

Cultivating Cumberland

December - 2023

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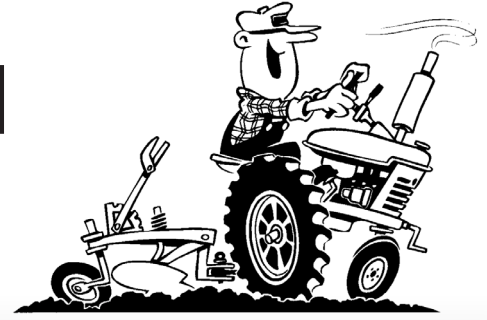


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Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity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

Cultivating Cumberland Subscription Renewal

Renew your subscription to continue receiving "Cultivating Cumberland" and other educational mailings from our office.

Due February 16 2024. Effective for the March issue.

Ways to Renew:

- Call 856-451-2800 x1
- Email: BrandiWi@cumberlandcountynj.gov
- 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

- Commercial Farmer
- Ag-Related Business
- Private Consultant
- Agricultural Agent
- Rutgers
- Other University/ College
- Government Agency

Ornamentals

- Nursery
- Turf
- Landscape
- Greenhouse
- Christmas Tree
- Golf Course

Vegetables

- Fresh Vegetables
- Processing Vegetables
- Herbs
- Specialty Crops
- Farm Market
- Pick Your Own

Other

- Small Fruit
- Tree Fruit
- Hay Production
- Other Field Crops
- Livestock

2024 New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade Show

The 2024 Annual New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade Show will be held Tuesday to Thursday, February 6-8 at Harrah's Resort and Waterfront Conference Center 777 Harrah's Blvd. in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The convention is hosted in cooperation with the Vegetable Growers Association of NJ, the NJ Department of Agriculture, and Rutgers Cooperative Extension. The VGANJ is working with Rutgers Cooperative Extension and others to bring new offerings to the 2024 convention. Look for new activities in the trade show area, new vendors and traditional vendors from the past, and new participation from the Garden State Wine Growers Association. VGANJ is currently accepting exhibitor booth registrations. To find out more about purchasing a booth space see <https://vganj.com/exhibitors>.

What is new for 2024? On Tuesday during the mid-day break, participants at the convention can pre-sign up and participate in a free "Lunch and Learn" program where exhibitors will discuss their products and services. Registration is required for the free "Lunch and Learn" program, complimentary lunch will be provided, and space is limited. Attendees are also encouraged to participate in the Tuesday evening social and charity auction to bid on some fantastic items from our supporters. The charity auction will benefit Shriners Hospital and will be held on the trade show floor. Tickets will be available for the Wednesday, February 7th NJ Agricultural Society's luncheon and everyone at the convention is welcome to sign up and buy tickets to attend. Also, on Wednesday evening, the annual VGANJ/NJDA Awards Dinner and Banquet will be held. This year VGANJ will be presenting their 2024 Vegetable Growers of the Year award to Angelo and Leonard Grasso Farms of Mullica Hill, NJ at the Wednesday dinner banquet. In addition, the NJ Department of Agriculture will be honoring their awardees at the dinner. More to come on these awards. Tickets for scheduled meals and events can be purchased through Nancy Wood at the NJ Department of Agriculture. Email Nancy at Nancy.Wood@ag.nj.gov or see Nancy at registration.

All information for the NJ Agricultural Convention and Trade Show can be found on the VGANJ website at <https://vganj.com>. To register for attending the educational sessions and trade show, to make hotel reservations, and view the Rutgers educational program, scroll to the bottom of the VGANJ webpage or click the "convention" tab at the top of the page. To help VGANJ meet their room reservations commitment please use the hotel room block for the convention on the VGANJ website through this link <https://book.passkey.com/go/SH02VG4> or call the hotel at 888-516-2215 and use group code SH02VG4. Attendees can register for all 3 days by purchasing a VGANJ membership or they can purchase one-day passes on the VGANJ website or when arriving at the convention. Everyone is encouraged to pre-register for the event.

The Rutgers Educational Program at the convention this year has the theme of "Pathways to Grow Farm Viability" and covers a wide range of topics including soil health, hemp production, basic wine grape production, tree fruit establishment, vegetable topics, high tunnel production, nursery and ornamentals, strawberry production, transition to organics, blueberry production, food safety, retail marketing, new agricultural technology, pest problems among many other topics. On Thursday, February 8 a half-day session on Worker Protection Safety Respiratory Protection Training with Fit Testing for Respirators will be hosted and licensed applicators can receive 8 core credits. Additionally, there is an all-day Farm Food Safety workshop on Thursday for a fee that can be paid online. Pre-Registration is required for both Thursday workshops and both have limited seating - so register early. See the Thursday Workshop section of the program for workshop registration links and more information. Or use this link for the Food Safety Workshop registration <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or register for the Respirator Training Workshop at <https://go.rutgers.edu/pesticideworkshop>.

In addition to the Rutgers educational sessions the NJ State Board of Agriculture will be hosting their annual delegates convention. For more information regarding the NJ State Board of Agriculture Delegates Convention see <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/conventions/>. Everyone is welcome to attend the NJ State Board of Agriculture delegates sessions to learn more about agricultural issues. The delegates and NJ SBOA meet on Wednesday and Thursday of the convention. Each county board of agriculture, commodity organizations and other groups send delegates to this convention to vote on resolutions important to the agricultural industry. This event is hosted and organized by the NJ Department of Agriculture.

Finish the Fight Against Scrapie: Brains Needed!

Michael Westendorf; November 6, 2023; Plant and Pest Advisory

The United States is nearing the goal line after a 70 year battle against Scrapie, a fatal disease that affects the brain of sheep and goats. Sheep and goat producers can help the USDA achieve this goal. The current program has been very successful to drastically reduce the amount of scrapie in the US. One of the most difficult aspects of an eradication program is making sure that the last few cases of the disease are found.

The most recent two cases of scrapie found in the US were sampled at slaughter but could not be traced back to a farm origin. One of these cases was a sheep in Wisconsin in 2021 and another was a goat tested in Indiana in 2019. Because these animals did not have adequate records and identification to find where they came from, it is likely there are still farms with cases of scrapie. For a country to be declared free of scrapie, international standards require a certain level of testing among all sheep and goat populations within a country. No samples can test positive for classical scrapie. The samples we need to test are brain and a lymph node.

Each year every state is given a minimum number of samples to be collected based on the breeding sheep and goat populations. This assures sampling represents the different populations. In fiscal year 2024, NJ needs to sample 32 mature (>18 months) sheep and 22 mature goats. We continue to ask for help from our New Jersey small ruminant industry to obtain these samples. If a producer has an adult sheep or goat that dies, that must be euthanized, or is being culled please contact USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services at 609-241-2236. There is no charge for the collection or testing of the samples. Producers may be eligible for official plastic tags as long as our supplies last.

