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MARCH 29 - APRIL 5, 1996

BRIEFS

MEDIA WATCH

An article in the March, 1996, issue of *Food Processing Magazine*, entitled "It's Academic," focuses on how Curtice Burns Foods relies on important research and development conducted by the food science and technology department at Geneva. Curtice Burns, a processing company with a wide range of fruit and vegetable products is based in Rochester, NY, and had \$748 million in sales in 1995.

Written by Associate Editor Pan Demetrakakes, the 4-page article credits the efforts of FS&T/Geneva and its Food Research Laboratory with helping "regional food processors with projects ranging from development and packaging of individual products, to cross-breeding for improvements in crops." In the article, department chairman Mark McLellan indicated that, in 1995 alone, 368 companies from New York State were serviced, resulting in 95 state licenses for new products being issued.

Technology transfer between Cornell and Comstock Michigan Fruit, the biggest division of Curtice Burns Foods, has resulted in solutions to various problems, including: refrigeration and transport of cherries to minimize over-ripening across state lines; the development of a natural colorant made of concentrated red cabbage juice; changes in can size which required converting filling equipment and working out heating profiles for the new cans; and the innovative use of a chicken deboner to decrease losses during apple coring. All of these resulted in savings that helped keep Comstock competitive.

Working with other industries, FS&T helped Frontier Technology, Inc., adapt a belt press used for waste dewatering for juice processing.

McLellan made the case for the importance of research monies for Geneva, by saying: "We are a great investment for state dollars because we protect the consumers' interest in safety, ensure the competitiveness of the food industry, and jump-start new companies, leading to a stronger economic community. We are a catalyst for growth in the food industry."

NEW BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE

Seedway recently announced it will be marketing T-22, a new biological fungicide for agricultural and vegetable crops that is designed to control root diseases. T-22 is produced by TGT Inc. of Geneva, NY. The active ingredient is a selected strain of *Trichoderma*. The treatment is non-toxic to all plants, animals, and humans, and provides control of *Fusarium*, *Phythium*, *Rhizoctonia* and other root damaging fungi.

(Continued on page 2)

Geneva Will Administer Viticulture Grant
Among Several States

A Viticulture Consortium, established with a federal grant, will support research to improve the grape industry in the continental United States. The \$500,000 grant will be administered by Cornell University and the University of California at Davis, two leading universities in viticulture research. Geneva will administer \$235,000 of the nationwide grant in the eastern states. The University of California will administer the rest of the money and distribute it among research projects in the western region.

At Geneva, a multistate guidance committee of representatives from industry, research, and extension has been established to help identify projects and allocate the funds under the chairmanship of Director Jim Hunter. "With input from that committee, the Station has sent requests for proposals to 14 Experiment Stations, including ones in Virginia, Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York," said Hunter. "Research projects include all grape and grape products; it is not just strictly for wine grapes."

A panel of research scientists will review the proposals for scientific merit and submit their evaluations to the guidance committee, who will make recommendations for funding to Dr. Hunter. The deadline for proposals is April 19.

John Bourke, professor emeritus in the Department of Food Science & Technology, has been hired to manage the day-to-day operations of the grant program.

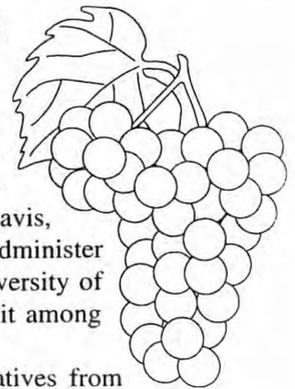
"This is the first time an appropriation for wine- and grape-related research has been made at the federal level," said Hunter. "For it to continue, industry is going to have to remain supportive and encourage annual re-appropriation." Hunter expects the American Vintners Association to take the lead in that effort, as they did in the first year of funding. Key members of the grape and wine industry in New York actively supported the efforts and are expected to continue to do so. Although matching funds from the private sector were not required by Congress, efforts will be made by the grape industry to do this.

