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December - 2013 VOL. 18, ISSUE 12

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### Attachments:

Introduction to Food Safety & Third Party Audits for Beginners

GAPs & Farm Food Safety Writing Workshop Flyer

Annie's Project New Jersey Greenhouse Course

Organic Land Care Certificate
Course

### Payment Reductions Due to Mandated Sequester

USDA Farm Service Agency

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is reminding farmers and ranchers who participate in FSA programs to plan accordingly in FY2014 for automatic spending reductions known as sequestration. The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) mandates that federal agencies implement automatic, annual reductions to discretionary and mandatory spending limits. For mandatory programs, the sequestration rate for FY2014 is 7.2%. Accordingly, FSA is implementing sequestration for the following programs:

- Dairy Indemnity Payment Program;
- Marketing Assistance Loans;
- Loan Deficiency Payments:
- Sugar Loans;
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program;
- Tobacco Transition Payment Program;
- 2013 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments:
- 2013 Average Crop Revenue Election Program;
- 2011 and 2012 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program;
- Storage, handling & Econimic Adjt. Assist. for up land cotton

Conservation Reserve Program payments are specifically exempt by statute from sequestration, thus these payments will not be reduced.

These sequester percentages reflect current law estimates; however with the continuing budget uncertainty, Congress still may adjust the exact percentage reduction. Today's announcement intends to help producers plan for the impact of sequestration cuts in FY2014.

At this time, FSA is required to implement the sequester reductions. Due to the expiration of the Farm Bill on Sept. 30, FSA does not have the flexibility to cover these payment reductions in the same manner as in FY13. FSA will provide notification as early as practicable on the specific payment reductions.

For information about FSA programs, visit your county USDA Service Center or go to <a href="https://www.fsa.usda.gov/">www.fsa.usda.gov/</a>.

### New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade Show – February 4-6 Taj Mahal, Atlantic City

Wes Kline, RCE Cumberland County

The food safety program (Tuesday, February 5th - 9:30 am) for Atlantic City is finalized. We have continued to sample produce this spring and summer. Meredith Melendez and I will discuss the findings from sampling water, soil, compost, leafy greens and tomatoes from 20 farms in New Jersey. This is an ongoing project that has been funded through a specialty crops grant from the United States Department of Agriculture through the University of Maryland. The study analyzed for total coliforms and E. coli.

Growers have been requesting information on water sanitation, materials to use for cleaning packing lines and the differences among them. Dr. Michelle Danyluk from the University of Florida will review the different compounds available for cleaning and sanitizing. Dr. Danyluk is a food safety expert that works directly with growers on food safety issues in packinghouses. She is very good at addressing practical questions from growers.

Leafy green growers keep hearing about the California and Arizona Leafy Green Agreements and how they are managed. Dr. Kurt Nolte, Arizona Cooperative Extension, works closely with growers who are under the agreement. He will discuss how it works and some of the issues growers may have with it. Nolte also has done research on tracking systems at the field level to the consumer. He has looked into radio frequency systems for tracking each box from the field. Nolte will also make a presentation in the leafy green session on producing leafy greens in Arizona and California.

### **Food Safety Workshop at Atlantic City**

Food Safety & Harmonized Audit Training (Audit Based)

Food Safety for Retail Marketers Training (Non-audit Based)

Food safety training is important whether you are a wholesale or retail grower. Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 4:00 at the Agricultural Convention is a day long training that will include a morning session on:

- 1. How to carry out risk assessments on the farm
- 2. Writing standard operation procedures and where they are needed
- 3. Areas of concern observed in third party audits

These presentations will be given by Wesley Kline, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County; Meredith Melendez, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County and Larry Hardwick, New Jersey Department of Agriculture

The afternoon session will be divided in two concurrent sessions:

- 1. Those individuals who want to learn more about the harmonized audit and requirements to pass the audit.
- 2. How to write a food safety plan practicum. Some computers will be available (or bring your own) for individuals alone or in groups to write their plans. Everyone will be able to take their plan home for additional revisions.

### Follow-up to the Food Safety Modernization Act

The new year brings on new challenges in food safety. The first steps for the Food Safety Modernization Act is now behind us. The Food and Drug Administration will spend several months going over all the comments then publish their final rule. There have been requests from the State Departments of Agriculture for a second comment period after they publish their final rule. If that happens, the implementation of the new rule will be delayed probably until 2015. Watch this newsletter and the Plant and Pest Advisory for the latest information.

