Cornell University
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

New York Berry News

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Events Calendar

August 31, 2012. **Note date change from September 14, 2012!** *Cornell Small Fruit Open House*, Cornell Orchard and Maple Avenue High Tunnels, 1-4 PM. Details follow.

November 7-10, 2012. *Southeast Strawberry Expo*, Hilton Charlotte University Place, Charlotte, NC. Farm tour, workshops, educational sessions, and trade show. For more information, contact the NC Strawberry Association, info@ncstrawberry.com, 919-542-4037, or visit www.ncstrawberry.com. Exhibitor inquiries welcome.

January 22-24, 2013. *Empire State Producers EXPO*, OnCenter, Syracuse NY. More information: http://nysvga.org/expo/info.

January 28-30, 2013. *Joint Conference*, *North American Raspberry and Blackberry/Strawberry Growers Association*s, Portland OR. SAVE THE DATE!

June 17-19, 2013 – *Berry Health Benefits Symposium*, in Concord, NC. Join leading researchers and industry leaders to learn about the newest research in this field. Held biennially; this fourth Symposium will be the first time the event has been held on the East Coast. For more information, contact catmc@peak.org. Info about the 2011 Symposium may be found at www.berryhealth.org.

Berry Growers Partner with Cornell to Evaluate New Varieties

Amanda Garris, freelance writer for Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Through a new agreement between the New York State Berry Growers Association (NYSBGA) and the Cornell berry breeding program, raspberry and strawberry growers across the state will evaluate elite selections from the university in their own fields.

Strawberries are the third leading fruit crop in New York by value, and each year Cornell berry breeder Courtney Weber evaluates thousands of potential new varieties looking for improved disease resistance, flavor and growth. Less than one-tenth of 1 percent become elite selections, which then require rigorous testing to determine if they outperform existing varieties.

"The industry was looking for a way to provide stable support for Cornell berry research and variety development," said Dale Ila Riggs, NYSBGA president and co-owner of The Berry Patch in Stephentown, N.Y.

Rob Way/NYS Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva

Cornell breeders will work with berry growers across the state to test new varieties in their fields, as part of a new agreement with the New York State Berry Growers Association.

"When we learned that hands in the field are one of the biggest limiting factors in evaluating new berry varieties, we offered to be those hands." The arrangement, she said, "could also be a blueprint for other industry groups who want to directly support the research that benefits agriculture in New York state."

Want to participate?
Commercial growers interested in joining the New York State Berry Growers Association to participate in the evaluation of new berry selections from Cornell should email NYSBGA executive director Paul Baker.

As part of the agreement, participating members of NYSBGA will plant test selections in their fields and provide evaluation data collected from their trials to Cornell.

"Growers will give us feedback on how the flavor, yield, color and disease resistance compare to other varieties they are growing," said Weber, associate professor of horticulture based at Cornell's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva. "The most important question for me is whether they'd want to plant more."

The collaboration will also lead to more thorough testing because the large-scale, commercial plots result in a statewide planting that is 200-fold larger than Weber's evaluation plots.

"Strawberries are unique among fruits because they are grown across New York state, from the tip of Long Island to the Pennsylvania border, which represents many different microclimates," said Paul Baker, NYSBGA executive director. "This partnership will provide crucial data on how a new variety performs in different soil types and under different climatic zones, something an individual researcher would never be able to afford to collect."

Growers will benefit from the opportunity to test-drive new varieties before their release and having direct input on new releases in the breeding program. And according to Baker, growers want to maintain the steady stream of new varieties that is key to whetting consumers' appetites for farm fresh fruit.

"The berry growers are a unique group of individual farms who pool their resources for the collective good of the industry," said Baker. "Our agreement is a clear signal to Cornell that if they will do the breeding and research, we are willing not only to invest, we want to work directly with them."

Agribusiness Economic Outlook Conference

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Description
New York agricultural leaders learn about the short-and long-term outlook for agriculture and agricultural products. Breakout sessions concentrate on dairy, grains and feed, and horticultural products.

Date and Location
Tuesday, December 18, 2012, Statler Hall, Ballroom.

Registration Information
All registrations will receive one copy of the New York Economic Outlook Handbook, which is published in conjunction with the conference. Extra copies of this publication may be requested on the registration form.

Audience
Industry leaders, agribusiness professionals, policymakers, educators, and farm managers.

Instructors
Dyson School faculty and other experts.

By Attending You Will:

- Better understand critical issues facing agriculture in New York and the Northeast
- Learn about the near-term outlook for major New York commodities
- Interact with fellow leaders of the vibrant New York agricultural industry

Teaching Format
Presentations by experts followed by questions. Commodity breakout sessions in the afternoon.

Contact Information
Carol Thomson at 607-255-5464 or cmt8@cornell.edu.

All Roads Lead to Portland!

Make plans to attend the North American Berry Conference in Portland, Oregon January 28-30, 2013. This special conference, in the heart of a major berry production region, is a joint conference of the North American Raspberry & Blackberry Association (NARBA) and the North American Strawberry Growers Association (NASGA). The host hotel, in downtown Portland, is the Doubletree by Hilton, with a rate of only $79/night, an excellent rate for a top-notch full-service hotel. Here's how the schedule works:

Sunday, January 27 – Opening reception, board/committee meetings.

Monday, January 28 – All-day tour, including farm, processing, nursery, and research sites.

Tuesday January 29 and Wednesday, January 30 – Joint Conference of NARBA and NASGA, with joint plenary sessions and several tracks of educational breakouts.

These dates will also make it easy for attendees to stay for two other great events: The Northwest Ag Show, also in Portland, runs January 29-31, so Berry Conference attendees can simply head over to this leading regional show on Thursday, January 31. Then, the North American Farmers Direct Marketing Association holds its conference, also at the Double Tree, on February 1-6, starting with overnight tours that will travel throughout the region.

Hold the dates and start making plans to come together in Portland!

USDA News

USDA Officials Stand with Farmers and Ranchers Affected by Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters

Agriculture Officials Touring States Gripped by Disaster, Encouraging Congress to Restore Disaster Assistance by Passing Food, Farm and Jobs Bill

WASHINGTON, July 16, 2012 —As serious drought conditions continue to creep across nearly two-thirds of the lower 48 states, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officials are fanning out to rural communities across the country to show support to farmers and ranchers affected by a string of extreme weather in 2012. Today, Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Michael Scuse begins a tour of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana—three states affected by severe frost and freezes in the spring, with Indiana now experiencing increasing levels of drought. In the weeks ahead, additional USDA subcabinet leaders will travel to Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and others to augment ongoing assistance from state-level USDA staff. USDA officials will also provide guidance on the department's existing disaster resources and remind producers to keep thorough records of losses as the department's authority to operate the five disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill expired on Sept. 30, 2011, and Congress has not yet acted to restore these vital forms of assistance.

USDA NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

NEW YORK POLLINATOR CONSERVATION PLANNING SHORT COURSE
Thursday September 13, 2012, Big Flats Plant Materials Center

The 2008 Farm Bill makes pollinators and their habitat a conservation priority for USDA. This day-long Short Course will equip conservationists, land managers, farm educators, and agricultural professionals with the latest science-based approaches to increasing crop security and reversing the trend of pollinator decline, especially in heavily managed agricultural landscapes.

TIME: Sign in 9:30 - 9:40, Speakers 9:45 – noon, Lunch noon – 12:45, Tour 12:45 – 2:45, Speakers 2:45 – 3:30

LOCATION: USDA NRCS Big Flats Plant Materials Center, 3266 State Route 352, Corning, NY 14830 (mailing)
** To get driving directions via Google, MapQuest, etc. use Big Flats, NY 14814 (physical) or **Take Route 17 (I 86) to Exit 48 (East Corning/Route 352). Follow Route 352 east for 1.5 miles. PMC entrance is on the left.**

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- **Jolie Goldenetz Dollar** – Pollinator Habitat Restoration Specialist, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation – Protection, establishment, and management of pollinator habitat.
- **Mia Park** – Bryan Danforth Lab, Cornell University - The role and importance of native bees in apple pollination.
- **Dave Biddinger Lab**, Pennsylvania State University – Integrating pollinator habitat in farm and orchard systems.
- **Alan Taylor** – Professor of Seed Science and Technology, New York State Agriculture Experiment Station, Cornell University – Seed science and technology of non-crop plants to attract pollinator species.
- **Shawnna Clark** – Natural Resources Specialist, Big Flats Plant Materials Center – Tour of pollinator habitat test plots at PMC and lessons learned.
- **Paul Salon** – Plant Materials Specialist, USDA-NRCS – Specifics on pollinator habitat establishment.

Tour of Big Flats Plant Materials Center pollinator enhancement wildflower projects: Time of seeding study with 4 dates and 60 species, weed control study, pollinator garden, and warm season grass plantings.

COURSE TRAINING SKILLS AND OBJECTIVES

- Awareness of various federal programs and funding available for pollinator conservation.
- Identify approaches to increase and enhance pollinator diversity on the land.
- Knowledge of the current best management practices that minimize land-use impacts on pollinators.
- Ability to assess pollinator habitat and to identify habitat deficiencies.
- Ability to make recommendations to farmers and land managers that conserve pollinators (including subjects such as tillage, pesticide use, irrigation, burning, grazing, and cover cropping).
- Ability to design and implement habitat improvements, such as native plant restoration and nest site enhancements.

Contact Paul Salon paul.salon@ny.usda.gov (607-562-8404) for further information

Please register at the following website and bring $12.00 to cover the cost of lunch and refreshments.
http://www.xerces.org/events/ (Scroll down to Pollinator Conservation Planning Short Course in New York)

4.5 CCA credits approved

"Our hearts go out to all of those affected by this year's disasters, from frost and freezes to fires and drought," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Without a robust package of disaster assistance programs available to struggling farmers and ranchers, it is important that USDA officials visit rural communities and talk with producers not only about their current options but also about the need for proper planning through these difficult times. And we remind Congress that as agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation's economy, it is crucial that producers have a safety net in times of need, and that USDA has the tools to act quickly and deliver assistance when producers need it most."

