

CORNELL UNIVERSITY **STATION NEWS** **GENEVA NEW YORK**

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FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 3, 1995

BRIEFS**EARLY RETIREMENT PROGRAM**

There is currently legislation before the New York State Senate and Assembly to authorize a retirement incentive program for certain employees of the State of New York. The legislation is applicable to State University of New York (SUNY) employees, but SUNY has recommended modifications to the bill to better accommodate the academic environment in which we operate. While the legislation involves employees who participate in the New York State Employees Retirement System, there are efforts to consider those who participate in TIAA-CREF.

As of this writing there are no specific details from Albany or SUNY available to us regarding this program. As soon as factual information is available it will be shared with all employees.

SHELTON WINS AWARD FROM SANDOZ

Tony Shelton, Professor of Entomology at the Experiment Station, will receive the Sandoz Award for Excellence in Pest Management at the 66th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America (Eastern Branch), held February 26-March 1 in Harrisburg, PA.



In basic and applied research conducted over the years, Shelton has developed an array of successful IPM tactics that contrib-

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NEW YORK STATE VEGETABLE CONFERENCE AND CULTIVATION CONFERENCE

Judging from the attendance at this year's New York State Vegetable Conference and Cultivation Conference held February 14-16 at the Sheraton Inn, in Liverpool, NY, the information highway of the past is alive and well and anything but virtual. Communication among vegetable growers, researchers, and industry representatives is fueled by a certain hand-to-hand, cheek-to-jowl, and chair-to-slide screen energy that is as informative as it is contagious.

"We are quite overwhelmed by this year's response," said Jean Warholic, the Executive Secretary of the New York State Vegetables Growers Association, on the third day of the conference. Warholic estimated there were over 1500 attendees. "So many, in fact," she said, "that we had to book bigger rooms for the educational sessions." The three rooms that were used held 150 people each.

Although the trade show draws a certain crowd, it is the educational sessions that attract the growers' undivided attention. Tuesday's sessions were devoted to Cabbage, Vine Crops and Onions. Wednesday's session were devoted to commodities like Sweet Corn, Snap Beans, Potatoes, and Tomatoes/Peppers. Thursday's sessions were devoted to Cultivation, Potato Late Blight Diseases, Specialty Crops and Greenhouse Vegetables.

"You couldn't get a seat in the Snap Bean or Sweet Corn session," said Jim Ballerstein, Research Support Specialist in Horticultural Sciences at the Station whose reports on the results of the 1994 variety trials for kraut cabbage, processing sweet corn, and processing snap bean were very well attended. Ballerstein thinks interest on the part of vegetable

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(CONFERENCES, Cont. from page 1)



growers is on the upswing and could be attributed, in part, to the increased market for processing vegetables which many in the industry predict will be one of the results of the new

expansion of Seneca Foods.

Stephen Reiners, Assistant Professor of Horticultural Sciences at the Station, reported on variety trial results for pumpkins in a presentation he entitled: "Pumpkins: The Big, the Small and the Ugly." The trials were conducted in New Jersey. He reported that total tonnage per acre increased by 33% in fungicide treated fields. He also reported that yield and quality was just as good from open-pollinated varieties, and that the double or triple price of hybrid seeds might not be justified in a market where uniformity is not what buyers are seeking.



Reiners also addressed specialty niche markets for vegetables. He divided the market into several broad categories, including Ethnic Vegetables, Gourmet Vegetables, Heirloom Vegetables, Out-of-Season Vegetables, and Organic Vegetables. In the next five years, Reiners predicted potential growth in what he

**NEW YORK'S RANK IN
U.S. VEGETABLES
1994**

FRESH MARKET		Rank
CARROTS		10
CAULIFLOWER		4
CABBAGE		1
LETTUCE		8
ONIONS		6
STRAWBERRIES		7
SWEET CORN		3
TOMATOES		11
PROCESSING		
GREEN PEAS		5
GREEN BEANS		4
SWEET CORN		5

called the High Nutrition Vegetable market. Also called nutraceuticals, vegetables like cole crops, high beta-carotene carrots and cauliflower, and peppers and tomatoes with elevated Vitamin C and A levels are deemed desirable because of their anti-cancer properties and will be in greater demand.

