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Farm Safety Twilight Meeting

Food Safety Modernization Act

Now is the Time to Pay Attention!

To help give the produce industry a better understanding of how FSMA will affect individual operations, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and New Jersey Farm Bureau are sponsoring a listening session with FDA on October 22nd at the Rutgers EcoComplex in Bordentown. This will be your best opportunity to hear directly from FDA on the rules and share your comments. The enclosed flyer provides details. Please note that pre-registration is encouraged. Do not pass up this chance!

We have been including many articles in the Cultivating Cumberland and on the Plant and Pest Advisory website concerning the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) passed by Congress. The comment period for the proposed rules written by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have been extended several times since they were released, but the final comment period ends November 15. If you have any opinion about the rules, now is the time to comment directly to FDA. Attached to this newsletter is an information page prepared by FDA to help growers understand the proposed rules and how to comment. Go to website: www.fda.gov/FSMA and look on the right side of the page for a toolkit marked FOR FARMERS. This will provide direct links for all the fact-sheets listed on those pages.

Center for Produce Safety Symposium

Dr. Wes Kline, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Cumberland County

In the last issue I summarized some findings from The Center for Produce Safety (CPS) fourth annual research symposium. The full technical reports for these research programs can be found on the CPS website at cps.ucdavis.edu. The "10 key lessons" learned from the symposium were summarized by Drs. Bob Whitaker and Jim Gorny representing the technical committee of CPS. Following is the next installment from their report.

Know your compost supplier

The use of various composts is a common and necessary practice in the produce industry to improve and restore soil fertility. However, the safe production and application of composts must be viewed as the result of a well-controlled manufacturing process that is monitored and verified. Dr. Xiuping Jiang (Clemson University) demonstrated that the manufacture of heat treated chicken pellets requires precise control of temperature, time and moisture levels to achieve a ten million-fold reduction of *Salmonella*. Dr. Jiang has previously reported that several variables impact the efficacy of composting operations to reduce human pathogens and prevent cross contamination including: heat up times, temperature, time, moisture, turns, C:N ratios, particle size, microbial populations and finished compost storage practices. Dr. Manan Sharma (USDA-Beltsville) spoke about the importance of compost verification testing specifically pointing out that sample size is critical when testing to verify that a compost process has been conducted effectively. It is important for growers purchasing composts for use in fields to know their supplier and that the supplier can demonstrate that the compost was produced according to a validated process and further that they can verify that the specific lot(s) being purchased were produced within the parameters of that validated process. If the grower is producing composts for use on their farm, they must understand the variables of the composting process and verify that the process they used has effectively reduced human pathogen populations.

Wash water: do no harm

Many different products are washed, cooled or transported using water. Therefore it is important that the water is treated and maintained properly so that it does not become a source of cross contamination for human pathogens, should they be present. In other words, understanding your process for water disinfection and validating its efficacy is critical for the safety of the product. It is equally important to remember that simply washing products is not an effective mechanism for removing contamination, i.e. it cannot remove or kill pathogens that have had the opportunity to naturally seek out hidden surfaces on products and adhere to them. Therefore our focus is to manage contamination risks throughout production (e.g. GAPs, inspections, hygiene, equipment sanitation, training programs, etc.) and control wash, cooling and transport processes using water so that we do not create cross contamination scenarios. Dr. Keith Warriner (University of Guelph) stressed that it is important to understand the variables of your wash water system and control them properly to insure that disinfectants can control microbial populations in the water. Some of these variables include: temperature, pH, turbidity, sanitizer concentration, product load per wash volume, contact time and source water quality. Each type of system can have different characteristics and physical design so operators must characterize their specific system and validate that their disinfection process or preventive controls are effective and verify that they are operating the system within the validated limits during production run. This is the basis for FDA's proposed hazard analysis risk preventive controls (HARPC) proposal in the preventive controls rule. Improper control over wash, cooling or water-based transport systems can do harm, i.e. resulting in large-scale cross contaminations. Dr. Trevor Suslow vividly demonstrated this assertion using an inoculated cilantro load and washing it with un-inoculated parsley on a commercial wash system. The improperly controlled wash system permitted cross contamination onto the parsley demonstrating the potential for cross contamination.