USDA agencies have been working for weeks with state and local officials, as well as individuals, businesses, farmers and ranchers, as they begin the process of helping to get people back on their feet. USDA offers a variety of resources for states and individuals affected by the recent disasters. Individuals can also apply for other types of federal disaster assistance at www.disasterassistance.gov.

In rural communities, USDA's Rural Development works with existing individual and community borrowers that have been affected by a natural disaster to help them with their loans. With respect to loans guaranteed by Rural Development, borrowers should initially contact their lender for assistance.

USDA's Farm Service Agency provides emergency loans through the Emergency Loan Program to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to natural disasters. Producers will be eligible for these loans as soon as their county is declared a Presidential or Secretarial disaster county. Last week, Vilsack announced three significant improvements to USDA programs and processes related to Secretarial disaster designations: a final rule that simplifies the process for Secretarial disaster designations and will result in a 40 percent reduction in processing time for most counties affected by disasters; a reduced interest rate for emergency loans that effectively lowers the current rate from 3.75 percent to 2.25 percent; and a payment reduction on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands qualified for emergency haying and grazing in 2012, from 25 to 10 percent.

Hot, dry and drought conditions across states from California to Delaware have damaged some crops and slowed development of others. USDA's Risk Management Agency reminds producers faced with questions on crop losses to contact their crop insurance companies and local USDA Farm Service Agency Service Centers, as applicable, to report damages to crops or livestock loss, and not to destroy or discontinue care for your crops. Farmers and ranchers who participate in the federal crop insurance program are reminded to please contact your agent or company as soon as you experience any failing crops. USDA assures producers that indemnity payments will be made to producers who submit claims for crops and livestock. In addition, USDA reminds livestock producers to keep thorough records of losses, including additional expenses for such things as food purchased due to lost supplies.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the Emergency Watershed Protection program, which provides assistance to areas that have been damaged by natural disasters, such as floods, windstorms, drought, and wildfires. In partnership and through local government sponsors, NRCS helps local communities recover from natural disasters.

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service provides food assistance to those in need in areas affected by a disaster. This Federal assistance is in addition to that provided by State and local governments. USDA provides disaster food assistance in three ways: provides foods to State agencies for distribution to shelters and other mass feeding sites; provides food to State agencies for distribution directly to households in need in certain limited situations; and authorizes State agencies to issue Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) benefits.

For additional information and updates about USDA's efforts, please visit www.usda.gov/disaster.

The Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers. A strong farm safety net is important to sustain the success of American agriculture. USDA's crop insurance program currently insures 264 million acres, 1.14 million policies, and $110 billion worth of liability on about 500,000 farms. In response to tighter financial markets, USDA has expanded the availability of farm credit, helping struggling farmers refinance loans. In the past 3 years, USDA provided 103,000 loans to family farmers totaling $14.6 billion. Over 50 percent of the loans went to beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

USDA Announces Streamlined Disaster Designation Process with Lower Emergency Loan Rates and Greater CRP Flexibility in Disaster Areas

Mix of Discretionary Tools and Process Improvements Will Help Producers Suffering Effects of Extreme Weather

WASHINGTON, July 11, 2012—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced a package of program improvements that will deliver faster and more flexible assistance to farmers and ranchers devastated by natural disasters. Vilsack announced three significant improvements to decades-old USDA programs and processes related to Secretarial disaster designations: a final rule that simplifies the process for Secretarial disaster designations and will result in a 40 percent reduction in processing time for most counties affected by disasters; a reduced interest rate for emergency loans that effectively lowers the current rate from 3.75 percent to 2.25 percent; and a

payment reduction on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands qualified for emergency haying and grazing in 2012, from 25 to 10 percent.

"Agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation's economy and it is increasingly important that USDA has the tools to act quickly and deliver assistance to farmers and ranchers when they need it most," said Vilsack. "By amending the Secretarial disaster designation, we're creating a more efficient and effective process. And by delivering lower interest rates on emergency loans and providing greater flexibility for haying and grazing on CRP lands, we're keeping more farmers in business and supporting our rural American communities through difficult times. With these improvements, we're also telling American producers that USDA stands with you and your communities when severe weather and natural disasters threaten to disrupt your livelihood."

A natural disaster designation makes all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency loans. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to designate disaster counties to make disaster assistance programs available to farmers and ranchers. Previous to these changes, the process had been in place for more than two decades and regulations had not been substantively revised since 1988.

The final rule for Secretarial disaster designations is amended as follows:

- Nearly automatically qualifies a disaster county once it is categorized by the U.S. Drought Monitor as a severe drought for eight consecutive weeks during the growing season. Effective July 12, 1,016 primary counties in 26 states will be designated as natural disaster areas, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met.

- Streamlines the USDA Secretarial designation process, which is expected to provide better service to farmers and ranchers by reducing by approximately 40 percent the amount of time required for designating a disaster area.

- Removes the requirement that a request for a disaster designation be initiated by a state governor or Indian tribal council, increasing the likelihood that counties will be covered. Indian tribal councils and governors may still submit a request for a designation, but it will not be required in order to initiate a disaster declaration.

- The same criteria currently being used for triggering a disaster designation will apply: a county must either show a 30 percent production loss of at least one crop countywide, or a decision must be made by surveying producers to determine that other lending institutions are not able to provide emergency financing.

During times of need, USDA has historically responded to disasters across the country by providing direct support, disaster assistance, technical assistance, and access to credit. USDA's low-interest emergency loans have helped producers recover from losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters for decades. While the current emergency loan interest rate was set in 1993 at 3.75 percent, commercial farm loan and other FSA farm loan interest rates have since been reduced without a corresponding reduction in the emergency loan rate. By reducing the interest rates to 2.25 percent, emergency loans immediately come into line with other rates in the marketplace and provide a much-needed resource for producers hoping to recover from production and physical losses associated with natural disasters.

As part of ongoing efforts to provide greater flexibility in service to American agriculture, USDA also announced that the annual rental payment by producers on CRP acres used for emergency haying or grazing will be reduced to 10 percent in 2012, instead of 25 percent, in response to the seriousness of the drought gripping large portions of the United States.

USDA encourages all farmers and ranchers to contact their crop insurance companies and local USDA Farm Service Agency Service Centers, as applicable, to report damages to crops or livestock loss. In addition, USDA reminds livestock producers to keep thorough records of losses, including additional expenses for such things as food purchased due to lost supplies. More information about federal crop insurance may be found at www.rma.usda.gov. Additional resources to help farmers and ranchers deal with flooding may be found at http://www.usda.gov/disaster.

The Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers. A strong farm safety net is important to sustain the success of American agriculture. USDA's crop insurance program currently insures 264 million acres, 1.14 million policies, and $110 billion worth of liability on about 500,000 farms. In response to tighter financial markets, USDA has expanded the availability of farm credit, helping struggling farmers refinance loans. In the past 3 years, USDA provided 103,000 loans to family farmers totaling $14.6 billion. Over 50 percent of the loans went to beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

View the Disaster Designations per the amended rule

The Means to Help Producers Impacted by Drought

This week, we continued to see historic levels of drought grip much of our nation, impacting thousands of farm families. Although the hard work and innovation of our producers has fueled a strong farm economy in recent years, President Obama and I understand the major challenges this drought poses for American agriculture.

As of July 20, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated 1,055 counties across the country as disaster areas due to drought. Significant portions of many crops are impacted – for example, according to the most recent U.S. Drought Monitor report, 88 percent of our nation's corn and 87 percent of our soybeans are in drought-stricken areas. Rising grain prices are threatening livestock and dairy operators with high input costs.

Our farmers and ranchers are no strangers to uncertainty – but it's even harder to plan for the future when we don't know how much more severe the drought will be.

Over the years, American producers have constantly innovated to meet new demands and adapt to new conditions, embracing new methods and utilizing new technology. The same innovative spirit that has positioned American agriculture as a global leader has helped to reduce the impact of the drought.

Nevertheless, the uncertainty of drought means this is a very difficult time for many. At President Obama's direction, USDA is doing all it can within the Department's existing authority to help.

Last week, I announced a final rule to simplify the process for Secretarial disaster designations – both to speed the process for producers and to reduce the burden on State government officials, who are also hard at work to help producers around the country cope with this disaster.

I reduced the interest rate for Farm Service Agency Emergency Loans, effectively lowering the current rate from 3.75 percent to 2.25 percent to help ensure that credit is available for farm families who are hit by drought.

And finally, I announced that USDA has lowered payment reductions for Conservation Reserve Program lands that qualify for emergency haying and grazing in 2012, from 25 to 10 percent.

USDA officials are traveling to states around the country to see firsthand the impact of the drought, and we will continue to look for ways to help. But the fact is USDA's legal authority to provide assistance remains limited right now. That's because the 2008 Farm Bill disaster programs, which were implemented under President Obama, expired last year. Prior to the expiration, these programs helped hundreds of thousands of U.S. producers during disasters.

If Congress doesn't act, USDA will remain limited in our means to help drought-stricken producers. That's why President Obama and I continue to call on Congress to take steps to ensure that USDA has the tools it needs to help farm families during the drought. Disaster assistance for producers is also one of many reasons why we need swift action by Congress to pass a Food, Farm and Jobs Bill this year.
I know that many producers are struggling today with the impact of this historic drought. The President and I are committed to doing all we can to help farmers and ranchers in this difficult time.

As all of us across America hope for rainfall, and while USDA does all it can to assist America's farmers, ranchers and rural communities, I hope that Congress will do all it can to help us get the job done.

