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MAY 2-9, 1997

BRIEFS

MARCH OF DIMES WALK
A SUCCESS

The Station's March of Dimes WalkAmerica Team enjoyed a pleasant morning during their 5-mile walk on Sunday, April 27. I'd like to thank the Station Team participants, Carmenza Gongora, Jennifer Hawley, Sue Mazumdar, and Donna Roelofs, all of the Department of Entomology; Pim Larsson-Kovach and Marcella Walczak from Food Science and Technology, and all those who supported them in their walk for healthier babies. Over \$7,000 was raised by Geneva participating teams. Statistical information for individual teams will be provided after figures are tallied and team captains are notified. I will pass the information along in an upcoming *Station News*. Thanks, again!

Kathy DeRosa, Team Captain

PESTICIDE FACILITY USER
TRAINING SCHEDULED

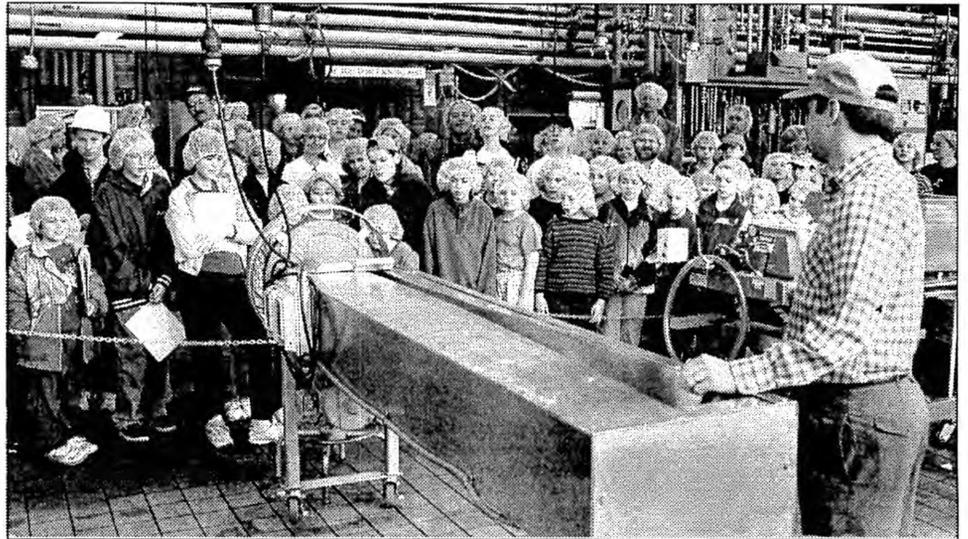
The following dates have been scheduled for Pesticide Facility User Training:

- May 9, 8:15-10:15 am,
Auditorium, Jordan Hall
- May 23, 8:15-10:15 am,
Staff Room, Jordan Hall
- June 6, 8:15-10:15 am,
Staff Room, Jordan Hall

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 two hours beginning at 8:15 am in Jordan Hall (see schedule above) and conclude at the Pesticide Facility. You must provide your own transportation to the Fruit & Vegetable Research Farm. If you attended a previous Pesticide Facility User Training session, you need NOT attend this session, although you are welcome.

(BRIEFS Continued on page 2)

“Keep up the good work”



Children at the Experiment Station's "Bring Your Children to Work" day are impressed in the Pilot Plant as David Kidd makes short work of a carrot in the carrot slicer. Children were also treated to a demonstration of cider pasteurization and received a fresh sample.

The Station held its second "Bring Your Children to Work" Day on Thursday, April 24, and 52 children between the ages of 9- and 15-years-old attended, accompanied by 39 adult Station employees. Each parent/sponsor was required to accompany their child to all Station activities. "The adults shadowing the children were parents, friends, or relatives," said Charlie Hibbard, who was in charge of the committee that organized the special day.

The first "Take Your Child to Work Day" was held at the Station in 1995 in response to a national initiative, "Take Your Daughter to Work." Hibbard acknowledged that the day serves "many, many purposes." Chief among them is the opportunity for Station employees to share their careers, their interests, and their experiences.

"For another thing, it boosts our reasons for leaving the house in the morning," she said, noting that most children are very, very interested in what Mom, Dad and other adults do at work, although they rarely have a chance to participate in activities there. "It provides the Station with a good opportunity to encourage career interests by providing role models in math, science, and related agricultural fields," said Hibbard.

