

Capital Area Ag & Hort e-Newsletter
Cornell Cooperative Extension
June 29, 2012

The e-Newsletter's goal is to provide a venue for communication about upcoming meetings and other pertinent information.

Newsletter includes:

- *Calendar of Events – please note some interesting new inclusions*
- *Opportunities*

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, July 5: Cornell University Maple Production for the Beginner Training Webinars, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at www.maple.dnr.cornell.edu/webinar Registration & high speed internet is required. No cost. Please contact Stephen Childs at slc18@cornell.edu to register.

Sunday, July 8: Negotiation Makes It Happen!, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at The Basilica, 110 S. Front Street, Hudson, NY 12534. A workshop in negotiation and conflict management skills for farmers led by Charlotte Carter, Statewide Director of the NYS Agricultural Mediation Program, materials prepared by the Greenhorns. Lunch is provided! Potluck to follow at the Greenhorns office in Hudson. RSVP (Space is limited!) by email to farmer@thegreenhorns.net with subject line "Negotiation Makes it Happen!" Topics include Communication skills, Interest based negotiation skills, Conflict management, Information gathering conversations, Landlords/tenant relationships, 10 top "pinch points" in agricultural land lease situations, and Using neutral experts.

Wednesday, July 11: Managing Small Ruminants on Pasture FIELD DAY, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Gansvoort Farm, 1827 Route 9, Germantown, NY 12526. Registration fee \$5. To register, contact Eileen Simpson at 518-622-9820 ext. 0 or es693@cornell.edu.

Gansvoort Farm is at the north end of the village of Clermont, town of Germantown, west side of Route 9.

This field day is appropriate to both goat and sheep farmers. Gansvoort Farm, <http://www.gansvoortfarm.com> is operated by Jennifer Phillips using land management practices that encourage improved water and soil quality and enhanced forage biodiversity and productivity. Jennifer will discuss 1) her general land management program, 2) how she handles pasture lambing and 3) the tools she uses for parasite management including alternating her beef cows and sheep in the pasture rotation, maintaining a diverse forage sward including chicory, and selecting against ewes who exhibit more difficulty with parasites. Jennifer markets 4 to 5 month old lambs directly off pasture in the fall as custom-cut lambs to consumers as well as whole USDA-slaughtered carcasses to butcher shops and restaurants. She will also discuss her markets for medium-grade wool and Icelandic pelts.

We'll then move to the barn where Cornell Goat & Sheep Extension Specialist Tatiana Stanton will share examples of practices that experienced Northeast farmers have developed to reduce labor and

expenses during the birthing season. We'll emphasize management considerations for successful pasture lambing and kidding.

Please wear clean clothes for biosecurity. Be prepared to wear booties (provided on site) or to walk through a foot bath. Thank you for leaving your dogs at home. For accommodations for special needs, call CCE Greene County, 518-622-9820 ext. 0.

Monday-Friday, July 16-19: Cornell University Certified Milk Inspectors' School in association with NYS Agriculture & Markets, in Ithaca NY. For more info, call Steve Murphy 607-255-2893 or Janene Lucia 607-255-2892.

Monday-Friday, July 16-20: Cornell University 18th Annual Recirculating Aquaculture Systems Short Course, at Mount Saint Mary College, 330 Powell Ave., Newburgh, New York 12550. For directions: http://www.msmc.edu/About_MSMC/Our_Location Cost: \$1,000 for classroom students attending the Short Course July 16-20, 2012. Payment by credit card is accepted. Checks are accepted made payable to Cornell University. The registration form is on website <http://bee.cornell.edu/cals/bee/outreach/aquaculture/short-course/index.cfm>.

Classroom enrollment requires pre-registration. Housing is not included in tuition; RSVP dlh29@cornell.edu or call (607) 255-4876. Limited enrollment. Register by June 30, 2012. After June 30, call for availability. Or, \$250 (total cost) for Distance Learning Course Packet shipped to a United States Location. Unlimited enrollment, available year round (updated in July). Fee and mailing address required with registration (form below).