US SBA Disaster Loans Available in New York for Economic Injury Following Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration

June 8, 2012. The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today that federal economic injury disaster loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes located in Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Schuyler, Seneca, Tioga and Tompkins counties in **New York** as a result of excessive snow and freezes that occurred on April 1 – April 30, 2012.

"When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, the Small Business Administration issues a declaration to eligible entities affected by the same disaster," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. With the exception of aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers.

The loan amount can be up to $2 million with interest rates of 3 percent for private non-profit organizations of all sizes and 4 percent for small businesses, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its

financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Those affected by the disaster may also apply for disaster loans electronically from SBA's website at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than February 5, 2013. *For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov.*

FOCUS ON FOOD SAFETY

Produce Safety Alliance August Update - *Gretchen Wall, Produce Safety Alliance Program Coordinator, glw53@cornell.edu*

August 17, 2012. We hope this update finds clouded skies delivering much needed rain for those who need it, which sadly, is most everyone. Thanks to the Working Committee efforts, the PSA focus this summer has been on finalizing curriculum goals and learning objectives to define what knowledge and skills learners should gain after attending the training program. The summer has flown by, but we are excited to keep moving forward with the PSA's progress and the creation of content in the very near future!

PSA Executive and Steering Committee Meet
On June 28th, 2012, the PSA Executive and Steering Members convened in Davis, CA to review the PSA's progress to date and discuss curriculum goals and objectives. The productive working meeting enabled us to review and share new information we collected from the ten working committees as well as the farmer focus groups. We would like to thank the Executive and Steering Committee members for their continued guidance and effort through this process.

Farmer Focus Groups Held Completed
Earlier this spring, the PSA met with 89 producers of fresh fruits and vegetables from around the country. Through this process, we learned what farmers wanted from a produce safety training program. The key outcome identified the desire for an effective and efficient, one-day educational training program that included practical examples to help them understand and implement GAPs. Farmers also expressed the need for information to be science-based and designed to address actual risks.

The importance of maintaining and growing their businesses was critical to all farmers; therefore the production of safe, whole fresh fruits and vegetables has come to the forefront of attention. Growers searching for produce safety information often were triggered by the need for specific, solution-oriented, and scientifically sound reference material. Additionally, growers listed Extension agents and specialists as their top source for produce safety related information next to their peers and specific commodity groups. A full summary of the focus groups will be made available on the PSA website.

Working Committee Summaries Available
Through the effort of twenty dedicated working committee co-chairs and that of over 170 committee members, the PSA has made great strides in the identification of critical components to be included in the curriculum as well as the challenges that growers, educators, and industry members face related to food safety on the farm. We are confident these efforts will allow us to reach our goal of producing a science-based curriculum that will assist growers with understanding and implementing food safety practices on the farm to help ensure the safety of fresh fruits and vegetables. All WC summary documents as well as meeting notes are available to download from the PSA website at: http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/summary.html.

Spotlight Series
The Ohio State University Fruit & Vegetable Safety Team was formed as a result of requests from growers for GAPs education in Ohio. The current program is a 2-3 hour course that introduces growers to risk assessment and encourages them to assess their individual farms by applying knowledge gleaned from the program. The target audience is small farmers of Ohio and also gives special attention to reaching the Plain, or Amish, communities. The team routinely seeks feedback and advice from grower participants on program content. Their goals have been to reach farmers who have never attended a course or considered implementing GAPs on their farms. 2012 has seen double attendance of previous years. For more information, please visit http://producesafety.osu.edu/.

Join Us!
Our listserve is always expanding and we hope you'll join us! To sign up, please visit our website at http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/psa.html.

Once the proposed rule is released, our newsletter below will help identify ways you can stay involved in the process.
Proposed Produce Safety Regulation: How to Stay Involved.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Betsy Bihn (eab38@cornell.edu) if you have any questions.

'Glean NY' Partnership Rallying Growers to Help Those in Need

ITHACA, N.Y. – Produce growers with good food that can't be harvested are encouraged to donate fruits and vegetables to food banks throughout the state under a new initiative called "Glean NY."

The Glean NY project hopes to increase the donation of nutritious fresh food that might not otherwise be harvested due to weather damage, crops fruiting at unusual times, irregular sizes, cosmetic damage or other reasons.

"There is no firm estimate of how much food does not get harvested each year, although we know the amount varies with each year's conditions," said Rebecca Schuelke Staehr, a gleaning coordinator with Cornell University. "Even a small percentage of the produce grown in this state could equal tens of thousands of pounds of nutritious food."

Glean NY is a collaboration among the state's farmers, the Food Bank Association of New York State, the New York Farm Bureau, and Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Produce does not have to be washed or graded. In some instances, food banks can supply field crates, pickup food at the farm and reimburse farmers for their harvesting costs. Many food banks own refrigerated trucks and can arrange pickup of donations within a day or two of receiving a call.

Donations may be tax deductible, and Glean NY is interested in donations of all variety of produce, in quantities large and small.

"Partnerships with New York farmers have enabled the food banks to feed millions of people in need, said John Evers, executive director of the Food Bank Association of New York State. "Our latest partnership in the area of gleaning would benefit both farmers and the hungry. By working with farmers to harvest crops that otherwise not be picked, farmers and food banks will be able to tap into a new source of fresh produce for the hungry."

The Food Bank Association of New York State feeds more than 3 million people annually through its affiliation with eight regional food banks and 5,000 local food pantries, soup kitchens, senior nutrition programs and more.

"The gleaning partnership with food banks, Cornell, New York Farm Bureau and others, will prevent food waste, provide farmers with an outlet for unmarketable and un-harvested crops, and provide healthy meals to the millions of hungry people," Evers said.

For information about donating, call the Food Bank Association of New York at (518) 433-4505.

FOCUS ON PEST MANAGEMENT

Counteracting Adverse Weather Effects on Deposition And Degradation Of Insecticides Used in Berries - *Carlos García-Salazar, Michigan State University Extension*

Michigan is in the middle of a period of extreme heat and drought that affects not only the crop physiology, but also the way insect pests respond to pesticides used.

July 24, 2012. Currently, with the harvest of blueberries and raspberries in progress, there is a need to prevent insects and diseases to become a post-harvest problem. At this time, spotted wing Drosophila and Japanese beetles are the main concern for fresh and processed blueberries and raspberries. Spraying pesticides under the prevailing weather conditions presents some challenges that growers need to consider before applying pesticides to their crops.

Insecticides, as any other pest control tool require specific conditions to obtain the maximum benefit or to be effective in preventing pest damage. To be effective, the spray carrying pesticide needs to reach the target (the crop or the pest) to put the pest in contact with the pesticide. Once the product is deposited in the target area, its activity will depend on its duration as residue on the target and on the probability of the pest getting in contact with the residue. Mobile pests like blueberry maggots, Japanese beetles and spotted wing Drosophila have a greater opportunity to enter in contact with the pesticide residue than aphids or sessile pests that do not move a lot.

Most pesticides are affected by the environmental conditions in which they are released. Temperature and relative humidity are two major factors responsible for the permanence of the pesticide in the target area and for the metabolization of the pesticide by the insect pest.

High temperature and low relative humidity will cause pesticide droplets to evaporate quickly, reducing drastically their volume before reaching the target. This may reduce the amount of product deposited on the insect habitat. This, in turn, will reduce the amount of pesticide deposition needed for an effective pest control and may create pesticide drift that will be lost in the environment.

The other important impact of high environmental temperatures is in the performance of the insecticide. Temperature is one of the major factors for environmental pesticide degradation. It also influences the metabolic activity of the insect that may lead to an increased insecticide detoxification or toleration. According to Dr. Janet Knodel from North Dakota State University Extension, some organophosphate (OP) insecticides increase their toxicity to insects with increased environmental temperatures. However, pyrethroids insecticides such as Asana XL (esfenvalerate), Baythroid XL (beta-cyfluthrin), Delta Gold (deltamethrin), Mustang Max (zeta-cypermethrin), Ambush or Arctic (permethrin), or Warrior II (lambda-cyhalothrin), decreases as temperature increases. (For more information, see *Hot Temperatures will Impact Soybean Aphids and Insecticide Control* by Dr. Knodel.)

Our current recommendation for controlling spotted wing Drosophila and Japanese beetles includes the use of OP and pyrethroid insecticides. Both insecticides are affected by high environmental temperatures. For example, Malathion sprayed on strawberry flowers decreased to 2.70 percent of the initial concentration within two days of application, 0.93 percent after three days and 0.50 percent within seven days (according to the National Pesticide Information Center's Malathion Technical Fact Sheet). This decrease on the amount of insecticide residue is temperature-dependent; as temperature increases, Malathion residues decrease.

To prevent the loss of activity or effectiveness of insecticides applied under high temperatures and drought conditions against pests affecting both blueberries and raspberries, we recommend:

1. Spray at day hours when temperatures are below 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius). At high temperatures, Malathion residues decline rapidly due to volatilization.
2. Adjust the sprayer to deliver large droplets: more than 300 microns in diameter.
3. Avoid concentrated sprays; use the maximum recommended volume of water.
4. Finally, calibrate the spray equipment to match the conditions of the target crops, i.e., type of canopy and height of the target crop, to deliver the right volume of water and maximize pesticide deposition on the target.

(This article was published by **MSU Extension**. For more information, visit http://www.msue.msu.edu.)

Disease Snapshot: Verticillium Wilt of Raspberries - *Zachary Frederick, Graduate Student and R. Kerik D. Cox, Assistant Professor Plant-Pathology & Plant-Microbe Biology, Cornell University*

Causes: *Verticillium albo-atrum and V. dahliae*

When to watch for it: Year round.

First line of defense: Plant only disease free nursery stock.

