

STATION NEWS

New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, New York

VOLUME LXXXVII • NO. 18
Sept. 29 - Oct. 13, 2006

BRIEFS

Training the Trainers

Approximately 200 – 250 inspectors from the United States Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) five regions recently completed training in Juice Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point (HACCP), with help from Cornell University microbiologist and food safety expert Randy Worobo.

"When new federal regulations are introduced, it is critical to train both the inspectors who will verify compliance and the processors who manufacture products covered by the regulations. In the case of Juice HACCP, Dr. Worobo has done an outstanding job training cider producers and FDA inspectors," said director of the Station's Food Venture Center, Olga Padilla-Zakour.

FDA inspectors are responsible for monitoring food and pharmaceutical manufacturing companies to ensure they are operating according to contemporary federal regulations.

Worobo, who has offered over 10 Juice HACCP trainings since it became a regulation in 2002, was accompanied by experienced FDA inspectors, including a national expert for Seafood and Juice HACCP, a compliance and policy specialist from the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, and a representative from the Office of Regulatory Affairs.



T. Krakowiak

Steve Hoying Appointed to HVL Position

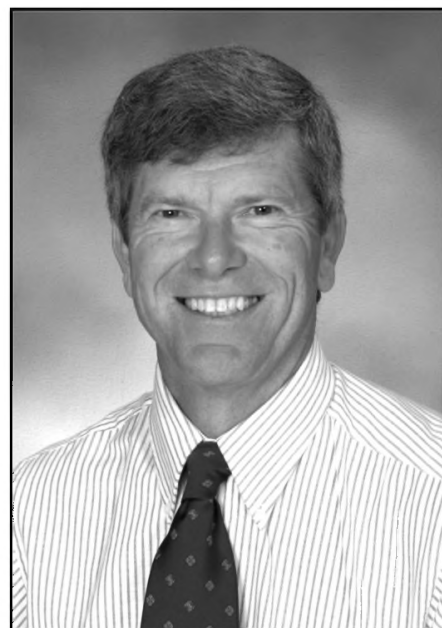
Stephen A. Hoying has been appointed Senior Research Associate, pomology and viticulture, in the department of horticultural sciences at the Station's Hudson Valley Lab. The extension component of the position (55%) involves planning an innovative program with a concentration on apple and pear production, stone fruit production and viticulture in Eastern New York State. Hoying will also be conducting an applied research program (45%) working with the same commodities.

"The Department of Horticultural Sciences is most pleased to have Steve Hoying accept the position of Senior Extension Associate at the Hudson Valley Lab," said Alan Taylor, horticultural sciences department chair. "Steve is already well known to the Station in his former role as Extension Educator with the Lake Ontario Fruit Team. The position at the Hudson Valley Lab will allow him to continue his excellent work in extension and also develop a research program on apples, other tree fruits and grapes."

"This seemed to be a logical step in the career ladder for me," Hoying said. "It's an opportunity that doesn't come along very often; to stay with Cornell and be able to continue working with the fruit industry in applied research and extension." Helping solve important fruit quality issues of apple through research on crop load management is one of Hoying's goals, along with other cultural practices that improve fruit color, firmness, Brix, and storability. "I also hope to look at stone fruit varieties appropriate for the valley, continue to work on integrated peach and sweet cherry production, and identify appropriate microclimates for grape production," he went on to say. Hoying believes that his previous position, Area Extension Educator, with Cornell's Lake Ontario Fruit Program, was the perfect training ground for this position. "With this experience, I should be able to conduct applied research with very practical applications for the fruit industry," he said. "I have acquired an intimate knowledge of the New York fruit industry and its needs including those in the Hudson Valley, and have learned to work as an effective member of a team with all types of growers."

As an Area Extension Educator, Hoying coordinated and conducted extension educational programs for commercial tree fruit in a five to seven county region of Western New York.

He served as the leader for programs in Cultural Practices which included fruit variety selection and testing, planting systems, rootstocks, irrigation, ground cover management (except weed control), crop management, fertilization, growth regulator use, vigor



Steve Hoying

(Continued on page 3)



Students Attend Grant Writing Workshop

Graduate students Craig Austin, Maryann Borsick Herman, Megan Dewdney, Christopher Gee and Nicole Russo from the department of plant pathology at the Station along with three plant pathology graduate students from the Ithaca department attended a CREES-USDA Grantsmanship Writing Workshop September 7 – 8 in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the workshop was to provide a better understanding of the diversity of grants offered through CREES-USDA Competitive Programs and to demonstrate how to compose an articulate grant with improved chances of success.

