Cornell Cooperative Extension | Erie County

FALL 2024

Erie County Ag News

IN THIS ISSUE

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Erie County

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Cover photo Pixabayy

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Follow CCE Erie on social media to receive up to date news and announcements!

Broiler Processing Workshop at Green Heron Growers

September 17, 2024
2pm - 4pm
Green Heron Growers
Panama, NY
This free workshop brings participants on a tour of Green Heron Growers' organic pastured raised broiler enterprise and a live processing demonstration to share how to safely and humanely process broiler chickens under the 1,000 bird exemption.
More details: https://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2407

Composting Livestock Mortality and Butcher Waste

September 17, 2024
5:30pm-7pm
Bare Bones Butchering
Friendship, NY
This presentation will cover what composting is, site preparation, and how to compost livestock on farms; including the regulations in New York State.
More details: https://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2450

Swine 101 Week - Western

September 23, 2024
5:30pm - 8:45pm
CCE Livingston Auditorium
Mount Morris, NY
Join CCE and representatives from the National Pork Board, USDA, and NYS Ag and Markets for one of 5 3-hour swine-centric workshops across the state. These events are free and dinner is included. Registration is required.!
More details: https://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2446

2024 Dry Bean Growers Twilight Meeting

September 24, 2024
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm; dinner follows the meeting
Duyssen Farms (Red Barns)
Stafford, NY
DEC Credits
Come learn about updates in insect monitoring, white mold management, and weed resistance management, as well as view this year's dry bean variety trial plot to see how well different varieties have performed this season. 1.5 DEC credits will be available.
More details: https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=1978

LEAF: Biosecurity - Controlling Dangerous Germs Lurking on the Farm

October 2, 2024
6pm - 8pm
JCC Carnahan Center
Jamestown, NY
Join us for a discussion on bacteria and viruses that are of concern to livestock farms in WNY.This session is offered simultaneously in-person and over Zoom.
More details: https://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2449

Stockmanship and Stewardship 2024

October 25, 2024
All Day
Erie County Fairgrounds
Hamburg, NY
Save the date!! The event is one of 4 across the US and is a two-day educational experience featuring low-stress cattle handling demonstrations, Beef Quality Assurance educational sessions, facility design sessions, and industry updates.
More details: https://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2332

Collaborate to Improve Energy Conservation and Efficiency on Your Farm, Home or Non-Farm Business

(and Save Money!)

Jordan Miller, EnSave, Inc. (contractor on Behalf of NYSERDA)
John Whitney, Agricultural Educator, CCE-Erie
Josh Randall, Natural Resources Educator, CCE-Niagara
Guillermo Metz, Ag Energy NY Program Lead, CCE-Tompkins

Photo Canva

Farms in Western New York counties play a vital role in the success of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Agriculture Energy Audit Program (AEAP). 82 farms have participated in and received no-cost energy audits through the AEAP in Erie and Niagara Counties. The estimated annual energy cost savings from these 82 farms is $677,443. Equipment and system modifications, if installed, mean on-farm fuel savings, reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, and a stronger and more sustainable agriculture community. But we need your help to do even more.

Collaborative Opportunities for Farms

- **Agriculture Energy Audit Program (AEAP):** This program offers NY state farmers no-cost energy audits to help identify energy efficiency opportunities on their farm. https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Agriculture-Energy-Assistance/Agriculture-Energy-Audit

- **REAP Technical Assistance Program (RTAP):** This program has been designed to assist farmers at no cost to make applications to the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). If awarded, farmers can receive reimbursement for up to 50% of the total project cost. https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Agriculture-Energy-Assistance/REAP-Technical-Assistance-Program

- **Energy Best Practices for Agriculture:** The best practices have been developed to help educate dairy and greenhouse operations about energy-efficient technologies, how they function, the average cost, as well as an average payback in years. https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Agriculture-Energy-Assistance/Energy-Best-Practices-for-Agriculture

- **Ag Energy NY:** Agricultural sectors other than dairy and greenhouse operations can receive assistance both with no-cost energy audits and with assistance in identifying grants, loans, and rebates to support energy conservation work. And since mid-2024, the program now supports farmers interested in on-site solar for their own operations, and those looking to possibly lease their land for solar, including co-siting opportunities with ag. https://agenergyny.org

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative:** The Environmental Quality Incentives program through USDA NRCS provides direct payments both for energy audits and for select energy conservation measures. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/on-farm-energy-initiative

- **USDA Rural Development energy efficiency programs:** A variety of grants are available to support both energy efficiency and renewable energy production and use. https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs. REAP/RTAP referred to above is designed to help farms through the planning and application process.

To learn more about these programs, click: https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Agriculture-Energy-Assistance

Energy Conservation for Homes and Businesses

While the above-mentioned agricultural energy conservation programs do not directly support home and non-farm businesses, NYSERDA funds a network of clean energy "hubs" across New York State. In Western New York, under the leadership

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On Thursday, October 24, 2024, CCE-Erie will host a **Western New York Ag Energy Efficiencies Webinar** from 12:00-1:30 pm. Gabriel Gurley, the Ag Energy NY Program Manager will discuss these many opportunities in more detail. *See details on page 9 of this newsletter.*

of PUSH Buffalo/PUSH Green, the WNY Clean Energy Hub is coordinating home and business assistance for:

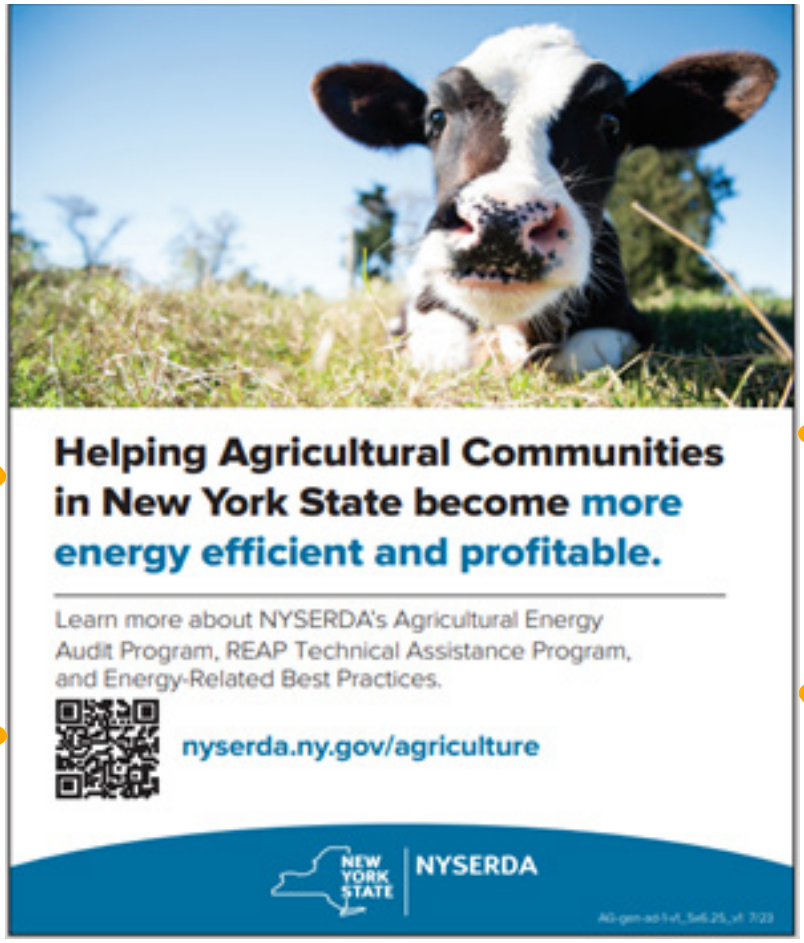
- Home Energy Surveys
- Energy Efficiency & Weatherization
- Clean Heating and Cooling
- Rooftop Solar
- Community Solar
- Green Jobs
- Health and Safety

Seven partner organizations, under the leadership of PUSH Green (under the PUSH Buffalo umbrella), are collaborating to support this NYSERDA-funded initiative:

- **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Allegany Counties** (eme67@cornell.edu)
- **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Niagara and Erie Counties** (jmr486@cornell.edu)
- **Inclusive Property Capital** (westernny@inclusiveteam.org)
- **Monarch of Infinite Possibilities LLC** (themonarchoip@gmail.com)
- **Sustainable Business Roundtable** (info@wnysustainablebusiness.org)
- **WNY 211** (just dial 211!)