Summary: Verticillium wilt is a devastating disease of many crops, including raspberries where it is also called blue stem or blue stripe wilt. Verticillium sp. overwinter was microsclerotia and enter plants through wounds in the roots. The pathogen spreads through the vascular tissue of the host, which eventually kills it. Later in the season, the pathogen forms new microsclerotia, which are returned to the soil through rotting plant matter. Some cultural control can be achieved by pruning dead and dying canes and removing them, thereby preventing this step of the life cycle. *Above, **A**: Raspberry cane infected with Verticillium exhibiting the bluing symptom. **B**: Verticillium infections can appear very severe in a small patch of canes, but have one or two canes that are still being infected that will appear fairly healthy for most of the season.*

Verticillium is most devastating to black raspberries, but red and purple raspberries can be affected. Infected black raspberry canes are often severely stunted, but will not die from infection in the first season unless the disease pressure and conditions favorable for disease are high. However, infected canes usually die within three years. Canes may show bluish discoloration just prior to dying. Cutting such canes will show red, discolored within vascular bundles. Symptoms on red raspberry are often less severe, and are most apparent when the leaves fall off in the fall while the petioles remain attached. Often clusters of leaves will remain on infected canes tips into the winter. Red raspberry canes may have some yellowing (chlorotic) leaves, but will usually only exhibit reduced vigor under high disease pressure. Symptoms alone may not provide an accurate diagnosis because other root diseases, insect feeding, and environmental problems may produce identical symptoms. Some growers may rotate out infected raspberry patches with alternative crops. However tomatoes,

eggplants, peppers, pigweeds, horse nettles, and stone fruits should never be planted as a rotational crop, since they are common hosts of Verticillium..

Cranberries! Native Fruit's Interesting Natural Compounds Investigated - *Marcia Wood, Agricultural Research Service Information Staff.*

Garnishing chicken with cranberry chutney adds flavor and nutrients. Cranberries are rich in fiber and provide vitamin C and potassium.**(D2578-1)**

Maybe you remember when cranberries mostly showed up at year-end holidays as the perfect relish for your roast turkey.

In the 1960s, however, the introduction of flavorful cranberry juice beverages helped build a new, year-round use for the berry. These pleasant blends balanced the cranberry's naturally tart flavor with the sweetness of other favorite fruits such as apples and pears.

In the 1990s, the launch of dried, sweetened cranberries, which look somewhat like little red raisins, brought new attention to the colorful fruit.

Cranberries are rich in fiber, low in sodium, and provide vitamin C and potassium. They also contain intriguing natural compounds referred to as flavonoids, polyphenols, or, more generally, phytochemicals.

Phytochemicals are of ongoing interest to nutrition and medical researchers worldwide. For instance, cranberry phytochemicals have been the focus of a series of studies by chemist Ronald L. Prior and colleagues. Formerly with the Agricultural Research Service at the Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center in Little Rock, Prior is now an adjunct professor of food science at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Cranberry Juice-Processing Leftovers: A Treasure Trove of Phytochemicals?

In one investigation, Prior collaborated with Brittany L. White, formerly at the university and now a food technologist with ARS at Raleigh, North Carolina, and with Luke R. Howard, a professor in the university's food science department, to closely examine the kinds and amounts of phytochemicals in cranberry pomace—the stems, skin, and pulp that are left when the plump berries are pressed to make juice or canned products.

ARS scientists closely examined the types and amounts of interesting compounds in cranberry pomace (center), which is the stems, skin, and pulp left over after the berries are pressed to make juice or canned products.**(D2569-1)**

"Cranberry processors are looking for new, value-added uses of these byproducts," says Prior. Knowing more about the polyphenols in pomace might lead to new ways to build new markets for it.

Much is already known about the major polyphenols in fresh cranberries. But the Arkansas study is apparently one of the first to extensively investigate and document the kinds and amounts of major cranberry-pomace polyphenols.

The researchers used several sophisticated analytical procedures, including high-performance liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization-mass spectrometry and matrix-assisted laser desorption time-of-flight mass spectrometry. These procedures can measure the molecular weight of pomace constituents and, from that, determine their identity. If appropriate reference standards are available, the quantity of each constituent can be determined.

Among other findings, the scientists determined that the pomace contained "appreciable levels" of flavonols, a class of polyphenols that includes, for example, quercetin and myricetin.

Fresh whole cranberries are already known to contain high levels of flavonols—more than most other berries and, in fact, more than most fruits or vegetables. But the research was the first to show that nearly half of the total flavonol content of whole berries was left behind in the pomace instead of making its way into juice.

Published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry,* the study is the most up-to-date analysis of its kind for cranberry pomace.

The findings are a useful, readily accessible reference for medical and nutrition researchers, food processors, and others.

Tactic Targets "Unextractable" Pomace Components
A related investigation showed that the conventional procedure for gleaning polyphenols from pomace doesn't fully extract proanthocyanidins, or PACs, an important class of polyphenols.

The normal extraction process relies on a solution of acetone, acetic acid, and water. The team of White, Howard, and Prior examined an alternative approach—one that requires exposing pomace to various concentrations of sodium hydroxide at 140°F for 15 minutes. This method released 3 to 15 times more PACs than the traditional extraction method, according to the scientists.

The team recommends using the traditional method first—to extract the more readily accessible polyphenols—then following that with the sodium hydroxide-based procedure to tackle the recalcitrant PACs.

The sodium hydroxide method is not new. It is already used to recover polyphenols from rice, wheat, and corn, for instance. But the team is likely the first to show that the process works well for extracting cranberry PACs, too. More research is needed to determine what amounts of PACs are lost as a result of the sodium hydroxide treatment. In the meantime, researchers studying PACs in other plants might want to give the procedure a try. Cranberry PACs are of special interest because some research suggests that they may help counteract urinary tract infections. This role remains controversial, however.

The scientists documented their research in the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* and have applied for a patent for the sodium hydroxide-based process.

A Better Way To Measure PACs in Cranberry Products
Prior's investigations of cranberry PACs has also included pinpointing what is perhaps the best available method for commercial labs around the globe to use to reliably determine the PAC content of cranberry products.

Some currently available methods for measuring cranberry PACs either under- or overestimate the levels or pose other problems. Prior and colleagues at five different analytical labs on three continents determined that a quick, inexpensive test, the BL-DMAC (Brunswick Laboratories 4-dimethylaminocinnamaldehyde) assay, provided similar PAC results from one lab to the next. For this research, all of the participating labs were provided with the same set of 11 samples and a known standard as a reference.

"No single test for quantifying cranberry PACs—including this one—is perfect," says Prior. "But we recommend this one as the industry standard for cranberry product PAC analysis worldwide for several reasons. It is fast and inexpensive; provides results that are accurate, reliable, and reproducible; doesn't require expensive equipment or extensive training; and is fairly easy to use."

A peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* tells more about the research.

This research is part of Human Nutrition, an ARS national program (#107) described at www.nps.ars.usda.gov.To reach the scientists mentioned in this article, contact Marcia Wood, USDA-ARS Information Staff, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705-5129; (301) 504-1662. ***"Cranberries! Native Fruit's Interesting Natural Compounds Investigated"*** *was published in the* ***August 2012*** *issue of Agricultural Research magazine.*

Researchers Discover the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug's Winter Hideout - *Chris Gonzalez, Staff Writer, NE IPM Center*

Researchers believe they have identified where brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) gathers in natural landscapes during winter, and their findings could help farmers manage this invasive insect.

While inspecting for BMSB in the woods, researchers observed tree characteristics such as moisture level, type, size, and surface permeability. Source: D. Lee, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Doo-Hyung Lee, a postdoctoral research associate with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, wants to understand precisely what the risks are to growers from BMSB overwintering in natural landscapes. Lee works with a team of scientists led by Tracy Leskey at the Appalachian Fruit Research Station in West Virginia.

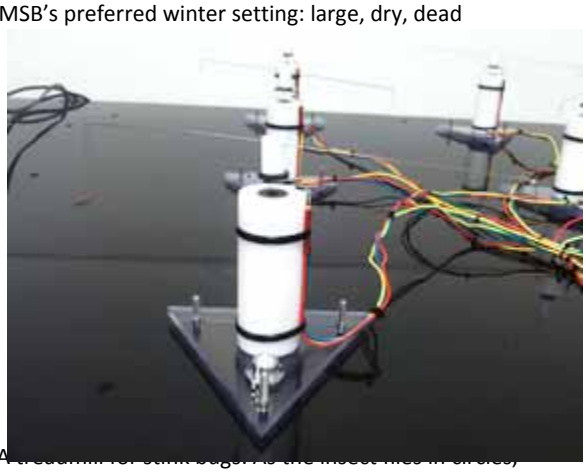
"We know BMSB aggregate inside human-made structures in very high numbers," Lee explains. "However, in the natural landscape, BMSB are spread out. They can be anywhere. They can remain unchecked by any management strategies, spreading randomly and building their population."

If researchers could better understand stink bug behavior in the natural landscape, Lee reasoned, they would be able to develop a defense strategy for growers whose farms are located near woodlands. He and his colleagues ventured out into the woods to gather this information first-hand.

Treasure hunting

Lee began his search on a chilly, overcast, winter afternoon in a desolate Maryland forest. "I felt as though I was hunting for treasure with no map," he recalls. He and his team randomly mapped out plots of Maryland and West Virginia forest, then explored these areas for BMSB hideouts. After searching among dead trees, both standing and fallen, as well as in leaf litter on the ground, they found 26 aggregations of BMSB, a 3% find rate.

Using what they had learned, the researchers developed a more specific profile of BMSB's preferred winter setting: large, dry, dead standing trees, more than 60 cm in circumference, particularly oak and locust, with porous dead tissue and peeling bark that gives BMSB a place into which to crawl. Lee and his team then returned to the woods, targeting only trees that matched their profile. This time, they found BMSB in 33% of trees, a finding that seems to confirm a BMSB preference for this winter refuge.



