fruit and vegetable growers. To review the complete rule go to <https://federalregister.gov/2015-21920>. This rule updates good manufacturing practices related to processing and clarifies the farm definition and exemptions. Under the original proposed rule there were several activities on farms in our region that would have had to comply with this rule. However, with the revised definition most activities are exempt or fall under the Produce Rule which will be published at the end of October.

Under the final definition there are two ways to be considered as a farm: as a "Primary Production Farm" or as a "Secondary Activities Farm." A primary production farm is defined as "An operation under one management in one general (but not necessarily contiguous) physical location devoted to the growing of crops, the harvesting of crops, the raising of animals (including seafood), or any combination of these activities." This includes harvesting, packing and holding as well as some processing/manufacturing as long as it does not change the raw agricultural product into a processed food. Some examples include: drying/dehydrating raw agricultural products, treatments to ripen a raw commodity (i.e. ethylene gas) and packing and labeling raw agricultural products as long as there is no additional manufacturing. A farm can pack and hold raw agricultural commodities even if not grown on that farm.

A secondary activities farm is defined as "An operation, not located on a primary production farm, devoted to harvesting (such as hulling or shelling), packing, and/or holding of raw agricultural commodities (RACs). However, this definition only applies if the primary production farm(s) that grows, harvests, and/or raises the majority of the raw agricultural commodities harvested, packed, and/or held by the secondary activities farm owns, or jointly owns, a majority interest in the secondary activities farm." To be considered a secondary activities farm the primary production farm(s) must own the majority of the secondary farm and provide the majority of the product to the secondary farm. This can apply to a cooperative where the primary farms own the cooperative and supply the majority of the product to the cooperative.

Retail food establishments are also exempt from registering with FDA and the Preventive Control Rule does not apply. The definition of a retail food establishment is "An establishment that sells food products directly to consumers as its primary function. The retail food establishment may manufacture/process, pack, or hold food if the establishment's primary function is to sell food from that establishment, including food that it manufactures/processes, packs, or holds, directly to consumers. A retail food establishment's primary function is to sell food directly to consumers if the annual monetary value of sales of food products directly to consumers exceeds the annual monetary value of sales of food products to all other buyers. Consumers are not businesses under this definition. Retail establishments include community-supported agriculture (CSAs), roadside stands, farmers markets, tailgate markets, grocery stores, convenience stores and vending machine locations.

There are many details to the Preventive Control rule, but the bottom line is most farms in our region will not need to comply with this rule. If you process or manufacture fresh fruits and vegetables on a larger scale then you may need to comply. The threshold for an additional exemption is 500 employees and less than \$1,000,000 in sales.

For a good explanation of the requirements go to the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition blog to read a three part series entitled "Who is subject to FDA's New FSMA Food Facilities Rule."

High Tunnel Compost Application Demonstration 2:00 pm Thursday October 15 Happy Valley Berry Farm, 187 Buckhorn Rd., Stow Creek

Blessings Blends Premium Compost will apply the 5-7 ton rate as a trial to demonstrate the difference of using compost in a high tunnel operation to improve soil health and increase vegetable production. This will be a side-by-side study to compare compost and no compost. The following article will give some information from compost work carried out in Delaware and suggestions when considering compost applications.

Compost and Vegetable Crops

Gordon Johnson, Extension Vegetable & Fruit Specialist; gcjohn@udel.edu

We have several new composting businesses come on-line in the last three years on Delmarva and vegetable growers have had questions on whether or not compost would be a good fit for their production systems.

Composting businesses provide a valuable service to the region by taking waste products that otherwise end up in landfills at a cost to the public, and producing a product that can be used as a soil amendment.

In the composting process, organic stock material sources such as yard wastes, manure and litter, wood waste, food scraps and garbage, paper, hatchery waste, or other waste materials are combined in a proper mix to create a carbon to nitrogen ratio that will promote the growth of microorganisms that then decompose the materials, producing a dark, humus-rich end product. In addition, in the composting process, the compost piles will heat up to over 150°F, killing any pathogens in the materials. A properly produced compost can be used for vegetable production without concerns for transferring plant pathogens or pathogens of concern for food safety.

Compost will contain plant nutrients, the level of which depends largely upon the stock materials used. Nitrogen content may be significant; however, much of the nitrogen will be in organic form and will be slowly available over several years. Most of the phosphorus and potassium will be available.