If you have any questions or if you want to discuss these opportunities and services in person, contact:

- **Jordan Miller**, Contractor on behalf of NYSERDA, EnSave Inc., 802-434-1872, or Toll Free 800-732-1399, jordanm@ensave.com, (www.ensave.com)
- **John Whitney,** Agricultural Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension – Erie, 716-796-3204, jrw44@cornell.edu
- **Josh Randall,** Natural Resources Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension – Niagara 716-433-8839, jmr486@cornell.edu
- **Lou DeJesus,** Community Energy Program Manager, PUSH Green, 716-886-1780 x215
- **Gabriel Gurley,** Ag Energy NY Program Manager, Cornell Cooperative Extension – Tompkins, 607-272-2292 x248, rg523@cornell.edu, or for information on solar, **Guillermo Metz**, Ag Energy NY Program Lead, 607-272-2292 x185, gm52@cornell.edu



Agriculture Energy Audit Program (AEAP):

This program offers NY state farmers no-cost energy audits to help identify energy efficiency opportunities on their farm.

REAP Technical Assistance Program (RTAP):

This program has been designed to assist farmers at no-cost to make applications to the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). If awarded, farmers can receive up to 50% of the total project cost.

Energy Best Practices for Agriculture:

The best practices have been developed to help educate producers with energy-efficient technologies, how they function, the average cost, and the average payback in years.

To learn more about these programs and eligibility, you can scan the QR code on the image above, or click here: Agriculture Energy Assistance - NYSERDA.

Contact NYSERDA at: 800-732-1399

Thank you so much for your support in ensuring the viability and growth of New York's agriculture!

AG ENERGY NY
A Project of Cornell Cooperative Extension

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 3 Summer 2024

Ag Energy NY Now Assisting Farmers With Solar

Through additional funding, Ag Energy NY has expanded programming to include information and support for farmers considering either on-farm renewables for farm operations or leasing their land for large-scale solar development, including opportunities for co-siting of agriculture and solar. And, just like with the current Ag Energy NY program, we will be developing resources and trainings for CCE educators so that they can better support their farmers, as well as connecting them with researchers at Cornell and other land-grant institutions working in this field.

Led by Guillermo Metz, Solar and Agriculture Senior Resource Educator, this new initiative will assist farmers in navigating the opportunities, complexities and potential pitfalls related to the adoption of solar on agricultural land. According to American Farmland Trust, it is estimated that by 2040 nearly 452,000 acres of New York State agricultural land will be developed for solar power or residential use.[1] As more New York State farmers are considering to adopt solar for their operations or taking land out of production for solar projects, Ag Energy NY will be a go-to source of reliable information in this area.

Guillermo previously served as the Energy & Climate Change Team Leader at CCETC. He has spent years working with CCE educators and Cornell University researchers studying and researching solar adoption, particularly as it relates to agricultural lands. Through this initiative, Guillermo will be able to directly support farmers interested in developing solar projects to power their own farm operations as well as those looking to lease land for solar development, including opportunities for co-siting with various ag practices. He will also be collecting resources for CCE educators to be able to better support farmers in their communities, as well as other stakeholders, such as municipal officials and planners.

Farmers and others interested in receiving more information related to solar adoption or co-siting can visit the Ag Energy NY website at https://agenergyny.org/solar. One-on-one consultations can also be requested using the Information Request Form on the website.

[1] Farms Under Threat 2040: Choosing an Abundant Future. 2022. American Farmland Trust. Washington, D.C. Available at https://farmlandinfo.org/publications/farms-under-threat-2040/.

AG ENERGY NY
A Project of Cornell Cooperative Extension

Visit our website: agenergyny.org

REAP Technical Assistance Program Accepting Applications

The REAP Technical Assistance Program (RTAP) is currently accepting applications to provide agricultural producers with no-cost support with preparing an application package seeking REAP grant funding. Such grant funding can cover up to 50% of total project costs for energy efficiency improvements. RTAP assistance includes the preparation of a technical report in accordance with REAP guidelines, help file various registrations necessary for applying for REAP, assist in completion of environmental reports and other documentation required with a REAP grant application, resources for obtaining an energy audit, and more. In addition, other benefits include lower energy costs and long-term energy savings, reduced maintenance time and costs, and extended equipment life.

The program is open to all New York agricultural producers and rural businesses. Applicants who are requesting $20,000 or less in REAP grant funds and located in disadvantaged or distressed communities are especially encouraged to apply. Producers should be aware REAP also provides low-interest loans and that support for solar projects is not covered under RTAP.

For more information on the RTAP program, visit the NYSERDA website at https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Agriculture-Energy-Assistance/REAP-Technical-Assistance-Program or the Ag Energy NY website.

Changes in New York NRCS Policy May Affect Maple Producer EQIP Applications

Recent changes to New York NRCS policy may have a positive effect on maple producers applying for EQIP energy conservation programs. In the rule changes published in May 2024, energy audits may no longer be required in many circumstances for EQIP energy conservation applications. The rules now specify that producers meeting initial conditions on the new State-approved prescriptive list is acceptable in lieu of a type-2 energy audit or other energy assessment during the planning phase of implementation.

Maple producers seeking additional information regarding this new policy change can contact their local NRCS office or submit a contact request through the Ag Energy NY website at https://agenergyny.org/.

Did you Know?

The Ag Energy NY website provides timely, up-to-date information year-round related to planning and implementing energy efficiency plans on your farm?

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AG ENERGY NY
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Cornell Cooperative Extension
Erie County

Western New York

Farm Energy Efficiencies Webinar

Thursday
October 24th
12:00 - 1:30PM
Via Zoom

Explore many energy efficiency and cost-saving options for your farm and home!

Topics include:

- statewide programs that assist in identifying how to save energy
- energy audits and how they help identify improvements for energy efficiencies
- overview of energy efficiency technologies within agricultural productions
- grant and financing opportunities for upgrading equipment or renewable energy projects

Registration required. Visit https://agenergyny.org/upcoming-events/ or scan the QR code to register for this free event!

Questions?

Contact John Whitney at jrw44@cornell.edu or (716) 796-3204

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John May Farm Safety Fund Expands Eligibility Guidelines to Further Support Agricultural Safety in NYS

Morning Ag Clips, published on June 30, 2024

The John May Farm Safety Fund, a grant program dedicated to advancing worker safety and health on New York farms, is pleased to announce the expansion of its eligibility guidelines. The fund, a program managed by the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH), will now accept applications from a broader range of farms for projects aimed at improving worker safety.

