



Agent's Overview

Wow – what a fall season! We had the highs of success in running our first “Open Space Pace Festival” at the Freehold Race Track with over 3,000 people. This was then followed by the lows of economic and personal loss due to extreme weather with hurricane Sandy and her follow-up sister snowstorm.

The good news is that our Open Space Pace Festival was attended and/or reviewed by the NJDA Fair Committee. They then approved the new year's application of the Monmouth County Board of Ag for this festival to be held as a state approved, county fair again at the race-track on Saturday, September 21, 2013.

The bad news is that our typical retail Halloween sales of ag products and agri-tourism were sunk by the brutal weather. On-farm activities were disrupted by the lack of electrical power and farm operations like fall harvest, greenhouse heating and poultry production. Phone communications and general equipment use were hampered for 10 days or more. Tree and nursery stock suffered significant breakage, and lodging of agronomic crops remaining in the field was widespread. Fortunately the majority of the crops were already done and many fall crops were harvested early just in advance of the storm.

Let's hope the new year provides some relief and a smoother ride. Please look forward and **save the dates** for three key upcoming events.

1. **The Monmouth County Stakeholders Meeting**
2. **The New Jersey Ag Convention & Trade Show**
3. **The Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting**

The stakeholder meeting on Tuesday evening January 15 gives our Ag, 4-H and Family and Consumer Health Science clients a great opportunity to listen to an extension overview from our RCE staff and administrators and then interact in question and answer sessions regarding our upcoming scope of extension work, office staffing and directions. NJAES Director Larry Katz, Associate Director Mary Jane Willis and other campus representatives will be attending.

The 2013 New Jersey Ag Convention in conjunction with the NJVGA and NJAES is again held in Atlantic City from February 5-7. Please plan on attending as we have arranged a diversity of exciting Ag sessions, a banquet and a lively trade show among numerous other activities at the Taj.

The Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting is planned for Friday, February 2013, a little later than normal as we need to adjust to the new State Convention timing. Nonetheless we plan to have another fine agenda with good food and friends. For more details and contacts, please see our calendar on page 7.

Happy Holidays to all.



Bill Sciarappa

Governor's View

Monmouth County Board of Agriculture and 4-H member Clair McKittrick met with Governor Chris Christie when she was volunteering at the Bolger school in Keansburg on November 5th. She was working with Barbara Annuzzi, a teacher in Keansburg, to hand out clothing to families to those that has lost all their belongings. Mrs. Annuzzi came out to check on her students and to make sure they were all accounted for. Her house was without electricity and had some tree damage, however she



was more worried about her students. 50 houses were lost completely, and hundreds of houses in the area will need to be rehabbed. The town also lost one of their schools.

Clair asked the Governor how the agricultural community and 4-H could help out in the efforts to provide food, shelter, and necessities to the people who have lost everything. He was pleased to have volunteers ready as they are needed, and expressed his willingness to call on them, especially as we go into the winter months.

Nyna McKittrick



Jersey Fresh Day at Bolger School

Rutgers Cooperative Extension held its 3rd annual Jersey Fresh Day at Bolger Middle School in Keansburg on September 27. About 75 students and teachers participated as RCE began with an agricultural overview in the large library with the main theme of locally grown Apples and Vegetables. Clickers (student response devices) were used to anonymously survey student opinions about our food and their knowledge base of farming.



The 5th to 8th grade students and teachers really enjoyed this wireless interaction that was displayed on a large screen for all to view.

Then three separate groups rotated among various educational sessions led by 4-H with Kate Everett, Virginia Krzyzanowski, FCSH with Rachel Tansey and Sharese Porter and Ag/MG's via Vivian Quinn, Sabrina Brown, Ellen Simonetti, Alka Lothe and Bill Sciarappa. At the end of the day, the parents picked up the excited children along with large bags full of delicious Jersey

Fresh produce. What a great way to end the day of ag education with locally grown treats.

How do you like them APPLES!



Special Thanks To

Delicious Orchards
Samaha Farms
Gary DeFelice
Jersey Fresh Day
Delicious Orchards
FFA Event
Kaufman Farms



Fall 2012 FFA Career Development Event



The annual **Fruits and Vegetables Career Development Event** was held at Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences on November 15. Over 250 high school students from 28 high schools in New Jersey attended. This was the 12th year that Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County coordinated the Fruit and Vegetable ID and Judging event. We are once again very grateful to **Delicious Orchards** for their generosity for this event.

Career Development Events allow students to apply classroom instruction and encourage students to excel. These events are important to the future of the agriculture industry because they help direct students to

School	Fruit-Veg	Dairy	Turf	Combined Land/Homesite
Allentown HS	4 th		3 rd	1 st
Freehold Twp. HS	5 th	14 th	4 th	4 th
Mon Cty. Voc Tech	2 nd		1 st	
N. Burlington Reg HS	3 rd	13 th	7 th	6 th
Ocean Cty. Voc Tech	6 th	16 th	10 th	10 th

specific careers. FFA events also help students and schools meet the state's Core Curriculum Content Standards. Many of these students will be successful in the future because of the skills learned in preparation for career development results.

Results from the event can be found at www.judgingcard.com. (Click on "Online Results", click "New Jersey Fall CDEs" (Thu, Nov 15, 2012), then click on your respective event.) You can see pictures from the event on the New Jersey State FFA Association Facebook page – www.facebook.com/NJFFA.

Vivian Quinn & Sabrina Brown

Before Sandy's Trick - Halloween 2012



Did you know we have World Champion Punkin' Chunkers right here in Warren County, New Jersey? They practice and work on their machine at a great farm in Asbury, New Jersey – the [West Portal Pumpkin Patch](#).

The **West Portal Pumpkin Patch** is one of the first farms in the area to offer the total fall farm experience – corn maze, hay maze, hay rides and pumpkin picking and fall decorations and more.

Interested in helping or coming out to the farm to cheer the team



**Last Fling
Pumpkin
Sling**

October 20 & 21, 2012
Warren County, New Jersey

Sign Up For Enews

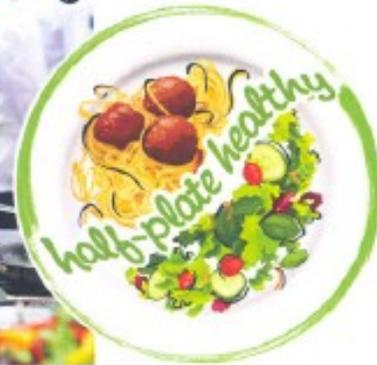


on (spectating only - there is a charge per question), contact Captain Dan at Daniel.Collins@ge.com to receive the e-Newsletters for updates on progress and work sessions. Team Chucky has been competing and WINNING for years in the [World Championship and original Punkin Chunkin](#) near Nassau, DE. In 2011 Chucky II of Washington, NJ came in 1st place in the Adult Catapult category, shooting a winning shot of 2,027.96 feet. Team Chucky anticipates coming to the Last Fling Pumpkin Sling for the first time in 2012.

the harvest

Hi folks,

As we head into the fall harvest season, I'm excited about what we'll have for you . . . Many easy ways to enjoy more fresh produce—from our Veggie Markets in several stores to our locally grown fruits and vegetables, there's a lot to look forward to.



All of that got me thinking about how our fruit and vegetable sourcing at Wegmans has changed over the years, and how it will continue to evolve. Twenty years ago, to bring you the best and freshest, we flew in tons of produce each year from places like Holland.

Today, most of our produce comes from North America. With rising fuel costs and our interest in buying local, things continue to shift even closer to home—the East coast is really where it's at for much of our fresh produce.

Our partnerships with over 500 local growers help us bring you the best seasonal fruits and vegetables. So does our Wegmans Organic Farm, where we're learning how to extend the growing season here in the Northeast. You can learn more in our story on page 99. Plus, you'll find great tasting vegetable recipes and our easy pan-steaming technique on page 69.



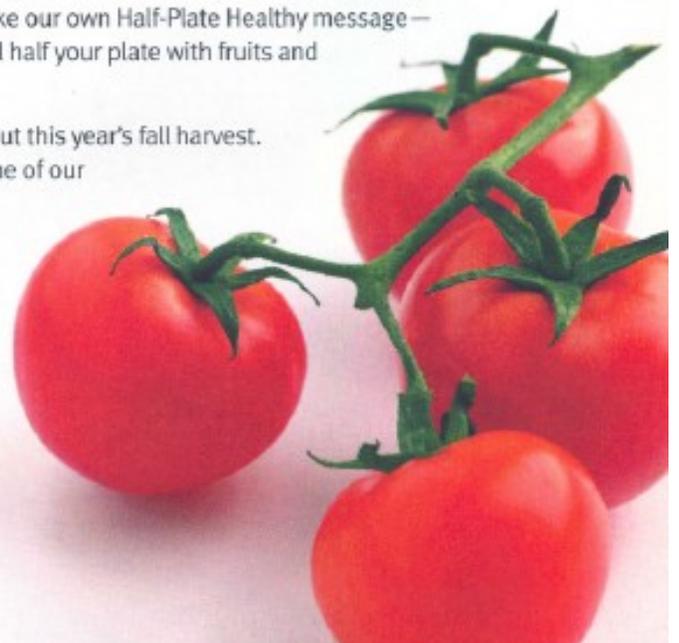
And all of this fits in with the latest recommendations from the federal government on the importance of eating more fruits and vegetables. Their new "Choose My Plate," which replaces the Food Guide Pyramid, is like our own Half-Plate Healthy message—which we've been sharing in recent years. Fill half your plate with fruits and veggies, and you're set.

So we have lots of reasons to be excited about this year's fall harvest.

But that's not all. We're also looking forward to sharing some of our favorite Italian foods in this issue of Wegmans Menu.

We hope you will love this season . . . Let us know what you think! Send us a comment on wegmans.com.

Donny Wegman



Impatiens Downy Mildew - Diane Larson



On September 25, Kube Pak once again hosted their fall open house where they highlighted the latest collection of mum trials, as well as fall flowering annuals and perennials. Dr. Joseph Bischoff, former national mycologist with APHIS and currently director of government relations with ANLA, spoke about impatiens downy mildew and the effect this disease will have on the nursery and landscape industry.

Many are familiar by now with the symptoms of downy mildew on impatiens, starting with yellowing leaves, white mildew on the lower leaf surface, progressing into stunting of the plants, flower drop, defoliation and finally plant collapse. The spores from this fungus will overwinter in the leaves, stems, and surrounding soil, surviving down to 5F. At this time it's unknown how long those spores will remain in the soil, it could be as long as ten years, so those who think they can just skip a year or two of planting impatiens in an infected area will be faced with the same problem down the road. So what to do? The answer is simple, do not plant impatiens walleriana. Since 31 states have reported the disease this year, there will be no escaping the spores that will be dispersed by wind and water throughout the country, so although disease free plants may be purchased or grown, it's almost a sure bet that that plant will succumb to downy mildew during the growing season. Fungicides, when applied as a preventative, have shown good control.

However, most fungicides have a 7 day residual, so weekly spraying just for the luxury of growing impatiens is rather impractical, especially when there are many other options of flowering annuals that will perform as good, or better, than the standard impatiens. Rob Swanekamp reported that almost none of their landscapers are taking the risk of planting impatiens in 2013. Kube Pak will be cutting back their production of impatiens dramatically. Most growers are doing the same, if they are even growing it at all. On the other hand, some growers, expecting the impending impatiens shortage, are increasing their production. His recommendation is that if a garden center chooses to sell impatiens plants, they should have a disclaimer saying the plants are disease free when purchased but it's almost guaranteed that they will succumb to downy mildew during the season. Since only the walleriana species of impatiens are affected, Rob suggested planting New Guinea impatiens this year, or the new Sunpatiens, neither of which have any walleriana susceptibility in them. Other excellent replacements for impatiens wallerians are begonias, both the BIG and Dragon Wing series, Coleus, Angelonia, Torenia, Lobelia, Vinca, and Alyssum.