While compost does contain plant nutrients, the more important benefit that it provides is stable organic matter. Because it has already been decomposed, the organic component contains humus-like materials that will decompose very slowly when added to the soil. This means that compost will immediately raise the organic matter of the soil. This in turn will increase the cation exchange capacity (CEC) of the soil, improve soil moisture holding capacity, and improve soil physical characteristics (reduced compaction, improved aeration, decreased crusting).

Research has also shown that certain composts can reduce the incidence of soil borne diseases and pests. This is most likely because the organic addition promotes more diversity in soil microorganisms that can compete with pathogens and because the improved physical properties of the soil reduce the impact of certain pathogens.

When using compost, growers should first receive an analysis of the material. From this analysis you should look at the following:

Compost Maturity – Only use mature compost that has finished the composting process. Immature compost will continue to decompose, and can cause soil imbalances in some cases.

Compost pH and Calcium Carbonate Equivalent (lime value) – Lime or high pH materials such as hatchery waste are often added to compost to achieve the best microbial activity. This means that compost will have some liming value and if used in too high of amounts, or on soils that already have a high pH, may increase the pH so that it is too high.

Electrical Conductivity (EC or salts levels) – Composts that use manure or poultry litter as part of the stock materials can accumulate salts (particularly potassium) at high levels. This is a particular problem with spent mushroom soil based composts. While the potassium certainly has good fertilizer value, the high salt content

must be taken into account in application rates so that you do not cause salt injury on crops.

Nutrient Content – As previously stated, compost has a base nutrient content. You need to account for available nutrients in the nutrient management plan for the crop the compost will be used on. Much of the nitrogen will be in organic form and only a portion will be available for the growing season. You should look for estimated nitrogen release on your compost analysis to make nitrogen calculations.

Moisture Content – Compost will be partly water. With higher moisture composts, you will be paying for more water and less of the humus material and nutrients. In addition, higher moisture composts do not spread as well as lower moisture composts.

You should visit the compost facility and look at the finished product if possible before purchasing. Other compost processes that growers should ask about include screening (to achieve uniform spreading and remove clumps), removal of foreign material, and storage conditions. Improperly stored compost can absorb rain water, have weed seeds that blow into the compost, or be contaminated in other ways.

In research at the University of Delaware with several compost materials, a rate of 5-7 tons per acre showed yield benefits on sandy soils in the first year with several vegetable crops. Lower rates did not show first year yield effects and higher rates did not show additional benefits. However, specific effects on a grower's farm will depend on soil type, existing organic matter, existing soil health, and compost source; therefore, rates should be adjusted accordingly.

Compost can be very useful in intensive vegetable production systems where tillage activities tend to cause organic matter losses. Compost is also useful for high tunnel systems where it is often difficult to use other soil improving methods once the high tunnel is constructed.

The decision to use compost is also an economic one. Compost can cost anywhere from \$5.00 to \$30.00 per ton depending upon the source and distance for transport. Growers need to consider the fertilizer, liming, and soil improving value of the compost and evaluate that against other soil improving programs using standard fertilizer or liming practices, cover crops and soil improving crops, manures or poultry litter, and minimum tillage practices.

USDA Webinar Invitation

Agricultural Marketing Services Specialty Crops Program Presents "FSMA is Here.....Are You Ready?" on Wednesday, October 7th, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Eastern).

The webinar is free and will help you prepare for the new rule, which was displayed on the Federal Register website on September 10th and is expected to be published shortly. The regulation primarily applies to food processing facilities and their associated operations, yet also may apply to some packing operations and farms and contains "supply-chain" program requirements that apply to other operations.

Register for the webinar at: <http://bit.ly/7KNnrkm>

The webinar will cover:

- The key provisions of the final regulation.
- The applicability of the regulation to your business at the terminal market, wholesale distribution center or other similar operations.
- How to comply with the new regulations.
- Technical assistance and resources, including upcoming training from the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance.

The webinar will be led by Jenny Scott, Senior Advisor in the FDA's Office of Food Safety Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition where she leads the FDA teams on the Preventive Controls for Human Food rule and guidance. Jenny will be joined by Leanne Skelton, Biological Scientist with the AMS SCP and the USDA's FDA Liaison and Samir Assar, Director of FDA's Division of Produce Safety.

