

Cultivating Cumberland

August-2011 VOL. 16, ISSUE 8



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FSA News

Plant & Pest Advisory Vegetable Alert!

Date: 07/20/11

Alert Author: Andy Wyenandt

Pest: Basil Downy mildew

Found: Downy mildew has been confirmed on sweet basil near Vineland, NJ in Atlantic and Cumberland County. These are the first confirmed reports of basil downy mildew in New Jersey this year.

Crop(s) at risk: all basil in New Jersey and surrounding region.

Potential impact: Significant losses will occur if not controlled properly

What growers should do:

Control of downy mildew begins with regular scouting, recognizing symptoms and weekly protectant fungicide applications. Now that downy mildew has been detected in NJ all basil growers should be scouting on a daily basis and should add a labeled downy mildew specific fungicide to their weekly fungicide program. Phosphite fungicides (FRAC code 33) have shown the best efficacy in trials at RAREC. Both ProPhyt and K-Phite have downy mildew labels under herbs. Actinovate (OMRI- approved) is also labeled for downy mildew control.

Please remember, all abandoned basil fields should be sprayed with gramoxone or disced under immediately after last harvest to kill the foliage! Abandoned fields left unattended after use will only serve as a source of inoculum for other fields.

If you suspect basil downy mildew on your farm, please contact your county agent or Andy Wyenandt

(856) 455-3100 ext 4144.

Public Health Advisory:**Foodborne Outbreak Potentially Associated With Papaya Distributed
by Agromod Produce, Inc.****Fast Facts**

- . The FDA is warning consumers not to eat papayas from Agromod Produce, Inc., a distributor in McAllen, Texas.
- . FDA and CDC are investigating 97 reported cases of Salmonella Agona, including 10 hospitalizations, in 23 states **including New Jersey** related to the consumption of papayas.
- . Agromod Produce, Inc. voluntarily recalled the papayas after FDA detected Salmonella matching the outbreak strain.
- . The elderly, infants and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness from Salmonella infection.
- . Consumers, retailers and others who have papayas from Agromod Produce, Inc. should discard them in a sealed container so people and animals, including wild animals, cannot eat them.
- . FDA and CDC investigations are ongoing.

What is the Problem?

The papayas were imported from Mexico, and may be linked to the reported cases of Salmonella Agona. Recent sampling by the FDA found the outbreak strain in two papaya samples: one collected at the Agromod Produce, Inc. location in McAllen, Texas, and one collected at the U.S. border destined for Agromod Produce, Inc. The shipments that tested positive with the outbreak strain were not distributed in the U.S. The FDA is working with Agromod Produce, Inc. to determine if previous shipments of potentially contaminated papaya could still be in U.S. commerce. Agromod Produce, Inc. is voluntarily recalling all papayas sold prior to July 23, 2011.

What are the Symptoms of Illness/Injury?

Most persons infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts four to seven days, and most persons recover without treatment. However, some individuals may require hospitalization from severe diarrhea. Salmonella infection may spread from the intestines to the blood stream and then to other body sites. It can cause death unless the person is treated promptly with antibiotics. The elderly, infants and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to become severely ill from Salmonella infection.

What Do Consumers and Healthcare Providers Need To Do?

Consumers should examine fresh papayas for Agromod brand stickers identified below and in the firm's press release. Consumers who have purchased papayas are also advised to check with the retailer to see if the papayas they purchased are among those affected, or throw the product away.

Consumers, retailers and others who have papayas from Agromod Produce, Inc. should throw them away in a sealed container so people and animals, including wild animals, cannot eat them.

Consumers who think they may have become ill from eating possibly contaminated papaya should consult their health care providers.

What Does the Product Look Like?

Agromod Produce, Inc. distributes the four brands of papayas whole and unprocessed: Yaya, Blondie, Mananita and Tastylicious. Receiving retailers or others may have further processed the papaya. It is recommended that consumers check with the retailer to see if any papaya available for purchase was distributed by Agromod Produce, Inc. Individual papayas at retail stores will bear specific Agromod stickers provided in the link below.