Instructions on How to Comment on the Proposed FSMA Rules

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) is the most sweeping reform of food safety laws in over 70 years. Signed January 4, 2011 by President Obama, FSMA aims to create an integrated food safety system and improve the quality of food products to the public by reducing foodborne illness.

On January 4, 2013, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued two major proposed FSMA rules:

- The proposed rule to establish standards for the growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of produce for human consumption (the produce safety proposed rule); and
- The current good manufacturing practice and hazard analysis and risk-based preventive controls for human food (the preventive controls proposed rule).

In the <u>Federal Register</u> of January 16, 2013 (78 FR 3503 and 78 FR 3646), FDA announced the establishment of two dockets so that the public can review the produce safety proposed rule and the preventive controls proposed rule and submit comments to the Agency. In the <u>Federal Register</u> of August 8, 2013, the Agency extended the comment period for an additional 60 days until November 15, 2013. This is the second and final extension of the comment period for these two rules.

There are two ways to comment:

Comment electronically at:

- https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/04/26/2013-09763/current-goodmanufacturing-practice-and-hazard-analysis-and-risk-based-preventive-controls-forhuman
- https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/04/26/2013-09761/standards-for-the-growing-harvesting-packing-and-holding-of-produce-for-human-consumption-extension

Written comments may be faxed to the FDA at 301-827-6870 or you may mail them to:

Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Video on the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

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Barbara O'Neill, Specialist in Finance Management, at Rutgers recently became chair of the Extension Health Insurance Literacy Initiative (HILI) task force that is developing materials about the ACA Law for farmers. She forwarded information concerning a video which is from a two-hour workshop for farmers about the ACA law and may be very helpful. It can be viewed any time online. The video is of a workshop sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension, Farm Credit East, and other partners. It's a bit long but people can watch it in shorter chunks over time.

According to O'Neill, the presenter is very knowledgeable and knows ag sector businesses well and uses a lot of ag industry examples. It is a 100% "just the facts" approach by a labor employment attorney who is well versed in the ACA. Go to the following link: https://www.farmcrediteast.com/Products-and-Services/Video-Insights/Healthcare-Seminar.aspx

Webinar on the ACA

Barbara O'Neill and a colleague from Kansas State will be giving a webinar on Friday, October 18 from 1 to 2:30 pm about farm families and the Affordable Care Act. Participants will learn how the ACA affects farm families as individuals, as business operators and their farmworkers. Go to https://learn.extension.org/events/1256 for more details.

Employer Requirements Under ACA

The Affordable Care Act requires all employers to start notifying their workers whether or not the employer provides health insurance for employees. The Fair Labor Standards Act section 18B requirement to provide a notice to employees of coverage options applies to ALL employers and is effective October 1, 2013. All current employees and all new hires must be given a form with information on the Marketplace Exchanges and with their current employer information. They will need their employer information if they decide to get a health insurance quotation for themselves and/or their families.

The U.S. Department of Labor has this information on their web site at: https://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform/index.html

There you will find sample notices along with some other information concerning your responsibilities under the Affordable Care Act as an employer.

If your operation DOES offer or provide health care, please visit the U.S. DOL web site listed above to find the notice you should provide to your employees.

NJ Agricultural Achievement Award Applications

Lynne Richmond, NJDA

NJ 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 NJ Agricultural Achievement Award. One winner will be selected and awarded a scholarship to honor their achievements.

The New Jersey Agricultural Achievement Award, sponsored by Dr. Amy Butewicz, a former NJ 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.

The qualifications for receiving this award include submitting an application that can be found at: www.jerseyequine.nj.gov/agachievementapplform.pdf, 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 NJ Equine Advisory Board and/or represented at the Youth Reception portion of the NJ State Agricultural Convention. Each organization of the NJ 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 Annual NJ Bred Equine Breeders Award Luncheon to be held on Sunday, January 26, 2014 in Eastampton and will read his or her essay to the attendees.