Cornell Small Farms Online Programs

This fall the Cornell Small Farms Program and the Northeast Beginning Farmer Project are presenting a suite of online classes to help aspiring farmers learn to farm, or experienced farmers hone their skills. The courses are open to anyone in the U.S. This year's courses are as follows:

BF 101: Starting at Square One - Creating a Farm that Matches Your Values, Goals, Skills, and Resources - Thurs. Oct 15 - Nov 19, with webinars every Thurs. evening from 6:30-8pm. This is a great survey course for people who are just exploring farming as a career. The webinars are heavy on farmer perspectives, and homework emphasizes early planning and decision-making tools to set a strong foundation for later developing a full business plan.

BF 110: Soil Health - Building the Farm from the Ground Up - Thurs Oct 15 - Nov 19, with webinars every Thurs. evening from 7-8:30pm. Targeted to people already managing farmland, this course makes the case for prioritizing soil health and provides tools for developing farm-specific strategies for improving the health of the soil.

BF 130: Poultry Production - Profiting from Layers, Broilers, Turkeys, and Ducks - Wed. Oct 7 - Nov 18, 2015, with webinars every Wed. evening from 6:30-8pm. Many new farmers get started with poultry, because it's a relatively low-investment enterprise with a fairly quick turnaround time from investment to revenue. The margins can be slim though, and you need all the skill you can acquire in order to produce a safe product and have a profitable enterprise. This course was designed to help.

***New this year!* BF 204: QuickBooks for Farmers - Mon. Oct 5 - Nov 9**, with optional 7th session on Nov 16, and webinars every Mon. evening from 7-8:30pm. To make good decisions, farmers need good records to analyze. To get good records, well, QuickBooks is often the tool of choice. New users often find it intimidating, but it doesn't need to be this way. Instructors Bonnie and Steve will provide ample opportunity for practicing using this software, as well as customized guidance on how to set up your food or farm business in QuickBooks.

BF 122: Berry Production - Getting Started with Production and Marketing - Tues. Nov 10 - Dec 15, with webinars every Tues. evening from 6:30-8pm. Berries are the crown jewels of the harvest, and can draw in new customers and help keep existing ones excited about your farm. But there's a lot to know to do them profitably! This course blends practical farm knowledge with the latest academic research to get your berry-growing skills up to speed.

BF 150: Farm-Scale Mushroom Cultivation - Growing Shiitake and Other Mushrooms for Fun and Profit - Tues Sept 29 - Nov 3, with webinars every Tues evening from 6:30-8pm. **This is our only online course that comes with a tabletop spawn kit for hands-on experience with several types of mushrooms during the course!** BF 150 trains new and experienced farmers in the background, techniques, and economics of farm-scale commercial mushroom production. Students will learn the basic biology of mushrooms, cultivation techniques for **shiitake, oyster, lions mane, and stropharia** mushrooms, proper conditions for fruiting, management needs, and harvesting and marketing mushrooms.

Each 6 week course costs \$200. Participants who complete a course are eligible for endorsement by the Cornell Small Farms Program for a 0% interest loan from Kiva Zip. Courses are instructor-led, with a real-time webinar featuring farmers, educators, researchers and other ag professional each week; and discussions, resources and homework between webinars in an online "classroom".

For more information or questions contact Erica Frenay at elf5@cornell.edu.

Agricultural Worker Protection Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency is publishing the new worker protection standards. A one-year phase-in period for most of the new requirements will be taking place. In other words, compliance with most of the new standards will be required in mid-December 2016. New Jersey already has implemented many of the new rules over the last few years. We will keep you informed as the new rules go into effect. Please see the attached document to compare the current provisions with the new 2015 provisions.



PESTICIDE APPLICATORS SEMINAR

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10AM-2:30PM**

Offered at 3 Locations Statewide:

Burlington County, Bill Bamka, Agricultural Agent
2 Academy Dr., Westampton, NJ (609)-265-5050

Gloucester County, Michelle Infante-Casella, Agricultural Agent
1200 N. Delsea Drive, Bldg A., Clayton, NJ 08020 (856)-307-6450 ext.1

Sussex County, Stephen Komar, Agricultural Agent
Mailing Address: 1 Spring St. Newton, NJ 07860
Building: 130 Morris Turnpike, Newton, NJ (973)-948-3040

4 CORE CREDITS, 4 PP2 CREDITS, 4 -1A Credits, 4 - 3A Credits

Course Fee: \$50.00 - Make Checks Payable To: RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

MORNING CORE TRAINING:

