

# STATION NEWS

# 125



NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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

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## BRIEFS

### Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo's Becker Forum Will Focus on Labor Challenges Facing the Agriculture Industry

Agricultural labor has presented difficulties, challenges and questions for many growers over the last several growing seasons. The 2008 Becker Forum will address these challenges as the invited speakers explore the many concerns that hiring and retaining agricultural labor present to agricultural employers. The Becker Forum is a part of the Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo and will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Liverpool. This in-depth meeting is the traditional kick-off event to the Expo and promises to be an informative and thought-provoking start to the Expo experience.

Growers continue to face many different types of labor issues and these issues are simply not going to go away. The more that agricultural employers know about the political landscape, immigration enforcement, and regulations, the better prepared they will be to make necessary adjustments in their businesses and communicate the difficulties and challenges of agricultural labor to policy makers and the public. "In the current environment, an adequate supply of agricultural labor is no longer a certainty. Conference speakers will discuss today's agricultural labor issues and offer strategies for addressing them," says Thomas Maloney, Senior Extension Associate in the Cornell Department of Applied Economics and Management and Chair of the Becker Forum committee.

The Forum features many nationally-known experts on the subject of agricultur-

*(Continued on page 2)*

2007, the year in which we celebrated this institution's 125th Anniversary, will be remembered as a year of great accomplishment and pride for the Experiment Station. The 'Crown Jewel' of the celebration, our two-day Open House, exceeded all expectations and was truly a remarkable and memorable event. Together with our colleagues in Ithaca, USDA and CAFTP, and our agricultural organization partners, we embraced this opportunity to show New York and beyond the breadth, depth and importance of the research and extension we do.



T. Burr

On behalf of Station, I have received so many congratulatory comments confirming that the excellence of our work has been recognized widely and will pay numerous dividends for years to come. The Station and its history were celebrated in many ways in 2007 and the initiative, professionalism, and dedication that went into each event was strongly evident. Most recently, the ground breaking ceremony for the new Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory was especially uplifting, and again demonstrated the strong support of our industry and government leaders.

The outlook for the Station's future is very bright. I thank you for creating and sustaining an environment that is conducive to world-renowned research, extension, and teaching and is especially supportive of the New York food and agriculture industries.

Again this year Station members have assisted in several charitable projects and are helping needy families to have an enjoyable holiday season. I thank you for that, and sincerely hope that you and your families will have a wonderful, restful and well-deserved break over the holidays.

*Tom Burr*



(BRIEFS, continued)

al labor. Craig Regelbrugge, Senior Director of Government Relations for the American Nursery Landscape Association in Washington D.C., will be speaking on the political landscape surrounding immigration reform. Understanding the issues relating to Social Security no-match letters will be discussed by Monte Lake of Siff Cerda & Lake LLP from Washington D.C. Wally Ruehle, Esq., Director of the Legal Aid Society Immigration Program and the Upstate NY Immigration Law Project in Rochester, NY will be discussing what employers should know about immigration issues. Some of the issues that Ruehle will address include detention, deportation, drivers' licenses and more. Bob Smith, of Farm Credit Association of New York, will look at the impact of immigration enforcement and the actions that growers can take to ensure an adequate work force. In addition, information will be presented which will assist employers with managing their employees. Mary Jo Dudley of the Cornell Farmworker Program will have audiovisual resources for employers and Jorge Estrada, President of Leadership Coaching International from Graham, Washington, will offer two different presentations. Estrada will provide keys to success for farm managers with regards to cross cultural understanding and will also present information on strengthening communication skills for employers in order to encourage optimum business performance.

Registration information for the Becker Forum will be available with the Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo program. Participants must be pre-registered to attend the Becker Forum (January 31, 2007 deadline, \$50 registration fee). Lunch is included in the registration. Registration for the Becker Forum will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the meeting will adjourn at 4:15 p.m.

The Empire State Fruit and Vegetable Expo is sponsored by the New York State Vegetable Growers Association, Empire State Potato Growers, New York State Berry Growers Association, New York State Horticultural Society, Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

For general Expo information, please contact Jeff and Lindy Kubecka, New York State Vegetable Growers Association, PO Box 70, Kirkville, NY 13082, 315-687-5734, email

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## James Tette, New York's 'Father of IPM,' Receives IPM Award

**D**r. James Tette is being honored with an 'Excellence in IPM Award' from the New York State Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program at Cornell University. Tette built New York's program from scratch, making it one of the top IPM programs in the nation by the time he retired in 1999.

"There was only the outline of a program when Jim was hired," says Wendell Roelofs, professor of entomology at Cornell University's Experiment Station in Geneva, NY. It was 1973, and public controversy about pesticides had grown heated. So the United States Department of Agriculture decided to test pilot projects at each state's land-grant university that would help reduce pesticide use.