Established in honor of one of NYCAMH's founders and his dedication to agricultural health and safety, the John May Farm Safety Fund has been instrumental in supporting worker safety and farm sustainability across the state. Farm projects approved by the Fund receive up to $5,000 in financial assistance. Since its launch in 2016, the Fund has dispersed nearly $1.2 million for over 300 farm safety projects to New York's agricultural community.

The John May Farm Safety Fund will change its current eligibility guidelines to allow more farmers to apply for funding to make worker safety upgrades by:

- Increasing the annual gross income cap to $1,000,000, previously set at $350,000
- Removing the cap from dairy operations, previously set at 1,000 milking cows

"Expanding our eligibility guidelines reflects our commitment to fostering a culture of safety and well-being in New York's agricultural community," added Outreach Program Coordinator, Dahlia Sheehan-Yassin. "We look forward to supporting new and innovative ideas that will contribute to safer, healthier farms across the state."

This program would not be possible without support of the farm community, industry partners, generous donors, and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. "It is clear that Governor Hochul and Agricultural Committee Chairs, Assemblymember Lupardo and Senator Hinchey, along with other policy-makers and industry supporters, have indicated their strong commitment to the health and welfare of NY farmers and to the sustainability of farming operations, and we are grateful. We look forward to supporting farmers in their ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of their families and workers," remarked NYCAMH Director, Julie Sorensen.

Farmer owners who meet the new criteria are encouraged to apply by visiting www.nycamh.org/johnmayfund, calling 800-343-7527 or emailing JMFSF@bassett.org. Funding decisions are determined on a case-by-case basis in the order they are received.

For more information about NYCAMH and other farm safety services, please visit www.nycamh.org.

Tar Spot in Sweet Corn: Be Alert!!

Sarah J. Pethybridge, Cornell AgriTech, Geneva, NY
Julie R. Kikkert, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, Canandaigua, NY
Darcy E.P. Telenko, Purdue University, Lafayette, IN.

Symptoms of tar spot on corn leaves. Images courtesy of Darcy Telenko, Purdue University

There is a new disease on the block for sweet corn in New York! Tar spot is a fungal disease found first in Indiana and northern Illinois field corn in 2015. It has since spread throughout the Midwest. The disease was found in western NY corn fields every year for the past 3 years and in central NY last year. Tar spot has the potential to severely reduce yields of susceptible corn varieties, so we are closely monitoring disease spread and impact.

In sweet corn, tar spot causes crop loss by contributing to defoliation, reducing ear size, affecting ear shape and uniformity, reducing processing sweet corn kernel recovery, and decreasing ear marketability through unsightly tar spots on the husks. So far this year, the disease was detected earlier in the season in other parts of the country, and more recently in Ontario, central Pennsylvania, and eastern Michigan.

Tar Spot Symptoms & ID

The fungus Phyllachora maydis causes tar spot. Disease symptoms are small, raised, black spots that have a 'tarry' appearance and occur randomly across upper and lower leaf surfaces. Spots are usually 1/16th to 3/4th of an inch in diameter and typically extend through the leaf so that they can be viewed on both sides. They can also appear on corn husks and leaf sheaths. These black spots are fungal structures that contain spores.

In addition to the black spots, tan to brown lesions with dark borders ('fisheye') may also appear around the fungal structures. Black spots can be mistaken for older common rust pustules (which progress from orange-red to black with age) or insect droppings. Insect droppings only appear on one side of the leaf and may easily be scraped off. Tar spots cannot be scraped or washed off and are typically raised from the leaf surface.

Scouting

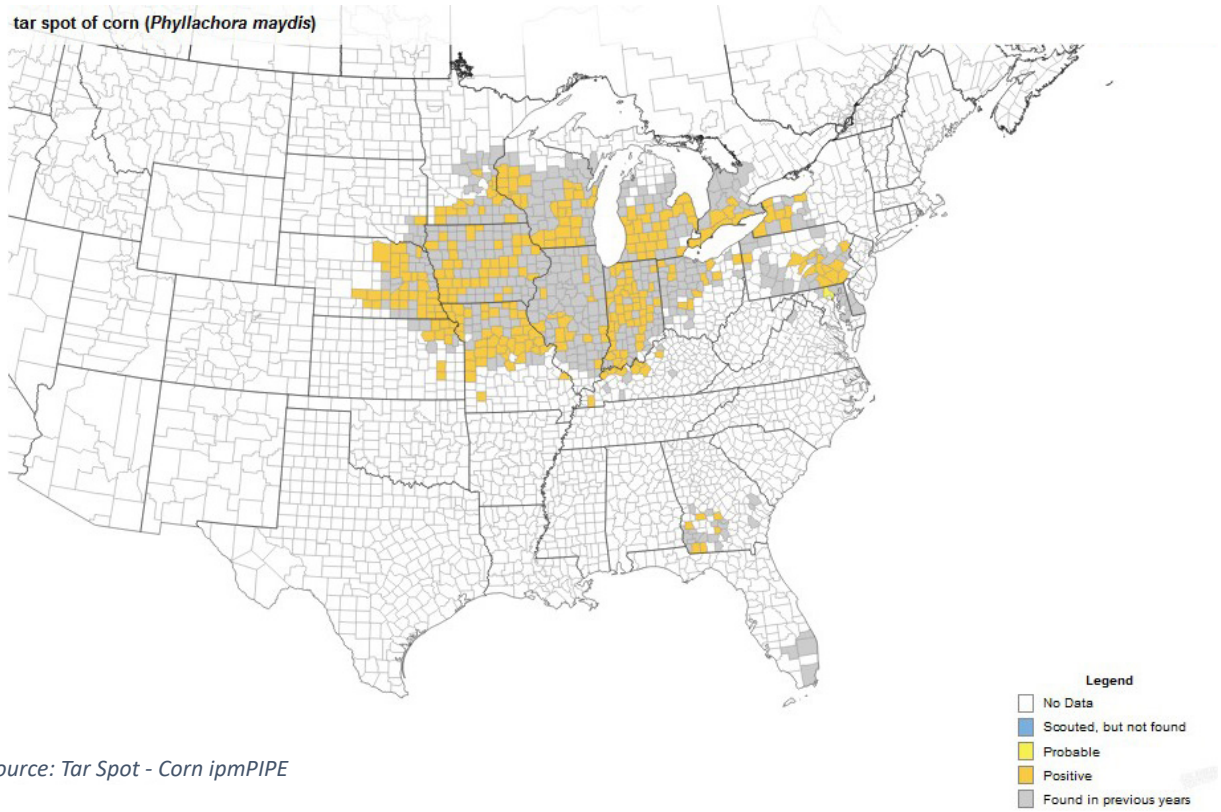
Tar spot is most likely to be found in fields with a history of sweet or field corn and where corn has been planted in low-lying areas and near windbreaks. Consider scouting fields on a weekly basis. The disease will likely first appear in the lower part of the plant canopy in fields with a history of foliar diseases.

Disease Cycle

The tar spot pathogen can survive between seasons on infested sweet and field corn residue left on the surface of the soil. There are also no alternative hosts – the fungus only survives on corn! Tar spot is not seed-borne.

Tar spot is favored by growing seasons with high relative humidity (>75%), foggy days, and long dew periods (~7 hours of leaf wetness), just like conditions often experienced across New York! Wind and rain splash disperse the fungal spores. Canopy closure also modifies the environment and makes conditions conducive for the disease. Early disease detection will enable us to plan for subsequent outbreaks and develop protocols for minimizing crop loss.