A Farm Tour will be made to Continental Organics Inc. (2 acres of hydroponics and a 1000,000 lb/year tilapia system); see www.continentalorganicsllc.com for farm details.

This course is intended to give a thorough coverage of the engineering design, operation, and management of water reuse systems for finfish (limited coverage of indoor shrimp production). One day of hydroponics and one day of aquaponics are also included. At the conclusion of the workshop, individuals should be able to design their own water reuse systems and have a fundamental knowledge of the principles influencing design decisions. The location this year is Newburgh, NY with a Farm Tour of a two acre hydroponic and 100,000 lb/yr tilapia farm in operation.

The following topics will be addressed: Water quality monitoring and measurement, Engineering design of individual unit processes, System management, Fish health management, Economic and risk evaluation, Indoor Shrimp, Tours of local aquaculture/hydroponics facilities.

For students unable to attend the classroom course in Newburgh, we offer the Distance Learning Course Packet. This includes: the text, Recirculating Aquaculture by Timmons and Ebeling (2nd edition), a CD consisting of lecture presentations used in the classroom course. There are four self-graded quizzes and a final exam that you send to Dr. Timmons, to receive a certificate.

Instructors: Dr. Michael Timmons mbt3@cornell.edu Cornell University, Biological & Environmental Engineering, 302 Riley-Robb Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853; Phone: (607) 255-1630 Fax: (607) 255-4449; Dr.

James Ebeling james@beadfilters.com Aquaculture Systems Technologies, 108 Industrial Ave. New Orleans, LA 70121; Phone: (800) (939)-3659 Fax: (504) 837-5585; Dr. Melissa Brechner mlk38@cornell.edu Cornell University, Extension Associate, Biological & Environmental Engineering, 425 Riley Robb Hall, Ithaca, NY

Tuesday, July 17: NY Weed Science Field Day – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., H.C. Thompson Research Farm, Freeville, NY and 12:00 – 5:00 p.m., Musgrave Research Farm, Aurora, NY. Contact Maxine Welcome 607-255-5439 or mw45@cornell.edu

Wednesday, July 18: Aurora Farm Field Day – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Musgrave Research Farm, Aurora, NY. Contact Mary McKeller 607-255-2177 or mem40@cornell.edu

Wednesday, July 18: An introduction to USDA's Fruit and Vegetable Marketing Orders and Agreements Webinar by USDA Fruit & Vegetable Marketing Service 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. The webinar is free and available to anyone with Internet access. Registration is, however, required and space is limited: <http://bit.ly/ztfNAN> or visit the webinar archives. If you have any questions about our webinar series or USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, please contact Christopher Purdy at (202) 720-3209 or christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov.

Saturday, July 21: NE Hop Alliance Summer Hopyard Tour & Picnic 2:00-6:00 p.m. Hop Meadow Farm, 4808 Davis Road, Union Springs, NY. **We'll have virus indexed stock plants on site for sale! Cascade, Newport, Willamette, Perle, Fuggle & Liberty varieties at \$5 per plant (trays of 12).* Registration \$25 for NeHA members, \$35 for non-NeHA members. Register online at: <http://hopmeadowfarm-es2.eventbrite.com>

Sunday-Tuesday, July 22-24: 2012 New York State Maple Tour. The tour will be hosted by the Central New York Maple Producers Association and centered at the Holiday Inn in Auburn NY. Cost is set a \$170 per person to include the tour, meals and the annual banquet. Registration and tour stop information will be available soon at www.cornellmaple.com and www.nysmaple.com. The tour host site is the Auburn Holiday Inn. Phone (315) 253-4531 and mention New York Maple Producers or, block code MAP for the special room rate of \$89.95. The tour will feature visits to a variety of maple operations both large and small. This tour features the scenic Eastern Finger Lakes area and will include a scenic cruise on Skaneateles Lake and tour of an historic water powered flour mill. Sites include niche marketing, energy saving technologies, organic production, and will include sugarbush sites.