When Cornell University got that first grant for IPM, they were looking for an entomologist, not the chemist Tette was. But Tette had spent several years isolating the pheromones, or 'sex scents,' of insects. Pheromones are chemicals that insects use to find each other so they can mate. Analyzing these pheromones made it possible to develop exciting new ways to track insect pests.

But insects give off these chemicals in vanishingly small amounts. They're tricky to use. Tette learned how to make pheromone lures and traps. These traps, now a key IPM tool, let growers know whether pests were in the neighborhood and likely to attack their crops.

In 1973, Tette was given six months to develop a program to help apple growers deal with pesky codling moths and leafroller moths. Tette set up his first research station in a small trailer at Orbaker Fruit Farm in Williamson, NY. "We were using calendar sprays back then," says co-owner Gary Orbaker.

"Calendar sprays" were routine in the 1960s and 70s. Many growers sprayed every few days or so, whether pests were actually around or not. But such sprays are the antithesis of sound IPM. Tette's research crew fine-tuned how to predict when damaging moths were on the wing. Orbaker Fruit Farm hasn't used a calendar spray since.

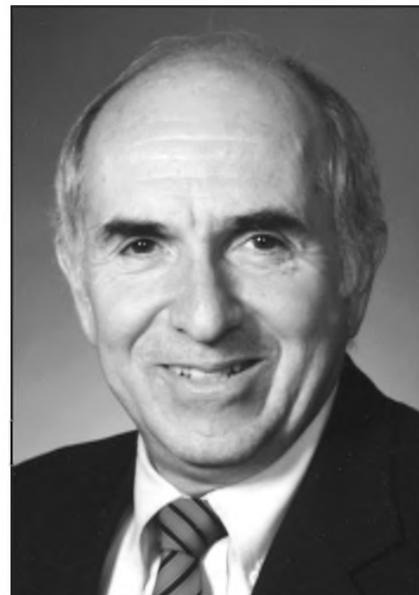
Tette's original six months turned into a year and then another. Besides his work with fruit growers, he soon had IPM programs in place for vegetable and dairy farmers. His aim—to protect all New Yorkers by working with farmers to reduce pesticide use.

In 1985, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, impressed by Cornell's IPM work, proposed a law that established the NYS IPM Program. The law passed, and in 1986 Ag and Markets began funding the program. Soon Tette added educators and researchers in ornamental crops to his IPM team.

In the late 1990s the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation also lent its support to the program. Tette put a 'community IPM' program in place that reached out to schools, landscapers, apartment superintendents, and homeowners—to all of New York's 19 million citizens.

"I was always amazed at the success Jim had in getting so many people on board, from growers to extension agents to professors," says Roelofs.

For Tette, it was all about the program, says Bob Mungari, director of Plant Industry at



J. Tette

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# Operation Happy Holidays



This year's Operation Happy Holidays collection was a huge success. Along with the many winter clothing items, a multitude of food items, books, games, and puzzles were donated. Monetary contributions topped \$805 and six frozen turkeys were donated for the holiday meal boxes. The Fazio, Koeller and Cox programs also donated apples to the Geneva Food Pantry. Cheryl Toor, Director at the Center of Concern, expressed her sincere appreciation for the Station's ongoing support of not only the holiday project, but throughout the year as well. Station Club would like to thank everyone in the Station community for their very generous and caring spirit. It is by your acts of kindness that we are able to help the Center of Concern provide for those in need and help many in the community have a brighter holiday with their families. Representatives from Station Club and Sages are pictured above with donated items

(L to R) Tracy Brenner, Megan Lang, Nancy Reissig, Amy Andersen, and Om Siricururata.

SAGES gathered Friday night, December 7th, to sort the canned goods that were donated through the special holiday collection. Students also decorated holiday cookies, which was a first-time experience for many.



(BRIEFS, continued)

nysvga@tweny.rr.com or visit <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/hort/expo/>

For information on exhibiting, please contact Dan Wren, Lee Trade Shows, at 800-218-5586 or email [dwren@leepub.com](mailto:dwren@leepub.com)

## Station Research Featured at Chicago Museum

Courtney Weber has a poster on strawberry breeding currently on display in the Farm Tech Exhibit at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. The exhibit shows some of the technology behind modern agricultural practices and will be up for at least 2-3 years. At Farm Tech visitors can explore the newest innovations farmers use all over the world to deliver consumer's favorite foods to the table. Professor Emeritus Dennis Gonsalves also has a poster on controlling ringspot virus in the same exhibit.

(TETTE, continued)

New York Ag and Markets.