Scrapie is in the same family of diseases as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) and chronic wasting disease of deer and elk.

Eastern Tree Fruit Survey

Anne Nielsen

We are putting together a survey to identify key insect problems facing Eastern Tree Fruit growers (specifically for apples and peaches). The goal is to generate a targeted research project to address these needs integrating sociological and economic information with research findings.

Please help by filling out this survey, it should only take a few minutes:

https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4JFVtXoWDh46jyu

Study of Human Relationships with Farming and Nature

Janet Castellini (Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis) is conducting a study concerning the relationships of farmers in South Jersey to nature—how those relationships have developed and how those relationships have been expressed in their lives. The purpose is to understand from people in our area, firsthand, how their personal experiences have shaped the way they think about and relate to the natural world.

Participants will be asked to do two interviews. The first one will last about an hour and a half. The second one might be an hour, but it could be shorter. The first interview will be to talk about participants' experiences with nature in particular and, for context, their life in general. The second interview will be to talk about anything that came up since the first interview and to clarify any questions or ideas that might have resulted from the first meeting.

Interviews will be scheduled at a place and a time that is convenient for each participant. The identity of participants will be kept confidential.

There are risks and benefits to participating in this study. It is possible that talking about experiences in nature, memories of the past or thoughts about the future could bring up negative emotions. It is also possible that participants will find talking about experiences with the natural world to be calming and/or enjoyable.

If you would like to participate in this study, contact Janet at the phone number or email listed below. A \$25 gift card to Wawa or a gift card of your choice will be offered as a thank you gift.

Contact Information:

Student researcher: Janet Castellini, 609-504-2522 or janetcastellini@gmail.com.

Advisor: Stephen Soldz, ssoldz@bgsp.edu

Comment Period for the Soil Protection Standards (SPS) Extended

The public comment period on the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) Rule Proposal to Establish Soil Protection Standards on Preserved Farmland has been extended to February 23, 2024. The proposed new rules, N.J.A.C. 2:76-25, Soil Disturbance on Preserved Farmland and N.J.A.C. 2:76-25A and Supplemental Soil Disturbance Standards can be accessed at the following website:

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc>. To make a comment address it to

Susan E. Payne, Executive Director
State Agriculture Development Committee
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625-0330

Or electronically to: SADC@ag.state.nj.us

Attached to the newsletter is a rule proposal summary developed by the SADC

Poultry Owners

State Department of Agriculture

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) continues to detect highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) across the United States. Many western states are currently experiencing active infection in both commercial and backyard flock poultry. Additionally, the virus has infected flocks in Alabama, Minnesota, and Iowa. Highly pathogenic avian influenza continues to circulate in wild waterfowl. Currently, the Mississippi Flyway has the largest number of active detections in wild waterfowl.

HPAI is highly contagious and often fatal in domestic poultry species. No human cases of these avian influenza viruses have been detected in the United States. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the recent HPAI detections in birds do not present an immediate public health concern. As a reminder, poultry and eggs' proper handling and cooking to an internal temperature of 165 °F kill bacteria and viruses.

Signs of HPAI in poultry can include:

- Sudden death
- Decrease in feed or water consumption
- Respiratory signs such as coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge
- Swelling around the eyes
- Open-mouth breathing
- Darkening of the comb/wattles
- Reddening of the shanks or feet
- Decreased egg production
- Lethargy

HPAI spreads through contact with bodily secretions, including feces and ocular, nasal, or oral secretions from infected birds. The virus can be spread on vehicles, equipment, shoes, etc. Practicing good biosecurity can help prevent the spread of HPAI onto your farm.

- Eliminating exposure of domestic birds to wild birds. Minimize standing water and extra feed in the environment that might attract wild birds.
- Avoid contact with other poultry.
- Keep a specific set of shoes and clothing for tending your poultry. You may also consider disposable boot covers or a foot bath that is changed regularly.
- Minimize the number of people who visit your birds.
- Avoid sharing equipment with other flocks. Use appropriate disinfectants for equipment that must come onto a farm.
- Obtain new birds from Avian Influenza tested flocks only.

HPAI is a reportable disease. Any individual who shall gain knowledge or suspect the existence of the disease shall notify this office without delay. Deceased birds should be double-bagged and stored at refrigerated temperatures for testing. Do not expose dead poultry to the environment, other poultry, or wildlife/wild birds. Wash your hands after handling sick or dead birds.

If you suspect HPAI, please alert the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health at 609-671-6400.

For additional information about the disease and outreach materials, please see:

- <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/>
- <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/ai>
- <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/>

EPA Requests Comment on Modernizing Pesticide Label System to Improve Safety and Accessibility

Pat Hastings; Plant and Pest Advisory; November 16, 2023

[Released by EPA 11/15/2023]. The U.S. Environmental Protection agency is requesting feedback on its plan to adopt digital pesticide labels that will make labeling information clearer, more consistent, and more accessible to users. The Agency is specifically requesting feedback on the proposed organization of digital labels and the proposed phases of developing these labels.

EPA's plan for digital labels covers the creation of both a structured label—which would provide a framework for consistently placing and ordering label information—and a digital label, which would organize the label information as electronic data. Currently, the pesticide product label registration process is mostly manual, with EPA staff reading through long, detailed label submissions to pull out specific information, like application rate, to enter into the EPA's Pesticide Product and Label System. This has led to time consuming reviews and high cost to registrants and regulators. Further, the increasing complexity of pesticide labels and lack of standardized label format and language can create challenges for pesticide users and the public seeking information about which products to use and how to use them. The easier it is for users to find and understand label information, the better they can follow instructions to protect their safety and health and their environment.

Moving from traditional labels to digital labels and providing a database of accepted label language would make submitting label content simpler and more consistent for all pesticide registrants and would improve the Agency's ability to review and access submissions efficiently.

EPA is requesting public comment on all aspects of structured digital labels, including:

- anticipated benefits
- risks and challenges
- key information fields (such as pesticide use site, formulation, and maximum application rate), and
- potential phases of adoption.

The whitepaper will be open for 120 days for comment at www.regulations.gov on docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0562.

Local Food Purchase Assistance Program

There will be a listening session in our office (291 Morton Ave., Millville) Thursday January 11 at 1:00 PM. The focus group is limited to 10 participants. If interested email: njfooddemocracy.org/jersey-fresh-for-all or call 609-857-1335. For more information see the attached announcement.

Note: Registration is not though our office!

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3, 2022 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced it has signed a cooperative agreement with New Jersey under the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA). Through LFPA, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) seeks to purchase and distribute locally grown, produced, and processed food from underserved producers.

"USDA is excited to partner with New Jersey to promote economic opportunities for farmers and producers and to increase access to locally sourced, fresh, healthy, and nutritious food in underserved communities," said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. "The Local Food Purchase Cooperative Agreement Program will improve food and agricultural supply-chain resiliency and increase local food consumption around the country."