Students spoke with national program leaders for their areas of interest, providing insight into what grant panelists look for when reviewing submitted proposals and assembling yearly requests for application. A ‘mock panel’ was held allowing an inside look into the review process. The second part of the workshop, hosted by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, provided participants with fundamental information necessary to structure a comprehensive budget and better utilize the services their institute provides. An instructional book on grant composition with several examples of grants that have been funded in the past was given out.

Attendance at this workshop was made possible through teaching funds provided by Don Viands, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

AARP Names Cornell a ‘Best Employer’ for People Over 50 for Second Year in a Row

Cornell has been named one of the “Best Employers for Workers over 50” for the second consecutive year by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

The association honors 50 employers in the United States each year for their practices and policies for mature workers with its

(Continued on page 3)

Governor Pataki Announces \$40 Million in Funding for Food Lab at Cornell’s Ag Tech Park

Governor George Pataki paid a visit to Cornell’s Agricultural and Food Technology Park (CAFTP) in Geneva on Saturday, September 23, to announce \$40 million in State funding for the construction of a new State Food Laboratory at the Park.

The food lab, which is scheduled to be completed in 2009, will replace an outdated facility at the Harriman State Office Campus in Albany and will be another component in a cluster of high-tech facilities at the CAFTP dedicated to agriculture, food, and bio-based enterprises. A new \$25 million, 60,000-square foot U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Center for Grape Genetics Research will commence construction in the Park soon.

“Instead of rebuilding the Food Lab in Albany, we’re going to move that facility and build it right here at the Ag Tech Park in Geneva,” Pataki said. “Bringing facilities like this to the Finger Lakes will mean good paying, hi-tech jobs for your sons, daughters and grandchildren.”

“Agriculture is not only a part of the past, but it must be a part of the future,” the Governor went on to say. “The future of agriculture is something we can look forward to with optimism, and Cornell is helping lead the way in this endeavor with the Ag Tech Park and the great research being done at the Experiment Station.”

The New York State Food Laboratory provides expert analytical testing for all food safety and security programs in New York State. As a division of the State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the lab has expertise in food chemistry, food microbiology and pesticide residue. In addition, the lab will support regulatory programs of the department of agriculture and markets in the areas of food safety, milk control and horticulture.

By locating the NYS Food Lab at the CAFTP, the State will be in a position to work closely with the Experiment Station and the Cornell University Institute of Food Science, one of the preeminent food science research programs. The Food Lab will be well positioned to recruit and attract Cornell food science students for employment. Currently, Cornell’s department of food science does education and training of the lab’s field and technical staff and conducts collaborative research aimed at making food safety monitoring programs and procedures more effective.

“This is a great day for our region,” said Senator Michael Nozzolio. “It is a continuation of the renaissance in the Finger Lakes and I’m pleased that the Governor has helped us along the way.”

Assemblyman Brian Kolb thanked the Governor for his continued support and vision for New York State’s agricultural economy. “Today is another example of building on the success of the Technology Farm here in Geneva,” he said.

“I am very pleased to have the opportunity to thank Governor Pataki for the strong support he has provided to food and agricultural research that has greatly strengthened these New York industries and has had very positive impacts on the economic development of the state,” said Station Director Tom Burr. “We thank the Governor for all he has done to

(Continued on page 3)



Governor George Pataki announces \$40 million in state funding for construction of Food Laboratory at the Ag Tech Park.



(GOVERNOR, continued)

support research and outreach here at Geneva.”

Burr added that the decision by Governor Pataki to place the New York Food Laboratory at Geneva will further strengthen Cornell and the Geneva Experiment Station in the area of food science and will elevate the ongoing synergies between the Food Lab and Cornell in areas of food safety, chemical analyses and more.

“Collaborations between companies here at the Ag Tech Park, the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists, and Cornell scientists, together with the Food Lab will generate a hub of food research and outreach that will be recognized internationally for excellence and have far-reaching impacts on global food industries,” he said. “It is truly exciting to think of the many potential collaborations and outcomes.”

Burr also thanked Senator Nozzolio and Assemblyman Kolb for their efforts on behalf of the Experiment Station.

“The move to bring the Food Lab to Geneva is strategic in the sense that there is no better place to create a center where scientists from the state can work closely with university researchers not only to insure the best service to New York State residents, but also to stay advanced in the latest analytical technologies,” said CAFTP chief scientific officer, Bob Seem, speaking on behalf of the CAFTP executive director and board members. “We stand ready to assist Dr. Dan Rice, Director of the Laboratory, and his staff to make the transition to Geneva. We are convinced the move will benefit all.”

