

VOLUME LXXVI • NO. 16
APRIL 21-28, 1995

BRIEFS

APRIL 27: BRING YOUR CHILDREN
TO WORK

On April 27, Station employees have the opportunity to share their careers, their interests, and their experiences with children ages 9 to 15 who are curious about what it is like to work in one of the many careers practiced right here at the Experiment Station. Please refer to the insert for a schedule of events, registration form, and more information.

JOHN WATSON TREE
TO BE DEDICATED ON ARBOR DAY

The Geneva Arboretum Association and Station Administration invite all Station employees to attend this year's Arbor Day activity on Friday, April 28, at 3:30 p.m. There will be a short ceremony dedicating a Purple Leaf Plum to the memory of John P. Watson, former plum breeder in the Station's Department of Horticultural Sciences. Watson, a senior research support specialist, also worked in the grape breeding program and other fruit programs over the years. The tree, the only ornamental plum species on campus, is to be planted on the west lawn (water tower side) of Jordan Hall. The location is appropriate because of the many years Watson demonstrated plum selections and other fruits at the annual Fruit Testing Association meetings in the auditorium. Funds for this memorial tree have been provided by the Fruit Testing Association, whose members want to recognize Watson for his efforts working to improve, test and release fruit varieties.

The status of our campus tree replacement program will also be explained. And, as befits the Arbor Day theme, members of the Arboretum Association will be on hand to provide a post-ceremony tour of the Station grounds to anyone interested.

Robert Pool Honored

At its annual Unity Banquet on March 22, the New York Wine & Grape Foundation presented its Research Award to Robert Pool, Professor of Viticulture in the Department of Horticultural Sciences at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, in recognition of the major contributions he has made to viticulture research.

Pool is in charge of vine management and physiology research for New York state. His primary research interests include: mechanization of pruning, crop levels related to grape and wine quality, sustainable viticulture, vineyard floor management and weed control, cultural practices and rootstock effects on cold hardiness, and interaction of disease and vine productivity. He serves on the advisory committees of the state's regional grape extension specialists and is an active participant in writing extension publications, in organizing research tours and presentations, and in training extension agents. His statewide responsibility includes a 20% extension appointment. For the past 18 years, he has also written a bi-monthly grower's column for *Vineyard & Winery Management*, a national trade magazine.



Pool is also a member and past Chairman of the National Plant Germplasm Committee, a member of the Technical Advisory Committee of the National Clonal Repository for Apple and American Grapes, is the US Representative to the Viticulture Section of the International Society for Horticultural Sciences, and a member of the National Delegation of BATF to the Office International de la Vigne et du Vin.

"It's an honor to work for Cornell and to serve the grape industry of New York," said Pool, upon receiving the award from Jim Finkle, who is head of the research committee and Vice President of Canandaigua Wines.

Pool has been doing grape research for 35 years and been a professor in the Horticultural Sciences Department at the Station since 1974. He was named Professor of Viticulture in 1988.

Other awards presented at the banquet honored Martha Borgeson for major achievements in promoting industry unity; E. Eastman Beers for outstanding contributions to the New York wine industry; Jim Hazlitt for dedication and contributions to the grape industry; and Turback's Restaurant of Ithaca, NY, for excellence in promoting New York wines as part of a fine dining experience.

This is the sixth year the New York Wine & Grape Foundation has recognized individuals and businesses for their outstanding contributions to the New York wine and grape industry. The Foundation, a private, non-profit organization created by the state of New York in 1985, is a unique partnership between the public and private sectors, charged with the responsibility of conducting comprehensive promotion and research programs to support the state's grape and wine industry.

REORGANIZATION OF THE FIELD RESEARCH UNIT

After a lengthy study by the Field Research Unit Study Committee, Director Jim Hunter has implemented the committee's recommendation that the Field Research Unit's mission be narrowed so the unit is better able to focus on field research.

"I am convinced that even though many details still must be dealt with, the end result promises to be better for FRU staff and those they serve because of the highly focused mission," said Hunter.

