

Cultivating Cumberland

December - 2021 VOL. 26, ISSUE 12

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Attachments:

- * COVID—19 Vaccines and Booster Information
- * Nursery & Ornamental Track at VGA

The office remains closed to the public.

Cultivating Cumberland Subscription Renewal

Renew your subscription to continue receiving "Cultivating Cumberland" and other educational mailings from our office. Due February 18th, 2022. Effective for the March 2022 issue.

Ways to Renew:

- Call 856-451-2800 x1
- Email: BrandiWi@co.cumberland.nj.us
- Fax to 856-451-4206
- Mail: Ag Dept., 291 Morton Ave, Millville, NJ 08332

Cultivating Cumberland Mailed Subscription Renewal

Name: _____ Farm Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Check all options that apply below:

My Business Affiliation	Ornamentals	Vegetables	Other
<input type="radio"/> Commercial Farmer	<input type="radio"/> Nursery	<input type="radio"/> Fresh Vegetables	<input type="radio"/> Small Fruit
<input type="radio"/> Ag-Related Business	<input type="radio"/> Turf	<input type="radio"/> Processing Vegetables	<input type="radio"/> Tree Fruit
<input type="radio"/> Private Consultant	<input type="radio"/> Landscape	<input type="radio"/> Herbs	<input type="radio"/> Hay Production
<input type="radio"/> Agricultural Agent	<input type="radio"/> Greenhouse	<input type="radio"/> Specialty Crops	<input type="radio"/> Other Field Crops
<input type="radio"/> Rutgers	<input type="radio"/> Christmas Tree	<input type="radio"/> Farm Market	<input type="radio"/> Livestock
<input type="radio"/> Other University/ College	<input type="radio"/> Golf Course	<input type="radio"/> Pick Your Own	
<input type="radio"/> Government Agency			

Job Opening with the USDA Farm Service Agency

The USDA Farm Service Agency in Vineland has a new job posting open to applicants 11/22-12/6 through USAJobs.

A permanent, full time County Program Technician position is now available at the Vineland, NJ office. The position is now posted on USAJobs and will close on December 6, 2021. Applicants must meet all of the conditions of employment outlined in the employment announcement.

Major responsibilities for this position are as follows:

- Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county.
- Interpreting and explaining procedures, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel.
- Utilizing various web-based software applications to maintain producer data and processing automated forms.
- Using a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered.

USDA employees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 regardless of their duty station. If selected, you will be required to submit documentation of COVID-19 vaccination by November 22, 2021 or before appointment, if after November 22, 2021.

Click on the link below to see the full vacancy announcement and to apply: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/623076800>

If you need any assistance with applying, please contact Doreen Beruck at 609-438-3140 or doreen.beruck@usda.gov



Farm Truck Certificates

We will have the 2022 truck tag applications and certificates available starting **January 3, 2022**. Because our office is closed to the public we are currently doing farm tag certificates for 2021 by mail only and will continue to do the process the same way in 2022.

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

We cannot give out 2022 applications or certificates until January.

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.



Manage Weeds on Your Farm – A Guide to Ecological Strategies

Dr. Antonio DiTommaso recently announced the publication of the long-awaited and very useful SARE-sponsored book “Manage Weeds on Your Farm – A Guide to Ecological Strategies” by the late Chuck Mohler, John Teasdale, and Antonio DiTommaso.

The book is freely available for download from the SARE website by going to

<https://www.sare.org/resources/manage-weeds-on-your-farm/>

A print version of the book will not be available until February 2022.

Spotted Lantern Fly Survey for Vineyards

Rutgers Cooperative Extension and NJ Center for Wine Research and Education (NJCWRE) is seeking your response regarding Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) infestation and losses in your vineyard in 2021. Your responses are critical to understanding the distribution and impact of this invasive pest in New Jersey. If you are unfamiliar with the spotted lanternfly or want to learn more about it, click here (<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/spotted-lanternfly/>). Please use the below link to fill out your responses.

https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vxZEzoiQKyyVIW

This is the first time 2021 survey is being sent. Previously you may have responded to 2020 survey.

Pennsylvania Phasing In Ban Of Invasive Japanese Barberry – Official PA Dept.

Ag. Press Release

Shannon Powers

Harrisburg, PA – The PA Department of Agriculture added Japanese Barberry, or *Berberis thunbergii*, to a list of **noxious weeds — plants that cannot be legally sold or cultivated in the state**. The popular, non-native, ornamental shrub forms dense, prickly thickets that crowd out plants and disrupt native ecosystems. It is also thought to harbor black-legged ticks that spread lyme disease. The ban on sale and cultivation took effect October 8, 2021.