What is latest information on the illnesses?

A total of 97 individuals infected with the outbreak strain of Salmonella Agona have been reported from 23 states between January 1 and July 18, 2011. The number of ill persons identified in each state with the outbreak strain is as follows: Arkansas (1), Arizona (3), California (7), Colorado (1), Georgia (8), Illinois (17), Louisiana (2), Massachusetts (1), Minnesota (3), Missouri (3), Nebraska (2), Nevada (1), New Jersey (1), New Mexico (3), New York (6), Ohio (1), Oklahoma (1), Pennsylvania (1), Tennessee (1), Texas (25), Virginia (2), Washington (5), and Wisconsin (2).

The CDC and the FDA are collaborating with public health officials in many states to investigate a multistate outbreak of Salmonella Agona infections. Public health investigators are using DNA analysis of Salmonella bacteria obtained through diagnostic testing to identify cases of illness that may be part of this outbreak.

Among persons for whom information is available, illnesses began on or after January 17, 2011. Ill persons range in age from less than 1 year old to 91 years old, and the median age is 20 years old. Forty-one percent of patients are younger than 5 years old. Sixty-three percent are female. Ten patients were hospitalized. No deaths have been reported. For persons who have been interviewed, 57% report consuming papaya. Epidemiologic, laboratory and traceback information identifies papayas from Mexico imported through Agromod Produce, Inc. as a likely source of infection.

Who Should be Contacted?

Consumers with questions about the recalled papayas should call Agromod Produce, Inc. at (800) 385-7658.

Consumers with questions about produce safety should contact 1-800-SAFEFOOD.

For more information:

Agromod Produce, Inc.'s Press Release

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm264854.htm>

2011

Nursery Weed Management Meeting

Wednesday, August 17th is the date of our Twilight meeting featuring Dr. Steve Hart, our Nursery Weed Control Specialist, Steve Rettke, our IPM Program Associate and Jim Johnson, Agricultural Agent Nursery Management Cumberland County.

If you have weeds you need identified, plan to bring along samples so Steve can take a look at them. Be sure to have samples contained so there is no possibility of accidental release.

Our meeting host will be Steve Wagner

Location: Brock Farms Nurseries, Inc.
50 Polk Lane
Bridgeton, NJ 08302
856.455.7880

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Speakers:	Dr. Steve Hart	5:00 to 5:30	A good fall weed control program gets you ready for next year.
	Steve Rettke	5:30 to 6:00	Scouting techniques: what and when to look.
	Jim Johnson	6:00 to 6:30	IR-4: Facilitating registration of sustainable pest management technology for specialty crops and minor uses

Pesticide Recertification Credits have been requested.

Gavel 75 DF

Gavel 75 DF is now labeled for use in pumpkins, winter squash, summer squash and watermelon for the control of Alternaria leaf spot, downy mildew and fruit rots. The label is available at <http://www.cdms.net/LDat/ld4PP006.pdf>.

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE NJ AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*Scholarship for H.S. Seniors Interested in a Career in Agriculture or the Sciences
Lynn Richmond, NJ Department of Agriculture*

New Jersey residents who are entering their senior year in high school this fall and are planning a career in agriculture or science may apply for the New Jersey Agricultural Achievement Award. One winner will be selected and awarded a scholarship to honor their achievements.

The New Jersey Agricultural Achievement Award, sponsored by Amy Butewicz, a former New Jersey Equestrian of the Year, was started because of her desire to give back to the community. Worth \$500, this scholarship is meant to assist its recipient in beginning their future in agriculture.

Last year's winner, Bria Cherelle Barnes of Scotch Plains, was selected based on her resume as well as her essay on how her involvement with Union County 4-H shaped her future career choice.

The qualifications for receiving this award include submitting a resume along with an essay answering the question, "How has your involvement within your respective nominating organization helped to shape your future career choice?"

In addition, a contestant is required to be a current, active member of an organization either on the New Jersey Equine Advisory Board and/or represented at the Youth Reception portion of the New Jersey State Agricultural Convention. Each organization on the New Jersey Equine Advisory Board and a participant of the State Agricultural Convention is able to nominate a maximum of two contestants.