"I never recall Jim seeking personal recognition or gain," Mungari says, noting that New York is one of only a handful of states to provide direct state funding for IPM research and education. "You couldn't help but envy Jim and the relationship between him and his staff. If New York State recognized anyone as the father of IPM, it would no doubt be Dr. James Tette."

Tette received the award on December 7, 2007, at a meeting of the New York State IPM Program in Geneva, NY.

To learn more about IPM, go to [www.nysipm.cornell.edu](http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu).

M. Woodsen



Dear Station Community,

We have received word that the memorial service for Dr. Keith Steinkraus who died on Oct. 23, 2007, will be held June 8, 2008 at 2 PM at the SAGE CHAPEL in Ithaca.

This will be a memorial service for Keith and his wife Maxine who passed away Dec. 8, 2006.

June 8, is the day that all of his children, their spouses and his grandchildren will be able to be here for this.



## CALENDAR of EVENTS DEC 14 - 18, 2007

### MEETINGS

#### CHAIR'S MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, January 15, 2008  
**Time:** 8:30 AM  
**Place:** Director's Office

#### CHAIR'S & UNIT LEADERS MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, January 17, 2007  
**Time:** 1:30 PM  
**Place:** Jordan Hall Staff Room

### 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.

### TAEKARDIO

**Day:** Monday and Wednesday  
**Time:** 12 - 1 PM  
**Place:** Jordan Hall Auditorium  
**Cost:** \$25 for 6 weeks

*Please bring water, floor mat, towel and wear comfy clothes.*

### THE TECHNOLOGY FARM

#### 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 for more information.

*Cynthia Smith  
Cherrypharm, Inc.*

#### STATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

### SAFETY TIPS

#### General Handling Requirements for Universal Wastes

As part of the EPA's commitment to reinvent environmental regulations, the Agency issued the "Universal Waste Rule". This rule is designed to reduce the amount of hazardous waste items in the municipal solid waste stream, encourage recycling and proper disposal of certain common hazardous wastes, and reduce the regulatory burden on businesses that generate these wastes.

#### UNIVERSAL WASTE INCLUDE:

##### Lamps and Bulbs:

Those that contain mercury, lead (e.g. fluorescent, high intensity discharge, neon, mercury vapor, high-pressure sodium and metal halide lamps).

##### Batteries:

Such as nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) and small sealed lead-acid batteries (electronic equipment, mobile telephones, etc.)

##### Thermostats:

Containing a mercury switch or ampule

Buildings & Properties manage universal wastes. Recyclable batteries can be delivered directly to the B&P warehouse. However, lamps, bulbs, and thermostats will be serviced and removed *only* by the B&P Electric Shop. For service or removal, please contact B&P at extension 2301.

### Restorative Yoga Class

Stress of the holidays leaving you  
feeling run down?  
Tense? Anxious?  
Or all of the above?

Join us for a relaxing and  
rejuvenating evening of  
restorative yoga poses and  
relaxation techniques.

Mats and blankets provided, come  
with an empty stomach.

Prior yoga experience not required.  
Monday, December 17, 5:30-7 PM  
Jordan Hall Auditorium \$10  
RYT Margaret Newland

### Article/Classified Ad Submission Update

Because of the recent changes to the NYSAES email list you need to subscribe to the new list at nysaes-stationnews-L in order to submit articles and/or classified ads that meet the Station News Guidelines. To do this contact Patty Gibbs in the Computer Center at X2289 or peg1@nysaes.cornell.edu

#### Guidelines for Classified Ads

Ads are free to members of the Station community, ads are printed as space permits.

#### Remember to:

Include name, campus phone number and email address.

Limit ad to 20 words or less.

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 submissions.

*Ads selling goods or commercial services on an ongoing basis or promoting employment outside Cornell cannot be accepted. Thoes ads that do not meet the Station News guidelines may be sent to the new classified list serv at: nysaes-classifieds@cornell.edu*

*To receive these clasifieds you must subscribe to the list serv by contacting Patty Gibbs at x2289 or peg1@cornell.edu*

### CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE:** Technics Digital Piano. Perfect for student or hobbyist musician. Size of a Spinet Piano, with roll top keyboard cover. Nice furniture and a very nice piano with true piano sounds including Grand, Rock, Honky Tonk, and electric. Other sounds including vibes, harp and more. Very nice key action and touch. Includes on board metronome and one touch scale octave changing. Has earphone plugs for quiet playing and monitoring. 3 pedals for sustain to staccato, Includes a mini-sequencer and MIDI in, out and thru. Very nice instrument in excellent condition. \$1000 firm. (Exact same instrument has been for sale in Finger Lakes Times for \$1600). Call Ed Lavin at x2241 or email EHL2@cornell.edu.