"Obviously, Geneva has a lot of faculty programs that cover a range of activities related to the growing and processing of grapes," said Hunter. "I expect them to be very competitive." Research proposals are expected to include areas of pest management, cultivation, and genetic research, and all of these can include evaluation of the quality of processed products.

Last year, more than 25 million gallons of New York wine was sold, grossing almost \$300 million in annual sales. Grape growers and others in New York contributed approximately \$200,000 to support research projects in 1995.

The \$500,000 grant for the consortium comes out of a \$29.7 million appropriation to USDA for special regional and state grants under public law 89-106. Although this is the first federal support for wine- and grape-industry related research, other commodities have received billions of dollars in such support over the years. The grant is meant to help keep the U.S. grape and grape-products industry competitive with similar industries in other nations where grape and wine research is government-subsidized. Congressman Walsh from the Syracuse area helped to secure these funds.

-Friedlander and McCandless

New Publication Helps
Apple Growers

Pollination is the most critical single process in the production of a good crop of fruit. Transporting pollen from flowers of one fruit variety to those of another is the subject of a Cornell Cooperative Extension publication, "Pollination and Fruit Set of Fruit Crops," which has been re-published to help commercial growers and serious backyard gardeners get the best crop for their work.

Written by Roger D. Way, Department of Horticultural Sciences at the Experiment Station, the 12-page information bulletin sug-

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Pollination and Fruit Set
of Fruit Crops

Roger D. Way
Department of Horticultural Sciences
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Information Bulletin 237

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

MARCH 29 - APRIL 5, 1996

EVENTS • MEETINGS

Monday, April 1, 6:30 pm

Conference Room, Food Science
English as a Second Language

Wednesday, April 3, 8:30 am

Auditorium, Jordan Hall
25th Annual New York Wine Industry Workshop

Thursday, April 4, 9:00 am

Auditorium, Jordan Hall
25th Annual New York Wine Industry Workshop

Thursday, April 4, 6:30 pm

Conference Room, Food Science
English as a Second Language

SEMINARS

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

Date: Monday, April 1

Time: 11:00 am

Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Speaker: Pat Conner

Department of Horticultural Sciences, Geneva

Topic: Examination of Apple Fruit Quality and Tree and Fruit Morphology Using Molecular Markers

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, April 2

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Room A133, Barton Laboratory

Speaker: Tobin Peever

Department of Plant Pathology, Ithaca

Topic: Population Structure of dsRNA Viruses in the Chestnut Blight Fungus

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, April 3

Time: 10:30 am

Place: FST Conference Room

Speaker: Myo Yong Lee

Topic: Development of Flow-Injection Liposome Immunoassay (FILIA) for Pursuit

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Thursday, April 4

Time: 10:30 am

Place: The Paul J. Chapman

Conference Room
Room 310, Barton Laboratory

Speaker: Dr. Quentin Wheeler, Professor

Department of Entomology, Ithaca

Topic: Taxonomic Preparedness: Systematics and the Biodiversity Crisis

*Social interaction with speaker at 10:00 am
Coffee & donuts will be served*

Is there ever any particular spot where one can put one's finger and say, "It all began that day, at such a time and such a place, with such an incident?"

-AGATHA CHRISTIE-

(PUBLICATION, cont.)

gests orchard planting plans for efficient apple pollination.

The author describes the mechanisms of pollination and outlines cultural practices favoring good fruit set. He summarizes pollination requirements of apples and other tree fruits, including pears, peaches, nectarines, apricots, and tart and sweet cherry. He suggests pollen source varieties for main apple varieties, and discusses the work of bees in pollination.

The publication complements other Cornell Cooperative Extension publications on the culture and care of fruit trees, including "Orchard Nutrition Management," "The Home Fruit Planting," "Home Orchard Peach and Nectarine Culture," "Training and Pruning Apple Trees," and "Wildlife Damage Management in Fruit Orchards."

