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Cultivating Cumberland

December-2011 VOL. 16, ISSUE 12

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2012 Atlantic Coast Ag Conventior & Trade Show and the NJ Ag Convention Program

Farm Service Agency Update

Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market Tour

Winter Wednesday Lunch Series: Vegetable Production Webinars

Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market Tour

Date: December 14, 2011

Time: Leave Cooperative Extension Office, 291 Morton

Avenue, Millville at 4:15 a.m.

The Cumberland County Board of Agriculture Invites you to tour the Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market on Wednesday, December 14th. The bus will leave from the Cooperative Extension Office, 291 Morton Avenue, Millville at 4:15 a.m. **Pre-registration is required** by December 12th. The tour is open to the first 50 people that register.

To register fax the attached registration form to 856-451-4206 or email: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu.

Changes in Third Party Audits in the Future

Dr. Wesley Kline, Ag Agent Cumberland County RCE

More audits will be moving to harmonized food safety standards. This hopefully will reduce the need for multiple audits and reduce grower costs. Not all audit firms or retails will necessarily accept the harmonized audit. It is suggested that a grower work with their retailer to implement these standards, but remember who you sell to dictates the audit used.

Risk assessment will be taking a larger role in harmonized audit. This means growers will need to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to address many issues. For example, if drip irrigation is used to water trees or tomatoes that would be a lower risk than overhead irrigation and as long as it was addressed in the food safety plan it would be acceptable. Another example is the use of wood bins for bulk harvest. Wood bins would not normally be acceptable, but if a plastic bin liner is used and the procedure explained it would be compliant. This means that growers will need to carefully assess their operations and develop standards that will address each risk. This will give the operation more flexibility on how to address food safety concerns.

A shift is underway in the harmonized audit from having point structures to whether an operation is in compliant under each category or not. If not in compliant, but is not considered an immediate food safety risk, the question can be marked as a corrective action needed. If the auditor determines that an imminent food safety risk exists, the audit will not continue. What will be considered an imminent food safety risk may vary among auditing firms. To pass the USDA harmonized audit no question can be assessed as "Immediate Action Required"! A grower will still need 80% of the questions considered compliant to be certified under the USDA audit.

The following are examples of some that must be marked compliant in USDA audits.

- A food safety policy shall be in place for the operation
- The operation has designated individuals who are responsible for the food safety plan
- A written food safety plan that addresses all potential hazards and record keeping is available for review
- A traceability system has been developed where the box or carton can be traced one step forward and one back
- A documented recall program, including written procedures, shall be established and a recall exercise is performed at least annually

Fruit and vegetable growers must ingrain food safety at all levels of their operation. New food safety knowledge is continually emerging that impacts the industry. This means continual changes will be needed at the grower and buyer level. Hopefully over time we will be able to pinpoint the most important area where to concentrate our efforts.

Growers who think there is no problem with their farm that it is only a West coast problem should think about what happened in Colorado with the cantaloupe and on the Delmarva with tomatoes. Any grower can have a problem with food borne pathogens. It only takes one case to put you out of business. Take time this winter to review your operation; note any changes that should be considered and work on them. You may not need a third party audit (depends on who you sell to), but everyone should have a food safety plan. There will be various meetings this winter and next spring on writing a food safety plan and how to prepare for an audit. Take the time to attend one!

Avoiding Common Errors

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Employers should review Forms I-9 carefully immediately after completion to make sure they don't make these common mistakes.

In Section 1, common mistakes made by the employee include:

- No employee printed name, maiden name (if applicable), address or date of birth.
- No "A" number for an employee who selects "A Lawful Permanent Resident."
- No "A" number or admission number for an employee who selects "An alien authorized to work until."
- No employee signature or attestation date.
- Not completing Section 1 by the time the employee began work for pay.
- Not checking a box to indicate whether the employee is attesting to be a citizen or national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident, or an alien authorized to work until a specified date or checking multiple boxes attesting to more than one of the above.
- No preparer and/or translator name, address or signature (if applicable).
- No date in the preparer and/or translator certification box (if applicable).

In Section 2, common mistakes made by the employer include:

- No acceptable List A document or acceptable List B and List C documents recorded on the form.
- No document title, issuing authority, number(s) or expiration date for the documentation presented.
- · No business title, name or address.
- No date for when employment began.
- No employer signature, printed name or attestation date.
- Not completing Section 2 by the third business day after the date the employee started work for pay, or, if the employee is hired for three business days or less, at the time the employee started work for pay.

In Section 3, common mistakes made by the employer include:

- No document title, number or expiration date for the acceptable documentation presented.
- No date of rehire, if applicable.
- No new name, if applicable.
- No employer signature or date.

USDA Proposes Improvements to Help Deliver Disaster Assistance more quickly to Producers

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Bruce Nelson today announced that USDA is accepting comments on a proposed rule to streamline the process for its Secretarial Disaster Designation, allowing farmers and ranchers devastated by natural disaster to obtain assistance faster. The improvements outlined in the proposed rule aim to cut the time to make a disaster designation by as much as 70 percent. Designating disaster counties is a key step to authorizing disaster assistance for some of the programs administered by USDA. Disaster assistance provides support to American producers as part of the farm safety net. USDA believes that a strong farm safety net is important to the vitality of American agriculture.