The winner of the Agricultural Achievement Award must attend the 55th Annual New Jersey Bred Equine Breeders Award Luncheon to be held on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at Charley's Other Brother Restaurant and will read their essay to the attendees.

Please mail resume and essay by December 15, 2011 to:

NJDA

Attn: Debra Moscatiello

P.O. Box 330

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

If you have any questions contact Debra Moscatiello at 609-984-4389 or debra.moscatiello@ag.state.nj.us.

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

August 29, 2011 Deadline for Farm Value-Added Grants

USDA has invited applications for Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG). Two years of funding totaling more than \$37 million will be awarded. Proposals are due August 29th, 2011.

VAPG is a competitive grants program that awards grants to producers to help them develop farm-related businesses that add value to basic agricultural products through branding, processing, product differentiation, labeling and certification, and marketing. VAPG includes projects that market inherently value-added production, such as organic crops, grass-fed livestock, and locally produced and marketed food products. VAPG also funds regional food supply networks that benefit small and mid-sized farms by incorporating producers into larger farm-to-plate value chains.

Two types of grants are available:

- Grants of up to \$100,000 each to develop business plans and feasibility studies (including marketing plans) to establish viable marketing opportunities for value-added products; or
- Grants of up to \$300,000 each for working capital to operate a value-added business venture or alliance.

The agency estimates it will make about 250 awards, announced by the end of November 2011 and that the average size grant award will be \$116,000. In the last round of awards, 41 percent of total awards were under \$50,000. Applicants may propose any time frame for the project provided it does not exceed three years.

The complete application package will be available from the USDA Rural Development site. The agency has also provided an application template that can be obtained by visiting: <http://sustainableagriculture.net/>.

You can also find out more about eligibility and the application process guidelines by contacting your local USDA Rural Development Office, or contact the national program staff Lyn Millhiser at 202-720-1227 or Tracey Kennedy at 202-690-1428, or by emailing cpgrants@wdc.usda.gov for additional information.

Additional Resources

If you are an agricultural producer or producer-controlled entity interested in applying, you can learn more at NSAC's summary of the VAPG program and read this guide to applying from the University of Wisconsin's Agricultural Innovation Center. Templates for applications are available from the University of Nebraska's Food Processing Center. More information specifically about this 2011 iteration of the program will likely be forthcoming in the near future.

To see how the FY 2009 awards were distributed and 15 examples of the projects that were funded, go to NSAC's two page summary of the 2009 VAPG projects.

To read a summary of the NSAC comments to USDA on the February 2011 Interim Final Rule for VAPG, or to read those comments in their entirety, go to this NSAC blog post.

A video of USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan discussing the many innovative uses of the VAPG program is also available for viewing.

IRS Gives Truckers Three-Month Extension; Highway Use Tax Return Due Nov. 30

Karen Kritz, NJ Department of Agriculture

The Internal Revenue Service advised truckers and other owners of heavy highway vehicles that their next federal highway use tax return, usually due Aug. 31st, will instead be due on Nov. 30, 2011.

Because the highway use tax is currently scheduled to expire on Sept. 30, 2011, this extension is designed to alleviate any confusion and possible multiple filings that could result if Congress reinstates or modifies the tax after that date. Under temporary and proposed regulations filed in the Federal Register, the Nov. 30th filing deadline for Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return, for the tax period that begins on July 1, 2011, applies to vehicles used during July, as well as those first used during August or September. Returns should not be filed and payments should not be made prior to Nov. 1st.

To aid truckers applying for state vehicle registration on or before Nov. 30, the new regulations require states to accept as proof of payment the stamped Schedule 1 of the Form 2290 issued by the IRS for the prior tax year, ending on June 30, 2011. Under federal law, state governments are required to receive proof of payment of the federal highway use tax as a condition of vehicle registration. Normally, after a taxpayer files the return and pays the tax, the Schedule 1 is stamped by the IRS and returned to filers for this purpose. A state normally may accept a prior year's stamped Schedule 1 as a substitute proof of payment only through Sept. 30.