### Winter Food Safety Training

Our winter food safety trainings will get underway in December (brochure enclosed). This first session will be for individuals who have not gone through any food safety trainings. It will give growers a good overview of food safety and what goes into writing a plan. Following this session growers can decide whether they want to attend a session on plan writing or go directly to a third party audit training session.

### **Electronic Survey on Food Safety**

We will be sending out an electronic survey to growers who have attended our trainings in the past. This survey will help us determine if the program we have developed is meeting the needs of the industry and help formulate plans for the future. Please take a few minutes and complete the survey.

### **Generation Next Seminar Program**

Farm Credit East, Bridgeton, NJ

"Management Development for Today's Progressive Businesses", Presented by the Bridgeton branch office of Farm Credit East. Join our farm business consultants and your fellow young farmers for three seminars focused on progressing the overall business knowledge and management ability of seminar participants. This program is optimal for young farmers, ages 20-35, who are the middle-managers/managers of a farm or agricultural business and who would like to:

- Identify areas for personal growth and development
- Gain tools that you can readily use to manage your business
- Have the opportunity to socially network with other young farmers

Each seminar offers group discussion, idea sharing and networking. Assignments are given for between-seminar work to expand on topics and facilitate discussion at the following seminar.

- Seminar One: Monday, December 2, 2013
   Management, Leadership and Employee Development
- ♦ Seminar Two: Monday, January 6, 2014 Financial Statements, Cash/Accrual Acc'ting, Budgeting, Partial Budgeting, Profitability Analysis
- Seminar Three: Monday, February 3, 2014
   Marketing, Risk Management, Quality of Life

### Details:

- Each seminar will run from 9:30am-3:00pm
- Lunch and refreshments will be provided
- Cost: \$550 for all three seminars
- Location: Bridgeton office, 29 Landis Ave., Bridgeton

For an Application: Call Keith Dickinson 800-219-9179 or email: keith.dickinson@farmcrediteast.com

### Twenty-Third Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Symposium

The center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers University will host the Twenty-Third Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Symposium on Friday, January 17, 2014 in room 138A Foran Hall.

Oral presentations will run from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Dr. Zeng Yu Want (The Noble Foundation), an internationally recognized expert in molecular biology of forage grasses, will present a keynote address entitled "Genetic Manipulation of Forage and Bioenergy Crops".

This year's symposium will focus on current research topics in turfgrass and pest management, turfgrass improvement, genomics and fungal biology.

Registration is required by Friday, December 13th. Complete agenda and registration is available by visiting: www.turf.rutgers.edu

### FRAUD ALERT

USDA Farm Service Agency

Producers should be aware of fraudulent letter that is circulating.

USDA has been made aware that there is a fraudulent letter circulating to producers and/or contractors. The signature line in these letters reads "Frank Rutenberg" and the sender claims to be a USDA employee seeking information about the recipient.

The letters are a fraud, sender is fictitious and recipients should NOT respond to the letters.

Should you receive one of these fraudulent letters, please notify your local Farm Service Agency or a USDA Service Center representative.

Cumberland County FSA location: 1318 S. Main Road, Building 5, Suit A, Vineland Contact information: 856-205-1225 or fax: 856-205-0691

### **Annie's Project NJ Offers Six-Week Course**

Rutgers Coopertive Extension is offering a women's farm business management program focusing on greenhouse production. RCE will present *Annie's Project New Jersey for Greenhouse Growers* on Tuesday nights beginning January 14, 2014 and ending Feb. 25, 2014. Webinars will also be offered from 7-8 p.m. every Thursday evening for the duration of the program. Classes will be held from 6-9 pm at RCE Burlington County, 2 Academy Drive, Westampton, NJ.

The women will meet, eat and share their similar experience as they learn from experts across the country. This project is specialized covering risk management as well as production topics such as greenhouse crop selection, marketing, greenhouse structures and shading, entomology and pathology, energy and irrigation, leadership and greenhouse apps for Smartphones.

In addition to the education that will be gained, beneficial networking opportunities are offered. Participants will meet and learn from other farm women, network with potential customers and form connections with industry professionals. The cost for the six-week course and webinars, including all supplies and food is only \$100. For further details, see attached flyer.

### **Recertification of Certified Fertilizer Applicators**

Certified Fertilizer Applicators must maintain certification by meeting the requirements of recertification. Recertification can be accomplished in two ways:

- 1) Retake the Certified Fertilizer Applicator certification exam during the 5th year.
- 2) Accumulate 8 units of recertification credit over a 5 year period by attending ProFACT approved courses, seminars and meetings or participating in online ProFACT training. Thirty minutes of instruction time or one online training module unit equals 1 recertification credit. Examples of subject matter that will receive credit for recertification training include:
  - i. regulations of fertilizer and its use,
  - ii. the environmental risks of fertilizer misuse,
  - iii. the proper use and calibration of fertilizer equipment,
  - iv. the correct interpretation of fertilizer labeling information, and
  - v. the best management practices for nutrient management in turf.