A trap used for stink bugs. As the insect flies in circles, the top of this device spins, measuring distance and speed. This baseline information is paired with study of BMSB flight in natural settings. Source: D. Lee, USDA Agricultural Research Service

From forest to farm

BMSB poses a huge risk to agriculture, Lee says, because 11 percent of trees in the natural landscape have the potential to harbor BMSB. Therefore, improving our ability to track BMSB movement from woodlands into agricultural areas is critical.

As Lee tracks the brown marmorated stink bug, he is deploying several high-tech tools, including a flight mill that measures the distance and speed a stink bug is able to fly. He hopes to publish detailed information about the insect's flight capacity within the next year. For now, he cites Asian studies suggesting that BMSB is able to fly long distances and find new cultivated crops readily.

Lee is also pioneering use of harmonic radar to track stink bugs by mounting a tiny antenna to the back of the 17 mm-long insect. This device will relay signals to researchers wearing equipment that can reliably detect tagged bugs up to 50 meters away.

Humankind's best friend soon will join the defense against its new pest, Lee predicts. Dogs trained to detect the scent of BMSB will make it easier to monitor and manage BMSB in agricultural areas.

Outbreak pest

BMSB is characterized in Asian studies as an outbreak pest, which means that the insect might go undetected for months or years before suddenly bursting on the scene in an agricultural area and causing much devastation. Now that we better understand the sites that provide winter refuge for BMSB, Lee believes, we will be better prepared to prevent future invasions of nearby farms.

Assisting Lee in his research were John Cullum, Sean Wiles, Starker Wright, Torri Hancock, Brent Short, and Cameron Scorza. The research is part of a broader Coordinated Agricultural Project entitled "Biology, Ecology and Management of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in Specialty Crops" that has been funded through the USDA-NIFA Specialty Crop Research Initiative.

"People are interested in our project because we are asking very basic questions about the biology of the insect that scientists have not looked at yet," Lee said. "They are curious because our findings characterize the overwintering behavior of BMSB in the natural landscape. People are very excited."

These words, while attempting scientific understatement, show the exhilaration of the entomologist who just found the keys to the BMSB hideout in the forest.

New Blueberry Varieties Being Readied for Sale - *Jan Suszkiw, Agricultural Research Service Information Staff.*

Prince, an early-ripening rabbiteye blueberry released by ARS. **(D2583-1)**

Blueberry growers and consumers alike stand to benefit from Gupton and Pearl, two new southern highbush cultivars developed by Agricultural Research Service researchers in Poplarville, Mississippi. In addition to high yields of plump, flavorful berries and vigorous growth, the new cultivars should give southern growers a jump on the lucrative early-ripening fresh market, which starts in April and May.

"There's been limited acreage of southern highbush blueberries because their lack of vigor has made them difficult to grow. However, we've overcome that problem to a large extent by developing hybrids from crosses made among southern highbush germplasm showing greater adaptation to the southeastern United States," says Stephen Stringer, a geneticist at ARS's Thad Cochran Southern Horticulture Laboratory in Poplarville.

Gupton and Pearl, released in 2006 and 2010, respectively, are finding their way into crop fields and nurseries as more propagative material becomes available from tissue-culture operations and softwood cuttings.

"Several nurseries have requested Pearl, and there are some growers in Mississippi who have Gupton in small plots in their fields. Gupton's also being evaluated in some trials in North Carolina and other southern states and is looking very good," reports Stringer. He collaborated on the cultivars' development and testing with ARS horticulturists Donna Marshall and James Spiers (retired) and ARS small-fruits breeder Arlen Draper (retired).

Southern production of blueberries, both for fresh and frozen (processing) markets, is situated in the Gulf Coast states of Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, and Texas, and the Carolinas and Georgia. In 2002, for the first time, consumer demand for fresh blueberries overtook that of frozen blueberries nationwide and has since retained its lead, with Americans consuming 1.1 pounds per person in 2010 versus 0.6 pounds for frozen berries.

Geneticist Stephen Stringer examines a rabbiteye blueberry (selection MS1262) that will soon be released. He and collaborators have developed new varieties of southern highbush and early-ripening rabbiteye blueberries. **(D2582-1)**

Michigan, Maine, New Jersey, and other northern states lead U.S. cultivated blueberry production, valued at nearly $590 million, but year-round demand for the antioxidant-rich fruit has given southern growers a chance to enter the fray, especially the early-ripening fresh market. Gupton and Pearl are the latest southern highbush blueberries to emerge from the Poplarville program with that market squarely in mind, says Stringer. Prior to release, both cultivars underwent several years of field evaluation in south-central Mississippi for vigor, yield, berry quality, splitting resistance, and other traits.

In trials, Gupton and Pearl flowered in mid to late March and were ready for harvest about 21 days before the earliest ripening rabbiteye cultivars, which have been the predominant type grown in the South. Gupton and Pearl produce medium to large, flavorful berries with light-blue color and a high soluble-solids content. The cultivars grow as sturdy, upright shrubs and have a chilling requirement (necessary for springtime blooms) of 400 to 500 hours at temperatures below 45°F.

In addition to the highbush releases, the Poplarville team is readying specialty cultivars for various niche markets, including U-pick farms and bakers, and cultivars with jumbo-sized berries weighing nearly 5 grams.

“We also released Prince, an early-ripening rabbiteye that can be harvested 7-10 days sooner than existing rabbiteyes,” adds Stringer.

This research is part of Plant Genetic Resources, Genomics, and Genetic Improvement (#301) and Crop Production (#305), two ARS national programs described at www.nps.ars.usda.gov.

Stephen Stringer and Donna Marshall are with the USDA-ARS Southern Horticultural Research Laboratory, 810 Hwy. 26 West, Poplarville, MS 39470; (601) 403-8768 [Stringer], (601) 403-8762 [Marshall].

"New Blueberry Varieties Being Readied for Sale" was published in the **August 2012** issue of *Agricultural Research* magazine.

Farmers Benefit from Tractor Rollover Protection Program

April 2, 2012. Since 2006, the New York State budget has provided critical funding to support the Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) safety program for farm tractors. Through the grassroots efforts of Farm Bureau members and other agricultural advocates, $100,000 that had been cut from the program was restored in the 2012-2013 State budget approved last week. For farmers in Schoharie and Greene counties and across New York State, this program has made an enormous difference.

Installing roll over protection bars on a tractor can be expensive, but the cost of not doing so is much higher. The northeast has the highest rate of deaths from tractor rollovers, and installing state of the art rollover bars used in combination with a seat belt can prevent 99% of these tragic occurrences. With farms struggling to just get by, installing ROPS equipment isn’t often first on the to-do list.

That’s where the New York Center for Agriculture Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) and local County Farm Bureaus come in. NYCAMH provides 70% of the funding to install roll over protection through the State’s ROPS program and the Schoharie and Greene County Farm Bureau’s pitched in the rest. The result couldn’t have been better for local Dairy Farmers Gary and John Schultz from Schoharie County and Bill and Harry Albright of Greene County.

“I would never have been able to afford to install this rollover bar, without help from the ROPS program and Greene County Farm Bureau,” said Harry Albright of Albright Dairy in Earlton. “It’s hard to keep a small dairy farm like this going, and I certainly appreciate the fact that programs like this are making an effort to help the little guy, and not sending all of the benefits to larger farms.”

In addition to the cost of installing tractor rollover protections, another challenge is getting the word out to farmers that assistance is available.

“To be honest, I had no idea that this program existed until I heard about it from my county Farm Bureau,” said Gary Schultz of Schultz Brothers Farm in Schoharie. “I would encourage my fellow farmers to put in their application to NYCAMH right away, so that they don’t miss out on a great opportunity.”

Rollover bar installations for Schultz and Albright had a price tag of close to $1000. So the benefits provided by ROPS and local County Farm Bureau’s are really making a difference. Since 2006 more than 1000 tractors have been retrofitted. Farmers interested in applying for ROPS funding should go to www.ropsr4u.com or contact the ROPS hotline at (877) 767-7748.

NOAA Raises Hurricane Season Prediction Despite Expected El Niño

Updated outlook calls for near- or above-normal Atlantic season

August 9, 2012. This year’s Atlantic hurricane season got off to a busy start, with 6 named storms to date, and may have a busy second half, according to the updated hurricane season outlook issued today by NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center, a division of the National Weather Service. The updated outlook still indicates a 50 percent chance of a near-normal season, but increases the chance of an above-normal season to 35 percent and decreases the chance of a below-normal season to only 15 percent from the initial outlook issued in May. *(Right: Satellite image of Hurricane Ernesto taken on Aug. 7, 2012 in the Gulf of Mexico. Photo credit: NOAA)*

Across the entire Atlantic Basin for the season – June 1 to November 30 – NOAA's updated seasonal outlook projects a total (which includes the activity-to-date of tropical storms Alberto, Beryl, Debbie, Florence and hurricanes Chris and Ernesto) of:

- 12 to 17 named storms (top winds of 39 mph or higher), including:
- 5 to 8 hurricanes (top winds of 74 mph or higher), of which:
- 2 to 3 could be major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of at least 111 mph)

The numbers are higher from the initial outlook in May, which called for 9-15 named storms, 4-8 hurricanes and 1-3 major hurricanes. Based on a 30-year average, a normal Atlantic hurricane season produces 12 named storms, six hurricanes, and three major hurricanes.

"We are increasing the likelihood of an above-normal season because storm-conducive wind patterns and warmer-than-normal sea surface temperatures are now in place in the Atlantic," said Gerry Bell, Ph.D., lead seasonal hurricane forecaster at the Climate Prediction Center. "These conditions are linked to the ongoing high activity era for Atlantic hurricanes that began in 1995. Also, strong early-season activity is generally indicative of a more active season."