The morning program was scheduled well in advance, as planning began in February, but last minute changes on Wednesday, April 23, were initiated by presenters in Barton Lab who felt there was an "overwhelming" number of participants to rotate through four different presentations. Instead, children were directed to choose one presentation. While this resulted in fewer numbers at each stop; it also resulted in less variety seen and some restless fidgeting.

"Modifying the program at the 11th hour was somewhat unfortunate," said Hibbard. "It resulted in children having to spend 45 minutes in one program when we only originally intended that they would spend 20 minutes."

(Continued on page 2)

(KEEP UP..., cont.)

Chad Ingerick might agree: "I think at Barton Lab we should be able to go to all four places even if it takes all day," he said, rating the experience overall as a #7 ("Very Valuable") on his evaluation form.

Susan Sheffer noted that PGRU's strategy for dealing with fifty-plus people was to divide everyone into four smaller groups and rotate them through the presentations given at PGRU. She rated the program a #6.

Morning presenters included: Herb Gustafson, from Plant Pathology, who used microscopes to view the "dreaded" collar Rot Fungus; Charlie Linn, who demonstrated how plant chemicals from apple and blueberry fruit attract pests; Paul Robbins, who presented "The Life of a Mole Cricket"; and Jan Nyrop, who demonstrated how insects may be harmful or beneficial. Joe Ogradnick and Rob Way subdued insects for photography purposes, and demo-ed digital photography and video editing. Mark

McLellan and Bob Kime gave a tour of the Pilot Plant and gave a presentation of cider pasteurization and carrot slicing. Jim McFerson and Susan Sheffer presented a brief overview of plant explorations into Kazakstan and cryopreservation at PGRU, while Bob Andersen and David Gill gave a demonstration of vegetable propagation. In the afternoon, children either stayed at the workplace or went home.

Nicole Whited, who accompanied her mother, Lynn, in FS&T, said she "liked Jan Nyrop's bugs the best," and some of the facts certainly captivated her imagination: "Did you know there are 10 pounds of human beings to an acre of land and 400 pounds of insects?" she said. Caitlin Burns, Nicole's friend, liked the stick grafting demonstrations offered by Bob Andersen and David Gill in the greenhouse range.

Another activity which rated high on the response meter was the sight of the vapor flow-

ing out of the liquid nitrogen tank in PGRU, where Susan Sheffer explained how the tank was used to back up important plant material from the orchard.

The Beanie Baby Web site, demonstrated by Jane Irwin in the Library, also made it into many notebooks as THE "web address to try at home."

Jim Engel, in IPM, said, "It was a very beneficial program to connect children with their parents' work."

Hibbard said the committee is collecting evaluation forms to make recommendations and modifications in future year's program.

"The evaluation forms we have so far bring home the usual truths," she said: "Children like activities that are hands-on and those programs that were hands-on tended to be better received."

Any evaluation forms that have not yet been turned in are useful in fine-tuning future "Take Your Child to Work" days. Please turn them in to Charie Hibbard in Personnel this week.

(BRIEFS, cont.)

PESTICIDE REMINDER

The spray season has begun. Please remember to check the electronic posting board and/or the on-site posting before entering any research blocks. Also remember applicators cannot always see people in or around the blocks being sprayed. If you are exposed to drift, vacate the area immediately and check the central posting at the F&VRF Pesticide Facility or call Mart Van Kirk at 781-5307 for details.

URBAN SPRAWL TAKING FARMLAND

The American Farmland Trust has identified the 20 most imperiled agricultural regions in the United States in its report "Farming on the Edge," and the Ontario plain and Finger Lakes region of western New York is ranked #11. The New England and eastern New York upland, southern part, is ranked #10, and includes Orange County, NY, which is a prime muck growing location.

The report studied each of the nation's 181 Major Land Resource Areas, of which 127 contained places where high quality farmland is colliding with urban sprawl.

According to the profile, as reported in *The Great Lakes Vegetable Growers News* of April, 1997, the loss of farmland is affecting agriculture across the board, but is taking a particularly large bite out of the fruit and vegetable sectors. The report said 79% of the nation's fruit and 69% of its vegetables are produced on high quality farmland threatened by urban encroachment.