If you see any suspicious black, tar spots on sweet corn leaves, please notify Sarah Pethybridge (Plant Pathologist, Cornell AgriTech, Geneva; sjp277@cornell.edu; 315-744-5359) or Julie Kikkert (Cornell Vegetable Program; jrk2@cornell.edu; 585-394-3977 x 404).



Source: Tar Spot - Corn ipmPIPE

A New(er) Pigweed in Town – Amaranthus Blitum or Purple Pigweed

Lynn Sosnoskie, PhD; Assistant Professor School of Integrative Plant Science Horticulture Section, Cornell AgriTech

Several calls have come in to identify an unusual and relatively uncommon weed, Amaranthus blitum (sometimes listed as Amaranthus lividus), often referred to as purple or livid amaranth. A tropical annual in the pigweed family (Amaranthaceae), this summer germinating species is introduced in North America. The USDA PLANTS database (https://plants.usda.gov) documents its occurrence in 23 US states (mainly in the Mid-South, Southeast, and Northeast), three Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico.

Historical records from the Herbarium of the L.H. Bailey Hortorium (Cornell University) document the occurrence of plants in and around the New York City and Long Island, in Central New York (Madison County), and in the North Country (St. Lawrence County).

The growth habit of the plant is prostrate to slightly upright. The most distinguishing feature of the species is its leaf, which has a wedge-shaped base and a deeply notched tip that can contain a single leaf hair. Stems are green to whitish in color and can have many branches. Purple amaranth is monoecious with flowers being held in terminal inflorescences and at the base of the leaves. Flowering occurs between July and October. Seeds are small (approximately 1 mm in width), black, shiny, and smooth.

The International Survey of Herbicide Resistant Weeds (www.weedscience.org) documents a report of resistance to imazethapyr (WSSA Group 2, ALS-inhibiting herbicide) in New Jersey (1993). Recent work from Michigan State University reports that a field- collected population from Michigan is resistant to PS II-inhibiting herbicides (WSSA Group 5). Resistant biotypes have also been identified in France, Malaysia and Switzerland. If you suspect that purple amaranth or other weed species aren't responding to herbicides, please contact Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists or Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie (lms438@cornell.edu) to discuss seed collection and herbicide resistance screening.

Purple amaranth has a distinctive, deeply notched leaf tip that contains a stiff hair

Purple amaranth produces terminal flowers, as well as in the axils of leaves and at the base of branches

Characteristics of Other Common and/or Troublesome Pigweed Species

	Palmer Amaranth	Waterhemp	Powell	Redroot	Smooth
Leaves	Diamond-shaped	Long and linear	Diamond-shaped	Oval- to egg-shaped with wavy margins	Oval- to egg-shaped with wavy margins
Petioles	LONGER than leaf blade	Shorter than leaf blade	Shorter than leaf blade	Shorter than leaf blade	Shorter than leaf blade
Stems and Plant Height	Smooth Up to 10 feet	Smooth Up to 10 feet	Sparsely hairy 3 to 6 feet	Sparsely to very hairy 3 to 6 feet	Very hairy 3 to 6 feet
Male and Female Flowers	SEPARATE plants	SEPARATE plants	Same plant	Same plant	Same plant
Flower Heads	Thick branches and tightly clustered flowers, female flowers have SHARP bracts	Branches are thinner than Palmer amaranth, flowers are less tightly clustered, no bracts	Sparsely branched, but branches can be long and flowers have bracts resembling Palmer	Branches on flowerheads are compact and short/stubby	Many branched flower heads with branches longer and thinner than redroot

Top (L to R): smooth pigweed, redroot pigweed, and Powell amaranth
Bottom (L to R): waterhemp and Palmer amaranth

For more pigweed ID information visit:
https://cals.cornell.edu/weed-science/weed-identification/pigweed-identification

Heightened Concern Regarding Spotted Lanternfly

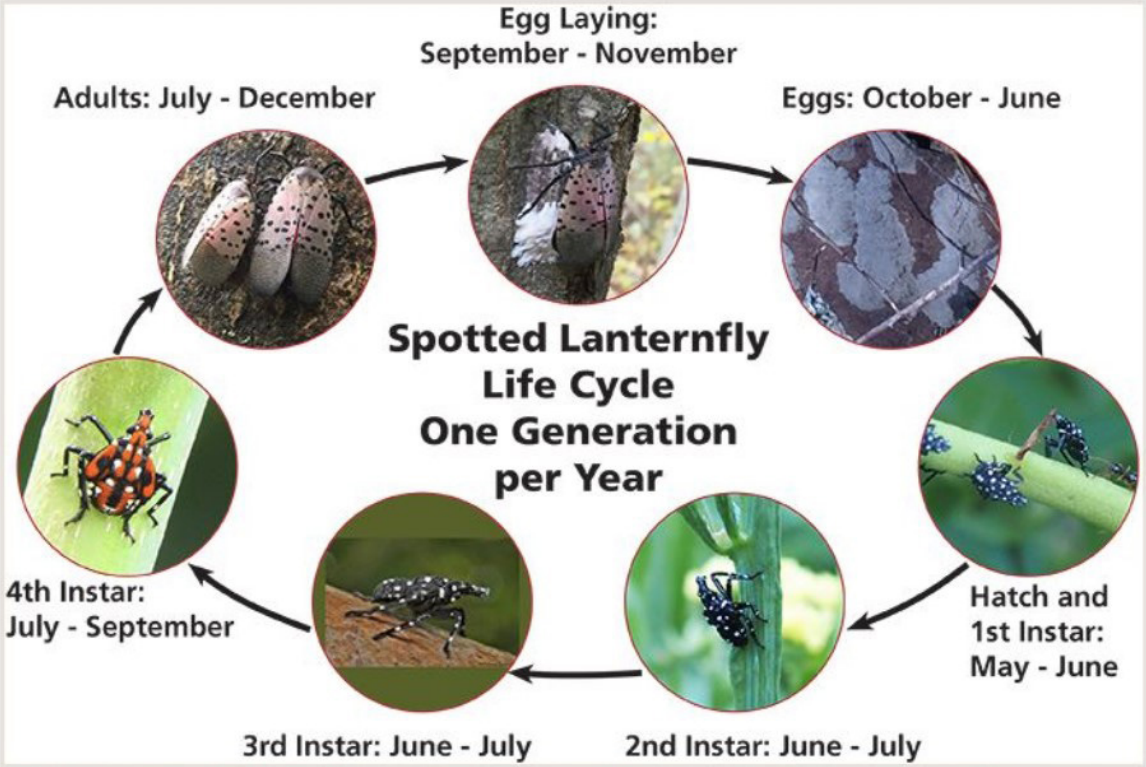
Kim Knappenberger, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Source: Bugwood.org

The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension, New York State Integrated Pest Management, and Penn State Extension have been working together with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and New York Department of Agriculture and Markets to educate grape growers, processors, and community members about Spotted Lanternfly for about a decade. This invasive pest originally made its way to southeast Pennsylvania from China in 2014. It was found in New York State in 2020 on Staten Island, Ithaca, the Hudson Valley and even Syracuse. In 2022 an established population was found in Buffalo, NY, last year Spotted Lanternfly plagued Pittsburgh PA in large numbers, and now it has been found in the Finger Lakes Region – specifically Romulus, NY.

