



# Changing



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## “The Move” - A Time for Change

Vivian Quinn & Bill Sciarappa

Everyone at Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County saw our new Ag Building before the move and knew it was striking, spacious and had many amenities. However, we had mixed emotions as we packed our offices for the long anticipated move to Kozloski Road. Leaving a well-established “home” in historic downtown Freehold was a little intimidating. The RCE building on Court St. had a lot of character, we all had our routines and the convenience of many businesses within walking distance. As we packed and the movers loaded truckload after truckload, we knew the move was finally happening and we were definitely ready for the change. Without much interruption in our day-to-day business, our boxes were unpacked, computers and phones were set up and the staff created their individualized spaces.

The Ag Building was the brainchild of Freeholder Ted Narozanick who convinced his colleagues in 1997 to create a facility for the county’s agricultural agencies. The 159 acres which serve as a campus for the Department of Human Services, Police Academy and the Ag Building was once a potato farm purchased by the county in 1970. Thankfully, Freeholder Narozanick, then director of finance, had the foresight to preserve this land for county offices.

Ground breaking for the \$5.2 million, 43,000-square-foot contemporary structure was in July 2002. Also occupying the building are the county’s Shade Tree Commission, the state’s Freehold Soil Conservation District, the federal Farm Service Agency and the Monmouth County Vocational



**The New Ag Building**  
4000 Kozloski Road, Box 5033, Freehold, NJ 07728

School District Administrative Offices. The building has a common lunch area for employees and a 200-person capacity conference room.

On July 22, 2004 with over 100 in attendance, the Ag Building was dedicated. Proudest of all was Freeholder Ted Narozanick as he welcomed everyone to his “dream now a reality.” Dean Karyn Malinowski followed with some enthusiastic words regarding the effective collaboration of Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Monmouth County Agriculture. Karyn mentioned her love of Monmouth County especially in regards to her strong equine interest, open space and farmland preservation priorities.

Diane Zahorsky, coordinator of the Master Gardener program, is pleased to be physically closer to the Master Gardeners to better assist them with homeowner questions. Terry Hanson, secretary, stated “It is much more professional.” Rich Obal, department head, came across 60 years of nostalgia in agriculture as he prepared to move. “It is a definite benefit for the ag program and will enable us to be more efficient in getting information to the producers.” stated Rich. Rachel Tansey, Program Associate for Family and Community Health

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Rich Obal—County Department Head

*“I anticipate many more people coming to classes in this more convenient, handicap-accessible location.”*

Rachel Tansey  
Family & Community Health Sciences.

## West Nile Update

### Dr. Nancy Halpern, NJDA

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From June 15 to September 30, 2004, a total of 5 horses have been positive for West Nile virus (WNV). Two horses died, two were euthanized and the other remains alive. The two horses that died were pregnant mares 7 and 8 years of age. Of the two horses euthanized, one was a 10 month-old colt while the other was a 7 year-old gelding. The horse remaining alive, an 8 year-old gelding, and the euthanized gelding were the only animals that received at least one WNV vaccination. The geographic distribution of the equine cases include two horses from Burlington County and one horse from each of the following counties: Gloucester, Salem and Mercer. On a national level, there are a total of 759 equine cases within the United States with 483 being localized to the southwest (CA, NV and AZ). NJ has had a total of 85 positive avian species from 15 counties, and 251 positive mosquito pools from all counties except Warren and Middlesex. At this time last year, 118 horses were positive for WNV and there was over 2000 cases reported nationally. Thus far, there have been six confirmed equine cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and one suspect EEE case. All horses died or were euthanized and one was simultaneously infected with WNV. Only two of the horses had a vaccination history, although veterinary administration could not be confirmed. The age distribution was from 10 months of age to >20 years of age; three of the infected horses were older than 20 years. Camden and Gloucester Counties had two cases of EEE while single cases were located in Atlantic and Burlington Counties. The one suspect case was located in Camden County and was classified "EEE suspect" because it was positive on serology but the brain could not be acquired for a definitive diagnosis. Last year at this time, 6 horses (located in Burlington, Atlantic, Camden, Gloucester, and Camden Counties) were diagnosed with EEE. The NJ Department of Agriculture anticipates the arboviral season will continue into the middle of November. Veterinarians are encouraged to complete and forward to the NJDA the neurologic disease worksheet whenever samples from NJ equine are submitted for WNV or EEE testing. (The Division of Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory currently conducts EEE and WNV testing free-of-charge.) **Veterinarians are also encouraged to continue to educate their clients that EEE or WNV infected horses are dead-end hosts. In other words, EEE and WNV infected horses are not contagious and cannot spread the disease.** Try to reduce mosquito habitats and vaccinate. For a free mosquito prevention testing program call 732-932-9564. Two WNV vaccinations are Innovator by Fort Dodge and Recombitek by Merial. For more information, visit NJDA website at



