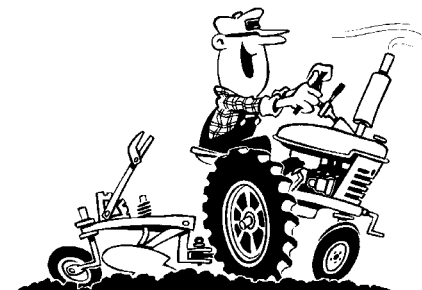


Cultivating Cumberland

March - 2021 VOL. 26, ISSUE 3

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The office remains closed
to the public.



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Attachments:

2020/2021 Mid-Atlantic Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations

Pepper Weevil Management and Research Priorities

March 3, 2021

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Online Zoom Meeting

Pepper growers/agribusiness professionals/extension personnel are invited to attend a virtual meeting to discuss current pepper weevil management tactics and to set research priorities.

Since 2006, at least one farm each growing season has been infested with pepper weevil. So far, timely spraying after detection has occasionally been successful in eliminating weevils. Otherwise, insecticide applications have only suppressed weevil populations. Pheromone traps are useful in detecting weevils, but often fields are infested before the weevils are trapped. What else can be done? What are the priorities in attempting to manage weevils?

Please join the discussion to help develop tactics to reduce the impact of pepper weevil.

To register please go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/3bm2r3xl>

The registration deadline is March 1, 2021, and you must pre-register to get the zoom link.

USDA to Measure Financial Well-Being of Farmers and Ranchers

Initiated back in late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be spending these next several months gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across the United States, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2020 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is the only survey that measures the current financial well-being of producers and their households as a whole," said King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Region. "The results of this survey will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect farms and farm families."

In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to more than 30,000 producers nationwide, between January and April in 2021. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics.

The 2020 ARMS survey includes a version of the questionnaire focused on hog and pig production costs and returns. This year the survey also includes questions to help measure any impacts of COVID-19 on farms, farm and household finances, and off-farm employment. "In February, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded," said Whetstone. "We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so that their information will continue supporting sound agricultural decision making."

In addition to producing accurate information, NASS has strong safeguards in place to protect the confidentiality of all farmers who respond to its surveys. The agency will only publish data in an aggregate form, ensuring the confidentiality of all responses and that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

Growers can complete the survey online, saving you time by allowing you to skip over questions that do not apply to you, by calculating totals automatically, and by providing drop-down menus for common answers. It also saves taxpayer dollars that would otherwise be spent on return postage and data entry.

To complete your survey online, you will need your unique Survey Code from the address label on the paper questionnaire or letter you received in the mail. You can save a partially completed survey by clicking "Save and Return Later." Do not click the "Submit" button until you are sure you are finished with your survey.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual Farm Production Expenditures report in July 2021. That report and others are available by going to <https://plant-pest-advisory.rutgers.edu/usda-to-measure-financial-well-being-of-farmers-and-ranchers/>.

More reports based on ARMS data and more information about ARMS are available online at <https://plant-pest-advisory.rutgers.edu/usda-to-measure-financial-well-being-of-farmers-and-ranchers/>

For more information, please call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

Greenhouse Sanitation Important for Disease Management

Andy Wyenandt

Proper greenhouse sanitation is important for healthy, disease-free vegetable transplant production.

Efforts need to be made to keep transplant production greenhouses free of unnecessary plant debris and weeds which may harbor insect pests and disease. Efforts need to be taken throughout the transplant production season to minimize potential problems.

All equipment, benches, flats, plug trays and floors should be properly cleaned and then disinfested prior to use.

Any weeds in or around the greenhouse structure should be removed prior to any production.

Any transplant brought into the greenhouse from an outside source needs to be certified 'clean', as well as, visually inspected for potential insects and diseases once it reaches your location.

Remember, disinfestants, such as Clorox, Green-Shield, or hydrogen dioxide products (Zerotol – for commercial greenhouses, garden centers and Oxidate – commercial greenhouse and field), kill only what they come into direct contact with so thorough coverage and/or soaking is necessary. The labels do not specify time intervals for specific uses, only to state that surfaces be 'thoroughly wetted'. Therefore, labels need to be followed precisely for different use patterns (i.e., disinfesting flats vs. floors or benches) to ensure proper dilution ratios. Hydrogen dioxide products work best when diluted with water containing little or no organic matter and in water with a neutral pH.