"America's farmers and rural communities are vitally important to our nation's economy, producing the food, feed, fiber and fuel that continue to help us grow," said Nelson. "Therefore, it's crucial that we help farmers remain productive through difficult times. When disaster strikes, this proposal will help us provide assistance more quickly, streamlining processes from six steps to two. That's the kind of improvement we need to make."

A natural disaster designation makes all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for a variety of assistance from USDA, including low interest emergency (EM) loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE). The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to designate disaster counties to make disaster assistance programs available to farmers and ranchers.

Currently, designations require a state governor or Indian tribal council to initiate disaster designation through a formal request of the Secretary. The process has been in place for more than two decades and regulations have not been substantively revised since 1988. Streamlining the process from six steps to two will enable USDA to help those in need in an expedited manner, allowing farmers and ranchers devastated by natural disaster to obtain emergency loans faster than before. Additionally, the proposed rule can help to ensure all eligible disaster counties receive a designation.

The proposed rule for Secretarial Disaster Designations:

Streamlines the USDA Secretarial designation process from a six-step process to a two-step process. Expedites and simplifies the disaster designation process for severe drought occurrences by using the U.S. Drought Monitor as a tool to automatically trigger disaster areas with no further documentation. Removes the requirement that a request for a disaster designation be initiated by a state governor or Indian tribal council. Note: This rule still allows a state governor or Indian tribal council to request a Secretarial Disaster Designation.

The proposed rule, which is contained in the Federal Register dated Nov. 14, 2011, at http://www.regulations.gov/ or http://federalregisterwatch.com/inf2/118097/disaster-designation-process.htm has a 60-day comment period. Comments on the proposed rule must be submitted no later than Jan. 13, 2012, to be considered.

You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov/ Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Steve Peterson, Disaster Assistance Program Branch Chief, Production, Emergencies, and Compliance Division, Farm Programs, FSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Mail Stop 0517, Washington, DC 20250-0517.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: USDA FSA Farm Programs, Production, Emergencies, and Compliance Division, Disaster Assistance Branch, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Mail Stop 0517, Washington, DC 20250.

Comments will be available for inspection online at www.regulations.gov and at the mail address listed above between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. A copy of this proposed rule is also available through the FSA home page athttp://www.fsa.usda.gov/.

For information about FSA and its programs, visit a local FSA county office or go to www.fsa.usda.gov.

Effect of Transplant Age on Yield

Elsa Sánchez, Penn State Horticulture, <u>esanchez@psu.edu</u> wrote this article for The Vegetable and Small Fruit Gazette, Vol. 15, Issue 6, June 2011. I thought it would be a good review of transplant age as we move into the 2012 season – Wes Kline.

This has been one wet and cool spring. For many, planting has been delayed because fields are too wet. I thought I'd rerun this article on how transplant age affects yield of bell peppers, tomatoes and summer squash.

Bell Peppers

In one study (Weston, 1988) transplants were 30, 40, 50 or 60 days old (about 4.3 to 8.5 weeks old) when field planted. At the end of the growing season yield was not different, regardless of the age of the transplant; however, the 60-day-old transplants (about 8.5 weeks old) produced larger early yields that the other transplants.

In another study (McCraw and Greig, 1986) 11- and 8-week-old transplants of 4 cultivars were field planted. The 11-week-old transplants were 12 inches tall with open flowers and small fruit while the 8-week-old transplants were 6 inches tall without flowers or fruit. Flowers and fruit on the 11-week-old transplants were either left on the plant or pinched off. The 8-week-old plants were left alone or the growing tip was pinched off to stimulate growth.

In the first year of the 2 year study, yield was not affected by any of the treatments. In the second year, the 11-week-old transplants on which flowers and fruit had been pinched off, produced the highest early yield, but yields from the 8-week-old transplants with the growing tip pinched produced the greatest number of large fruit. The conclusion was that while cultivar played a role, 11-week-old transplants generally produce more, but smaller fruit than 8-week-old transplants, regardless of whether pinching was used.

Tomatoes

A very nice review of tomato transplant age was published by Charles Vavrina and our very own Mike Orzolek (1993). They looked at over 60 years of research on tomato transplant age in their article.

They determined that overall yield really depends on cultivar, environment and the management techniques used. Because of that, transplants of 2 to 13 weeks old can produce similar yields. As far early yields, they were larger with older transplants.

Even though a 2-week-old transplant generally ends up producing comparable season long yields to a 13-week-old transplant, removing a young transplant from its cell can be difficult because the root system is not extensive enough to hold the container soil which is a problem. On the other hand, it costs more to produce an older transplant and older transplants have a higher possibility of exposure to disease and/or insect problems in the greenhouse.

Conclusions were to use a transplant in the 4- to 7-week-old range so that removing the transplant from its cell is not difficult and transplant production costs are not too high. Also, hold onto any extra transplants. They can be used to replace any in the field that have died and their age should not greatly affect yield.

Summer squash

In a study on summer squash (NeSmith, 1993) 2 cultivars of 10- to 30-day-old transplants (about 1.4 to 4.3 weeks old) were field planted. Some differences between cultivar were observed. In general the age of the transplants affected growth and establishment; however, total yields were not different based on transplant age. Early yield was also not affected by transplant age.

