



# Cornell University Cooperative Extension

## Hudson Valley Horticulture Cornell University Cooperative Extension of the Hudson Valley ~~~Commercial Horticulture Electronic Newsletter~~~

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Participating Counties: Orange \* Dutchess \* Putnam \* Rockland \* Sullivan \* Ulster \*  
Westchester \*

Editors: Jennifer Stengle & Rosemarie S. Baglia

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## December/January Programs

### **Greenhouse Vegetable Short Course at Cornell University**

**When:** December 5 & 6, 2012

**Where:** Kenneth Post Laboratory Greenhouse, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

**Program:**

**Day 1:** Beginning at 11 am with a welcome and introduction, the workshop starts with the Advantages of Greenhouse Vegetable Production, and moves on to Nutrient Delivery in Hydroponic Crops, Lighting Considerations, Water Quality: pH, Alkalinity, and Acidification, and ends with Crop Selection for Hydroponic Vegetable Production.

**Day 2:** Begins at 9 am with Risk Management for Greenhouse Vegetables, followed by Pest management: Beyond Pesticides. Updates from NYSERDA Research Projects are next, with Case Studies: Implementing a Bio-control Program in Low Temperature settings to finish off the morning sessions. After lunch, the presentation on **Developing a Sustainable Specialty Crop Greenhouse Industry** in the Northeast will precede a discussion on Real Life Experiences, followed by Air Movement in Hydroponic Vegetables, before departing at 2:45 pm for the Finger Lakes Fresh Tour.

**Registration:** Fee is \$100 per person, if paid by November 16, 2012. For more information or to register, please call 845-344-1234 or email [cah94@cornell.edu](mailto:cah94@cornell.edu).

## "EAB: Best Practices for Communities" Workshop

**When:** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Where:** Orange County Community College, Newburgh NY

**Program:** The workshop "Emerald Ash Borer-Best Practices for Communities" will be held at the Orange County community College, Kaplan Hall, in Newburgh, NY on December 5, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Speakers will include Steve Harris, City of Syracuse; Andy Hillman, President, NYS Urban Forestry Council and Davey Resource Group representative and Mary Kramarchyk, NYS DEC. Please see flyer at link below for further information and workshop fees.

**Registration:** <http://www.nysurbanforestrycouncil.com/pdfs/12-05-12R3Workshop.pdf>

## Hudson Valley Seed Summit and Variety Forum

**When:** Monday Dec. 10, 2012 1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Where:** Cornell's Hudson Valley Lab 3357 Route 9W in Highland, NY

- Talk with other growers about varieties
- See research results from Cornell breeding programs for late blight and Phytophthora resistance
- Demonstration of hot-water seed sterilization treatment, plus seed-borne disease management information
- Learn about local efforts in regional seed production from Ken Greene of The Hudson Valley Seed Library
- Discussion and presentation led by Emily Cook, Organic Fruit and Vegetable Extension Educator and Teresa Rusinek, Senior Vegetable Resource Educator

**Registration:** No Fee but Pre-Registration is required (limited seating): RSVP to Carrie Doyle 845-340-3990 x311 or [cad266@cornell.edu](mailto:cad266@cornell.edu)

## NYSTLA Professional Turf and Landscape Conference

**When:** January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Where:** [New Location!](#) Empire City Casino, Yonkers

**Program:** Educational programs and trade show give professionals a wide range of practical techniques, new equipment and pioneering research on turf, trees, shrubs and integrated pest management. The Conference provides a chance to grow in knowledge, ideas and professionalism. A new feature of the conference is a special lunch time session explaining the Certified Landscape Technician training and testing program. Certification is an optional National testing program administered by the New York State Turf & Landscape Association in conjunction with the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET).

**Registration:** Please check this site: <http://www.nystla.com/conf.htm>

## **Stormwater Management Training Series - Stormwater Basics**

**When:** January 16, 2013 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

**Where:** Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County  
18 Seward Ave, Third Floor, Middletown, NY 10940.