Online courses for recertification credit are currently being developed and will be offered via the internet. Courses can also be offered through your County Cooperative Extension Office, professional associations and private companies which are approved to offer such courses.

Training courses seeking recertification credit(s) should send information describing the course content, presenter(s), and time of training to <a href="mailto:ProFACT@aesop.Rutgers.edu">ProFACT@aesop.Rutgers.edu</a> or call the ProFACT program at 848-932-6373.

### **Annual Certificate Renewal for Professional Fertilizer Applicators**

Professional fertilizer applicators are responsible for annually renewing their ProFACT certificates.

- 1) <u>Certified Fertilizer Applicators</u> shall renew their certificates annually with the NJAES and pay the renewal fee of \$25.
  - i. Certified Fertilizer Applicators can renew online at ProFACT.rutgers.edu after login (username and password) and clicking the status tab.
  - ii. A Certified Fertilizer Applicator who has not renewed their certificate with the NJAES for two consecutive license years shall lose certification status and shall again become certified in accordance with the training and examination program of ProFACT.
- Trained Fertilizer Applicators must receive annual training and pay a registration fee of \$25. Note that Trained Fertilizer Applicators are removed from the public list after December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Penn State Extension Navigates Health Insurance Marketplace

A new website developed by Penn State Extension specialists is designed to be a one-stop resource for those seeking information on the Health Insurance Marketplace, which was created unlet the federal Affordable Care Act.

The Health Insurance Marketplace is a unique opportunity for previously uninsured consumers, small businesses and others to shop for health insurance and compare plans at one location. The open enrollment period runs from Oct. 1 to March 31, 2014 with coverage beginning as early as January 1, 2014.

The Penn State Extension "Health Insurance Literacy" website provides extensive resources that are just a keystroke or phone call away for Pennsylvania shoppers who want to do their homelwork before deciding which policy to buy.

"We have consolidated many of the key reliable resources for consumers in a no-frills format," said specialist Cathy Bowen, Professor of agricultural and extension education in Penn State's: College of Agricultural Sciences, noting that most of the references are from the federal government and nonprofit agencies and are designed to provide unbiased information.

"This website was created to shorten the search time for information and to help consumers find resources they may need to make informed decisions".

The Health Insurance Literacy website can be found at: http://extension.psu.edu/health/insurance

### **Agricultural Natural Disaster Designation Approved for 8 NJ Counties**

Lynne Richmond, NJ Dept. of Agriculture

US Secretary of Ag, Thomas Vilsack has granted a Natural Disaster Designation for eight New Jersey counties following excessive rain, flooding, high winds and hail that caused crop losses for farmers during the 2013 growing season.

The disaster declaration includes Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem counties to cover crop losses that occurred between May 1 and Sept. 24, 2013.

For counties to be designated as primary natural disaster areas, they must have sustained a 30% or great production loss to a single crop due to the disaster, making them eligible to be considered for assistance from the US Department of Ag's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA loans.

Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Farmers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office for details. To find a local office, visit http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=nj&agency=fsa. For more information on FSA's disaster assistance programs, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=landing.

### Potato Industry's New Safety Guide Emphasizes Best Practices

Food Safety News—News Desk

Since the potato is rarely consumed raw, it is expected to be excluded from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's forthcoming produce rules implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act. In the meantime, spud growers, shippers and packers now have a guide to best practices to help keep their commodity in the low-risk food-safety category.

The National Potato Council shared the new guide entitled, "Commody-Specific Safety Guide for the Production, Harvest, Storage and Packing of Potatoes," during a November 8th webinar. The document can also be accessed on the NPC's website at: nationalpotatocouncil.org.

The guide has sections on general practices, production and harvest operations, storage unit operations and packinghouse operations, all emphasizing best practices. It does not include guidance for processing, distribution centers, retail or food-service operations.

"We are very excited about producing this document and getting it out to growers," John Keeling, NPC executive vice president and CEO, was quoted as saying in the webinar. "This is a template for growers to fine-tune what they're already doing on farms and in packinghouses."

The potato industry group had a microbial and chemical risk assessment done before the new guidelines were written, which found that the human health risk from eating contaminated potatoes was low.