The researcher also mentioned the difficulty of removing young transplants from cells. A 21-day-old transplant was recommended because in the event that it could not be planted right away, it could keep for at least about 10 more days without compromising yields.

Overall for these crops

Some themes are evident from these studies:

- 1. Different cultivars respond differently to transplant age.
- 2. Environmental conditions and management practices play a large role in how the plant performs.
- 3. Yields can be comparable over a wide range of transplant ages.
- 4. Young transplants can be difficult to remove from cell packs.
- 5. Older transplants cost more to produce than younger transplants.

For bell peppers and tomatoes, older transplants result in earlier yields than young ones.

Suggestions for transplant age reflect what is found in the literature. They are generally mid-ranges accounting for the difficulty of removing young transplants from cells and minimizing production costs for producing older transplants. One suggestion is to aim for the lower end of the range. That way, in the event that it is not possible to transplant when planned, plants can still be field planted for several days without yield being affected. The suggested age ranges of transplants for ideal growth are 8-10 weeks for bell pepper, 6-8 weeks for tomato and 2-3 weeks for squash.

Literature cited

McCraw, B.D. and J.K. Greig. 1986. Effect of transplant age and pruning procedure on yield and fruit-set of bell pepper. HortScience 21:430-431.

NeSmith, D.S. 1993. Transplant age influences summer squash growth and yield. HortScience 28:618-620.

Vavrina, C.S. and M.D. Orzolek. 1993. Tomato transplant age: A review. HortTechnology 3:313-316.

Weston, L.A. 1988. Effect of flat cell size, transplant age, and production site on growth and yield of pepper transplants. HortScience 23:709-711.

NJ Fertilizer Law for Turf

REMINDER: As of November 15th, residents cannot apply N or P fertilizer to their lawns until next Spring. Similarly, professional applicators of fertilizer have until December 1st to complete their customer service cycle of late fall N or P fertilization. Please recognize that other materials, K, lime, composts, etc. are still legal to apply after these dates.

To learn more info about the law visit: http://snyderfarm.rutgers.edu/njfertilizerlawguide.html or www.nj.gov/dep/healthylawnshealthywater

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A PUBLICATION OF RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Calendar of Important Events

December 2011

December 6-8

36th Annual NJ 2011 Green Expo Turf & Landscape Conference, Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. For info call the NJ Turfgrass Assoc. at 973-812-6467 or visit: www.njturfgrass.org.

December 13-15

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

☼ December 15

Basics of Turfgrass Management, Rutgers Office of Cont. Ed, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ. \$225; 9am-3:30pm; Credits: 2 Cat. 13; 4 Cat. 1A & CORE; and 5 Cat. 3B & PP2. For info call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

☼ December 16

Turfgrass Establishment, Rutgers Office of Continuing Ed, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ. \$225; 9am-3:45pm; Credits: 7 Cat. 3B & PP2. For more info call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

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.greatplainsgrowers.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 10

Landscaping Design, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ. \$20; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

Wisconsin Cranberry Growers School, Holiday Inn Hotal & Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI. For more info call 715-423-2070.

Minnesota Apple Growers Winter Conference, La Crosse, Wis. For more info call Ralph Yates 507-895-2388, email: info@minnesotaapple.org or visit: www.minnesotaapple.org

January 11-13

Illinois Specialty Crops, Agritourism and Organic Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, Ill. For more info contact Diane Handley at 309-557-2107 or email: dhandley@ilfb.org

January 15-17

Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference, Wisconsin Dells, Wis. For more info call 920-478-3852, email: info@wisconsinfreshproduce.org or visit: www.wisconsinfreshproduce.org

☼ January 16-18

North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference, Sandusky, Ohio. For more info call 919-542-4037, email: info@raspberryblackberry.com or visit: www.raspberryblackberry.com

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 17

Indoor Plants, Viola Carson, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn; \$20; pesticide credits are anticipated; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

January 17-18

Atlantic Coast Agricultural Convention & Trade Show, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. For more info visit: www.njveggies.org or contact Rocco DiGerolamo, Jr. at 857-797-1686.

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 18-19

New Jersey Ag Convention, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. For more information contact the New Jersey Ag Association 609-292-8896.

January 18-21

Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group 21st Annual Conference, The Peabody Hotel, Little Rock, Ark. For more info email: info@ssawg.org or visit: www.ssawg.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

Managing Insect & Disease Problems Starts with a Good Diagnosis, James Johnson, Ag. Agent, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; pesticide credits anticipated; \$20; 9am-noon. For more info call 856-451-2800 x1.

Northwest Michigan Orchard & Vineyard Show, Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, Mich. For more info call 231-946-1510 or email: nwmihort@msu.edu

January 24-25

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

January 24-26

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

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

January 28-29

22nd Annual NOFA-NJ Winter Conference 2012, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. For more info contact NOFA at 908-371-111, email: nofainfo@nofanj.org or visit: www.nofanj.org

January 31

Native Plants and Butterflies, Kim Conner, Master Gardener, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

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 6

Basic Pesticide Applicator Training for Core Certification, Extension Center Gloucester County, 1200 N. Delsea Dr., Clayton, NJ; 9 am—noon, \$50; 6 core recertification credits. For info call 856-307-6450 x1 or email: cummings@njaes.rutgers.edu.