Enforcement of the ban will be phased in over two years to allow time for nurseries to eliminate it from their stock, find non-harmful alternatives, and **develop seedless, sterile varieties** that pose less threat to the environment and agriculture. Landscape and nursery businesses will receive notices of the timeline, procedures and **exemption process for sterile varieties**. Property owners should consider eliminating the shrubs on their land.

“Many seemingly attractive plants can actually harm our environment, our food supply and our health,” said Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding. “Pennsylvania does not take banning the sale of a plant lightly. Prevention is the best alternative — choosing native plants that harbor pollinators and allow a healthy, natural ecosystem. Carefully considering the potential impact of what we plant can prevent lasting damage that is difficult, expensive or impossible to reverse.”

Japanese barberry was originally brought to the U.S. from Japan and eastern Asia in the 1800s to be planted as an ornamental. It is widely used as a landscape shrub because of its fall coloring and resistance to deer. It has garnered attention in the past several years as a prolific invader that can easily spread into woodlands, pastures, fields and natural areas.

The timeline for the two-year rollout of the ban is as follows:

- November 2021 – Nursery and landscape businesses will receive notice from the department, advising them to immediately begin adjusting propagation, ordering and planting of Japanese barberry to decrease inventory.
- Fall 2022 – The department will issue letters of warning to any plant merchant still selling Japanese barberry, providing a date in Fall 2023 after which remaining inventory will be subject to a destruction order.
- Fall 2023 – The department will issue Stop Sale and destruction orders to plant merchants selling or distributing Japanese barberry.

Merchants with questions should contact ra-plant@pa.gov.

Effective October 8, 2021, the department added two other plants to the noxious weed list: garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*, and Japanese stiltgrass, *Microstegium vimineum*. These plants are generally not sold in nurseries but are invasive and common in Pennsylvania. Landowners with these plants on their property are encouraged to remove them.

Find more information about noxious, controlled and poisonous plants in Pennsylvania at agriculture.pa.gov. For comprehensive information about controlling invasive species in Pennsylvania, visit the [Governor’s Invasive Species Council](#).

New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show

Wes Kline

Last month I wrote about what to consider for 2022. One part of that is attending winter meetings to see what is new. The New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show will be held in person at Harrah's Resort Hotel Convention Center, Atlantic City from February 8-10th. We have 4-5 concurrent sessions each day. Weed management will have a full session on Wednesday, February 9th. Additionally, half of the organic session this year is weed management.

Copper resistance in New Jersey has been an increasing concern for pepper and tomato growers. The vegetable team has been sampling pepper and tomatoes with leaf spot over the last two years to determine if copper resistance was a problem in New Jersey. There are places in Delaware and Maryland where copper fungicides are no longer effective due to resistance. The researcher who has been working with us on the project will report findings in the General Vegetable session on Tuesday, February 8th.

New this year is an agrivoltaics session. What is agrivoltaics? It is the dual use of land to produce agricultural commodities and electricity. Rutgers has received funding from the state legislature to study agrivoltaics in New Jersey. They are establishing projects at various research stations and with cooperating farms. Growers will have the opportunity to hear about results from other states and how the project will be developed in New Jersey. This session is Tuesday afternoon on February 8th.

Food safety continues to be a hot topic issue in New Jersey and around the country. This year the session will concentrate around options for sanitizing irrigation water, how to train workers for a better understanding of the importance for food safety, and risk-based thinking to improve food safety on the farm. The session is Wednesday afternoon February 9th.

A nursery session was added last year and will continue in 2022 with an all-day session on February 8th. They have put together an outstanding series of growers, researchers, and extension agents from across the nation. This session was added last year at the request of growers since there is more and more diversification taking place on farms.

These are just a few examples of the program. The other sessions are Agronomy, Wine Grapes, Organic Production, Soil Health, Blueberry, Small Fruit/Strawberries, New Technology, and Specialty Crops. On Thursday, February 10 there will be three workshops – FSMA Produce Safety Rule Grower Training, Beginner Farmers and Orchards, and Grafting Vegetable Transplants. To register for the FSMA Training go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/t5gdoyyn>.

To register and make hotel reservations for the New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show go to vganj.com. Look under convention and educational registration at the top of the pages for more details. The complete program will be published in the January newsletter.

A Jersey Guide to Real Christmas Trees

William Errickson

Did you know that there are over 5,000 acres of Christmas tree farms in the Garden State?

Many of these farms open their doors in November and December, welcoming families to make lasting holiday memories on the farm while finding their perfect Christmas tree. Purchasing a New Jersey-grown Christmas tree this holiday season is a fun, environmentally friendly activity that supports local farmers.