*Freeholder Ted Narozanick at podium  
Foreground L to R Freeholder Thomas Powers, Vocational  
Schools Superintendent Dr. Brian McAndrew  
and Doc Dey, Board of Agriculture*

*(Continued from page 1)*

Sciences, is delighted to have a teaching kitchen and classroom. She stated, "I anticipate many more people coming to classes in this more convenient, handicap accessible location." Ellen Williams, 4-H Agent, states, "Our 4-H club leaders, parents and 4-H'ers are amazed by the new meeting spaces. We are actually able to have more than one club meeting in one evening due to the various locations."

Everyone is very happy to be relocated in comfortable and spacious work areas indoors and to have ample parking and beautiful landscaping outdoors. I feel like I'm dreaming when I drive up to this magnificent building, and we all thank Freeholder Narozanick for making his dream come true. Even if you don't have a farm problem, garden question or need a soil test, drop by anyway to see our new offices.



*L to R - Doc Dey - Board of Agriculture; Executive Dean Karyn  
Malinowski - Cook College; Marty Bullock - BOA President;  
Director Paul Hlubik, Farm Service Agency*

# CREAM RIDGE NURSERY AND RESEARCH & EXTENSION MEETING

Richard Obal, Monmouth County Agricultural Agent



August 12, 2004 was a beautiful warm day for the third annual Nursery Extension Meeting at the Rutgers Cream Ridge Research Station in Upper Freehold Township. Over 60 growers, researchers and educators attended this educational and research showcase for the ornamental nursery industry which was coordinated and sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension in cooperation with the New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association.

Dr. Zane Helsel, chair of the Extension Specialists, and Dr. Joe Goffreda, director of the research station, welcomed the participants and spoke of the commitment of Extension and Research Station to the development and expansion of ornamental research on this farm. Kicking off the program was Dr. Gladis Zinati who presented information on growing mixes and irrigation for pot-in-pot plant production, which is one of the newer efficient field production methods. The growers were also able to view her research plots in the field. Dr. Steve Hart presented a fall field and container weed control update and Rich Buckley and Sabrina Tirpak from the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Lab held a hands-on plant diagnostic workshop.

For the next portion, participants loaded onto three wag-

ons to tour the research plots and hear more speakers. Tom Freiberger, field manager, spoke about the Ornamental IR-4 Research Plots. Dr. Ann Gould talked about the impact of stress on disease and insect resistance in trees and showed the newly installed long-term research plots. Agricultural Agents Rich Obal and Jim Johnson discussed Oriental Beetle research and presented information on a potential new insect pest, the Asian Ambrosia Beetle. A view of the true fir (abies) evaluation plots and a pesticide protective equipment review by Pat Hastings from the Rutgers Pesticide Office wrapped up the program.

Free food and drink at the end of the program provided an opportunity for the growers to talk with the speakers and socialize with their fellow growers. Many participants said this was one of the most informative and interesting meetings on nursery crops and that they were looking forward to attending next year.





**Dr. Andrew Wyenandt**  
**Assistant Extension Specialist in**  
**Vegetable Pathology**

Dr. Andrew Wyenandt has been named the new Assistant Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology and will be stationed at the Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Upper Deerfield. He has recently completed his Ph.D. at The Ohio State University where he worked on Fusarium fruit rot of pumpkin and its control with cover crop mulches. Dr. Wyenandt’s Masters Work was on the assessment of an integrated disease management strategy for processing tomatoes in Ohio.