Helene Dillard, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology at the Station, made several presentations, including "The Biology and Control of Alternaria Disease of Crucifers," and "Problems with Ronilan Resistant Gray Mold." For crucifers, she said control strategies should include the use of disease-free seed, choosing resistant and/or tolerant varieties, crop rotation, and the use of protectant fungicides.

On the pest side, Mike Hoffmann, Assistant Professor of Entomology at Cornell in Ithaca, reported on "Aphid Pests of Cabbage," "Cucumber Beetles, and "Corn Rootworms and Cutworms."

Plant breeders who have been busy improving vegetables by breeding germplasm for varieties with pest and insect-resistance included Assistant Professor of Plant Breeding (Ithaca) Molly Kyle, who reported on "Breeding Cucurbits."

Alan Taylor, Associate Professor of Horticultural Sciences at the Station, talked about "Sweet Corn Seed Quality," emphasizing the importance of assessing



potential performance of seed lots by determining seed quality and vigor before planting. He promoted the services of the Station's Seed Laboratory which performs seed testing for purity, germination, moisture and vigor on a wide range of species, including vegetable seeds.

Sessions on the Potato Late Blight situation in New York, particularly the overview by Cornell Plant Pathologist William Fry, attracted great grower interest. Immigrant forms of *Phytophthora infestans* have reached epidemic proportions in Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, Maine, New Brunswick, Georgia and Florida, resulting in a crop that is extremely prone to rot. Researchers and growers are working together on "Late Blight Scouting and Information Networking" (addressed by CCE area Specialist Abby Seaman),"Varietal Susceptibility" (addressed by Cornell plant pathologist, Thomas Zitter), and "Development" as well as cultural, fertility, and storage considerations.

Among the growers' arsenal of cultural practices, there is renewed interest in the lost art of cultivation as a weed control strategy. Sessions were presented on techniques, cultivators (including ones that simultaneously incorporate manure in the row), and evaluation of new cultivation implements for weed control in snap beans. Other cultural practices included the use of plastic mulches and irrigation.

In the trade show, exhibitors included seed companies, baggers and packagers, farm credit and farm insurance agencies, fertilizer and pesticide companies, refrigeration and storage companies, sprayer, conditioning and cultivator companies, and others, including the Empire State Potato Club, NYS Ag and Markets, NOFA, and the Experiment Station. 🐾

(BRIEFS, Cont. from page 1)

ute to the cost-effective control of important vegetable pests. Examples of the strategies and methods he has developed include: (1) irrigation and cultivation schedules for control of the potato tuberworm; (2) forecasting thrips migration to cabbage and onion fields, and identifying cabbage resistance to thrips, which has subsequently been manifested in commercial cabbage varieties; (3) coordinating a nationwide program to monitor insecticide resistance in the diamondback moth, and highlighting the importance of infested southern transplants in spreading highly resistant populations to northern growing areas; (4) developing assays for determining resistance of the diamondback moth to *B.t. kurstaki* and *B.t. aizawai* and undertaking basic research on the spore-toxin synergy and bonding of the toxin to the gut membrane receptor.

Shelton also screens insecticides to insure the validity of NYS vegetable crop recommendations and devotes time to extension personnel and grower groups.

The award recognizes and encourages independence of thought and originality for outstanding research in eco-

nomics entomology conducted in the United States and American possessions. Recipients of branch awards are eligible for consideration on the national level. In 1993, Jim Tette won the Distinguished Achievement in Extension Entomology from the ESA (Eastern Branch.)

WEEDEN TACKLES AP COURSE IN CHEMISTRY

It has been nearly 30 years since Norman Weeden got his BA in chemistry. And even though he uses the discipline all the time in his lab, teaching Geneva High School seniors Advanced Placement chemistry has been a learning experience for him as well.