2012 New Mexico Chile Conference, Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, Las Cruces, New Mexico. Preregistration due by Jan 30th. For more info visit: www.chilepepperinstitute.org or call 575-646-3028.

February 7

Category 3A-Ornamental Pest Control Training for DEP Exams, Extension Center Gloucester County, 1200 N. Delsea Dr., Clayton, NJ; 9 am-3 pm, \$100; 12 recertification credits. For info call 856-307-6450 x1 or email: cummings@njaes.rutgers.edu.

February 7

Soil & Fertilizer, Bill Bamka, Ag Agent Burlington County, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; 9am-noon, Pesticide credits anticipated. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

February 9

Category 3B-Turf Pest Control Training for DEP Exams, Extension Center Gloucester County, 1200 N. Delsea Dr., Clayton, NJ; 9 am-3 pm; \$100, 12 recertification credits. For info call 856-307-6450 x1 or email: cummings@njaes.rutgers.edu.

Midwest Grape & Wine Conference, St. Charles, Mo. For more info contact Rozanna Benz 573-236-4629, email: rbenz@vwm-online.com or visit: www.midwestgrapeandwineconference.com

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 14

Tree Fruit & Grapes, Jerry Frecon, Ag. Agent Gloucester County, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; pesticide credits anticipated; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

February 21

Basic Entomology, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; pesticide credits anticipated; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

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

Minnesota Grape Growers Association Annual Grape & Wine Conference, St. Paul Crowne Plaza, St. Paul, Minn. For more info visit: www.mngrapegrowers.com

February 28

Home Vegetable Gardening & Weed Management, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; pesticide credits anticipated; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

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.californiafarmconference.com

Turf Culture, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

March 13

Turf Pest Problems, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; pesticide credits anticipated, 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

Garden Animals: Friend & Foes, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20; 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

Pruning, RCE of Cumberland County, 291 Morton Ave., Rosenhayn, NJ; \$20 9am-noon. For more info or to register call 856-451-2800 x1.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

✓ Indicates meeting will be held at RCE of Cumberland County

Pesticide Certification Exam Schedule—Cumberland County 291 Morton Avenue

Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)

<u>2011</u>

Dec 14

2012

Jan 4 Feb 8 Mar 28

Apr 4 May 2 Jun 6

Sep 26 Oct 24 Nov 7

Dec 19

To Register call 609-984-6614 For directions call 856-451-2800

V

Cumberland County Agriculture
Development Board
291 Morton Avenue
Millville, NJ 08332

(Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)

2011

Dec 13**Fairfield Inn at Noon

<u> 2012</u>

Jan 11 Feb 8 Mar 14

Apr 11 May 9 Jun 13

Jul 11 Aug 8 Sep 5

Oct 10 Nov 14 Dec 12

Meetings start at 7 p.m.
Call DeAnn at 856-453-2211

can bearm at 656-453-2211

Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture

291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332

(Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)

7 pm meetings

2011

Dec 15

2012

Jan 19 Feb 16 Mar 15

Apr 19 May 17 Sep 20

Oct 18 Nov 15 Dec 20

For info call Shirley Kline, President 856-685-3784

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

Dates for 2012 coming soon

Sincerely,

James R. Johnson Agricultural Agent

Nursery Management Commercial

Internet: jjohnson@njaes.rutgers.edu

Wesley L. Kline, Ph.D. Agricultural Agent

Vegetable & Herb Production

Weeley L. Kline

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 and dates..........

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

Public Notification and Non-discrimination Statement

Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension educational programs are offered to all without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, military service, veteran status, and any other category protected by law. Rutgers Cooperative Extension encourages individuals with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you need special accommodations, have questions about physical access, or require alternate means for program information, please contact your local Extension Office. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 732-932-5000, ext. 584.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
VINELAND, NJ
PERMIT NO. 186

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



Monday January 16, 2012 Trade Show Set up 8am to 5pm in Mark Etess Arena Trump Taj Mahal

Tuesday Morning January 17, 2012

Vine Crops

11/16/11

Diamond Ballroom A Michelle Casella Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE

9:30 - Update on Cucurbit Disease Control -- Andy Wyenandt, Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, RCE, NJAES

10:00 - Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical

10:10 – Leaf Mulch for Pumpkin Production -- Joseph Heckman, Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility, RCE

10:40 - Herbicide Results from Plastic Mulch with Watermelons -- Sudeep Mathew, County Ag Agent, Univ. of

MD. Extension

11:10 - Pumpkin Variety Trial Results -- Timothy Elkner Penn State Cooperative Extension, Lancaster Co.