Monday, July 23: 5th Annual Integrated Pest Management In-depth, Cornell University Campus, Ithaca NY. Hands-on workshop, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. To register, go to http://www.greenhouse.cornell.edu/calendar/ipm_workshop.htm. On-line registration is now open, and you can find a mail-in registration form there also. For more information, contact Betsy Lamb at 607 254-8800 or eml38@cornell.edu. **Lunch is included.**

The Doctor is IN: Bring samples of your pest and nutrient issues - or those problems you just can't figure out - and we'll discuss the appropriate management techniques to solve them.

Root Rots Revealed

In this session, we'll go below the surface of growing media to see what causes wilting, stem rot and root decay of bedding plants and perennials. Participants will look at the roots and examine the fungi that are responsible for root rots such as Pythium and Black Root Rot through compound microscopes. We'll review how these diseases can get started and discuss techniques to control them, including newer treatments and traditional fungicides.

Good Bugs for Bad Bugs

Using beneficial insects and mites against greenhouse insect and mite pests is becoming a more common method of insect/mite pest management. But it's important to get answers to some basic questions in order to learn how to use these biological controls. What do these beneficial insects look like? Which ones are used against which pests? How do you use them? How can I know if they're working? Can I use them along with pesticides? In this workshop, we'll take a very close look at these beneficial bugs and provide some answers to these and other questions

Media Myth Busters

So many substrate products and amendments are currently available on the market. How do you sort out what works and what doesn't? Through hands on exercises, this session will cover: microbial inoculants used for disease suppression and nutrient availability, the interaction of growing media and pesticides, common organic substrates and fertilizers, alternative ingredients to peat, and how to test your own compost. Participants will leave with how media choices can affect insects such as fungus gnats and strategies for testing products and substrate components in their own operations.

Tuesday, July 24: Floriculture Field Day, Cornell University, Ithaca NY. Field Day registration is \$85 per person for the entire day (includes lunch), \$65 for spouses or additional members of the same company registered on the same form. Afternoon-only at Bluegrass Lane (including lunch) is \$35. After July 10 and on-site registration for the Field Day is \$100 per person for the full program, and \$50 for afternoon-only (lunch and educational materials not guaranteed for those who register on-site). To register, visit: http://www.greenhouse.cornell.edu/calendar/floriculture_field_day.htm or call Tracey Sherwood: (607) 255-7734 or tbs46@cornell.edu.

Program: The morning program will center around the theme of Diversification and Responding to Changing Consumer Values to Maintain Operation Profitability featuring Debbie Hamrick and other industry experts. Lunch and the afternoon program will be at the Bluegrass Lane annual and perennial trials facility. Participants can attend guided tours of the trials or view the flower beds at their own leisure. The Kathy Pufahl Container Design competition will also be held in conjunction with Field Day. The afternoon will conclude with an ice cream social and announcement of the container design contest winners. For more information about the competition, contact: Karen Hall, 716-941-3502 nysfi@nyflowergrowers.org.

Friday, July 27: Hootenanny! Farm Fresh Fundraiser, 6:00 – 11:00 p.m., Copake Country Club. Pig roast and other activities. For more info visit www.friendsofthefarmer.com

Saturday, July 28: Friends of the Farmer Festival, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Copake Country Club, Copake Lake, NY. Includes auctions, raffles, food, fun and education. For more info visit www.friendsofthefarmer.com

Friday & Saturday, July 28-29: NYS Boer Goat Show, NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY. For more info call 315-889-5333 or email kotland@dreamscape.com