For those acquiring and registering a new or used vehicle during the July-to-November period, the new regulations require a state to register the vehicle, without proof that the highway use tax was paid, if the person registering the vehicle presents a copy of the bill of sale or similar document showing that the owner purchased the vehicle within the previous 150 days.

In general, the highway use tax applies to trucks, truck tractors and buses with a gross taxable weight of 55,000 pounds or more. Ordinarily, vans, pick-ups and panel trucks are not taxable because they fall below the 55,000-pound threshold.

For trucks and other taxable vehicles in use during July, the Form 2290 and payment are, under normal circumstances, due on Aug. 31. The tax of up to \$550 per vehicle is based on weight, and a variety of special rules apply to vehicles with minimal road use, logging or agricultural vehicles, vehicles transferred during the year and those first used on the road after July.

Last year, the IRS received about 650,000 Forms 2290 and highway use tax payments totaling \$886 million.

Water, rest and shade: Protecting workers from heat-related illness

Heat is the number one weather-related killer in the United States. The National Weather Service statistical data shows that heat causes more fatalities per year than floods, lightning, and tornadoes. During NWS heat advisory and warning events, excessive heat claims an average of 115 lives a year (10-year average from 2001 to 2010). However, this toll underestimates heat's true impact by many-fold, as heat can act as a catalyst in exacerbating pre-existing cardiovascular, respiratory, and other conditions.

In the disastrous heat wave of 1980, more than 1,250 people died. In the heat wave of 1995 more than 700 deaths in the Chicago area were attributed to heat. In August 2003, a record heat wave in Europe claimed an estimated 50,000 lives.

OSHA initiated its National Heat Illness Campaign (see <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/index.html>) to educate workers and their employers about the hazards of working outdoors in the heat. OSHA is leveraging relationships with other state and local partners, employers, trade organizations, unions, community groups, educational institutions and healthcare professionals, to disseminate training materials across the country.

Online resources include:

- educational materials,
<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/index.html>
- a curriculum for workplace training,
<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/trainingresources.html>
- And, print ads in color and black & white,
<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/mediaresources.html>

All resources available in English and Spanish. Multiple copies of heat campaign publications can be ordered from OSHA's Web site. (<http://1.usa.gov/inqYeN>)

OSHA is also partnering with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on weather service alerts to incorporate worker safety precautions when heat alerts are issued across the United States. NOAA is also including pertinent worker safety information on its Heat Watch Web page. (<http://www.noaawatch.gov/themes/heat.php>)

Plant & Pest Advisory

Vegetable Alert!

Date: 7/05/11

Alert Author: Andy Wyenandt

Pest: Cucurbit downy mildew

Found: Cucurbit downy mildew has been confirmed on cucumber and caneloupe in southern New Jersey. This is the second report of cucurbit downy mildew in the mid-Atlantic region this year.

Crop(s) at risk: all cucurbit crops in New Jersey.

Potential impact: Significant losses will occur if not controlled properly

What growers should do:

Control of downy mildew begins with regular scouting, recognizing symptoms and weekly protectant fungicide applications. Now that downy mildew has been detected in the region growers should be scouting on a daily basis.

All abandoned cucumber and summer squash fields should be sprayed with gramoxone or disced under immediately after last harvest to kill the foliage! Abandoned fields left unattended after use will only serve as a source of inoculum for other fields once downy mildew makes its way into our area.

Please see the *2011 Commercial Vegetable Recommendations Guide* for specific fungicide recommendations to track the progress of cucurbit downy mildew in the eastern US and to keep up with reports of downy mildew from other states visit North Carolina State University's Cucurbit Downy Mildew Forecasting Center at <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/pp/cucurbit/>.

If you suspect downy mildew on your farm, please contact your county agent or Dr. Andy Wyenandt (856) 455-3100 ext 4144.

Notice to Hispanic or Women Farmers And Ranchers Compensation for Claims of Discrimination

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. You may be eligible if:

- You sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing from USDA during that period; and
- The loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
- You believe these actions occurred because you are Hispanic or female.

