



New York Berry News

CORNELL UNIVERSITY



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CURRENT EVENTS

November 1, 2007. *Weed Identification Workshop for Fruit Crops.* Green Acre Fruit Farms, (Host: Craig Michaloski), 3480 Latta Road, Rochester NY 14612. Sponsored by the NYFVI berry production project and the Lake Ontario Fruit Team. See news brief below for more information. 2.5 DEC recertification credits.

Nov. 5-6, 2007. *2007 Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference: "The Northeast Competitive Advantage Increasing Producer Access to Markets".* Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, Hyde Park, New York. For more information, see news brief below.

Nov. 10 *Organic Beekeeping Fall Workshop.* Chestnut Ridge, NY. Get your hives ready for winter with bee doctor Chris Harp from Honeybee Lives in New Paltz, NY. Cost TBA. Contact: Carol Rosenberg, 845-352-5020 x20, info@pfeiffercenter.org, www.pfeiffercenter.org.

Nov. 11-13, 2007. *Southeast Strawberry Expo.* Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park (Durham), North Carolina. New Grower workshop and farm tour on November 11; trade show and educational sessions on November 12-13. For more information, email ncstrawberry@mindspring.com or call 919-542-3687, or visit www.ncstrawberry.com.

Nov. 26, 2007. *Berry Weed Workshop.* Voorheesville, NY. Sponsored by the NYFVI berry production project. For more information, see news brief below.

December 4-6, 2007. Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI, for more information: www.glexpo.com.

Jan. 29-31, 2008. (A berry triple header!) *Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention,* Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA. For more information Contact William Troxell, 717-694-3596.

Annual meeting of the North American Strawberry Growers Association will be held in conjunction with the Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention (above), and the National American Bramble Growers meeting (below). For more information: see news brief below or contact Kevin Schooley at kconsult@allstream.net or visit www.nasga.org.

NABGA Annual Bramble Conference will be in Hershey, Pennsylvania in association with the Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention and the North American Strawberry Growers Association. For more information contact: Debby Wechsler, 1138 Rock Rest Rd. Pittsboro, NC 27312, nabga@mindspring.com.

February 7- 8, 2008. *2008 Farmers' Direct Market Association Conference* Holiday Inn, Waterloo, NY. For more information: <http://www.nysfdma.com/>.

Much to be said in the new and noteworthy category this month. Educational opportunities galore, a chance to participate in a berry research project, the latest in local, state and national agriculture and more...

FARMERS IN 25 UPSTATE COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR EMERGENCY LOANS

Washington -- Twenty-five Upstate New York counties have been designated as disaster areas by the United States Department of Agriculture, qualifying farmers in those counties for Farm Service Agency emergency loan assistance, Senator Charles Schumer reported Tuesday.

The USDA designations come as the result of a severe drought that has continued in parts of the state since May 1, 2007, and from a significant hail storm on July 13, 2007, in the Finger Lakes region. The storm and the ongoing drought have destroyed a significant portion of the production capacity of many farms.

"Too many farmers are already stretched too thin, and this designation will help them get some of the aid they need," Schumer said. "No one can account for natural disasters, which is why aid like this is so crucial. Family farms play a vital role in our communities and state economy, and we must do everything we can to help them out when they are in need."

Seven counties, Chautauqua, Genesee, Lewis, Ontario, Erie, Jefferson, and Monroe were designated 'primary' natural disaster areas caused by an ongoing drought, meaning these seven counties sustained more than thirty-percent loss of at least one crop in the county. Thirteen counties, Cattaraugus, Herkimer, Livingston, Niagara, Oneida, Orleans, Oswego, Seneca, St. Lawrence, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates were labeled 'contiguous' disaster areas due to significant crop loss and proximity to primary regions.



WEED IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP FOR FRUIT CROPS

12:30 to 3:30 PM, November 1, 2007

**Green Acre Fruit Farms
3480 Latta Road
Rochester, NY 14612**

This workshop will include an overview of weed identification methods and resources, as well as management tactics and strategies for various weeds found in fruit crop production. Weed species will be collected from tree fruit and small fruit plantings on site and identified using tools provided. Growers are also encouraged to bring a problem weed from their operation for identification. Management for each species will be discussed. A review of best management practices for weed control in both tree fruit and small fruit will be included as part of the program. DEC recertification credits pending. Those wishing to receive credit must bring their pesticide license to the meeting.

Workshop Agenda:

12:30 -1:00 PM	Registration/Announcements
1:00- 1:20 PM	Discussion of weed identification principles and practices (Chris Benedict)
1:20-1:30 PM	Review of weed identification resources (Cathy Heidenreich)
1:30-2:00 PM	Collection and identification of weeds in berry crops (Marvin Pritts) Discussion of weeds collected and their characteristics Review of control measures for collected weeds
2:00 -2:30 PM	Collection and identification of weeds in tree fruit crops (Debbie Breth) Discussion of weeds collected and their characteristics Review of control measures for collected weeds
2:30 - 2:50 PM	Overview of berry crop best management practices for weed control (Marvin Pritts)
2:50 – 3:10 PM	Overview of tree fruit best management practices for weed control (Debbie Breth)
3:10 – 3:20 PM	Review of findings from strawberry grower weed survey (Chris Benedict)
3:20 – 3:30 PM	Status of current research on berry crop weed management (Chris Benedict)
3:30 PM	Closing comments/handout of credit certificates

Sponsored by the Department of Horticulture, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the Lake Ontario Fruit Team, and the New York Farm Viability Institute.

To register contact: Kim Hazel, Lake Ontario Fruit Team, (585) 798-4265 - ext. 26, or krh5@cornell.edu, by October 26, 2007.

DANITOL ON BUSHBERRIES IN NEW YORK – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Danitol 2.4 EC insecticide is now labeled on bushberries in New York (See August NYBN for details). Some additional restrictions pertain to its use here:

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS FOR USE IN NEW YORK

- Do not apply this product within 100 feet of any freshwater lake, pond, river, stream or wetland in the state of New York.
- Do not apply this product within 100 feet of a coastal marsh or any water that drains into a coastal marsh in the state of New York.
- Aerial application is prohibited in the state of New York.
- Single application greater than 0.3 lb ai (16 oz) per acre and seasonal applications greater than 0.6 lb ai (32 oz) per acre are prohibited in the state of New York

Note: Danitol is a restricted use pesticide for retail sale to and use only by certified applicators or persons under their direct supervision, and only for those uses covered by the applicator's certification. Copies of the new supplemental label must be in possession of the user at the time of application.