NEW SAUERKRAUT COMPANY

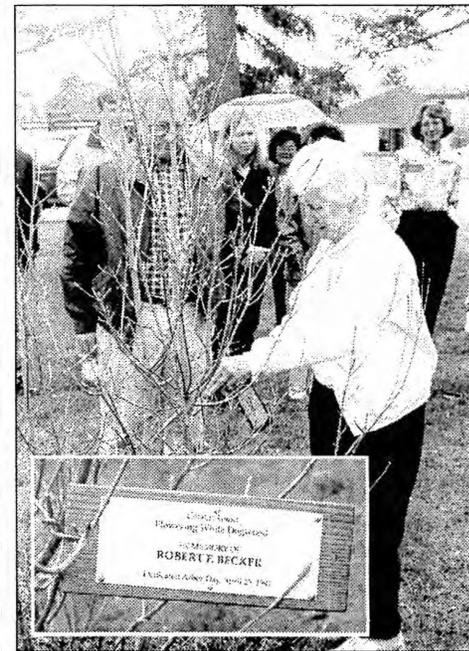
Curtice Burns Foods/Pro-Fac and Flanagan Brothers Inc. of Bear Creek, WI, have announced plans to combine their sauerkraut operations and form a cooperative in New York state. Ownership will be split between the two companies, according to a report in April's *New York State Vegetable Growers News*.

Curtice Burns will manage all NYS cabbage sourcing. Flanagan Brothers will provide management expertise. The move should give Pro-Fac growers/owners additional opportunities to expand their cabbage markets.

Curtice Burns operates sauerkraut facilities in Gorham, Shortsville and Waterport, NY, and owns the #1 selling sauerkraut brand in the U.S.—Silver Floss.

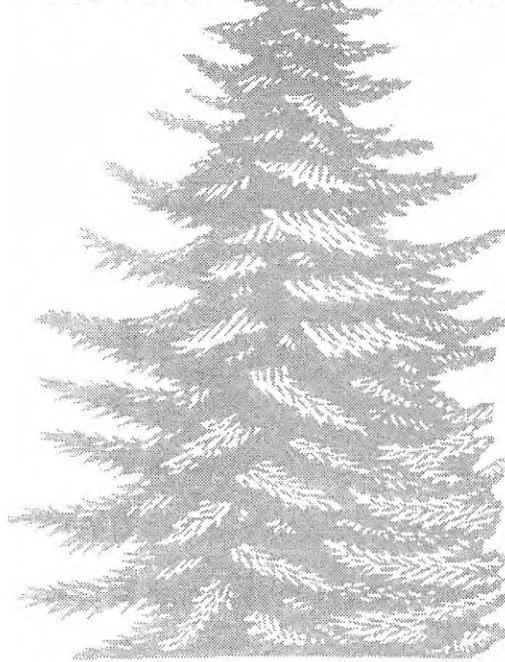
Flanagan, which sells the #1 refrigerated poly bag sauerkraut—Krrrisp Kraut—recently acquired B&G Sauerkraut, in Seneca Circle, NY.

ARBOR DAY 1997: BOB BECKER MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING



Faye Becker puts the identification tag on the Kousa dogwood planted in her husband's honor on Arbor Day, April 25, during the annual tree planting ceremony at the Experiment Station. The dogwood was planted on the South Lawn of Hedrick in a ceremony in honor of Robert Becker. The planting was coordinated by the Geneva Arboretum Association.

A Tree Made in Heaven—or a Pain in the Grass?



“Adding trees and shrubs to your landscape in the springtime is a lifetime investment,” according to Catherine Heidenreich, plant pathologist, who is a member of the Geneva Arboretum Association. She recommends homeowners make a trip to their local library to find information on the specimens under consideration before purchasing them.

“Take time before buying to consider just what you are hoping to achieve in adding a particular tree or shrub to your yard,” said Heidenreich. “This is time well spent and can add to your success and enjoyment in home landscaping.”

The Arboretum Association is an 8-year-old organization of employee volunteers that coordinates the annual Arbor Day Tree planting at the Station, in addition to making recommendations to the Buildings and Properties Department about landscaping decisions for the Station campus and rock garden throughout the year. Many people know that the Station has 700 acres of fruits and vegetables used for research and extension; few know that the Station also has over 200 woody species in its ornamental collection, represented by twice as many individual specimens.

Here are a few questions to ask yourself before you plant.