However, NOAA seasonal climate forecasters also announced today that El Niño will likely develop in August or September.

"El Niño is a competing factor, because it strengthens the vertical wind shear over the Atlantic, which suppresses storm development. However, we don't expect El Niño's influence until later in the season," Bell said.

"We have a long way to go until the end of the season, and we shouldn't let our guard down," said Laura Furgione, acting director of NOAA's National Weather Service. "Hurricanes often bring dangerous inland flooding as we saw a year ago in the Northeast with Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Even people who live hundreds of miles from the coast need to remain vigilant through the remainder of the season."

"It is never too early to prepare for a hurricane," said Tim Manning, FEMA's deputy administrator for protection and national preparedness. "We are in the middle of hurricane season and now is the time to get ready. There are easy steps you can take to get yourself and your family prepared. Visit www.ready.gov to learn more."

Weather Reports

NEW YORK CROP WEATHER SERVICE NOTES

Week ending July 1st
Weather: We began this period rather cool and unsettled as an upper level low pressure system was situated over New England. This brought scattered showers and thunderstorms with the higher concentration of wet weather confined across the northern tier of New York. As the week progressed, the heat and humidity made a return to the Empire State with a few additional showers and thunderstorms on Thursday and Friday. For the week, temperatures averaged near normal for most of upstate New York with slightly above normal for the southern portions of the state. Precipitation averaged below normal for most of the region outside of locations where thunderstorms occurred.

Week ending July 8th
Weather: For the week temperatures averaged above normal statewide with precipitation generally below normal. The week started with a cold frontal passage on Sunday, July 1st. Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms preceded and accompanied this frontal passage mainly across southeast New York and Long Island. Some of the thunderstorms were severe producing large hail and strong winds. High pressure then built across the state for Monday and Tuesday with fair weather and warm temperatures. On Wednesday, a low pressure system tracked across southeast Canada. A warm front, followed by a cold frontal passage, brought isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms to portions of the state Wednesday afternoon and evening, especially across northern New York State. Again, some of the thunderstorms were severe producing large hail and strong winds, especially across northeast portions of the state. Another cold front passed across the state Saturday, July 7th preceded and accompanied by isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms.
Small Fruit: Strawberry conditions were 25 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

Week ending July 15th
Weather: For the week, temperatures averaged above normal with precipitation generally below normal. A cold front passed across the state on July 8th. In its wake, high pressure dominated for the remainder of the period. Temperatures for the most part averaged above normal statewide. Some below normal readings were noted across the northern tier early on but even these temperatures warmed to above normal levels. Precipitation was generally below normal. The presence of high pressure allowed for only isolated showers and thunderstorms to develop, mainly across higher elevations. Some better organized precipitation was noted across the Capital District on Friday night and early Saturday morning. Generally though, dry conditions prevailed in most locations. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry conditions were 43 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

Week ending July 22nd
Weather: near normal where thunderstorms occurred and below normal where thunderstorms did not occur. Leading up to the cold front passage from July 17th to July 19th, temperatures went from around normal on July 15th to well above normal for the entire state through July 18th. Some record high temperatures were set on Tuesday. The state was under an area of high pressure at the beginning of the week which gave the region above average temperatures. After the front passed through temperatures from northern New York to southern New York were closer to normal to even slightly below normal, especially for northern regions by the end of the week. Precipitation was mainly due to showers and thunderstorms associated with the cold front passage. On July 17th , northern New York had severe thunderstorms. On July 18th the cold front passage gave showers and some severe thunderstorms to the mid to lower Hudson Valley. The passage of the front on July 19th produced more stratiform precipitation in the lower Hudson Valley and coastal New York areas. After the cold front passage, dry conditions were present throughout the region. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry condition was reported 16 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

Week ending July 29th Beneficial rainfall occurred across much of the state as low pressure systems moved across the region producing showers and thunderstorms. Very heavy rainfall occurred on Saturday July 28th from slow moving storms which resulted in urban and small stream flooding across portions of east central New York with flash flooding occurring across the southeastern portion of the state, lower Hudson Valley, the New York Metropolitan area and Long Island averaged near normal for the period with near to below normal precipitation. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry conditions were 37 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

Week ending August 5th
Weather: High pressure dominated much of the week. A weakening cold front moved into the region on Wednesday, August 1st, triggering scattered convection. Temperatures were near seasonable levels most of the week, however, hot and humid conditions develop by the end of the week ahead of an approaching cold front. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry conditions were 20 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

Week ending August 12th
Weather: Temperatures averaged above normal across the state by as much as 7 degrees in Oneonta. Highs reached 92 degrees in Syracuse while lows only dipped to 47 degrees in Franklinville. Growing Degree Days were also above normal, by as much as 654 in Syracuse. Rainfall amounts ranged from 0.48 inches at Niagara Falls to 2.36 inches at Rochester. Rainfall since April 1st was below normal in most areas. The largest deficit was 5.90 inches at Buffalo. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry conditions were 27 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

Week ending August 19th
Weather: A series of weak cold fronts brought scattered showers and thunderstorms to New York State during the week. East of Interstate 81 and south of Interstate 90, precipitation for the week was generally near to slightly above normal. West of Interstate 81 and north of Interstate 90, precipitation for the week was generally near to below normal. Daily average temperatures for the week started near seasonable, and rose to slightly above normal by the end of the period. **Small Fruit**: Strawberry conditions were 37 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

Questions or comments about the New York Berry News?

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 1, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	92	53	71	+2	151	1071	+243	0.12	-0.68	11.15	+1.00
Glens Falls AP	89	49	68	0	129	921	+221	0.47	-0.23	11.91	+2.05
Poughkeepsie AP	96	50	73	+3	160	1177	+297	1.42	+0.53	8.68	-3.09
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	84	48	63	-1	97	659	+134	0.59	-0.41	12.45	-1.31
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	93	55	69	+2	138	867	+148	0.76	+0.06	6.54	-2.33
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	86	52	66	0	116	809	+189	0.82	+0.05	10.43	+1.18
Massena	87	52	68	+2	129	890	+224	0.67	-0.07	9.47	+1.02
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	84	55	71	+3	150	1082	+304	0.00	-0.76	6.62	-3.06
Wales	85	48	67	+2	122	843	+234	0.49	-0.43	8.36	-3.29
Niagara Falls	89	53	71	+3	149	1054	+261	0.02	-0.70	7.02	-2.57
Rochester NY	89	55	71	+4	151	1077	+306	0.05	-0.63	8.45	+0.02
Watertown Intl	84	55	69	+4	135	947	+334	0.71	+0.19	7.22	-0.73
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	91	49	71	+3	144	1143	+377	0.30	-0.54	7.41	-2.27
Geneva Research	88	53	70	+2	143	1001	+257	0.11	-0.69	7.62	-2.10
Honeoye	87	46	67	-3	121	973	+202	0.02	-0.77	8.02	-1.59
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	90	46	68	+2	131	935	+266	0.23	-0.61	8.94	-1.20
Penn Yan	89	52	72	+4	153	1074	+330	0.07	-0.73	7.61	-2.11
Syracuse	92	57	72	+5	156	1137	+357	0.38	-0.53	7.66	-2.89
Warsaw	83	50	66	+2	115	806	+245	0.75	-0.18	11.21	-0.08
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	90	47	67	+2	123	826	+212	0.29	-0.55	10.53	+1.01
Elmira	95	50	70	+3	139	999	+285	0.19	-0.65	7.64	-2.17
Franklinville	87	43	65	+2	107	770	+279	0.31	-0.63	10.50	-0.72
Jamestown 4NE	90	45	66	+2	116	872	+304	0.54	-0.48	10.17	-2.30
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	90	48	68	+2	132	922	+232	0.53	-0.31	10.59	+0.36
Cobleskill	88	51	69	+3	133	856	+220	0.25	-0.69	9.79	-1.49
Morrisville	89	50	68	+3	125	832	+235	0.46	-0.45	10.85	-0.19
Norwich	90	48	67	+1	118	854	+220	0.30	-0.60	10.89	-0.45
Oneonta	88	49	66	+2	115	902	+322	0.52	-0.44	10.01	-2.14
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	90	55	72	+4	157	976	+243	1.80	+1.04	11.96	+0.50
New York LGA	98	60	78	+5	200	1423	+288	0.52	-0.34	12.05	+0.73

