

STATION NEWS

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NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Celebrating the past, shaping the present, inspiring the future.

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AUG 3 - 17, 2007



BRIEFS

August Dinner Event Features Food from Finger Lakes Farms

As harvest season approaches, a team of chefs and farmers are combining their talents to host the 2nd Annual Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty Dinner on Thursday, August 9 at Geneva On The Lake in Geneva, NY. This five-course dinner will be prepared by the chefs from The Rabbit Room, Geneva on the Lake, Red Newt Bistro, Restaurant Olivia, and Taverna Banfi's. Dinner includes an heirloom tomato salad, spinach-feta ravioli, a napoleon with free range chicken confit and caramelized onions, zucchini, and arugula, a braised beef cannelloni with a beet reduction on a bed of braised greens, and a selection of delectable desserts. Menu ingredients are produced by farms in the Finger Lakes and will be detailed during each course.

NYS Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker will provide remarks at the dinner and other speakers will share stories of the farmers, wine makers, specialty food producers, and chefs. Bill Brown will entertain guests with his blues and jazz renditions. A silent auction will conclude the evening.

Tickets are \$75 per person and may be purchased by contacting Geneva on the Lake at (315) 789-7190. Seating is limited and is filling steadily. Vegetarian options available; please request when purchasing tickets.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty. FLCB promotes the Finger Lakes as a culinary destination and increases the economic viability of the region by connecting area farms, food producers, wineries, and restaurants.

For further information about the dinner, contact Lael Gerhart at (607) 272-2292 or lsg8@cornell.edu

(Continued on page 2)

250 Attend Cornell Fruit Field Day and Equipment Show

Cornell University hosted the 2007 Fruit Field Day and Equipment Show at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station on Wednesday, July 25. This is one of several events that are commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Experiment Station, which opened its doors on March 1, 1882.

It was a beautiful sunny day, quite unlike the weather for the last edition of Fruit Field Days in 2004 with rain, and in some instances ankle-deep mud.

Fruit growers, consultants, and industry personnel toured field plots and laboratories and learned about the latest research and extension efforts being carried out by researchers on the Geneva, Highland, and Ithaca campuses. The focus was on all commodities key to New York's \$300 million fruit industry: apples, grapes, raspberries, strawberries, peaches, pears, and cherries.

Station Director Tom Burr welcomed attendees during lunch (see text of Tom's comments on page 2). Also during the lunch break, equipment dealers showcased the latest techniques to improve sprayer deposition and reducing drift, and representatives from various companies advised growers on the latest technologies.

The event was held on the Experiment Station's Fruit and Vegetable Research Farm South. Attendees were able to select from tours of apples, stone fruits, small fruits, and grapes, as well as a tour of the Experiment Station's labs and greenhouses. Visits were also made to the Pilot Plant and the Vinification and Brewing Technology Laboratory in the Food Science building. Admission was free and lunch was provided courtesy of industry sponsors. 250 attended the event.

"I think this was one of those rare field days when we had not only a full program of interesting presentations, but also a good combination of audience interest, cooperative weather, and generous sponsor support," said Art Agnello who, along with Terence Robinson, coordinated the event. "It was rewarding to hear that so many people got so much out of the talks and demonstrations. This is exactly what we're hoping for when we hold these events."



Chris Owens enlightened attendees about grape genetics and germplasm during a tour of the USDA-ARS vineyard (more photos on page 3).



(BRIEFS, continued)

**2007 International Photonics, Food, & Agriculture Conference:
Roadmap to Security and Production in the 21st Century.**

Agribusiness as an industry presents significant problems and opportunities that photonics, optoelectronics and microsystems-enabled technologies hold the key to solving. These include: smart farming, limiting pesticide applications and managing irrigation, monitoring pathogens and mitigating infectious diseases, tracking the flow of food products throughout the shipping process. Innovative agricultural technologies are offering possible solutions to these, and many other problems.

Please mark your calendar to attend this technology road-mapping session to hear about the latest advances in addressing agribusiness problems, and learn about what areas need future development. Company representatives will also speak about the value of developing new technology for the agribusiness sector, which can jump-start the development of technology for biomedical markets.

Sponsors include the Finger Lakes New Knowledge Fusion Project, the Infotonics Technology Center, Inc., the International Photonics, Commercialization Alliance (IPCA), and the New York AgriDevelopment Corporation.

The conference will be held from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm on November 16, 2007 at the Inn on the Lake, Canandaigua, NY. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

Registration and more details will follow.

*Kitty Noble
Finger Lakes New
Knowledge Fusion Project*

Attention Veterans

As Cornell University Staff, Faculty or Academic Staff, I encourage you to participate in this 3 minute survey on veterans in the workforce. Cornell University is required to send this out each year, and if you haven't completed the survey in the past, please take a moment to do so at <http://www.ohr.cornell.edu/hr/hrManage/diversity/Vets100/vetSurvey.html>

(Briefs continued on page 3)

**Welcome Remarks by Tom Burr,
Cornell Fruit Field Day and Equipment Show 2007**

I want to first thank you all for taking the time to attend this event today and to those that have worked so hard to put it together. As you can tell from the displays, 2007 is a special year for the Experiment Station as we celebrate our 125th Anniversary. We have recognized the Station and its accomplishments at several events this year, beginning with the winter meeting of the Ag Society in Syracuse. As you know, the NY Ag Society is also celebrating a milestone themselves this year with 175 years of service to New York agriculture.