An oversight committee has been established that consists of Hugh Price, the chairman of the Department of Horticultural Sciences; Herb Aldwinckle, chairman of Plant Pathology; Wendell Roelofs, chairman of Entomology; and Associate Director Bob Seem. The committee plans on meeting weekly to oversee the implementation of the recommendations made in the report. One of their first activities will be to review and revise the job description of the FRU Manager because Ray Mallaber will be retiring in July.

"Field research is a major component

of our mission here at the Experiment Station," said Hugh Price, who is facilitator of the committee. "Our Field Research unit is a group of professionals who are highly skilled in orchard and vineyard management and vegetable production. These individuals are vital to our programs and we appreciate their many contributions to the mission of this department, and the Experiment Station."

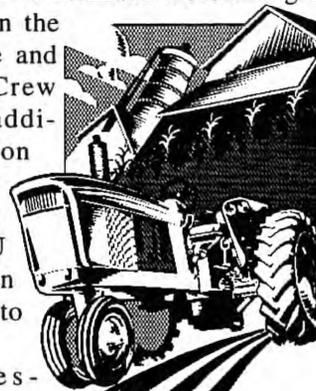
FRU will focus strictly on field research including all farm tasks like plowing, fitting, planting, pruning, harvesting, orchard and vineyard management, vegetable production, fence repair, farm road repair, stump removal, irrigation, fertilizing, and rodent control.

Certain responsibilities previously done by FRU have been transferred to the Buildings and Property Unit. They include: trash collection; Ithaca supplies trucking, maintaining and snowplowing campus roads; soil preparation and delivery; all campus moving and hauling; heavy equipment repairs (engine, drive train,

hydraulic, etc.); and all campus construction and excavation. Anyone who needs these services should contact B&P directly. If researchers need greenhouse soil, they should contact Tom DeYulio.

In order to facilitate these changes, personnel in the Greenhouse and Grounds Crew and one additional person (Dale Frankish) from FRU have been transferred to B&P.

Suggestions or questions that arise in implementing this change should be brought to the attention of Hugh Price, Facilitator of the Oversight Committee, or Bob Seem, Chair of the Station's Farm Management and Development Committee.



RESPIRATOR FITTING AND TRAINING SCHEDULED

The final respirator training and fitting by Environmental Health and Safety will be held on Thursday, April 27, in the Staff Room, Jordan Hall. Individuals are required to attend a training session as well as be fit tested. The training session is scheduled from 9:00-9:45 am, followed by fit testing of respirators which will occur at 15-minute intervals. Appointments for fit testing should be scheduled through Pat Krauss, x201, or through QuickMail.

Environmental Health and Safety officials will be bringing respirator equipment with them so you can get new respirators or replacement items on the spot. EH&S also has available disposable clothing, nitrile gloves, goggles, and hearing protection available, but will not be bringing these materials with them this year because of space limitations in their vehicle. If you need any of this equipment, you should order it directly from EH&S by calling 8-5-4862. It will be sent to our campus.

GENEVA EASY LUBE SPECIAL

This is just a reminder that arrangements have been made for all Station employees to receive a special rate at Geneva Easy Lube, which is located at 638 Washington Street. Cost to Station employees is just \$16.95 plus tax compared to the regular price of \$22.95 plus tax. Services for this special price include oil change (up to five quarts), oil filter, lubricate chassis, check battery, add windshield washer fluid, and checking of the following items: power steering fluid, brake fluid, radiator coolant, differential fluid, transmission/transaxle, air filter, breather element, PCV valve, and wiper blades. All that you have to do is show either your Cornell University or Experiment Station Employee card.

WPS TRAINING SCHEDULED

There will be another Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training session for employees who will be working in the field and who might come in contact with pesticides or pesticide residues. The next session is scheduled for Friday, May 5, at 10:30 am in the Staff Room, Jordan Hall. If you were trained last year, you need not attend another session for five years. Anyone new to field operations, however, should attend. We will also have a session in June and July, if necessary.



EMERGENCY?



Ontario County has recently instituted a 911 calling system for emergency calls. On the Station campus, if an ambulance or police are needed, people should call 911. In case of fire, the fire alarm should be pulled. For most other emergencies that might occur on campus, it is still policy to dial x499.