Due to all of the established populations closing in on the Lake Erie Region, it has been deemed an extremely high-risk pathway for infestation. These insects are not strong flyers on their own but are great hitchhikers. Many of the life cycle stages are easily transported by rail or car, both of which have many very busy pathways through our grape growing region. Adult SLF tend to lay eggs on just about anything and they have a tendency to place them in areas that are hidden and protected. Due to this they are easily moved to new areas especially if a driver is unaware or has not scouted for the egg masses or current life cycle stage. If you have any vehicles, trailers, equipment, etc that were in a quarantined or infested area last season, we want to encourage you to carefully inspect them for egg masses and report if any are found. Travelers are encouraged to scout your vehicles, trailers, or any equipment you may be transporting from or through any of the Spotted Lanternfly infested areas and bringing into the Lake Erie Grape Region which spans from Erie County, PA, through Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, and Niagara Counties in New York. If you are expecting guests from any of those areas, please ask them to check their vehicles as well.

Spotted Lanternfly have one life cycle per year, which is good news for grape growers and homeowners alike. This time of the year, July-August, you can find from the second instar up to the adult life cycle stages. Around July the nymphs develop into their fourth instar phase which is red with black streaks and white spots. These are approximately 3/4” and tend to congregate to feed



Photos: Egg Laying, Hatch and 1st Instar, 2nd Instar, Adults: Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State University, Bugwood.org; Eggs: Lawrence Barringer, PA Dept. of Agriculture, Bugwood.org; 3rd Instar: Dalton Ludwick, USDA-ARS/Virginia Tech; 4th Instar: Richard Gardner, Bugwood.org.

on both the green stems of plants and the more woody areas like trunks and branches and on the grapevine trunks and cordons. All stages of this insect are phloem feeders. They have piercing-sucking mouthparts that act like a straw that they insert into the plant to get the phloem or sap flowing through the plants. They consume what they need and then excrete the rest in vast quantities which is a sticky sweet substance known as "honeydew". This becomes a problem for homeowners and grape growers because it attracts other insects and is a great medium for sooty mold to grow. Adult SLF begin to be seen in mid to late July and stay until we get some consistent cold weather. These are the easiest of the life cycle stages to spot because the adult is approximately 1" long and they tend to congregate in groups to feed. Adults are the only stage with wings but they are not strong flyers. All stages are excellent jumpers. The adult has gray forewings with black spots and red, black and white hind wings. Egg masses are laid later in the year and can be found through the winter.

A pocket guide has been developed by the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program to aid in scouting for and identification of each of these life cycles. You can find that guide online by going to https://lergp.com/spotted-lanternfly and clicking on the picture of the pocket guide. There are additional resources at this link as well.

As this insect closes in on our area and threatens our grape acreage we are asking for your help! Please take a look at the materials, download them if you can, and keep an eye out for this invasive planthopper. If you find something that you suspect to be it we ask you to take a picture, KILL IT!, then collect it so we can get a positive identification. If you are in New York state, you can report it at reportslf.com.

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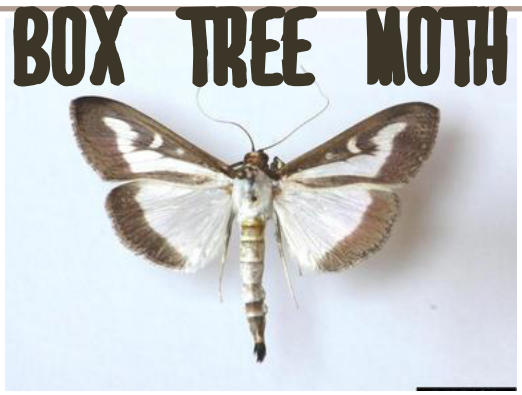
We have over 30,000 acres of grapes in the Lake Erie Region and this pest is known to have devastated vineyards in Southeast Pennsylvania. That is why it is imperative that we all keep an eye out for Spotted Lanternfly and try to stay ahead of it before it gets a chance to become established.

Some advice from Brian Eshenaur, Senior Extension Associate, NYS Integrated Pest Management Program, Cornell CALS, in light of the recent discovery of SLF in Romulus:

- Don't freak out. We've known this pest was coming and would eventually show up here, so while it isn't welcome news, this isn't a surprise. Thanks to the experiences and hard work of our friends in Pennsylvania, we are much better prepared to respond to the arrival of SLF. When a new population is found in area, especially a smaller one as this appears to be right now, it takes a year or two for the numbers to build to a point where they become a concern. At this point, we don't anticipate that SLF will have a real impact on any vineyards this year.
- Be more active in scouting for Tree of Heaven if you haven't done so already. Start scouting treelines around vineyard blocks to identify any Tree of Heaven (TOH). While SLF can feed on many different plants, they have a special relationship with TOH. It's likely the first plant on which you will find SLF, and females can produce more offspring if they feed on TOH than if they don't.
- Scouting vineyards in September and October for SLF is especially important, as this is when the spotted lanternfly adults move into vineyards from surrounding trees. Females will also be laying eggs on just about anything they find at that time.

If you find SLF nymphs (now) or adults (starting sometime in August), be sure to report them using the SLF Reporting Form, the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program team members to get the information to IPM or Ag & Markets.



Box Tree Mothis another invasive that has been a concern in our area this year. You can find information about Box Tree Moth on our website: https://erie.cce.cornell.edu/invasive-species/box-tree-moth

DO YOU THINK FARMING IS IMPORTANT?

Photo courtesy of Rachel Chrostowski

ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN FARMS, FARMLAND, OR FOOD PRODUCTION IN ERIE COUNTY IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN:

ERIE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL & FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN FALL FOCUS GROUPS

Thursday, Sept. 12th | 6-7:30pm
Delavan-Grider Community Ctr.
877 E. Delavan Avenue
City of Buffalo

Friday, Sept, 13th | 12pm -1pm
Virtual
Registration is required
Register at bit.ly/eriefocusgroup

Thursday, Sept. 19th | 7-8:30pm
Clarence Town Hall
One Town Place
Town of Clarence

Thursday, Sept. 26th | 7-8:30pm
Holland Town Hall
47 Pearl Street
Town of Holland

Thursday, Oct. 3rd | 7-8:30pm
North Collins Senior Center
11065 Gowanda State Road
Town of North Collins