**Registration:** Pre-Registration is Required. View this web page for more information and a downloadable registration form:

[http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/orange/Stormwater\\_Mgt\\_Training\\_2013.pdf](http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/orange/Stormwater_Mgt_Training_2013.pdf)

Whether designing, reviewing, regulating, building, or inspecting stormwater practices, anyone involved in the stormwater profession needs a solid understanding of the basics of stormwater management. This comprehensive class will cover the fundamental elements of stormwater analysis and design in New York State.

Registration is required. Registration deadline is January 7, 2013. Cost is \$225 per person if registered by the deadline, \$275 thereafter. No refunds, but substitutions are allowed. For more information, contact Rose Baglia at [rsb22@cornell.edu](mailto:rsb22@cornell.edu) or 845-344-1234. To register, contact Tiffany Glavan at [tg257@cornell.edu](mailto:tg257@cornell.edu) or 845-344-1234.

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## **Articles:**

### **City and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Convert Tree Debris from Hurricane Sandy for Reuse**

New York City, in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, today announced a plan to convert tree debris caused by Hurricane Sandy into reusable materials, including biofuel, mulch and landfill cover. More than 15,000 trees were downed in the storm, and the City has collected the trees and broken limbs at Floyd Bennett Field, where nearly 100,000 cubic yards of chipped and non-chipped tree debris is piled. The City anticipates an additional 100,000 cubic yards to be collected as clean-up continues. The City and the Army Corps are encouraging companies and municipalities to take the chipped tree debris, and the Army Corps has already contacted more than 20 companies and has received offers from two companies.

"Contractors capable of hauling and further processing the wood debris may register with the Army Corps at <https://apps.swf.usace.army.mil/Hurricane/>. Recipients of the mulch will need to process it to less than one inch in two dimensions before May 1, 2013. The US Department of Agriculture and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets must approve the processing and location to ensure this standard is met."

[http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/press\\_releases/12-91pr.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/press_releases/12-91pr.shtml)

Submitted by Stephanie D. Radin, [Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County](#)

### **Four Food Safety and Handling Considerations for Greenhouse Vegetables**

Vegetable production isn't all that different from ornamentals production for a veteran grower. But if you're growing vegetables to harvest and market rather than selling the plants themselves, there are some important differences. As an edible crop, there are some food safety and handling considerations you may not have thought about.

[This short article](#) covers: Water quality and testing, Temperature and storage, Chemicals and Pre-harvest intervals, and Employee Training for safe handling.

Submitted by Betsy Lamb, [NYS IPM Program](#)

## **Greenhouse Crops: Study Backs Benefits of Banker Plants**

**UF/IFAS, USDA researchers track biocontrol method's efficacy in protecting greenhouse-grown crops from whiteflies, thrips.**

Keeping valuable greenhouse crops safe from whiteflies and thrips may become easier for producers, thanks to a new study on banker plants from the University of Florida and USDA.

A trend in biological pest control, banker plants provide food and shelter to natural enemies of target pests, giving the enemies a home base so they can provide continuous pest control.

In a study posted online by [Biological Control](#), researchers tested three ornamental pepper varieties as host plants for the well-known predatory mite *Amblyseius swirskii*. The mite dramatically reduced silverleaf whitefly populations, as well as chilli thrips and Western flower thrips, on greenhouse-raised green bean plants and pepper plants.

Read the [complete article](#) or read the research paper here:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1049964412001818>

Submitted by Betsy Lamb, [NYS IPM Program](#)

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## **New Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) Website Launches.**

With funding from USDA's Specialty Crop Research Initiative, a team of researchers has mobilized to form a defense against the invasive pest brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB). They are working to find management solutions for growers, seeking strategies that will protect our food, our environment, and our farms.

The website features a [Crop by Crop](#) news page and [Management](#) page including links to [chemical](#), [biological](#), and [organic](#) control efforts gleaned from websites and research throughout the US.

Submitted by Jen Stengle, [Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County](#)

## **Insects Found in Retail Firewood**

While there are local and statewide regulations on firewood, there are no national regulations on commercial firewood. In a recently published study bundles of firewood were collected from grocery stores and big-box stores. Of the sample collected 50% showed signs of insect infestation, while 47% harbored live insects. The authors of the study suggest that a consistent firewood regulation (including heat-treatment or kiln drying) be adopted nationwide.

