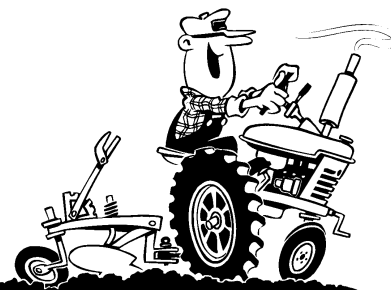


Cultivating Cumberland

June - 2020 VOL. 25, ISSUE 6



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COVID-19 Closure Information

Please be aware that while the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office of Cumberland County may be closed to the public, you can still reach your County Agents! Call (856) 451-2800

Updates about our office can be found on <https://cumberland.njaes.rutgers.edu/> and www.co.cumberland.nj.us

Department	Contact	Email
Commercial Agriculture	Wesley Kline	wkline@njaes.rutgers.edu
Environmental	Sal Mangiafico	mangiafico@njaes.rutgers.edu
Nursery Production	Tim Waller	twaller@njaes.rutgers.edu

- Follow our Facebook page to stay up to date on Food Safety Issues. <https://www.facebook.com/RutgersOnFarmFoodSafety/>
- New Covid-19 information is added to our website at least weekly: onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu
- To stay current on commercial agriculture information, including updates on Covid-19, join the Rutgers Plant and Pest Advisory at <https://plant-pest-advisory.rutgers.edu/>, click on the subscribe link at the top of the page then click EMAIL on the edition you are interested in subscribing to. If you are interested in more than one edition you need to subscribe to each one individually. Current editions are vegetable, fruit, and landscape/nursery/turf.

Cloth Face Masks for Employees and Customers Visiting the Farm

The Cumberland County Board of Agriculture in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, New Jersey Agricultural Society and New Jersey Farm Bureau has secured a supply of washable cloth face masks for agricultural purposes.

The masks are available at two locations in Cumberland County until the supply runs out.

The two locations are:

- Griffin Greenhouse Supply, 1240 B, NJ-77, Bridgeton, NJ 08302
- Vineland Produce Auction, 1088 North Main Rd., Vineland, NJ 08360

These masks can be used for employees or for customers visiting the farm. The masks are being distributed for free by the county board on a first-come/first-served basis.

Under the “Interim Guidance for Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers, Their Employers, and Housing Providers” published by the New Jersey Departments of Health, Agriculture and Labor employers are to provide face coverings or masks to employees and to educate workers on the mandatory requirements to wear face coverings for their protection and protection of others. Workers must wear face coverings at all times, including during transportation, while working and when in the presence of others.

Increased Online CEUs for Licenses Expiring 2020 – ACT NOW!

May 18, 2020 by Pat Hastings

Due to COVID-19, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has made a policy decision to accommodate recertification for applicators with licenses expiring this year on October 31, 2020. Their announcement to those applicators follows below.

Increased Online CEUs for Licenses Expiring 2020 – ACT NOW!

In response to the COVID-19 coronavirus emergency and consistent with Federal, New Jersey State and local government direction, the Department continues to abide by recommended and mandated precautions to limit the possible spread of the virus. Based on current governmental guidelines and restrictions, most Pesticide Continuing Education Unit (CEU) classroom courses scheduled after mid-March have been cancelled. The Department has also cancelled scheduled exams and is currently not able to offer any pesticide exams for recertification purposes.

To accommodate recertification for applicators with licenses expiring this year on October 31, 2020, effective immediately the Department will allow 100% online CEUs for these individuals. You are receiving this notification because you are eligible due to your license expiring in 2020. You may verify your eligibility by visiting the list of eligible individuals available by visiting <https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner>. There are numerous online CEU courses already available and many course providers are transitioning classroom courses to new online formats. For a list of available online CEU courses and providers, please visit <https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner>. This list will be updated as new online courses and existing course transitions to online formats are approved.

NOTE that with this provision, there is no expectation to extend license expiration dates – please get the training needed now online. At present, licensees expiring in 2021 and beyond are held to the current standard with a maximum of 25% online training CEUs.