CONTACT
Sarah Gatti, Principal Planner, at agriculture@erie.gov

Lose (or Reduce) the Lawn

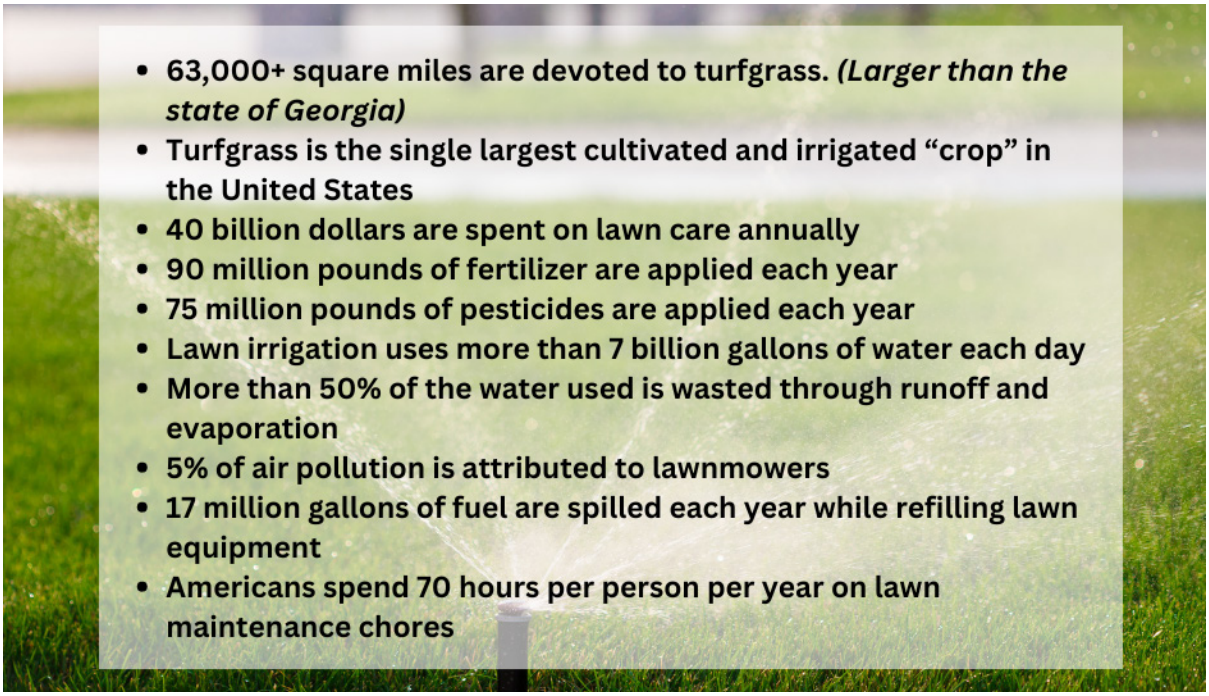
John Whitney, CCE Agriculture Educator

Some paradigm shifts are slow to come about. In the case of reducing mowed lawns, changes in management strategies are happening quickly in many parts of the U.S. and around the world as the trend to "lose (or reduce) the lawn" catches on.

Transitioning from gas-powered to electric/battery-operated lawn and grounds management equipment will continue as we work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce energy use and costs, conserve water, reduce fertilizer and pesticide use and contaminated runoff, increase pollinator and other wildlife habitat, and mitigate climate change. We can have even bigger energy and environmental impacts by changing the lawn and grounds management paradigm that developed over the last 70-80 years.

The closely mowed lawns and managed landscapes we have all grown up with are a very recent development in human history. Once reserved for nobility and the wealthy, who could afford both the land and the expense of maintaining large areas of closely mowed (by servants) and grazed (by domestic livestock) grass, this status symbol became the norm in the 1940s and 1950s throughout the rapidly developing United States and other parts of the world that could afford the expense and time.[1]

Consider these statistics[1] based on reports in the Chicago Sun-Times and the New York Times (circa 2018).



Source: Embassy Landscape Group blog: Rethinking Lawns - Part 1: History of Lawns in the United States.1

What? Stop maintaining mowed grass lawns?[2] That's not exactly what everyone is saying or certainly not even what most reduced lawn advocates are doing. But we can ask ourselves:

- What do I use this mowed space for?
- Are there management options that would be less expensive and more environmentally friendly?
- Are there areas that don't need to be mowed grass?
- If areas aren't mowed or mowed as often, what might be there instead?
- What does it take to convert mowed lawn to other cover types and management options?
- Is stopping mowing enough or would changes require more to achieve the desired outcomes?
- What areas would best be kept as mowed lawn to meet my family and community aesthetic and recreational goals?
- Might reducing the height and frequency of mowing be a compromise or part of the transition, at least in some areas?
- What will the neighbors (and municipal officials) think?
- What do I think when I see a lawn that isn't well maintained by recent conventional standards?
- Do I need to mow to the edge of my property line or built features?
- Are my soils suitable for other intended uses?

This is a transition I am exploring with my own yard. We are still far away from a "no lawn" model.[3] But we do have some of our grounds in trees and shrubs. A small garden plot occupies some space (mostly feeding the deer and rabbits). Patches of native wildflower and pollinator habitat have been introduced. Unmowed areas are very slowly expanding. Making big changes all at once doesn't fit our plans but that could be an option for some.

Better Homes and Gardens, that long-time promoter of the contemporary lawn and garden management model offers the following ideas for what they call "naturalistic gardening" (for details see the link in the references):[4]

- Prioritize natives and perennials
- Focus on plant shape and form
- Take planting cues from the wild (in your region)
- Create an organized plan
- Plant densely
- Inject stopping points
- Lose the lawn
- Allow for self-seeding
- Skip the deadheading

Other Sustainable and Naturalized Landscape Opportunities

No mow and low mow, sustainable[4] and naturalized/naturalistic[5] concepts can apply to lawns at all scales, from small city lots to suburban and rural yards. As the Embassy Landscape Group writes in its series, this new (old) landscape management strategy can contribute greatly to our sense of place and, importantly, our sense of peace.[6] That sense of peace shouldn't be discounted. Even battery-operated landscaping equipment contributes to the din and rumble of our environment.

Low and no-mow design and management strategies can also be applied to other large areas currently managed by close-cut mowing including:

- Highway rights-of-way and medians
- Buffer zones between sidewalks and streets
- Non-recreational areas of schoolyards and playgrounds
- Parks
- Cemeteries
- Golf courses (think Scottish links-style options
- College campuses
- Commercial and institutional grounds

Continued on page 21 >>

>> Continued from page 20

Source: Canva pro

Cornell University gardening, ecology, horticultural, and landscaping specialists and researchers have compiled many useful topical references.[7,8] As a research and demonstration project, Cornell Botanic Gardens staff converted a non-native grass (and weed) lawn to a low-maintenance, low-energy input, and high-biodiversity, sustainable native lawn. See how they did it at this link: https://youtu.be/VFsEIwjLCXE?si=JDdFDBfhlLh8YBPH

The National Wildlife Federation[9] is one of many organizations and news agencies including the New York Times,[10] that picked up on the theme and featured articles about Cornell Botanic Gardens horticulturalists, Krissy Boys and Todd Bittner and their team's work on the "native lawns demonstration area" project.[12]

Lose (or reduce) the lawn also fits nicely with The National Wildlife Federation's popular backyard wildlife habitat programs which have been expanding since they were first introduced in 1973.[13]

Might these changes run afoul of local lawn management regulations? Yes, in some communities. Might neighbors be curious or give you "the side eye?" Maybe. But that is changing, too. Requiring close mowing in the interest of "public health and safety" is quickly becoming an obsolete perspective. Minnesota[14] and Michigan[15] are two of the first states to offer financial assistance for conversion of residential lawns to pollinator habitat. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program offers technical and financial aid. Check with your local office for more information.

Many are already rethinking the "no mow May" trend as a strict policy. We could find ourselves rethinking reduced mowed lawn area ideas, too.[16] But I don't think so. More likely, our built and developed landscapes will continue to shift towards less expensive and more environmentally friendly grounds management strategies. Eco-friendly grounds management practices and designs can be

another set of important steps towards resiliency, sustainability, climate change mitigation, and reduction of other human impacts on the environment.