For more information on impatiens downy mildew, including articles, fungicide recommendations, webinars, and updates, visit www.impatiensdownymildew.com.

Biotech HS students excel at National FFA Agriscience Competition

(TRENTON) - Biotechnology High School FFA members placed first in three of the 24 Agriscience Fair categories, second in four of the categories, and third in one of the categories at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, in October.

The Agriscience Fair is a competition for FFA members who are interested in the science and technology of agriculture. It is held annually at the national convention.

"We are proud of the Biotechnology FFA members, whose intense science and math coursework helped them excel in agriscience on the national level," said New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher. "Advanced science, math and technology skills are necessary for New Jersey agriculture to stay competitive." The competition recognizes students studying the appli-



cation of scientific principles and emerging technologies in agricultural enterprises. The students conduct a scientific research project pertaining to the agriculture and food science industries and present their findings to a panel of judges with a display and report. Twenty-one Biotech students participated in the Fair's pre-qualification round after placing first in the state event held last

spring and fifteen students advanced to the national competition. Biotechnology High School, in Freehold Township, is part of the Monmouth County Vocational School District. The school has one of New Jersey's newer FFA chapters, chartered in 2006. NJ has 35 FFA chapters with 2,528 members this school year.

AGENCY UPDATES

HURRICANE SANDY: Farmers who have experienced damage from the Hurricane Sandy natural disaster are encouraged to contact their USDA-FSA Service Center and inquire about programs now available to support them. One program in particular, ECP (Emergency Conservation Program), has now been activated. Sign-up dates are as follows: **Hackettstown Office-Jan. 7; Freeholds Office-Jan. 15; Frenchtown Office-Jan. 24; Columbus Office-TBA;** Vineland and Woodstown-make general inquiry. Fish hatcheries in coastal areas may be eligible. Note: damage to deer fencing and hoop houses are not now eligible, but a request to have that included is pending. Submit the damage estimate regardless and await the outcome. Gov. Christie and the entire New Jersey congressional delegation met in the Statehouse last Tuesday before the holiday and are joining forces to seek federal financial relief for storm damages. This week, the governor asked the federal government for \$36.8 billion in disaster relief.

Farmers holding DEP water allocation certifications may be wondering what happened to their 5-year renewals. Because of the Permit Extension Act, enacted under Governor Corzine's term in 2008, anyone holding a state permit (such as a water "cert") set to expire in 2008 or later was automatically extended to June 1, 2013. Another bill is pending with the governor that could push the extension to June 1, 2015. So, farmers holding valid water use certifications for 2008 or later are still authorized to use water at least through June 1, 2013. In the interim, the DEP has implemented measures to improve the renewal process for those few exceptions that still need to be processed. Eventually, the DEP will announce a schedule to re-start the process of renewals and batch them to spread out the work flow for themselves and county agricultural agents.



Sign up for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) began Friday November 16th 2012 and will continue through **January 15th 2012**. ECP provides cost share to help restore eligible farmland and conservation structure damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Eligible practices include, but are not limited to, obstruction removal (which includes fallen tree removal) and livestock fencing.*

USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and for implementing emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought. Funding for ECP is appropriated by Congress. **For More Information** available at FSA offices and on FSA's Web site at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>

*Livestock fencing is limited to eligible livestock which excludes horses or any animal "used for recreational activities or recreational business, such as, race horses, pack animals, rodeo stock, and polo ponies...maintained for slaughter purposes other than human consumption such as, glue or fur." (1-ECP Exhibit 2)

Calendar

January 2013

15 - RCE Monmouth County Stakeholder Meeting.
5:30-7:30 PM RSVP 732-431-7260
26-27 Annual NOFA Winter Conference. Brookdale Community College. <http://www.nofanj.org>

February 2013

5, 6 - NJ Agricultural Convention & Trade Show. Taj Mahal
www.njveggies.org/convention.htm
6-7 NJ State Agricultural Convention. Taj Mahal.
<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/conventions/2013/index.html>

15 - Central Jersey Vegetable Growers Meeting
- Ag Bldg. Freehold. 732-431-7260 x7261- Madge
20, 21 & 22 - NJ Farm Women Conference
3 locations see page 7 for details.

STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County
Tuesday, Jan. 15 - 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Ag Building, 4000 Kozloski Rd, Freehold

- Program Overview
- NJAES Directors Report
- Your Questions & Comments

Please RSVP 732-431-7260 X7261 Madge/ Sandy





**TAKE ALL 3 COURSES
IN ALL 3 LOCATIONS!**

NEW JERSEY FARM WOMEN CONFERENCE

February 20, 2013: Cumberland County College, 3322 College Dr., Vineland, NJ 08360 (Cumberland County)
February 21, 2013: Conference Center at Mercer, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, NJ 08550 (Mercer County)
February 22, 2013: The University Center, Drew University, 36 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940 (Morris County)

Choose one of three tracks:

Are you planning for profit?

Financial Planning & Insurance Track!

Is the financial plan component of your business plan holding you up?

Learn to calculate financial health measures for your farm such as debt-to-asset ratios and how to insure against the next "Superstorm Sandy". Breanna Fulper grew up the daughter of a dairy farmer and owns her own financial planning business. Along with Dr. Barbara O'Neill of Rutgers they will get your financial plan rolling.

Are you prepared?

Estate Planning Track!

All farms need a plan, but less than 2% of NJ farm women have one.

Popular estate planning speaker, Bob Parsons, a Cooperative Extension Specialist, grew up as a northeast farm boy, so knows the problems faced by northeast farms. He speaks in plain language, not "legalese" and uses humor to guide you through the issues in a lively manner. An attorney will also talk about legal specifics and will be available to answer your questions!

Failing to plan is planning to fail.

Business Plan Writing Track!

According to the IRS a business without a business plan is just a hobby.

Annie's Project NJ leader, Dr. Robin Brumfield, knows how to inspire women to create business plans that help drive the future of successful entrepreneurial farms. Jenny Carleo, Agricultural Agent, joins her in teaching this guided writing workshop that will send you home with a first draft. The USDA Farm Service Agency will be on hand to talk about why it's important to have a business plan when applying for financing.



"The learning, the networking, the confidence building for the participants has been simply amazing!"

"Things I have thought about doing for years I finally sat down and did."

\$25.00 for the day, including lunch



United States Department of Agriculture

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Register online at: <http://njfarmwomenconference.eventbrite.com>

Or call (609) 465-5115, ext. 607 or email carleo@aesop.rutgers.edu

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Jenny S. Carleo
Cape May County Agricultural Agent



MONMOUTH COUNTY BOA - 7:30 PM - Ag Building, Freehold
Jan 15, Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 9, May 7, June 11 - 2013

**FARMERS KEEP OUR
COUNTY GREEN**

BASIC PESTICIDE TRAINING - To register call 800-524-9942
CORE 9 am - 1 pm - Jan. 8, Feb.12, Mar 5, Mar 26, Apr 16, May 7, June 4
3A Ornamental - Jan 15, Mar 12 - 9 AM - 3 PM
3B Turf - Feb 5, Apr 9 - 9 AM - 3 PM
Held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Building
4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260

**PESTICIDE CONTROL
PROGRAM WEBSITE**
www.pcpnj.org



*Changing Times is produced and edited by Bill Sciarappa and Vivian Quinn
sciarappa@njaes.rutgers.edu*

Past Issues on the web <http://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?Id=3078>

**Central Jersey
Vegetable Meeting
Friday, Feb. 15, 2013
"Ag Building" Freehold
NJAES—RCE
DEP Credits
Register
732-431-7260 x7261**

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MONMOUTH COUNTY
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
PO Box 5033, 4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728

Rutgers Cooperative Extension— Agriculture, Family and Community Health 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, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent
Extension Department Head

Photos: B. Sciarappa, V. Quinn, Nyna McKittrick, NJ Dept. of Agriculture

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

RUTGERS

Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County
4000 Kozloski Road
PO Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033

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Happy Holidays !

RCE of Monmouth County wishes you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year. While it's getting really tough to remain profitable in Ag and Hort operations nowadays, RCE remains committed to supporting your agri-business with knowledge, research and advice.

We're also concerned about the next generation of growers in New Jersey. To this end, Professor Albert Ayeni created a new business-oriented class called Entrepreneurial Agriculture, along with an extension team from RU-SEBS, the RU Eco-complex, the RU Food Innovation Center and County Extension.

After a very successful spring semester with twenty students, five of the best students were awarded summer

scholarships to work in the real agri-business world. They learned quickly through this experiential, hands-on program. Then, these talented new "Aggies" presented results of their work accomplishments in a seminar at Cook College (see photo aside).

We'll be sure to pass on more of their entrepreneurial activities and results to you all and maybe someday soon we'll have more experienced employees and lead-

ers for our Garden State agricultural enterprises.

Looking Forward to a bountiful and blessed 2014.

Bill Sciarappa



Governor's Environmental Excellence Award

NJAES, Rutgers: New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers University

The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards are the State's premier environmental awards program for recognizing outstanding environmental performance, programs and projects in the state. These awards honor and recognize individuals, businesses, educators, institutions, communities, youth and others who have made significant contributions to environmental protection in NJ.

The New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) is the research and outreach arm of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Staff members deliver educational programs that focus on agriculture, fisheries, community outreach, youth development, food, nutrition and health, and

workforce development. Extension faculty members have developed a training program for rain garden specialists, demonstration rain gardens, and community rain garden walking tours, developed online training tools and a certification program for the lawn-care industry to help the DEP implement the state's fertilizer use law.

Recipient Bill Sciarappa and the Monmouth County RCE Staff also developed online pollution and sustainable agriculture courses for undergraduate students, public education efforts about impacts from stormwater and proper gardening and landscape methods.



Photo: Governor Jim "Super Fund" Florio, Vivian Quinn, Bill Sciarappa, Diane Larson and Bob Martin, NJDEP Commissioner.

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PO Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station



(WHITE TOWNSHIP) – As part of the Christie Administration’s third annual ‘Season of Service’ Initiative, New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher and Department of Children and Families Commissioner Allison Blake cut a Christmas tree at Wyckoff’s Christmas Tree Farm in White Township, Warren County, ceremonially kicking off the choose and cut Christmas tree season. Governor Christie proclaimed December 2, 2013 as Jersey Grown Christmas Tree Day, encouraging NJ residents to support the state’s farmers and visit choose and cut Christmas tree farms. “A visit to a New Jersey Christmas tree farm provides families with life-long memories,” said Secretary Fisher. “Not only do our farmers grow some of the most beautiful and healthy trees in the nation, they also are extremely generous to their surrounding community, donating trees to families in need to brighten their holiday seasons.”

The Belvidere FFA chapter presented the Wyckoffs with \$2,025 in cash donations they received to purchase 81 trees for the Trees for Troops effort. Part of the Garden State’s four seasons of agritourism, now is the time many families visit tree farms to cut their own Christmas trees. Almost 79,000 trees are cut in New Jersey each year. The 2007 U.S. Census of Agriculture ranked New Jersey sixth in the nation in the number of

Christmas tree growers, with 1,150 farms that grow more than 6,000 acres of Christmas trees in the state. A blue spruce from Wyckoff’s Tree Farm this year won the annual contest held by the Christmas Tree Growers’ Association for the best Christmas tree in the state. The Wyckoffs went on to compete in the National Christmas Tree Association’s tree contest and became the first in New Jersey to be named national champion. The tree was delivered to the White House over Thanksgiving weekend. The 172-acre farm in White Township, outside of Belvidere, has been owned by the Wyckoff family since 1839 and is now being farmed by the sixth and seventh generations of Wyckoffs. They have 55 acres of Christmas trees with 5,000 trees available this season. They offer Fraser, Douglas, Concolor, and Canaan Firs, Norway, Blue, and Serbian Spruces and White Pine. Christmas tree growers in New Jersey may participate in the *Jersey Grown* program, which allows farmers to tag their trees with the *Jersey Grown* brand. The New Jersey Christmas Tree Growers’ Association is a statewide organization of growers, professionals and industry leaders. A listing of farms consumers can visit is available at: www.njchristmastrees.org/where_find_christmas_tree.html.