Tuesday, July 31: Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council Grazing Workshop, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Gaige Farms, 443 Knox Gallupville Road in the Town of Knox. The cost of the workshop is \$10 per person and includes lunch. To register for the Grazing Workshop, please contact Susan Lewis, Albany County Soil and Water Conservation District, 518-765-7923 or susan.lewis@ny.nacdnet.net. Troy Bishopp, Grazing Specialist, Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District, will lead the workshop session along with Karen Hoffman who serves as Resource Conservationist - Animal Science for the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service. The workshop will cover planning grazing, monitoring pasture quality, stockpiling, estimating dry matter and feeding to optimize milk production and reduce grain costs. The Gaiges operate a 100 registered Holstein dairy farm and have been grazing their milk cows for 10 years. *The workshops are sponsored by the Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts with funding from the New York Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative.*

August 2: Cornell University Maple Production for the Beginner Training Webinars 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., www.maple.dnr.cornell.edu/webinar Registration & high speed internet is required. No cost. Please contact Stephen Childs at slc18@cornell.edu to register.

Saturday, August 11 OR August 18: Cornell Master Beekeeper, The Apprentice Level Course, Dyce Lab in Ithaca, NY. Registration and more information can be found at <http://www.masterbeekeeper.org/masterbeekeeper.htm>. The program is a comprehensive workshop designed to build basic beekeeping skills. The course focuses on starting with bees, beekeeping equipment and construction, spring and summer management, identification and management of bee pests, and basic bee biology. Participants receive a manual to complement the lectures.

Saturday, August 11: Field meeting on pasture fly management! 9:00-11:00 a.m., Hosted by a horse farm located in Southern Saratoga County from The cost for the meeting is \$7.00. Please contact Marcie Vohnoutka at mmp74@cornell.edu or call 518- 272-4210 for more information and to register. Also register by mail with payment by check to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County, 61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180.

Fly pests can affect animal health, decrease milk production and weight gain, transmit disease causing agents, reduce grazing time, annoy and irritate animals and more.

Who are the usual summer time pest species and what can you do about them?

From these field meetings you will learn to correctly identify the most important fly pests affecting cattle and horses on pasture in the northeast. You will also learn techniques to determine if fly populations are at numbers that can cause economic injury. Learn the options available for controlling fly pests affecting animals on pasture including the role of dung beetles, use of effective

biting fly catching traps suitable for use on pasture, and what you should know about making insecticide use decisions.

Ken Wise is responsible for implementing livestock and field crop IPM extension efforts for Cornell University's New York State Integrated Pest Management Program in Eastern New York. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a system that utilizes all suitable pest control techniques and methods to keep pest populations below economically injurious levels in a way that optimizes net profits and minimizes impact on the environment.

Saturday, August 11: Field meeting on pasture fly management! 1:00-3:00 p.m., Hosted by a grass-based beef farm located in Northern Rensselaer County. The cost for the meeting is \$7.00. Please contact Marcie Vohnoutka at mmp74@cornell.edu or call 518-272-4210 for more information and to register. Also by mail with a check to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County, 61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180.

Saturday August 11: NYS Nut Growers Association meeting in Columbia County. This instructional production meeting will feature several speakers who may cover grafting and other topics. Landowners growing edible nuts (butternuts, black walnuts, filberts, hickory, northern pecans and American & Chinese Chestnuts as well as pawpaws and persimmons) should hold the date and look for more info.

Thursday, August 16: USDA's Fresh Produce Market Inspection Basics Webinar by USDA Fruit & Vegetable Marketing Service, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. The webinar is free and available to anyone with Internet access. Registration is, however, required and space is limited. Register at <http://bit.ly/yz6PTG> or visit the Webinar archives. If you have any questions about our webinar series or USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, please contact Christopher Purdy at (202) 720-3209 or christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov.

Saturday, August 18: Pre-Harvest Tour & Picnic 2:00 – 6:00 p.m., Braunius Hop Farm, 140 Quinlog Road, Mt. Vision, NY 13810. \$25 for NeHA members, \$35 for non-NeHA members. Co-sponsored by CCE of Schoharie & Otsego Counties. Register online at: <http://brauniushopfarm.eventbrite.com/>

Thursday, August 23: Hopyard Design & Maintenance 3:00 – 6:00 p.m., Addison Hop Farm, Addison, VT. Register online at: <http://www.uvm.edu/extension/cropsoil/>

Friday, August 24: Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council Silvopasture Field Day, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Black Queen Angus Farm, Green Hollow Road in Berlin. The cost of the workshop is \$10 per person and includes lunch. To register, please contact Susan Lewis from the Albany County Soil and Water Conservation District at (518) 765-7923 or susan.lewis@ny.nacdnet.net.