With the LFPA funds, NJDA will work with Community Food Bank of New Jersey (CFBNJ) to implement LFPA's food purchasing programs and establish partnerships with farmers and ranchers within the state that best suits local needs, environmental and climate conditions, and seasonal harvests. The foods purchased through this program will be distributed in the state's 21 counties.

USDA's Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program provides up to \$900 million through non-competitive cooperative agreements to enable state, territory and tribal governments to support local, regional and underserved producers, and maintain or improve food and agricultural supply chain resiliency through the purchase of food produced within the state or within 400 miles of delivery destination. Funding for the program comes from the American Rescue Plan and the Commodity Credit Corporation.

AMS looks forward to continuing to sign agreements under this innovative program that allows state and tribal governments to procure and distribute local and regional foods and beverages that are healthy, nutritious, and unique to their geographic area.

Jersey Fresh for All -The Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) program will be purchasing from local farmers and ranchers, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and underserved communities. They are prioritizing participation from historically underserved communities including Veterans, women, first-generation and beginner farmers, and first-generation farmers, Black, Latino and Indigenous and immigrant farm owners. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA), through sub awardee agency-The Community Food Bank of New Jersey- (CFBNJ) will implement LFPA's food purchasing programs and establish partnerships with farmers and ranchers within the state that best suits local needs, environmental and climate conditions, and seasonal harvests. The CFBNJ, will coordinate with the other food banks (Food Bank of South Jersey and Fulfill) as well as its partner distribution organizations (Mercer Street Friends and Norwescap) to ensure that the agricultural products purchased through LFPA reach distribution points in all 21 counties. The Common Market (TCM) and the New Jersey Food Democracy Collaborative (NJFDC) will be key collaborators in the research, outreach, and relationship development activities to be conducted in Phase 1 of the program. Phase 2 will support implementation, including food procurement and distribution (directly by CFBNJ and in collaboration with TCM) as well as the development of the resources required for long-term sustainability and success.

USDA Increases Minimum Annual Payment for Conservation Stewardship Program

Michelle Infante-Casella; November 8, 2023; Plant and Pest Advisory

Conservation programs with USDA have received unprecedented increases in funding and farmers should investigate programs to make improvements on their farm. One program in particular, is increasing the minimum annual payments to producers for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) from \$1,500 to \$4,000 in fiscal year 2024. The increase addresses challenges faced by small farms making participation more financially beneficial for smaller operations. The new minimum payment is available for new and renewed CSP contracts.

CSP offers technical and financial assistance to help agricultural and forest producers take their conservation efforts to the next level. The program is designed to compensate agricultural and forest producers who agree to increase their level of conservation by adopting additional conservation activities and maintaining their baseline level of conservation.

Examples of CSP enhancements that are suitable for being adopted by smaller scale and urban producers include:

- Planting multi-species cover crops
- Mulching with natural materials
- Establishing pollinator habitats
- Soil health crop rotation

Currently, an unprecedented amount of funding is available for CSP through the Inflation Reduction Act and Farm Bill. The Inflation Reduction Act provided \$19.5 billion in additional funding for NRCS oversubscribed programs like CSP for five years. Inflation Reduction Act funds are available to help producers adopt climate-smart practices.

NRCS recently announced it increased the number of Climate-Smart Agricultural and Forestry Mitigation Activities eligible for Inflation Reduction Act funding for fiscal year 2024 through CSP, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). To learn more, download the list of practices and a fact sheet

NRCS accepts producer applications for its conservation programs year-round, but producers interested in this cycle of Inflation Reduction Act funding should apply as soon as possible. Producers interested in EQIP should apply by DATE or CSP should apply by DATE for consideration this year. Funding is provided through a competitive process and will include an opportunity to address the unmet demand from producers who have previously sought funding for climate-smart conservation activities.

For more information about assistance available, contact NRCS at your local USDA ServiceCenter

New Jersey Minimum Wage for 2024

The minimum wage for agricultural workers increases to \$12.81 starting January 1, 2024. This will continue to increase each year until it reaches at least \$15.00.

Calendar of Events

- Indicates a newly added event

December 5-7

New Jersey Green Expo; The Borgata Hotel and Casino Atlantic City NJ sign up at www.njturfgrass.org or visit <https://book.passkey.com/event/50463830/owner/9863/home>

December 7

Update on Diseases of Vegetable Crops; Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Cape May Court House. to register go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/clkw9xjw>

- December 13-14

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

January 6-13, 2024

Pennsylvania Farm Show; Harrisburg, PA; The largest indoor agricultural exposition under one roof in the nation; Save the date, more info at <https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/Pages/default.aspx>

- January 10, 2024

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Introduction to Harmonized Audits. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

- January 16-April 29, 2024

Equine Nutrition; Horse enthusiasts are invited to participate in this 14-week online Equine Science course offered in two different formats by the Rutgers Department of Animal Sciences. This course is offered in two different formats, each with a different course workload, level of required interaction, completion documentation, and registration fee. To earn a Certificate of Course Completion: Students are expected to be fully engaged each week during the course and to meet weekly deadlines. They will submit assignments, complete readings, watch videos, participate in discussions, and complete a final project. To earn a Certificate of Course Participation: Course completion will be based on automatically graded quizzes and practice assignments but has no weekly deadlines or instructor interaction. The course content must be completed by the end of the semester. More information is available at <https://cpe.rutgers.edu/equine-nutrition>. Please contact Carol Broccoli at carolbr@njaes.rutgers.edu or 848-932-7207 with any questions.

January 23-24, 2024

Empirestate Producers Expo 2024- New exciting changes coming this year. Small fruit sessions will be returning and possibly others. More sessions planned for each day this year. www.nysvga.org

- January 27, 2024

NOFA NJ 34th Annual Winter Conference; The NOFA NJ Winter Conference is not just for farmers and gardeners... our community and audience also includes students, educators, ag industry professionals, chefs, conservationists, foodies, brewers, and more. This year, we aim to galvanize our community in a time when cooperation is needed most, focusing on local connections and collaboration that carries on into the growing season. Join us in celebration of NJ food & agriculture and help us Grow the Garden State Together! Register here: <https://nofanj.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nofanj/event.jsp?event=6048&>

- **January 30- February 1, 2024**

Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention; Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania, The program covers nearly every aspect of fruit, vegetable, potato, berry, cut flower, and greenhouse production and marketing. For more information go to mafvc.org

February 6-8, 2024

New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade Show, Harrah's Resort Waterfront Conference Center, Atlantic City, NJ. See attachment for details.

