



South Central
New York
Agriculture Team



Farm Innovations

Practices to Improve Production and Profitability

Summer Meetings for Horticultural Crop Producers

The South Central New York Agriculture Team invites area growers of fruits, vegetables, cut flowers and other field grown horticultural crops to join us for a variety of summer meetings that will highlight innovative farm practices. Most meetings are being held on farms throughout our five county area.

Some are billed as "twilight/evening meetings", others are field days or tours that are being sponsored by other groups. This will involve some travel on your part but we feel that the opportunity to visit other farms and see "how they grow" will provide valuable insight and practical lessons. Take the opportunity to interact with other growers from the region and network informally about growing and marketing practices.

So...join us when you can, based on your interests and needs.

- Wednesday, **June 15**, 6-8 PM - Effective Deer Fencing
- Wednesday, **June 22**, 6-8 PM - Growing Great Garlic
- Tuesday, **July 12**, 6-8 PM - Wind Energy on your Farm
- Tuesday, **August 2**, 4-7 PM - Freeville Organic Farm Field Day
- Wednesday, **Aug. 3**, 6-8 PM - "Clean Corn" for Organic and No-spray Sweet Corn
- Wednesday, **August 11**, 6-8 PM - Tour of Small Fruits at Cornell Orchards
- Wednesday, **August 11**, all day - Post harvest Management of Apples
- Tuesday, **August 16**, all day - Cornell Floriculture Field Day
- Wednesday, **August 24**, 6-8 PM - Organic Dairy, Poultry, Strawberries
- Thursday, **September 1**, 6-8 PM - Carrot Variety Trial Evaluation
- Tuesday, **September 13**, 6-8 PM - Windrow Composting for Farms
- Thursday, **September 15**, 6-8 PM - Soil Health Twilight Meeting
- Wednesday, **September 28**, 6-8 PM - Year-round Sustainable Farming
- Wednesday, **October 19**, 6-8 PM - Diversified Organic Family Farm

More detailed descriptions follow. Don't miss the opportunity!

Fees are listed if applicable. Note also that pre-registration is requested, so we know roughly how many people to expect. You can register by phone or you can go on line to the South Central NY Ag Team's web site, click on the 2005 Farm Innovations Tours, and register on-line. Directions to individual tour sites are on the web site too! (<http://www.cce.cornell.edu/scnyag/>) If you don't have internet access, tell us when you register by phone and we'll send the directions by mail.

2005 Farm Innovation Tours, Southern Tier New York

Effective Deer Fencing

Wednesday, June 15, 6-8 PM

Fir Farm/Plenty of Posies and Littleflower Farm, Shaffer Rd, Newfield, NY.

Learn about effective approaches to deer fencing that are easy to put up and reasonable in cost. The growers we will visit have at least 4 types of deer fencing that you will see in this tour. The tour will be located at Fir Farm/Plenty of Posies and Littleflowers farm on Shaffer Road in Newfield. Both farms grow cut flowers and Fir Farm has fenced Christmas trees. This will be a walking tour so be prepared with good shoes. Paul Curtis, Cornell Wildlife Management Specialist, will also be present during the tour to offer advice on what works best.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Growing Great Garlic

Wednesday, June 22, 6-8 PM

Garden of Earthly Mirth, 30 Banks Rd, Brooktondale.

Neal Wecker and Sara Brown are organic producers growing garlic for over 15 years. All of their field work done using draft horses. They will talk about their production methods and look forward to hearing from other garlic producers on tricks of the trade.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or all 607-687-4020

Wind Energy on your Farm

Tuesday, July 12, 6-8 PM -

Harvest Home Organics, Duryea Street, Moravia

Learn about what it takes to install wind energy at your farm. Visit with Rose and Doug Ryan and see the 10 kilowatt 120 foot high wind turbine they have installed. Information from the installers and NYSEERDA will be available so you can learn about incentives available that help offset the installation costs.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Freeville Organic Farm Field Day

Tuesday, August 2, 4-7 PM

Freeville Farm, Rt 366 about 1 mile beyond Freeville

Come and see the research going on at Cornell's Organic research farm! Results to be displayed and discussed include the use of different organic amendments in the growing media of tomato transplants, a tillage experiment with Chuck Mohler and Brian Caldwell, and a cover crops demo. In addition, Robin Bellinder will demonstrate the use of a variety of cultivation implements for weed control.

No fee. See web site for details. Pesticide credits applied for.

"Clean Corn" for Organic and No-spray Sweet Corn

Wednesday, August 3, 6-8 PM

Mandeville Farm, 894 Ithaca Rd (Rt 96), Spencer, NY.

Learn how to manage the major insect pests of sweet corn ecologically. This summer a trial was conducted to

evaluate controls for European corn borer, corn earworm, and fall armyworm that could be used by organic growers, growers marketing "no spray" sweet corn, and those small-acreage growers who cannot justify economically the cost of spray equipment. Techniques evaluated include monitoring pest populations with pheromone traps, release of *Trichogramma* wasps, and application of Bt + oil to the silks with the "Zea-lator." *No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020*

Tour of Small Fruits at Cornell Orchards

Wednesday, August 11, 6-8 PM

Cornell Orchard, Rt 366, Ithaca.