Lynne Richmond (609)633-2954 Lynne.richmond@ag.state.nj.us

Holy Hazelnuts!

When the Principal of Neptune’s **Green Grove Elementary School** called RCE requesting agricultural and horticultural help, the staff knew just what to do in planning, planting, and designing the 2 acre site. We discussed planting options to create an educational fruit farm for learning in **STEM** – Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. **Horticulturalist Diane Larson** drew up a diverse

planting design that featured cherry, figs, raspberry, strawberry, kiwi, blueberry, grape and hazelnuts. Yes hazelnuts!! These new experimental varieties can succeed in New Jersey. Rutgers plant breeder **Dr. Tom Molinar** donated 4 new cultivars to test in a long term field experiment of growth, disease resistance and yield. After soil testing and deer fencing, the **Master Gardeners** supervised the students transplanting hazelnuts/filberts in this exciting plant science program.



CALENDAR

January 2014

- 6-9 Northeast ASHS & NEWSS, Philadelphia
- 14 through Feb. 26 - Annie’s Project NJ 609-465-5115 APNJGreenhouse.eventbrite.com
- 14-16 - **Integrated Pest Management** - Rutgers Continuing Education. Info 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit www.cpe.rutgers.edu
- 21-22—**NJ Plants Professional Landscape & Nursery Trade Show**, NJ Convention Ctr., Edison, www.njplantshow.com
- 25-26 - **NOFA 2014 Annual Conference** - Brookdale Community College www.nofanj.org
- 27 - **Getting Started in Vegetable Production** - Mid Atlantic Fruit & Vegetable Conf., Hershey Pa. (see right).
- 27, 28, 29 Feb. 3, 4 **Organic Land Care Certificate Course for Professionals** - Bordentown, NJ www.njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare
- 28 - **Organic Turfgrass Management**—Rutgers Continuing Education, 732-932-9271 or www.cpe.rutgers.edu
- 29—**Pesticide Calibration (Session II)**, Rutgers Continuing Ed - 732-932-9271 or www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 2014

- 4-6 - **NJ Agricultural Convention & Trade Show & Annual State Ag Convention**—Taj Mahal, AC: 856-797-1686 www.njveggies.org
- 9 - **Horse Management Seminar** - 8 AM to 4 PM, Cook Campus Center. esc.rutgers.edu
- 21 - **Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting** - Ag Building, Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260 x7280 Joanne
- 22 **Grape Expectations** - 732-764-9463
- 26-28—**North American Blueberry Research Meeting Atlantic City**, Gary Pavlis 609-625-0056
- 27 - **MC BOA Dinner** - American Hotel, Freehold

March 2014

- 3 **Speciality Ethnic Crops**, King of Prussia, PA Kathy Kelley@kmk17psu 814-863-2196

MONMOUTH COUNTY BOA

12-17, 1-21, 2-18, 3-18, 4-22, 5-20
BASIC PESTICIDE TRAINING
CORE 9 am - 1 pm—1-14, 2-11, 3-4, 3-18, 6-3
3A 1-28, 3-25, 4-22, 6-17, 9 AM—3 PM
3B 2-18, 3-11, 5-13 9 AM—3 PM
To register call 800-524-9942
Held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Bldg.
4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260

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

Feb. 4-6, 2014 Taj Mahal

MID-ATLANTIC fruit & vegetable convention

2014 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention

January 28 to 30

Hershey Lodge and Convention Center

The [Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention](http://www.mafvc.org/) has become the premier grower meeting in the Northeast combining three days of six or more concurrent [educational sessions](#) with a large industry [trade show](#) and numerous networking opportunities - all designed to enable fruit, vegetable and berry growers as well as direct marketers to stay on the cutting edge of their industries. About 2,200 persons from throughout the mid-Atlantic region and beyond gather each year at the [Hershey Lodge and Convention Center](#) for the Convention. For the 2014 Convention, the North American Raspberry and Blackberry Association and the Virginia State Horticultural Society will also be meeting in Hershey. [Registration](#) is open to all interested commercial fruit, vegetable and berry growers, direct marketers and allied industry personnel.

<http://www.mafvc.org/>

Vegetable Crops Online Resources Center

<http://njveg.rutgers.edu/>

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Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent
Extension Department Head

Photos: V. Quinn, B. Sciarappa, Farm Bureau, S. Brown, NJ Dept. of Agriculture

AGENCY UPDATES



<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/bulletins/7f74bd>

“Caring for Your Equine Athlete”

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – “Caring for Your Equine Athlete” is the over-arching theme of the upcoming Horse Management Seminar hosted by the **Rutgers Equine Science Center and Rutgers Cooperative Extension**. The seminar, scheduled from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm on Sunday, February 9, 2014, will feature presentations by several equine industry experts.

“With the World Equestrian Games (WEG) being held in Normandy, France in 2014, we thought this would be the perfect time to focus on the equine athlete,” says Dr. **Carey Williams, Extension Equine Specialist** and Associate Director of Extension for the Equine Science Center. “Our goal in presenting this workshop is to give participants a glimpse into the life of a WEG rider and valuable advice for any equine athlete, whether it’s an international champion or a trusted lesson horse.”

Williams has assembled presenters who are recognized as experts in their field to offer perspectives and personal insight. The morning will start with a panel of top competitors from WEG disciplines, including endurance rider Meg Sleeper, combined driving/dressage rider Sara Schmitt, and reiner Matthew Palmer, with more riders to be announced from eventing and jumping. They will discuss their beginnings, ways for inter-

Horse Management Seminar

“Caring for Your Equine Athlete”

Advice from top competitors and tips on how to keep your exercising horse comfortable and healthy.



February 9, 2014
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Cook Campus Center
Rutgers, the State University

ested riders to get started in their disciplines, trials and tribulations of competing at an elite level, and of course they will be open to questions from the audience.

Other topics and speakers will include “Getting Riders and Horses Ready for WEG” by Jim Wolf, Executive Director of Sport Programs for the United States Equestrian Federation; “Saddle Fitting for All Disciplines” by **Rick Wills and Charlie O’Brien from Rick’s Saddle Shop**; “Conditioning for Your Equestrian Sport” by Dr. Meg Sleeper, cardiology veterinarian for the Department of Clinical Studies at the University of Pennsylvania; and “Hoof Balance and Horse Performance” by Patrick Reilly, Chief of Farrier Services and Director of the Applied Polymer Research Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania.

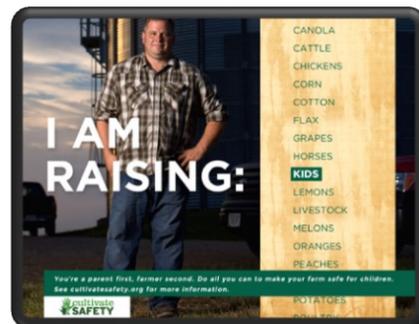
In addition to the educational presentations, the seminar will feature informational displays, networking opportunities with industry companies and area organizations, and ample time for one-on-one discussions with the day’s presenters.

Complete program, registration information, and seminar brochure are posted on the Equine Science Center website at esc.rutgers.edu. For more information, contact Laura Gladney at 848-932-3229, gladney@aesop.rutgers.edu, or Dr. Carey Williams at 848-932-5529, cwiliams@aesop.rutgers.edu.

To Your Health!

This 2014 Calendar contains practical ways to keep family members safe on the farm in the upcoming year. Please post in a common area.

<http://www.childsafety.org/files/2014%20CASN%20Calendar%20Electronic%20Version.pdf>



CHRISTIE ADMINISTRATION AWARDS GRANT TO GLEANING ORGANIZATION

Farmers Against Hunger Collects Donated Produce, Delivers to Food Pantries and Soup Kitchens

(COLTS NECK) – **New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher** announced on Wednesday, November 20, that Farmers Against Hunger is the recipient of a **\$100,000 Gleaning Support Grant**, made possible through the Department of Agriculture’s State Food Purchase Program. Fisher made the announcement at **Eastmont Orchards** in Colts Neck, where he joined teachers from the **Monmouth County Career Center** in Freehold in harvesting Brussels sprouts that will be distributed by Farmers Against Hunger (FAH) to agencies preparing Thanksgiving dinner baskets for those in need.

“Farmers Against Hunger utilizes an army of volunteers to pick produce that otherwise might have gone to waste and distribute it to emergency feeding agencies,” said Secretary Fisher. “There are many generous farmers in the state who give back to their communities in this way. It is a win-win for all involved.”

This is the second season **Eastmont Orchards** has worked with Farmers Against Hunger. So far, farm owner **David Barclay has donated 13,000 pounds of apples and 24,000 pounds of various types of squash**, most of which was gleaned – or picked – by FAH volunteers..

Thirty-three farms, including seven new farms, donated their surplus produce to FAH this season. Since July, FAH collected more than **430,000 pounds of fresh produce** from those farms, which was distributed to more than 70 organizations, including soup kitchens, food pantries and the state’s food banks. Much of that produce was gleaned by FAH volunteers.

Kristina Guttadora, Farmers Against Hunger program director, said the Gleaning Support Grant will be used for general operations including staff, truck fuel, maintenance and programmatic expenses. Last year’s grant allowed them to expand to accept new farms, host additional gleanings and reach new feeding organizations. They also added a third part-time driver to help host gleanings and make deliveries. One of the new distributions established this year was to Camden on a weekly basis from July through September.

“The State Food Purchase Program Gleaning Grant provides a significant portion of the necessary funding for our program’s success,” said Guttadora. “We are so grateful to receive this financial support which helps us



Kristina Guttadora, Farmers Against Hunger Program Director, and Secretary Fisher glean Brussels sprouts at Eastmont Orchards

provide our produce at no cost to the food banks, soup kitchens, and other agencies receiving the donations. The entire community benefits from this program - as gleaning volunteers become connected to **New Jersey’s farms**, as farmers utilize an efficient way of donating their surplus produce, and as the 16 percent of our neighbors in need receive healthy, nutritious food for their next meal.” Farmers Against Hunger operates with a staff of just one full time, and four part-time employees, as well as a network of dedicated volunteers and supporters.

Gleaning Support Program grants must be used by the gleaning organizations for collection, distribution and administrative costs. The groups must distribute the gleaned New Jersey grown produce or non-farm nutrient dense rescued food gleaned from non-farm sources outside of the growing season only to New Jersey residents.

The funding for the grants comes from the **State Food Purchase Program**, for which **Governor Christie** allocated **\$6.8 million dollar this year** to be distributed quarterly to the **state’s six food banks** to purchase healthy food, with a **high priority on buying locally grown produce** from New Jersey farmers.

News from the

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE



Lynne Richmond (609)633-2954 Lynne.richmond@ag.state.nj.us

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FARM BUREAU CONVENTION 2013

Convention Highlights: The 95th annual meeting is now finished... a good convention with an excellent turnout for delegate voting sessions and the annual banquet... several veteran observers noted “a very impressive display of grassroots policy development and consensus building”; “this year’s convention was especially lively for me.” **President Suydam** was at the helm for the first time this year, prompting a compliment from a delegate at the Business Session “for keeping things moving along.” During the elections of officers, **Allen Carter, Jr.** of Cape May County was elected first vice-president to succeed retiring **Tom Byrne** of Middlesex County. Re-elected to a full two year term as treasurer was **Jim Etsch** of Middlesex County.

DEP Commissioner Bob Martin was well-received as the banquet speaker on Monday evening, drawing spontaneous applause from the banquet guests when he spoke of



sending DEP’s 2,800 employees to customer service training. “Just a common sense thing to do for an organization like ours,” he said, as he otherwise spoke of his dedication to protecting New Jersey’s environment while affecting a “**transformation of culture**” at DEP.