The guide was coordinated and facilitated by Susan Leaman of Intertox Decision Sciences, LLC, with technical review by Luke LaBorde, Ph.D., associate professor of food science, Penn State University; Mark Pavek, Ph.D., associate professor and potato specialist, Washington State University, and Michelle Smith, senior policy analyst and member of the produce safety staff at FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

### Affordable Care Act Webinar

Northeast agricultural producers are invited to participate in a free webinar on the Affordable Care Act and its impact to farm businesses being hosted by Farm Credit East on Tuesday, December 17th at 10:00 a.m.

The Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, is the most comprehensive overhaul of our healthcare system in a generation. New provisions of the law will be taking effect in 2014 and 2015. Although the employer mandate has been put off until 2015, there are still things you need to know for this year.

This webinar is part of an on-going Knowledge Exchange initiative to provide information on emerging issues facing Northeast agriculture, forest products and commercial fishing industries.

Labor law attorney, Robert Noonan, will present the webinar. Noonan will cover what farm businesses need to know in order to comply with this law.

Join us at 29 Landis Avenue, Bridgeton on Tuesday, December 17th at 10:00 a.m. to learn more about how the Affordable Care Act will affect your farm business and what you need to know to comply. The webinar is FREE, lunch will be provided following, but space is limited. Call 856-451-0933 to reserve your seat!

### **Calendar of Important Events**

Indicates the newly added event since last calendar

### December 2013

### 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 5**

Common Sense Business & Pricing Strategies, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9 am-4 pm; \$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.haygrove.com/tunnelbuzz

### December 6

**Hazardous Tree Identification (winter),** Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9am-3:30 pm; \$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 info call 616-794-0492 or visit: www.glexpo.com

### → December 12

**Introduction to Food Safety & Third Party Audits for Beginners,** Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Cumberland County; \$40, 9:00 am-4:00 pm. For more information call Wes Kline 856-451-2800 x1 or email: wkline@njaes.rutgers.edu

### December 18

**Basic Pesticide Training CORE Certification of Applicators & Operators,** Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick; \$140. 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 am-3:30 pm, \$195 by 12/5; \$210 after. 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

### December 20

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

### January 2014

### January 6

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

### January 6-7

**Kentucky Fruit & Vegetable Conference**, Lexington, Ky. For info contact John Strang 859-257-5685 or email: jstrang@uky.edu

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**Minnesota Apple Growers Winter Conference,** Radisson Center, LaCrosse, Wis. For info call 507-895-2388, email: info@minnesotaapple.org or visit: www.minnesotaapple.org

### January 8-10

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

### January 8-12

Illinois Specialty Crops, Agritourism & Organic Conf., Springfield, Ill. For info contact Diane Handley 309-557-2107 or email: dhandley@ilfb.org

### January 9-11

**Great Plains Growers Conf. & Trade Show,** St. Joseph, Mo. For info contact Mary Beth Alpers 816-279-1691, email: alpersm@missouri.edu or visit: www.greatplainsgrowers.org

### January 9-12

**Southeast Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference,** 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 10-11

**Oklahoma/Arkansas Horticulture Industries Show & Conference**, Tulsa, Okla. For more information call Donna Dollins 405-744-6460 or visit: www.hortla.okstate.edu

### January 13-17

**Mid-Atlantic Short Course,** Virginia Horticultural Foundation, Marriott City Center, Newport News, VA. For info call 757-523-4734 or visit: http://www.mahsc.org

### January 13

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

### January 14-15

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

### January 14-16

Integrated Pest Management, Rutgers Continuing Education, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, 9am-4pm; \$395 by 12/31; \$430 after (1/14 only \$195); Credits: Day 1: 4 Cats 3A & 3B; 8 Cats 13, 2, 6B, 8C & CORE. Day 2: 3 Cat 3A; 4 Cats 3B, CORE & 13; 6 Cats 6B, 8C & PP2. Day 3: 3 Cats 3A & 3B; 6 Cats 6B, 8C & PP2; 4 Cats 13 & CORE. For info call 732-932-9271, email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

### January 15-18

**Practical Tools and Solutions for Sustaining Family Farms Conference,** Mobile, Ala. Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group. For more information visit: www.ssawg.org

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**Upper Midwest Regional Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conference,** St. Cloud Convention Center, St. Cloud, Minn. For more information call 763-434-0400 or visit: www.mfvga.org

### January 19-21

**Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference,** Wisconsin Dells, Wis. For more information call 920-478-4277, email: office@waga.org or visit: www.waga.org

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**Good Agricultural Practices & Farm Food Safety Writing Workshop,** Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Mercer County; \$40 9:00 am-4:00 pm. For more information contact Meredith Melendez 609-989-6830 or email: Melendez@aesop.rutgers.edu