"Pollination and Fruit Set of Fruit Crops" (142IB237) costs \$3. It and other publications (prices vary, please inquire) can be obtained from the Bulletin Room in Jordan Hall or from the Resource Center in Ithaca.

(BRIEFS, cont.)

T-22 resulted from 20 years of research by scientists at the Experiment Station on the ability of natural microorganisms to interfere with plant pathogens and prevent plant diseases. T-22 is produced under exclusive license by TGT, which was formed to bring these biological products to the market.

A major benefit of T-22 is that it is a living organism that actually grows on the roots for the life of the plant, enhancing root development, nutrient exchange, moisture uptake and providing strong disease protection.

The product is available in planter box treatment for all field crops, including field and sweet corn, soybeans, dry beans and peas. A granular formulation is also available for in-furrow and seed bed applications.

—NYS Vegetable Growers News

FINGER LAKES CORPORATE CUP

Don't forget to get your team together for the Geneva YMCA's Finger Lakes Corporate Cup to be held on June 1. The purpose is "to promote community-wide interest and involvement in fitness and health activities." Teams consisting of six to ten people, male and female, are encouraged to participate. There is a team entry fee, but, because of Cornell's accounting rules and regulations, the Station cannot sponsor a team. This should not prevent individuals in departments and units from forming teams and participating, however, there is a possibility that Station Club will fund a portion of the fee; contact Alan Fairbrother in Buildings & Properties. As a team participant, each individual will receive four weeks of free training at the Geneva YMCA, a commemorative Corporate Cup souvenir, refreshments, and a picnic lunch. The team will receive a team photograph.

All teams will compete in the following events: Inner tube water relay, 200 yard water relay, 3 mile prediction run/walk, tug of war, volleyball, picnic relay, and spirit cheer competition.

Complete informational packets are available in all departments and units or contact personnel, Jordan Hall. When a team is formed and the entry form is ready to be submitted, please send a copy to Personnel. There is no limit as to how many teams may participate from one employer.

PEOPLE

Condolences:

Station condolences go out to Jim Tette, IPM, on the death of his mother, Anna Mae Tette, Tuesday, March 19.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Three Modems 14.4, cables not included. \$50 each. Call Computer Services at x289. First come-first serve.

FOR SALE: 1986 Ford Ranger, long bed, V6, automatic, 88,000 miles. Asking \$1,900.00 or best offer. Contact Colleen at 318 or Dave at 585-9596.

FOR SALE: Hyundai Excel (1987). Standard transmission, four-door, 50K, in good condition. Asking \$500. Contact Fuh-Jyh Jan, x330 (Lab) or e-mail fj15@cornell.edu.

FOR SALE: Volkswagen Jetta (1989). Automatic transmission, four-door, cruise control, 84K, sunroof, in excellent condition. Asking \$3500. Contact Fuh-Jyh Jan, x330 (Lab) or e-mail fj15@cornell.edu.

SIGN UP FOR HEAD START: Geneva Head Start is a preschool program for three- and four-year-old children who live in the Geneva School District. Children of low-income families and children with disabilities or special needs are given priority. There is no charge for this program. Head Start is currently recruiting for the 1996-97 school year and is accepting applications through March 29, 1996.

BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT: It's that time of year again! Why not spend your summer vacation relaxing in the sun and surf at a lovely beach house on Canandaigua Lake, just north of Naples? Feel like "getting out of Dodge" for a breather? How about a spring weekend get-away, nestled in the hills on one of our prettiest Finger Lakes? For more information, call Elaine at x253.

RETIREMENT PARTY

for

DR. DON

SPLITTSTOESSER

and

DR. GIL STOEWESAND



April 27, 1996

6:00 pm~Cocktails • 7:30 pm~Dinner

Geneva Country Club

See last week's News for sign-up form
or call Debby Ditzell, Food Science, x255.

Deadline for reservations is April 17