Tim Dunne, co-owner of Woodsedge Tree Farm and VP of the NJ Christmas Tree Growers Association, says, "Christmas tree farming is more than producing trees, it is a true agritourism event for NJ families." He suggests, "Go to the farm, meet the farmer and ask them about how the trees are grown. Enjoy a day at the farm, breathing the fresh air the trees are producing."

Real Christmas Trees Benefit the Environment

During the seven to ten years Christmas trees grow before they are harvested, they perform numerous functions that support the environment. Christmas trees produce oxygen and purify the air, removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and turning it into needles, branches, and roots as they grow. Christmas tree farms essentially function as young forest ecosystems, with trees providing wildlife habitat such as nesting sites for field sparrows, mourning doves, and robins. The roots help to stabilize the soil, even after the Christmas trees are harvested. After the holidays, Christmas trees can be naturally recycled for creation of fish and wildlife habitat, Jersey Shore dune restoration, or production of landscape mulch.

Choosing "The Perfect One"

There are a few ways to tell whether a pre-cut tree is fresh and healthy.

If you run your hand through the branches, needles should not come off easily. Outer branches should bend readily. If branches are brittle and losing needles, the tree is too dry and may not last very long in your home.

There are many locally grown species of Christmas trees, each with its own unique shape, color, needles, and scent. Knowing the characteristics can help you choose "the perfect one" this Christmas.

Canaan Fir is becoming increasingly popular in NJ. These trees have a symmetrical pyramidal shape and good density of branches. They have short, rigid needles that are blue-green in color and fragrant. Canaan firs also have excellent needle retention indoors.

Concolor Fir, also known as **White Fir**, has a soft appearance and a unique citrus aroma. The small, flat, narrow needles are arranged in rows on the branches. When they are young, the needles are bluish-green, turning dull green as they age.

Douglas Fir has soft, flat, dark to blue-green needles radiating in all directions on the branch. They are a very common species of Christmas tree with full branches and a classic conical shape. Douglas firs have a sweet, piney scent reminiscent of the outdoors. These trees must be kept well-watered, as they will readily lose their needles if they dry out.

Fraser Fir has a classic pyramid shape with strong branches and good needle retention. The fragrant dark-green needles are lighter on their lower surface giving them a silvery appearance.

Noble Fir has long been considered an excellent Christmas tree for its long keepability and overall appearance. Their strong branches can hold heavy ornaments and the greenery can be used for creating wreaths and garlands. The four-sided needles are bluish-green with a silvery appearance.

Colorado Blue Spruce has distinctive bluish-gray needles that are sharp to the touch. They have good symmetrical form and long-lasting needle retention.

White Spruce is a great tree for ornaments with short, stiff, bluish-green needles. They have a conical shape and good needle retention.

Scotch Pine is a widely adapted tree that grows well on many farms. It has dark-green needles that are produced in bundles of two on strong branches. Scotch pine holds up well in the house with excellent needle retention.

Caring for Your Christmas Tree at Home

Before putting up your tree, make a fresh cut about 1/2-inch from the base of the trunk to help the tree to take up water. Some farms will actually do this for you. Secure the tree in a stable stand that can hold an adequate supply of water. Check the water level every day, making sure the base of the tree is always submerged in water.

For more information, watch the recording of Rutgers Cooperative Extension's free virtual program: [RU Ready to Garden- Horticulture for the Holidays](#). Rutgers Agricultural Agents Bill Hlubik, Tim Waller and Bill Errickson spoke about Christmas tree selection and care; Master Gardener Coordinator Angela Monaghan discussed poinsettias and Christmas cactus. To view this recording and other great videos please visit <https://go.rutgers.edu/hfzl1vpb>.

To find a Christmas tree farm in your area and to learn more, visit the NJ Christmas Tree Growers Association website: <https://njchristmastrees.org/>

William Errickson is the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent for Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County.