If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, you can call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or access the following website: www.farmerclaims.gov

In 2011, a Claims Administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or website. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

In order to participate, you must submit a claim to the Claims Administrator by the end of the claims period.

If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination against USDA or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination by USDA, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process.

USDA Cannot Provide Legal Advice to You. You are not required to hire an attorney to file a claim, but you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community for additional guidance.

Energy Master Plan Hearings and Written Comments

As a follow up to the Board of Public Utilities notice regarding the public hearing dates for the Energy Master Plan, please note the following regarding the hearings and written comments:

Hearing Pre-Registration

We are requesting (not requiring) that those planning to attend a hearing pre-register using the e-mail address below. This will enable us to be prepared. Please send: Your name, your affiliation and whether you plan on speaking at the hearing. Walk in registration for the hearings will also be available.

For the **August 11th Public Hearing at Stockton College in Pomona**, please email the above listed information to: EMPHearing3@bpu.state.nj.us

Written Comments

If you would like to submit written comments on the Energy Master Plan, you may send them via email to: empadmin@njcleanenergy.com or to: Evelyn Dowling, NJBPU Office of Communications, 44 South Clinton Avenue, PO Box 350, Trenton, NJ 08625.

We will be accepting comments through August 25, 2011.

Calendar of Important Events

📅 Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

August 2011

August 9-11

Empire Farm Days, Tuesday & Wednesday 9-5:00; Thursday 9-4:00, Rodman Lott & Son Farm, Seneca Falls, NY. Free Admission; Parking \$10. For more info call 877-697-7837.

📅 **August 9**

Preserving the Harvest Canning Class, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ. \$25 (\$5 class fee + \$20 book). To register call Viola Carson 856-451-2800 x4.

August 14-18

95th Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America, Wilmington, N.C. For more information visit: <http://paa2011.org> or contact Craig Yencho 919-513-7417 or by email: Craig_Yencho@ncsu.edu

August 16-18

Ag Progress Days, Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, Rock Springs, PA. For more info call 814-865-2081 or email: agprogressdays@psu.edu

📅 **August 16-17**

North American Strawberry Growers Association Summer Tour, Boston. For more info call Kevin Schooley, 613-258-4587, email: info@nasga.org or visit: www.nasga.org

📅 **August 23**

Preserving the Harvest Freezing Class, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ. \$25 (\$5 class fee + \$20 book). To register call Viola Carson 856-451-2800 x4.

📅 **August 30-31**

Bejo Seeds Open House and Demonstration Trials 2011, 1088 Healey Rd., Geneva, NY. To RSVP call 315-789-4155.

August 31-September 2

IGSA 83rd Annual Summer Convention, Sun Valley, Idaho. For more info contact Travis Blacker 208-529-4400 or email: tblacker@idahoshippers.org

September 2011

September 26-28

Pack Expo, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas. For more info call 703-243-8555 or visit: www.packexpo.com

October 2011

October 3-5

United Fresh Washington Public Policy Conference, Hyatt Regency, Washington, DC. For more info visit: www.unitedfresh.org

October 14-18

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit International Convention and Exposition, Atlanta, GA. For more info visit: www.pma.com

🔗 October 16-19

ISHS International Symposium on High Tunnel Horticultural Crop Production, State College, PA. For more info contact Mike Orzolek at 814-863-2251 or by email: mdo1@psu.edu

🔗 October 21-22

Fall Flower & Garden Fest, Truck Crops Experiment Station, Crystal Springs, Miss. For more info contact Rick Snyder by email: Rick.Snyder@msstate.edu or visit www.msucare.com/fallfest

November 2011

November 1-4

Process Expo, McCormick Place, Chicago. For more info visit: www.myprocessexpo2011.com

🔗 November 6-8

Southeast Strawberry Expo, Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham, N.C. For more info call 919-542-4037, email: info@ncstrawberry.com or visit: www.ncstrawberry.com