- **February 8, 2024**

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

February 8–10, 2024

PASA Sustainable Agriculture Conference Lancaster, PA; The annual conference, entering its 33rd year, draws a diverse audience of rural and urban farmers, educators, advocates, entrepreneurs, community groups, artisans, researchers, policymakers, home cooks and gardeners, youth, and others for four days of learning on sustainable agriculture and food system topics. More information at <https://pasafarming.org/2023-sustainable-agriculture-conference/>

- **February 21, 2024**

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

- **February 28, 2024**

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Food Safety Training for Blueberry Growers. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

March 5, 2024

On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Training; Advanced Audit Trainings. To register or for more information go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

March 11-15, 2024

Florida Postharvest Horticulture Tour; Early Registration will open on October 16th. Registration Details: Early Registration (\$750) Ends- November 20, 2023; Regular Registration (\$800) Ends December 20, 2023; Late Registration (\$850) Ends February 2, 2024. The registration fee includes transportation during the tour via commercial coach with Wi-Fi access. Hotel and meal costs are the responsibility of each participant. A block of hotel rooms is reserved for the group during the tour and each participant pays upon check out. A limited number of educational discounts are available for university and government employees. For more details contact Adrian Berry at adberry@ufl.edu.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Pesticide Credit Exams

Virtual testing available.

Sign-up, exam schedule,
and find more information at
<https://pacer.rutgers.edu/>

Manuals available for purchase at
291 Morton Ave
Millville, NJ 08332

Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board

Meetings are held on the 3rd
Tuesday of each month.
Meetings start at 7 p.m.

Virtual Meetings Information
can be found on the
Public Meeting Calendar on
cumberlandcountynj.gov/calendar

For more information call the Dept.
of Planning, Tourism,
and Community Affairs
at 856-453-2175

Chair: Al Caggiano, Jr
Commissioner Liaisons:
Victoria Groetsche-Lods

Cumberland County Board of Agriculture

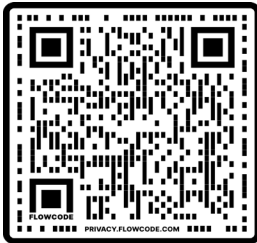
Meetings are held on the
3rd Thursday of September-October
at 7 p.m., November - March
at 6 p.m., & April-May 7 p.m.
in-person at RCE

Next meeting
December 21, 2023

Virtual Meeting Information
<https://rutgers.zoom.us/my/smangia>
Meeting ID: 529 557 9817
Passcode: Sal2020
or call in at 1 (646) 558 - 8656

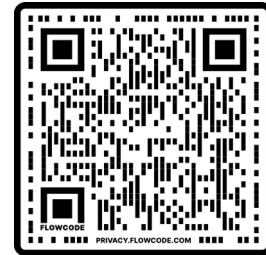
President: Keith MacIndoe
Commissioner Liaisons:
1. Victoria Groetsche-Lods
2. Joseph Sileo
Alt. John Capizola Jr.

Cultivating Cumberland Newsletter



<https://go.rutgers.edu/lr39fky>

Plant & Pest Advisory

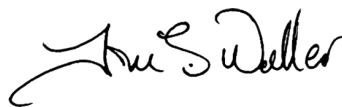


<https://go.rutgers.edu/8ookejzo>

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.

WE **R** HERE WHEN YOU NEED **US**

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...

<https://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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Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County
Extension Education Center
291 Morton Avenue
Millville, NJ 08332-9791

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station



Update on Diseases of Vegetable Crops



Thursday, December 7, 2023

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
355 Court House - South Dennis Road
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Pesticide Credits:

**NJDEP Course
#034770**

**3 Units each for:
1A, 10 & PP2**

Presenter:

Dr. Andy Wyenandt, Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center (RAREC), Bridgeton, NJ.

Participants will receive an *Update* on:

- **Cucurbit powdery and downy mildew**
- **Phytophthora blight**
- **Tomato and pepper anthracnose**
- **Other important diseases in vegetable production**

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/clkw9xjw>

For information, call 609-465-5115, ext. 3601



On-Farm Produce Safety Grower Trainings

When and Where:

December 13-14, 2023: Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule: Online

January 10, 2024: Introduction to Harmonized Audits: Online

February 8, 2024: Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule: Atlantic City, NJ

February 21, 2024: Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Safety Rule: Ewing, NJ

February 28, 2024: Food Safety Training for Blueberry Growers: Chatsworth, NJ

March 5, 2024: Advanced Audit Training: Online

To **register** or for more information please visit:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/8bgart4a> or

go to our website

onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu



For more information contact Jennifer Matthews, jmatthews@njaes.rutgers.edu, 609-675-4221.

2024 NJ AGRICULTURAL CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW PATHWAYS TO GROW FARM VIABILITY

Tuesday Morning, February 6, 2024

9:30 AM – 11:45 AM

Wildwood 2&3	Wildwood 4&5	Wildwood 6&7	Wildwood 8&9	Wildwood 10
SOIL HEALTH: WHERE IT ALL BEGINS STEPHANIE MURPHY <i>Chair</i>	SPECIALTY AND NICHE CROPS I WILLIAM SCIARAPPA <i>Chair</i>	HEMP PRODUCTION: IS IT AN OPPORTUNITY? STEPHEN KOMAR <i>Chair</i>	VEGETABLE PRODUCTION I ANDY WYENANDT <i>Chair</i>	BASICS OF WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION I HEMANT GOHIL <i>Chair</i>
<p>9:30 A.M. It All Starts with the Soil <i>Stephanie Murphy, Rutgers Soils Lab</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Mineral Nutrition and Plant Health <i>Joseph Heckman, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. In-Field Assessment of Soil Health <i>Eileen Miller, Healthy Landscapes Inc.</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Soil Health Practices and Results at Muth Family Farm <i>Bob Muth</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p>9:30 A.M. Summer Spinach & Roselle Rutgers R & D <i>Tori Rosen, PhD Student, Rutgers</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Rutgers Basil Research <i>Jim Simon, New-Use Agriculture, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Specialty Crop Farming – A Farmer’s Perspective. <i>Stephen Specca, Specca Farms</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Habanero Production and Marketing <i>Albert Ayeni, Rutgers NJAES, Retired</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-4, Cat. 1A-4, Cat. 10-2</i></p>	<p>9:30 A.M. Current Hemp Market Trends – Are there Opportunities? <i>Stephen Komar, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Agronomics of Fiber Hemp Production in NJ <i>William Bamka, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Regulatory Updates on the NJ Hemp Program <i>John Kerr, Hemp Program Manager, NJDA</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Processing Hemp What Farmers Need to Know <i>Alyssa Collins, Penn State Univ.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-1, Cat. 1A-1, Cat. 10-1</i></p>	<p>9:30 A.M. Update on Fungicides for Vegetable Disease Control <i>Andy Wyenandt, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Cover Crops and Living Mulches for Weed Control in Cucurbits Grown with Plasticulture <i>Thierry Besancon, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Update on Managing Some Difficult Pests in Vegetables <i>Thomas Kuhar, Entomologist, VA Tech</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Gold Flecking in Tomato - Could there be Other Causes Besides Thrips? <i>Gerald Brust, IPM Vegetable Specialist, Univ. of Maryland</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-4, Cat. 1A-4, Cat. 10-4</i></p>	<p>9:30 A.M. Should You Be Growing Grapes? <i>Gary Pavlis, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Vineyard Establishment <i>Dan Ward, Director, Rutgers Ag Research and Extension Center</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Vineyard Economics <i>Dan Ward, Director, Rutgers Ag Research and Extension Center</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Avoiding Costly Mistakes During the Early Years <i>Hemant Gohil, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>

LUNCH AND LEARN INDUSTRY PRESENTATIONS 12:00pm to 1:30PM IN THE TRADE SHOW AREA

PRE-SIGN UP REQUIRED – FREE LUNCH–TICKET REQUIRED – SPACE LIMITED

Exhibitors and Industry Representatives are sponsoring lunch and will talk about products and services.