Online Mini Bee Series

The Buzz at Rutgers University OCPE is that an Online Mini Bee Series is the Bees Knees! For more information, BEE sure to contact Pamela Mayer at pspring@rutgers.edu

Seasonal Planting for Honey Bees

- March 11, 2021 - 6:30 pm - 8 pm

This 1.5 hour webinar will address planting for key times during the year to best support your local bee populations.

- <https://lnkd.in/dehfanJ>

Small Scale Queen Rearing

- March 24, 2021 - 6:30 pm - 8 pm

This 1.5 hour webinar will introduce beekeepers to several queen rearing techniques and cover topics such as queen and drone biology, tools and equipment, and more!

- <https://lnkd.in/dNHUBGC>

Sustainable Beekeeping

- April 6, 2021 - 6:30 pm - 8 pm

This 1.5 hour webinar will present ways that beekeepers can maintain their beehives in a more sustainable way.

- <https://lnkd.in/d9SbR-U>



An update on the potato pathogen, *Dickeya dianthicola*

Andy Wyenandt

It has been nearly six years since *Dickeya dianthicola* was first reported in potato in New Jersey in 2015 and many other states up and down the East Coast in the spring and summer of 2016. Before then, this seed-borne pathogen had not been detected in potato fields in the mid-Atlantic region and elsewhere. Unfortunately, some potato growers suffered substantial economic losses during the 2015 and 2016 growing seasons. Organic potato producers who grew very small acreage were also affected by *Dickeya dianthicola*. Most of the commercial potato acreage in New Jersey and elsewhere was being planted with seed purchased from Maine or Canada. When a disease such as this is so widespread when it first occurs it suggests that contaminated seed is the likely inoculum source. Extension personnel from the region learned from visiting farms and talking with growers that occurrences were associated with specific seed lots. With knowledge of the probable origin of the pathogen, Extension personnel from the region developed best management guidelines for *Dickeya dianthicola* to help potato growers in the region minimize the potential for a *Dickeya* outbreak in their operation.

Since that time, along with *Dickeya dianthicola*, other seed-borne tuber rotting pathogens (*Pectobacterium* spp.) have routinely been found causing significant problems for potato growers in the region. Research on *Dickeya* and *Pectobacterium* has been ongoing in the US and other parts of the world where these pathogens occur with data and results related to the most recent outbreaks being published most recently. In a survey of soft rot bacteria collected from potato fields in New York state during the 2016 growing season, a majority of isolates collected were designated as *D. dianthicola* or *P. parmentieri*. Based on their *dnaX* sequence analysis, the authors determined that the *D. dianthicola* isolated from potato plants in New York formed a single clade, being genetically identical to each other and to *D. dianthicola* ME23 isolated in Maine in 2015 (Ma et al., 2018). More recent research by Ge et al (2020, Plant Dis. First Look) surveyed commercial potato fields in Maine as well as suspect *Dickeya* samples collected from potato seed pieces, tubers, or plants from potato fields in 11 other states from 2015 to 2019. A total of 1183 samples were collected. A total of 256 *Dickeya dianthicola* isolates were used to identify pathogen genotype (I, II, or III) and the "inoculum geography". Of these, 231 (~90%) were Type I, 14 (~5%) were Type II, and 11 (~4%) were Type III. In Maine alone, 95% of the total isolates collected from commercial potato fields were Type I. "As such, it was suspected that the original contamination in other states initiated from Maine" since "Maine is the primary seed potato supplier to states in the Northeastern U.S.". The only consistent genotype found in each year of the study from all states sampled from was Type I for which the authors hypothesized was "likely associated with Maine seed origination". Not finding *Dickeya dianthicola* Type II and III in Maine in each year of the study may reflect the fact these types were rare compared to Type I thus a larger sample size was needed to confirm they likely were not present those years. Additionally, while most occurrences of *Dickeya dianthicola* in potato production fields were associated with seed originated from Maine, there were occurrences associated with seed from Wisconsin and Canada. It is possible Type II and III are principally associated with those seed. Seed source was not determined for the samples.