11:40 – Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Greens/Herbs

Diamond Ballroom B Rick VanVranken

Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE

9:30 - Information from Our Exhibitors

-- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical

9:40 - Rethinking Overwintered Greens & Herbs with High Tunnels

-- Matthew Bruckler, Owner -- Rick VanVranken, Ag Agent Atlantic County, RCE

10:10 - BioPesticides & Phosphites – New Tools in Pest Control Arsenal -- Paul Fabry, Plant Food Systems

10:40 - Evaluating the efficacy of conventional and biological fungicides for the control of basil downy mildew -- Kathryn Homa, Graduate

Student, Plant Science & Pathology/IR-4 Program
- Andy, Wyenandt, Extension Specialist in Veg Pathology

11:05 - Lettuce Tipburn -Prediction & Prevention, -- Rick VanVranken, RCE

11:30 - PACA 101 - Grower Protecting

-- Gary. Nefferdorf, Assistant Regional Director, PACA-USDA

11:50 – Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Soil Fertility

Diamond Ballroom C Meredith Melendez

Mercer County Program Associate, RCE

9:30 – Introduction
-- Meredith Melendez, Mercer
County Program Associate, RCE

Fields of Agriculture Using the Solvita Soil Test -- Stephanie Murphy, Director, NJAES Soil Testing Laboratory, Rutgers University

9:35 - Restoring Soil Qualitymin

10:00 - Making Winter Cover Crops Work for Early Spring Vegetable Production: Reducing Tillage, Enhancing Soil health and Increasing Profitably.

-- Natalie Lounsbury, Dept of Environmental Science and Technology, University of Maryland

10:45 - Silicon for Soil Fertility -- Joseph Heckman, Extension Soil Fertility Specialist, RCE

11:05 – Information from Our Exhibitors

-- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical

11:15 - How to Grow Vegetables without Sidedress N -- Joseph Heckman, Extension Soil Fertility Specialist, RCE

11:30 - Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Food Safety

Diamond Ballroom D Wesley Kline

Cumberland County Ag Agent, RCE

9:30 – Irrigation water test results from Pennsylvania -- Luke LaBorde, Department of Food Science, Penn State

10:00 - My experience with audits for third party verification

-- Brian Reeves, Owner Reeves Farms

Solutions

10:30 - Produce traceability/ PTI compliance -- Gary Fleming, V.P. of Strategic Services, Redline

11:00 - Food Safety solutions from traceback, labeling, sanitizing and cooling of produce with real-time documentation

--William Kanitz, President ScoringAg

11:30 – Information from Our Exhibitors

-- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical

11:40 – Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

12:00 to 1:30 pm WIC & Seniors FMNP Vendors Mandatory Three Year Cycle/Annual Training with Forms/documents, Q&A Silver Room

-- Janet Prester, NJDOH and William Walker, NJDA

Tuesday Afternoon January 17, 2012

Transplants

Diamond Ballroom C Bill Hlubik

Middlesex County Ag Agent, RCE

- 2:15 Mitigating transplant and early-season vegetable diseases: An IPM Approach -- Andy Wyenandt, Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, RCE, NJAES
- 2:45 Organic Fertility Sources for Transplant Media
- -- Anu Rangarajan, Director for the Cornell Small Farms Program, Cornell Coop. Extension
- 3:15 Transplant Production in Florida -- Gene McAvoy, Extension Agent IV, Regional Vegetable/ Horticulture UF/IFAS
- 3:45 Reducing Tillage in Vegetable Systems -- Anu Rangarajan, Director for the Cornell Small Farms Program, Cornell Coop. Extension
- 4:15 Insights on transplant growth and management from a growers perspective -- Rob Swanekamp, Co-owner of Kube Pak Garden Plants in Allentown, NJ.
- 4:30 Information from Our **Exhibitors**
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 4:40 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Peppers

Diamond Ballroom B Andy Wyenandt

Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, RCE

- 2:15 Red pepper varieties for Summer and Fall
- -- Wesley Kline, Cumberland County Ag Agent, RCE
- 2:50 Information from Our **Exhibitors**
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 3:00 Injecting Insecticides Through Trickle Irrigation in Vegetables for Insect Control - Gerry Ghidiu, Specialist in Vegetable Entomology, RCE
- 3:30 Update on fungicides for the control of important pepper diseases
- -- Andy Wyenandt, Extension Specialist in Vegetable Pathology, RCE, NJAES
- 4:00 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Plant Growth and the Environment Workshop

Gold Room

Michelle Casella

Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE

Workshop attendees will learn about factors that affect plant growth and in some cases how to improve plant growth through management practices that overcome adverse environmental conditions.

- 2:15 Temperature effects on plant growth, soil fertility, and pest control -Cold soils and nutrient availability -Cold temperatures and seed germination, bolting, buttoning, catfacing, and other disorders of vegetables
- -Soil temperatures and efficacy of soil fumigants
- -Cold/hot temperatures and efficacy of pesticides
- 2:45 Soil water effects on plant health and fertility
- -Plant growth, turgidity, wilt and yields -Uptake of certain nutrients as effected by soil water, leaching -Soil water and plant diseases
- 3:10 Information from Our **Exhibitors**
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 3:20 Sunlight and Air Quality effects on plant growth and plant health -low light/high light conditions and effects on transplant growth and growth of vegetables in the field. Ozone/air pollution effects on certain crops
- 3:30 Soil pH and Organic Matter effects on fertility, plant health and herbicide efficacy, Soil pH effect on nutrient availability -Organic matter in soil, nutrient holding capacity/water holding capacity/nutrient source/effects on
- 4:00 Questions and Re-certification Credits Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Farm Safety