1. What effect or purpose am I hoping to achieve with this plant? Is it for shade, to attract wildlife such as birds, to add texture or contrast, for screening or fencing, for fall color, flowers or fruit? Be sure your selected plant will fill the intended needs. A wind-break specimen that loses its leaves in the winter may not afford much relief from the wind! Consider the plant's ultimate size and shape, foliage type, and root system. Will the plant be too large, too small, too open, too dense? Be sure to consider how it will look from inside the house as well as from outside!

2. What size plant is required? In general, trees fall into three size categories: large, medium, and small. Large trees are 40–100 ft tall at maturity and dominate the landscape. They need to fit into the scale of existing plantings and buildings. These trees are often selected for shading houses or creating a focal point in the landscape.

Medium trees are 30–50 ft tall and are used for street tree plantings, shading lawns and terraces, and where large trees would be out of scale. Small trees are up to 25 ft tall and are used where space is limited. They are selected for their special characteristics such as foliage or flowers, shape or form and are often planted as a contrast to the background buildings or plantings.

Shrubs can be divided into four main groups: fingertip high (7 ft or higher), head high (5 to 6-1/2 ft), waist high (2-1/2 to 3-1/2 ft) and knee high

(1-1/2 to 2 ft), although you may find shrubs on a spectrum anywhere from 4 inches to over 10 ft in height. Width is also an issue to consider, as shrubs come in different shapes: upright/columnar, spreading, rounded (largest mass) and vase-shaped. Remember, most shrubs can be pruned to any desired shape and size but will look better and be less work if they are pruned only to enhance the natural shape. Shrubs are used to separate areas, define spaces, and create contrast.

3. Is the plant I have selected able to grow well on my site? What is the soil type, drainage, exposure? Is the plant hardy for my zone (Zone 4 to 5 in Geneva)? Does it have special growth requirements such as soil pH, partial shade, well drained soil, or protection from the wind?

4. Will there be sufficient space for the plant on this site when it reaches maturity? Allow sufficient space from the house and from other nearby plantings. Base your spacing on the mature sizes of the trees and shrubs to avoid problems later. Consider getting the largest specimen affordable to help reduce time to maturity and better estimate spacing. If smaller specimens are planted, fill in with perennials or bulbs, which can be removed or relocated as the plants increase in size. Will the plant obscure walls, windows, or doors when fully grown? Will it crowd sidewalks or fences? Is it going to be situated under overhanging roof gutters? A quick walk or drive

through your town or neighborhood will make very obvious the need not to overlook this step!

5. How much maintenance will be required to keep the specimen attractive and healthy? Do I have the time, equipment and knowledge to do what is required? Are there disease or insect problems? If so, are there resistant cultivars to plant? Will the plants need to be watered regularly? How much pruning is required? Is it a tree that loses leaves, branches, nuts, cones or other debris which has to be raked up and removed? Is there added expense involved for special site preparation, fertilization, pesticide application?

6. Does the plant I have selected pose any hazards? Are the plant parts poisonous to children or domestic animals? Will thorns or briars pose a problem? Does the plant have a disagreeable odor while flowering? Am I planting a tree too near the house that is susceptible to wind throw, splitting or losing large branches?

There are perhaps other things to consider not mentioned here and you may never find that “perfect match” plant meeting or exceeding all your requirements. In any case, you will find that you have better success if you do a little homework before you plant!



Brought to you by
Cathy Heidenreich of the Station's
Arboretum Association

CALENDAR of EVENTS

MAY 2-9, 1997

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 6, noon
Hedrick Hall Conference Room G19
Geneva Arboretum Association Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 1:00 pm
Staff Room, Jordan Hall
How to Stay on Top of Stress Workshop

Friday, May 9, 8:15 am
Auditorium, Jordan Hall
Pesticide Facility User Training (see related story)

PEOPLE

• *New Baby Congratulations*

Congratulations to Nancy and Bill Long on the birth of their son, Michael Patrick, born Wednesday, April 30. Michael weighed in at 6 lb. 8.5 oz. Nancy is an Accounts Rep in Food Science and Technology.

Congratulations to Diane Russell on the birth of her granddaughter, Kelly Jean, born on Tuesday, April 29.

CLASSIFIEDS

GARAGE SALE: May 3 and 4, 9:00 am-4:00 pm. 531 County Road 26 (Vienna Street), Newark. Nice three-room tent, cherry drop-leaf table, like-new love seat, animal cages, and other miscellaneous.