Read the article here <http://entsoc.org/press-releases/insects-found-nearly-50-retail-firewood> with a link to the complete paper "Retail Firewood Can Transport Live Tree Pests" by Jacobi et. al. Journal of Economic Entomology

Submitted by Jen Stengle, [Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County](#)

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## **EPA Solicits Comments and Ideas Relating To Pesticide Drift-Reduction**

The EPA is interested in collecting information about technologies that can reduce pesticide spray drift. The agency is seeking voluntary submission of information about the effectiveness of application technologies for agricultural pesticide sprays, including spray nozzles, shrouds and

shields, and drift-reducing adjuvant chemicals used for aerial or groundboom applications to row and field crops. *(In other words: If you have a good idea, they want to hear about it!)*

The voluntary information collection program would encourage the identification and use of drift-reduction technologies that can substantially reduce drift of pesticide spray droplets from the target application site (e.g., a corn field) downwind to non-target areas. Exposures and adverse effects to humans, wildlife, crops and other vegetation from pesticide spray drift are well recognized.

In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, before submitting a request for a new Information Collection Request to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval, the EPA is soliciting comments from potentially affected entities on specific aspects of the proposed information collection. Entities potentially affected by the voluntary collection activities under this ICR include pesticide application equipment manufacturers, chemical manufacturers, pesticide registrants, university researchers and others who have an interest in reducing spray drift.

Comments are due by January 22, 2013, on the supporting materials that are available under Docket ID# [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0631](#) at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

Submitted by Jen Stengle, [Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County](#)

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## Regional Updates

### Westchester County-December 2012

With the growing season having ended in the Hudson Valley, Westchester arborists and landscape contractors are still dealing with cleanup from Superstorm Sandy. In addition to thousands of downed trees, salt damage to plant material along the sound shore has been extensive in residential neighborhoods and other areas; not only from shore area soils having experienced direct flooding but from salt spray having been carried several miles inland by high winds. A recent site visit to a sound shore neighborhood in Mamaroneck revealed entire mature maples with browned leaves still hanging on as if the tree had been “flash dried”. Japanese maples are some of the worst species affected as well as White pines. As to turf, lots of injury was observed in the form of browned out areas. In some cases “rivers” of browned turf were visible on properties where salt laden water was pushed inland in lower portions of a landscape. The following quote from Ken Almstead, Certified Arborist and CEO of Almstead Tree and Shrub Care company:

*In regards to turf, anyone by the water has severe salt damage where flooding occurred. All turf is brown and sediment is heavy. Wash-out was severe with clients adjacent to bodies of water. Trees were burned on the northeast side several miles in especially evergreens and specifically white pines. We are still encountering hangers and partially uprooted trees and are managing a lot of wood removal and uprooted stumps. Seems that most trees had complete failures and total uproots so we are now getting into handling these.*

Other arborists commented on the great number of uprooted stumps from cut trees that are visible in so many locations and that we would likely be dealing with the continued remediation of damaged and fallen trees for months to come.

As to the remediation of salt laden soil, giving these areas a thorough watering to flush the salt out of the soil before winter is probably the best practice to follow. Hopefully, fall rains have helped this process along. Much is dependent upon location, soil type and the degree of flooding. If you have

specific questions as to damage relative to observed injury or if you are concerned about long-term ramifications of salt injury, feel free to call your local CCE Extension office for advice.

Written by Gerald G. Giordano, [Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County](#)

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## **Other Professional Horticulture Programs of Interest**

### **Certified Landscape Technician Training**

Contact: NYSTLA at 914-993-9455 or visit [www.nystla.com](http://www.nystla.com)

An optional national testing program to recognize proficiency of qualified landscape professionals.

### **Certified Nursery Professional Training**

Contact: In Dutchess, Putnam & Westchester: Scott Olivieri 914-682-4224;

In Orange, Rockland & Ulster: Contact: Mark Maseo 845-658-9148

By passing this exam you can earn the title Certified Nursery Professional (CNP). Contact your [New York State Nursery and Landscape Association](#), listed above, for more details. See 2013 Turf and Landscape Show flier for more information on the January 8<sup>th</sup> informative luncheon.