Tuesday Mid-Day Workshop – Wildwood 12&13

12:00 - 1:30 P.M. Farmers Market Nutrition (FMNP) Program Vendor Training

NJ Dept. of Health and NJ Dept. of Agriculture Representatives

Tuesday Afternoon, February 6, 2024

2:15 PM – 4:30 PM

Wildwood 2&3	Wildwood 4&5	Wildwood 6&7	Wildwood 8&9	Wildwood 10
<p align="center">VEGETABLE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT</p>	<p align="center">SPECIALTY & NICHE CROPS II</p>	<p align="center">TREE FRUIT ORCHARD ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE</p>	<p align="center">VEGETABLE PRODUCTION II</p>	<p align="center">BASICS OF WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION II</p>
<p align="center">KRISTIAN HOMSTROM <i>Chair</i></p>	<p align="center">BILL HLUBIK <i>Chair</i></p>	<p align="center">MEGAN MUEHLBAUER <i>Chair</i></p>	<p align="center">MICHELLE INFANTE-CASELLA <i>Chair</i></p>	<p align="center">HEMANT GOHIL <i>Chair</i></p>
<p align="center">2:15 P.M. Diamond Back Moth Mating Disruption <i>Thomas Kuhar Entomologist, VA Tech</i></p>	<p align="center">2:15 P.M. Extend the Season, Extend the Profits <i>Jess Niederer Chickadee Creek Farm</i></p>	<p align="center">2:15 P.M. Orchard Design and Variety/Rootstock Selection <i>Dan Ward, Director, Rutgers Ag Research and Extension Center</i></p>	<p align="center">2:45 P.M. Insect Pests of Cucurbit Crops <i>Gerald Brust, IPM Vegetable Specialist, Univ. of Maryland</i></p>	<p align="center">2:15 P.M. What Worked and What Did Not Work: <u>Panel:</u> <i>Jim Quarella Bellview Winery</i></p>
<p align="center">2:45 P.M. Plans to Update Corn Ear Worm Management and What to do in the Meantime <i>Kelly Hamby, Ext. Specialist, Univ. of MD</i></p>	<p align="center">2:45 P.M. Growing Flowers in Geothermal Greenhouses – A Success Story with USDA REAP Funds <i>Rebecca Kutzer-Rice Moonshot Farm</i></p>	<p align="center">2:45 P.M. Tree Fruit Nutrition Management <i>Megan Muehlbauer Ag Agent, RCE</i></p>	<p align="center">3:15 P.M. Laser Scarecrows for Bird Damage Control <i>Kate Brown, Program Associate, RCE</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Joel Viereck Moss Branch Winery</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Dustin Tarpine Vine Tech</i></p>
<p align="center">3:15 P.M. Ag Pest Monitor: A New Approach to Pest Monitoring <i>Joseph LaForest, Univ. of Georgia</i></p>	<p align="center">3:15 P.M. Opportunities, Tips, and Challenges of Growing High Value Crops <i>Devin Corina, NOFANJ & Alex Sawatzky, Rutgers Student Farm</i></p>	<p align="center">3:15 P.M. Using IPM To Control Orchard Pests and Diseases <i>Janet VanZoren IPM, Cornell Univ.</i></p>	<p align="center">3:45 P.M. Understanding and Managing Blossom End Rot in Vegetable Crops <i>Michelle Infante-Casella, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p>	<p align="center">3:15 P.M. Vine Tech – Experiences from Vine Tech <i>Steve Becker, Co-Founder of Vine Tech</i></p>
<p align="center">3:45 P.M. Biocontrols for Pests in High Tunnel Vegetables: Tomato, Cucumber and Greens <i>Judson Reid Ext. Specialist, Cornell Univ.</i></p>	<p align="center">3:45 P.M. Hazelnut Cultivar/Pollinator Selection & Consideration for Orchard Design <i>David Hlubik Rutgers PhD Student</i></p>	<p align="center">3:45 P.M. Tips and Tricks for Establishing a Tree Fruit Orchard <u>Panel:</u> <i>Jake Peterson Peterson Farm</i></p>	<p align="center">4:15 P.M. Insect Pests of Sweet Corn <i>Kelly Hamby, Ext. Specialist, Univ. of Maryland</i></p>	<p align="center">3:45 P.M. Establishing New Vineyards <i>Dustin Tarpine, Co-Founder of Vine Tech</i></p>
<p align="center"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-4, Cat.1A-4, Cat.10-4</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-1, Cat.1A-1, Cat.10-1</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-3, Cat.1A-3, Cat.10-3</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>