Silvopasturing is an important new agroforestry system for the Northeast that allows for the sustainable production of timber, forages and livestock on the same land. Join us for this one day course to develop the skills and knowledge that will help you to evaluate, plan and implement silvopasture projects in the context of your own farm or land that you manage for others.

Sessions will cover basic principles, but also focus on practical applications of the knowledge so that you can be more confident and efficient as you make management decisions. Instructors are experienced forestry extension educators and technical specialists from Cornell University Cooperative Extension and Paul Smiths College. Graziers, foresters, agency personnel are especially encouraged to attend. 5.0 Category 1 CEU credits pending for Certified Foresters. Participants are encouraged to watch the archived webinar on silvopasturing at www.forestconnect.info prior to the course. *The workshops are sponsored by the Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts with funding from the New York Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative.*

Thursday, September 6: Cornell University Maple Production for the Beginner Training Webinars

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at www.maple.dnr.cornell.edu/webinar Registration & high speed internet is required. No cost. Please contact Stephen Childs at slc18@cornell.edu to register.

Friday, September 7: Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council Grazing Workshop, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Ovinshire Farm, 511 Frog City Road, Fort Plain. The cost of the workshop is \$10 per person and includes lunch. To register, please contact Susan Lewis from the Albany County Soil and Water Conservation District at (518) 765-7923 or susan.lewis@ny.nacdnet.net.

Ovinshire Farm is a 600 sheep dairy operated by Scott Burrington. Scott grazes his sheep on fields of native grasses and clover. Ovinshire Farm is partnering with Maple Hill Creamery to produce sheep milk yogurt.

Dr. Jim Hayes, owner of Sap Bush Hollow Farm in Warnerville, Dr. Cindi Shelley, Professor of Animal Science from SUNY Cobleskill and Dr. Tatiana Stanton, Cornell University Extension Specialist will lead the workshop. The workshop will cover breed selection for pasture-based systems, breeding on pasture, lambing on pasture, guardian animals on pasture, performance evaluation, managing your pastures, costs of pasture-based systems and parasite management on pasture. *The workshops are sponsored by the Hudson Mohawk RC&D Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts with funding from the New York Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative.*

Saturday & Sunday, September 8-9: The Cheese Tour, a FREE drive-it-yourself event in Washington County visiting 5 cheese producers representing cow, goat and sheep cheeses. For more info please visit <http://www.washingtoncountycheese.com/tour.html>

Saturday, September 22: Goderie's Tree Farm Open House, Johnstown, NY. Plan to join Cornell Cooperative Extension and the New York State Integrated Pest Management team to review the results of a 2 year Christmas tree scouting program at Goderie's Tree Farm, 338 Co Hwy #106 in Johnstown, NY. Save the date, more details to follow as program development continues. Call 518-577-0952 for more details.

Saturday & Sunday, September 22-23: The 4th Annual Southern Adirondack Fiber Festival is sure to delight experienced and beginner fiber enthusiasts alike. Washington County fairgrounds, Greenwich, NY, More than 120 vendors from throughout New York and New England. Visit: <http://www.adkfiber.com/> for more info and a printable coupon.

October 3-7: The 10th Semi-Annual Beef Tour with Cornell University's Dr. Mike Baker. *We will be traveling by bus to Ohio. Stops will include commercial and registered cow/calf operations, farmer feeders, and backgrounding operations. Tentative plans also include The Ohio State University and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. There will be several pick up points across NY. These tours are a great way to learn about the beef industry from a different perspective and also get to know other NY beef producers.* <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/beef/events.html> for registration forms soon.