Please be advised that due to existing COVID-19 emergency restrictions, most Department staff are working remotely with very limited office coverage. Therefore, please be patient but assured that we will return phone calls and emails as quickly as possible. In addition, updated program information will be provided on the Department's website at www.pcpnj.org.

In summary:

Licensed applicators with an October 31, 2020 recertification cycle expiration date may obtain up to 100% of required Core and Category CEUs through online courses. Online courses will not exceed 4 hours of online instruction but longer courses may be split into multiple days of shorter instruction time.

Visit https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner/RUN_REPORT.aspx?RN=Applicators+Eligible+for+100%+25+Online+Credits+thru+2020&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery for a complete list of licensed applicators eligible for 100% online credits for recertification. If your name is not on this list, you may only obtain up to 2 Core and up to 4 Category credits online for licenses expiring in 2021 or later.

Visit https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner/RUN_REPORT.aspx?RN=List+of+Online+Courses&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery for a list of online courses and providers.

The Department is NOT extending any pesticide licenses expiring October 31, 2020 at this time.

Please email the NJDEP Lula.Hollice@dep.nj.gov

NJMVC Further Extends Driver License, Registration, and Inspection Expiration Dates Due to COVID-19

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy and New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton announced additional extensions to driver license, registration, and inspection expiration dates in their continuing efforts to mitigate COVID-19 and safeguard public health.

Effective immediately, the following documents, if expiring between March 13 and May 31, have been extended to July 31. Documents expiring June 30 are extended two months to August 31, and those expiring July 31 are extended to September 30.

- All Standard driver licenses (including permits) and standard non-driver IDs
- Privately owned and commercial vehicle registrations
- Vehicle inspections
- Purple Heart/Disabled Veteran placards
- Temporary tags
- Farmer Tags

“Extending the expiration dates further is the right move with our agencies closed to the public, as we work to stamp out the threat of COVID-19 together,” Fulton said. “We continue to urge eligible customers to renew their licenses and registrations online at NJMVC.gov.”

“Get it done online now, if you’re able,” Fulton suggests. “We do anticipate that volumes will spike once we reopen and when we reach the end of these extensions. Our job is to serve customers in the most efficient way possible and one way we can do that is by steering people to our expanded list of online services.”

By law, Chief Administrator Fulton has the authority to extend expiration dates when a State of Emergency has been declared. Governor Murphy extended the State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency on May 6 as part of the state’s coordinated COVID-19 response.

On March 13, the NJMVC initially announced two-month extensions for licenses, registrations, and inspection stickers expiring in March, April, and May, timelines that have now been pushed back.

The NJMVC encourages customers to utilize online services, which have been expanded during the COVID-19 crisis. In most cases, customers can renew a license, replace a lost license, change an address, renew a registration, and complete other transactions through the NJMVC’s Online Services portal.

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition COVID-19 Updates

FDA Provides Flexibility to Farms Regarding Eligibility for the Qualified Exemption Under the Produce Safety Rule

May 22, 2020

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced that it will provide flexibility regarding eligibility criteria for the qualified exemption under the Produce Safety Rule during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Under the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, farms are eligible for a qualified exemption and associated modified requirements if they meet certain criteria:

- The farm's food sales averaged less than \$500,000 (adjusted for inflation) per year during the previous three years; and
- The average value of the farm's sales to qualified end-users exceeded the average value of the farm's sales to all others during the previous three years. A qualified end-user is either (a) the consumer of the food or (b) a restaurant or retail food establishment that is located in the same state or the same Indian reservation as the farm or not more than 275 miles away.

Because of COVID-19, state and local governments across the United States have instituted public health orders that have resulted in many restaurants and retail food establishments either closing or significantly limiting their operations, leaving many farmers without their usual buyers. The guidance issued today is intended to allow affected farmers to shift their sales away from qualified end-users while still being considered eligible for the qualified exemption. Specifically, under the temporary policy announced in the guidance, farms that are currently eligible for the qualified exemption and associated modified requirements will still be considered eligible, even if they shift sales away from qualified end-users, so long as they continue to meet the requirement that their average food sales during the previous three years total less than \$500,000 (adjusted for inflation).