HAVE SCIENCE WILL TRAVEL



Science can be fun, hands-on, creative, and fascinating, but a lot of children never find that out. Additionally, they never find out how varied science careers are, that science can be exciting work, and that science is something both men and women do equally. One of the best places to encourage children's interest in science is in the classroom.

Jan Nyrop, Professor in the Entomology Department, is a strong proponent of science outreach in the community: "For several years now I have made entomology related presentations to audiences whose ages have spanned from preschoolers to teens in the middle school. Program content has ranged from basic entomology to the many beneficial roles insects play in our lives and in the biosphere, to experiments on growth and development of insects." Nyrop admits his purpose is three-fold: first, to pique kids' interest in science; to convey that science can be fun and interesting; and to convince kids—and teachers—that insects are "interesting, beautiful, and extremely important creatures."

Nyrop is a member of the Geneva chapter of the national Sigma XI society, which has a national Partners in Education initiative. The local chapter includes over 80 scientists from the Experiment Station and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Locally, Sigma XI is establishing a service program to enrich science education opportunities in the community. Thomas Bjorkman, coordinator for the Station, is seeking participants in the program.

"As a club, we are trying to facilitate interactions between scientists and schools by providing information to the schools on what programs are available and providing support for teachers interested in developing more hands-on science programs. We need more participation," said Bjorkman. "We know you are out there and we want to help you." Sigma XI will serve as a clearinghouse. "Just bring us your ideas and we will help you put a program together for a target audience for kindergarten through twelfth grade," he said.

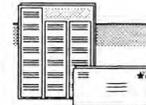
"One of the greatest services we can do as scientists is to help educate children on the importance, role and fascination of our profession. This is not to say that all kids should grow up to be scientists, but in an increasingly technical society, having some knowledge of science and especially the scientific process will be essential," noted Bjorkman, who is encouraging Station scientists to volunteer some of their time toward joining this outreach effort.



MACFACTS

COPY A GROUP OF CELLS • When using Excel, you can "drag and drop" a block of cells. First, select the group of cells. Then, drag the border of the block of cells to the new location. (The selection pointer will change from a plus sign to an arrow.) To copy a block of cells, press and hold the **Command** key as you drag and drop a block of cells to a new location. To insert new cells, press and hold the **Shift** and **Command** keys as you drag and drop the cells.

CLEAR BORDERS FROM A CELL • Frustrated Excel users know that the **Border** dialog box lacks a button to clear all the borders in a given cell. You normally have to click to deselect borders in the Left, Right, Top, and Bottom options. However, there is a secret: Simply press **Command-Option-Hyphen**.



MATT'S MAILBAG

Matt's been out surfing the World Wide Web and has found valuable information for all:

TRACK A FEDEX PACKAGE

Location(URL):

http://www.fedex.com/cgi-bin/track_it

You can track the status of your package any time of day, anywhere in the world. You'll be able to follow your package's journey even while it is still in transit and once it's arrived at its destination, who signed for it. All you need is your FedEx package tracking number.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE POSTAGE RATES

Location(URL):

<http://www.usps.gov/consumer/95rates.htm>

You'll find new postage rates effective January 1, 1995. These include, Express Mail, Priority Mail, First, Second, Third, and Fourth-Class, Business Reply, Domestic Special Services, Bulk Mail Rates, and International Mail.

Of course, you can still call Matt at x251 if you want personal service.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

APRIL 21-28, 1995

EVENTS • MEETINGS

Monday, April 24, 12:10 pm

Sawdust Cafe

Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Monday, April 24, 6:30 pm

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

English as a Second Language

Wednesday, April 26, 3:00 pm

Director's Office, Jordan Hall

Research Department Chairs' meeting

Wednesday, April 26, 12:10 pm

Sawdust Cafe

Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Wednesday, April 26, 6:30 pm

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

English as a Second Language

Thursday, April 27, 9:00 am

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Respirator Fitting and Training

Friday, April 28, 12:10 pm

Sawdust Cafe

Aerobics/Fitness Class for all employees

Friday, April 28, 3:30 pm

West lawn of Jordan Hall

Arbor Day Tree Dedication

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TO HOST IFT

On Friday, April 28, The Department of Food Science and Technology will host the Western and Central NY Sections of IFT honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Western Section. The IFT (Institute of Food Technologists) is the professional society of food science and technology.