Thursday, October 4: Cornell University Maple Production for the Beginner Training Webinars
7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at www.maple.dnr.cornell.edu/webinar Registration & high speed internet is required. No cost. Please contact Stephen Childs at slc18@cornell.edu to register.

Opportunities

Position Available: A modern 200-cow dairy farm and heifer raising facility in Northern Washington County seeks general laborer. Duties will include barn cleaning, cattle movement, minimal milking, and possibly some field work. Skid steer/tractor experience helpful, but not necessary, will train the right person. Please contact Twin-Brooks Farm at 518-632-9128, leave message.

Farm Help Needed - We have an opening for a person to work on our sheep and poultry farm in Easton - Washington County, to do general sheep, lamb and poultry chores, maintain and install fences (not high tensile), help with hay harvest. Ideal person would already know how to drive a standard-shift tractor. Can be part time or nearly full time. Also, Saturday helper needed. Contact Bob & Mary Pratt, elihufarm@localnet.com, 518-753-7838 or 518-744-3946

For Sale: 4' Modern Implements York Rake with caster wheels. Lightly used and in very good condition. \$625. Call (518) 587-5140 or email <llamas4u@nycap.rr.com

For Sale: John Deere Model 158 Front End Loader with 96" bucket and quick attach, \$3,000. Also, complete John Deere hydraulic front assist axle including lines and fittings, \$2,500. Please call 518-642-1697.

CFA funding for Inexpensive Walk-in Coolers

Through a state government grant called a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) growers who want to build small inexpensive walk-in coolers or "sheds" can get up to 50% of the cost covered, if they incorporate a Coolbot™ into their design. The Coolbot™ is an inexpensive (~ \$300) piece of equipment that allows normal window air-conditioning units to be converted into coolers with capabilities to keep an insulated cooler at 32F. For more information on the Coolbot™, see their website at <http://www.storeitcold.com/>. If you are a fruit grower who is interested in utilizing this grant opportunity, contact Craig Kahlke of the Lake Ontario Fruit Team at [585-735-5448](tel:585-735-5448), or email him

at cjk37@cornell.edu. Vegetable growers should contact Robert Hadad of the Cornell Vegetable Program at [585-739-4065](tel:585-739-4065) or email him at rgh26@cornell.edu.

Beef Explorers

CCE is forming a new youth-oriented program called “Beef Explorers” and applications are now available. Modeled after the current “Dairy Visions” program, the plan is to expose interested youth 14-18 years old to a variety of beef production systems, marketing information, career opportunities and business owners through meetings, field trips and tours.

Many of the region’s livestock-oriented youth view their prospects as culminating in showing their animals at their local fair. But there are many more openings available if they only knew and understood what is possible. Gaining exposure to commercial operations, larger-scale thinking and successful enterprises can provide participants with new information and ways of thinking. With the growing local foods focus in our communities and beyond, new markets and opportunities will continue to open.

Applications from interested participants must be returned by July 14, 2012. Please visit <http://blogs.cornell.edu/capitalareaagandhortprogram> to obtain an application or call 518-746-2560 for more information. The program will begin in September/October and continue through to July. Participants will be expected to participate in a final project demonstrating some of the information they have learned through the program.

Please forward this information to anyone who you think might be interested in the program as a youth participant, a volunteer or donor. For more information, call Sandy Buxton at 1-800-548-0881 or 518-746-2560.

Capital Area Ag & Hort Regional Program Team:

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You are receiving this newsletter as a member of the ENY area covered by the Capital Area Ag & Horticulture Program – Albany, Columbia, Greene, Schenectady and Washington Counties. Every effort has been made to provide complete, accurate and timely information. No endorsement of products or businesses is implied. For those who are interested in obtaining much more immediate communication with the CAAHP team then they are getting now, we are on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CCECAHP>

Cornell Cooperative Extension in NYS provides equal program and employment opportunities.