A native of Ross, Ohio, Dr. Wyenandt gained practical experience on a sweet corn and vegetable farm in Ohio as he was growing up. As a graduate student, working with tomato and pumpkin, he extended his background and training to local growers, agriculture representatives and researchers through participating in farm tours and presenting his research at regional vegetable conferences in Ohio and neighboring states.

The vegetable industry will see Dr. Wyenandt at twilight meetings, farm visits and numerous other venues throughout the year. Andy has been reporting extensively on vegetable diseases in the Rutgers Plant & Pest Advisory. In emergencies, Andy can be contacted at RAREC at

**NJ Ag Agents Tout Heirloom Tomatoes**

Tomato fans turned off by today’s waxy, bland tomatoes can find the tastier ones of old at a growing number of New Jersey roadside stands and tailgate markets, thanks to a project that’s rating the best heirloom tomatoes.

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service program is aimed at increasing overall tomato production in NJ. A key marketing focus is encouraging farmers to grow heirloom tomatoes – old varieties favored for taste over appearance – along with hardier commercial types.

“The public really wants great-tasting tomatoes back,” said Jack Rabin, associate director of farm services for the extension service. “They remember these big, juicy, seedy, flavorful tomatoes, and we’re going to get them.” From an initial variety pool of several hundred, Drs. Wes Kline and Steve Garrison have narrowed down the list to about 12 suggested varieties that are anticipated for release to growers next year. This list will be available at the Atlantic City Vegetable Growers Meeting and it will be up to the growers to evaluate the commercial feasibility of these selected varieties.

<http://rutgerstomato.org/foodindustry/index.html>

Excerpts from AP Press article and Joe Colanero

**PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE**

Now available new or updated facts sheets on the web [www.rce.rutgers.edu](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu), listed under publications or from our office 732-431-7260

- FS174** “Plant Nutrient Recommendations for Field Corn” Heckman
- E261** “Be Safe with Pesticides, 2004” - Hamilton
- E265** “Blueberry and Cranberry Pest Control” - Majek, Oudemans, Polavarapu
- E283** “Commercial Grape Pest Control Recommendations for NJ 2004” - Majek, Oudemans, Polavarapu
- E291** Feeding Nitrate Containing Forages - Westendorf, Lee
- E288** “Commercial Strawberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey 2004” - Lalancette, Majek, Polavarapu
- E298** “Commercial Bramble Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey 2004” - Majek, Oudemans, Polavarapu, Shearer
- FS039** How to Hire a Landscape Professional - Polanin, Hlubik, Maletta
- FS041** Edamame: The Vegetable Soybean - Sciarappa, Quinn
- FS042** Tomatillos - Sciarappa, Quinn
- FS043** International Eggplants - Sciarappa, Quinn
- FS433** “Drinking Water Standards” - Obropta, Evard
- FS434** “Drinking Water: What Tests Do I Need” - Obropta, Evard
- FS510** “Growing an “A-maize-ing” Corn Maze” - Sciarappa, Heckman
- FS525** The Basics of Equine Behavior - Williams
- FS526** “West Nile Virus in Horses: Frequently Asked Questions” - Williams, Crans, Gruener



*Rutgers Field Day organizer Dr. Wes Kline cutting up heirloom tomato varieties for tasting.. Grower Dave Sheppard with friends await the old fashioned Jersey tomato flavour.*

## NJDA, DEP Announce Funding for Deer Funding on Farms

(From the "News from the NJ Department of Agriculture")

### Farmers' Application Process Getting Underway



(Bridgeton) – New Jersey Agriculture Secretary Charles M. Kuperus today (Aug. 24, 2004) announced \$300,000 in funding is available for a deer-fencing program that will be run cooperatively with the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

The cost-share program, in which the farmer would bear part of the cost and the responsibility for installation, will provide fencing material, and up to 30 percent of the line posts at no cost to qualified farmers.