There was some added attention this year given to the issue of bio-engineered food, capped by an illuminating talk by Maryland Farmer Jennie Schmidt. Other talks on the status of forestry in New Jersey (consulting forester Steve Kalleser) and the **Rutgers Climate Change Alliance (researcher Tony Broccoli)** held everyone’s interest. Other topics drawing attention from the delegates dealt with local food (chef Chris Albrecht spoke at the banquet) and grappling with the definition of “locally grown.” Appearances are duly noted by **Ag Secretary Doug Fisher, NJAES Executive Dean Bob Goodman & Director Larry Katz.**

FFA 2013 CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT - Vivian Quinn & Sabrina Brown



School	Fruit-Veg	Dairy	Turf	Combined Land/Homesite
Allentown HS	2 nd	5 th	2 nd	1 st
N. Burlington Middle	3 rd	9 th		
Mon Cty Voc	7 th		1 st	
Freehold Twp HS	10 th	4 th	6 th	3 rd
N. Burlington HS	14 th		3 rd	8 th

The annual **Fruits and Vegetables Career Development Event** was held at Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences on November 14. Over 250 high school students from 28 high schools in New Jersey attended. This was the 13th year that Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County coordinated the Fruit and Vegetable ID and Judging event. We are once again very grateful to **Delicious Orchards** for their generosity for this event.

Career Development Events allow students to apply classroom instruction and encourage students to excel. These events are important to the future of the agriculture industry because they help direct students to specific careers. FFA events also help students and schools meet the state's Core Curriculum Content Standards. Many of these students will be successful in the future because of the skills learned in preparation for career development results.

Results from the event can be found at <https://www.judgingcard.com/Results/Events.aspx?ID=3340>



Annie's Project NJ Greenhouse Growers

WHEN: Tuesdays from Jan. 14 to Feb. 25, 2014
WHERE: Cooperative Extension of Burlington Cty, 2 Academy Drive, Westampton, NJ 08060
TIME: 6 - 9 PM
COST: \$100, including all materials and dinner for 6-week course and webinars
DETAILS: Class meets once a week on Tuesday, followed by a webinar every Thursday viewed from home from 7-8 pm. No class the week of Feb.3.

TO REGISTER: APNJGreenhouse.eventbrite.com or to register by phone or email contact Dana Tyndall at 609-465-5115 ext. 607 or DTYNDALL@co.cape-may.nj.us

Offered by: *Jenny Carleo, CMC Agricultural Agent*

For six weeks starting January 14, 2014, join fellow Greenhouse Growers as they learn from experts across the state and nation. Create sustainable relationships with farm women, meet industry professionals and create a business plan to help ensure the success of your business. Register today!

Miss Rodeo New Jersey

On Sunday, November 17th youth and adult fans of the sport of Rodeo were treated to an exhibit by **Amanda Thompson, 2014 Miss Rodeo N.J.** Amanda rode her barrel racing horse “**Rambo**” at The **Horse Park of New Jersey** for the crowd as well as engaged the children in games on stick-horses, scrap-booking activities and an informative lecture about the sport of rodeo and her life as a rodeo queen. The exhibit was coordinated by the **Monmouth County 4-H Department of Rutgers Cooperative Extension** and sponsored by the **4-H Horse Leader’s Advisory and the Horse Park of New Jersey.**



Come in from the cold and join us for **The Winter Horse Veterinary Lecture Series** to be held at the **Agricultural Building, 4000 Kozloski Rd, Freehold.** Lectures will be presented by Colts Head Veterinary Services, Monday, January 13th, 7p.m Saturday, February 8th, 10a.m. and Thursday, March 13, 7p.m. This series is free and open to the public.

Please R.S.V.P to Colt’s Head Veterinary PracticeMy-HorseVet@aol.com

Sabrina Brown, Program Assistant Monmouth Cty 4-H



2013 Monmouth County Board of Agriculture Annual Dinner

Wow what a good night! Monmouth County Board of Agriculture held its Annual Dinner celebration on March 7, at the American Hotel. BOA President Angelo Trapani led the program committee of his wife Anna, Gary Defelice, Nyna McKittrick, Jim Wycoff and others. Selecting this grand old restored restaurant facility set the stage for a bumper crowd of about 100 guests; including our NJ Commissioner of Agriculture Doug Fischer, USDA-FSA Director Paul Hlubik, Freeholder Director Tom Arnone and his Freeholder team of Deputy Director Serena DiMaso, John Curley, Lillian Burry and emeritus Ted Narozanick. After some rousing talks by the Commissioner and our new Farm Bureau President Ryck Suydam, President Trapani presented a special recognition award to Freeholder Lillian Burry from Colts Neck for her strong support of Monmouth County Agriculture, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and the Master Gardeners – all which provide large economic and educational impacts.



President Trapani also presented longtime farm couple Ross and Debbie Clayton for their outstanding agricultural achievements and community service to the NJ farming community. Everyone knows their beautiful and historic farm site and farm market leaving out of town on Rt. 537 west.



The FFA groups from Freehold Township, Monmouth Career Center, Biotechnology High School and Allentown high school worked together and formed an entertaining agricultural game show quiz with wireless audience response devices. The festive competition strained a lot of brains and drew a lot of laughter.



The food and company were top notch as the group mixed fun and net-



working in a very pleasant atmosphere. We all enjoyed the time to socialize and catch up before the growing season begins again.



We also look forward to a productive and prosperous 2013.

Looking Forward,
Bill Sciarappa



New Jersey Farm Bureau Works for You

Like many industries, Agriculture is also faced with emerging issues that affect our industry every day. Minimum wage, labor availability, farmland assessment, environmental regulations, water allocation, and right to farm, are just a few of those issues that affect the way we do business in Agriculture. As these issues emerge in our legislature, we should ask ourselves, 'who is there to help protect our best interest and preserve Agriculture as we know it today?'

New Jersey Farm Bureau has been a grass roots, member association that has represented the voices of our state's Agriculture community at all levels of government – local, county, state, and national. They have taken on these issues through influence on regulations and laws with our legislators, creating positive public relations through the media, and exploring all initiatives, activities and ventures to help the Agricultural industry remain profitable and viable. They do all this through a democratic policy development process achieved by representatives from each county in the state.

New Jersey Farm Bureau, takes seriously, its mission to promote all segments of Agriculture without bias to any one of those segments. They work in collaboration with all the specific agricultural commodity associations throughout the state on the different issues each faces. It keeps all its members informed of policy changes and initiatives that impact our industry and the way you do business through its weekly newsletter and a quarterly newspaper. They also maintain an informative website that is constantly updated, informing its members and anyone interested in Agriculture on what is happening in the industry.

If you are engaged in any segment of agriculture, as a farmer, equestrian, landscaper, hobby gardener, or even someone who supports agriculture in our state, then membership in New Jersey Farm Bureau would benefit you in many ways. By joining Farm Bureau, you automatically become a member of your local county board of agriculture, which allows you to become involved on a local level and get to know other farmers and agricultural enthusiasts in your community. You also

automatically become a member in the six million plus strong, American Farm Bureau, which represents all of Agriculture's interest at the national level. Your membership would also support your County Board of Agriculture, which in turn supports many of the your local organizations that are involved in agriculture, such as the 4-H, FFA, and Master Gardener programs. You will also find valuable member benefits such as a discount of Farm Family Insurance policies, discounts on GM vehicles, Dell computers, Grainger Supply, hotel reservations and car rentals, along with many other numerous affinity programs. Taking advantage of these discounts that you would use in your operations and daily lives, would more than pay for the annual membership in Nj Farm Bureau.

As a member of the Monmouth County Board of Agriculture, and the Monmouth County Director to New Jersey Farm Bureau, I have seen first-hand how their knowledgeable staff truly works for all advocates of the Agricultural industry. It was they who supported us to help keep all the current Ag. offices under one roof at Kosloski Rd. in Freehold. It was they who helped develop the recent Farmland Assessment legislation waiting for the Governor's signature that lent minimal impact to real farmers in our state. And it will be they who will continue to represent the best interests for all Agriculture on the many issues we face here in our county and state.

The Monmouth County Board of Agriculture encourages everyone who has a true interest in supporting agriculture to become a member of New Jersey Farm Bureau. There are different levels of membership, from a 'Regular Farmer Member', to an 'Associate Member' and/or 'Friends of Agriculture Member'. By joining, you will create a larger voice in helping to continue to promote the viability of Agriculture and the Open Space we have all come to love.

To learn more about New Jersey Farm Bureau and the benefits of becoming a member, please visit their website at www.njfb.org or contact Debbie Pribell at the Farmhouse: 609-393-7163.

Gary DiFelice, Treasurer Monmouth County BOA

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE HONORS FREEHOLD WOMAN AS NEW JERSEY HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR 2012

(TRENTON) – New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas Fisher awarded the 2012 Governor’s Award for Horseperson of the Year to Linda Toscano, one of harness racing’s most successful trainers, at the 56th annual Breeders’ Luncheon in Eastampton on 1/27/13.

Toscano, who lives in Freehold, trained the 2012 Standardbred Horse of the Year, Chapter Seven. Over the course of her career, Toscano has had 1,439 wins and \$34 million in purses. This year she won a career best of \$6.71 million.

“Linda Toscano is a committed and passionate advocate for the harness racing industry in New Jersey,” said Secretary Fisher. “Through her hard work and dedication, she has contributed to the success of several Jersey Bred horses, bringing great pride to the Garden State over the years.”

On behalf of the New Jersey Equine Advisory Board, a committee of past Horsepersons of the Year chose to recognize Toscano, who, in August, became the first female trainer to win the prestigious Hambletonian with Jersey-bred Market Share. She began her career by working summers at the stables at Roosevelt Raceway in Westbury, NY. During her career, she worked with veteran trainer Buddy Regan and Hall of Famers Buddy Gilmour and John Campbell.



Dr. Karyn Malinowski, Rutgers Equine Science Center (left) & Agriculture Secretary Doug Fisher (right) present the Governor’s Cup to Linda Toscano. (photo CHodes)



Secretary of Agriculture Award for New Jersey-bred Thoroughbred Horse of the Year: *Javerre*. Owned by Smith Farm & Stable and trained by Cal Lynch, Javerre was a winner of four of his seven starts this year. He won his first three races of the year at Monmouth Park, quickly becoming one of the more talked about horses during the early portion of the 2012 Monmouth Park meet. The son of Outflanker captured the \$60,000 NJ Breeder’s Handicap on September 15 at Monmouth Park in his fifth start. Bred in New Jersey by Gunsmith Stables, Javerre finished the year with \$158,170 in earnings. Javerre is the product of a NJ broodmare family bred by Gunsmith Stables that goes back to the multiple graded stakes winner, Avie’s Fancy. Avie’s Fancy, the third dam of Javerre, earned \$402,909 during her career.

New Jersey Agricultural Achievement Award: Kristie VonThun, Monmouth Junction. VonThun was awarded a \$500 scholarship, sponsored by Amy Butewicz, a former New Jersey Equestrian of the Year who wanted to give back to the community. She was selected based upon her essay, which answered the question: “How has your involvement within 4-H helped to shape your future career choice?”

Rutgers Master Gardeners of Monmouth County Class of 2012 Graduation



The Rutgers Master Gardeners of Monmouth County celebrated the accomplishments of their 14th class on January 23rd at Hominy Hill. The interns volunteered over 2,800 hours, and over 3,000 lbs of produce from the 'Plant a Row for the Hungry' garden grown and donated to local food pantries.

Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting 2013 held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Monmouth County

Over 130 farmers & ag interests attended an exciting, informative and social conference on Feb. 15 at the Freehold Ag Building.