PROWL H2O APPROVED FOR USE ON STRAWBERRIES IN NY STATE

Marvin Pritts, Professor and Chair, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY

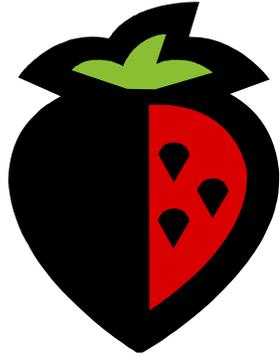
This summer the DEC approved the use of Prowl H2O (pendimethalin) herbicide for strawberries in New York State. Prowl is an older herbicide that has been used for many years in alfalfa, cotton, corn and certain vegetables, but has shown to be effective in strawberry plantings as well. This is the first herbicide labeled for use BEFORE planting strawberries. It is applied to the soil surface before planting, and it will prevent the establishment of most annual grasses as well as suppressing several broadleaf weeds such as velvetleaf and purslane. Moisture is required to activate the herbicide, and it can be applied through an overhead irrigation system or shallowly incorporated. At least one day must elapse between application and planting, unless protective gear is worn. There are two formulations on the market, but only the H2O formulation is labeled for strawberries. The rate is 1.5 to 3.0 pints per acre (coarse to fine soils, respectively) and no more than 6 pints are to be used in any one season. Prowl should not be used if plastic mulch will be applied.

The label also includes a banded application between rows of strawberries up to 35 days before harvest. Do not concentrate the herbicide in the row middle as one might a fertilizer. Maintain a rate per treated area, not a rate per planted acre.

This is a new product for berry growers. We do not have experience with this product, so it is possible that we will find conditions in which Prowl will injure strawberry plants. It is always wise to try a new product on a small area before application to the entire planting.

Addendum: Cornell scientists have also requested a Section 18 for Goal for 2008. A Section 18 was granted several years ago, but these must be renewed annually. This year, we received the following from EPA, "Although new studies have been submitted to address some of the risk issues (carcinogen), the reviews will not be completed until next August. Therefore, a Sec 18 will not be allowed for the 2008 use season."

Berry Crops Weed Workshop



**November 26, 2007
8 am—12:30 pm**

Cost: \$10/person

**Live location:
Cornell Cooperative Extension,
Albany County**

**Polycom locations:
Cornell Cooperative Extension,
Dutchess County**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension,
Franklin County**

**Cornell cooperative Extension,
Suffolk County**

The berry industry has many opportunities for expansion and market development in the Northeast, but a significant limitation for growers is the labor requirement related to weed control in berry crops. This workshop is the first in a series of workshops that will be held with support from the New York Farm Viability Institute and the New York State Berry Growers

Association. We hope that berry growers will attend to refresh their understanding of weed management and to offer their ideas for in-field demonstrations that will be installed in the spring of 2008 throughout the Eastern region.

Speakers:

Dr. Marvin Pritts, of the Cornell University Department of Horticulture will speak on Best Management Practices for managing weeds in Berry Crops. Dr. Pritts is an author on such important Berry Production Manuals as the NRAES Strawberry, Highbush Blueberry and Bramble Production Guides and the new High Tunnel Production Guide for Raspberries and Black berries.

Dr. Juliet Carroll, of the New York State Integrated Pest Management program will introduce TracBerry, a computer software program that tracks records specifically for Berry growers. This software will be a very useful tool for growers that are analyzing expenses and evaluating the efficiency of different production techniques. Dr. Carroll has been responsible, statewide, for coordinating the development and delivery of IPM practices for fruit crops (tree fruit, grapes, and berries) with the goal of minimizing economic, health and environmental risks

Laura McDermott has recently been hired as a Berry Extension Support Specialist for Eastern NY. She is working as a liaison between Cornell faculties and will to support existing fruit programs in Eastern NY and berry growers throughout the region. Laura has worked for Cornell Cooperative Extension in Washington County for many years supporting commercial vegetable growers and ornamental horticulture producers. She will present weed identification information and help growers find resources to support their on-farm weed ID and control questions.

Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____

State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Circle county site where you will attend

Albany

Dutchess

Franklin

Suffolk

Please return the Registration Form along with a check for \$10/person, made out to Cornell Cooperative Extension, Washington County, to:

Berry Weed Workshop

Cornell Cooperative Extension,
Washington County
415 Lower Main Street
Hudson Falls, NY 12839

Deadline: November 21st, 2007

CCE TO HOLD HIGH TUNNEL CONFERENCE

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County will be hosting a high tunnel conference at its resource center in Hamden, Tuesday, November 27, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Funded through a grant from the New York Farm Viability Institute, this conference will feature two New York farmers experienced in growing under high tunnels and Cornell specialists conducting research on high tunnel production.

Ted Blomgren of Windflower Farm, Valley Falls, NY, will discuss growing cut flowers and fall/winter greens in high tunnels. Participants will receive Blomgren's newly released publication, "High Tunnels: Using Low-cost Technology to Increase Yields, Improve Quality and Extend the Season", as well as Cornell's new "Raspberry and Blackberry High Tunnel Production Guide".

Zaid Kurdieh of Norwich Meadows Farm, Norwich, NY, grows 4 ½ acres of organic produce under high tunnels and supports six CSAs at various New York City and local farmers' markets. He will discuss high tunnel production, construction and how he now makes his own tunnels.

Cornell berry specialist Dr. Marvin Pritts will discuss growing raspberries and blackberries in high tunnels. Judson Reid, vegetable specialist from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County will discuss high tunnel production of tomatoes and cucumbers, as well as biological pest controls. Chris Wien, professor of horticulture at Cornell University will provide the latest results in research on high tunnel coverings.

This conference is an opportunity to learn from farmers and specialists who have spent years of work in high tunnel production. There is a \$10 fee (\$5 for students and their instructors) – lunch will be provided. Please make a check payable to Cornell Cooperative Extension and mail to Cornell Cooperative Extension, P.O. Box 184, Hamden, NY 13782. Include your name, contact information, and any special needs. **Space is limited and pre-registration is required by November 19, 2007.** For more information, contact Extension Educator Janet Aldrich at 607-865-6531 or email: jla14@cornell.edu. Cornell Cooperative Extension in Delaware County provides equal program and employment opportunities.

HELENE DILLARD REAPPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Jeanne Griffith, Communications Services, NYSAES, Geneva, NY

October 10, 2007. Helene R. Dillard, Cornell professor of plant pathology at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, has been appointed to a second five-year term as director of Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Human Ecology, effective Oct. 1.



"Helene has helped establish a clear vision for Cornell Cooperative Extension that resonates soundly with CCE educators as well as with stakeholders around the state," said Susan A. Henry, the Ronald P. Lynch Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "Under her leadership, CCE was able to persuade state legislators to increase funding allocated to CCE through County Law 224-a major accomplishment. Helene's many supporters, both within and outside of the CCE system, testify to her enthusiasm, honesty, practicality and energy."

"We congratulate Helene and look forward to another five years of her strong, effective leadership," said Alan Mathios, interim dean of the College of Human Ecology. "Her ability to work across disciplines and her commitment to bridging research and the real world has resulted in stronger connections between the communities we serve and the faculty and researchers at Cornell. In turn, extension professionals across the state are bringing expertise back to campus and helping to refine and focus Cornell's research agenda. This strengthens our ability to enhance the well-being of individuals, families and communities across New York and beyond, and we're proud to have Helene leading our efforts."

The many letters submitted in support of Dillard's reappointment cited her commitment to diversity within the organization and to raising CCE's visibility on campus. During her first term, Dillard also organized a CCE leadership retreat that resulted in the formation of the statewide Executive Director Senate. A newsletter she established, CCE News, has strengthened communication throughout the extension network.