FDA recognizes that providing flexibility to farms to allow them to shift food sales to available buyers during the COVID-19 public health emergency can help reduce food waste and food shortages. This temporary policy is intended to remain in effect only for the duration of the public health emergency, after which the FDA intends to issue additional guidance.

Qualified exempt farms must comply with modified requirements under the Produce Safety Rule, which include establishing and keeping certain records and prominently displaying their name and business address on food packaging or at the point of sale. Farms are responsible for ensuring that the food they produce is not adulterated under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) and they should use good agricultural practices to ensure the safety of their produce.

Interim Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19 Guidance for Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers, Their Employers, and Housing Providers)

Wes Kline

The guidance document on migrant and seasonal farm workers was sent out to all of you last week. It is important that you familiarize yourself with the entire document. We have received several questions from growers asking for clarification. The document was prepared by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDH) in collaboration with Departments of Agriculture and Labor. For official clarification you must call the Department of Health at 800- 962-1253 or 800-222-1222. Below are some answers to frequently asked questions:

Q: Is it acceptable to use blankets or sheets as dividers in migrant housing as is mentioned in the guidance?

A: The concern is whether this a fire hazard. It would be better to use a shower curtain or other clear material. Also, there needs to be a clear exit for the workers.

Q: It says in the document to “Provide tissues and trash bins” does this mean facial tissues?

A: Yes. When a worker coughs or sneezes into tissues they can help prevent the spread of serious respiratory illnesses like COVID-19. Germs can be easily spread by coughing, sneezing, or talking.

Q: Do I need to provide face coverings or masks to my workers?

A: Yes, you need to provide them, but a worker can wear their own if they prefer. The employer needs to educate workers on the mandatory requirement for their protection and the protection of others. Workers must always wear face coverings, including during transportation, while working or in the presence of others. There is an exception for a health reason and workers do not need to wear masks when they are eating or drinking.

Q: The document states that employers must post the guidance document, train workers, and provide other guidance educational materials including testing sites, local FQHC, and what to do if they are sick in a language of the employees. Where is this material?

A: The guidance document is still being translated. Most of the other materials are available on the websites listed at the end of the guidance document. Also, the NJDH just produced a “Quick Facts for Farm Workers” in English, Spanish, Creole, and Portuguese that is on our website onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu.

Q: Under health screening it states, “Employer is to screen workers for symptoms, including temperature and symptom checks prior to work shifts.” It does not list what temperature, what type of thermometer or how to take the temperature?

A: The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states if a worker has a temperature of 100.4 F or greater the individual should not be working. The thermometer should be the non-contact infrared type and follow the instructions provided by the manufacture. Do not use one that goes into the mouth.

Q: The employer is to provide separate living space, kitchen, and bathroom for a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 employee. What if I do not have space to isolate or cannot find alternate housing?

A: They are still exploring alternate housing options. We hope to hear soon on those plans.

Q: Will there be any reimbursement for my expenses related to COVID-19 and all the changes I have made for migrant housing, personal protective equipment, etc.

A: We have heard nothing about reimbursement, but growers should keep receipts and labor costs documented.

These are some of the question we received this week. Remember if you want an official response contact the numbers in the first paragraph.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Farm Service Agency are taking applications for this program from May 26 to August 28, 2020.

Eligibility

There is a payment limitation of \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits where members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation. Producers will also have to certify they meet the Adjusted Gross Income limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75 percent or more of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must also be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions.

CFAP provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline or had losses due to market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and who face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

Q. What commodities and livestock are eligible?

A. Eligible commodities must have either a) suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline or b) experienced market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs. These include:

- **Non-specialty crops:** malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, durum wheat and hard red spring wheat and wool

- **Livestock:** cattle, dairy, hogs, lambs, and yearlings.
- **Specialty crops:** almonds, apples, artichokes, asparagus, avocados, beans, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, grapefruit, kiwifruit; lemons, iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, dry onions, green onions, oranges, papayas, peaches, pears, pecans, bell type peppers, other peppers, potatoes, raspberries, rhubarb, spinach, squash, strawberries, sweet potatoes, tangerines, taro, tomatoes, walnuts, and watermelons.