Please mail application, resume and essay by January 2, 2014 to:

NJDA Attn: Lynn Mathews P.O. Box 330 Trenton, NJ 08625

If you have any questions contact Lynn Mathews 609-292-2888 or lynn.mathews@ag.state.nj.us

NAA, USB, NJDA Announce Aquaculture Business Management and Marketing Workshop

Lynne Richmond, NJDA

The National Aquaculture Association (NAA), the United Soybean Board (USB) and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) will sponsor a half-day workshop, "Aquaculture Business Management and Marketing" on Thursday, October 17th at the Stockton Seaview & Golf Club in Galloway. The program will provide business owners and operators with the tools to develop growth strategies that will help them stay competitive in a challenging marketplace.

The workshop will provide a quick system for assessing aquaculture farm financial health. Hands-on exercises focused on interpreting financial indicators and using those indicators in management decision making will be covered. Each participant will receive a take-home toolkit to assist them in making decisions going forward.

To help growers refine their marketing plans, summaries of trends in pricing and quantities sold of the most important regional aquaculture products will be presented and market reports will be provided. Prices, promotion, and trends for the most important competing products also will be analyzed. Growers who participate in the workshop can request customized reports, which in another setting, would cost many thousands of dollars.

To help businesses create tactics that can reduce costs and increase profits, market diversification strategies including e-marketing, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), niche marketing, farmers markets, product branding and exporting will be discussed. Product placement, pricing and cost-effective distribution schemes will be emphasized. Organizational structures that include vertical and horizontal integration (i.e. forming producer organizations for meeting product demand, processing specifications, distribution and/or marketing), contract growing and multi-level marketing also will be covered.

The U.S. aquaculture industry has enormous growth potential over the next decade, but will require producers to make smart business decisions. Management decisions based on close attention and understanding of key financial indicators and marketing strategies can make the difference between growth and business failure. For those segments of aquaculture with fewer current financial challenges, it is crucial to proactively avoid the financial distress that is being experienced elsewhere in U.S. aquaculture.

Workshop speakers include Linda O'Dierno, NAA Outreach Specialist and Dr. Carole Engle and Dr. Madan Dey of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB).

The \$25 registration fee includes the workshop, take home materials, break and lunch.

For more information about the workshop and registration instructions, contact: Elizabeth Woodworth at Elizabeth.Woodworth@ag.state.nj.us

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USDA-NRCS Sets application periods for Conservation programs

Barbara Phillips, Public Affairs Specialist USDA

State Conservationist, Carrie Mosley has initiated application periods for Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA), the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and EQIP Conservation Activity Plans (CAP). The current application period will close on October 18th, so that selected projects can be planned and funds allocated. "We have opened this sign-up now so that our planners can work with eligible applicants to prepare for conservation projects and have them ready to go as soon as Farm Bill funding is available," said Mosley. These voluntary conservation programs are offered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in NJ to support conservation on agricultural and forested land. NRCS professionals work with producers to develop a conservation plan for their operation, design conservation practices and provide guidance to help implement the plan.

The Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) is a voluntary conservation program that targets beginning and limited resource farmers, small farms and producers who have had limited participation in other USDA financial assistance programs. AMA provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to address issues such as water management, water quality and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operations.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program for persons who are engaged in livestock, forestry or agricultural production, including organic production. EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices on eligible agricultural land, and provides payments for implementing conservation practices that have a positive environmental impact, while protecting long term agricultural production and sustainability.

EQIP Conservation Activity Plans (CAPS) combine specific land use objectives associated with a renewable resource with a comprehensive management plan that addresses all of the natural resource concerns with an agriculture or forestry operation. The purpose of a CAP is to outline a combination of vegetative, structural and/or management practices necessary to protect and sustain natural resources on agricultural and forest landscapes, and to serve as a blueprint for future implementation of conservation practices. NJ NRCS offers twelve Conservation Activity Plan options, including: Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP) - Landscape, Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP), Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition (CPSOT), Forest Management Plan (FMP), Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP), Irrigation Water Management Plan (IWMP) and Nutrient Management Plan (NMP).