Diamond Ballroom C

Raymond Samulis Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE

- 2:15 New Assistive Technologies to Keep Farmers Farming -- Ron Jester, Cooperative Extension, Univ. of DEL
- 2:45 The Latest in Pesticide Safety Equipment - Pat Hastings, Office of Pesticide Training
- 3:15 What are the REAL Farm Safety Hazards on Our
- -- Ray Samulis, Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE
- 3:45 Information from Our **Exhibitors**
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 4:00 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

5:00 to 7pm

Exhibitors Sponsored Social Hour w/ Open Bar in the Trade Show in the Mark Etess Arena

soil quality

Wednesday Morning January 18, 2012

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Diamond Ballroom A George Hamilton

Specialist in Entomology, RCE

- 9:30 Introduction and Background
- --George Hamilton, Specialist in Pest Management, RCE
- 9:35 A Review of Adult BMSB Populations From The RCE IPM Blacklight Network
- -- Kris Holmstrom, North Jersey Program Coordinator, RCE
- 9:55 Insecticide Efficacy Research on BMSB on Vegetables in Virginia --Thomas Kuhar, Professor of Entomology, Virginia Tech
- 10:15 Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Results of Pepper Trials 2011 --Galen Dively, Professor of Entomology, Univ. of Maryland
- 10:35 Monitoring and Treatments for BMSB in NJ Tree Fruit Crops in 2011
- --Dean Polk, Statewide Fruit IPM Agent, RCE
- 10:55 Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Results of Pepper Trials 2011 --Gerry Ghidiu, Specialist in Vegetable Entomology, RCE
- 11:15 Stink Bug Impact Survey for Growers
- -- Eric Day, Professor of Entomology, Virginia Tech
- 11:35 Information from Our Exhibitors
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 11:45 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Sweet Corn

Diamond Ballroom B Raymond Samulis

Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE

- 9:30 Sweet Corn Marketing Trends and Future Directions, -- Joshua Troy, New Jersey Ag Statistics
- 10:00 Delivering Innovation in the Seed: A Revolution in Plant Breeding
- -- John Headrick, Global Manager Monsanto Biotech Seeds
- 10:30 Information from Our Exhibitors
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 10:40 The Latest Innovations in the Florida Sweet Corn Industry
- -- Gene McAvoy, Extension Agent IV, Regional Vegetable/ Horticulture UF/IFAS
- 11:10 What Value do Sweet Corn Seed Treatments Really Have?
- -- Ray Samulis, Burlington County Ag Agent, RCE
- 11:40 Questions and Recertification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Direct Marketing

Diamond Ballroom C Rick Van Vranken

Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE

- 9:30 Introduction
 -- Rick VanVranken,
 Ag Agent Atlantic County, RCE
- 9:35 Information from Our Exhibitors
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 9:45 Seasonal High Tunnels: A New NRCS Initiative -- Fred Kelly, Resource Conservationist -- Fran Grasso, Program
- 10:00 Opportunities for Farm to-School Initiatives
- -- Beth Feehan, Director

Specialist

- 10:20 Jersey Fresh School Meals
- -- Diane Holtaway, Associate Director, Client Services
- 10:40 Web & Social Media Marketing 101
- -- Simon Huntley, Lead Developer
- 11:10 -- The Impact of Food Bloggers on Marketing your Products.
- -- Dan'l Mackey Almy, DMA Solutions Inc.
- 11:40 Questions and Recertification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

NJDA Listening Session 1

Diamond Ballroom D ???? NJDA

Topic Estate Planning

9:30 -

12:00 to	WIC & Seniors FMNP Vendors	
1:30 pm	Mandatory Three Year Cycle/Annual Training with Forms/documents, Q&A	Silver Room
	Janet Prester, NJDOH and William Walker, NJDA	

Wednesday Afternoon January 18, 2012

Tomatoes

Diamond Ballroom A

Peter Nitzsche

Morris County Ag Agent, RCE

- 2:15 Seasonal High Tunnels: A New NRCS Initiative
- -- Fred Kelly, Resource Conservationist NRCS -- Fran Grasso, Program Specialist, NRCS
- 2:30 Information from Our Exhibitors – Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 2:40 Using Web-Based Tomato Disease Models --Joseph Ingerson-Mahar, Veg. IPM Coordinator, RU
- 3:10 Tomato Pollination in Extreme Conditions --Monica Ozores-Hampton, Vegetable Specialist University of Florida
- 3:40 To Experiences in Grafting Tomatoes in NJ -- Peter Nitzsche, Ag Agent Morris County, RCE
- 4:10 Best Management Practices for Tomato Fertilization
- --Monica Ozores-Hampton, Vegetable Specialist University of Florida
- 4:40 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

NJAA Session

Gold Room

Jenny Carleo Cape May County Ag Agent, RCE

- 2:15 Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 2:25 -- NJAA and what you didn't know we do
- -- Jenny Carleo, Cape May County Ag Agent, RCE
- 2:10 Farmers vs. Motor Vehicle - Age 16 driving regulations, farmer plates
- -- Karen Kritz, NJDA
- 2:40 Ag Tourism Liberty Farm-Innovation from a New Angle Sunflower Maze
- -- Raj Sinha, Owner
- 3:10 CSA How to put one together -- Michelle Casella, Gloucester County Ag Agent, RCE
- 3:40 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Blueberries