"I am pleased and honored to be reappointed as director of Cornell Cooperative Extension and associate dean in CALS and Human Ecology," said Dillard. "I look forward to working with the faculty in CALS and Human Ecology, the dedicated extension educators and stakeholders across the state, and our partner organizations. Every day, Cornell Cooperative Extension programs have a tremendous positive impact on the lives of New Yorkers, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide leadership to this esteemed organization."

Dillard maintains research and extension programs focused on the biology, ecology and management of fungal diseases of vegetables and dissemination of the information to the vegetable industry. Her interests include pathogen identification and disease diagnosis as well as disease management strategies for vegetable crops in fields and greenhouses.

Dillard joined the Cornell faculty in 1984 and was promoted to full professor in 1998. She chaired the Geneva department of plant pathology from 1997 to 2001 and served a year as associate director of CCE before her initial appointment as director in October 2002. Dillard graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in biology of natural resources. She earned both her master's degree in soil science, in 1979, and her doctorate in plant pathology, in 1984, from the University of California, Davis.

Dillard is a fellow of the American Phytopathological Society and a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi (the professional organization for cooperative extension). She serves on the New York Sea Grant Board of Governors, the New York State 4-H Foundation Board of Directors, and the Museum of the Earth Board of Trustees. She is also a member of the Government Relations Committee of the Cornell University Board of Trustees.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is part of the national extension system established through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is the primary conduit for translating the gains made through land-grant university research into applications that can benefit agriculture, economic development, education and community development. In New York State, CCE is critical to the fulfillment of Cornell University's land-grant mission. Through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Human Ecology, CCE provides information and outreach in five areas: agriculture and food systems; children, youth and families; community and economic vitality; environment and natural resources; and nutrition, food safety and health.

CORNELL STRATEGIC MARKETING CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS' ACCESS TO MARKETS

ITHACA, N.Y. – The 2007 Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference will be held on November 5th and 6th, 2007 at the Henry A Wallace Visitor and Education Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, Hyde Park, NY. The theme of the conference is **The Northeast Competitive Advantage: Increasing Producer Access to Markets** and is sponsored by the Agricultural Marketing and Management Program Work Team and Department of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University.

Determining how to better integrate existing and new farm products into emerging markets is often a challenge faced by many local and regional agricultural producers. Do you go it alone? Do you cooperate and combine activities with area producers? Do you contract with national and/or regional distributors? At this year's conference, producers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers will share their insights on distribution, selling techniques, accessing markets, and expanding market opportunities and ways producers can capitalize on them.

In addition, the conference will feature concurrent producer and industry panels representing fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and livestock and meat products that will present and share their first-hand knowledge of issues surrounding food safety, post-harvest technology innovations, new marketing approaches, and new product, value-added, and quality opportunities to meet market demands. Representatives from successful joint-producer ventures will be on hand to discuss partnerships and cooperative arrangements that are making marketing possible.

All members of the agricultural community, including agricultural producers, extension educators, farm management specialists, agricultural economic development specialists, agri-service providers, and food wholesalers and retailers are encouraged to attend.

The pre-registration fee is \$75 if postmarked by October 22nd; \$90 if postmarked after October 22nd or if registering on-site. The fee for media personnel with valid ID will be waived. For further conference information and to obtain a registration form contact Vicki Parker at 2546761 or vrp5@cornell.edu. Conference information is available at http://aem.cornell.edu/outreach/conferences/strategic_marketing.htm. For additional information, please contact: Todd Schmit, Dept. of Applied Economics and Management, at 607255-3015 or tms1@cornell.edu.

ATTEND THE EMPIRE STATE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE EXPO AND EXPLORE THE FUTURE IN AGRICULTURE

Make plans now to attend the Expo and learn about the latest technologies, issues and research that will help you grow your business now and years from now!

The 2008 Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo and Becker Forum will be held at the Holiday Inn Liverpool and the Oncenter Convention Center in Syracuse, New York on February 12, 13 and 14, 2008. This central location provides growers from all over New York State and the surrounding states with an easily accessible location in order to attend and learn about the latest in fruit and vegetable production agriculture. Specialists from all over the country will be at the Expo providing growers with the latest in growing and production techniques, harvesting and storage options, and plenty of up-to-date and innovative research. This information is specifically designed to help you, the grower, continually grow and improve your farm business. The large trade show will feature many businesses specifically devoted to the fruit and vegetable industry, with equipment for all sizes of growing operations. Special trade show demonstrations will be scheduled for growers and their employees throughout the two days as well.

The Expo will begin with the very popular Becker Forum on Tuesday, February 12. Last year's Forum was sold out so make your plans to attend this important meeting early! This in-depth all-day workshop focuses on current trends in the fruit and vegetable industry and will again continue to explore and educate growers on the ever-changing landscape of labor challenges for agricultural employers. This forum will go in-depth as the speakers address the challenges that finding, training and maintaining a labor force can bring. This forum is a great start to the Expo and does require pre-registration. Detailed information and pre-registration form for this workshop will be available at the beginning of December when the Expo programs become available.

Two full days of educational commodity sessions take place on February 13 and 14, 2008 at the Oncenter Convention Center. Session topics include the latest in research and grower experiences regarding production and marketing of a variety of fruit and vegetable crops, including potatoes, tree fruit, onions, tomatoes and peppers, cabbage, berries, cut flowers, sweet corn, beets and carrots, vine crops, and beans and peas. In addition, this year's Expo will have special sessions focusing on transitioning to organic, soils and tillage, greenhouses and high tunnels, GAPS for small-sized growing operations, and alternative energy sources. Information included in all of the educational sessions benefits growers of all sizes, from the largest commercial fruit and vegetable growing operations in New York State to smaller-sized operations. Don't miss the opportunity to attend the Expo and bring your employees to the sessions, the trade show and the related meetings.

The Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo is sponsored by the New York State Vegetable Growers Association, Empire State Potato Club, New York State Berry Growers Association, New York State Horticultural Society and Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension. Trade show and exhibitor information is currently available and the Expo program, which includes detailed educational session information and a pre-registration form, will be available in early December. Free shuttle bus service is available from the Holiday Inn Liverpool, right off exit 37 of the New York State thruway. Make plans now and mark your calendar to attend the best Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo yet!

For more information, visit <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/hort/expo/> or contact Jeff and Lindy Kubecka, New York State Vegetable Growers Association, PO Box 70, Kirkville, NY 13082 or email nysvga@twcny.rr.com. For trade show information and exhibiting, please contact Dan Wren, Lee Trade Shows, PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 or email dwren@leepub.com.

MIKE JOHANNNS RESIGNS AS SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

September 20, 2007. President Bush announced today that Mike Johanns has resigned as Secretary of Agriculture. He will be returning to his home state of Nebraska to undertake a campaign for Senator of that State. The president praised Johanns for his contributions while serving as secretary of Agriculture for his 3 year term in office.

Chuck Conner, the Deputy Secretary, has been asked by President Bush to serve as the Acting Secretary in Johanns' stead. (Read the whole story at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/09/20070920.html>.)