"Whether it is our Jersey Fresh marketing program, or cost-share initiatives to help farmers conserve natural resources, we are always looking for ways to partner with the agricultural community and thereby help farms stay viable and vital," said Secretary Kuperus. "Deer fencing has proven effective in keeping the deer at bay and is a good investment assisting farmers who otherwise would not be able to build fencing around their property." The DEP operated a deer-fencing program in the 1990's. It was so popular the DEP experienced a backlog. The Department of Agriculture utilized grant money to dissipate the backlog. However, that funding source dried up and the deer-fencing program was discontinued.

A Rutgers Cooperative Extension survey of farmers who participated in the 1998 deer-fencing program indicated that almost 70 percent of wildlife crop loss is attributable to deer. The New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station estimated the economic loss to farmers to be between \$5 million and \$10 million annually.

Secretary Kuperus was joined for the announcement by Martin McHugh, Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and Jack Rabin, Associate Director/Farm services, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, who agreed the deer problem is increasing.

"The Department of Environmental Protection has a long history of working with the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural community to responsibly manage the New Jersey deer herd," said Director McHugh. "Managing

the deer population minimizes economic loss to farmers while providing recreational and economic benefits to the citizens of our state. The deer fencing program exemplifies the successful partnership forged between both departments".

"The nature of how the state has been developing has left farmers with no way to manage the deer herd on their own," said Rabin. "The state needs to help provide a remedy".

The NJDA is providing \$250,000 in new funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2005 state budget for the program. The DEP is contributing \$50,000 to the program.

To participate in the program, farmers must meet these eligibility criteria:

- Be a New Jersey farmer having documented proof of a minimum of \$40,000 in sales of agricultural commodities produced by the applicant on a New Jersey farm.
- Be a New Jersey certified organic farmer having documented proof of a minimum of \$20,000 in sales of agricultural commodities produced by the applicant on a New Jersey Farm.
- Be the owner of the land or have documented proof of renting preserved farmland or farmland that is enrolled in an Eight-Year Farmland Preservation Program.
- Complete a mandatory deer fence installation workshop sponsored by the NJDA, NJDEP, and Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

Farmers receiving help with fencing are required to use the material solely for keeping deer off their land and are prohibited from using the fence to contain equine, livestock, poultry, or other animals. Any unused fence will have to be returned to NJDA and cannot be sold. Applications for deer fencing available to farmers through the NJDA and County Extension Offices. Farmers can also call the NJDA at (609) 292-5532 for more information and to be placed on the database for mailings.

**See Rutgers Deer Fence Fact Sheet FS889 on web**

### US Ag Census—Central Jersey Highlights 2002—Released June 3, 2004

County	# of Farms	Average Farm Size	Land in Farms
Monmouth	892	53	47,198
Ocean	217	56	12,239
Mercer	304	82	25,070
Middlesex	275	79	21,824
Burlington	906	123	111,237

# WATER ALLOCATION LETTERS AND RENEWALS

Many of you have received letters from the New Jersey Dept. of certificates. We have received copies of these letters as well as other reports requesting changes and information needed by them. Rather than focus on the New Water Diversion Allocation, which many of you need, they have chosen to review all approved diversions. Some of you have received letters on diversions that must be renewed within 60 days (in the midst of your busy growing season). With this request, is a long detailed recertification form that requires more and sometimes new information. The demand for renewal in 60 days seems unreasonable because some have expired many months and years ago.

Any information you can provide in advance will make this effort a lot easier. Fill out the renewal form as best you can and provide your latest monthly water log, acreage farmed and irrigated, and map of exact water diversion locations. We will do our best to answer questions and try to get all information to the NJDEP on time.

# Calendar



## OCTOBER 2004

### **Oct. 28 - Greenhouse Fall Crop Production**

**Program** - Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County 9 AM - 3:30 PM. Call Mercer County for further info. 609-989-6830.

## NOVEMBER 2004

**Nov. 8 - Watershed Congress** - Area 12 Monmouth County Monmouth County Ag Building 7:30 PM. Call Bill Sciarappa 732-431-7260.