"We're all struggling through it," he



says. "It is amazing what they cover in freshman chem these days." Among the topics are: molecular shapes, equilibrium, acid-base pH, chemical kinetics, electro-chemistry, nuclear chemistry, molecular theory, and properties of gases, liquids and solids.

"The students are getting a good dose of college-level work," says Weeden, who is Professor of Horticultural Sciences at the Station. "Depending on how well they do on the AP exam and the college they attend, this course should enable them to place out of one or two semesters of chemistry."

Weeden's four students (three boys and one girl) are among the top students in the high school, he says. "The two who dropped out just had too many other commitments."

The students come to the Experiment Station for class three or four days a week, and once a week for the two-hour lab. Weeden is teaching on a volunteer basis. Guest lecturers from the Station include Janet Lamboy and Stuart Reeves. He is trying to interest in teaching the course next year. It is a pilot program.

If any faculty from the Station are interested in taking over the course next year, Weeden would like to talk to you.

SAGES MAILING LISTS ESTABLISHED

Two mailing lists for SAGES (Student Association for Geneva Experiment Station) have been established and are available to use:

1. SAGES_ACTIVITY-L: for the activities related with SAGES, announcements concerning the students, seminars, sports, concerts, scientific discussion or any other issue of common concern. Subscription is open to everyone interested, especially students. To subscribe, send a message to listserv@cornell.edu leaving subject blank and in text type: subscribe SAGES_ACTIVITY-L your first and last name.

2. SAGES_JOBS-L: to report the availability of jobs in the Ithaca and Geneva campuses, in particular, and national and international jobs in general. Subscription is open to faculty especially project leaders, department secretaries and others who are planning to hire in future. To subscribe, send a message to listserv@cornell.edu leav-

ing subject blank and in the text type: subscribe SAGES_JOBS-L your first and last name.

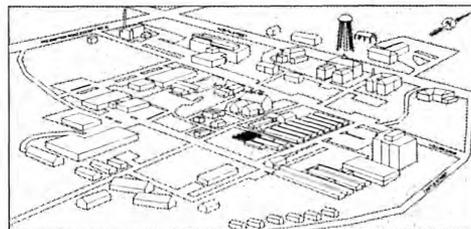
New students are welcome and encouraged to subscribe to the lists.

A third list, MOLBIO_NYSAES-L, already exists and is also available for activities related to molecular biology, in particular, and biology in general. It is open to everyone for subscription. Send a message to listserv@cornell.edu, leave subject blank and in the text type: subscribe MOLBIO_NYSAES-L your first and last name.

Subscription through Pine or Eudora mail is simple but through Quick Mail could be difficult due to the format of the mail form. If you are interested in subscribing through QM, use a blank form.

Please send your input to make these lists successful and more useful. In case of further questions, contact Tina Carrasco X254.

CAMPUS MAP AND PHONE LIST ON SERVER



A new folder has been started on the CC Server, which is located in the AES.Geneva zone. It is called *General Station Info*. Currently, this folder contains a three-dimensional map of the main campus of the Station (in both MacDraw Pro and Word 5.0) and an up-to-date telephone list. You can easily download any of these files to your work station. If you have MacDraw Pro, the quality of that map of the campus is superior to the one in Word. The telephone list will be updated on a regular basis for your convenience and use. A hard copy of the telephone list will still be distributed campus-wide a couple of times a year.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 3, 1995

EVENTS • MEETINGS

Saturday, February 25, 5:30 pm
Town & Country Lanes, Pre-Emption Road, Geneva
Eleventh Annual Station Club Bowling Party

Monday, February 27, 12:10 pm
Sawdust Cafe
Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Tuesday, February 28, Noon
Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Aetna Insurance Company to present retirement benefits seminar

Wednesday, March 1, 12:10 pm
Sawdust Cafe
Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Friday, March 3, 12:10 pm
Sawdust Cafe
Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Friday, March 3, 1:15 pm
Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Pesticide Facility User Training

PESTICIDE FACILITY USER TRAINING

In addition to the Pesticide Facility User Training session to be held February 24, there will be another training session on Friday, March 3. This training fulfills the college requirement that all facility users must be trained before they begin using the Pesticide Facility. The session will run about 2.5 hours starting at 1:15 pm in the Jordan Hall staff room and concluding at the Pesticide Facility. You must provide your own transportation to the Fruit and Vegetable Research Farm. If you attended last year you need NOT attend this session, although you are welcome.