Calendar of Important Events

*Indicates a newly added event or more information since the last calendar

December 7-9

New Jersey Green Expo Turf and Landscape Conference; Borgata Hotel & Casino; Atlantic City, NJ; The Education Sessions share cutting-edge information that deliver case studies, industry trends, applications, and best practices for your profitable business. The Trade Show is one of the largest Green Industry events in the Northeast. Come to see new products, new services, and update your network in the Green Industry; Pesticide Credits will be available; Register online at <https://njta.wildapricot.org/>

* January 4, 2022

2022 Sustainable Agriculture Conference; Lancaster, PA; Features a virtual pre-conference and an in-person main conference and trade show; Virtual conference is January 4-28; In person conference is February 10-12; Be part of one of the largest gatherings of sustainable farmers, food system professionals, and changemakers in the nation; Find more information and register at <https://cvent.me/28WQ3G>

* January 4-6, 2022

Keystone Farm Show; York Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave. (PA Route 74), York, PA; The 2022 show will feature 10 buildings filled with ag business exhibitors from all over the country and beyond; No mask mandates; Talk face to face with experts in all types of agricultural services and equipment; Find more information at keystonefarmshow.com

* January 6-9, 2022

Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference; Savannah, GA; Join in-person and celebrate 20 years of the South's premier fruit and vegetable show; Many educational sessions; View the schedule and Register at seregionalconference.org

* January 8-15, 2022

PA Farm Show; PA Farm Show Complex, 2300 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA; This is the 106th annual farm show; In-person event; Fine more information at farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/

* January 11-13, 2022

Empire State Producers Expo; The Oncenter, 800 South State St, Syracuse, NY 13202; Agricultural trade show and education for the fruit and vegetable grower and marketer; 45 educational sessions; For exhibitor information call (800)218-5586 or email dwren@leepub.com; Program details and online registration at nysvga.org/expo

* January 18, 2022

Organic Honey Bee Colony Management Series; Online Zoom Event with PennState Extension; Every Tuesday starting January 18th for 6 weeks; 3:30PM - 4:45PM; Intermediate level workshop: Have been keeping bees for 3 years, have an understanding of beekeeping terms and jargon; Find more information and sign up at <https://extension.psu.edu/organic-honey-bee-colony-management-series>

January 31, 2022

Harmonized Audit Training; Online Event; What records do you need? What does the audit language mean? Join us for an open discussion of each requirement in the audit standard so you are prepared for your audit; \$25.00 per person; Deadline to register 1/27/22; Hosted by the Rutgers On-Farm Food Safety; Register online at rutgersonfarmfoodsafety.eventbrite.com

January 31– February 2, 2022

Global Organic Produce Expo 2022; Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Resort, Hollywood, FL; As the only globally driven show for organic produce, this show creates a forum for unique and specific opportunities. Network, exchange ideas, source new products and services, and do business with the industry's leading growers, distributors, packer and retailers. Register online at <https://events.farmjournal.com/global-organic-produce-expo-2022/home>

February 1-2, 2022

Total Pro Professional Landscape, Nursery & Hardscape Expo & Conference; New Jersey Convention Center, Edison, NJ; The Northeast's professional landscaping event of the year! Trade show, educations, equipment and supplies, discover new products, suppliers and services and much more! Early bird registration open now at \$20.00. Use code BLUEBIRD; Find more information or register at totalproexpo.com

February 1-3, 2022

Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention; Hershey Lodge, PA; The premier grower meeting in the Northeast, normally combining three days of six or more concurrent educational sessions with a large industry trade show and numerous networking opportunities. Find more information at www.mafvc.org

February 8-10, 2022

2022 NJ Agricultural Convention and Trade Show; Atlantic City, NJ; Vegetable Growers Association will hold their annual convention with educational sessions and trade show. Save the date! Find more information at vganj.com

February 10, 2022

Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training, NJ Ag Convention, Atlantic City, NJ; You MUST be registered for the Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey Conference to attend this program. Find more information and register online at <https://go.rutgers.edu/t5gdoyyn>

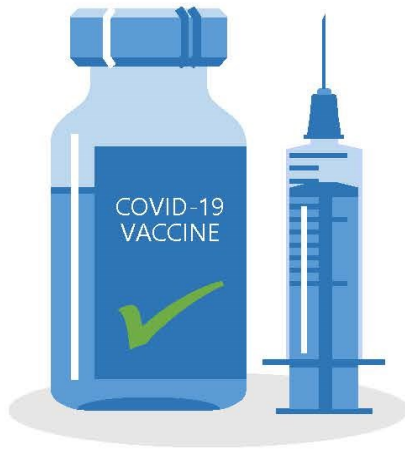
*** February 10-12, 2022**

2022 Sustainable Agriculture Conference; Lancaster, PA; Features a virtual pre-conference and an in-person main conference and trade show; Virtual conference is January 4-28; In person conference is February 10-12; Be part of one of the largest gatherings of sustainable farmers, food system professionals, and changemakers in the nation; Find more information and register at <https://cvent.me/28WQ3G>

March 2, 2022

Harmonized Audit Training; Online Event; What records do you need? What does the audit language mean? Join us for an open discussion of each requirement in the audit standard so you are prepared for your audit; \$25.00 per person; Deadline to register 2/26/22; Hosted by the Rutgers On-Farm Food Safety; Register online at rutgersonfarmfoodsafety.eventbrite.com

What are the different vaccine types?