Visit your local USDA-NRCS office to apply for these and all programs offered by NRCS. USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex (including gender identity and expression), marital status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

NRCS Service Center Locations:

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2013 NJ Woodland Steward Program

Date: October 17-20, 2013

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education

7th Street & North Navajo Drive, Waretown, NJ 08758

NJ Woodland Stewards Program—Another fabulous program has been prepared starting Thursday, October 17th at 4:00 p.m. and running through Sunday, October 20th at 3:15 p.m.

The NJ Woodland Steward Program is an outreach effort of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, NRCS, the NJ Forestry Association and the NJ Forest Stewardship Program. We are seeking a diverse group of New Jersey residents who embrace a forest stewardship ethic, want to learn more about sound forest management and are willing to share what they learn with private forest landowners, their community leaders and the public at large. A limited number of participants will be accepted into the program. If you are interested, please respond as soon as possible by calling Lori Jenssen, NJ Forestry Association at 908-832-2400.

Rutgers Food Safety Facebook Page

We now have a Rutgers Farm Food Safety facebook page! Take a look at our page for updated information on FSMA, educational outreach, third party audits, etc. You can find the page by going to google and typing "Rutgers Farm Food Safety" and the facebook choice will be in the list.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Focus on Business in AC—Green Expo

Date: Tuesday—Thursday, December 10-12, 2013

Place: Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort

Atlantic City, NJ

NJ Green Expo continues the proud tradition as a pacesetter for the Green industry. Activities at the expo are intended to serve the various interests of the Green industry. This year's NJ Green Expo will be held at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, NJ on December 10-12, 2013.

Green Expo activities represent the combined efforts of the NJ Turfgrass Association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of NJ, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, SEBS (School of Environmental and Biological Sciences) and other allied associations. The format of an Educational Conference combined with a Trade Show has provided professionals "an excellent and unequaled opportunity....not only to broaden their knowledge and expertise but also to stay abreast of recent developments in the industry".

25th Annual Florida Postharvest Horticulture Tour March 3-7, 2014

The Florida Postharvest Horticulture Tour brings participants "up-close and personal" to learn how fresh subtropical, tropical and temperate fruits, vegetables and ornamental crops are handled. With exclusive, behind-the-scene visits hosted by top management, the group becomes familiar with a variety of methods and technologies employed to harvest, pack, cool, ship and receive fresh crops.

This program is coordinated by Dr. Steven Sargent and Dr. Mark Ritenour, specialists in the area of post-harvest technology at the University of Florida-IFAS. This tour is designed for produce industry professionals, educators, researchers and students in such diverse areas as field and packinghouse management, transportation, wholesale and retail sales and import/export. The group will visit large and small-scale operations, compare cooling technologies, visit a fresh-cut processor and a major supermarket distribution center.

For more info or to register go to: http://postharvest2014.eventbrite.com/

Owners of Colorado cantaloupe Farm Arrested in listeria outbreak

The Associated Press, Thursday, 9/26/13

Eric and Ryan Jensen were charged with introducing adulterated food into interstate commerce. An investigation by the FDA found dirty conditions in the farm's packing house were likely responsible for the outbreak.

The owners of a Colorado cantaloupe farm were arrested Thursday on charges stemming from a 2011 listeria epidemic that killed 33 people in one of the nation's deadliest outbreaks of foodborne illness. Federal prosecutors said brothers Eric and Ryan Jensen were arrested on misdemeanor charges of introducing adulterated food into interstate commerce.

The Jensens' attorney did not immediately return a call seeking comment. Prosecutors said the federal Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control determined that the Jensen's didn't adequately clean the cantaloupe. The FDA has said the melons likely were contaminated in Jensen Farms' packing house. It concluded that dirty water on a floor and old, hard-to-clean equipment probably were to blame.