“By locating the new Food Laboratory here, the State is positioning their laboratory personnel at the center of advancements in food and agricultural technology,” said CAFTP executive director Dan Fessenden. “Working together with Cornell University, we will begin immediately to help forge stronger relationships between the Food Lab and university researchers to ensure that New Yorkers have the safest and most healthful food supply in the world.”

“In three and a half months, I’ll no longer be your Governor,” Pataki said in his closing remarks. “But I’m going to come back and see what we’ve created, not only for New York State but for the world—right here in Geneva, New York.”

J. Ogrodnick

(HOYING, continued)

control and thinning. Hoying also served as a source of information for topics related to pest management, production economics, labor issues, harvest maturity and post-harvest storage and handling.

Hoying received a B.S. (Zoology) in 1976, and an M.S. (Entomology) in 1976 both from Michigan State. Hoying was the recipient of The Cornell Cooperative Extension Recognition for Dedicated Leadership and Professional Contribution (1990); The International Honor Award USDA Romanian IPM Project (1996); The Distinguished Extension Educator Award, International Dwarf Fruit Tree Association (2003) and was named one of the top 100 innovators in horticulture of the last 125 years by American Fruit Grower magazine (2005).

Hoying has authored or co-authored numerous publications and has been a speaker at many meetings, workshops and fruit schools. He is currently co-editor (with Terence Robinson) of the *New York Fruit Quarterly*.

Steve and his wife Diane have two grown children. His interests outside of work include fishing and gardening.

Steve can be reached at sah19@cornell.edu.

J. Ogrodnick

(BRIEFS, continued)

“AARP Best Employers for Workers Over 50” list. Cornell is ranked No. 32 among the 50 honorees listed this year, and it is the only college or university from New York State.

“AARP’s recognition reinforces Cornell’s commitment to addressing work, life and family challenges for its diverse employee population,” said Lynette Chappell-Williams, director of the Cornell Office of Workforce Diversity, Equity and Life Quality. “Key issues that AARP considered—recruitment strategies, flexible work options, workplace accommodations, training opportunities, education and career development, alternative work options, phased retirement and workforce diversity—echo what Cornell has strived to do for years: make the university a great place to work for people of all ages.”

Now entering its sixth year, this awards program reflects AARP’s interest in encouraging applications from a variety of employers, from both the nonprofit and for-profit sectors, according to Chappell-Williams.

The award to Cornell was presented Sept. 21 at a special AARP Awards Dinner in Chicago. Cornell Vice President for Human Resources Mary George Opperman and Chappell-Williams accepted the award for the university.

5th Annual Artists Among Us Art Exhibit - November 1 and 2, 2006

Seeking artists of all kinds—doodlers, painters, quilters, knitters, potters, basket weavers, crocheters, furniture makers, weavers, photographers, cartoonists, needle pointers, wood whittlers, leather workers, origami makers, glass blowers—if you make it, we want to see it! Current and former students and staff members are eligible to participate, as well as Station Retirees and staff members’ families. If you are interested in being a part of this year’s exhibit, please send a note to Susan

(Continued on page 4)



(BRIEFS, continued)

Switras-Meyer at Ext. 2439 or Susan Meyer@ars.usda.gov. Further information will be sent to you regarding the exhibit guidelines. The deadline for artwork titles is October 24.

One of our community art projects this year is a display of the art in science. We want prints of your favorite research photos to be assembled into a collage. Contact Maryann Herman at Ext. 2351 or mab225@cornell.edu if you are interested in further information. Deadline for submissions is October 18.

We look forward to another successful event and the opportunity to showcase the talents of our Station family. Thank you for your continued interest and participation.

Thanks,
Station Club and Art Show
Planning Committee

NYS EXPERIMENT STATION BLOOD DRIVE



Give the gift that lasts a lifetime...
Please call **Gemma Osborne @ Ext. 2248** or email **gro2@cornell.edu** to schedule your lifesaving donation.

**MONDAY
OCTOBER 9th, 2006
9:00 AM - 2:00PM**

**Jordan Hall
Lounge**

If you donated on or before
August 14 you are eligible to donate.

13th Annual Processing Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Field Day Held

The weather cooperated once again this year for the 13th Annual Processing Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Field Day, held August 22 at Research Farm North.

