

VOLUME LXXXI • NO. 23
 JUNE 16-23, 2000

BRIEFS

Phone Code System

The change from using the current three-digit phone code system to the new four-digit codes will take place on June 21, 2000. As of that date it will be necessary to use a four-digit code to complete local and long distance calls being made from station phones.

Employees who have been assigned a four-digit code will receive written notification of that code next week. Please note that it is very important that you do not share your code with anyone. All calls made using your code will be billed to your name. It is your responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of your code.

If you forget your code or have a problem with your code not working properly, please contact Sharon Smart x2204.

Thanks for your cooperation!

Tractor Certification

If you are interested in taking the tractor safety certification course, you can get a student manual from Alan Soper at the Field Research Unit's main office at the Fruit and Vegetable Research Farm office. The charge of \$6 will be billed to your department. The required student manual "Safe Operation of Agricultural Equipment" published by Hobar Publications and authored by Silletto and Hull is the study book FRU will be using. If someone in your department has a copy for you to borrow you need not purchase one. Alan is planning on having a tractor review Wednesday June 28, 2000 at the Fruit and Vegetable Research Farm barn at 8:30 a.m. (it takes about an hour) with the tractor written and driving test at the Jordan Hall pavilion at 1:15 p.m. (about 2 hours). This is subject to change depending on number of people interested.

Please pre-register. Let Alan know if you are planning on hiring someone that will need this training. He will need information as to hire date, department and faculty. This will help in setting the schedule for training and testing.

If you have any questions, call Alan at x2296 or email him at aes4@cornell.edu

New Area Code for Hudson Valley Lab

The Hudson Valley Lab's area code has changed from 914 to 845 as of 5 June 2000.

Multi-State Task Force Mobilizes to Fight the Spread of Plum Pox



Bob Andersen (center) explains to (left to right) Leslie Allee, Deborah Breth, Jay Freer, and Daniel Kepich how to sample for Plum Pox Virus.

Plum Pox Potyvirus (PPV), one of the most destructive and feared viral diseases of stone fruits, was discovered in Adams County, Pennsylvania, in October 1999. Fear that it may spread to other states has led to the formation of a multi-state task force at experiment stations in 16 states. "Our objective is to eradicate, contain and/or manage the disease," said stone fruit breeder Bob Andersen, who is coordinating Cornell's participation in the project with plant pathologists Dennis Gonsalves and Dave Rosenberger.

"Our first step is to conduct a nation-wide survey for Plum Pox Virus," said Andersen. In New York, the survey is a cooperative effort among the USDA-APHIS-PPQ, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM), and Cornell University.

Andersen, Gonsalves and Rosenberger organized a day-long meeting of the New York task force at the end of May, at the Experiment Station, to train the New York survey team in collection and sampling techniques. Among those present at the workshop were Daniel Kepich, of the USDA and his staff, Deborah Breth, CCE, Albion, NY, stone fruit technician Jay Freer, and others from NYSDAM and Cornell IPM. The survey will be carried out from now until October.

The task force sampled trees on Cornell's Darrow and McCarthy farms. "All registered trees used for the production of budwood at the Experiment Station will be sampled and all nursery liners will be sampled," said Andersen.

Sampling in an orchard is time consuming. The person doing the sampling takes two leaves per tree from two adjacent trees in each of two adjacent rows, skips six trees, then drops the leaves in a collecting bag, refrigerates it, and submits it to Gonsalves' lab for ELISA-assay testing. Augustine Gubba, Baozhong Meng, and George Mittak conduct the testing. At the workshop, they instructed the task force in sample preparation.

"In New York, the team plans to survey 9,050 nursery trees, 4,560 orchard trees of plums, peaches and apricots, and 1,500 foundation trees of the same crops," said Andersen. Cherries are not being surveyed because the PPV strain that is in Pennsylvania does not infect cherries.

Nationally, the goal is to determine the incidence of Plum Pox, and then to develop effective, uniform strategies to eradicate or contain the virus. If eradication efforts fail to stop the spread of the virus, state and regional teams will develop appropriate disease management measures.