Come to the show and tell of the small fruit plantings with Marvin Pritts, Professor of Horticulture and berry specialist at Cornell. Marvin will talk about the production and marketing of some unusual small fruits, such as hardy kiwi berries, currants, gooseberries, and more. Current research going on at CU Orchards with strawberries, raspberries, and other small fruits will also be discussed.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Post harvest Management of Apples

Wednesday, August 11, all day

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

The program for this year's workshop is still being developed but will include storage management of temperatures and atmospheres, principles for safe and effective use of 1-MCP, storage disorders of apple fruit with and without 1-MCP, update on Ontario experiences with 1-MCP, thermofogging with DPA, bruising, new options for decay control: fungicides, sanitation, and the impact of 1-MCP, consumer requirements for apple firmness, latest storage technologies, and updates on postharvest - a Washington State perspective.

Fee: Contact Max Welcome (mw45@cornell.edu, 255-5439) for further information.

Cornell Floriculture Field Day

Tuesday, August 16, all day

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

The day starts with an education program (talks) at the Vet School in the morning. Speakers include Allan Armitage and Ed Markham, as well as our own John Sanderson and Margery Daughtrey. We will move to Blue Grass Lane for lunch. The afternoon will be tours on your own of more than 750 perennials, from 1 to 4+ years old. Also 10 annual beds with seed and vegetative annuals from Proven Winners, Ball, Fischer and S&G. Allan and Cornell faculty will lead short tours through the plantings to point out highlights and low-lights (if any!).

Fee: There will be a registration fee for the entire day, or for afternoon only. A pricing structure to encourage multiple members from the same farm will be introduced. See <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/>, 255-4568.

2005 Farm Innovation Tours, Southern Tier New York

Organic Dairy, Poultry, Strawberries

Wednesday, August 24, 6-8 PM

Cobblestone Valley Enterprises, Preble Rd, Preble
Paul and Maureen Knapp raise pastured poultry and run an organic dairy, as well as grow organic strawberries for a pick-your-own operation. Come for a tour of the farm and to learn about their production and marketing strategies!

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Fresh Market Carrot Variety Trial Evaluation

Thursday, September 1, 6-8 PM

Starflower Farm, Tubbs Hill Rd, Candor, NY
Thirty carrot varieties were grown at this organic farm and evaluated for their fresh-market quality. The results of the trial will be discussed and displayed, and farmers are invited to help evaluate the carrots for eating quality.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Windrow Composting for Farms

Tuesday, September 13, 6-8 PM

Cayuga Nature Center's Farm Composting operation, Garrett Rd, Ulysses, NY

CNC has been composting food waste from local retailers and restaurants for at least 5 years and Mark Wittig, Compost Manager, has great experiences to share on how to develop and manage a windrow compost system. Compost not only provides organic matter for your farm but also could be an income opportunity for farmers.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Soil Health Twilight Meeting

Thursday, September 15, 6-8 PM

Jerry Dell Farm, Gee Hill Rd, Dryden, NY

The soil is a living ecosystem, and the health of that ecosystem greatly affects the health of the plants growing in the soil. For the past two years the Soil Health Project through Cornell University has been testing soils

in New York State to learn about how different soil management factors affect the soil health. At this twilight meeting the research team from Cornell will talk about their findings and will demonstrate some of the measurements they can take to assess soil health.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Year-round Sustainable Farming

Wednesday, September 28, 6-8 PM

Future Farm, Langford Rd, Spencer, NY.

We tend to have certain assumptions about how a viable farm looks, runs, and profits, but at Future Farm these assumptions are challenged. Rob uses a mixture of newer technology such as solar panels and biodiesel, with rediscovered "technology" of permanent raised beds and compost heated greenhouse, and a farmscape that strives to mimic nature. Come hear how Rob Young has designed his farm to be sustainable in his local landscape and local community.

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

Diversified Organic Family Farm

Wednesday, October 19, 6-8 PM

Kingbird Farm, West Creek Road, Berkshire

Come learn about the production, marketing, and farm management at this diversified organic farming operation. Farmers Michael and Karma Glos produce a diverse array of certified organically raised meats, produce, and value-added items, including chicken, turkey, eggs, pork, herbs, and produce (includes onions, garlic, shallots, scallions, potatoes, and other vegetables). The field work is done with draft horses, and the growing season is extended with the use of hoopouses. And somehow, on top of it all, they still find time to work with Cornell University on organic vegetable breeding and write articles for several farming publications! Maybe they'll give us some insight into their time management strategies!

No fee. Pre-register on-line or call 607-687-4020

To register on-line, go to <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/scnyag/> and click on the 2005 Farm Innovations Tours.

Looking for directions to sites? They're on our web site, <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/scnyag/>, look at the 2005 Farm Innovations Tours, and click on the tour of interest to find driving directions and a map.



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