Wednesday Morning, February 7, 2024

9:30 AM – 11:45 AM

<p>Wildwood 1 HIGH TUNNELS</p> <p>AJ BOTH <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. Asparagus Production in High Tunnels <i>Scott Walker, Walker Brothers Inc.</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Cut Flower Production in High Tunnels <i>Rebecca Kutzer-Rice Moonshot Farm</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Geothermal Heating for Greenhouses <i>Jim Thomas Thomas Geothermal Engineering LLC</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. High Tunnel and Hoophouse Construction <i>AJ Both, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 2&3 NURSERY AND ORNAMENTALS I</p> <p>BILL ERRICKSON <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. Developing BMPs for Native Plant Nurseries and Landscapes <i>William Errickson, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Container Production of Ornamentals <i>Raul Cabrera, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Increasing Beneficial Insects with Banker Plants as Part of an IPM Program <i>Steve Rettke, Program Associate, RCE</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Ornamental Reforestation: A New Hort. Design Concept to Boost Env. Sustainability <i>Jean Epiphan, Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-3, Cat.1A-3, Cat.10-4, Cat.3A-1</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 4&5 FARMER HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>KATE BROWN <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. Risk vs. Benefit Analysis in Daily Decision Making <i>Kate Brown, Prog. Associate, RCE</i></p> <p>9:45 A.M. Respiratory Protection Requirements of WPS Labeled Pesticides <i>Patricia Hastings, Rutgers Pesticide Program</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Sun Safety & Skin Cancer <i>Gabriella Dumbrique Rutgers Cancer Institute</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Noise Exposure and Hearing Loss <i>Ian Pracher Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: CORE - 1</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 6&7 STRAWBERRY PRODUCTION AND MARKETING</p> <p>PETER NITZSCHE <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. Diseases to Watch for in New Strawberry Plantings <i>Kathy Demchak, Penn State</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Recent Advances in Strawberry Nursery Production <i>Ed Durner, Rutgers, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Strawberry Farmer Panel: Pests, Sourcing Plants, PYO/Marketing, Varieties Panel: <i>Stephen Specca, Specca Farms</i> <i>David Duffield, Duffield's Farm</i> <i>Other Panelists TBD</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-2, Cat.1A2-2, Cat.10-2</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 8&9 AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY I</p> <p>WILLIAM SCIARAPPA <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. Robotic Weeders in Agricultural Crops <i>Thierry Besancon, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Drone Technology, Taking Toys to Tools <i>Peter Oudemans, Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Automatic Transplanting – Plant Tape <i>Dominick Lavari Plant Tape Inc.</i></p> <p>11:00 A.M. Biodegradable Plasticulture – Panel Discussion <i>William Sciarappa Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-4, Cat.1A-4, Cat.10-2, Cat.11-1 (aerial)</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 10 TRANSITIONING TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION</p> <p>MEREDITH MELENDEZ <i>Chair</i></p> <p>9:30 A.M. The When and Why of Organic Certification <i>Devin Cornia Director NOFANJ</i></p> <p>10:00 A.M. Transitioning to Organic Certification <i>Erich Bremer, NJDA</i></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Panel Discussion – Realities of Organic Certification Panel: <i>Al Johnson, VP NOFANJ</i> <i>Devin Cornia, Director NOFANJ</i> <i>Erich Bremer, NJDA</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>
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Wednesday Mid-Day Workshop – Wildwood 12&13

12:00 - 1:30 P.M. Farmers Market Nutrition (FMNP) Program Vendor Training

NJ Dept. of Health and NJ Dept. of Agriculture Representatives

Wednesday Afternoon, February 7, 2024

2:15 PM – 4:30 PM

<p>Wildwood 1 WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE</p> <p>DARCY PEREHINYS <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 <i>Lorenda Oberman</i> National AFBF Womens Leadership Committee</p> <p>3:45-4:45 Panel: <i>Caroline Etsch</i> <i>Rose Robson</i> <i>Michelle Infante- Casella</i> <i>Midge Hauser</i></p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life on the Farm • Time and Family Management • Ag Industry Perspectives <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 2&3 NURSERY AND ORNAMENTALS II</p> <p>TIM WALLER <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 P.M. Common Plant Nutrients During Production – Their Causes and Solutions <i>Andrew Ristvey</i> <i>Ext. Specialist, Univ. of MD</i></p> <p>3:45 P.M. Top Plants for NJ Landscapes <i>Steve Kristoph</i> <i>Nursery Owner</i></p> <p>4:15 P.M. Whole Nursery Pesticide Regime Considerations <i>Timothy Waller</i> <i>Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-3, Cat.1A-3, Cat.10-3, Cat.3A-1</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 4&5 BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION</p> <p>GARY PAVLIS <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 P.M. Dos and Don'ts of Herbicide Sprays <i>Carrie Mansue</i> <i>RCE Prog. Assoc.</i></p> <p>3:05 P.M. Update on New Herbicides for Highbush Blueberry <i>Thierry Besancon</i> <i>Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>3:25 P.M. Blueberry Fruit Disease Management <i>Peter Oudemans</i> <i>Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>3:45 P.M. Current Research on Beetles and Flies <i>Cesar Rodriguez-Saona</i> <i>Ext. Specialist, NJAES</i></p> <p>4:05 P.M. New Players, Blueberry Stem Disease Complex <i>James Polashock</i> <i>USDA-ARS Pathologist</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: PP2-3, Cat.1A-3, Cat.10-3</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 6&7 RETAIL MARKETING: TRANISTION AND GROWTH</p> <p>KATE BROWN <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 P.M. Who Shops at Direct-to- Consumer Farm Markets and Why? <i>Ethan Schoolman,</i> <i>Rutgers SEBS</i></p> <p>3:15 P.M. to 4:30PM From Wholesale to Direct Farm Marketing Panel: <i>Amy Zorn</i> <i>Hunters Farm Market</i> <i>Karen Maugeri</i> <i>Maugeri's Farm Market</i> <i>Marsha Gaventa</i> <i>Cedarvale Winery</i> <i>Tracy Duffield</i> <i>Duffield's Farm Market</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 8&9 AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY II</p> <p>DAVE SPECCA <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 P.M. Cost Savings with Precision Agriculture and Conservation Tillage <i>Jeffrey Everett, Rutgers</i> <i>NJAES</i></p> <p>3:15 P.M. Experiences with Precision Agriculture and Conservation Tillage <i>Tim Eachus</i> <i>Turkey Creek Farm</i> <i>Supply</i></p> <p>3:45 P.M. Agrivoltaics at Rutgers <i>David Specca, Rutgers</i> <i>NJAES</i></p> <p>4:15 P.M. Economics of Agrivoltaics <i>Kevin Sullivan, Rutgers</i> <i>NJAES</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>	<p>Wildwood 10 PRODUCE SAFETY: MANAGING RISK</p> <p>MEREDITH MELENDEZ <i>Chair</i></p> <p>2:45 P.M. Critical Components of Your Farm Safety Plan <i>Jennifer Matthews,</i> <i>Sr. Program Coord.,</i> <i>RCE</i></p> <p>3:15 P.M. Identifying Hazards and Prioritizing Risks <i>Meredith Melendez,</i> <i>Ag Agent, RCE</i></p> <p>3:45 P.M. – 4:45 Where is the Risk? <i>Meredith Melendez,</i> <i>Ag Agent, RCE.</i></p> <p><i>Pesticide Credits: 0</i></p>
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Thursday, February 8, 2024

WORKSHOPS

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Wildwood 6&7

**WORKSHOP: FSMA PRODUCE SAFETY
RULE GROWER TRAINING**

MEREDITH MELENDEZ

Chair

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Workshop Speakers:

*Meredith Melendez, Ag Agent, RCE
Jennifer Matthews, Sr. Prog. Coord., RCE
Wes Kline, Ag Agent, RCE*

- **Module 1: Introduction to Produce Safety**
- **Module 2: Worker Health and Hygiene and Training**
- Break
- **Module 3: Soil Amendments**
- **Module 4: Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use**
- Lunch on your own
- **Module 5: Agricultural Water Part 1**
- **Agricultural Water Part 2**
- Break
- **Module 6: Post-Harvest Handling and Sanitation**
- **Module 7: How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan**

Each attendee will receive a grower manual and be eligible for a certificate from the Association of Food & Drug Officials of the United States (AFDO). Note: Each participant must stay the entire training to be eligible for the certificate of training.

The cost is \$50/per person, separate from the registration fee to the Vegetable Growers Convention.