Tom Burr welcomed attendees during lunch.

Fruit research is one of our strengths here at Cornell and we appreciate the strong support we have received from all segments of the fruit industry for many years. Support for research from New York Apple Growers, New York Farm Viability Institute, New York Wine and Grape Foundation and other sources are essential for our scientists to do the research that you are seeing here today.

As you have seen in the papers over the last few days, our federal elected officials (Congressmen Michael Arcuri, Maurice Hinchey and Jim Walsh) have also worked to support funding for the grape genetics facility in Geneva, and for the return of special grants that will support fire blight and a wide array of viticulture research.

I can say there is a great deal of optimism and excitement at the Station because of the opportunities to hire new faculty and develop new initiatives that will address current and future issues that are important to food and agriculture.

In area of grape and wine research, we added new faculty members Justine VandenHeuvel, Ramon Mira de Orduna, and Gavin Sacks. In addition, Tim Martinson has been promoted to a position of statewide extension responsibility for viticulture. In addition to research, all of these faculty members will teach in the new enology and viticulture undergrad program at Cornell.

This year, Kerik Cox also joined our faculty in area of tree fruit and berry pathology - a position that remained unfilled for a number of years. Both industry and Cornell realized the importance of this position to the fruit industries of the state.

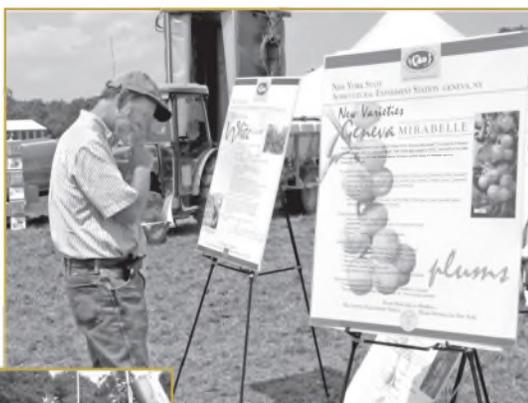
Susan Brown was named the first Herman M. Cohn Professor of Horticulture and director of the tree fruit genomics initiative. This endowed professorship will allow the Station to move ahead with this initiative and seek a new faculty member in the area of apple genomics. Research in the field of genomics will address fundamental questions related to fruit production, and have far reaching impacts on the future of fruit growing in NY.

The Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory in Portland NY, which will replace the Fredonia Lab, is a new laboratory that will focus on research and extension for the Lake Erie region as well as other parts of NY. This would not have happened without the support of our NY State delegation including Senator Catharine Young and Assemblyman Bill Parment, and with the backing of the Lake

(Continued on page 3)



CFFD 2007



Posters describing various research projects and breeding programs were available during the lunch break and at other times when the group was in the registration area.



Kevin Maloney talked about apple breeding and advanced sweet cherry selections.



(WELCOME continued from page 2)

Erie grape industry together with Cornell administration.

At the Hudson Valley Laboratory, Steve Hoying and Peter Jentsch were hired as Sr. Extension and Extension Associates. We are very fortunate to have been able to hire such experienced individuals. Also in addition to tree fruit research at the Lab, Steve and Peter have taken on responsibilities in viticulture. This was stimulated by Senator Bill Larkin, who supported an appropriation for viticulture research in the Valley. Many thanks to the fruit industry in the Hudson Valley for supporting this change in responsibility.

Lastly I want to invite you all to the Station's Open House on September 15.

Again, thank you so much for your interest in the Station. Your support in the good and bad times is most appreciated and necessary. Geneva is looked upon favorably by our State legislature primarily because of the support that we receive from you.

(BRIEFS, continued)

Once you have filled the survey out, you will not be asked to do so in the future.

If you are a veteran, you can further the university's commitment to inclusiveness and affirmative action by filling out an on-line survey on veterans in the workforce.

If you are not a veteran, you should still take the survey, answering questions 1 - 8.

Your responses are strictly confidential, and your name will not be associated with any of the information you provide.

Background:

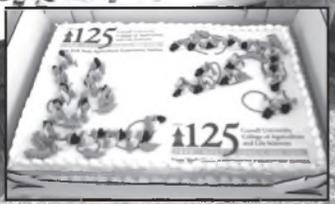
The Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act (VEVRA) protects the employment interests of Vietnam-era veterans, special disabled veterans, and veterans who served on active duty. Cornell is obligated to comply with federal regulations by implementing affirmative efforts to recruit and employ veterans within its workforce.