CENSUS GIVES FARMERS A VOICE IN THEIR FUTURE

America's farmers and ranchers will soon have the opportunity to make their voices heard and help shape the future of agriculture for years to come. That opportunity will come to their mailboxes in the form of the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

"The Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available anywhere else - information that benefits agricultural producers and their communities in myriad ways," said Steve Ropel, Director of the New York Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

"For instance, policy-makers factor Census data into decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census to target needed services to rural residents. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves can use Census data to help make critical decisions about their businesses," he explained.

NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site.

"We're committed to making this Census the best count ever. It's about the future of agriculture and rural communities in our state," Ropel said. "Regardless of how large or small their operation is or what kinds of products they produce, New York farmers will help themselves and their communities by filling out the Census of Agriculture and returning it promptly," he added.

"We want farmers and ranchers to know: the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future and their responsibility."

For more information about the 2007 Census of Agriculture, please contact the NASS New York Field Office at 800-821-1276 or visit <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov> online.

NEW CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE WEB SITE

Information on the 2007 Census of Agriculture is now only one click away at www.agcensus.usda.gov. "The new web site is a clearinghouse created by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to provide farmers, ranchers and the rest of the agricultural community with the latest news and information about the upcoming Census," said Steve Ropel, Director of the New York field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The Census site is part of our ongoing effort to accommodate the growing number of farmers and ranchers that are using the Internet. This year will mark the first time that producers have the option of filling out their Census forms online, saving both time and postage costs.

NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. This mailing will include instructions on how to log in and respond to the Census via a secure web connection. Whether they chose to respond online or by mail, producers are asked to return their completed Census forms by February 4, 2008. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

Census web site visitors can find answers to frequently asked questions about the Census and can access data from previous counts, dating all the way back to 1840. In addition, those wanting to plan ahead can download a draft of the actual Census form and begin pulling together the information they'll need to respond.

NORTH AMERICAN STRAWBERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE



The North American Strawberry Growers Association (NASGA) will hold its annual conference January 29-31, 2008 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. This special **North American Berry Conference** is a cooperative event with the North American Bramble Growers Association, and will be held in conjunction with the regional Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention.

Attendees will have a tremendous amount of selection between sessions, tours and workshops over the three days of this conference. Growers are encouraged to bring their spouse, family members and staff to take in as much information as possible.

On Tuesday, January 29th there will be a tour of local farms, research facilities, and other agri-business in the area and of course a tour of Chocolate World. Those not interested in the tour can participate in an all-day workshop on Fundamentals of Berry Production or attend any of the other sessions offered as part of the Mid Atlantic Conference.

Day 2: Wednesday, January 30, features a "Grower Showcase" presentation from Sand Hill Berries of Mt. Pleasant, PA, one of the region's leading berry producers. Strawberry topics include an in-depth look at Day Neutral Production, Pest Management discussions as well as a look at up and coming strawberry varieties. In the evening, a Berry Film Festival will be held.

Day 3 On Thursday, January 31, the "Showcase Farm" will be Crow's Nest Farm in Blacksburg, VA, the farm of retired Virginia Tech extension horticulturalist Charlie O'Dell. Proposed strawberry topics include a workshop on Plasticulture Production, weed management and vertical growing systems. Attendees can also participate in the Bramble sessions, blueberry session or any of the other sessions offered as part of the conference.

Membership Benefit: One free conference registration will be provided to all members who submit their membership dues prior to December 31, 2007.

A large trade show and poster display will be held throughout the conference. The conference will be at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Hershey is located 15 minutes from Harrisburg International Airport (HIA), served by seven major airlines; the Lodge offers shuttle service for a small fee. Baltimore-Washington Airport (BWI) is about 90 minutes away.

This conference has tremendous value to all those who participate! Not only will there be fabulous educational opportunities but what many consider the biggest value is the networking among other growers, researchers and extension. Don't miss this great opportunity.

For more information regarding the conference or an updated agenda contact Kevin Schooley at 613-258-4587, info@nasga.org or visit the NASGA website at <http://www.nasga.org>.

BUSINESS TRAINING OFFERED FOR AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURS

Millbrook, NY: If you are an agricultural entrepreneur who is thinking of starting an agricultural-based venture, or have already started one, consider taking the NxLevel "Tilling the Soil of Opportunity" agricultural entrepreneurship business plan training course this fall. The six-day course is designed for people who are searching for innovative ideas and enhanced marketing opportunities in the area of value-added agriculture. Over 50 entrepreneurs or potential entrepreneurs have completed the practical training program, which has been offered six times.

Each two-day session covers several topics. They include: taking stock of your resources; business concept, mission and goals; legal structure (regulations, contracts and leases); management from the ground up; marketing issues; marketing strategies; budgeting; record keeping and accounting; cash flow and financial statements; financing; and business growth issues and strategies.

Sessions run November 13-14, November 27-28, and December 11-12, at the Suffolk County Cornell Cooperative Extension building at 423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 100, Riverhead, NY. The hours are Tuesday, 1-7 PM and Wednesdays from 8 AM-noon.

Each session builds on the previous ones. At each session, guest speakers such as small business attorneys, bankers, insurance agents, and marketing consultants with experience serving the farming community will be available for consultation.

Sponsors include the Cornell Cooperative Extensions - Suffolk and Dutchess Counties, NYS Farm Viability Institute, the NYS Ag Innovation Center, Cornell Entrepreneurship Education & Outreach Program, NY New AgVenture Project, NYS Food Venture Center.

The workshop brochure and online registration can be viewed at <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/hp/events/detail.php?id=64>.

For more information about NxLevelL visit: <http://www.nxlevel.org>

Cost of participation is \$300 per registrant, which includes books and meals. Spouses and partners are encouraged to attend at a reduced rate of \$225. Please register on line at the above website or through Cheryl Leach at 315-787-2622 or cal35@cornell.edu.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES STATE'S NEW ORGANIC INITIATIVE

New Organic Specialist on Staff; New Organic Resource Center on Website

Jessica A. Chittenden, Department of Agriculture & Markets News, 518-457-3136, jessica.chittenden@agmkt.state.ny.us

September 26, 2007. New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker today announced a new initiative within the Department that will focus on organic farming. In response to the increasing demand for organic products and the marketing opportunity for New York farmers, the Department has added a full-time organic agriculture specialist position, and has added a new section to the Department's website, Organic Farming Resource Center.

"There is a tremendous demand for organic products in the marketplace today, presenting a viable opportunity for some farmers," the Commissioner said. "Therefore, we have made the resources available for farmers, so that if they wish to, they can learn more about organic production methods and tap into this rapidly growing market."

Starting in March 2007, Sarah Johnston joined the Department as an Organic Agriculture Specialist. Johnston is the former Executive Director of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York and has an extensive background in environmental issues. Her responsibilities at the Department are to develop and execute new initiatives to expand and support organic agriculture in New York State. Currently, Johnston has been working with producers to create a priority list of organic research needs and has successfully created the Organic Farming Resource Center, new to the Department's website, <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us>.

The Department website now includes a dozen new pages of information on organic farming. The Organic Farming Resource Center, found at <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/organic/>, features how to become certified organic, marketing opportunities in New York, organic production, finding organic products in the marketplace, general consumer information on organic labels and production, a list of related organic associations and activities, as well as resource lists that offer websites, studies and other useful information pertaining to organic agriculture. These pages put useful web-based information on organic farming in one easy to access location.