- 10:00 AM.....Pesticide Laws: Federal, State and Local Considerations
- 10:30 AM.....Personal Protective Equipment, Tank Mixing, Tank Cleaning, Container Disposal and Storage
- 11:00 AM.....Pesticide Record Keeping, Notification, and Posting
- 11:30 AM.....Weather Conditions, Drift and Environmental Concerns When Applying Pesticides

12:00 PM Lunch Break

AFTERNOON CATEGORY TRAINING:

- 12:30 PM.....Insect Identification and Life Cycles
- 1:00PM.....Weed Identification: Annuals and Perennials
- 1:30PM..... Common Plant Diseases of Major Crop Groups
- 2:00 PM..... Rutgers Crop Pest Control Resources

Please pre-register with the location you wish to attend by calling. At door registrations will be accepted on the day of the event. Look forward to seeing you in attendance,

William Bamka
Agricultural Agent

Michelle Infante-Casella
Agricultural Agent

Stephen Komar
Agricultural Agent



NJ Green Industry Council Educational Programming

The New Jersey Green Industry Council has put together a great half day of educational programming and they are taking it on the road and bringing the show to an area near you!

Thanks to their great location hosts and supporters at John Deere Landscapes/Shermin Nurseries, the council is excited to present the following event:

South Jersey (October 6th)

John Deere Landscapes
2628 Fire Road #405
Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234

The meeting starts at 9 a.m. and runs until 12 p.m. at which point lunch will be provided. When you attend the NJGIC Road Tour you will hear industry based presentations on the following topics:

- How did our Trees and Shrubs Fare in 2015
- Broadleaf and Grassy Weed ID and Control
- The latest on Bee's and Pollinators in the Environment
- Pre and Post-emergent Sedge Control
- Fertilizer Talk for Recertification
- The Latest NJ Regulatory Update

This event has been approved for the following fertilizer credits:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1 | CORE |
| 3 | 3A, 3B and PP2 |
| 2 | 6B |

Registration is only \$35.00 per person. For registration information contact Cominick Mondri at 609-414-6161 or email: Dominick.mondi@njgic.org

HACCP Plan Development Training

Learn how to create a HACCP plan by doing it in this 3-day class, November 4-6; 9am-4:30pm, University Inn & Conference Center, New Brunswick, NJ. Registration fee \$945 by 10/21.

If you're responsible for quality assurance or food safety standards, HACCP planning is critical.

Take the mystery out of the HACCP process through real-world scenarios with expert Donna Schaffner. Through class discussions and hands-on activities, learn about:

- Potential hazards and conducting a hazard analysis
- Validation vs. verification
- Identifying and labeling critical control points
- Required record keeping for the USDA and FDA

For additional information contact Program Coordinator, Dalynn Knigge 848-932-7315 or email: knigge@rutgers.edu

Cumberland FSA Office
1318 S. Main Road, Building 5, Suite A
Vineland, NJ 08360
856-205-1225

CRP Grasslands

CRP Grasslands helps to protect grassland and pastureland while maintaining the area as grazing land. 50% cost-share is available for fence, water sources for livestock, pipelines, water facilities, etc. Contracts are between 14 and 15 years. You are still able to produce hay and mow after July 15th. The rental rate is \$15 per acre. **November 20, 2015** is the last day to sign up before the first ranking period. Please call to apply or for more details.

Non-insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP)

2016 Sales closing dates are coming up for the following crops: *Apples*, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Nectarines, Onions, *Peaches*, Pears, Plums, Scallions and Shallots - **November 20, 2015**. Arugula, Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Collards, Escarcole, Endive, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, *Potatoes*, Radishes, Rhubarb, Spinach and Turnips - **December 31, 2015** (Crops available through FCIC are italicized. You need to contact a private crop insurance agent to purchase. A list of agents is available at the FSA office).

Remember, Buy-up coverage is now available up to 65% at 100% of the price! Please call for details.

Microloans

Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds farmers and ranchers that the FSA borrowing limit for microloans increased from \$35,000 to \$50,000. Microloans offer borrowers simplified lending with less paperwork.

The microloan change allows beginning, small and mid-sized farmers to access an additional \$15,000 in loans using a simplified application process with up to seven years to repay. Microloans are part of USDA's continued commitment to small and midsized farming operations. To complement the microloan program additional changes to FAS eligibility requirements will enhance beginning farmers and ranchers access to land, a key barrier to entry level producers. FSA policies related to farm experience have changed so that other types of skills may be considered to meet the direct farming experience required for farm ownership loan eligibility. Operation or management of non-farm businesses, leadership positions while serving in the military or advanced education in an agricultural field will now count towards the experience applicants need to show when applying for farm ownership loans.