Q: How are payments determined?

A: Payments are determined by the agricultural commodity.

- **Eligible non-specialty crop** payments are based on the inventory subject to price risk that is harvested and held as of January 15, 2020, not to exceed 50 percent of 2019 total production multiplied by the payment rates.
- **Eligible specialty crop** payments include the sum of three different loss categories. For specialty crops that were sold between January 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020, the quantity sold is multiplied by the payment rate. For specialty crops harvested and shipped but subsequently spoiled or unpaid due to loss of marketing channels between January 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020, the harvested and shipped quantity that spoiled or were unpaid is multiplied by a different payment rate. For unpriced specialty crops that did not leave the farm or were mature crops that remained unharvested between January 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020 due to loss of marketing channel, the sum of the quantity of crops that did not leave the farm and the quantity of mature crops that remained unharvested is multiplied by different payment rate.
- **Cattle** payments are based on cattle sold between January 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rates by cattle type plus a producer's cattle inventory subject to price risk on a date of his/her choosing between April 16, 2020, to May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate.
- **Dairy** payments equal the first quarter production of calendar year 2020 multiplied by the payment rate. Dairy production for the second quarter is calculated from the first quarter production; second quarter calculated production is then multiplied by the payment rate.
- **Hog and pig** payments are based on hogs and pigs sold between January 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rates plus a producer's inventory subject to price risk on a date of his/her choosing between April 16, 2020, to May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate.
- **Lamb and yearling** payments are based on lambs and yearlings sold between January 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate plus a producer's inventory subject to price risk on a date of his/her choosing between April 16, 2020, to May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate. .
- **Wool** payments are the sum of unpriced inventory (must be subject to price risk) on January 15, 2020, not to exceed 50 percent of 2019 total production, multiplied by the payment rate.

If you have any questions, contact the Farm Services Agency Office: at 856-285-7661.

Calendar of Important Events

- ✓ Indicates a newly added event since the last calendar
- Online Class

June 9

- Sustainable Beekeeping

This one-hour webinar will discuss ways to maintain your beehives in a more sustainable way, minimizing losses through management, using local bee stocks, and creating resource hives. Visit our webpage at: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/BEES to learn more!

June 16

- Small Scale Queen Rearing

This one-hour workshop covers queen and drone biology, stock selection, introduction to several queen rearing techniques, tools, and equipment, starter and finisher hives, setting up mating yards, and record keeping.. Visit our webpage at: www.cpe.rutgers.edu/BEES to learn more!

August 8

The Dandy-Line Dance & Dinner; Merighi's Savory Inn; 6 PM—10 PM; \$65 register online at vinelandchamber.org or call 856-691-7400

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

Extension Education Bldg., 291 Morton Ave, Rosenhayn, NJ (Between Carmel and Rosenhayn)

<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule</p> <p>RCE of Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p>	<p>Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board</p> <p>County Administration Bldg. Freeholder Room 164 W. Broad Street Bridgeton, NJ 08332</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture</p> <p>RCE of Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p>
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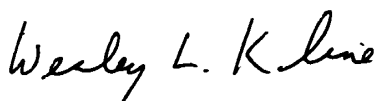
Meeting dates to be determined once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

<p>To Register call 609-984-6614</p> <p>For information call 856-451-2800</p>	<p>Reg. Meetings start at 7 p.m.</p> <p>For information call 856-453-2211</p>	<p>Meetings start at 7 p.m.</p> <p>For information call Lew DePietro, President at 856-981-9843</p>
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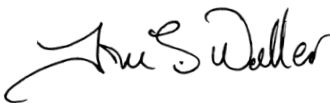
The program in Cumberland County is suspended until further notice.

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 609-292-2242

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/>

Public Notification and Non-discrimination Statement

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

Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County



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