New York State ranks among the top ten states in the country in the number of organic farms. In 2006, there were nearly 600 certified organic farms in New York State with nearly 70,000 acres in production. Organic dairy farms are the largest segment of the organic farm community in New York State. In addition, there were more than 100 organic food processors in the State.

According to the Organic Trade Association, the sale of organic foods grew 16 percent in 2005 in the United States, accounting for \$13.8 billion at the retail level.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2007 NEW ENGLAND VEGETABLE AND FRUIT CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

This biennial event will take place December 11, 12, and 13 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, NH. The program features 27 different half-day sessions on topics such as strawberries, blueberries, brambles, apples and grapes, as well as tomatoes, sweet corn, pumpkins, leafy greens, and many other vegetables. In addition, there will be sessions on organic production, renewable energy, soil health, weed control, and season extension. In between these sessions are Farmer to Farmer discussions focused on topics like: crop planning, cucurbit disease management, greenhouse tomatoes, cultivation equipment, cut flowers, garlic, and organic Sweet corn. The trade show features over 100 exhibitors.

Pre-registration to attend the conference and trade show is just \$70 for the first member of the farm or business and \$40 for each additional member (family or employee) when pre-registered with first member. The fee for students (high school or college) is \$30 each when pre-registered by the instructor. **Pre-registration must be received by November 30, 2007.** There is an additional fee of \$10 per person for late registration or walk-ins. (check or cash only if registering at the door). The complete conference program and registration form are on-line at www.newenglandvfc.org or call me for a printed copy of the conference brochure.

If you need overnight lodging, be sure to make hotel reservations soon. The Conference takes place at the Radisson Hotel, (603) 625-1000, www.radisson.com/manchesternh. The rate for conference attendees is \$97 per night plus 8% tax; mention "vegetable conference" to get this rate; the deadline is November 18, 2007. Just down the road is the Hilton Garden Inn, (603) 669-2222, www.hiltongardeninn.com. A limited number of rooms are reserved for conference attendees at \$119 per night plus 8% tax. Again, mention "vegetable conference" to get this rate; the deadline is November 19, 2007.

USDA ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING FOR BEE HEALTH AND PROTECTION

Jennifer Martin (202) 720-8188

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11, 2007 – USDA announced today that \$4 million will be available in Fiscal Year 2008 for a 4-year Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP) to research ways to improve the health and protection of honeybees, which are facing serious threats that have the potential to heavily impact the nation's food supply.

"Bee populations throughout the United States are in serious decline," said Gale Buchanan, USDA under secretary for Research, Education and Economics. "As the threat of Colony Collapse Disorder and other bee health problems increases, it becomes more important that USDA takes the necessary steps to help protect these valuable assets."

The overall goal of the Protection of Managed Bees CAP is to improve the health of managed bee populations in agricultural systems. The research USDA is seeking to fund is expected to address genomics, breeding, pathology, immunology and applied ecology that explain the cause behind dwindling bee populations. Unique to this CAP program is that the researchers will work closely with the extension community and stakeholders to develop mitigation strategies for Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) and other significant problems that threaten the bee industry and U.S. agriculture.

Bee pollination is responsible for \$15 billion in added crop value each year. CCD became a matter of concern in the winter of 2006-2007 when an estimated 25 percent of the beekeepers in the United States reported losses of adult bees from their hives.

CAP projects focus around the coordinated activities of individuals, institutions, states and regions to promote open communication and the exchange of information in response to emerging areas of national priority and need. The project should complement and/or link with existing programs and projects at the national level.

In Fiscal Year 2007, CSREES committed another \$1.7 million to honeybees and pollinator research, while USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will spend about \$7.7 million on honeybee research focused on mites, pathogen and nutrition. National program leaders at ARS and CSREES developed an Action Plan for CCD which is a long term plan for research, extension and educational activities that are recommended to address this important problem. The plan is available on the ARS Web site.

In October 2007, ARS will begin research on the Honeybee Health Areawide Project, which will provide robust bee colonies for early season crops such as almonds in California or squash in Florida. It will also include all major beekeeping routes, such as cherries, apples, cranberries, etc., with a focus on bee nutrition and pest resistance. The 5-year project will be funded at \$1 million per year, with 2007 funded at \$670,000.

The USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) is funding the CAP project under the National Research Initiative's 2008 Request for Applications. Dr. Mary Purcell-Miramontes, national program leader for arthropod and nematode biology, developed this new CAP project and will be coordinating this new funding opportunity.

More information about the [Protection of Managed Bees CAP](#) funding opportunity can be found online. Background information about CCD and the Action Plan is also available at www.ars.usda.gov/is/br/ccd.

CSREES advances knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by supporting research, education and extension programs in the Land-Grant University System.

For more information, visit www.csrees.usda.gov. ARS is the principal intramural scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visit www.ars.usda.gov for more information.

HOOPHOUSE SYSTEM EXTENDS BRAMBLE HARVEST

Grow raspberries and blackberries in high tunnels to capture local markets.

Cathy Heidenreich and Craig Cramer, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY

ITHACA, N.Y. – Northeast growers can capture more of the lucrative local market for fresh berries by growing brambles (raspberries and blackberries) in high tunnels, according to researchers at Cornell and Pennsylvania State Universities.

These relatively low-cost, usually unheated, plastic-covered hoophouses can help growers fill late-spring and late-fall gaps in the market. Instead of mid-June, high-tunnel berries can be harvested in May. The field-grown season for brambles usually ends in early October. But growers using high tunnels continue to harvest berries through November.

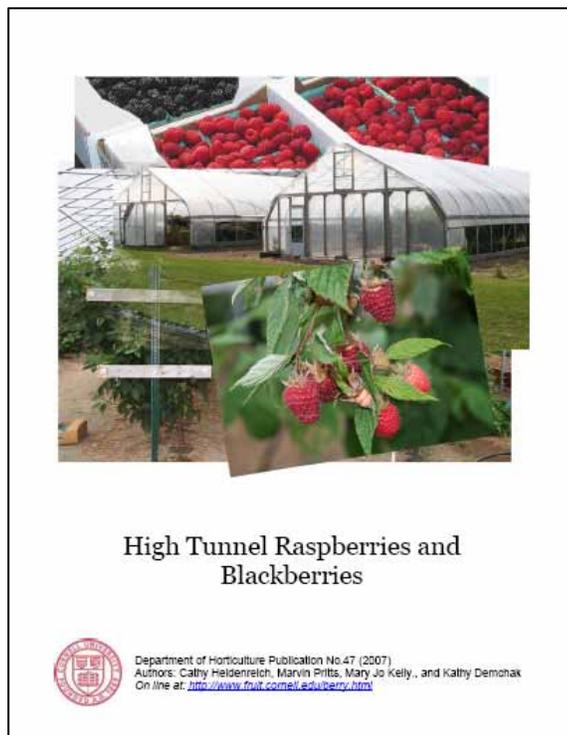
Other benefits of high tunnels include:

- Floricane-fruiting raspberries and blackberries can overwinter in climates where they would otherwise be killed.
- Primocane-fruiting blackberries ripe where the growing season is otherwise too short.
- Berry yields from tunnels can be two to three times greater than field-grown, and the berries can be significantly larger.
- Tunnel-grown berries also have longer shelf life with reduced pesticide inputs.