Important Note: Microloans cannot be used to purchase real estate.

Calendar of Important Events

↻ Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

October 2015

↻ October 12

Symposium on Legal, Business & Insurance Issues Impacting the Equine Industry, The Palace Conference Center, 333 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ; \$75 adults/\$50 students includes breakfast, lunch and all conference materials; 9:30am - 4pm. For more information contact Kyle Hartmann 848-932-9419 or email: Hartmann@aesop.rutgers.edu

October 13

Structural & Food Pest Problems, Wingate, 2196 W. Landis Avenue, Vineland, NJ; 8am-4pm; \$145. Pesticide credits: 12 each for categories 13, 7A, 7D & 8A. For more info call 315-288-4954 or visit: www.pesticidetraining.com

↻ October 13-15

Berry Health Benefits Symposium, Madison, Wis. For more information visit: www.berryhealth.org, call 800-678-6311 or email: conferences@oregontate.edu

October 14

Termites & Other Wood Destroying Organisms, Wingate, 2196 W. Landis Ave., Vineland, NJ; 8am-4pm; \$145. Pesticide credits: 12 for category 7B. For more info call 315-288-4954 or visit: www.pesticidetraining.com

October 15

Ornamental & Turf Pest Problems, Clarion Hotel, 815 State Tr. 37 W, Toms River, NJ; 8am-4pm; \$145.00. Pesticide credits: 12 each for categories 2, 3A, 3B, 6B & PP2. For more info call 315-288-4954 or visit: www.pesticidetraining.com

↻ October 15

Emergency Pesticide Credits – 1/2 Day Class in 3A, Rutgers continuing education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-noon; Credits: 6 in 3A, \$190. For more info visit: <http://cpe.rutgers.edu/landscape-pest> or call 848-932-7317.

↻ October 15

Emergency Pesticide Credits - 1/2 Day Class in 3, Rutgers continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 1pm-4pm; Credits: 6 in 3B; \$190. For more info visit: <http://cpe.rutgers.edu/landscape-pest> or call 848-932-7317.

October 16-17

Fall Flower & Garden Fest, Truck Crops Experiment Station, Crystal Springs, Mississippi. Free, open to the public 9am - 2pm. For more information call 601-892-3731 or visit: www.msucare.com/fallfest/

↻ October 20

Emergency Pesticide Credits– Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-3:30pm; \$245 by 10/6; \$270 after. Credits: 4 units in 3A, 6B and CORE, 6 units in 3B and 2 units in PP2. For more info visit: <http://cpe.rutgers.edu/landscape-pest> or call 848-932-7317.

October 23-25

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit 2015, Atlanta, Georgia, World Congress Center. For more info visit: www.pma.com

October 26

Emergency Pesticide Credits-Pesticide Calibration, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9am-1pm; \$195 by 10/13; \$210 after. Credits: 8 CORE. For more info visit: <http://cpe.rutgers.edu/landscape-pest> or call 848-932-7317

October 29

Landscape Conference, NJ Nursery & Landscape Assoc., Aloft Hotel, Route 73, Mount Laurel, NJ; \$75 by 9/30 members/\$135 non-members; 9am-4:40pm. Pesticide credits requested. For more information visit: www.njnla.org/events or contact Jeanne Ondusko 609-291-7070 or email: njnla.office@gmail.com

November 2015**November 4-6**

HACCP Plan Development for Food Processors, Rutgers Cont. Ed, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$945 by 10/21; \$995 after. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/food or call 732-932-9271

November 5

Sports Field Managers Association of NJ Fall Field Day, Drum Point Sports Complex, Brick Twp., NJ; Free Admission. For more information call 856-514-3179 or email: mail@sfmanj.org. Pesticide credits are available.

November 5-7

2015 American Agri-Women Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, Portland, Maine. For more info email: pam@countysuperspuds.com

November 9-13

2015 Irrigation Show & Education Conference, Long Beach, California. For more information visit: www.irrigation.org

November 11-13

Better Process Control School, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$995 by 10/28; \$1,095 after. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/food or call 732-932-9271

November 16-18

Southeast Strawberry Expo, Charlotte, N.C. For more information visit: www.ncstrawberry.com

November 17-18

Drone World Expo, San Jose, Calif. For more information visit: www.droneworldexpo.com or call 203-371-6322.