In recognition of this occasion, there will be a seminar in Jordan Hall from 3:00-4:30 pm followed by a reception and dinner at the Belhurst Castle. **The seminar is open to all station personnel.**

Of interest to many scientists at the Experiment Station will be Fred R. Shank, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, (CFSAN) who will speak on "Regulatory Concerns of Food Research" recalling the controversy surrounding the safety of the FlavrSavr tomato.

The agenda for the seminar is as follows:

- 3:00 pm History of Western NY Section, *Don F. Splittstoesser, Cornell University*
- 3:15 pm Food Research in the 21st Century, *Carl A. Batt, Cornell University*
- 3:45 pm Regulatory Concerns of Food Research, *Fred R. Shank, Director Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA*

SEMINARS

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

Date: Monday, April 24

Time: 11:00 am

Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Speaker: Gokhan Soylemezoglu
Department of Horticultural Sciences, Geneva

Topic: Horticulture in Turkey

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, April 25

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Room A133, Barton Lab

Speaker: Wendy Wilson
Department of Plant Pathology, Geneva

Topic: Detection and Epidemiology of Stewart's Bacterial Wilt of Sweet Corn

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, April 26

Time: 10:30 am

Place: Conference Room, Food Science & Technology

Speaker: Kuor-Yarng Jang
Department of Food Science & Technology, Geneva

Topic: Production of High Fructo-oligosaccharide Syrup by Fructosyltransferase from Filamentous Fungi

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, April 26

Time: 3:30 pm

Place: The Paul J. Chapman Conference Room
Room 310 Barton Lab

Speaker: Andrew Warren
Undergraduate Student, Cornell University

Topic: Butterflies of the African and American Tropics: Diversity and Biogeography

Social interaction with speaker at 3:00.
Coffee & cookies to be provided.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND BENEFITS SEMINARS

May 6

PLANNING FOR LIFE STAGES FROM 35-50

9:00 am-2:00 pm

Auditorium, Jordan Hall

Work and Family Services, University Human Resource Services, will be presenting this Saturday workshop. The topics to be discussed include interpersonal relationships, health and wellness, financial planning, leisure and work, and next steps.

There is a fee of \$15 per set of materials.

To register, fill out and return the appropriate registration form available in all departments and units or contact Personnel at x203.

May 10 & 17

DISCIPLINE DECISIONS: WHAT, WHERE, WHEN HOW

10:00 am- Noon and 1:00- 3:00 pm

Room A-133, Barton Lab

Marilee Bell, Director, Work and Family Services will offer parents a wide variety of strategies that will allow them to manage their child's behavior in a constructive manner, teaching the child responsibility and building self-esteem.

There is no fee to attend, but you must have your supervisor's approval.

To register for the workshop, fill out the form found in last week's issue of *News* and return to the Personnel Office, Jordan Hall, by May 3.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Two nights in New-Orleans at the Radisson Hotel. Dates open for 18 months. Call Michael Striem at x239.

SWEATSHIRTS/T-SHIRTS: This is your last chance to order a GASPP (Geneva Association of Student Plant Pathologists) T-shirt or sweatshirt. Wide range of colors available, sizes are S,M,L,XL. T-shirts—\$6.50, Sweatshirts—\$12.00. Place your order with Ian Horner, Plant Pathology. E-mail ijhl@cornell.edu or Station Quickmail by Tuesday, April 25.

FREE WHILE THEY LAST: Potatoes will be given away in the Raw Products Building Monday, April 24 starting at 9:00 am. Bring your own box or bag and help yourself.

FOR SALE: Girl's 18 speed, 24" Trek Jazz bike. Excellent condition. \$150. Call Linda at x417.

RETIREMENT SPECIAL: Classic 1941 21' Kohlman sloop. Hard chine, centerboard, pivot mast, good for lake, canal and inland waterways. Extensively rebuilt. New sails. Atomic 4 inboard (presently out of boat). In Ithaca. \$2000. Call Linda at x417.