### January 20-22

**Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association Annual Congress,** 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 info contact Tammy Goodale 765-494-1296; email: tgoodale@purdue.edu or visit: www.inhortcongress.org

### January 22-23

**Wisconsin Cranberry Growers School,** Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Stevens Point, Wis. For info call 715-423-2070

### January 23-24

**lowa Fruit & Veg Growers Association Conference,** Ankeny, Iowa. For info contact Adam Hohl email: info@ifvga.org

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**Organic Land Care Certificate Course,** Rutgers EcoComplex, 1200 Florence Columbus Road, Bordentown, NJ. For info call 732-398-5275 or visit: http://njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare

### January 28

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

### January 28-30

**Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention,** Hershey, Pa. For more information contact William Troxell 717-694-3596, email: pvga@pvga.org or visit: www.mafvc.org

### January 28-29

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

### 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 info call 732-932-9271 or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

### January 30

**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 Category 13; 11 Categories 3B & PP2. For information call 732-932-9271; email: ocpe@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit: www.cpe.rutgers.edu

### January 30-February 1

Tennessee Horticultural Expo, Nashville Airport Marriott, Nashville, Tenn. For info visit: www.tnthe.com

### January 31-February 5

**29th Annual North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Association Convention,** Kansas City, Mo. For more information call 413-529-0386 or visit: www.nafdma.com

### February 2014

### February 4-6

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

### February 4-6

**National Council of Ag Employers Annual Meeting, Hotel Monaco, Washington, D.C. For information visit:** www.ncaeonline.org

### February 4-6

**Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey Convention,** Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. For more information contact Rocco DiGerolamo, Jr. 856-797-1686 or visit: www.njveggies.org

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

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**Alabama Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference,** Auburn, Ala. For more information contact Alabama Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association email: afvga-mail@aces.edu

### February 20-22

**Cold Climate Conference**, Minnesota Grape Growers Association, Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront, St. Paul, Minn. For more information visit: www.mngrapegrowers.com

### February 22-March 1

**IFTA Annual Conference & Intensive Workshop,** Kelowna, British Columbia, International Fruit Tree Association. For more information visit: www.ifruittree.org

### February 24-27

**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

### February 26-28

**US Highbush Blueberry Council Spring Meeting,** Westlake Village, Calif. For more information call 916-983-0111 or visit: www.blueberry.org

### February 27

**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

### February 27-March 1

**MOSES Organic Farming Conference**, La Crosse, Wis. Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service. For more information call 715-778-5775 or visit: www.mosesorganic.org

### **March 2014**

### March 4-5

**Mississippi Greenhouse Tomato Short Course**, Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Raymond, Miss. For more information contact Rick Snyder 601-892-3731 or email: rick.snyder@msstate.edu

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**Michigan Farmers Market Conference,** Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich. For info visit: www.mifma.org

### March 9-11

**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** Dec 18

2014 Jan 23 Mar 21 May 8 Sep 4 Nov 20

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

Dec 11

2014

Jan 8 Feb 12 Mar 12

Apr 9 May 14 Jun 11

Jul 9 Aug 13 Sept 10

Oct 8 Nov 12 Dec 10

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

Of Agriculture
291 Morton Avenue
Millville, NJ 08332

(Between Rosenhayn & Carmel)

7 pm meetings

Jan 16 Feb 20 Mar 20 Apr 17 May 15 Sept 18 Oct 16 Nov 20 Dec 18

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

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

2014 Dates forthcoming

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



# Why you should attend:

# Topics of Interest:

- Third Party Audit Standards
- How to develop a food safety plan
- Risk assessment
- Writing standard operating procedures



<u>Details</u> Date: Thursday, December 12, 2013

Place: Rutgers Cooperative Extension 291 Morton Ave., Millville, NJ

Cost: \$40 per person

Includes lunch and materials

Pre-registration required by Dec.6, 2013.