References:

1 Embassy Landscape Group blog: Rethinking Lawns - Part 1: History of Lawns in the United States. https://www.embassylandscape.com/blog/rethinking-lawns-part-1-history-of-lawns-in-the-united-states/

2 Embassy Landscape Group blog: Rethinking Lawns – Part 2: Variations on a Theme. https://www.embassylandscape.com/blog/rethinking-lawns-part-2-variations-on-a-theme

3 Embassy Landscape Group blog: Rethinking Lawns – Part 3: But I Like it Green. https://www.embassylandscape.com/blog/rethinking-lawns-part-3-but-i-like-green

4 Better Homes and Gardens: Residential and Commercial/ Business Park Lawns. https://www.bhg.com/naturalistic-garden-design-ideas-8654140

5 Embassy Landscape Group blog: The Case for Sustainable Landscaping. https://www.embassylandscape.com/blog/the-case-for-sustainable-landscaping

6 Embassy Landscape Group Blog: Sustainable Landscapes – A Sense of Place and a Sense of Peace. https://www.embassylandscape.com/blog/sustainable-landscapes-a-sense-of-place-and-a-sense-of-peace

7 Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: Creating Pollinator Habitats. https://cals.cornell.edu/pollinator-network/conservation/creating-pollinator-habitats

8 Cornell Botanic Gardens: Native Lawns Demonstration Area. https://cornellbotanicgardens.org/explore/on-campus-natural-areas/native-lawn-demonstration-area/

9 National Wildlife Federation: Reinventing the American Lawn. https://www.nwf.org/Magazines/National-Wildlife/2024/Summer/Gardening/Turfgrass-Alternatives-Native-Lawns

10 New York Times. A Viable Alternative to Conventional Lawn? Cornell May Have Found One. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/09/13/realestate/native-grass-lawn.html (paywall restricted)

11 Cornell Botanic Gardens: Verdant Views, Native Lawn, 11/14/23. https://vimeo.com/885700018

12 Cornell Botanic Gardens: Rethink Lawns. https://cornellbotanicgardens.org/conserve/going-green/sustainability-at-home/creating-a-climate-forward-garden/rethink-lawns/

13 National Wildlife Federation: Garden for Wildlife. https://gardenforwildlife.com/

14 Minnesota Lawns to Legumes: Your Yard Can BEE the Change. https://bwsr.state.mn.us/l2l

15 Michigan State University: Michigan Pollinator Initiative. https://pollinators.msu.edu/

16 Public Broadcasting System (PBS): Goodbye to Grass. More Americans are Embrassing 'Eco-friendly Lawns and Gardens" https://www.pbs.org/newshour/science/goodbye-to-grass-more-americans-embracing-eco-friendly-lawns-and-gardens

The CCE Erie Master Gardeners recently invited Dr. Jody Gangloff-Kauffman from NYS IPM to speak to them about Low Input Lawns to Protect Our Water Resources.

Watch a video clip of Dr. Ganloff-Kauffman discussing No Mow May and cutting your grass high here: https://bit.ly/4ggEl1X

Learn more about our Master Gardeners Healthy Lawn Campaign at https://erie.cce.cornell.edu/gardening/-erie-county-healthy-lawns-campaign

Enroll Now for Cornell Small Farms Online Course Season Beginning this Fall

CORNELL Small Farms PROGRAM

There is always more to learn when starting or expanding your farming operation. If you want to improve your technical or business skills to benefit your farm dreams, then consider joining one of our nearly three dozen online courses during live instruction this upcoming online course season.

The Cornell Small Farms Program is excited to announce that our courses will begin live webinars this fall, including newer additions to our online course suite and more learning opportunities in Spanish. Our growing team of online course instructors includes experienced farmers, extension educators, and agriculture service providers.

Our courses are offered on a user-friendly platform, which grants registrants permanent access to their course content. In our ongoing commitment to equitable access to education, we have maintained tiered pricing for our courses based on household size and income. We also offer scholarships for eligible farmers in New York who face an entry barrier to farming, and for military veterans in New York.

Registration is now open for all courses, with live content starting in September for our first block of courses.

BF 101: Cómo Iniciar su Negocio Agrícola

¿Está pensando en comenzar un negocio agrícola propio, pero se siente confundiso por todas las decisiones que esto involucra? Este curso esta diseñado para ayudar a los agricultores nuevos y aspirantes a dar los primeros pasos para iniciar su propio negocio agrícola (finca, rancho, granja) ya sea que tenga acceso a la tierra o no.

BF 101: Starting at Square One

So you're thinking about starting a farm, but feeling overwhelmed by all the decisions? This course was designed to assist new and aspiring farmers in taking the first steps in thinking through farm start-up (whether you already have land access or not).

BF 112: Reading the Land

This course is a 4-week exploration of how you can confirm and/or measure improved land health. You will learn how to read the land, and how to conduct various biological monitoring practices, from simple to more complex.

BF 149: Identifying and Partnering with Mushrooms in Farms, Gardens and Forests

Gain an overview of foundational knowledge needed to understand how mushrooms might play a role in your farm and/or greater community. You will learn

the basic biology and life cycle, how to properly harvest and identify a specimen, and receive basic information and examples of ways humans are using mushrooms successfully depending on their goals and context.

BF 204: QuickBooks for Farmers

Are you a beginning farmer? Or are you a current farmer with the desire to switch to an online accounting system? Then our quick guide to Quickbooks is for you. Learn the software's basic features, such as sales tax, inventory, invoicing, adjustments, and year-end procedures.

BF 233: Beef Cattle Management

This course will show you how having a successful cattle business is about much more than just buying a few head and putting them in a field. Learn about appropriate breeds, marketing strategies, and many more aspects of starting a beef enterprise.

Our program offers nearly three dozen online courses to help farmers improve their technical and business skills. These courses cover a range of topics any farmer needs to succeed, such as access to capital, stress reduction for farmers, poultry production, vegetable farming, and so much more. Experienced farmers, extension educators, and agriculture service providers guide students through course content, including weekly live webinars, videos, and resources.

In recent years we added "Growing Uncommon Fruit," which will help you determine whether incorporating uncommon fruit into your operation is the right decision for you, "Goat Production," which will guide beginning farmers through the production and marketing of goats for dairy, meat and fiber, and "Identifying and Partnering with Mushrooms in Farms, Gardens and Forests" to teach you basic ID, species, life cycle, and potential applications of mushrooms to solve community-level challenges. Other newer additions include "Stress Reduction for Farmers," which offers strategies for streamlining your farm; "Access to Capital" for anyone seeking funding for a farm enterprise; "Cut Flower Production" on the business of flower farming; a course on "Beef Cattle Management;" a primer on "Social Media & Online Marketing" for your farm business; and a 4-week intensive in how "Reading the Land" can help you monitor its health.

In addition to new courses, we have expanded our Spanish-first online course offerings with our "BF 101: Cómo Iniciar su Negocio Agrícola" and "BF 102: Mercados y Rentabilidad."

The bulk of the course happens on your own time, with discussions, readings, and assignments in Teachable, our online course platform. To add to the experience, webinars will be woven into the interface of the course for a dedicated time slot each year to allow you to meet on a weekly basis to learn from presenters and ask questions in real-time. If you miss one, they are always recorded and posted for later viewing.

You can browse all of our course offerings on our website. You can learn more about our courses, including answers to common questions, on our course FAQ.

Image: Canva

please join us for a

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Monday
September 16
10am - Noon

Cutco Theater
Jamestown Comm. College
Olean campus

Skilled & Modern Trained Butchers: Impacts and Solutions to a Critical Workforce Shortage

Are you a livestock or poultry producer, a processing business, a wholesale or institutional buyer impacted by a shortage of butchers?

Please join this open discussion with your peers and reps from workforce development, academic institutions, Cornell Cooperative Extension, ag and food system orgs, and economic development. Your input will help guide strategies to develop a talent pool of skilled tradespeople critical to a profitable local farm and food economy.

RSVP to Register Your Spot

Kimberly LaMendola
klamendola@southerntierwest.org
716-945-5301 x2211

OR

Amy Barkley
amb544@cornell.edu
716-640-0844

OR SCAN CODE

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD SERVING
ALLEGANY COUNTY | SENECA NATION
CATTARAUGUS COUNTY | CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

PLANNING A THRIVING FUTURE FOR SOUTHWESTERN NY

NYS Ag Society Century Farm Program

The New York State Agricultural Society prides itself on recognizing the best in agriculture. The Century Farm Program is one of the premier programs that recognizes farms when they reach the centennial mark.