Sustaining Farming on the Urban Fringe



High Farmland Value—Low Farmland Rent Unintended Consequence

Jack Rabin, Assoc. Dir.—Farm Programs

A commonly held opinion is that high farmland prices are a formidable barrier to those wishing to enter farming. This month, we discuss how extraordinarily high New Jersey farmland prices—among the highest in the US—became coupled to low cost leasing. These conditions may offer a ‘silver lining’ opportunity for individuals who desire to enter the profession of farming, and to society, which values farmland stewardship. Bob Bruch, retired NJ Department of Ag, describes a NJ phenomenon he calls *reverse rent*, in which owners provide highly attractive lease terms to farmers. Rent may be for near the cost of Farmland Tax Assessment (FTA), near zero, or owners may even pay to have their land actively farmed to maintain FTA. These terms are uncommon in other farming regions. They are the externalities—the unintended consequences—of FTA, without which there would likely be no commercial farming remaining in NJ. Society benefits because FTA land remains actively farmed open space.

Table 1 (see p. 5) shows that farmland ownership in NJ requires investment capital beyond the reach of new farmers. Even with nearby customers, New Jersey’s extraordinary high land values present a unique disadvantage for farmland purchases by new farmers.

Policies Lead to Unintended Consequences 50 years of New Jersey policies have attempted to address pressures on loss of farmland and loss of farming from urbanization, and the reduced quality of life sprawl brings to all residents and taxpayers. These include a combination of FTA, Farmland Preservation, Right-to-Farm, and insidious downzoning ordinances or “environmental takings” regulations.

Opportunities for Growers

Despite high purchase prices for farmland, there are compelling low cost opportunities to enter farming by leasing; taking advantage of the requirement on land-owners to maintain FTA. There are thousands of acres of

preserved farmland held by public and private organizations whose goals include maintaining access to productive working farmland.

Make Lease Terms Attractive & Cheap

Owners of preserved NJ farmland, especially public or not-for-profit owners, should offer generously flexible and longer-term (not annual) lease terms if they want to attract working farmers. Owners should resist the temptation to overly proscribe farming practices in lease terms. In suburban New England communities, where the effects of urban fringe cultivated land abandonment are widespread, conservation groups, communities, and other public farmland owners frequently offer below market \$1 per acre “reverse rent” leases. This is one method they use to get farmland moving back in the direction of working farms and economically contributing to surrounding communities. Below market “reverse rent” leasing will likely be required here to entice active husbandry by new farmers. Low leasing rates offer new or part-time farmers the opportunities to work hard, sacrifice, and save. They can generate cash income without mortgage debt service, begin accumulating equipment, and go through the farming learning curve with lower risk on leased land.

Benefits to Society

For societal benefits of stewardship to emerge, public and private farmland owners need to offer attractive 5-year and longer leases. Why long leases? Farmers’ incentives to sustainably improve productivity on leased land are lower than on land they own. As former Secretary of the Treasury and Harvard President Larry Summers humorously explained, “No one in the history of the world ever washed a rented car.” Why? Because they don’t own it. Summers knows that farmers who don’t own their land won’t worry about depleting soil. Preserving someone else’s long-term value is not as important to them as preserving their own short-term viability.

Table 1. USDA 2012 and 2008 cropland average value per acre in NJ and approx. 20 states with significant urban fringe production for comparison.

State	2012 Cropland Value/A \$	2008 Cropland Value/A \$	2008 Avg. Cash Rent \$
NJ	12,300	15,600	irrig. is higher 53
CA	9,810	9,880	irrig. 360
AZ	8,500	11,500	irrig. 180
DE	7,800	9,800	72
IA	7,300	4,260	170
MD	7,000	7,800	67
NE states (composite of CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)	6,940	7,930	
IL	6,800	4,850	163
FL	5,730	6,980	40
PA	5,650	6,000	55
VA	4,700	5,350	41
MI	4,000	3,480	78
WV	3,500	3,800	28
NY	2,600	2,150	42
OR	2,510	2,380	irrig. 195
WA	2,230	1,830	irrig. 250
US Average	3,550	2,760	86
NE Avg.	5,260	5,590	52

AGENCY UPDATES

POSITION:

County 4-H Agent, Monmouth County Department of 4-H Youth Development
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

LOCATION: Freehold, NJ (Monmouth County)

AVAILABLE: August 1, 2013

<http://www.njaes.rutgers.edu/jobs/>



Agricultural Recycling Services Inc.

Waste Consultants & Procurement Specialists

Serving all of New Jersey and surrounding states
Facility is located in Atlantic county NJ 08330

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Frank: 917-477-5812

ARRecycling@yahoo.com

USDA Finalizes New Microloan Program

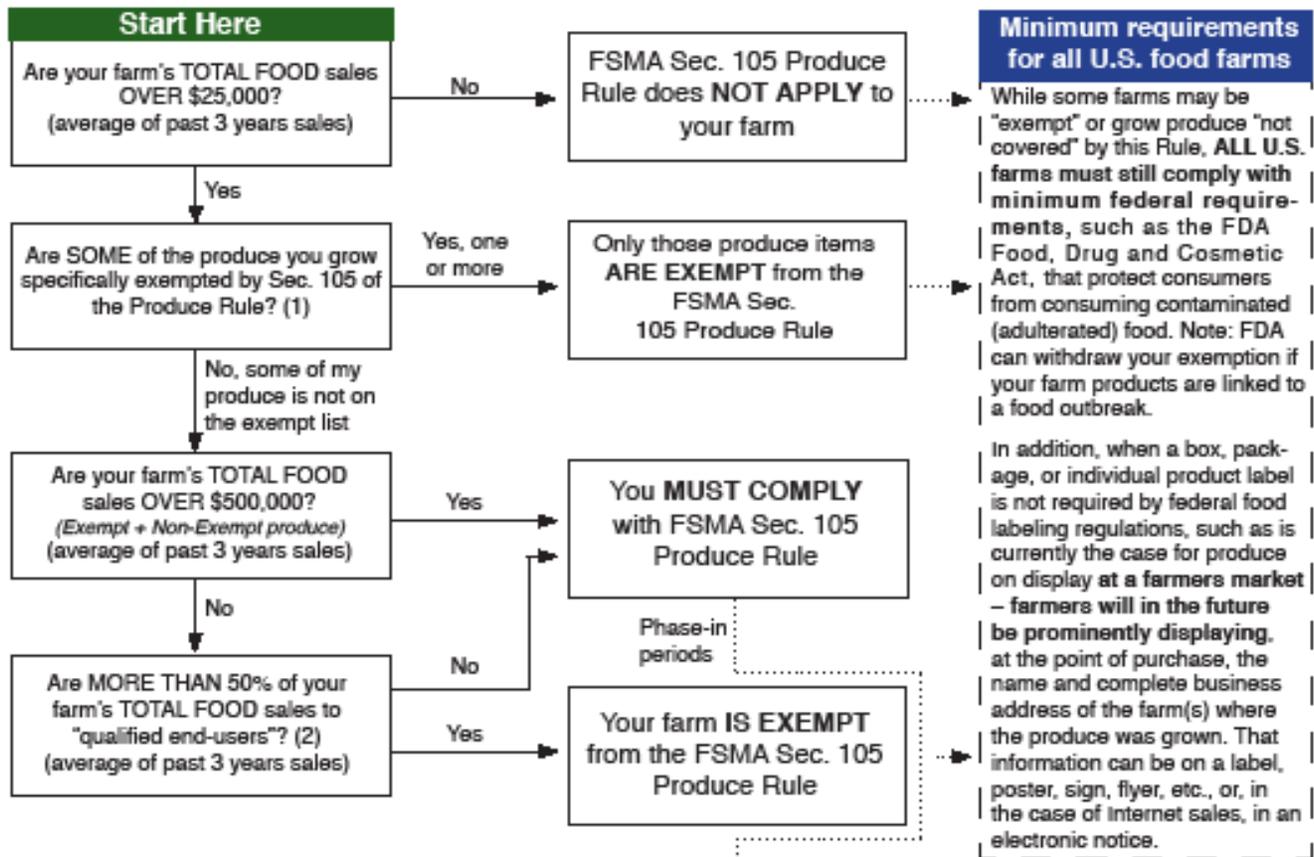
Microloans up to \$35,000 aim to assist small farmers, veterans, and disadvantaged producers

MEMPHIS, Jan. 15, 2013—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced a new microloan program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) designed to help small and family operations, beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers secure loans under \$35,000. The new microloan program is aimed at bolstering the progress of producers through their start-up years by providing needed resources and helping to increase equity so that farmers may eventually graduate to commercial credit and expand their operations. **Contact: Office of Communications 202-720-4623**

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act

PROPOSED - Sec. 105 Produce Rule - Compliance Decision Tree for U.S. Growers of Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Mushrooms, Herbs, or Sprouts

Attention. Being "exempt" or growing produce that is "not covered" in the regulation does not automatically result in exemption from the marketplace or buyer requirements. Farmers' market managers or others, for example, could require GAPs, third party audits, and/or adherence to the regulation for vendors or suppliers. Visit the Produce Safety Alliance website to find GAPs educators in your state who can help you implement food safety practices to meet GAP requirements (www.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu).



Compliance Phase-in Scope and Timing

The amount of time farmers have to begin complying with the Produce Rule depends on the dollar amount of **TOTAL FOOD sales** from that farm each year:

Very Small Businesses—a very small business is defined as having, on a rolling basis, an average annual monetary value of food sold during the previous three years of no more than \$250,000. These farms would have **four years after the effective date** to comply; for some of the water requirements, they would have six years.

Small Businesses—a small business is defined as having, on a rolling basis, an average annual monetary value of food sold during the previous three years of no more than \$500,000. These farms would have **three years after the effective date** to comply; for some of the water requirements, they would have five years.

Other Businesses—other businesses would have to comply **two years after the effective date**. For some of the water requirements, they would have four years to comply.

Notes:

(1) **Exempt produce** includes produce that receives commercial processing that adequately reduces the presence of microorganisms of public health significance (e.g., green beans that will be canned) or that is rarely consumed raw, specifically arrowhead, arrowroot, artichokes, asparagus, beets, black-eyed peas, bok choy, brussels sprouts, chick-peas, collard greens, crab apples, cranberries, eggplant, figs, ginger root, kale, kidney beans, lentils, lima beans, okra, parsnips, peanuts, pinto beans, plantains, potatoes, pumpkin, rhubarb, rutabaga, sugar beet, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, taro, turnips, water chestnuts, winter squash (acorn and butternut squash), and yams.

(2) A **qualified end-user** is either (a) the consumer of the food or (b) a restaurant or retail food establishment that is located in the same state or, if located out of state, no more than 275 miles away from the farm.



Saturday, April 27
10 a.m.–4 p.m.

<http://rutgersday.rutgers.edu/>

Calendar

April 2013

19 - Farm Food Safety: What Every Farmer Needs to Know, Mercer Cty Ext, 930 Spruce St., Trenton. NOFA members \$45; non-members \$55. Info call 908-371-1111 x4.

24 - FFA—Agri-Science Fair - 3:15 Rutgers Eco-Complex

27 - Ag Field Day - Rutgers event –Cook Campus all day.

May 2013

1 - Crop Insurance Deadline for NJ Nursery. (see below for details)

14-15 - NJ Ag Agents Retreat AAANJ. Stokes State Forest. Call Bill 732-431-7260 X7278

4 - NJ-Enviro-thon Sustainable Management, Camp Kettle Run, Medford, NJ

17-18 - Master Gardener Plant Sale. 4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold. Fri. 9-5; Sat. 9-3. Info 732-303-7614

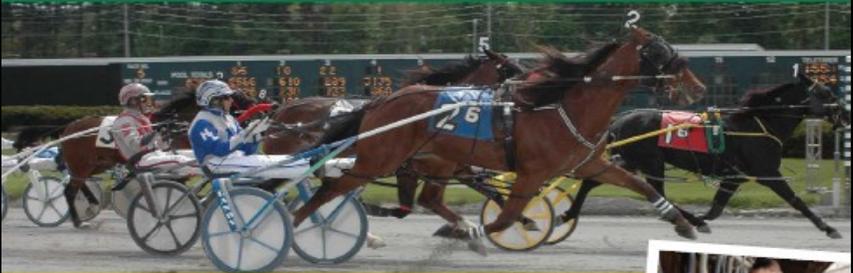
July 2013

24-28 Monmouth County Fair—Freehold NJ, Wed.-Sat 5 to 11 PM; Sun 11 to 6 PM.