November 18-19

Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association Conference & Trade Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, Wash. For more information call 509-585-5460 or visit: www.pnva.org

November 19-20

Alabama Fruit and Vegetable Growers Fall Conference, Clanton Conference & Performing Arts Center, 1850 Lay Dam Rd., Clanton, AL. For more information visit: www.afvga.aces.edu, call 334-707-4923 or email: thameae@auburn.edu

December 2015**December 1-2**

30th Annual Southeast Vegetable & Fruit Expo, Kingston Plantation Embassy Suites, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. For more information visit: www.ncvga.com

December 1-3

Agricultural Retailers Association Conference & Expo, JW Marriott Desert Sprints Resort, 74-855 Country Club Dr., Palm Desert, Calif. For more information contact Brian Reuwee 202-595-1712 or email: brian@aradc.org

December 2-4

NCAE Ag Employer Labor Forum, Doubletree Tropicana, 3801 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas. For more information contact Meghan 202-629-9320 or email: Meghan@ncaeonline.org

December 3-4

Practical Food Microbiology, Rutgers Cont. Ed, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$795 by 11/19; \$825 after. For more information visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/food or call 732-932-9271

December 7-9

Washington State Tree Fruit Association Annual Meeting, Yakima, Washington. For more information visit: www.wahort.org or email Nicole Brunner at Nicole@wstfa.org

December 8-10

Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO, Devos Place Conference Center, Grand Rapids, Mich. For more information visit: www.glexpo.com, call Jennifer Dickie 734-677-0503 or email: jdickie@managedbyamr.com

January 2016**January 4-5**

Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, Ky. For more information call John Strang 859-257-5685 or email: jstrang@uky.edu

January 6-8

Illinois Specialty Crops, Agritourism and Organic Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Springfield, Ill. For more information call 309-557-2107 or email: cblary@iffb.org

January 7-10

SE Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference & Trade Show, Savannah, Ga. For more information visit: www.seregionalconference.com

January 18-20

2016 OPGMA Congress, Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Sandusky, Ohio. For more information visit: www.opgma.org

January 19-21

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

January 19-21

Empire State Producers Expo, Syracuse, N.Y. For more information visit: www.hort.cornell.edu/expo

January 24-26

Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. For more information visit: www.wiberries.org

January 27-30

Practical Tools and Solutions for Sustaining Family Farms Conference, Lexington, Ky. Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group. For more information visit: www.ssawg.org

January 28-29

Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Annual Conference, Ankeny, Iowa. For more information call Adam Hohl 319-316-2650 or email: info@ifvga.org

January 29-31

2016 Georgia Watermelon Convention, King & Prince Resort, St. Simons, GA. For more information visit: <http://www.georgiawatermelonassociation.org>

February 2016**February 2-4**

Mid-Atlantic Fruit & Vegetable Convention, Hershey, PA. For more information visit: www.mafvc.org

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 25-27

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

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

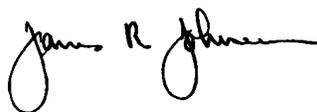
<p>✓</p> <p>Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule—Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p><u>2015</u></p> <p>Oct 1</p> <p>To Register call 609-984-6614 For directions call 856-451-2800 *****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board Soil Conservation Office 1516 Highway 77 Deerfield Street, NJ 08332</p> <p><u>2015</u></p> <p>Sep 9 Oct 7 Nov 18 Dec 9</p> <p>Reg. Meetings start at 7 p.m. Call DeAnn at 856-453-2211 *****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel) 7 pm meetings</p> <p><u>2015</u></p> <p>Sep 17 Oct 15 Nov 19 Dec 17</p> <p>For info call Hillary Barile, President 856-453-1192 *****</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

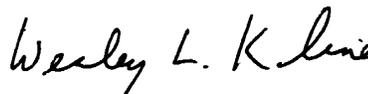
Questions? Call Division of Ag & Natural Resources, NJ Dept. of Ag 609-292-5532

Sep 18 Oct 16 Nov 20

Sincerely,



James R. Johnson
Agricultural Agent
Nursery Management Commercial
Internet: jjohnson@njaes.rutgers.edu



Wesley L. Kline, Ph.D.
Agricultural Agent
Vegetable & Herb Production
Internet: wkline@njaes.rutgers.edu

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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