Please make checks payable to:

**Cumberland County Board of Ag Research** Account

## ircctions

### 856-451-2800

- From the North:
- Take the NJ Turnpike to Exit 7
   Take 295 South to Exit 26 (Rt. 42 S)
- Proceed South on Rt. 55 for about 29 miles Proceed South on Rt. 42 to Rt. 55 South
- 4500100 Take Exit 29 to Rt. 552 West (left turn)

  - Go approximately 3 miles into Carmel Turn right at the stop light onto Morton Ave.
  - Go 1 1 1/2 miles North on Morton Ave.
- The Extension Center is on the left (brownstone & cedar-shingled building)

# From the Northeast:

- Take Garden State Parkway South to Exit 44
- Go South on Rt. 575 to Rt. 322
- Turn right (North) onto Rt. 322 and proceed about 1/4 mile to the Rt. 40 jughandle at the shopping center (Hamilton Mall)
- Proceed West on Rt. 40 approximately 7 miles to Rt. 552 (left turn)
- Proceed West on Rt. 552. After about 12 Sherman Ave. which is still Rt. 552 West miles, you must take a right turn onto
- You will go through a Vineland residential area, cross Rt. 47, and cross the overpass of
- At the stop light (~3 miles from the overpass) turn right onto Morton Ave.
- Go 1 1 1/2 miles North on Morton Ave.
- တ္ ထ The Ext. Center is on the left (brownstone & and a sign on the road in front of the building cedar-shingled bldg.) There are 2 entrances

## From the South:

- Take Rt. 55 North to Exit 29
  Turn left onto Rt. 552 West (Sherman Ave.)
- Go about 3 miles into Carmel
- Turn right at the stop light onto Morton Ave.
- The Ext. Center is on the left (brownstone & Go 1 – 1 ½ miles North on Morton Ave. cedar-shingled building).

### Experiment Station New Jersey Agricultural

### Introduction to Food Safety & Third Party Audits For Beginners

Thursday, December 12, 2013 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(County Rt. 634 between Rosenhayn & Carmel) Rutgers Cooperative Extension of **Cumberland County** 291 Morton Avenue Millville, NJ 08332

The Beginning stages of Third Party Audits

registration form in this brochure with To register, please fill out and mail payment by December 6, 2013.



# Program Schedule

9:00 am

Registration

10:30 am	10:00 am	9:30 am
Risk Assessment: What is it and what does it have to do with my food safety plan?	What is a third party audit?	Food Safety on the Farm: It's in your best interest.

12:00 pm	11:00 am
Where are your germs hiding?	What is an SOP and how to write them

12:30	000
am	
Lunch	

:30 pm
 Comparing
g GAP's and the Harmonized Audit

	2:30 pm
	Where
į	Where growers are I
	are losing
,	points
	on audits

3:00 pm Starting your Plan

This session is supported in part by NJDA/USDA 2012 Specialty Crop Block Grant #12-25-B-1243

# Registration Form Please Send in with Payment

Telephone		Address	e-mail	Name(s)
		3)		

Cost: \$40.00 per person

RETURN registration with payment by December 6<sup>th</sup> No confirmation notices will be sent.

Mail to:

Food Safety Certification Workshop Rutgers Cooperative Extension-Cumberland Co. 291 Morton Avenue, Millville, NJ 08332

Makes checks payable to: CC Board of Ag Research Account

Questions: Contact Dr. Wesley Kline 856-451-2800x1

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

# Why you should attend:

## Topics of Interest:

- Food Safety Modernization Act proposed
- **Good Agricultural Practices**
- Write your Farm Food Safety Plan
- Develop farm risk assessments
- Write standard operating procedures



<u>Details</u> Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014

Place: Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 930 Spruce St., Trenton, NJ

Cost: \$40 per person

Includes lunch and materials

Pre-registration required by Jan. 17, 2014.

Please make checks payable to: Mercer County Ag Ed

## **Vircetions**

# From Northen NJ and New Brunswick:

- 1. Take Rt. 1 S (past Princeton) to Business Rt. 1 (N. Trenton)
- Follow to traffic circle, take second right exit (Rt 206/Business 1 S-Princeton Ave.) to second
- Make right turn at traffic light onto Spruce St. The Extension Center is the building located on the right before the Trenton Farmers' Market

# From the Northwest:

- 1. Take Rt. 31 S (from Flemington) toward
- Pennington.
- Follow 31 S at Pennington traffic circle. Continue on Rt. 31 S crossing over Rt. 295/95.
- Follow 31 S to second traffic light and turn left onto Ewingville Road
- Follow to the fourth traffic light and make a left onto Spruce Street

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- Follow through first traffic light.
- past the Trenton Farmers' Market and before the The Extension Center is located on the left just next traffic light.

## From Southern NJ:

- Take Rt. 295 N to Rts. 29 to 129, keeping right to Trenton, following signs for Rt. 1. (Do not take Lamberton Rd/Rt. 29 exit)
- Continue on Rt. 129 through a series of traffic Olden Ave. exit. lights to Rt. 1 (northbound is the only exit) to
- Take this exit from the left lane to the first traffic
- Turn left at the light onto Olden Ave
- Ç At the second traffic light, turn right onto Princeton Ave.
- First traffic light make a left onto Spruce St. The Extension Center is the first building on the right before the Trenton Farmers' Market

# From East-Central NJ:

Take Rt. 195 W to Rts. 29 to 129, keeping right to Trenton, then follow directions listed "From Southern NJ".