Crop Insurance Deadline for NJ Nursery

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) announces NJ nursery producers should be aware that the **final date** for a new applicant to apply for 2014 nursery crop insurance is **May 1, 2013**. New applications for crop year 2014 may be accepted until May 1, 2013, with coverage beginning 30 days afterwards.

COMING TO FREEHOLD RACEWAY . . .



SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

Bring the Family!

- Great Food
- Fun Family Activities
- Live Music & Fireworks
- Entertainment
- Celebrity Amateur Races
- Demonstrations
- Educational Exhibits
- Tailgate Spaces
- Under-Saddle Races
- Car Show & Petting Zoo

And Much More!

**2nd ANNUAL
OPEN SPACE PACE
PARADE &
FESTIVAL**

Live Music & Racing



Medieval Times Performances




Parade of Horses
Down Main Street
Freehold Boro to Freehold Raceway
Begins at 10:00 a.m.

All Events Will Follow Throughout the Day
At Freehold Raceway



OpenSpacePACE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OR TO BECOME A CORPORATE SPONSOR VISIT:
www.OpenSpacePace.com/events

MONMOUTH COUNTY BOA

4/16, 5/21, 6/18

PESTICIDE CONTROL PROGRAM

WEBSITE www.pcpnj.org

BASIC PESTICIDE TRAINING

CORE 9 am - 1 pm - 3/16, 5/7, 6/4

To register call 800-524-9942

Held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Building

4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260

*Changing Times is produced and edited by Bill Sciarappa and Vivian Quinn
sciarappa@njaes.rutgers.edu*

Past Issues on the web <http://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?id=3078>

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MONMOUTH COUNTY

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

PO Box 5033, 4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728

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**Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent
Extension Department Head**

Photos: R. Chodosh, B. Sciarappa

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New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

RUTGERS

Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County
4000 Kozloski Road
PO Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033

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Christie Administration Celebrates June as Month of the Horse



Secretary Fisher with Monmouth County Dep. Director Serena DiMaso, Freeholder Lillian Burry, Bix Dimeo & Mayor Nancy Grbelja



Secretary Fisher riding Bettors Edge with Linda Toscano

A kickoff celebration for the Month of the Horse occurred June 11, 2013 at Showplace Farms, a harness-racing training facility. Among attendees were New Jersey **Secretary of Agriculture, Douglas H. Fisher**, **Farm Bureau President Ryck Suydam**, **Freeholder Deputy Director Serena DiMaso**, **Freeholder Lillian Burry**, Millstone Township **Mayor Nancy Grbelja** and **Bix Dimeo**, **Showplace Farms** General Manager. The finale of the event was Secretary Fisher riding around the farm's 1,000 meter track in a jog cart with Linda Toscano, a trainer at the facility.

Showplace Farms is one of the leading harness-racing training and rehabilitation service facilities for Standardbred horses in New Jersey. Worth over \$20 million with almost **400 horses**, it is the site of training for many accomplished harness-racing trainers and horses. Bix Dimeo, states: "At Showplace, we strive to create a **premier facility** for those in the Standardbred industry and provide them with what they will need to continue to train Standardbreds in New Jersey."

(Continued on page 3)

Happy Horse Month!

The **Monmouth County Library** held a program in honor of **Horse Month in New Jersey**. Our state animal was the featured topic for a panel discussion on the Standardbred horse industry in Monmouth County. This event was held at the county library headquarters in Manalapan, Monday evening June 17th. Before the panel discussion, visitors were greeted at the entrance by **Indy**, a **champion standardbred** also known as Independent Act and owned by **Suzanne D 'Ambrose**. Indy wowed the crowd with a striking appearance and a gentle and friendly demeanor. The children loved to touch his beautiful coat, feed some carrots, pet the gelding and "talk" to the equine star.



The program began with some casual socialization and networking. Featured panelists included **Harriet Honigfeld, Administrator** of the Monmouth County Farmland Preservation program; **Sam Landy, Esq. President** of the Open Space Pace and owner/breeder of Congress Hill Farms; **President Tom Luchento** of the Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association of New Jersey and Dr. **Karyn Malinowski, Director** of the Rutgers Equine Science Center. **Moderator, Bill Sciarappa Rutgers Ag & Resource Management Agent**, structured a list of pertinent issues for the session. Harriet Honigfeld began with an overview of the open space effort in Monmouth

(Continued on page 2)



Upper L to R: Mayor Grbelja, Indy & owner Suzanne D'Ambrose; Freeholder Burry, Sam Landy, Don Burry, Brett Taft, Indy & Suzanne D'Ambrose
 Lower Left L to R: Panel: Harriet Honigfeld, Sam Landy, Tom Luchento, Dr. Karyn Malinowski; Lower right L to R: Horse Festival leaders Taft & Landy, Head Librarian Mary Jane Kehoe, Moderator Bill Sciarappa & Equine Science Center Director Karyn Malinowski

(Continued from page 1)

County in terms of acreage and expansion as well as the enjoyment and aesthetic value of horse farms. Tom and Sam used their longterm experience in giving an overview of the history of Standardbreds in NJ as well as an up-to-date explanation of current times that have sharply changed due to legal and regulatory mandates. Karyn provided important statistics on how important this Equine industry is to economic development of our state, especially in regards to employment numbers and revenue generation of over **1 billion dollars per year**. **Freeholder Lillian Burry and Mayor Nancy Grbelja** spoke of the difficult political issues and competing interests by the casino industry. Nonetheless, their zeal to continue this "fight" was very evident.

Even though other nearby states like Pennsylvania and New York have thrived with their conversion to racinos with their gaming devices, New Jersey has not taken this important step. This extra economic boost leads to sharply higher purses to the racers which then causes migration of breeding horses and farmers from NJ to those competing states. The flood of our valuable

Equine Industry in moving to more supportive states continues to increase. Our group spent considerable time in discussing ways to regrow and recapture our fair share. Several ways to gather support were simply political activism and action in talking with government representatives and stressing the advantages brought by equine operation to the economy and the tax base. Additionally, the environmental advantages of ag-land use and open space in areas dominated by horse and hay farms that store drinking or irrigation water. Vince Dominion, a member of the **Monmouth County Steering Committee** for the **Master Plan** said many of these points will be emphasized in an upcoming version. The lively audience had a slew of pertinent questions such as the struggles of young owners, how to get engaged, evolve approaches to new racing audiences, etc. and the panel responded with some solid suggestions. One educative outreach event is scheduled for **September 21, 2013** at Freehold raceway – The Open Space Pace and Horse Festival – now a state approved county agricultural fair (see the following page) and website www.openspacepace.org Please save the date and come and join the celebration.

Bill Sciarappa

NJ's Newest County **AG FAIR!**

COMING TO FREEHOLD RACEWAY . . .



SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

Bring the Family!

- Great Food
- Fun Family Activities
- Live Music & Fireworks
- Entertainment
- Celebrity Amateur Races
- Demonstrations
- Educational Exhibits
- Tailgate Spaces
- Under-Saddle Races
- Car Show & Petting Zoo

And Much More!

**2nd ANNUAL
OPEN SPACE PACE
PARADE &
FESTIVAL**

*Live Music &
Racing*

Parade of Horses
Down Main Street
Freehold Boro to Freehold Raceway
Begins at 10:00 a.m.

*Medieval Times
Performances*

All Events Will Follow Throughout the Day
At Freehold Raceway

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OR TO BECOME A CORPORATE SPONSOR VISIT:
www.OpenSpacePace.com/events

OpenSpace **PACE**
A New Jersey Non-Profit Organization

(Continued from page 1)

The equine industry is a major component in today's economy, especially that in New Jersey. It has been estimated by **Rutgers Equine Science Center** that the equine industry in New Jersey is worth about **\$4 billion**, creating a profit of about \$1.1 billion each year. In fact, according to Governor Christie, New Jersey-sired Standardbreds are recognized for their high quality internationally. In New Jersey alone, there are 7,200 equine facilities housing more than 42,500 equine animals. Secretary Fisher stated that New Jersey was home to various

high-quality equine facilities, including The United States Equestrian Foundation. It is important to support this industry, as it benefits not only our state economy, but according to Secretary Fisher, makes New Jersey a **"special place to live and visit."**

For more information on the NJ Department of Agriculture's equine programs, visit the Jersey Equine website at <http://www.jerseyequine.nj.gov>

Vivian Quinn & Rebecca Barrisi

MY INTERNSHIP AT RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Rebecca Barresi—Biotechnology High School

The past couple of weeks, I had the pleasure of interning for the Monmouth County Rutgers Cooperative Extension office. A key aspect of the curriculum for a senior at **Biotechnology High School** is to participate in an internship at a company of their choice; this ultimately allows students to take knowledge acquired over the past four years and apply it while working in a field that fits their career interest.



Biotechnology High School, located in Freehold, NJ, is part of the Monmouth County Vocational School District. It was recently ranked as the **#8 high school in the nation and #1 in the state (US News)**. This high school is also an International Baccalaureate World School, in which students participate in a rigorous curriculum over the course of two years in order to earn an IB diploma. Students at Biotechnology High School strive to play an active role in their community.

Biotechnology High School also has an active **FFA** chapter, in which most people recognize for members' participation in the **Agriscience Fair and Career Development Events**. With over **70 active members**, this chapter is



BTHS FFA in Indianapolis

anything but boring. It has participated in both state and national level Agriscience Fairs and the **Veterinary Science Career Development Event**. In addition to attending NJ state convention on Rutgers' Cook Campus, members traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, to attend national convention. The BTHS FFA chapter has also worked closely with other Monmouth County **FFA chapters to prepare for the annual Monmouth County Board of Agriculture dinner**. Here, the officers of the BTHS chapter interacted with members of the board, such as Rutgers Ag Agents and the NJ Secretary of Agriculture. After maintaining **the role of president of this chapter for the past two years**, I am proud of what our chapter has blossomed into and its involvement in the community.

The past couple of weeks at the RCE office have been enriched with various tasks that both strengthened the knowledge I previously acquired and allowed me to learn new skills. I participated in various jobs, such as studying the microbiology present in different soil samples; by doing so, I learned how to obtain a soil sample, completed a



Soil Sampling

Solvita Soil Respiration Test to determine the microbial activity of the sample, and analyzed and applied results. In doing this, I was able to help the RCE office jumpstart its own service to conduct the Solvita Soil Test on site. I also completed water sampling and testing of various streams in the **Colts Neck Watershed**. From this, we were able to study the water's pH, dissolved oxygen levels, nitrate levels, ammonia levels, and more.

From extending knowledge while planting a vegetable garden with students at Bolger Middle School in Keansburg to learning new information from various seminars to even **meeting the NJ Secretary of Agriculture**, I can confidently say that this internship has not only been filled with real-life applications of what I have learned throughout my educational career, but has also been the best in allowing a **hands-on approach in teaching**.



Working at Bolger Middle School

NEW SOIL HEALTH TEST AT RCE MONMOUTH COUNTY

Bill Sciarappa, Ag Agent

Our Agricultural and Resource Management group of Rutgers Cooperative Extension in Freehold has begun assessing the utility of a new type of soil evaluation. The process is called the **Solvita Soil Respiration test** which is designed to assess the biological soil health of farmlands. Most of our standard soil tests measure the physical and chemical components of farm soils but do not take into account the microbial contributions such as nitrogen production through the conversion of carbon pools /organic matter in the soil. These traditional tests are used to make soil management recommendations based on the nutritional needs of the plant, but they do not figure in the untapped reservoir that may be freely obtained in healthy soils. With the high price of synthetic fertilizer, especially for nitrogen derived from petrochemical sources, it is more economical than ever to precisely apply the correct amount of nutrients.