For more information, contact Brandi at (856) 451-2800 ext. 1 (lunch is on your own)

Register at
<https://go.rutgers.edu/mhqc3m5u>



This training is partly funded through grants from the United States Department of Agriculture & Food & Drug Administration

Pesticide Credits: 0

Wildwood 8&9

WORKSHOP: WPS RESPIRATORY PROTECTOIN TRAINING, FIT TESTING & RECORD KEEPING

PATRICIA HASTINGS, Chair Email: hastings@njaes.rutgers.edu

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED-SPACE LIMITED)

Description: Revised WPS requires that agricultural employers provide all handlers (including family members) using a pesticide which requires respiratory protection with 1) medical evaluation; 2) fit testing of all tight-fitting respirators and 3) training per the requirements of 40 CFR 170.507 (b)(10). This workshop aims to build the capacity of NJ agricultural establishments to protect their pesticide handlers from respiratory hazards. At this workshop, growers/applicators/their employees will receive class instruction and hands-on training in how to correctly select respiratory protection using the pesticide label statements of products used on their farm, train, and fit test others; and document the results to meet the requirements of the Revised WPS in NJ. Participants will be trained in pairs in how to properly conduct a *qualitative* fit test so that they can *perform fit tests on the farm for as many masks and applicators as needed on their own*. In rare cases, pesticide labels require respirators that legally require *quantitative* fit testing. Quantitative fit testing will be performed for those participants that need it. Training in the use of quantitative fit testing will not be provided to participants.

Workshop Pre-Requisites:

- Registration is given priority to growers/applicators/and their employees needing to expand capacity in respirator training, fit testing, and recordkeeping. **Limited to the first 30 participants registering.**
- Prior to fit testing or using a respirator, OSHA requires that the respirator user be medically evaluated. Each applicant must submit with their registration form a fully completed medical clearance by a physician or other licensed health care provider per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1910.134(e)(6)9i.
- ALL attendees must pre-register by completing the **4-part registration form (including Part 4)**. Use the **QR Code** (right) to register or go to <https://go.rutgers.edu/pesticideworkshop>

Part 1: Participant Information

Part 2: List of Pesticides Used Which the Pesticide Label Requires Respiratory Protection

Part 3: Fit Testing Pre-requisites

Part 4: Submitting Your Respirator Workshop Pre-Registration Form



Day of the Workshop:

- 1) participants must be clean-shaven; use no lotions, aftershave, or makeup; or wear jewelry that interferes with the respirator sealing surface; certain facial hair such as mustaches are acceptable if they do not interfere with the inhalation or exhalation valve function.
- 2) Must bring respirator(s) they wish to be fit tested with fitted with N, R, or P filters; other makes models, and sizes of respirators will be available if fit cannot be achieved. Ordering information will be provided.
- 3) Each participant will receive a Workshop Certificate plus a completed "Fit Test Record" and "Respirator Training Record" form and wallet card.

PRESENTERS:

Respiratory Protection for Pesticides, Patricia D. Hastings, Rutgers Pesticide Safety Education Coordinator
Medical Evaluation and Fit Testing, Robin Tutor-Marcom, PhD, Director, NC AgroMedicine Institute

PESTICIDE CREDITS: CORE-8

Classes begin
January 23
2024!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Become a

RUTGERS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD



A **Rutgers Environmental Steward** is a volunteer that is trained in the important environmental issues affecting New Jersey and works to help solve local environmental problems.

- Weekly classes taught by leading researchers from Rutgers, government, and the nonprofit sector. Tuesdays 5:30-8 PM. Approx. 11 online and 5 in-person sessions.
- Fieldtrips to environmentally significant sites are included.
- Topics include climate change, invasive species, recycling, soil health, renewable energy, water quality, habitat conservation, pollinator protection, and environmental policy.
- Complete a 60-hour project in your community to become certified.
- Program fee - Early bird price \$300 through Dec. 31. After Dec. 31 the price is \$325

Anyone can become an Environmental Steward!

No previous experience needed. You simply need a passion for the environment, a desire to learn, and a willingness to volunteer to create positive change in your community.



To register or learn more visit: envirostewards.rutgers.edu



You're invited to participate in



JERSEY FRESH FOR ALL A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR NJ FARMERS

Get PAID for joining
\$ a focus group \$
this fall!

NJ Food Democracy Collaborative is holding **focus groups & interviews with NJ farmers to inform a more accurate picture of farmers & farming in the Garden State.** We'll also talk about your farm's readiness to take part in LFPAs and other federal funding programs. We especially should hear from farms that have not typically participated in federal or state funding programs in the past.

What: A focus group meeting (like a group interview) for USDA-funded program, "Jersey Fresh for All"

Who: NJ Farm businesses

Why: To support farm viability and strengthen the local food supply chain

Who is involved in Jersey Fresh for All ?

- NJ Dept of Agriculture
- Community Food Bank of NJ
- Common Market
- NJ Food Democracy Collaborative
- NJ Farmers already selling through LFPAs



JOIN an upcoming focus group. Registration not required, but appreciated.

Email: NJFDC@foodshedalliance.org

Call: 609-857-1335

Go online: njfooddemocracy.org/jersey-fresh-for-all



JERSEY FRESH FOR ALL A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR NJ FARMERS

Learn more at njfooddemocracy.org/Jersey-Fresh-For-All

Upcoming Focus Group Meetings...

11/28: USDA FSA Office, 1971 Jacksonsonville–Jobstown Road, Columbus. 11:30 am. In-person or Zoom. Email us for the Zoom link.

12/15: Ramblin' Sol Farm, 79 Arneytown–Hornerstown Rd., Cream Ridge. 12:30 PM. In-person only.

1/9: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Middlesex County, E.A.R.T.H. Center, 42 Riva Avenue, North Brunswick. 11 am. In-person or Zoom. Email for Zoom link.

1/11: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Avenue, Millville.
1 pm. Zoom or in-person. Email for Zoom link.

1/12: North Slope Farm, 386 Rock Rd E, Lambertville. 2 PM.

Zoom only Meetings (No In-person option)

12/13, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Register at:

https://bit.ly/Jerseyfreshforall_Dec13



Refreshments will be offered. RSVP not required, but appreciated.
Email: NJFDC@foodshedalliance.org
Call: 609-857-1335



Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule

The Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule updates the USDA organic regulations (7 CFR part 205) to promote animal welfare and encourage consistent livestock production practices. It adds detailed regulations regarding indoor and outdoor space requirements for avian species, animal health care practices, confinement, transportation, euthanasia, and slaughter.

What Does OLPS Do?