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

### Food Safety Writing **Practices and Farm Good Agricultural** Workshop

Wednesday, January 22, 2014 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of 930 Spruce Street Trenton, NJ 08648 Mercer County

registration form in this brochure with To register, please fill out and mail payment by January 17, 2014.



# Program Schødulø

9:30 am 9:00 am Farm Survey Registration

Dr. Wesley Kline, Agricultural Agent, Cumberland County

10:00 am Field Operations: Good Agricultural Practices GAP's

Meredith Melendez, Senior Program Coordinator, Mercer County

Dr. Wesley Kline, Agriculture Agent, Cumberland County

Post Harvest: Good Agricultural Practices GAP's

11:00 am

12:00 am Lunch - provided

1:00 pm Writing a Farm Food Safety Plan

Dr. Wesley Kline, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Cumberland County Meredith Melendez, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Mercer County

This session is supported in part by NJDA/USDA 2012 Specialty Crop Block Grant #12-25-B-1243

## Registration Form Please Send in with Payment

☐ I will need to use a Rutgers laptop.	Telephon	Address	Name(s) e-mail	
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Cost: \$40.00 per person

RETURN registration with payment by January 17<sup>th</sup>. No confirmation notices will be sent.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension-Mercer Co. 930 Spruce St., Trenton, NJ 08648 Mail to: Food Safety Certification Workshop

Makes checks payable to: Mercer County Ag Ed

**Questions:** Contact Meredith Melendez 609-989-6830 or melendez@aesop.rutgers.edu

<sup>\*</sup> Please bring a laptop computer if one is available. If you need a laptop provided to you for this workshop please check the appropriate box on the registration form.



### **Annie's Project New Jersey**

### Greenhouse Growers

### What is Annie's Project?

Annie's Project New Jersey is an award winning program for women farmers to learn valuable information about agricultural risk management and give them the chance to network with other farm women, professionals, instructors and farm agencies.

Annie's Project New Jersey for Greenhouse Growers is a six week specialized Annie's Project being offered to educate greenhouse producers on risk management and production methods. Business plans will be created by the end of the course.

### **Topics**

- Writing a Business Plan
- Greenhouse Crop Selection
- Marketing
- Greenhouse Structures and Systems
- Product Pricing
- Entomology and Pathology
- Energy and Irrigation
- Supplemental Lighting
- Shading
- Financial Documents
- Greenhouse Apps for Smartphone
- Leadership and Management



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

When: Tuesdays, from January 14, 2014 to February 25, 2014

Where: Cooperative Extension of Burlington County

2 Academy Drive, Westampton, New Jersey 08060-3826

**Time**: 6-9 p.m.

Cost: \$100, including all materials and dinner for six week course

and webinars.

Details: Class meets once a week on Tuesday, followed by a webinar

every Thursday viewed from home from 7-8 pm. No class the

week of February 3rd.

### To Register:

APNJGreenhouse, eventbrite, com

or to register by phone or email contact Dana Tyndall at 609-465-5115, ext. 607 or DTYNDALL@co.cape-may.nj.us



Offered by: Jenny Carleo, CMC Agricultural Agent Jenny 5. Carleo

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

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Organic Land Care Certificate Course is a 5
day class for landscapers and land care
providers. The course focuses on organic
practices for promoting healthy soil,
enhancing biodiversity, and reducing
polluted runoff from managed landscapes.

The course is designed for professional landscapers, property managers, public works employees, groundskeepers, landscape architects and Rutgers Master Gardeners. It is not intended for recreation and sports turf fields.

The certificate program requirements include:

- Attendance at the 5 day course
- Passing an optional exam based on course content

Participants that pass the exam will receive a certificate of completion and be listed on the organic land care program website: www.njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare

### This course offers:

Pesticide recertification credits:
 New Jersey - Core- 4 units; 3A- 8 units;
 3B- 4 units; 13- 4 units
 New York: Core- 1 unit; 3A- 7 units;
 3B- 3 units;

Pennsylvania: Call for information.

- The NJDEP Natural Turf and Landscape Management Certificate.
- NOFA AOLCP credits applied for. Call for details.