A new publication, *High Tunnel Raspberries and Blackberries*, spells out in detail how it's done. The 29-page guide is available online at www.fruit.cornell.edu/Berries. Or you can order a hard copy. (See details below.)

Topics covered include:

- Site selection
- Tunnel types and construction
- Choosing and establishing plants
- In-ground and container plantings
- Care and management
- Season extension and harvesting
- Budget for in-ground high tunnel raspberries



If coupled with brambles grown in heated greenhouses, Northeast berry growers could produce brambles nearly year-round. (An earlier publication, *Greenhouse Raspberries*, describes those growing practices: www.fruit.cornell.edu/Berries/bramblehtml/ghrasp.html) Greenhouse production of raspberries and blackberries has helped to bridge one gap in establishing all season bramble production in the Northeast. However, using this method alone to cover bramble production during mid-winter months may not be cost effective for producers, especially in the face of rapidly rising energy costs. Conversely, the same rapidly rising energy costs also provide a unique opportunity for expanding local and regional market shares over those currently held by imports. But these two practices could help shift market supply along the Atlantic seaboard to local sources instead of berries imported from other regions or hemispheres.

To order hard copies of these publications, fill out and return order form below.

ORDER FORM

RASPBERRY AND BLACKBERRY SEASON EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

Name: _____

Address: _____

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Raspberry and Blackberry High Tunnel Production Guide | \$10.00 |
| | (includes shipping and handling) | |
|
 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Greenhouse Raspberries | \$ 9.50 |
| | (includes shipping and handling) | |

Total		\$
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Send check payable to Cornell University to:

Dept. of Horticulture
Attention: Max Welcome
134a Plant Science Bldg.
Cornell University
Ithaca NY 14853-5904

NYS BERRY GROWERS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH STUDY

Rebecca Harbut, Cathy Heidenreich, Laura McDermott, and Marvin Pritts, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY

New York berry growers are invited to participate in a 2-part research study aimed at 1) developing a better understanding of communication between berry growers and researchers in New York State, and 2) identifying best management practices for improving berry production efficiency. The first part of the study involves a survey that will be mailed to those identified as berry growers and members of the New York Berry Growers Association, the Northeastern Organic Farmers Association of New York, their local Cooperative Extension, or as a berry farm listed with <http://www.pickyourown.org/NY.htm> to collect information for the study. (Note: If you are not a member of one of these organizations, but would like to participate, please contact one of the researchers listed below.) The second part of the study involves a short one-on-one interview with a researcher.

Purpose of the study:

The objective of this study is two fold: 1) identify and evaluate the various ways that growers acquire berry production information in New York and 2) identify management practices that are considered by growers to be the most efficient and effective.

Your participation in this study would be extremely valuable and we hope the results of this study will lead to improved communication and information delivery between growers and researchers.

In addition, the most promising berry management practices identified will be implemented in small on-farm trials and, if successful, shared with the berry industry. One article will be written in each monthly issue of New York Berry News related to this topic.

What's involved?

There are two components to this study; a *survey* and an *interview*. If you chose to participate, *you may participate in one or both components of the study*; participation in either component is voluntary, you may chose to skip any question you do not want to answer and you may withdraw from the study at any time.

The survey can be completed either online or in hard copy. We anticipate it will take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete. Information letters, consent forms, and hard copies of the survey will be mailed to growers on November 1, 2007. Please fill out the hard copy survey and return it in the envelope provided or complete the on line survey by November 15, 2007.

The interview will include questions about your farming background and how you have acquired information about production practices over the course of your experience as a grower. With your permission, the interview will be tape-recorded in order to ensure accurate recording of responses.

All responses will be confidential. Any reported results will not include information that would allow identification of participants. Reports will be kept in a confidential file and will only be accessible to the researchers. If you agree to have the interview recorded, the recording will be destroyed after transcripts, which will not include identification of interviewee, have been completed. We anticipate this to be 2 months after the interview.

What's in it for me?

Information collected in the study will be compiled and reported back to participants by mail, and shared with other growers through New York Berry News articles. In addition, study participants will automatically be entered in a drawing to receive one of the following prizes:

- 1st prize: A complete set of NRAES Production Guides for Small Fruit, including strawberries, blueberries, and brambles (\$128 value)
- 2nd prize: 2007 Cornell Pest Management Guidelines for Berry Crops (\$25 value)
- 3rd prize: *Greenhouse Raspberries and High Tunnel Raspberries and Blackberries* (\$18.50 value)

If you have any questions at any time please feel free to contact the researchers conducting the study; Rebecca Harbut (email: rmh44@cornell.edu phone: 607-254-2945), Cathy Heidenreich (email mcm4@cornell.edu, phone 315-787-2367), Laura McDermott (email lgm4@cornell.edu, phone 518-642-1007) or Dr. Marvin Pritts (email: mpp3@cornell.edu, phone: 607-255-1778).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the University Committee on Human Subjects (UCHS) at 607-255-5138 or access their website at:
<http://www.osp.cornell.edu/Compliance/UCHS/homepageUCHS.htm>.

WEATHER NOTES

NEW YORK CROP WEATHER SERVICE NOTES

Week ending September 23rd: A tranquil weather period as high pressure was in firm control most of the time. A cold front did move across the state on Thursday with widely scattered showers and thunderstorms. However, the amounts were quite light and did little to assist with drought conditions across portions of northern and western New York. Temperatures averaged above normal for the week with precipitation below normal. The Finger Lakes grape region received about a half inch of rain which was welcomed.

Week ending September 30th: The period began dry with high pressure in control over the northeast. The surface anticyclone near the Mid Atlantic coast funneled unseasonably warm air into the region in the middle of the week, with temperatures soaring well above normal. A slow moving cold front progressing from west to east across upstate New York produced bands of showers and thunderstorms Wednesday and Thursday. An upper level low generated some scattered showers and thunderstorms over upstate New York on Friday. High pressure settled back in with cooler and drier weather to open the weekend. Rainfall for the week ended above normal north and west of the Capital District, mid Hudson Valley region, and Long Island. Temperatures ended well above normal with some record highs occurring across the state in the middle of the week.

Week ending October 7th: High pressure produced warm and dry weather across New York State for much of the week. The high pumped warm and humid air into the region from the southeast and mid-Atlantic region by the middle of the week. A backdoor cold front produced scattered showers and thunderstorms on Saturday. This was the only appreciable rainfall for the week. Temperatures were well above normal for the week. Precipitation was generally below normal, with a few sites especially in western New York getting close to normal values for the week.

Week ending October 14th: We began the period with a nearly stationary frontal boundary providing not only cloud cover but much needed rainfall to the region. This frontal boundary lifted north as a warm front early last week and provided one last attempt for summer weather. Then the transition toward more clouds, wetter and cooler conditions prevailed as a series of low pressure systems impacted the northeast. One potent storm developed near New York City Thursday and tracked northeast on Friday providing moderate to heavy rainfall for the eastern half of the upstate New York, New York City and Long Island. Then much cooler weather settled into the entire region by the start of the weekend. With the large fluctuation in temperatures, we averaged at or slight above normal and precipitation amounts near to above normal, especially for the eastern half of upstate New York, New York City and Long Island. Wet and rainy most of the week in St. Lawrence County. Looks like rain for most of the weekend along with being a bit cooler. Seasonable weather in Cortland County moved in along with more rain. Good showers helped water supplies in Herkimer County.