## DECEMBER 2004

**Dec. 2 - South Jersey Landscape Conference & Trade Show** Masso's Crystal Manor, Delsea Dr., Glassboro, NJ. Call Jerry Frecon at 856/307-6450 X1

**Dec. 2-3 - Food & Farm Summit**, Holiday Inn Stadium, Philadelphia, PA. Call Bonnie 215-568-0830.

**Dec. 7, 8 - Turf Expo** - Taj Mahal, Atlantic City

**Dec. 15 - Basic Turfgrass Management Course** #AT0406CA05 Cook College Continuing Professional Education RCE for DEP credit information call 732/932-9271.

## JANUARY 2005

**Jan. 11, 12, 13 - Vegetable Growers Association NJ** - Borgata, Atlantic City, NJ - Phil Traino 856-985-4382.

**Jan. 25-26 - State Ag Convention**— Trump Plaza, AC, NJ

## FEBRUARY

**Feb. 4 - Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting**, Freehold Gardens, Recertification credits - Terry/Madge 732-431-7260



## Ag Humor

**I:** Did you hear about the vegetable grower who opened a farm market on the moon?

**Don:** No

**Hal:** It had great produce but no atmosphere.

What's the ratio of a pumpkin's circumference to its diameter?

**Answer:** Pumpkin Pi.

Why do jack-o-lanterns have stupid smiles on their faces?

**Answer:** You'd have a stupid smile, too, if you just had all your brains scooped out.!

How do you mend a broken Jack-o-lantern?

**Answer:** With a pumpkin patch.

**Monmouth County Board of Ag Meetings**  
7:30 PM - Oct. 19, Nov. 23, Dec. 21 & Jan. 18

**Basic Pesticide Training 9 AM - 1 PM**  
Oct. 26, Dec. 1 & Dec. 22  
3ABC Training Nov. 16 & Dec. 14  
To register call 800-524-9942

**Held at**  
**Rutgers Cooperative Extension,**  
**4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728**  
**732-431-7260**

**Rutgers Extension On-line Learning Center for Pesticide**  
**Use and Storage**  
**DEP credits on line**  
**[www.ifplantscouldtalk.rutgers.edu/pesticide\\_education](http://www.ifplantscouldtalk.rutgers.edu/pesticide_education)**

### **RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF MONMOUTH COUNTY** **New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station**

4000 Kozloski Rd, PO Box 5033  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
Agriculture: 732-431-7260  
Family & Consumer Science: 732-431-7271

Rutgers Cooperative Extension— Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development, Resource Management, and Marine Studies— welcomes this opportunity to send you the enclosed materials for your information and use.  
Educational programs and information are provided to all people without regard to sex, race, , national origin, or handicap

Richard G. Obal, County Agricultural Agent  
Extension Dept. Head

Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent

# Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County

## AGRICULTURAL MAILING LIST UPDATE

Federal law requires us to update our mailing lists each year. By law, our mailing lists are kept private and are never distributed to industry for their solicitation, or to any government agencies.

If there are any changes to the mailing address on the back of this page, make any necessary corrections and return this page to our office by November 15, 2004. We will begin using the revised list in January 2005. **PLEASE RESPOND OR YOU WILL BE TAKEN OFF OUR MAILING LIST.**

Yes! I would like to continue to receive county agricultural information and Education program notices for the following areas (check all that apply).

- |                                      |  |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery         | <input type="checkbox"/> Equine    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hay/Forage  | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse      | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       |                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables  | <input type="checkbox"/> Arborist        |                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Fruit  | <input type="checkbox"/> Turf/Sod        |                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Fruit | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Trees |                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farm Market | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Center   |                                    |

Please indicate the type of business you are in and/or your areas of interest \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, please provide us with your current communications information which will help us in getting information to you on a timely basis - Phone, Fax, E-mail, etc.

### COMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The mailing label address on reverse side of page is correct.

Please make the following changes to my mailing label:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN FORM BY NOVEMBER 15, 2004 BY MAIL OR FAX**

**RCE of Monmouth County  
4000 Kozloski Road Road - Box 5033  
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033  
FAX: 732/409-4813**



**RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County  
4000 Kozloski Rd., Box 5033 Freehold, NJ 07728

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