A recent study by the **USDA-NRCS of 4100 farms** throughout the United States showed that less than half of the nitrogen utilized by the crops came from external synthetic application while the larger half came from the naturally produced reserve of a healthy soil. Furthermore, this **biological N** was highly correlated with water-soluble organic carbon as these two organic pools are basic sources of plant nutrition, growth, and health.

Keys to creating and maintaining healthy soils are keeping the soil covered throughout the year, disturbing the soil as little as possible, using cover crops, applying compost and rotating crops. These investments can lead to long-term financial savings by increasing this supply of **natural capital**. We are not completely sure how depleted or how healthy our farm soils are in New Jersey. This new soil health test from Solvita Systems (<http://solvita.com>) shows promise in providing a relatively simple approach to gathering more information.



We plan to use this new system in various ways such as:

- To survey the biological status of county soils.
- To monitor soil cropping techniques and determine their effects on overall soil health.
- To estimate potential nitrogen mineralization for adjustment of fertilizer recommendations.
- To determine any potential cost savings.

This May and June, our team began a general survey from **15 selected farms** in our area growing blueberries, tomatoes, sweet corn, field corn, strawberries and pastures. We trained at the Rutgers soil lab under **Director Stephanie Murphy**. Then we purchased our own Solvita system that is working out quite well in our Freehold Office. Our aim this season is to continue surveying farm soils used to grow small fruit, agronomic crops, specialty vegetables, pasture, hay, turf, bioenergy crops and composted materials. Hopefully this research project will allow us to get an ex-



Director Murphy demonstrates soil test

expanded overview as to the soil situation of local farms or cropping operations as well as fine tune our sampling and analysis methods. Basically, random soil samples are taken with a standard soil probe and the samples are dried. This causes the soil microbes to go dormant. The soils are then rewetted which revitalizes the microbial population leading to a **carbon dioxide burst** from their increased respiration known as a CO2 burst. Measurements of this gaseous release are made with a color sensitive gel probe and digital color reader - left side photo. The carbon dioxide production is proportional to the microbial biomass and potential carbon to nitrogen mineralization. **Biological nitrogen** is more slowly released by microbial action and is as not nearly as subject to leaching as soluble N is highly subject to; such as synthetic nitrate/urea. We hope to report on our findings after the season and if feasible we may pursue a low cost or no-cost service to our Central Jersey farmers. In any event, our take home message is always to utilize **best ag practices in building healthy soils**.

AGENCY UPDATES



<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/bulletins/7f74bd>



2012 CROP PRODUCTION RECORDS DUE JULY 15, 2013

While the deadline to file an application for payment for the 2012 NAP program and to provide production for the 2012 crop year is July 15, 2013, we are requesting that program participants provide their production no later than June 30, 2013 to allow time for our staff to complete and process the necessary your paper work.

ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES

Deadlines for farmers' FSA acreage report.

Nursery Crops for 2014 Crop Year - **May 31, 2013**

Spring Seeded Forage - **June 15, 2013** (This year you will have until the next business day, **June 17, 2013**)

All Other Crops - **July 15, 2013**

Processing Beans and CRP - **August 15, 2013**

Christmas Trees, Sod, Cut Flowers for 2014 Crop Year - **September 30, 2013**

FARMING OPERATION CHANGES AND RECONSTITUTIONS

If you have bought or sold land, or you have added or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. Failure to maintain

accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties.

Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so that records can be kept current and accurate. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

The following are methods used when doing a farm recon:

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least 3 years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

Note - Reconstitutions must be requested by August 1 of the FY for farms subject to DCP.

Retail Farm Market Employee Professional Development On-line - Penn State Extension (USDA/NIFA Award #2010-49200-06201)

This educational material is designed for people that market through a CSA, Farmers' Markets stand, and On-Farm Markets. This on-line education is part of a full day workshop that provides employees with knowledge and skills for responding to preserving product quality and serving customer needs. If you missed this full day workshop, here is a chance to enhance your direct-to-consumer farm marketing skills.

Topics include: Produce Handling and Quality, Produce Merchandising, Customer Service, Sanitation.

The materials are designed to address the science of produce and the art of retail marketing. From the workshops delivered this spring we find this material is appropriate for new employee training and as a refresher for existing employees. Five brief on-line videos are available at no fee. You can use them as your and your employees schedule permits. To take advantage of this unique training opportunity, visit:

<http://www.youtube.com/psufoodandfarmbiz>

10-DVD Greenhouse Tomato Grower's Survival Kit Mississippi State University Extension

A complete 10-DVD Greenhouse Tomato Grower's Survival Kit is available to help greenhouse vegetable growers succeed in the business of raising high quality tomatoes and other greenhouse vegetables. The 10 DVD's include all of the speakers and presentations from a 3 day Greenhouse Tomato Short Course.

The Greenhouse Tomato Short Course is a national conference with growers and exhibitors participating from over 25 states, Canada and other countries. For more information visit: <http://greenhousetomatoes.com>. This is your chance to see what you missed and to have reference materials at your fingertips to help you succeed.

To order DVD set, send \$75.00 check or money order (no credit cards) to Dr. Richard G. Snyder, Prof. & Veg. Specialist, Mississippi State Univ., PO Box 231, Crystal Springs, MS 39059.

CALENDAR

July 2013

16-Direct Marketing Twilight Mtg. 7 PM. Duffield's Farm Market. www.duffieldsfarm.com

24-28 Monmouth County Fair—Freehold NJ, Wed.-Sat 5 to 11 PM; Sun 11 to 6 PM.

24 - Rutgers Equine Science Center Open House - 10 am-12, Red Barn, college farm Rd. Tiffany Cody 848-932-9419 cody@njaes.rutgers.edu

30-31 - Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Days Hort Farm II, New Brunswick. 973-812-6467 or www.njturfgrass.org Pesticide credits available.

August 2013

28—Annual Rutgers Great Tomato Tasting, Pittstown NJ. 908-730-7419 <http://snyderfarm.rutgers.edu/tomatoes.html>

September 2013

16-19 - National Meeting Ag Agents - NACAA, Pittsburgh

21 - Open Space Pace Festival of Horses - Freehold Raceway. www.openspacepace.com/events



<http://www.monmouthcountyparks.com/page.aspx?>



Welcome to the Monmouth County Fair!

*Presented by the Monmouth County Park System
in cooperation with the Monmouth County 4-H Association*

The Original Monmouth County Agricultural Fair

2013 Fair is July 24-28
Wednesday-Saturday from 5-11pm
Sunday from 11am-6pm

East Freehold Showgrounds
Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ

Admission \$7 Children 12 & Under Free



ANNUAL RUTGERS GREAT TOMATO TASTING

Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013—3 pm to dusk

Snyder Farm, Pittstown, NJ

908-730-9419

<http://snyderfarm.rutgers.edu/tomatoes>



<http://njveg.rutgers.edu/>

MONMOUTH COUNTY BOA

9-17, 10,15, 11-19

BASIC PESTICIDE TRAINING

CORE 9 am - 1 pm -

To register call 800-524-9942

Held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Bldg.

4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260

PESTICIDE CONTROL PROGRAM

WEBSITE www.pcpnj.org

*Changing Times is produced and edited by Bill Sciarappa and Vivian Quinn
sciarappa@njaes.rutgers.edu*

Past Issues on the web <http://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?id=3078>

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MONMOUTH COUNTY

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Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent
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Photos: V. Quinn, R. Chodosh, B. Sciarappa, R. Barrisi

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Northeast Cooperative Extension Directors Honor Rutgers Program

A Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension program designed to conduct research and outreach programming on the marketing and production potential of new ethnic crops for East Coast farmers was honored at the annual meeting of the Northeast Extension Directors held July 8 at Cornell University.

The program, *An Integrated Multistate Research and Extension Program Identifying Potential Consumer Demand, Production Opportunities and Barriers to Adoption of Ethnic Crops as Alternatives for East Coast Farmers* received the **2012 Award of Excellence**, the highest award presented by the Directors of Extension in the Northeast.

The award recognizes extension outreach programming that has achieved outstanding accomplishments, results and impacts in addressing contemporary issues. **Rick VanVranken, agricultural agent**, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County, accepted the award on behalf of the Ethnic Produce Production and Marketing Working Group (EPPMWG). In addition to VanVranken, the Rutgers members of the working group include Ramu Govindasamy, professor and marketing specialist in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics (DAFRE); James Simon, professor in



the Department of Plant Biology and Pathology and director, New Use Agriculture and Natural Plant Products Program (NUANPP) at Rutgers; Albert Ayeni, instructor, Plant Biology and Pathology; Tom Orton, extension specialist in horticulture at Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center; Brian Schilling, assistant extension specialist, DAFRE; Chung Park with NUANPP; as well as agricultural and resource management agents William Sciarappa (Monmouth County); Peter Nitzsche (Morris County); and Stephen Komar (Sussex County).

(Continued on p. 2)

The Open Space Pace – an exciting & new County Fair by Bugler Bill Sciarappa

The 2013 Festival of Horses packed the parade route on Main street in downtown Freehold on the morning of September 21. In the afternoon, The Open Space Event drew 4,500 attendees at the Freehold Raceway. As an inaugural Agricultural Fair, this outreach program focused on assisting the struggling equine farm industry and preserving open space in New Jersey.

Event leader and retired harness racer Sam Landy, led the charge and was assisted in planning and



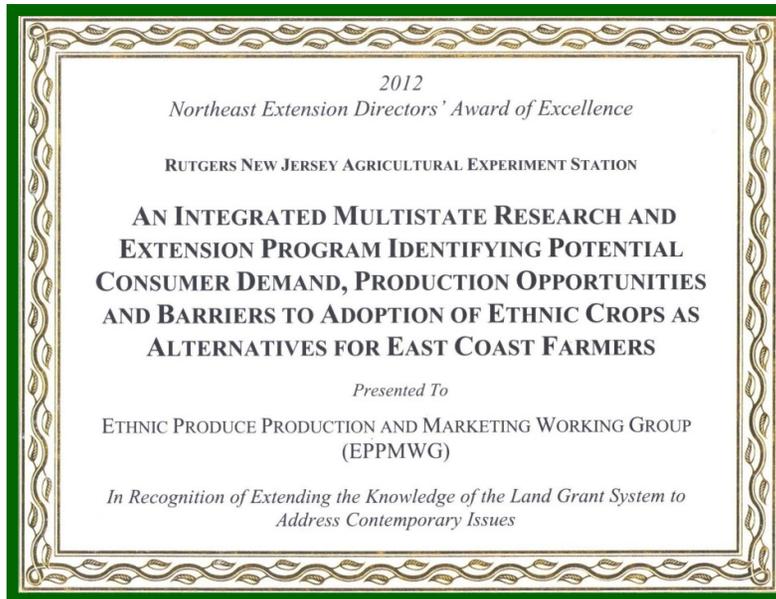
implementation by numerous partners including the Equine Science Center, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County, the Monmouth County Board of Agriculture and our Freeholders. Grand Marshall-Freeholder Lillian Burry with Sam Landy on horseback led the parade that started in front of the Hall of Records. Announcer/Mayor Nancy Grbelja accompanied by Freeholder Director Tom Arnone, Secretary of Agriculture Doug Fisher, Assemblyman Ron Dancer, and several other distin-

(Continued on page 2)

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The EPPMWG is a multi-state, multidisciplinary team of extension agents, specialists and researchers from **Rutgers, the University of Massachusetts, Cornell, Penn State and University of Florida.**

Ethnic communities in the Northeast offer opportunities for entrepreneurial farmers to grow unique crops. Evolving from a call to address the “Nuances of Marketing Ethnic Produce” for the Mid-Atlantic Direct Marketing Conference in the late 1990s, an Ethnic Produce Production and Marketing Working Group was established to identify and quantify opportu-



nities and barriers to the adoption of ethnic crops as alternatives for East Coast farmers.