Questions or Comments about the New York Berry News?

Ms. Cathy Heidenreich
New York Berry News, Interim Editor
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New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
690 W. North Street
Geneva, NY 14456
OR Email: mcm4@cornell.edu

Editor's Note: We are happy to have you reprint from the NYBN. Please cite the source when reprinting. In addition, we request you send a courtesy [E-mail](#) indicating NYBN volume, issue, and title, and reference citation for the reprint. Thank you.

Check out the NYSAES Tree Fruit and Berry Pathology web site at:
www.nysaes.cornell.edu/pp/extension/tfabp

**WEATHER REPORTS OF TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION THROUGHOUT
NEW YORK STATE FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY 8:00am, September 23rd, 2007**

	Temperature				Growing Degree Days (Base 50)			Precipitation (inches)			
	High	Low	Avg	DFN ¹	Week	YTD ²	DFN	Week	DFN	YTD	DFN
	Hudson Valley										
Albany	81	40	61	2	77	2637	282	0.07	-0.60	24.73	5.74
Glens Falls	80	31	56	-2	50	2144	97	0.01	-0.69	17.35	-1.43
Poughkeepsie	82	41	60	-2	71	2824	344	0.06	-0.71	25.43	3.60
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	78	36	57	3	57	1756	156	0.00	-1.26	20.64	-6.17
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	85	34	58	1	63	2054	-19	0.00	-0.68	18.99	0.60
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	82	37	60	4	75	2089	225	0.00	-0.88	18.12	-1.57
Massena	83	36	60	5	75	2127	179	0.00	-0.80	16.28	-1.70
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	84	44	66	6	113	2706	429	0.00	-0.77	11.68	-7.89
Colden	82	35	60	3	73	2043	198	0.00	-1.09	14.55	-8.30
Niagara Falls	83	40	64	4	99	2605	324	0.00	-0.83	12.35	-6.78
Rochester	85	41	64	4	98	2708	502	0.00	-0.67	10.86	-5.93
Watertown	84	37	62	4	83	2190	280	0.10	-0.64	10.40	-5.28
Central Lakes											
Dansville	85	37	62	2	85	2385	171	0.00	-0.77	13.86	-4.56
Geneva	84	40	62	3	87	2427	233	0.00	-0.76	13.84	-4.35
Honeoye	84	35	61	-1	81	2250	-54	0.00	-0.70	16.59	-1.40
Ithaca	84	37	60	2	74	2187	204	0.00	-0.84	18.24	-1.40
Penn Yan	86	43	64	5	102	2635	441	0.00	-0.76	13.98	-4.21
Syracuse	86	38	63	3	92	2601	372	0.00	-0.90	16.15	-4.53
Warsaw	80	35	60	5	78	2046	349	0.00	-0.91	17.22	-4.36
Western Plateau											
Alfred	80	31	56	-1	49	1760	87	0.00	-0.84	17.21	-3.17
Elmira	85	35	60	2	72	2321	227	0.00	-0.70	16.53	-1.92
Franklinville	80	33	57	1	50	1853	316	0.00	-0.91	16.93	-4.84
Sinclairville	82	36	59	3	67	2067	331	0.00	-1.09	19.96	-4.50
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	82	36	62	4	86	2390	364	0.00	-0.77	18.91	-0.62
Cobleskill	80	36	58	0	55	2013	128	0.25	-0.61	23.84	2.79
Morrisville	82	38	59	2	64	1978	184	0.07	-0.85	20.29	-0.79
Norwich	82	36	57	0	55	2059	172	0.00	-0.88	21.81	0.91
Oneonta	86	38	61	5	75	2490	761	0.22	-0.62	22.38	0.00
Coastal											
Bridgehampton	78	43	61	-3	81	2637	280	0.00	-0.77	19.45	-1.07
New York	84	56	69	3	137	3677	544	0.26	-0.51	32.65	10.99

1. Departure from Normal

2. Year to Date: Season accumulations are for April 1st to date

The information contained in these weekly releases are obtained from the New York Agricultural Statistics Service (<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/>), who in turn obtains information from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency, Agricultural Weather Information Service Inc., the National Weather Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture.

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NEW YORK STATE FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY 8:00am, September 30th, 2007**

	Temperature			Growing Degree Days (Base 50)			Precipitation (inches)				
	High	Low	Avg	DFN ¹	Week	YTD ²	DFN	Week	DFN	YTD	DFN
	Hudson Valley										
Albany	89	45	67	11	122	2759	350	0.21	-0.42	24.94	5.32
Glens Falls	87	39	65	11	105	2249	161	1.24	0.56	18.59	-0.87
Poughkeepsie	89	46	68	10	125	2949	408	0.43	-0.31	25.86	3.29
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	81	43	60	8	72	1828	199	1.12	-0.04	21.76	-6.21
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	91	38	64	9	97	2151	36	0.74	0.11	19.73	0.71
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	88	39	64	10	99	2188	286	2.58	1.76	20.70	0.19
Massena	90	40	63	10	94	2221	236	1.88	1.14	18.16	-0.56
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	87	48	65	8	108	2814	477	1.94	1.21	13.62	-6.68
Colden	88	43	62	8	87	2130	240	1.19	0.18	15.74	-8.12
Niagara Falls	87	45	64	7	98	2703	362	1.03	0.28	13.38	-6.50
Rochester	92	47	65	8	106	2814	547	0.72	0.10	11.58	-5.83
Watertown	89	41	64	10	102	2292	338	0.87	0.18	11.27	-5.10
Central Lakes											
Dansville	92	44	65	8	108	2493	221	0.89	0.17	14.75	-4.39
Geneva	91	43	64	8	101	2528	278	0.88	0.18	14.72	-4.17
Honeoye	91	38	64	6	101	2351	-17	1.47	0.77	18.06	-0.63
Ithaca	88	40	64	8	97	2284	253	1.05	0.28	19.29	-1.12
Penn Yan	91	47	67	10	122	2757	507	0.70	0.00	14.68	-4.21
Syracuse	91	44	66	9	114	2715	428	1.31	0.48	17.46	-4.05
Warsaw	85	44	63	10	95	2141	407	0.96	0.10	18.18	-4.26
Western Plateau											
Alfred	84	36	59	6	66	1826	116	1.02	0.25	18.23	-2.92
Elmira	89	38	63	8	96	2417	273	0.37	-0.33	16.90	-2.25
Franklinville	85	37	60	7	70	1923	353	1.30	0.40	18.23	-4.44
Sinclairville	87	41	62	8	85	2152	375	1.34	0.31	21.30	-4.19
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	86	43	65	11	110	2500	428	1.30	0.56	20.21	-0.06
Cobleskill	86	42	62	8	83	2096	168	0.99	0.18	24.83	2.97
Morrisville	82	43	62	8	84	2062	229	1.50	0.61	21.79	-0.18
Norwich	86	41	62	8	87	2146	217	1.60	0.78	23.41	1.69
Oneonta	88	43	65	12	108	2598	832	1.43	0.64	23.81	0.64
Coastal											
Bridgehampton	80	50	68	9	132	2769	337	0.11	-0.66	19.56	-1.73
New York	90	61	75	11	178	3855	621	0.02	-0.71	32.67	10.28

1. Departure from Normal

2. Year to Date: Season accumulations are for April 1st to date

The information contained in these weekly releases are obtained from the New York Agricultural Statistics Service (<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/>), who in turn obtains information from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency, Agricultural Weather Information Service Inc., the National Weather Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture.