### Ten highlights of organic land care\*

- "Do no harm" by protecting natural elements of a site
- Treating the landscape as a whole living system
- Reducing energy, water, and material inputs
- Practicing the law of return, such as returning grass clippings back to the lawn
- Promoting soil health which translates to healthy plants
- Fertilizing with naturally-occurring materials to supply essential nutrients as indicated by a soil test
- Favoring cultural practices over chemical applications for managing pests and diseases
- Avoiding the use of prohibited materials
- Encouraging biodiversity and avoiding monocultures
- Running an organic business with honesty and integrity

\*Adapted from <u>Rutgers The Soil Profile Newsletter</u> and the NOFA Organic Land Care Standards.

Mention or display of a trademark, proprietary product, or firm in text or figures does not constitute an endorsement by Rutgers Cooperative Extension and does not imply approval to the exclusion of other suitable products or firms.

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



### Organic Land Care Certificate Course

January 27, 28, 29, February 3 and 4, 2014
(Snow date: February 5)

8 AM – 5 PM
Rutgers EcoComplex
Bordentown, NJ



### **Program and Speakers**

Moderator: Barry Draycott, President, TechTerra Environmental

- Pesticide Risk, Toxicity and Environmental Contamination-Roy Meyer, Bureau Chief, NJDEP
- Physical, Chemical, Biological Aspects of Soil—Dan Kluchinski, Agricultural Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Soil Food Web-Todd Harrington, President, Harrington's Organic Land Care
- Compost and Compost Tea-Todd Harrington, President, Harrington's Organic Land Care

Tuesday, January 28 Moderator: Dominick Mondi, Director, NJ Nursery & Landscape Association

- History of Organics Joseph Heckman, Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility, Rutgers University
- Mulches Nick Polanin, Agricultural Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Sustainable Landscape Design, Tobiah Horton, Extension Specialist in Landscape Architecture, Rutgers
- Incorporating Native Plants and Lawn Alternatives—Rick McCoy, President, Richard A. McCoy Horticultural Services
- Planting and Plant Care, Larry Kuser, President, Fernbrook Nursery

Wednesday, January 29 Moderator: Michele Bakacs, Environmental Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension

- Lawn Installation, Renovation, and Management

   James Murphy, Extension Specialist in Turf Grass Management,
   and Brad Park, Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator, Rutgers University
- Water Resource Protection, Michele Bakacs, Environmental Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Rain Gardens and Rainwater Harvesting, Amy Rowe, Environmental Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Monday, February 3 Moderator: Roy Meyer, Chief, Bureau of Pesticide Compliance, NJDEP

- Pest Management, Ornamental Insects

  Steve Rettke, Ornamental IPM Program Associate, Rutgers
- Wildlife Management, Madeline Flahive DiNardo, Agricultural Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Disease Management Trees and Shrubs-Charles Schmitt, Sr. Resource Extension Educator, Cornell University
- Organic Soil Amendments and Fertilizers Bill Hlubik, Agricultural Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Cultural Practices: Bringing it All Together- Bill Hlubik/Rich Weidman, Agricultural Program Associate

Tuesday, February 4 Moderator: Amy Rowe, Environmental Agent, Rutgers Cooperative Extension

- Business Management and Customer Communications—Chris Paul, President, Genesis Landscape Contractors, Inc.
- Organic Land Care Case Studies- Chris Paul and Keith Haitz, President, Blades Landscaping and Hydro Green
- Organic Landscapers Panel Discussion—Barry Draycott, Rick McCoy, Chris Paul, and Keith Haitz
- Exam, pesticide recertification form distribution, program evaluation

Location: Rutgers EcoComplex, 1200 Florence Columbus Rd. Bordentown, NJ 08505

More information at <a href="http://njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare">http://njaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare</a> or call (732) 398-5275

\*\*\*Weather Cancellation\*\*\*

In the event of inclement weather, please call (732) 398-5275 or 5274 and listen to recording.

### **Registration Form**

(or register online at <u>niaes.rutgers.edu/organiclandcare</u>)

registration deadline January 22

Please fill out one registration form per attendee

Name (Please print clearly)
Company/Organization Name
Street Address
Town, State, Zip Code
County
Phone

### Registration Fee

Email

**Includes** program, optional exam, and listing of business on Rutgers website. *Breakfast and lunch to be provided*.

- Early registration: postmarked by 12/31/13-\$475
- Postmarked after 12/31/13-\$500
- Optional printed materials fee: \$50.00
   Otherwise materials will be distributed electronically.

Make payments out to "Rutgers, The State
University of New Jersey"
Checks, purchase orders, or
money orders only.
Please write "Organic" in the memo line.

Mail form and payment to:

Meredith Jacob
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Middlesex County
42 Riva Ave., North Brunswick, NJ 08902