Plum pox was first discovered in Bulgaria in 1915 and has all but decimated the stone fruit industry in Western Europe. "Fears for the U.S. industry are high," said Andersen. Infection can cause considerable losses. About 100 million stone fruit trees in Europe are currently infected. Farmers with susceptible cultivars report 80-100 percent yield losses.

The disease causes yellowing and browning in leaves and fruit, fruit drop, and misshapen or deformed fruit. The disease is spread by more than 20 different species of aphids

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

JUNE 16-23, 2000

OPEN FORUM

Date: June 22
Time: 1:00-2:00 pm
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Title: Open Forum Voyager
Facilitator: Marty Schlabach

Cornell University Library is implementing a new Library Catalog on June 26. The software is called Voyager and will replace the 12-year-old system that we are now familiar with. The new system is Web-based and has a number of added features. You will find it easy to use, but please join us on June 22 for an introductory overview of the new Library Catalog.

LTC

Date: June 22
Time: 10:00-11:30 am
Title: E-Journals
Place: LTC
Instructor: Marty Schlabach

Prerequisite: MS Windows or Macintosh experience. Academic publishing, especially in the sciences, has been moving headlong into the realm of electronic journals. Find out what is available from your own desktop. This class will cover how to locate e-journals, as well as cover the technical limitations concerning access, printing and saving.

PRODUCT DISPLAY

Date: June 27
Time: 10:00-2:00 pm
Place: Entomology Conference Room

A representative from Laboratory Product Sales will be on campus to display some new products that your labs may be interested in. Please stop by and see what they have to offer.

FITNESS

AEROBICS

Date: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Time: 12:10 -1 p.m.
Place: Sawdust Cafe

RETIREEES

Members of the NYSAES Retirees Association elected new officers at their June luncheon meeting. They are:

- President** John Bourke
- Vice-President** MaryLou Dumbleton
- Secretary** Marcella Walczak
- Treasurer** Don Johnson

Future plans include at least one trip in late summer or fall, the November Book/Craft Sale, and the Christmas luncheon.

Early afternoon, when the sun is still high, is the best time for sleeping under a tree. During these hours, it is a warm shade that comes straight down around the trunk. Any kind of clothing that is not crumple-proof is suitable. The idea is to wake up wrinkled on the outside but straightened out a bit on the inside."

JOHN SINOR

Defensive Driving Program

John Schiefen, a NYS instructor, will present a 5-1/2 hour Defensive Driving Program at the Station on Monday, June 26. Employees and students who drive the Station van or car to transport students on a regular basis will be given priority. Employees who have been convicted of a moving violation or have had an accident in the last three years and are required to drive a Station vehicle on a regular basis in order to perform their jobs will be given next priority; approval will be required by the department. All oth-

ers will be registered, if space is available.

The charge is \$28 per person and a maximum of 36 registrations are permitted. The application for the program must be completed and payment must be made prior to the program. To register for the program contact me at cah3. I will confirm your registration by sending a registration form to you.

NOTE: If you register, make every effort to attend this class. NO REFUNDS ARE GIVEN.

Charie Hibbard

PEOPLE

• **Illness**

John Barnard, Computer Center, suffered a heart attack on Friday morning. He is out of intensive care, and recovering in Rochester General. It is unclear when he will be transferred back to Geneva General.

• **Wedding**

For those of you who haven't already heard through the grapevine, Antje Baeumner (Assist. Prof. of Biotechnology in the Dept. of Agricultural & Biological Engineering) and Richard Durst (Prof. of Chemistry and Chair of the Dept. of Food Science & Technology) were married in Germany on June 16 at the Standesamt (Marriage Bureau) in Antje's hometown of Unna. This German-required civil ceremony will be followed the next day with a religious ceremony in the chapel of the 12th-century Schnellenberg Castle at Attendorn. This ceremony will be attended by family and friends, including Pim and Kamill Kovach, who will be in Europe at the time. After an all-too-brief honeymoon at the Baltic seacoast, the couple will return to their home in Romulus.

(Plum Pox, continued from page 1)

as well as by the movement of nursery stock, budwood and grafted material from nurseries to orchards.

Unlike fungal or bacterial plant pathogens that can be controlled chemically, antiviral treatments to prevent or control PPV in the field are not available.