Diamond Ballroom B

Gary Pavlis

Atlantic County Ag Agent, RCE

- 2:15 The importance of clean plants and the role of the National Clean Plant Network
- -- **Dr. Ioannis Tzametakis**, Dept. of Plant Pathology, Univ. of Arkansas
- 2:45 Disease Management Recommendations for 2012 -- Dr. **Peter Oudemans**, Blueberry/Cranberry Plant Pathologist, RCE
- 3:05 Information from Our Exhibitors
- -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 3:15 Plum Curculio Update: Results on new monitoring and management strategies
- -- Dr. Cesar Rodriquez-Saona, Blueberry/Cranberry Entomologist, RCE
- 3:35 Spotted Wing Drosophila - 2011 Trap captures and distribution in NJ
- -- Dean Polk, IPM Agent, RCE
- 3:55 Blueberry Pollination -- Dr. Rachael Winfree, Prof. of Entomology, Rutgers
- 4:15 Questions, Pesticide Re-certification Credits, and Adjournment

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

Wildlife Control

Diamond Ballroom C

Mel Henninger Extension Specialist,

RCE, retired
All you ever wanted to
know about Depredations
Permits for deer, geese,
bear, turkeys, hogs,
buzzards, black birds.
Bring your questions

- 2:15 New Jersey Farmer Depredation Permits for Deer, Bear,
- -- Anthony McBride, Wildlife Control Unit, Div of Fish & Wildlife, NJ-DEP
- 2:45 Federal Goose Depredation Permits -- Adam Randall, Wildlife Disease Biologist, USDA APHIS WS -- Nicole Rein, Wildlife Biologist, USDA-Aphis WS
- 3:30 Grower questions and Comments for the State and Federal Agents -- NJ Farmers
- 4:00 Information from Our Exhibitors -- Wayne Knerr, Helena Chemical
- 4:10 Preventing Catastrophic Failures of Poly Tanks and Pesticide Spills
- -- Mel Henninger, Extension Specialist in Vegetable
- 4:40 Questions and Re-certification Credits

Cat 1A=?, pp2=?, cat10=?

NJDA Listening Session 2

Diamond Ballroom D

NJDA

Topic Marketing your Farm Operation Using Social Media

9:30 -

Wednesday Afternoon January 18, 2012 ?? Ballroom

2:00 pm to 4:00pm	State Broad Resolution Session
Zioo pini to iloopini	State Bload Repolation Seption

5:30 pm to 6:30pm	Queens Court Reception and Social Hour in the Mark Etess Arena	
7:00 pm	Joint Vegetable Growers & Ag Convention Banquet in the ?? Ballroom	

Thursday Morning January 19, 2012		
NJDA Listening Session 3	NJDA Listening Session 4	
Diamond Ballroom A	Diamond Ballroom B	
????	????	
NJDA	NJDA	
Topic	Topic	
Topic Crop Insurance and Risk Management	Farmland Preservation	
9:30 –	9:30 —	

TOTAL STREET TO BE REALIZED TO	Farm Credit Luncheon in the Trade Show in the Mark Etess Arena
10.15	I Domes Charlet I remales are in the Thords Observe in the Monte Utage Angus
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12.15 pm to 1.50pm	Tailli Cicait Lailcicoit iii the Tiade bliow iii the Mark Liess Aleila



United States Department of Agriculture Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services New Jersey Farm Service Agency 300 Clocktower Dr, Suite 202 Hamilton Square, NJ 08690 609-587-0104 - Phone 609-587-0904 - Admin Fax 609-587-0906 - Program Fax

Farm Service Agency Update NJ State Board of Agriculture Meeting – Nov 16, 2011

<u>Hispanic & Women Farmer Claims</u>: If you believe that the 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. Call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

<u>Disaster Designation</u>: As a result of Presidential Disaster Designations, farmers in all NJ counties are eligible to apply for FSA Emergency Loans (EM) for losses related to the recent hurricane. EM applications can be submitted to FSA through May 15, 2012.

Streamlining Acreage Reporting Deadlines: In the past year, a joint RMA-FSA review team undertook an exercise—known as the Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI)—to examine the ARDs across both RMA and FSA. Before the streamlining, RMA had 54 ARDs for 122 crops, and FSA had 17 ARDs for 273 crops. The review team consolidated all of them into the 15 common ARDs. RMA and FSA will implement the July 15, 2012, and August 15, 2012, ARDs for certain commodities during the 2012 crop/program year. The remaining common ARDs will be implemented during the 2013 crop/program year.

Proposed Rule for Streamlining Secretarial Disaster Designations: The proposed rule for streamlining USDA Secretarial designation condenses the six-step process to a two-step process. It will expedite and simplify the disaster designation process for severe drought occurrences by using the U.S. Drought Monitor as a tool to automatically trigger disaster areas with no further documentation. It will remove the requirement that a request for a disaster designation be initiated by a state governor or Indian tribal council. (Note: This rule still allows a state governor or Indian tribal council to request a Secretarial Disaster Designation.) The proposed rule, which is contained in the Federal Register dated Nov. 14, 2011, at http://www.regulations.gov, has a 60-day comment period. Comments on the proposed rule must be submitted no later than Jan. 13, 2012, to be considered.