November 14-16

Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Agritourism Conference & Trade Show, Vicksburg Convention Center, Vicksburg, Miss. For more info call 601-955-9298, email: info@msfruitandveg.com or visit: www.msfruitandveg.com

November 16-17

Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association Conference & Trade Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, Wash. For more info call 509-585-5460 or visit: www.pnva.org

November 28-30

Southeast Vegetable & Fruit Expo, Kingston Plantation Embassy Suites Resort, Myrtle Beach, S.C. For more info call Cathy Price 919-334-0099 or email: cathyprice09@yahoo.com

December 2011

December 6-8

Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable & Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, Mich. For more info visit: www.glexpo.com

December 13-15

New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference, Radisson Hotel, Manchester, N.H. For more info contact Jon Clements 413-478-7219

January 2012**January 4-6**

Potato Expo 2012, Loews Royal Pacific, Orlando, Fla. For more info visit: www.potato-expo.com

✦ January 5-6

Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, KY. For more info contact John Strang 859-257-5685 or email: jstrang@uky.edu

✦ January 5-7

Great Plains Growers Conference, St. Joseph, MO. For more info visit: www.gretplainsgrowers.org

✦ January 5-8

Southeast Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference, International Trade and Convention Center, Savannah, GA. For more info call 877-994-3842 or visit: www.gfvga.org

✦ January 11-13

Illinois Specialty Crops, Agritourism and Organic Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, Ill. For more info contact Rick Weinzierl at 217-244-2126 or email: weinzier@illinois.edu

✦ January 15-17

Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference, Wisconsin Dells, Wis. For more info call 920-478-3852.

✦ January 17-19

Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey Convention, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. For more info contact Rocco DiGerolamo, Jr. at 857-797-1686 or visit: www.njveggies.org

✦ January 17-19

Indiana Horticultural Congress, Wyndham West, Indianapolis. For more info contact Tammy Goodale at 765-494-1296, by email: tgoodale@purdue.edu or visit: www.inhortcongress.org

✦ January 16-18

Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association Congress, Sandusky, Ohio. For more info call 614-487-1117, email: opgma@ofa.org or visit: www.opgma.org

✦ January 19-20

Upper Midwest Regional Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conference, St. Cloud, Minn. For more info call 763-434-0400 or email: info@mfvga.org

✦ January 24-25

Ontario Processing Vegetable Industry Conference, London, Ontario. For more info call 519-681-1875, email: opvg@opvg.org or visit: www.opvg.org

📅 January 24-26

Empire State Fruit & Vegetable Expo, Oncenter Convention Center, Syracuse, NY. For more info contact Jeanette Marvin by email: nysvga@twcnyny.com

📅 January 25-28

Tennessee Horticulture Expo, Nashville, Tenn. For more info contact Jim Elam by email: jim_elam@siegers.com or visit: www.tnthe.com

📅 January 27-28

Iowa Fruit & Vegetable Growers & Marketers Conference, Ankeny, Iowa. For more info contact Christa Hartsook at 515-294-4430 or by email: hartc@iastate.edu

📅 January 31-February 2

Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention, Hersey, PA. For more info contact William Troxell at 717-694-3596, by email: pvga@pvga.org or visit: www.mafvc.org

February 2012**📅 February 6-8**

North American Strawberry Growers Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas. For more info contact Kevin Schooley at 613-258-4587, by email: info@nasga.org or visit: www.nasga.org

📅 February 10-17

27th Annual NAFDMA Convention, Williamsburg, Va. For more info contact the North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Association at 413-529-0386 or visit: www.nafdma.com

📅 February 23-25

MOSES Organic Farming Conference, La Crosse, Wis. For more info contact the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service at 715-778-5775 or visit: www.mosesorganic.org

March 2012**📅 March 4-6**

California Small Farm Conference, Hyatt Regency, Valencia, Calif. For more info call 831-659-0436, email: smallfarmconference@gmail.com or visit: www.californiasmallfarmconference.com

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

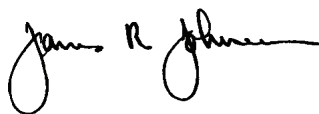
✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