"So far, developing PPV-resistant stone fruits through conventional breeding has met with limited success," said Bob Seem, who is involved in administering the project. "Ideally, new PPV resistant varieties that would be highly resistant to multiple strains of the virus will be developed through transgenic breeding."

Despite rapid advances in genetic transformation in the last 20 years, the time necessary to incorporate a high level of resistance as well as incorporate high levels of fruit quality, yield potential, cold-tolerance, and resistance to other diseases can be greater than the lifetime of a breeder. Transgenic breeding trials as well as the resultant fruit are subject to intense scrutiny by regulatory agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the USDA, and the Food and Drug Administration, before commercialization can take place.

L. McCandless

CLASSIFIED

PLEASE HELP US STAY CURRENT

If the item that you have placed in the CLASSIFIED section of Station News has sold, please notify Donna Boyce, x2492, so we can remove the ad.

COMPUTERS FOR SALE - great condition, good lab/office power and performance, ideal for students/families looking for a inexpensive system:

- 1) 200 Mhz Pentium MMX, 32 Mb EDO RAM, 4.3 GB hard drive, 40x CD-ROM, 2 Mb video card, sound blaster sound card, 56k flex modem, & 15" monitor. \$300 or BO.
- 2) 233 Mhz Pentium Celeron, 32 Mb SDRAM, 4.3 GB hard drive, 32x CD-ROM, 2 Mb video card, yamaha sound card, 56k flex modem, & 15" monitor. \$350 or BO.

E-mail Frank at fpw1@cornell.edu, or call x2406.

APARTMENT WANTED - 1 bedroom, furnished for female Italian scientist. June 29 - October 6, 2000. Non-smoker. Within walking distance of Station preferred, but may purchase car upon arrival. Second choice is a room with privileges. Contact Dona Soper (dns1) at 2234.

FOR SALE: 1986 Nissan 300ZX, 2 door, steel blue, standard 5 speed, sun roof, several more options, 120K miles, still runs like new! Asking \$3,000. Contact George at x2374 or gsa1@nysaes.cornell.edu.

FOR RENT: Large, 3 bedroom apartment above The Yarn Shop on Exchange St. in Geneva. \$500 includes all utilities and trash removal. Contact Nancy Long at x2288 or by e-mail at npl1@cornell.edu.

FOR SALE: Computer desk with paper shelves, pull-out for printer, keyboard tray, file drawer. Almost new condition. \$100 firm. Contact: Judy at 2273, 315-946-4953 or jla2

WANTED TO RENT: One bedroom furnished apartment for male graduate student. Needed August 20, 2000 for one year. Close proximity to NYSAES. Contact Sami El-Rakshy, sme22@cornell.edu

FOR SALE: Dog cage for large dog, like new. \$20. Call Dave x2496.

FOR SALE: 1990 Plymouth Acclaim, good condition, 3.0L V6, new trans & radiator. \$1500/BO. E-mail Pat at pgw2 or call x2221 before 2:30, 331-3941 evenings.

WANTED TO RENT: Post-Doc and PhD Student need a house to rent near the Station. Dawn and Torey will be moving here in July and anticipate living in Geneva or the surrounding area for 2 or 3 years. They have 2 large dogs and are looking for a nice, quiet home to rent. If you have any ideas, please call 607-539-3293.

FOR SALE: Jet Ski, '97 Yamaha Waverunner GP760, new in '98, excellent condition, with trailer and cover. \$4900 or best offer. Days: 315-787-2220 or evenings, 315-781-1217.

FOR SALE: 1991 Volkswagen Jetta; 5 speed, 4 door, white exterior, grey interior, A/C, radio with cassette deck, 130K miles, free snow tires, good condition, some rust. \$2500/or best offer. Contact Frank at x2406 or fpw1@cornell.edu.

**BUFFALO BILLS VS. NEW YORK JETS
OCTOBER 29, 2000**

Attention Football Fans!

CRC has tickets to see the Buffalo Bills play the New York Jets on Sunday, October 29. Seats fill up quickly on this trip, call now to reserve your space. The price will be determined soon. A bus will pick up the Geneva fans at the Liberty Plaza. Contact the CRC Desk, 130 Day Hall or call 255-7565.