Among the 50 individuals in attendance were representatives from the following seed companies: Seminis, Syngenta, Brotherton, Crites Moscow, Crookham, Harris-Moran, Seedway, Abbot and Cobb and Long Farms. Reps from Birdseye Foods, Seabrook Brothers, Furman Foods, the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers, and D and E Farms (a snap bean grower/shipper, in Delaware) were also there.

Ballerstein, who led the snap bean and sweet corn trial tours said, "Crops were good for both snap bean and sweet corn variety trials with 62 varieties of snap beans (large sieve, four sieve, and whole snap bean types) and 56 corn varieties (both su and supersweet gene types) were reviewed and their merits and negative traits were discussed."



Jim Ballerstein discusses the snap bean trials.

Carol McNeil of the Cornell Vegetable Program of Western NY and Jim Gibbons from Ontario Cooperative Extension assisted in the preparation of a steak-roast meal that was

(Continued on page 5)



Station employees gathered with the Nedrow family (from left to right - Alan Soper, J. Kevin Nedrow, Barbara Nedrow, Sharon Nedrow, Abby Nedrow, and Dona Soper) Friday September 22 on the west campus lawn next to the crab apple grove and the natives perennial garden to dedicate the Judy Nedrow Memorial Tree and Memorial Bench. Judy's bright, cheerful personality and love of all living things came through in everything she did. She was an avid gardener and maintained beautiful gardens at her home in Clifton Springs. She will be missed by many at the Experiment Station.



(FIELD DAY, continued)

followed by a roundtable discussion of the crops and other topics.

As he has done in the past, Jim Hoops (a grower from Pennsylvania and member of the PA Vegetable Board), flew his plane up to the Penn Yan airport from his farm in Pennsylvania. "I am always impressed with the work Cornell does, and the time I take to attend this field day from my busy schedule is well spent," Hoops said. A long-time representative from Sygenta mentioned after dinner that the Snap Bean and Sweet Corn Field Day has developed into one of the best in the country of the many he attends. Other attendees voiced their appreciation as well.

Jim Ballerstein and Steve Reiners want to extend their gratitude to Steve Gordner and Matt Christiansen and their crew for the excellent job they did preparing the farm for the field day and their hard work in helping plant the trials. The Reiners team this year included Doug MacNeil, Kate McNamara, Matt Reiners, Maurice Brown, and Rita Reissig.

"Although the Field Day is a considerable amount of work," Ballerstein said, "Steve and I feel it is effort well spent and well received by the industry. These processing groups and seed companies not only support us with their words, they also follow through with funding that allows us to continue to do this useful work."

J. Ogrodnick



On Friday, September 22, the Station and Cornell Food & Agriculture Technology Park hosted eleven personnel from Canandaigua's Infotonics Technology Center (ITC) as part of an effort to encourage research collaborations between scientists at Cornell and ITC. The tour was sponsored by the Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project*, and featured presentations by Station director Tom Burr, department chairs, and faculty. ITC personnel were given an overview of each department, current research efforts and were taken on tours of the Food Venture Center and the Technology Farm. The tour sponsor, Kitty Noble, Project Administrator of the Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project, hopes that this tour will foster collaborative discussions among Cornell and ITC scientists to create new technologies and spur business development in the fields of food, agriculture and technology to create economic development in the Finger Lakes region. In the photo above Dan Fessenden talks to ITC personnel about the similarities and areas of overlap the Park and Station have with ITC.

* The Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project is an economic development grant funded through the National Science Foundation, as part of its Partnerships for Innovation Program. This grant aims to stimulate the generation of new business by combining the expertise of scientists in both the agricultural and biotechnology fields to create new cutting-edge technologies and products in these fields. It is through these activities that the grant will urge these new businesses to settle in this region, creating economic growth especially in the agricultural and technology arenas.



Jian-Zhou (Joe) Zhao and Yaxin Li (plant pathology) on the birth of their

new baby boy William (Willie) Zhao. He was born Sunday, September 15th, weighed 8 lbs 4 oz and was 20 5/8" inches long.

Save the date!

Station Banquet Friday, November 3rd



Carol Herring's husband, Dr. James Herring, passed away Monday, September 25th. The Herring family is planning a memorial service on Saturday, September 30th at 2:00 PM at the Trinity Church, 528 South Main Street, Geneva. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Carol and her family at this difficult time.