<u>Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE):</u> Program enrollment for 2010 crop year losses began <u>November 14, 2011</u>. To be eligible, producers must have obtained insurance through the FCIC or FSA's NAP program.

<u>Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program</u>: Next signup deadlines are: <u>November 20, 2011</u> for apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, cranberries, grapes, honey, nectarines, onions, peaches, pears, plums, scallions, and shallots; and <u>December 31, 2011</u> for asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, greens, herbs, horseradish, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, parsnip, peas, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, and turnips.

<u>Emergency Conservation Program</u>: ECP is now available for Burlington, Camden, Ocean, Monmouth, Middlesex, Mercer, Somerset, Hunterdon, Union, Salem, Gloucester, Sussex, and Warren Counties. Sign-up is for a limited time, farmers should contact their county office for their specific deadline and additional information. NOTE: Although ECP sign-up is available now, funding has not yet been approved.

<u>Farm Loan Program Update</u>: To date, for FY 2012, one Direct OL/BF/SDA loan has been obligated in the amount of \$20,000.

National Reserve funds are available during the continuing resolution through November 18, 2011 in the following programs: Direct OL – SDA (both NBF and BF) and Unsubsidized Guaranteed OL – all categories.

National Reserve funds are Depleted in the following categories:

Direct OL – non SDA (both NBF and BF)
Direct FO – non SDA (includes NBF, BF, DP/Participation)
Direct FO – SDA (both ethnic and gender)
Guaranteed FO – all categories

Emergency Funds have yet to be provided for FY 2012

The FLP Service Centers will continue to process loan applications and approve them subject to the availability of funds.

November interest rates are: Operating 1.375% Farm Ownership 3.75% Emergency 3.75%



Winter Wednesday Lunch Series: Vegetable Production Webinars

Dates: December 7, 2011
January 4, 2012
February 29, 2012
March 14, 2012

Time: noon—1 pm

Cost: \$15 for the series of four (payable by check or credit card)

Register online or by phone:

http://extension.psu.edu/vegetable-fruit Click on "Vegetable Production Webinars"

No computer? No problem! Call toll-free 1-877-489-1398

The Penn State Extension Vegetable and Small Fruit Program

presents a series of webinars to keep you informed on critical production issues. The series provides convenient access to timely updates in vegetable and small fruit production for extension educators, producers and industry representatives in Pennsylvania and surrounding states.

Topics and Speakers

December 7: Dealing with Weather Extremes: Excess Heat and Moisture.

Elsa Sánchez, Penn State Department of Horticulture.

January 4: New Resources for Beginning Organic Vegetable Growers: What You Need to Know and Where to Find It.

Tianna DuPont, Penn State Extension.

February 29: Vegetable Disease Management: What You Need to Know for 2012.

Beth Gugino, Penn State Department of Plant Pathology. (2 recertification category 03 and 18 credits)

March 14: New Insect Pests.

Shelby Fleischer and Greg Krawczyk, Penn State Department of Entomology, and Kathy Demchack, Penn State Department of Horticulture. (2 recertification category 03 and 18 credits)

Join our blog! http://extension.psu.edu/vegetable-fruit

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.





Cumberland County Board of Agriculture Invites you to tour the

Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market

Wednesday December 14, 2011

Bus leaves the Cooperative Extension Office, 291 Morton Avenue, Millville, NJ 4:15 a.m.

Pre-registration required

E-mail registration to: commander@njaes.rutgers.edu or fax registration form to: 856-451-4206 by December 12, 2011.

Please note: This tour is open to the first 50 (fifty) people to register.

Bring your business cards! You may have an opportunity to do business.

Registration

Cumberland County Board of Agriculture sponsored tour of the New Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market

6700 Essington Avenue Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, December 14, 2011, 4:15 a.m.

Name(s):	
Address:	
Telephone Number:	
Cell Phone Number:	_
Please note: Tour limited to first fifty registrants. Monday, December 12, 2011.	Registration must be made by
Please fax registration to 856-451-4206 or e-mail	registration to:

We received this letter from C&E Farms who are looking for snap bean growers. They are holding an informational meeting at the Woodstown Dinner on December 15 at 6:00 pm. If you are interested plan to attend or contact the person listed below – Wes Kline

Dear New Jersey Grower,

I am writing to you today on behalf of C&E Farms. C&E Farms is a grower packer shipper of fresh market green beans, based on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Parrish Florida. We are partnered with over 45 growers in Florida, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, covering 4000 acres.

C&E has increased its market share the last few years, and we are interested in expanding our program in your area. We are specifically looking for irrigated acres. The requirement of irrigation is so we can have consistent quality and supply of green beans for sales. The grower does not need to have previous experience growing vegetables. There is no special equipment needed to grow green beans. If you can plant corn, you can plant a green bean.

I will be hosting a dinner meeting at **Woodstown Dinner Dec. 15** at 6:00 pm, to provide information about who we are, what we do, and what we are looking for. I believe this is a good opportunity for growers looking to add a little diversification to what they plant.

Thanks for your time.

Justin Colson
Operations Manger / Sales
C&E Farms
Office 757-678-5097
Cell 757-678-3277
Fax 757-678-5718