One of the requirements of university compliance is to complete the Vets 100 report which provides information on the number of veterans throughout Cornell's workforce and the number of veterans hired within the past year. The university has established an

(Briefs continued on page 4)



Andrew Landers' topic was 'Following the Money - Keeping Control of Your Canopy Sprays.'



Three 125th Anniversary cakes provided after lunch dessert.



At one of the indoor venues (the Pilot Plant in this case), Olga Padilla Zakour discussed value-added products from various fruits.



CALENDAR of EVENTS AUG. 3 - 17, 2007

MEETINGS

CHAIR'S MEETING

Date: Tuesday, August 7, 2007
Time: 8:30 AM
Place: Director's Office

ADMIN SERVICES INFORMATION

Change in Process from the Division of Financial Affairs

On-Line Travel Reimbursements

Travel reimbursements for all qualified travelers with a Cornell Net ID can no longer be processed on the paper travel reimbursement form. All travel reimbursements must be processed using the on-line travel reimbursement system unless the traveler does not have a valid Cornell Net ID. Information regarding the on-line system can be found at the following web site: http://www.payments.cornell.edu/Request_Travel_Reimbursements.cfm

Travel Reimbursements can be processed through one of the following methods:

Complete the Travel Reimbursement Check List which can be found at: <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/adm/asc/finance.php> and forward with receipts to the ACS Transaction Team for processing OR

Submit your travel reimbursement request by utilizing the on-line travel reimbursement system (link above). Please check with your ASC Transaction Specialist for instructions if you are unfamiliar with this process.

Please contact any member of the Transaction Team if you have questions regarding this new process. Thank you.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Classes are free and include conversational English, writing skills and real-life communications.

Instructor: Susan Deidrich

When: Every Tuesday & Thursday
from 4:30 - 7:30 PM

Where: The Food Science and Technology Building Lunch Room.

New students are welcome to join at any time. Just show up for any session. Classes are flexible so that students may attend either or both sessions each week.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 2000 Dodge Caravan Minivan, 135,300 mi, V6 3.3 liter, automatic, 7 passenger, AC, dual front air bags, PS, cruise, second sliding door, PL, PW, tilt wheel, AM/FM stereo, cassette, single CD. Well maintained. Asking \$3700 Kelley Blue Book. Contact Michal Shores at x2246, ms534@cornell.edu or (315) 781-2714

WANTED TO BORROW: Flute for visiting scientist's daughter (senior at high school) for 5 months. Contact Tae-Myung Yoon at ty96@cornell.edu or (315) 787-2226, or (315) 789-2462

FOR RENT: House on South West St.: 3-4 bedroom, 1.5 bathrooms, kitchen, dining room, living room, fenced-in back yard, garage. Available September 1. \$900/mo. plus utilities. Contact Kathy DeRosa, x2236, kad2, 789-7482

Guidelines for Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to members of the Station community; ads are printed as space permits. Remember to: include your name, campus phone number and e-mail address. Limit ad to 20 words or less. Ads selling goods or commercial services on an ongoing basis or promoting employment outside Cornell cannot be accepted. To run your ad more than once you must resubmit it.

Station News is not responsible for errors or unprinted ads, and retains the right to edit or reject any submission.

E-mail ad submissions to:
stationnews@nysaes.cornell.edu

All articles and information should also be sent to the Station News e-mail address.

SAVE THE DATE

Join us at our 125th Anniversary OPEN HOUSE

September 15, 2007



(BRIEFS, continued)

on-line survey to collect the data necessary for the Vets 100 report.

Questions:

Contact the Office of Workforce Diversity, Equity and Life Quality at 255-3976 or visit 160 Day Hall for more information or to request a hard copy of the survey.

Thank You.

Darren Jackson

Farm Bill

The Farm Bill was a political football last week, with specialty crops first being under-represented, then bouncing back into a better bill the Congress supports but President Bush threatened to veto the bill because it still contains large subsidies for 'program crops' like wheat, corn and soybeans. A key person in protecting the interests of specialty crops like grapes and apples is Congresswoman Louise Slaughter from the Rochester area, who chairs the powerful Rules Committee and has been a strong supporter of our industry for decades (she sponsored the 1985 legislation which created the New York Wine & Grape Foundation).

Because it is passed only once every 5 years, the Farm Bill is vital to agriculture, and the specialty crops portions vital to New York. Meanwhile, several Representatives (Michael Arcuri, Maurice Hinchey, and James Walsh) have helped New York agriculture by securing funds for the grape genetics research facility at Geneva, and Senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer by advocating funding for research through the Viticulture Consortium. We are extremely fortunate in New York to have public officials at all levels who understand that New York is a farm state, farming is vital to our economy, and enlightened public policy is vital to farming. It's a win-win.

The Wine Press

Cherry Juice For Sale at the Tech Farm

CherryPharm would like to let the Station community know that we have an outlet to purchase CherryPharm juice which is open every Wednesday, 10 AM -2 PM. We will also sell by appointment. Contact Cindy Smith At 781-7308. It's right here at the Tech Farm. Please call if you need more information. Thanks.

*Cynthia Smith
Cherrypharm, Inc.*