The epidemic was the deadliest outbreak of foodborne illness in 25 years and it delivered a serious blow to Colorado cantaloupe farmers. The CDC said people living in 28 states consumed the contaminated fruit. A number of lawsuits were filed by people who were sickened or who had a family member die after the outbreak.

Eric Jensen, 37 and Ryan Jensen, 33, operated their farm in southeastern Colorado. The farm filed for bankruptcy after the outbreak. The FDA said Jensen Farms had bought the used processing equipment just before the outbreak, and it was corroded, dirty and hard to clean. The packing facility floors also constructed were so they were hard to clean, so pools of water potentially harboring the bacteria formed close to the packing equipment. The dirty equipment previously was used to wash and dry potatoes, the agency said, and the listeria could have been introduced as a result of its past use.

The FDA said the was the cantaloupes were cooled after being picked may have exacerbated the listeria growth, and that another possible source of contamination was a truck that frequently hauled cantaloupe to a cattle operation and was parked near the packing house.

The outbreak was a setback for farms in Colorado's revered Rocky Ford cantaloupe region, where hot, sunny days and cold nights produce fruit known for its distinct sweetness.

Jensen Farms was about 90 miles aware from Rocky Ford, but the Jensens used the Rocky Ford name, and sales dropped across the region. Later, Rocky Ford farmers patented the Rocky Ford name, hired a full-time food safety manager and built a central packing operation where melons are washed and rinsed.

Calendar of Important Events

Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

October 2013

October 16

Emergency Pesticide Recertification, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$245 by 10/2; \$270 after. Credits: 3B, 6B & CORE = 4; 3A & PP2 = 2. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

October 18-19

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

October 18-21

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit 2013, New Orleans. For more information call 302-738-7100, email: solutionctr@pma.com or visit: www.freshsummit.com

October 24

Emergency Pesticide 1/2 Day Sessions in 3A & 3B, 9 a,m - noon or 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, \$175 each by 10/10; \$190 after. Credits: 3A class: 3A - 6, Core - 2; 3B class: 3B - 6 & Core - 2. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

October 31

Pesticide Calibration, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$195 by 10/17; \$210 after. Credits: 8 Core. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

November 2013

November 4-8

2013 Irrigation & Education Conference, Austin, Texas. For more information visit: www.irrigation.org/irrigationshow.

November 7-8

Introduction to Plant Identification, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. (11/7) and 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (11/8); \$395 by 10/21; \$430 after. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

November 10-13

Western Growers Association 88th Annual Meeting, Waikiki, Hawaii. For more information call 949-885-2262 or visit: www.wgannualmeeting.com

November 13-14

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

Better Process Control School, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, \$995 by 11/5; \$1,095. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

November 21

Basic Pesticide Training CORE Certification of Applicators and Operators (Bilingual), Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$140. Pesticide credits: 6 Core. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

Large Tree Climbing & Rigging, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, \$395 by 11/7; \$430 after. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 2013

December 2 & 9

Soil & Plant Relationships, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$295 by 11/18; \$325 after. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 2-4

Washington State Horticulture Association Annual Meeting, Wenatchee, Washington. For more information call 509-665-9641 or visit: www.wahort.org

December 4

Snow & Ice Removal, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; \$195 by 11/20; \$210 after. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 4-7

Joint NCSA/NASGA Conference, Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham, North Carolina. For more information email: info@ncstrawberry.com or visit: www.ncstrawberry.com

December 5

Common Sense Business & Pricing Strategies, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; \$195 by 11/21; \$210 after. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

→ December 5-6

Practical Food Microbiology, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, \$795 by 11/21; \$825 after. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 6

Haygrove Owners Conference, For more information call 717-492-4955 or visit: www.tunnelbuzz.com

→ December 6

Hazardous Tree Identification (winter), Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; \$245 by 11/22; \$270 after. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 10-12

Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable & Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, Mich. For more information call 616-794-0492 or visit: www.glexpo.com

December 18

Basic Pesticide Training CORE Certification of Applicators & Operators, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$140. Pesticide credits: 6 Core. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