HOUSING AVAILABLE: Very clean unfurnished one-two bedroom apartment upstairs in an older 2-story house. Apartment has one full bath, living room, dining room and kitchen, private entrance in the front and back, and offstreet parking. \$500/month includes water and steam heat. For details or to see apartment, contact Mike at x332 or call 789-9205.

ROOM AVAILABLE: Affordable room available for female scientist/student. Kitchen privileges. Quiet neighborhood 20 min. walk to Station. 789-1837.

WANTED: TOPS grocery tapes. The tapes are used as a fund raising activity in support of the Geneva High School Marching Band. Please send tapes to Judy Birkett, Jordan Hall. Thank you.

FOR SALE: Trek 820 men's mountain bike; frame 16.5" green fade to black; very good condition; \$225. Call 781-0085 or e-mail mmc15@cornell.edu.

FOR SALE: CCM Concorde 26" men's 10-speed bicycle. Like new. \$50. Call 789-8112.

WANTED: Summer childcare provider for 9-year-old and 6-year-old. Approx. 22 hrs/week. June 30-Aug. 28, with 2 weeks off in July. Prefer someone with driver's license and access to a car. Please call Margaret at x408 or 781-2421.

FOR SALE: 1986 Chevy Nova. Good condition, runs well, little rust. \$1100. Car will be available around June 20. Contact Natasa at x351 or evenings at (607) 272-8720 or email at np25@cornell.edu.

HOUSING NEEDED: Visiting female scientist from New Zealand seeks room/small apartment for rent from mid-June to late August. Please contact Tony Shelton at 789-7035 or ams5@cornell.edu

SEMINARS

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, May 6
Time: 10:00 am
Place: FST Conference Room
Speaker: Dr. Olga Padilla-Zakour
Canandaigua Wine Company,
California
(Candidate for Senior Extension
Associate Director, Food Venture
Center)
Topic: Grape Seeds: From Waste to Rich
Source of Antioxidants

SIGMA XI

Date: Wednesday, May 7
Time: 8:00 pm
Place: Cox Hall, Room 8
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Speaker: Dr. Bernard Greenberg, Professor
Emeritus
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
Topic: Maggots and Murder. Flies as
Forensic Indicators

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Thursday, May 8
Time: 10:00 am
Place: FST Conference Room
Speaker: Dr. Jeffrey Nash, Visiting Professor
Mahidol University, Mechanical
Engineering Department
(Candidate for Senior Extension
Associate Director, Food Venture
Center)
Topic: Creating New Food Processing
Companies in NYS: Opportunities
& Challenges

*This seminar will be seen via PICTEL in
124 Stocking Hall.*

ATTENTION
GARDENERSCome to the
Perennial Plant Exchange

Bring divisions from your favorite
perennials to trade

DATE: Saturday, May 3
TIME: 10:00 am-noon
Rain or shine

WHERE: Station Pavilion
For more information, call Rixana at x246
or 781-0273 or Franzine at 789-8112.

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Thursday, May 8
Time: 10:30 am
Place: The Paul J. Chapman
Conference Room
Room 310, Barton Lab
Speaker: Timothy Smith
Graduate Student with Dr. David
Soderlund
Department of Entomology,
Geneva
Topic: The Effects of Pyrethroid Insecti-
cides on Cloned Sodium Channel
Isoforms

*Social interaction time with speaker at 10:00 am
Coffee & cookies will be available.*

WORLD WIDE WEB SEMINAR SERIES

Date: Friday, May 9
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Library Staff
Topic: Scholarly Considerations: copyright,
the question of "reprinting" on the
WWW from referred journals, in-
progress papers, etc.

GAS UP AT HOME AND SAVE

With Station vehicles being used more frequently this time of year, B&P would like to remind faculty and staff to gas up those fleet vehicles here at the Station's Fleet Garage gas pumps whenever possible. At this time, gas at our pumps is only \$0.88 per gallon. With the cost of gas off-campus so high, it will save all departments money.

We would also like to remind all faculty and staff to train summer help on how to get gas and fill out the Fleet Charge Slips. If anyone has questions in regards to the pumping gas or filling out the slips, feel free to ask B&P staff.

Thank you.

Buildings and Properties

Station Club Golf Tournament

Friday, June 6

Watch for Sign-Up
Form accompanying
this week's
Station News!