The program rules are simple – the farm needs to have hit the centennial mark prior to the convening of the New York State Agricultural Society's annual meeting on January 9, 2025. If your farm has hit this mark, we would love to recognize this amazing achievement. To register your farm as a Century Farm, go to the following link https://www.nysagsociety.org/century-bicentennial-farm-award and fill out the information requested. The information you provide documents the farm's journey to 100 years.

The deadline is coming fast – October 15 of 2024. If interested, please send in your information – we would love to see you and recognize you at our upcoming annual meeting.

Statewide Swine 101 Week

Come and join us at one of these 5 Locations across New York State for a FREE DINNER, timely information, and a take home gift!

Registration is REQUIRED by September 16, 2024, to receive dinner and be entered to win great prizes!
To register, call 315-736-5270, scan the QR code, or visit:
https://bit.ly/SwineWeek101

WHAT TO EXPECT:

5:30-6:30pm Dinner, Marketing and Understanding the Pork Check Off Program

6:30-7:00pm Biosecurity and Foreign Animal Disease

7:00-7:10pm BREAK

7:10-7:40pm Marketing Ins and Outs for all Swine Producers

7:40-8:30pm Pest and Parasite Management

8:30-8:45pm RFID Tags (Do I Really Need Them?)

Speakers are from the National Pork Board, USDA, and NYS Agriculture and Markets Veterinarians.

Workshops are offered with grant funding from the National Pork Board and with support from the NY Pork Producers and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

IN FIVE LOCATIONS 9/23-9/27

9/23 WESTERN:
LIVINGSTON COUNTY AUDITORIUM,
1 MURRAY HILL DR,
MT. MORRIS, NY 14510

NANCY GLAZIER
NIG3@CORNELL.EDU
585-315-7746

9/24 FINGER LAKES:
BRANCHPORT FIRE HOUSE,
3686 NY 54A,
BRANCHPORT, NY 14418

AMY BARKLEY
AMB544@CORNELL.EDU
716-640-0844

9/25 CENTRAL:
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION HERKIMER,
5657 STATE RT. 5,
HERKIMER, NY 13350

ASHLEY MCFARLAND
AM2867@CORNELL.EDU
315-604-2156

9/26 NORTHERN:
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION LEWIS,
7395 EAST RD,
LOWVILLE, NY 13367

MICHELE LEDOUX
MEL14@CORNELL.EDU
315-771-3798

9/27 CAPITAL:
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION RENSSELAER,
99 TROY RD SUITE 203,
EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061

RACHEL MOODY
RAM72@CORNELL.EDU
518-649-0267

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Schwab at jls669@cornell.edu 585-356-7624

"Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities

Farm Disaster Preparation Online Certificate Training

Lynn Bliven, Ag & Natural Resources Issue Leader CCE Allegany County

Image, Lynn Bliven

The Farm Disaster Preparation program will help farm owners plan for and manage possible disasters. This program focuses on practical pre-disaster education and preparedness regarding farm equipment safety on the road, fire or structure collapse, storm and wind damage, criminal activity, farm chemical risks, and biosecurity. Farms that complete the training will receive a certificate to provide to their insurer and may be eligible for a credit or discount toward the farm's annual insurance premium. The value of the credit or discount will vary according to individual policies and policyholder circumstances but can be up to a 10 percent discount.

The Farm Disaster Preparation Certificate is directed to all sizes of farms and all types of products. Dairy and livestock farms are especially encouraged to participate in the program due to their additional concerns regarding animal agriculture. The person representing a farm should be the insurance policyholder; other key farm personnel are welcome.

The certificate program will be held on Wednesday, October 16, and Thursday, October 17, 2024, from 6:00-9:00 PM via Zoom. You must attend both sessions to receive the certificate. Space is limited, and pre-registration is requested by October 11. There is a $35 fee per farm for this program. For more information about the training contact Lynn Bliven at 585-268-7644 ext. 18 or email lao3@cornell.edu. To pre-register: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/FarmDisPrepCertTrn2024_202.

Course Instruction Team: Lynn Bliven, Ag & Natural Resources Issue Leader CCE Allegany County; Stephen Hadcock, Ag. Entrepreneurship and Market Development Team Leader, CCE Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program; Maryellen Baldwin, Farm Business Manager, CCE Oneida County; and Jim Carrabba, Agricultural Safety Specialist New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH).

The Farm Disaster Preparation Certificate Training is one of many programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension. The association is part of the national cooperative extension system, an educational partnership between County, State, and Federal governments. As New York's land grant university, Cornell administers the system in this state. For more information, call 585-268-7644 or visit our website at www.cce.cornell.edu/allegany. Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities, and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County office for special needs. If you have a disability and are having trouble accessing information or need materials in an alternate format, call 585-268-7644 for assistance.

Image, Daniel Case

NEW YORK EDEN EXTENSION DISASTER EDUCATION NETWORK

https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/

NYS Regional Agritourism Networking Bus Tour & Education: Assessing Your Agritourism Operation Through Hands-On Experience

Monday Oct 7th & Tuesday Oct 8th (Lockport, NY)
9am-4pm (10/7)
9am-Noon (10/8)

Photos: John Whitney

The Cornell Cooperative Extension Agritourism Program Work Team, in partnership with the Stanley Warren Teaching Endowment Fund at the Cornell University Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, invites agritourism operations, agricultural service providers, and tourism promotion agencies to join them for an innovative, hands-on, and educational opportunity to grow the agritourism industry across New York State.

The schedule features a full-day chauffeured bus to five agritourism destinations as we explore their success in four areas: farm facilities, visitor profile, natural resources, and personal qualities. The first day will be capped off with a keynote speaker, networking session and dinner. The second day will be a half day of speakers and a blend of hands-on activities, discussions and guest speakers.

Attendees will leave with a better understanding of the resources available at both the state and local level from Cornell Cooperative Extension and partners such as I LOVE NY and NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets to support their agritourism operation. More information can be found here: https://bit.ly/4e7zGNS

Regional Agritourism Networking Session – August 26, 2024

John Whitney, CCE Agriculture Educator

August 26, 2024, Wickham Farms on Sweets Corners Rd in Penfield, NY hosted the 4th in a series of regional agritourism networking sessions sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension offices across the NYS. This session was co-sponsored by CCE-Monroe & Erie Counties. Participants discussed strategies for promoting, expanding, and enhancing this increasingly popular experiential and recreational tourism option.

Photos: John Whitney

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Erie County

21 South Grove Street
East Aurora, NY 14729
Return Service Requested

Erie County Ag News
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County

Labor Roadshow VIII Will Focus on Agricultural Workforce Development

This year's Roadshow promises to deliver a series of insightful discussions led by top experts in the field, aiming to addressing critical issues such as: overtime, unions, paid prenatal leave and other benefits, heat safety regulations, employee housing, language learning opportunities, and more.

In-Person Sessions:

Two in-person events with similar agendas:

December 11, 2024, Troy, NY

December 13, 2024, Geneva, NY

Cornell Cooperative Extension
AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Online Sessions:

Two supplemental sessions delivered via Zoom on topics that are different from the in-person events.

December 17, 2024

December 18, 2024

Stay tuned for more information about our expert speakers, session topics, and how to register.

This is an essential event for employers and industry personnel involved in or interested in the future of agricultural labor.