December 19

Basics of Turfgrass Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$195 by 12/5; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 2 Cat. 13, 4 Cat Core, 1A, 5, 3B & PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

Turfgrass Establishment, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m.- 3:45 p.m., \$195 by 12/6; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 7 Cat. 3B & PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 2014

Pest Management of Ornamental Landscape Plants, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.; \$195 by 12/23; \$210 after. Pesticide credits: 2 CORE & PP2; 8 Cat 2, 3A, 6B & 8C. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 6-7

Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Lexington, Ky. For more information contact John Strang 859-257-5685 or email: jstrang@uky.edu

January 8-10

Potato Expo 2014, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas. For more information call 202-682-9456, email: hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org or visit: www.nationalpotatocouncil.org

January 8-12

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

January 9-12

Southeast Regional Conference and Trade Show, Savannah International Trade & Convention Center, Savannah, Ga. For more information visit: www.seregionalconference.com

January 10-11

National Potato Council Annual meeting, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas. For more information call 202-682-9456 or email: hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org

January 13-17

Mid-Atlantic Short Course, Marriott City Center, Newport News, VA. For more information visit: http://www.mahsc.org

Managing Diseases of Ornamental Landscape Plants, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.; \$195 by 12/13; \$210 after. Pesticide Recertification Credits: 10 Cat 2, 3A, 6B, 8C & PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

Integrated Pest Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; \$395 by 12/31; \$430 after (single day 1/14 only \$195); Pesticide recertification credits: Day 1: 4 Categories 3A & 3B; 8 Categories 13, 2, 6B, 8C and CORE. Day 2: 3 Cat 3A; 4 Categories 3B, CORE & 13; 6 Categories 6B, 8C & PP2. Day 3: 3 Categories 3A & 3B; 6 Categories 6B, 8C & PP2; 4 Categories 13 & CORE. For more information call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 20-22

Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association, Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Sandusky, Ohio. For more information visit: www.opgma.org

January 21-23

Empire State Fruit & Vegetable Expo, Oncenter Convention Center, Syracuse, NY. For more information email Jeanette Marvin at nysvga@twcny.rr.com

January 21-23

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

January 23-24

lowa Fruit & Vegetable Growers Assoc. Conf., Ankeny, Iowa. For more information contact Adam Hohl by email: info@ifvga.org

Organic Turfgrass Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; \$195 by 1/14; \$210 after. Pesticide Credits: 2 Cat PP2; 8 Cat 3B & 9 Cat 13. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

January 29

Pesticide Calibration (Session II), Rutgers Cont. Ed., 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$195 by 1/15/14 \$210 after. Pesticide recertification credits: 8 Core. For more information call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

Pest Management of Landscape Turf, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$195 by 1/16; \$210 after. Pesticide recertification credits: 2 Categories 13; 11 Categories 3B & PP2. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

February 2014

February 4

33rd Annual New Mexico Chile Conference, Hotel Encanto, Las Cruces, NM. For more information contact the Chile Pepper Institute 575-646-5284 or visit: www.chilepepperinstitute.org

Midwest Grape & Wine Conference, St. Charles Convention Center., St. Charles, MO. For more information contact Jennifer Tiber 888-273-4533, email: jtiber@boothboss.com or visit: www.midwestgrapeandwineconference.com

National Potato Council Potato D.C. Fly-In, The Madison Hotel, Washington, D.C. For more information call 202-682-9456 or email: hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org

Hazardous Tree Identification (spring), Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ; 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; \$245 by 2/13; \$270 after. For more information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

March 2014

California Small Farm Conference, Rohnert Park, California For more information call 888-712-4188, email: conference@californiafarmconference.com or visit: www.californiafarmconference.com

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)

2013

Oct 23

Nov 6 Dec 18

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

Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)

2013

Oct 9

Nov 13 Dec 11

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

Cumberland County Board Of Agriculture 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332 (Between Rosenhayn & Carmel) 7 pm meetings

2013

Oct 17

Nov 21 Dec 19

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 Questions? Call Karen Kritz, NJ Dept. of Ag 609-984-2506

> Oct 18 Nov 15

> > 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/

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FSMA Facts



Resources for Produce Farmers



(NEW

FDA is committed to developing a final rule on produce safety that prevents illnesses but is also practical and adaptable to a wide diversity of growing conditions and practices. We continue to invite your input and comments through November 15. Learn more about the Proposed Produce Safety Rule through an interview with Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine Michael R. Taylor.