The EPPMWG has secured more than \$2.3 million to conduct research and implement outreach programs relating to ethnic produce. Collectively, on ethnic produce alone, this diverse group has to its credit **50 refereed journal articles, 14 extension publications**, eight peer reviewed abstracts, three

conference proceedings, three edited books, 17 edited book chapters, 77 presentations, 12 posters, 20 abstracts in proceedings, four trade journal articles and six newsletter articles. The working group has also established the WorldCrops.org

(Continued from page 1)

guished guests amped up the crowd with their comments. Miss NJ Rodeo Amanda Thompson sang a beautiful version of the Star Spangled banner and Ag agent / Bugler Bill Sciarappa tooted , “First Call” to begin the march to the race track.

The talented Freehold Township Marching Band composed of 130 musicians, color guard, and twirlers led by Band Director, Ed Gattsek entertained the crowd along the way and then provided an energetic 20 minute set at the track - WOW – What a performance!

A total of \$26,000 was donated to OPEN SPACE worthy charitable organizations such as 4-H Youth Development, Scouting groups, Equine clubs etc. A dozen educational booths complimented the open space theme such as provided by the Equine Science Center Director, Karyn Malinowski, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, The Board of Agriculture, NJ Department of Agriculture, Farm Bureau and the Master Gardeners of Monmouth County.

The Gardeners also did extra special landscaping around the facilities as arranged by Director Dominick Mondini of the NJ Nursery and Landscape Association.

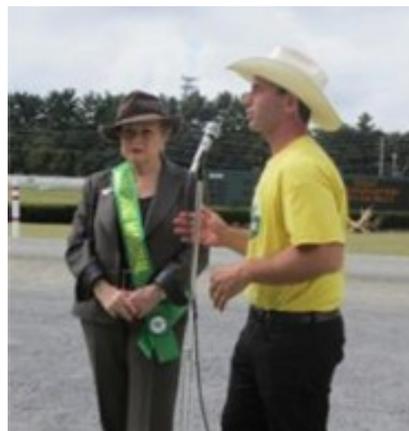
Celebrity races were held including radio DJ ESC Director Karyn Malinowski, Lou Rossi and the womens’ under saddle race for Breast Cancer. After the Open Space Pace race and regular races, Miss NJ Rodeo joined the first rock and roll group - The Eddie Testa Band - singing some current country hits and wailing away on some Janice Joplin tunes – worthy of winning American Idol! This special show was followed by R&B veteran Southside Johnny with a fabulous evening performance topped by a fireworks finale that really



rocked the town. What a great ending to a great day! Many thanks again to Freehold Racetrack, Freeholders, and the Sam Landy family. See some of the photo highlights of these key people on the open space team. Be sure to join in again next year in September 2014.



WOW!



MONMOUTH COUNTY FAIR 2013

This year the Monmouth County Fair had everything going for it. Unlike 2012, the weather was just about perfect for fairgoers and animals. The total attendance over five days was 84,000. Featured were the exciting rides, tasty food, shows and exhibits but at its heart, this showcase event was about local agriculture and farmers and people who live in Monmouth County.

New for 2013 were the presence of FFA members promoting their mission to support agricultural education and selling locally grown fruits and vegetables donated by local farmers. A visitor could buy their produce, leave at the tent and pick up on their way out. Fairgoers were very happy to purchase the Jersey Fresh produce which sold out every night, and these funds will greatly assist local youth and Ag programs. We look forward to seeing them again in 2014.

The Master Gardener display was entitled “Replant the Shore.” A team of Rutgers MGs “planted” appropriate seashore plants along the tent’s entrance path that led right up to the educational display, created from items “left” by Superstorm Sandy. Posters and handouts enhancing the theme were available for specific questions about what to plant at the shore post-Sandy.

The Home and Garden Tent featured high quality vegetables, flowers, baked goods, photography and art work entries from the people of Monmouth County. Judges select first, second and third places and ribbons were awarded. If you missed entering this year, your next opportunity will be July 23-27, 2014.

A complete list of winners can be found at <http://www.monmouthcountyparks.com/page.aspx?ID=4207>



Jersey Fresh Day at Bolger School, Keansburg

In celebration of Jersey Fresh foods, Rutgers 4-H, FCHS, Master Gardeners, and Ag Science staff collaborated on the Keansburg Afterschool Program “Jersey Fresh” Day. The staff conducted hands-on activities for parents and students. The workshops focused on the nature and makeup of bees, what’s killing them, pollination, varieties of honey and tasty recipes.



The highlight was a live presentation by Drew Madzin of “From the Garden, Inc.”, in West Freehold. Both parents and students were excited to see the bee hive, learn about the bees, and taste the Jersey Fresh honey provided by “From the Garden.”

Left: Pat Eiseman, Master Gardener, R. Virginia Krzyzanowski 4-H & Drew Madzin

MARITIME FOREST PLANTED AS NATURAL STORM PROTECTION

Bill Sciarappa, Ag Agent

In a very complex and demanding horticultural operation, MG volunteers and RCE staff provided essential supervision, knowledge and physical labor over a 3 day planting period in October. The 1 acre site aside Fletcher Lake in Bradley Beach transformed a dumpy, compacted parking lot into a beautiful mini-park that functions to reduce damage from ocean storms that create serious stormwater and sand surge that clogs the drainage system damage.

With sand dune berms and vegetative barriers of pines, cedars, junipers, maples, 15 different native shrubs and 5,000+ plugs of 3 beach grass species – this RCE team greatly assisted AECOM/Captain Al and partners like the BB Boro, Surfriders, COA. Planting the 200 lb. trees, staging the 1000's of other plants in 10 different sections with 3 walking paths and advising the 150+ novice volunteers were the key contributions of our extension landscape and horticultural crew. Many thanks to Dorsey Latza, John and Linda Bauer, Mary Hilscher, Kathleen MacGowan, Sandra McLaughlin, Ellen Simonetti, Ellen Brahney, Pete McIntyre and Bob Magovern. Special thank to Diane Larson and Vivian Quinn for coordination. What a great team!!!

If you get a chance- check it out – a real pilot project that, like our rain garden initiation, may lead to more public awareness and help in restoring our shore.

The main leader of this operation and colleague/friend - Captain Al Modjeski was one of our key supporters for our first rain garden specialist training session. Now the Captain has modified this horticultural concept into a living shoreline on steroids. Next Spring a similar (but smaller) maritime garden/forest is planned for Sylvan Lake - the southern waterbody between Bradley Beach and Avon. We'll be asking again for volunteers in the 2014 spring for this next exciting phase.



Environmentally, Bill Sciarappa

AGENCY UPDATES



<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/bulletins/7f74bd>



ASSISTANCE WITH ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COSTS

(TRENTON) – The New Jersey Department of Agriculture today reminded organic producers the deadline to apply for a federal grant to reduce organic certification costs is approaching. Through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program, each qualified producer of organic products is eligible for a reimbursement of up to 75 percent of its costs of certification not to exceed \$750. Certification costs include fees and charges levied by the certifying agent for certification activities.

To qualify for reimbursement under this program, an organic producer must have been certified or incurred expenses for the continuation of certification during the period of October 1, 2012 and September 30, 2013. Certification must be through a USDA-accredited certifying agent. In the event that demand exceeds the amount of funds allocated to New Jersey, applications will be processed on a first come, first served basis. Operations may receive one reimbursement per certification or category of certification per year.

Applications must be received by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture no later than November 19, 2013. Applications and more information about the program are available online at www.nj.gov/agriculture/grants/organiccostshare.html.

Please contact Debra McCluskey with any questions at (609) 984-2225 or Debra.McCluskey@ag.state.nj.us.

Organic Land Care Certificate Course

January 27, 28, 29, February 3 and 4, 2014
 (Snow date: February 5)
 8 AM – 5 PM
 Rutgers EcoComplex
 Bordentown, NJ

<http://njaes.rutgers.edu/>



Annie's Project New Jersey: Greenhouse Growers 6 Week Course

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cape May County
 Tuesday, Jan, 14 to Feb. 25, 2014 6 to 9 PM
 Rutgers Cooperative Extension Burlington County
 Westampton, NJ

For six weeks beginning January 14, 2014, a great group of women will meet, eat and share their similar experiences as they learn from experts across the state and nation. Create sustainable relationships with farm women, meet industry professionals and create a business plan to help ensure the success of your greenhouse business. We hope to see you there.

Offered by: Jenny Carleo, CMC Agricultural Agent.. For more info and to register: www.APNJGreenhouse.eventbrite.com

CALENDAR

November 2013

18-19 Farm Bureau Convention, Westin - Princeton
Call Farm House for details 609-393-7163.

19 - Basic Pesticide Training CORE Certification of Applicators & Operators (Bilingual). 732-932-9271.

December 2013

6 - Haygrove Owners Conference - 717-492-4955

www.tunnelbuzz.com

January 2014

14 - Feb. 26 - Annie's Project NJ - see p. 6

APNJGreenhouse.eventbrite.com

14-16 - Integrated Pest Management - Rutgers Continuing Education. Info 732-932-9271, email:

ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit www.cpe.rutgers.edu

21-23 - Empire State Fruit & Veg Expo - Syracuse, NY.

Info: Jeanette Marvin at nysvga@twcny.rr.com

25-26 - NOFA 2014 Annual Conference - Brookdale Community College www.nofanj.org

27 - Getting Started in Vegetable Production - Mid Atlantic Fruit & Vegetable Conf., Hershey Pa. (see right).

27, 28, 29 Feb. 3, 4 Organic Land Care Certificate

Course for Professionals - Bordentown, NJ

www.njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare

28 - Organic Turfgrass Management—Rutgers Continuing Education, 732-932-9271 or www.cpe.rutgers.edu

29—Pesticide Calibration (Session II), Rutgers Continuing Ed - 732-932-9271 or www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 2014

4-6 - NJ Agricultural Convention & Trade Show & Annual State Ag Convention—Taj Mahal, AC:

www.njveggies.org

21 - Central Jersey Vegetable Meeting - Ag Building,

Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260 x7280 Joanne

27 - MC BOA Dinner



Feb. 4-6, 2014 Taj Mahal

MID-ATLANTIC
fruit & vegetable convention

2014 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention

January 28 to 30

Hershey Lodge and Convention Center

The [Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention](http://www.mafvc.org/) has become the premier grower meeting in the Northeast combining three days of six or more concurrent [educational sessions](#) with a large industry [trade show](#) and numerous networking opportunities - all designed to enable fruit, vegetable and berry growers as well as direct marketers to stay on the cutting edge of their industries. About 2,200 persons from throughout the mid-Atlantic region and beyond gather each year at the [Hershey Lodge and Convention Center](#) for the Convention. For the 2014 Convention, the North American Raspberry and Blackberry Association and the Virginia State Horticultural Society will also be meeting in Hershey. [Registration](#) is open to all interested commercial fruit, vegetable and berry growers, direct marketers and allied industry personnel.



<http://www.mafvc.org/>



<http://njveg.rutgers.edu/>

*Changing Times is produced and edited by Bill Sciarappa and Vivian Quinn
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Past Issues on the web <http://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?id=3078>

MONMOUTH COUNTY BOA

11-12, 12-10, 1-15, 2-19, 3-18, 4-15, 5-20

BASIC PESTICIDE TRAINING

CORE 9 am - 1 pm—1-14, 2-11, 3-4, 3-18, 6-3

3A 1-28, 3-25, 4-22, 6-17, 9 AM—3 PM

3B 2-18, 3-11, 5-13 9 AM—3 PM

To register call 800-524-9942

Held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Ag Bldg.

4000 Kozloski Rd. Freehold, NJ 732-431-7260

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MONMOUTH COUNTY

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

PO Box 5033, 4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728

Rutgers Cooperative Extension— Agriculture, Family and Community Health 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, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political

Bill Sciarappa, County Agricultural Agent
Extension Department Head

Photos: V. Quinn, B. Sciarappa

New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

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