Pesticide Exams FACT SHEET

To streamline the pesticide exam process, a [new online Pesticide Applicator Certification Exam Registration \(PACER\) system](#) has been created and is available for your use **immediately**.

pacer.rutgers.edu

How the new system benefits YOU:

- **Online Access:** Web-based PACER application is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **No More Snail Mail:** Upload your support documents online and eliminate the time and expense required to mail them.
- **Quick Review Turnaround:** Your application will be reviewed within 48 business hours and you will be notified of any problems or concerns with your documentation promptly via email.
- **Immediate Exam Scheduling:** Online exams are available 24/7. Once in-person exams resume, YOU choose your exam date and location when you register; **no more waiting** to hear which of your exam date and time choices were available.
- **Fast Exam Results:** See your exam grades within 7 business days of exam completion.
- **More Exam Times and Locations:** Due to COVID-19, all exams are currently being offered online. When restrictions are lifted, online exams will continue and in-person exams will resume. New facilities will be added around the state to give you more options for added convenience. In-person exams will be administered weekdays, evenings and on Saturdays to better accommodate your schedule.
- **Manage Others' Exams:** Are you responsible for your organization's employees? Now you can easily track and manage exam applications and scheduling for multiple people in PACER! Set up an account in PACER then provide us with the information listed below so we can upgrade your account to Business Manager. Send information to: pacer@njaes.rutgers.edu. (A commercial pesticide applicator business license number is required to establish a Business Manager account; **a business license number begins with "9"**).
 - Business Manager Name; Business Manager Email Address
 - Company Name; Company Address; Company Business License #
- **Support:** Responsive, courteous help desk support is available Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm. Phone: 848-932-9271, Option 7; Fax: 732-932-1187; E-mail: pacer@njaes.rutgers.edu

Fees - \$115 per each Category exam and the Core exam; \$50 for the Private licensing exam

- Pay online via credit card or e-check, with no extra surcharge
- Purchase Orders will also be accepted via upload

Visit the NJDEP website (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo.htm>) for information regarding pesticide licensing, policies, procedures, credits, and for payment and status of your licenses. For frequently asked questions regarding pesticide licensing please use the following link: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/pcp-FAQs.htm>.

New Rutgers Bulletin

The following new bulletin is available on NJAES Publications:

E365 Sulfur Nutrition and Soil Fertility Management for New Jersey Crops.
 Heckman, J.

Find it online at <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/e365/>



Got Bird Problems? Squawk to us about them!

Survey Participants Needed. Researchers at the University of Rhode Island are currently distributing an online survey about **fresh market sweet corn**. If you grow fresh market sweet corn you are eligible to take this short 5 minute online survey. Your participation and feedback are extremely valuable to the success of this research.

The survey will gather information on growers bird damage levels to sweet corn and prevention methods used to deter bird damage. To take this survey, please [click here](https://uri.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8qBBE02HAIwckYI) or paste the following link into your URL, https://uri.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8qBBE02HAIwckYI.

We thank you in advance for taking our survey. If you have further questions or interested in this study please see the contact information below.



**This research has been approved by The University of Rhode Island Institutional Review Board

For More Information contact:

Dr. Rebecca Brown at brownreb@uri.edu
Department of Plant Science and Entomology

Natalie Meyer at natalie_meyer@uri.edu
*Department of Environmental and Natural Resource
Economics*



Scan here to take
the survey

Plant and Pest Advisory Posts

The following posts by Steven K. Rettke have been added on the Plant and Pest Advisory website:

Primer on Anti-Transpirant Applications

Find it online at plant-pest-advisory.rutgers.edu/primer-on-anti-transpirant-applications/

Landscape IPM Scouting Techniques: Basic Overview

Find it online at plant-pest-advisory.rutgers.edu/landscape-ipm-scouting-techniques-basic-overview/

Farm Truck Certificates

We are currently doing farm tag certificates by mail only.

Pick up an application from the front entrance of our building or email:

BrandiWi@co.cumberland.nj.us for a downloadable PDF version. The applications are in a plastic bin on the front steps of our office building. You will need a separate application for each different registered name on the motor vehicle registrations. Be sure your application includes the EXACT name on the registration.

For example: If you have a truck registered to "John M. Deere" and a truck registered to "Deere Farms, LLC." you will need 2 applications.

- 1) Fill out the entire application and make sure to sign it.
- 2) Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope in your mailing. This is how we will mail your certificate to you.
- 3) Mail the application and envelope to us at:

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Dept., 291 Morton Ave., Millville, NJ 08332

Email: brandiwi@co.cumberland.nj.us if you have any questions or would like a digital copy of the application to print out. You will still have to mail the form and an envelope to us.

Call us at 856-451-2800 ext 1 with any questions.