COVID-19 vaccines are:

- ✓ SAFE
- ✓ EFFECTIVE
- ✓ **FREE FOR ALL**

PFIZER

For anyone 5 years and older! You need 2 shots given 3 weeks apart

MODERNA

For anyone 18 years and older! You need 2 shots given 4 weeks apart

JOHNSON & JOHNSON (J&J)

For anyone 18 years and older! You only need 1 shot and then you're done!

You can get the second shot for Pfizer and Moderna anywhere.

Learn more at covid19.nj.gov/vaccine



Guide to Vaccine Eligibility

(last updated: 11/01/2021)



Individuals 12-17

When can I receive this dose?

Which brands are available?

Who is eligible?

1st Dose

Any time

Pfizer

Ages 12-17

2nd Dose

3 weeks (21 days) after 1st dose

Pfizer

Ages 12-17

Individuals 18+



1st Dose

Any time

Pfizer

All Adults

Moderna

All Adults

J&J

All Adults

2nd dose

3 weeks (21 days) after 1st dose

Pfizer

All Adults

4 weeks (28 days) after 1st dose

Moderna

All Adults

3rd dose

4 weeks (28 days) after second dose

Pfizer

Adults who are moderately to severely immunocompromised*

Moderna

Booster

6 months after second dose

Pfizer (can get any booster)

Ages 65 and older

Ages 18 and older who have [underlying medical conditions](#)** , who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)*** , or who live in [long term care](#)****

Moderna (can get any booster)

2 months after first dose

J&J (can get any booster)

All adults



All booster doses are interchangeable

* Immunocompromised = An individual with a weakened immune system due to certain health conditions. Note: Immunocompromised persons may receive a booster dose 6 months after their additional doses (third doses) of an mRNA vaccine.

** Underlying medical conditions = For example, cancer, diabetes, hypertension and other conditions that increase risk for severe COVID-19 illness.

*** High-risk settings = For example, healthcare workers, teachers, and others whose job puts them at risk of COVID-19 exposure.

**** Long term care = For example, individuals living in residential care, assisted living, nursing homes etc. that increase risk for COVID-19 exposure

Ready to get vaccinated?

Visit COVID19.nj.gov/vaccine

Additional questions?

The NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center is available at: **855-568-0545**

Now Available

Booster doses are now available to adults (18+) fully vaccinated with **Moderna or Pfizer* who are at a higher risk of COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions**

Underlying (or existing) health conditions include...

- Cancer
- Chronic (long-lasting) kidney disease (CKD)
- Chronic (long-lasting) lung disease
- Dementia
- Diabetes
- Down syndrome
- Heart conditions
- HIV infection
- Liver disease
- Overweight and obesity
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia (low red blood cell count)
- Smoking (current or former)
- Organ or stem cell transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease (problems with blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Substance use disorders
- Weakened immune system

You may choose from Moderna, Pfizer or J&J for your booster dose

*You must have received your second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months ago to receive a booster dose

Visit covid19.nj.gov/vaccine or call **855-568-0545** to find a vaccination site near you

For full eligibility details, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1021-covid-booster.html>

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Harrah's Resort Hotel Convention Center
777 Harrah's Blvd., Atlantic City, NJ 08401

<https://vganj.com>
(856) 451-2800 x2 Nursery
TWaller@njaes.rutgers.edu

IN-PERSON

NEW

NURSERY AND ORNAMENTAL TRACK AT THE 2022 VGA



Come early! – Tuesday, February 8th

Register at
<https://vganj.com/registration>

Session I

9:30 - 11:45am

Pesticide credit bearing session

Presentations:

Native Plants for the NJ Landscape - William Errickson (RCE Agent)

Building More Sustainable Landscape Designs with Grasses and Sedges - Brian Oleksak (Morris County College)

Plant Phenology Indicators for Scouting and Controlling Insects - Steve Rettke (RCE Agent)

More TBD



Session II

2:45 - 5:00pm

Pesticide credit bearing session



DANNY LAUDERDALE
NC State University

**Managing Red-headed Flea Beetle
Larvae and Adults**

Additional presentations:

Diagnostic Tips for the Nursery and Landscape - Rich Buckley (NJAES)

Detection and Management of Phytophthora in Conifers - Timothy Waller (RCE Agent)



WE **R** HERE WHEN YOU NEED US

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.