The rule ensures more consistent production and certification practices and bolsters trust in the organic label. The final rule:



Reduces confusion about organic production practices and standards



Establishes species-specific standards for avian species



Clarifies indoor and outdoor space requirements



Strengthens and **clarifies** animal health care regulations

OLPS History + Engagement

Proposed Rule

- Published as proposed rule in August 2022

Public Comment

- 40,336 written comments
- 57,000 petition signatures
- 94% of comments and petitions support the rule



Final Rule

- Policy updated based on public comment

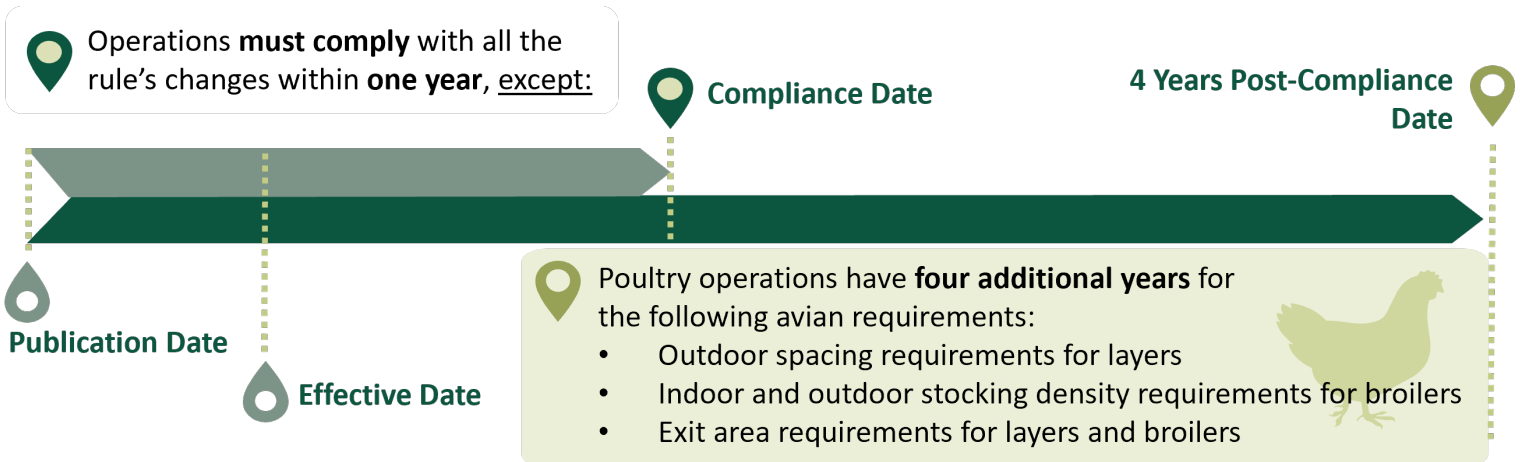
Enforcement

- One year implementation period for most practices, five years for select exceptions

Who is Affected by OLPS?

- USDA accredited certifying agents
- Consumers
- Livestock Producers
- Processing Facilities

When Do I Need to Comply?



Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule Cont.



OLPS establishes indoor and outdoor space requirements for avian species

- OLPS sets specific **space and stocking density requirements** for both indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Poultry must have year-round **outdoor access** and may only be confined temporarily in limited situations.
- **Porches** are **prohibited** for use as outdoor space.
- Requires weekly monitoring of **ammonia** in indoor spaces.



OLPS revises production practices for mammals and non-avian species

- **Shelter** must allow for animals to **move, stretch** and express **natural behaviors** over a 24-hour period.
- Animals must have unrestricted **outdoor access** year-round.
- OLPS adds species-specific requirements for **swine**, including requirements for rooting materials and group housing.



OLPS revises production practices and care standards

- OLPS defines and **prohibits** several physical alterations (e.g., teeth clipping, induced molting).
- Other physical alterations may only be performed for **safety** or **identification**.
- Producers must **document** treatment of sick or injured animals.



OLPS sets clearer requirements for transport and slaughter of animals

- Animals being transported must be clearly **identified** and **able to walk**.
- Transport system must be suitable to the **climate** to protect animals from extreme temperatures.
- **FSIS** humane slaughter standards must be followed.



SOIL Protection Standards (SPS) Rule Proposal Summary

October, 2023

WHY IS SADC PROPOSING THIS RULE?

Because in 2018 the NJ Supreme Court decision in the Quaker Valley Farms (“QVF”) case:

- *“The NJ Agriculture Retention and Development Act (ARDA) and the existing SADC regulation have a dual purpose: to strengthen the agricultural industry and to preserve farmland. Both are important goals; neither is subordinate to the other.... The approach must be to balance farmland preservation and strengthen the agricultural industry.”*
- *“In sum, while owners of preserved farmlands are on notice of the requirement to conserve the soil, they are left without adequate direction on the tangible constraints on their agricultural use of the land.” “Persons subject to regulation are entitled to something more than a general declaration of statutory purpose to guide their conduct . . . Farmers are entitled to sufficiently definite regulations and standards so that administrative decision-making is fair and predictable.”*

THEREFORE, WE’RE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH:

- Ensuring the farm’s resources are conserved so that the next generation of farmers, and future generations after that, can utilize the farm for a variety of agricultural operations
- Clarify existing deed of easement provisions – paragraphs 2, 7, 12 & 14:
 - #2. The Premises shall be retained for agricultural use and production in compliance with N.J.S.A. 4:1C-11 et seq., P.L. 1983, c.32, and all other rules promulgated by the State Agriculture Development Committee.
 - #7. No activity shall be permitted on the Premises which would be detrimental to drainage, flood control, water conservation, erosion control, or soil conservation, nor shall any other activity be permitted which would be detrimental to the continued agricultural use of the Premises.
 - #12. Grantor shall be permitted to construct, improve or reconstruct any roadway necessary to service crops, bogs, agricultural buildings, or reservoirs as may be necessary.
 - #14. Grantor may construct any new buildings for agricultural purposes.

MAJOR PROVISIONS OF PROPOSED RULE

- “Soil disturbance” means alteration, surfacing or compaction
- Limit:
 - 12% of the preserved farm acreage, or 4 acres, whichever is greater
 - Alternatively, an additional 2%, or 1 acre, over what exists today – even for farms that are beyond the limit (so, ALL FARMS CAN GROW)
- No farm has to take down, or undo, any existing soil disturbance
- Limits do not apply to exception areas
- Limits apply to the ENTIRE farm’s acreage – which includes all unusable areas (wetlands, steep slopes, etc.)

EXEMPTIONS – over 25 agricultural practices don’t count as disturbance (e.g., deep tillage, underground drainage, hoopouses over natural soil, temporary plastic/fabrics, unimproved livestock areas and travel lanes, etc.)

WAIVERS

- “Production waiver” to go up to 15% or 6 acres, whichever is greater
- “Innovation waiver” to give farmers the ability to show SADC that a new practice doesn’t damage soil/water resources and therefore should not be limited.
- Both waivers require implementation of stewardship conservation plan to protect remaining soil, water and forest resources on the farm.

AGGREGATION and CONSOLIDATION

- Allow adjacent preserved farms, owned by the same person, to “merge” so disturbance can be consolidated onto one farm.