MISSING FROM THE LIBRARY

Please check offices and labs for this missing bound journal and return to Plant Pathology Library or Jordan Hall Library. Thank you for your cooperation.

PP
589.205 Mycological Research
B76 vol. 97 no.7012

SEMINARS

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

Date: Monday, February 27
Time: 11:00 am
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Thomas Davenport
National Grape Cooperative
Westfield, New York
Topic: Grape Research Needs as Seen From the Industry Perspective

Date: Thursday, March 2
Time: 11:00 am
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Martha Mutschler
Department of Plant Breeding and Biometry, Ithaca
Topic: Acylsugar-Mediated Multiple Pest Resistance in Tomato

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, March 1
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Conference Room, Food Science & Technology
Speaker: Andy Rao
Department of Food Science & Technology, Geneva
Topic: Pectin/Alginate Genation and Melting

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, February 28
Time: 3:00 pm
Place: Room A133, Barton Lab
Speaker: Ian Merwin
Department of Fruit and Vegetable Science, Ithaca
Topic: Orchard replant problems

CLASSIFIED

FOR RENT: Apartment—four rooms and bath. Refrigerator, and all utilities furnished. \$385/month. Security deposit required. Near Station and shopping. Call 789-7083.

CHILDCARE: Geneva Head Start is recruiting for the 1995-96 school year and is accepting applications through March 31. Call Head Start at 781-4104 for more information.

FOUND: Two ski poles found on McCarthy Farm. Claim at the Heating Plant.

FOR SALE: Refrigerator (Amana), frost free, 20 cubic foot. Very good condition. \$150. Call Greg or Karen at 789-5240.

FOR RENT: First floor apartment close to Station (607 Castle Street) Four rooms and bath. Unfurnished except for stove and refrigerator. Washer & dryer on premises (coin operated). Off street parking & large yard. Owner pays heat, water & trash pickup. Tenant pays own electric. \$525/month plus security deposit. No pets without prior approval. Call 789-2055 anytime.



MACFACTS

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS • Dave Rosenberger, Superintendent of

the Hudson Valley Laboratory, recently was trying to decide whether to update his office computer with another desk-top Mac or whether to purchase a PowerBook. Here is how he got the best of both worlds. He purchased a PowerBook 520, but also purchased a 17-inch Apple multiscan monitor. He also found he can plug a full-sized Apple extended keyboard into the base of the color monitor, and the full-sized keyboard can be used in place of the less-comfortable PowerBook keyboard. Consequently, in his office, he uses the color monitor and full-sized keyboard. When he wants portability, he unplugs the keyboard and walks away with the PowerBook. This results in additional benefits such as no confusion over transferring files from one Mac to the other, plus the reduced cost of having to pay for only one CPU.

USE FILL COMMANDS TO SAVE TIME • You can use Excel's **Fill Down (Command-D)** and **Fill Right (Command-R)** commands from the **Edit** menu to automatically copy the data or formula in a cell or group of cells to adjacent cells. You first must highlight both the cells containing the information you want to copy and the empty cells. Special bonus tip: **Fill Down** and **Fill Right** become **Fill Up** and **Fill Left** when you press and hold the **Shift** key before making your move to the menu.

SAVE WINDOW SPACE • To reduce the amount of space taken up by a particular window on your desktop, try removing the **Label** column from the window. From the **Control Panels** folder (in your **System Folder**), double click on **Views**. Click to deselect the **Show Label** option in the **Views** window. You also can choose to eliminate other items in this window. When finished, click the close box.

JOIN STATION CLUB
Membership Drive ends

February 28
See your Station Club Department Representative today!