Fact Sheets on Produce

- Does this Rule Apply to You? (diagram)
- Commodities Related to Outbreaks Change Frequently (NEW)
- FSMA Proposed Rule for Produce Safety
- I Have a Farm Does the Preventive Controls Rule Affect Me?

Fact Sheets on FSMA

- Background on FSMA
- Food Safety Legislation Key Facts
- <u>Snapshot of Food Safety Milestones in the</u> <u>History of the FDA</u>
- The Food Safety Law and the Rulemaking Process: Putting FSMA to Work

Key Issues

- Agricultural Water: Subpart E (diagram) (NEW)
- Alternatives and Variances (NEW)
- <u>Equipment, Tools, Buildings, and</u>
 Sanitation: Subpart L
- Biological Soil Amendments: Subpart F
- Domesticated and Wild Animals: Subpart I
- Personnel Qualifications, Training, and Health and Hygiene: Subparts C and D
- Sprouts: Subpart M
- FAQ on Proposed Rule for Produce Safety
- How to Comment



Need Help?

These partners provide technical assistance and education on the proposed rule on produce safety.

- Produce Safety Alliance
- Sprout Safety Alliance



Videos & Presentations

- FSMA 101 (a video tutorial)
- The Rulemaking Process: A Primer by FDA
- FDA Proposed Rule on Produce Safety (PPT)
- Education and Technical Assistance—Focus on Produce (PPT)

Updated: 7/15/13



Farm Safety Twilight Meeting Grain Bin Emergency Response Training

Date: October 9, 2013

Location: Burlington County Community Agriculture Center

Centerton Road, Moorestown

Time: 5:30 p.m. Dinner

Cost: FREE

PROGRAM

5:30-6:15: Dinner Provided

6:15-7:15: Responding to a Grain Bin Emergency - Rescue Training,

Dr. Mike Love, University of Delaware

7:15-7:45: Combine Safety and Hazard Awareness

Bill Bamka, Burlington County Agriculture Agent

7:45-8:15: New On Farm Federal Petroleum Storage Regulations

Ray Samulis, Burlington County Agriculture, Agent

This event is a rain or shine event. Space is LIMITED.

Please call 609-265-5050 to register for this event.

The program is designed to assist with the increasing number of on the farm grain bins.

This program will provided safety tips and rescue techniques to prevent and prepare for grain bins accidents.

This program is presented in cooperation with the University of Delaware.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension educational programs are open and accessible to all. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the office at 609-265-5051.



THE FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOUR FARM OPERATION?

Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Location: Rutgers EcoComplex

1200 Florence-Columbus Rd., Bordentown, NJ

Time: 8:00 a.m. – Noon

Cost: Free

Program

8-8:30	Sign-In (Coffee to be served in the lobby)
8:30-8:40	Welcoming Remarks – New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture, Douglas H. Fisher
	New Jersey Farm Bureau President, Ryck Suydam
8:40-9:15	FDA's Approach on FSMA
	 Michael Mahovic, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
9:15-9:30	The Effect of FSMA on New Jersey Farms
	 Dr. Wes Kline, Rutgers Cooperative Ext.
9:30-10:05	Defining Terms: What Do These Things Mean?
	-Joe Reardon, North Carolina Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services
10:05-11:45	Panel Discussion/Q & A – What Are the Options for New Jersey Farmers?
11:45-12:00	Closing Remarks/Next Steps

Pre-registration: Call Jeffrey Beach 609-292-8896 or email: jeffrey.beach@ag.state.nj.us

Sponsored by: New Jersey Department of Agriculture
New Jersey Farm Bureau