<p>✓</p> <p>Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule—Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p>2011 Sep 2 Oct 28 Nov 9 Dec 14</p> <p>To Register call 609-984-6614 For directions call 856-451-2800 *****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)</p> <p>2011 Aug 10 Sep 14 Oct 12 Nov 9 Dec 14</p> <p>Meetings start at 7 p.m. Call DeAnn at 856-453-2211 *****</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel) 7 pm meetings</p> <p>2011 Sep 15 Oct 20 Nov 17 Dec 15</p> <p>For info call Shirley Kline, President 856-685-3784 *****</p>
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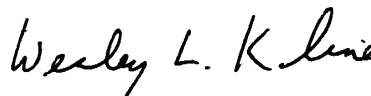
**Cumberland County Improvement Authority (CCIA)
Pesticide Container Recycling
9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon**
Cumberland County Solid Waste Complex
169 Jesse's Bridge Rd. (located off Route 55 Exit 29)
Deerfield Township, New Jersey

Aug 19 Sep 16
Oct 21 Nov 18

Sincerely,



James R. Johnson
Agricultural Agent
Nursery Management Commercial
Internet: jjohnson@njaes.rutgers.edu



Wesley L. Kline, Ph.D.
Agricultural Agent
Vegetable & Herb Production
Internet: wkline@njaes.rutgers.edu

Pesticide User Responsibility: Use pesticides safely and follow instructions on labels. The user is responsible for the proper use of pesticides, residues on crops, storage and disposal, as well as damages caused by drift.

Use of Trade Names: Trade names are used in this publication with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied. In some instances the compound may be sold under different trade names, which may vary as to label.

Have you visited the Cumberland County website for the
Present and/or past issues of “Cultivating Cumberland”? It’s a great
resource for information.....

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

Public Notification and Non-discrimination Statement

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Extension Education Center
291 Morton Avenue
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RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station



July 2011

Atlantic/ Cape May/ Cumberland County News

USDA Service Center

**Atlantic/ Cape May/
Cumberland County FSA**
1318 S. Main Rd. Bldg. 5A
Vineland, NJ 08360
856-205-1225 (phone)
856-205-0691(fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Anthony Melora
Florence Ale
David Sheppard Jr.
Charles Muzzarelli Sr.
Lori Kertz

County Committee meets
2nd Wednesday of month

Staff

Angela Andreoli, CED
Robert Maxwell, FLM
Ellen Schmidt, FLO
Lori Tobin PT
Lorna Hofstetter, PT
Dawn Freeman, PT
Matt Pavone- FLOT



July 20, 2011

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service **as soon as possible, but no later than August 10th** to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at:

<http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet>

Farm Loans Available

There are several types of Farm Loans available from the Farm Service Agency. The following lists the types available:

- Direct Operating or Farm Ownership Loan
- Emergency Loans
- Guaranteed Operating Loan or Farm Ownership Loan
- Youth Loans

Please contact the office for more information.

Timely Filing of Loss

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Foreign Landowner Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, real estate agents, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Farm Reconstitutions

For FSA program purposes, tracts having the same owner and the same operator are grouped under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution—or recon—is the process

of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

The following are the different 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 — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three 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.

Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans is being established.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

- **Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process**, please visit: www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429;
- **Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation**, please visit: www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547;
- **Keepseagle – The Native American Farmers**

Class Action Settlement please visit:

www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506.

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

Dates to Remember

August 1	Last day to file COC election nomination forms
August 1	NAP closing for Strawberries
September 1	NAP closing for Christmas trees, Fin Fish, Flowers & Grass (SOD)
September 5	Office Closed- Labor Day
September 30	NAP Closing for Barley, Clover, Grass, Mixed Forage, Rye & Wheat
September 30	Final date to report value loss crops for 2012: ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, aquaculture, ginseng & turfgrass sod
October 10	Office Closed Columbus Day
November 20	Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Nectarines, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions & Shallots
December 31	Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb & Turnips
Continuing	Sign up under Continuous Sign Up (CRP) programs

Visit our Web site at

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nj>

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.