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 8, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	92	61	76	+5	181	1252	+275	0.11	-0.63	11.26	+0.37
Glens Falls AP	90	55	73	+4	164	1085	+250	0.45	-0.18	12.36	+1.87
Poughkeepsie AP	93	59	77	+6	191	1368	+339	0.05	-0.86	8.73	-3.95
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	90	55	69	+4	135	791	+157	0.12	-0.80	12.57	-2.11
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	90	52	72	+4	157	1024	+168	1.15	+0.51	7.69	-1.82
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	88	53	71	+4	146	955	+213	0.19	-0.54	10.62	+0.64
Massena	89	51	72	+4	157	1047	+252	0.14	-0.56	9.61	+0.46
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	91	62	77	+7	191	1273	+352	0.14	-0.56	6.76	-3.62
Wales	89	54	72	+6	155	994	+267	0.08	-0.77	8.74	-3.76
Niagara Falls	94	58	76	+7	184	1238	+303	0.45	-0.19	7.47	-2.76
Rochester NY	94	59	76	+7	184	1261	+354	0.07	-0.56	8.52	-0.54
Watertown Intl	87	53	71	+4	152	1099	+362	0.15	-0.28	7.37	-1.01
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	96	57	77	+8	190	1333	+430	0.16	-0.59	7.57	-2.86
Geneva Research	92	60	75	+6	178	1179	+298	0.24	-0.48	7.86	-2.58
Honeoye	92	53	73	+3	161	1135	+221	0.22	-0.46	8.57	-1.72
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	92	51	72	+5	158	1093	+299	0.45	-0.35	9.39	-1.55
Penn Yan	94	59	76	+8	187	1261	+380	0.31	-0.41	7.92	-2.52
Syracuse	95	60	77	+8	191	1328	+411	0.22	-0.69	7.88	-3.58
Warsaw	87	54	72	+7	154	960	+288	0.23	-0.59	11.44	-0.67
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	93	53	72	+6	159	985	+252	0.32	-0.47	10.85	+0.54
Elmira	96	53	75	+7	175	1174	+327	0.50	-0.32	8.14	-2.49
Franklinville	91	50	72	+8	153	919	+326	0.42	-0.45	10.85	-1.24
Jamestown 4NE	93	54	74	+9	169	1040	+360	0.54	-0.40	10.71	-2.70
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	90	55	73	+6	166	1088	+269	0.73	-0.11	11.32	+0.25
Cobleskill	91	55	72	+6	158	1014	+257	0.03	-0.81	9.82	-2.30
Morrisville	91	50	70	+4	140	880	+168	0.15	-0.69	10.47	-1.41
Norwich	91	51	71	+4	148	1002	+247	0.11	-0.73	11.00	-1.18
Oneonta	88	55	72	+7	155	1057	+363	0.15	-0.76	10.16	-2.90
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	90	61	77	+7	190	1166	+290	0.38	-0.32	12.34	+0.18
New York LGA	97	73	85	+9	243	1666	+352	0.36	-0.55	12.41	+0.18

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	91	53	76	+4	180	1432	+301	0.89	+0.19	12.15	+0.56
Glens Falls AP	91	48	71	+2	148	1233	+258	0.00	-0.63	12.36	+1.24
Poughkeepsie AP	93	54	76	+5	187	1555	+372	0.01	-0.90	8.74	-4.85
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	86	52	68	+3	127	909	+165	0.00	-0.89	12.50	-3.07
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	90	48	69	-2	133	1157	+161	0.00	-0.63	7.69	-2.45
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	89	49	69	+1	133	1088	+219	0.23	-0.50	10.85	+0.14
Massena	92	49	70	0	138	1185	+256	0.00	-0.70	9.61	-0.24
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	91	58	76	+6	182	1455	+387	0.00	-0.63	6.76	-4.25
Wales	87	50	70	+4	145	1139	+289	0.00	-0.79	8.74	-4.55
Niagara Falls	90	58	75	+4	173	1411	+329	0.00	-0.62	7.47	-3.38
Rochester NY	93	54	74	+4	170	1431	+383	0.02	-0.54	8.54	-1.08
Watertown Intl	92	51	72	+4	153	1252	+384	0.00	-0.40	7.37	-1.41
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	92	54	75	+5	174	1507	+464	0.05	-0.65	7.62	-3.51
Geneva Research	91	56	74	+4	166	1345	+322	0.01	-0.65	7.87	-3.23
Honeoye	89	51	72	+1	156	1291	+229	0.16	-0.47	8.73	-2.19
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	91	49	72	+4	155	1240	+315	0.00	-0.77	9.39	-2.32
Penn Yan	90	55	74	+4	169	1430	+407	0.04	-0.62	7.96	-3.14
Syracuse	94	57	76	+6	184	1512	+453	0.00	-0.86	7.88	-4.44
Warsaw	86	53	70	+4	140	1100	+312	0.10	-0.67	11.54	-1.34
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	89	48	69	+2	138	1123	+264	0.05	-0.69	10.90	-0.15
Elmira	92	50	72	+3	158	1332	+346	0.08	-0.69	8.22	-3.18
Franklinville	89	44	69	+4	137	1056	+358	0.38	-0.44	11.23	-1.68
Jamestown 4NE	89	48	69	+3	136	1176	+378	0.25	-0.66	10.96	-3.36
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	87	55	73	+4	159	1247	+295	0.24	-0.53	11.56	-0.28
Cobleskill	90	50	72	+4	153	1167	+284	0.43	-0.35	10.25	-2.65
Morrisville	89	52	71	+5	148	1023	+191	0.15	-0.66	10.54	-2.15
Norwich	91	50	72	+4	153	1155	+274	0.00	-0.77	11.00	-1.95
Oneonta	89	50	71	+5	150	1207	+394	0.02	-0.89	10.18	-3.79
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	89	61	75	+4	173	1339	+312	0.00	-0.67	12.34	-0.49
New York LGA	92	71	81	+5	218	1884	+386	0.00	-0.92	12.41	-0.74

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	98	58	75	+3	178	1610	+324	1.21	+0.51	13.36	+1.07
Glens Falls AP	96	52	72	+3	158	1391	+276	1.41	+0.73	13.77	+1.97
Poughkeepsie AP	96	59	76	+4	181	1736	+392	2.09	+1.18	10.83	-3.67
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	91	52	59	+3	135	1044	+183	0.36	-0.52	12.86	-3.59
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	91	49	70	-1	144	1301	+158	0.75	+0.05	8.44	-2.40
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	91	49	70	+2	142	1230	+228	0.83	+0.06	11.68	+0.20
Massena	92	48	71	+2	149	1334	+265	0.79	+0.09	10.40	-0.15
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	88	59	75	+4	177	1632	+412	0.15	-0.54	6.91	-4.79
Wales	91	52	71	+3	147	1286	+310	0.46	-0.31	9.20	-4.86
Niagara Falls	94	57	76	+5	183	1594	+361	0.06	-0.57	7.53	-3.95
Rochester NY	97	58	75	+5	178	1609	+414	0.06	-0.54	8.60	-1.62
Watertown Intl	91	47	73	+5	161	1413	+412	0.04	-0.38	7.41	-1.79
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	96	56	74	+4	171	1678	+488	0.48	-0.15	8.10	-3.66
Geneva Research	94	58	73	+3	162	1507	+337	0.51	-0.12	8.38	-3.35
Honeoye	93	55	71	-2	150	1439	+223	0.22	-0.35	8.95	-2.54
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	95	56	72	+3	153	1393	+335	0.50	-0.27	9.89	-2.59
Penn Yan	95	57	73	+3	164	1594	+424	0.38	-0.25	8.34	-3.39
Syracuse	101	60	77	+7	192	1704	+498	0.15	-0.69	8.03	-5.13
Warsaw	88	54	69	+3	135	1235	+328	0.55	-0.17	12.09	-1.51
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	92	55	70	+3	142	1264	+279	0.97	+0.28	11.83	+0.09
Elmira	97	56	74	+5	168	1500	+374	0.80	+0.06	9.02	-3.12
Franklinville	91	55	69	+5	137	1188	+378	1.03	+0.26	12.26	-1.42
Jamestown 4NE	92	59	71	+5	152	1328	+411	1.90	+1.04	12.86	-2.32
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	91	57	72	+3	156	1403	+312	1.10	+0.33	12.66	+0.05
Cobleskill	94	52	72	+4	156	1323	+314	0.23	-0.54	10.48	-3.19
Morrisville	95	57	72	+5	157	1185	+227	0.76	-0.01	11.30	-2.16
Norwich	96	56	73	+5	160	1315	+305	0.78	+0.02	11.78	-1.93
Oneonta	98	56	73	+7	166	1373	+441	0.22	-0.65	10.40	-4.44
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	90	54	74	+3	168	1507	+326	0.57	-0.06	12.91	-0.55
New York LGA	101	64	80	+4	210	2094	+407	2.66	+1.72	15.07	+0.98

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	87	59	75	+3	174	1784	+344	2.20	+1.49	15.56	+2.56
Glens Falls AP	87	58	73	+4	162	1553	+298	1.39	+0.68	15.16	+2.65
Poughkeepsie AP	90	56	76	+4	186	1922	+417	1.96	+1.12	12.79	-2.55
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	85	51	68	+2	130	1174	+197	1.26	+0.35	14.12	-3.24
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	89	55	71	+2	150	1451	+167	1.39	+0.63	9.83	-1.77
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	88	50	70	+2	143	1374	+239	0.92	+0.12	13.64	+1.36
Massena	92	50	71	+2	148	1482	+276	0.91	+0.16	11.31	+0.01
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	87	59	75	+4	176	1808	+438	0.58	-0.16	7.49	-4.95
Wales	89	51	71	+4	148	1434	+332	2.10	+1.32	11.30	-3.54
Niagara Falls	89	57	75	+5	176	1770	+389	0.83	+0.17	8.36	-3.78
Rochester NY	95	57	75	+5	178	1787	+449	1.84	+1.20	10.44	-0.42
Watertown Intl	92	49	73	+5	165	1578	+444	1.97	+1.50	9.38	-0.29
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	94	55	75	+5	176	1854	+518	2.01	+1.38	10.11	-2.28
Geneva Research	92	59	74	+3	168	1676	+359	2.04	+1.41	10.42	-1.94
Honeoye	92	52	72	+1	158	1597	+227	2.18	+1.55	11.13	-0.99
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	92	50	73	+5	163	1556	+365	0.64	-0.12	10.53	-2.71
Penn Yan	92	59	74	+4	172	1766	+449	2.29	+1.66	10.62	-1.73
Syracuse	96	57	77	+7	193	1897	+544	1.40	+0.57	9.43	-4.56
Warsaw	86	57	70	+3	140	1375	+349	3.06	+2.30	15.15	+0.79
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	91	51	71	+3	147	1411	+300	1.56	+0.93	13.39	+1.02
Elmira	94	54	75	+5	173	1673	+407	0.52	-0.18	9.54	-3.30
Franklinville	87	48	70	+5	139	1327	+408	1.64	+0.85	13.90	-0.57
Jamestown 4NE	89	51	71	+5	148	1474	+438	1.59	+0.68	14.45	-1.64
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	87	57	73	+4	159	1562	+333	1.09	+0.32	13.75	+0.37
Cobleskill	87	55	72	+5	157	1480	+344	1.52	+0.76	12.00	-2.43
Morrisville	89	53	72	+5	156	1341	+259	2.00	+1.23	13.30	-0.93
Norwich	86	50	71	+3	149	1464	+325	1.54	+0.84	13.32	-1.09
Oneonta	92	54	74	+8	171	1544	+493	2.10	+1.26	12.50	-3.18
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	84	63	74	+2	167	1674	+336	0.85	+0.16	13.76	-0.39
New York LGA	95	70	80	+4	213	2307	+431	0.75	-0.16	15.82	+0.82