CALENDAR of EVENTS
SEPT. 29 - OCT. 13, 2006

MEETINGS

CHAIRS MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Time: 8:30 AM
Place: Director's Office

CHAIRS' & DIRECTORS' MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Time: 3:00 PM
Place: 348 Morrison

WORKSHOPS

PHOTOSHOP SERIES - PART 2

Date: October 3rd, 2006
Time: 10:00 AM
Place: Jordan Hall Staff Room
Instructor: Jane Irwin

EXCEL INTERMEDIATE 1

Date: October 12th, 2006
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 AM
Place: LTC
Instructor: Cheryl TenEyck

TAEKARDIO

Six week session/ \$25
Instructor: Tina Felice, Geneva
Martial Arts
Mondays & Wednesdays from 12:10 PM - 1:00 PM
September 18 - October 26
Jordan Hall Auditorium

Beginners are welcome to come and enjoy one Free trial week.
Water bottle, floor mat/towel and comfy clothes to exercise in are recommended.

SEMINARS

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Anu Rangarajan
Department of Horticulture
Cornell University, Ithaca

“What Do Small-Scale Farmers and Organic Producers Need from Cornell?”

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Time: 3:30 PM (Refreshments at 3:00 PM)
Place: A-134 Barton Lab

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Harvey Hoch
Department of Plant Pathology
Cornell University, Geneva

Pierces Disease of Grapevine: New Insights into *Xylella fastidiosa* Biology and Host Colonization

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2006
Time: 3:30 PM (Refreshments at 3:00 PM)
Place: A-134 Barton Lab

ENTOMOLOGY

Dr. Daniel Peck
Department of Entomology
Cornell University, Geneva

“Two years post-invasion, the status of exotic Tipula crane flies in the Northeast.”

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Time: 10:30 PM (Refreshments at 10:15 PM)
Place: 310 Barton Lab

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Log Home. Approximately 1 acre lot overlooking Seneca Lake, 3-4 bedrooms, large sun-porch (12x31) with gas fire place, large established perennial gardens, front, side and back decks, 1 car + garage. 12 miles from NYSAES. Penn Yan Schools. \$159,900. Contact Jane Irwin at mji4@cornell.edu or 315-730-0082.

FOR RENT: Comfortable, fully furnished three-bedroom sabbatical home for responsible individual or family. Nice bath, modern kitchen, office, full laundry, off-street parking in quiet neighborhood. Walking distance to Experiment Station (one mile), schools, hospital, and Madia's. Available mid-October 2006 through early May 2007. Attractively priced at \$500/month plus utilities. Email Doug at dck2@cornell.edu or call 315-521-3669.

FOR SALE: Dodge Caravan 2000. \$3,900 Good Condition. Cash only. Available July 15th. Mileage 122,000. Please contact Gabino Reginato at ghr4@cornell.edu or (315) 781-0670 between 6 -10 PM.

FOR SALE: 1991 West Wright Potter Sailboat. Includes 1991 Shore trailer, original users guide, swim ladder, paddle, gaf hook, porti potti, anchor, extra ropes and ALL sails. Tan Bark main sail, genoa, jib, multi colored spinnaker. \$4,000. ALSO: 2004 2.5 HP Mercury Motor. Less than 4 hours run time. \$600. Contact Donna at dmb62 or call 585-637-6673 or 585-315-9021.

THESPIAN'S DREAM: Voucher for theatre tickets at the Stratford Festival of Canada. Must be used before Oct. 5, on this season of plays which ends Nov. 12. www.stratfordfestival.ca \$400 value. Will sell for \$325. It's transferable. Due to family health issues --- we can't go. Linda at llm3@cornell.edu.

FOR RENT: 2nd floor apartment at 276 Castle Street. Two bedrooms available on October 1. \$450 plus utilities, and garbage pick-up. Contact Mei Cheung by e-mail or 789-7974 (evenings).

JOB: Genesee County -- Agriculture Program Leader (<http://hosts.cce.cornell.edu/admin/careerops/pa418.htm>) Are you considering advancing your future? Have you thought about what can you do next in your career? Making a bigger impact in this professional field? We have great opportunities for you! Currently, there is a senior level professional position within Cornell Cooperative Extension waiting for people like you! If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact Connie Kan at 607-255-0789 or ck236@cornell.edu.

FOR SALE: 96 Chevy Blazer, 107k miles, good condition, original owner. Towing and cold weather pkgs. Over 20mpg highway, 15-20 in town. \$4000 firm. email mmc27 or call 315-398-0121.

FOR SALE: Bowflex TC 3000 Treadclimber. Like New. \$1500 or best offer, contact Bill at wns1@cornell.edu or call 585-261-5023.