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NEW YORK STATE FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY 8:00am, October 7th, 2007**

	Temperature				Growing Degree Days (Base 50)			Precipitation (inches)			
	High	Low	Avg	DFN ¹	Week	YTD ²	DFN	Week	DFN	YTD	DFN
	Hudson Valley										
Albany	85	50	66	12	114	2873	424	0.51	-0.12	25.45	5.20
Glens Falls	80	38	60	9	72	2321	204	0.34	-0.30	18.93	-1.17
Poughkeepsie	86	48	67	13	120	3069	483	0.20	-0.50	26.06	2.79
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	79	47	62	12	81	1909	260	0.30	-0.74	22.06	-6.95
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	79	42	59	8	66	2217	73	0.49	-0.09	20.22	0.62
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	80	45	62	12	86	2274	346	0.23	-0.54	20.93	-0.35
Massena	80	42	61	10	74	2295	284	0.45	-0.21	18.61	-0.77
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	86	57	70	15	139	2953	570	0.68	-0.02	14.30	-6.70
Colden	83	46	65	13	107	2237	314	1.01	0.13	16.75	-7.99
Niagara Falls	85	54	68	13	129	2832	445	0.84	0.18	14.22	-6.32
Rochester	85	50	68	13	126	2940	626	0.79	0.23	12.37	-5.60
Watertown	82	45	66	15	116	2408	422	0.04	-0.59	11.31	-5.69
Central Lakes											
Dansville	87	46	67	12	119	2612	295	0.18	-0.47	14.93	-4.86
Geneva	86	49	65	11	108	2636	344	0.24	-0.45	14.96	-4.62
Honeoye	86	48	66	11	111	2462	45	0.50	-0.18	18.56	-0.81
Ithaca	84	46	65	13	109	2394	327	0.11	-0.66	19.40	-1.78
Penn Yan	84	51	67	13	117	2874	582	0.28	-0.41	14.96	-4.62
Syracuse	85	51	67	13	124	2839	507	0.43	-0.34	17.89	-4.39
Warsaw	83	51	64	14	101	2242	482	0.77	-0.22	18.95	-4.28
Western Plateau											
Alfred	84	39	62	12	87	1913	176	0.37	-0.35	18.60	-3.27
Elmira	86	42	65	12	106	2523	341	0.08	-0.56	16.98	-2.81
Franklinville	83	43	63	13	92	2015	421	0.47	-0.37	18.70	-4.81
Sinclairville	85	42	65	14	106	2258	451	1.10	0.16	22.40	-4.03
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	82	52	67	14	118	2618	512	0.35	-0.33	20.56	-0.39
Cobleskill	82	43	62	10	85	2178	219	0.56	-0.17	25.39	2.80
Morrisville	83	44	63	12	95	2157	296	0.63	-0.18	22.42	-0.36
Norwich	84	43	63	12	96	2242	284	0.79	0.02	24.20	1.71
Oneonta	84	44	67	16	119	2717	925	0.15	-0.62	23.96	0.02
Coastal											
Bridgehampton	82	49	68	10	126	2895	405	0.00	-0.72	19.56	2.45
New York	85	60	73	12	162	4017	701	0.00	-0.69	32.67	9.59

1. Departure from Normal

2. Year to Date: Season accumulations are for April 1st to date

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**WEATHER REPORTS OF TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION THROUGHOUT
NEW YORK STATE FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY 8:00am, October 15th, 2007**

	Temperature			Growing Degree Days (Base 50)			Precipitation (inches)				
	High	Low	Avg	DFN ¹	Week	YTD ²	DFN	Week	DFN	YTD	DFN
	Hudson Valley										
Albany	75	36	56	5	51	2924	447	1.52	0.89	26.97	6.09
Glens Falls	65	27	53	4	37	2358	223	1.42	0.79	20.35	-0.38
Poughkeepsie	85	35	59	7	67	3136	519	2.58	1.92	28.64	4.71
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	67	31	51	4	31	1940	277	2.68	1.70	24.74	-5.25
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	65	30	51	2	23	2240	77	0.84	0.28	21.06	0.90
St. Lawrence											
Canton	70	28	50	2	24	2298	352	2.07	1.35	23.00	1.00
Massena	66	29	50	2	18	2313	285	0.91	0.28	19.52	-0.49
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	79	41	59	7	66	3019	604	0.09	-0.55	14.39	-7.25
Colden	81	40	56	6	54	2291	345	0.40	-0.44	17.15	-8.43
Niagara Falls	84	38	58	6	63	2895	474	0.13	-0.49	14.35	-6.81
Rochester	83	37	58	5	60	3000	654	0.65	0.11	13.02	-5.49
Watertown	71	30	56	4	40	2448	439	1.77	1.17	13.08	-4.52
Central Lakes											
Dansville	86	36	57	5	62	2674	325	0.41	-0.19	15.34	-5.05
Geneva	83	38	57	6	57	2693	371	0.52	-0.11	15.48	-4.73
Honeoye	83	35	57	4	60	2522	69	0.44	-0.19	19.00	-1.00
Ithaca	83	33	56	6	60	2454	362	1.17	0.40	20.57	-1.38
Penn Yan	83	39	58	7	61	2935	613	0.57	-0.06	15.53	-4.68
Syracuse	80	42	58	7	64	2903	539	1.20	0.49	19.09	-3.90
Warsaw	80	35	54	6	49	2291	513	0.29	-0.47	19.24	-4.75
Western Plateau											
Alfred	82	36	55	6	48	1961	205	0.27	-0.42	18.87	-3.69
Elmira	86	32	58	8	63	2586	378	1.21	0.58	18.19	-2.23
Franklinville	82	40	56	8	50	2065	454	0.07	-0.77	18.77	-5.58
Sinclairville	83	37	56	8	54	2312	486	0.12	-0.79	22.52	-4.82
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	82	34	57	7	64	2682	553	1.37	0.74	21.93	0.35
Cobleskill	75	31	52	3	33	2211	231	1.51	0.81	26.90	3.61
Morrisville	74	34	53	5	45	2202	323	1.73	0.96	24.15	0.60
Norwich	82	34	57	9	62	2304	327	1.47	0.77	25.67	2.48
Oneonta	80	38	59	11	68	2785	974	1.65	0.89	25.61	0.91
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	83	43	63	8	90	2985	451	0.57	-0.13	20.13	-2.58
New York	89	49	66	8	117	4134	755	2.25	1.62	34.92	11.21

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