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 5, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	92	64	77	+6	190	1974	+381	0.00	-0.77	15.56	+1.79
Glens Falls AP	92	58	75	+6	174	1727	+335	0.00	-0.77	15.16	+1.88
Poughkeepsie AP	92	64	77	+5	189	2111	+448	0.19	-0.65	12.98	-3.20
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	88	54	71	+6	148	1322	+233	0.50	-0.47	14.62	-3.71
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	92	58	75	+6	175	1626	+204	0.00	-0.86	9.83	-2.63
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	92	54	73	+6	166	1539	+278	0.22	-0.65	13.50	+0.35
Massena	93	54	75	+7	179	1661	+322	0.00	-0.78	11.31	-0.77
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	96	62	79	+8	203	2011	+494	0.01	-0.83	7.50	-5.78
Wales	89	55	73	+6	162	1594	+367	1.94	+1.10	13.31	-2.37
Niagara Falls	95	64	78	+8	200	1970	+442	0.20	-0.57	8.56	-4.35
Rochester NY	92	59	77	+8	190	1977	+500	0.63	-0.08	11.07	-0.50
Watertown Intl	95	54	75	+7	179	1757	+490	0.45	-0.15	9.83	-0.44
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	92	59	77	+7	190	2044	+568	0.20	-0.47	10.31	-2.75
Geneva Research	91	57	75	+5	176	1852	+392	0.62	-0.02	11.04	-1.96
Honeoye	90	52	74	+3	168	1763	+246	0.06	-0.60	11.43	-1.35
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	92	53	74	+6	168	1724	+401	0.15	-0.62	10.68	-3.33
Penn Yan	90	60	76	+6	183	1949	+489	0.39	-0.25	11.02	-1.98
Syracuse	97	59	79	+10	208	2105	+611	0.07	-0.71	9.50	-5.27
Warsaw	87	57	72	+7	158	1533	+391	0.06	-0.73	15.21	+0.06
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	92	52	71	+4	150	1561	+325	0.83	+0.27	14.22	+1.29
Elmira	93	52	75	+6	176	1859	+446	0.32	-0.38	9.86	-3.68
Franklinville	88	52	70	+5	139	1464	+440	0.82	-0.02	14.85	-0.46
Jamestown 4NE	90	57	73	+7	159	1633	+478	0.02	-0.90	14.47	-2.54
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	90	57	74	+5	168	1730	+368	0.35	-0.42	14.10	-0.05
Cobleskill	91	59	74	+7	170	1650	+388	0.59	-0.18	12.59	-2.61
Morrisville	91	56	73	+6	159	1451	+247	0.42	-0.35	13.50	-1.50
Norwich	92	57	73	+6	164	1628	+363	0.10	-0.60	13.42	-1.69
Oneonta	94	60	77	+11	186	1730	+560	0.63	-0.21	13.13	-3.39
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	88	60	75	+3	175	1849	+357	0.00	-0.70	13.76	-1.09
New York LGA	93	69	79	+3	209	2516	+451	0.39	-0.49	16.21	+0.33

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 12, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	89	55	74	+4	169	2143	+404	0.99	+0.22	16.55	+2.01
Glens Falls AP	87	52	71	+3	148	1874	+352	1.49	+0.66	16.65	+2.54
Poughkeepsie AP	89	58	76	+5	183	2294	+478	1.97	+1.13	14.95	-2.07
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	84	52	67	+3	123	1445	+249	1.00	-0.05	15.62	-3.76
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	89	54	72	+4	152	1778	+226	1.29	+0.36	11.12	-2.27
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	86	54	69	+3	136	1675	+293	1.65	+0.74	15.15	+1.09
Massena	91	56	70	+3	144	1805	+341	1.25	+0.41	12.56	-0.36
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	86	56	72	+2	155	2166	+508	0.81	-0.12	8.31	-5.90
Wales	82	49	67	0	123	1717	+371	0.85	-0.03	14.16	-2.40
Niagara Falls	87	58	72	+2	153	2123	+455	0.48	-0.37	9.04	-4.72
Rochester NY	87	57	72	+3	152	2129	+520	2.36	+1.59	13.43	+1.09
Watertown Intl	88	58	71	+4	151	1908	+515	2.55	+1.86	12.38	+1.42
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	90	54	72	+3	155	2199	+586	1.54	+0.84	11.85	-1.91
Geneva Research	88	56	71	+3	152	2004	+406	0.68	-0.02	11.72	-1.98
Honeoye	88	52	71	0	145	1909	+248	1.74	+1.04	13.17	-0.31
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	88	50	71	+4	148	1872	+423	0.78	+0.01	11.46	-3.32
Penn Yan	87	56	72	+3	154	2103	+505	0.99	+0.29	12.01	-1.69
Syracuse	92	56	75	+6	179	2284	+654	0.84	+0.07	10.34	-5.20
Warsaw	82	51	66	+2	117	1650	+398	0.94	+0.10	16.15	+0.16
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	86	50	67	0	120	1681	+326	0.89	+0.33	15.11	+1.62
Elmira	91	51	71	+3	149	1998	+463	0.98	+0.31	10.84	-3.37
Franklinville	86	47	66	+2	115	1579	+452	1.79	+0.92	16.64	+0.46
Jamestown 4NE	85	49	66	+1	116	1749	+482	0.88	-0.10	15.35	-2.64
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	88	52	71	+3	146	1876	+385	1.93	+1.21	16.03	+1.16
Cobleskill	87	50	70	+3	139	1789	+406	0.81	+0.04	13.40	-2.57
Morrisville	87	53	71	+5	146	1602	+282	1.44	+0.67	14.94	-0.83
Norwich	87	52	70	+3	139	1767	+381	1.29	+0.56	14.71	-1.13
Oneonta	90	54	72	+7	157	1887	+605	1.34	+0.50	14.47	-2.89
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	85	59	76	+5	183	2032	+386	1.23	-0.46	14.99	-0.63
New York LGA	91	71	81	+6	221	2737	+489	0.61	-0.23	16.82	+0.10

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 19, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° 1/			Precipitation (Inches) 1/			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany County AP	84	50	70	+2	145	2288	+411	0.29	-0.54	16.84	+1.47
Glens Falls AP	84	46	69	+2	134	2009	+364	0.02	-0.82	16.67	+1.72
Poughkeepsie AP	86	51	72	+2	155	2449	+488	0.56	-0.23	15.51	-2.30
Mohawk Valley											
Boonville	77	45	63	-1	95	1540	+244	0.50	-0.62	16.12	-4.38
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh Int AP	83	46	69	+2	132	1910	+237	0.49	-0.49	11.61	-2.76
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	79	47	66	+1	116	1791	+295	0.38	-0.60	15.53	+0.49
Massena	82	48	68	+3	128	1933	+353	0.59	-0.25	13.15	-0.61
Great Lakes											
Buffalo Int AP	83	53	70	+1	139	2305	+514	0.32	-0.66	8.63	-6.56
Wales	79	47	65	-2	108	1825	+368	0.48	-0.45	14.64	-2.85
Niagara Falls	83	51	69	-1	132	2255	+455	1.06	+0.15	10.10	-4.57
Rochester NY	81	51	69	+2	132	2261	+527	0.29	-0.48	13.72	+0.61
Watertown Intl	80	49	68	+2	129	2037	+526	0.27	-0.50	12.65	+0.92
Central Lakes											
Dansville AP	83	50	69	+1	134	2333	+590	0.24	-0.49	12.09	-2.40
Geneva Research	82	50	68	-1	129	2133	+405	0.37	-0.33	12.09	-2.31
Honeoye	82	48	67	-3	121	2030	+232	0.52	-0.23	13.69	-0.54
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	80	46	66	-1	116	1988	+421	1.78	+1.01	13.24	-2.31
Penn Yan	81	49	68	0	131	2234	+506	0.06	-0.64	12.07	-2.33
Syracuse	83	51	71	+3	147	2431	+672	0.69	-0.08	11.03	-5.28
Warsaw	78	47	65	0	106	1756	+401	0.70	-0.19	16.85	-0.03
Western Plateau											
Hornell Almond Dam	80	44	65	-1	108	1789	+323	0.60	+0.04	15.71	+1.66
Elmira	83	45	68	0	124	2122	+463	0.51	-0.17	11.35	-3.54
Franklinville	79	42	63	0	95	1674	+452	0.49	-0.42	17.13	+0.04
Jamestown 4NE	82	44	65	-1	103	1852	+479	0.54	-0.48	15.89	-3.12
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton/Broo	78	49	66	-2	114	1990	+378	2.21	+1.44	18.24	+2.60
Cobleskill	80	44	67	0	119	1908	+410	0.46	-0.31	13.86	-2.88
Morrisville	80	48	67	+2	120	1722	+294	0.92	+0.12	15.86	-0.71
Norwich	81	47	67	+1	118	1884	+384	0.72	-0.05	16.23	-0.38
Oneonta	86	50	70	+5	138	2025	+639	0.61	-0.23	15.08	-3.12
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	86	55	72	+1	156	2188	+394	0.18	-0.59	15.17	-1.22
New York LGA	92	66	78	+4	199	2936	+511	1.05	+0.21	17.87	+0.31

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