*This program will offer continuing education credits for applicable certifications. Contact educators listed on specific programs you are interested in for details. Program flyers will be available with details on each program within the month prior to the event.*

## About Pesticide Certification

If you apply pesticides, including weed-killers, weed and feed products, insecticides, fungicides, or tick control products to customer's properties for hire, you or someone in your company must be a New York State Certified Pesticide Applicator through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and have their business registered. There are three levels of commercial certification: applicator, technician, and apprentice.

### For Commercial Applicators

To be eligible to take the exams to become certified, you must meet one of the following requirements:

- 3 out of the past 5 years of verifiable experience as an apprentice working in the category applicant is seeking certification in; or
- 3 out of the past 5 years as a certified private applicator in a corresponding private category; or
- Certification in another State with which New York has reciprocity; or
- if seeking certification in the Sales Category - At least 3 years experience in the sale of pesticides, or can demonstrate, through applicable training certifications or education degrees, that one possesses appropriate technical background.

### Certified Pesticide Technician:

- be at least 17 years of age.
- 2 years of verifiable experience as an apprentice; or
- Completion of a 30-hr. training course, approved by the NYS DEC or a baccalaureate or associate degree from an accredited college or university in the area seeking certification. These are offered at the following:

#### **30 Hour Courses:**

- Pest Management Training Center (B. H. Stangel, Inc.): (845) 357-7734, [barrypmtc@optonline.net](mailto:barrypmtc@optonline.net), or visit [www.pestmanagementtraining.com/s/](http://www.pestmanagementtraining.com/s/).
- Paul Roland, Ph.D., 914-907-1797, [professor@pesticideteaching.ws](mailto:professor@pesticideteaching.ws)
- Advanced Technical Consultants (ATC): (845) 657-4271 or [www.pested.com](http://www.pested.com)
- For a more detailed list of current 30 hour certification courses, search the calendar database at Cornell University's Pesticide Management and Education program: <http://coursecalendar.psur.cornell.edu/>

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Technicians, once certified, desiring full applicator status the following documentation is required: a letter indicating 2 yrs. of experience or 1 yr. of experience plus 12 recertification credits. Experience and recertification credits must be category or sub-category specific.

### Pesticide Apprentice:

- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Must receive 40 hours of pesticide use experience under supervision of a certified applicator and a minimum of 8 hours of instruction on topics outlined in Section 325.18 of Part 325 Rules

& Regulations relating to the application of pesticides, before being able to apply general use pesticides under the off-site direct supervision of a certified applicator.

- Documentation of the above must be maintained by the certified applicator, and include: name & address of apprentice; date(s) of instruction or observation; content of training and certification category; instructor's name and certification identification number; and an evaluation of the competency of the apprentice.

### **For Private Applicators**

Must be at least 17 years old.

- Have at least one year of full-time experience within the last three years in the use of pesticides in the category in which certification is requested --OR
- Has completed a 30-hr. training course, or has received an associate's or higher level college degree in the area of which certification is requested.

For further information on eligibility rules and regulations, and fees, contact the NYS DEC Region 3 Pesticide Staff at (845) 256-3097.

Eligible candidates for certification must and pass two examinations, administered by the NYSDEC. Once you determine you are eligible for certification, contact -your county's NYS DEC office for information on registering for the exams. NYS DEC Region 3 can be reached by calling (845) 256-3097.

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### **Cornell University Cooperative Extension County Commercial Horticulture Educators**

*Dutchess:* Stephanie Radin, sdm10@cornell.edu, 845-677-8223 x 104

*Orange:* Rosemarie Baglia, rsb22@cornell.edu, 845-344-1234

*Putnam:* Jennifer Stengle, jjs95@cornell.edu, 845-278-6738

*Rockland:* Paul Trader, pwt2@cornell.edu, 845-429-7085

*Ulster:* Teresa Rusinek, tr28@cornell.edu, 845-340-3990

*Westchester:* Jerry Giordano, ggg3@cornell.edu, 914-946-3005

*Mention of trade names and commercial products is for educational purposes; no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Cornell University Cooperative Extension or Cornell University is implied.*

*Pesticide recommendations are for informational purposes only and manufacturers' recommendations change. Read the manufacturers' instructions carefully before use. Cornell University Cooperative Extension and Cornell University assume no responsibility for the use of any pesticide or chemicals.*

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