Calendar of Important Events

- ✓ Indicates a newly added event or more information since the last calendar
● Online

✓ March 2

- **Harmonized Audit Training, ONLINE ONLY; 9:00 AM-12:00 PM; Online Virtual Meeting; \$25; Deadline to register is February 26, 2021; Contact Brandi at brandiwi@co.cumberland.nj.us or 856-451-2800 ext 1 with any questions; Topics covered include Harmonized Audit from start to finish and what auditors found in 2020; Sign up or find more information by going to rutgersonfarmfoodsafety.eventbrite.com**

✓ March 9-10

- **FSMA Produce Safety Rule Training ONLINE ONLY; 10:45 AM-3:30 PM; Online Virtual Meeting; \$50 per person; Deadline to register is February 23, 2021; Contact Brandi at brandiwi@co.cumberland.nj.us or 856-451-2800 ext 1 with any questions; Sign up or find more information by going to rutgersonfarmfoodsafety.eventbrite.com**

✓ March 16

- **Food Safety Training for Blueberry Growers ONLINE ONLY; 10:00 AM-12:15 PM; Online Virtual Meeting; \$25 per person; Deadline to register is March 2, 2021; Contact Brandi at brandiwi@co.cumberland.nj.us or 856-451-2800 ext 1 with any questions; Sign up or find more information by going to rutgersonfarmfoodsafety.eventbrite.com**

✓ March 17

- **2020 Central Jersey Turf and Ornamental Institute; 2:00 PM-5:30 PM; Pesticide credits are available; For more information about Rutgers Landscape courses, please contact Joe Canzano at joe.canzano@rutgers.edu or 848-932-7317; Find more information and sign up online at <http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/landscape/online/>**

May 3

- **Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic, 25th Anniversary; Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, 811 Rattlesnake Bridge Rd, Bedminster, NJ 07911; This event is the largest turfgrass research golf event in the US; For more information or to register go to <https://njta.wildapricot.org/>**

✓ November 3 - December 3

- **National Council of Agricultural Employers 2021 Ag Labor Forum, Las Vegas, NV; More information at www.Ncaonline.org**

✓ December 6-8

- **Washington State Tree Fruit Association Annual Meeting; Yakima Convention Center; Yakima, WA; More information available at Wstfa.org**

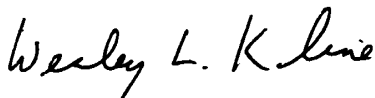
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Cumberland County Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule	Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board	Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture																					
RCE of Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)	Virtual Meeting Information can be found on the Public Meeting Calendar on co.cumberland.nj.us	<u>Virtual Meeting Information</u> Email or call Katie KatieSi@co.cumberland.nj.us (856) 451-2800 x1																					
Rutgers will be taking over the pesticide exam program. More information to come. No exams will be held until further notice.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>March 9</td> <td>April 13</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 11</td> <td>June 15</td> <td>July 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aug. 10</td> <td>Sept. 14</td> <td>Oct. 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov. 9</td> <td>Dec. 14</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	March 9	April 13		May 11	June 15	July 13	Aug. 10	Sept. 14	Oct. 12	Nov. 9	Dec. 14		<table border="0"> <tr> <td>March 18</td> <td>April 15</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 20</td> <td>Sept. 16</td> <td>Oct. 21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov. 18</td> <td>Dec. 16</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	March 18	April 15		May 20	Sept. 16	Oct. 21	Nov. 18	Dec. 16	
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Nov. 9	Dec. 14																						
March 18	April 15																						
May 20	Sept. 16	Oct. 21																					
Nov. 18	Dec. 16																						
No registration at this time. For information call 856-451-2800	Meetings start at 7 p.m. For more information call the Dept. of Planning, Tourism and Community Affairs at 856-453-2175	Meetings start at 7 p.m. For information call Lew DePietro, President at 856-981-9843																					

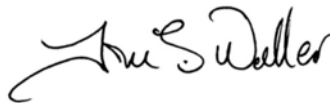
The program in Cumberland County is suspended until further notice.

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)

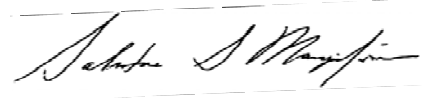
Sincerely,



Wesley L. Kline, Ph.D.
Cooperative Extension Agent
Vegetable Production and Food Safety
WKline@njaes.rutgers.edu



Timothy J. Waller, Ph.D.
Cooperative Extension Agent
Nursery Production
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Salvatore Mangiafico, Ph.D.
Extension Department Head &
Environmental and Resource Mgt. Agent
Mangiafico@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/>

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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Experiment Station