

VOLUME LXXXIII • NO. 28
JULY 12 - 19, 2002

BRIEFS

Organic Crops and Soils Field Day

Visit the farms of Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens and their neighbors in Penn Yan, NY, on Wednesday, August 14, 2002, from 9:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. for a field day at one of the Northeast's largest organic cash grain farms. The Martens grow 1,300 acres of organic grain along with processing vegetables on the western slope of Seneca Lake near Penn Yan, NY. They and their neighbors share expertise to grow nearly 8,000 acres of certified organic grain in Yates County. The Martens also started a value-added feed mill and seed cleaning business to process local organically-grown crops and increase markets.

The group will meet at the Yates County Fairgrounds, on Old Rt. 14A just south of the village of Penn Yan, at 9:30. The morning program will include an overview of organic farming in New York State and a tradeshow featuring organizations that support organic agriculture (processors, supplies, certification organizations and Cornell programs). After lunch (BYO or purchase on site), tour buses will take participants to field stops at the Martens' and their neighbors' farms. There will be a \$15 fee for the field day and pre-registration is required. Call Maxine Welcome at 607-255-5439 to pre-register.

The field day is hosted by the Northeast Organic Network (NEON), New York Certified Organic (NYCO), and The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY) and co-sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Cornell Enology Group Honored

The American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV) recognizes the outstanding research published annually in their Journal—selecting two of the best papers submitted within the fields of winemaking and grape growing. The papers, published in the quarterly edition of the *American Journal of Enology and Viticulture (AJEV)*, are reviewed by the Best Paper Committee who select those works that have helped to further the enology and viticulture industries.

Dr. Thomas Henick-Kling and Dr. Christoph Egli of Cornell University won the 2001 Best Paper Award in Enology for their "Identification of *Brettanomyces/Dekkera* Species Based on Polymorphism in the rRNA Internal Transcribed Spacer Region."

"I think our classification and identification of *Brettanomyces* was recognized because more and more vintners and wineries are feeling the effect of this organism, and in order to combat it effectively, you need

(BRIEFS, Continued on page 2)

Gonsalves to Receive Alexander von Humboldt Award

A research team nominated by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University has been selected to receive the prestigious 2001 Alexander von Humboldt Award for Agriculture. The team, led by former Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of plant pathology, Dennis Gonsalves, is being honored for its work on virus-resistant papaya varieties that were released in 1998 and saved the Hawaiian papaya industry from devastation by the papaya ringspot. Other team members include horticulturist Richard Manshardt of the University of Hawaii, Honolulu-based USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) plant physiologist Maureen Fitch, and Pharmacia-Upjohn Co. scientist Jerry Slightom.



Dennis Gonsalves examines one of the transgenic papaya plants grown in Experiment Station greenhouses as part of the research program that helped save the Hawaiian papaya industry.

Representatives of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation will present the award during a ceremony to be held at the Experiment Station, on November 4, 2002.

"On behalf of the research team, we are grateful to Tom Burr, Jim Hunter, and Susan Henry of Cornell for nominating us for this award," said Gonsalves. "It is somewhat unique that a group of scientists from different institutions and different expertise worked together early on to use a very new technology to develop and implement a timely solution for a severe agriculture problem in Hawaii. We are grateful to our institutions for allowing us the opportunity to pursue our dream of controlling the papaya ringspot virus. Personally, the 25 years that I spent at Cornell will always be the highlight of my research career. I hope to use the technical and people skills that I learned at Cornell in my new job at ARS in Hawaii."

Gonsalves recently left Cornell to become the director of the USDA-ARS Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center in Hilo, Hawaii, after spending 25 years with the NYS Agricultural Experiment Station. The award-winning papaya project was the culmination of over 20 years of research work done by Gonsalves in his Cornell lab.

Named in honor of the 19th-century German naturalist and geographer, the Alexander von Humboldt Award is presented annually to the person or team judged to have made the most significant contribution to American agriculture during the previous five years. The team will receive a \$15,000 award, medallion, and certificate. In addition, the foundation has awarded Cornell a \$5,000 Alfred Toepfer scholarship for agricultural studies in Germany.

Gonsalves and his team were instrumental in characterizing the papaya ringspot virus in the early 1980s and doing research to identify effective ways to control the disease. They used recombinant DNA techniques to isolate and clone a gene in the papaya virus that encodes for production of the coat protein of the virus. The gene was "shot" into cells of the papaya plant using a special gene gun developed at Cornell. Expression of the gene in the resulting papaya line renders the plants resistant to the virus, thus producing more fruit of higher quality. Two improved varieties were subsequently released in 1998 and gave the \$45M Hawaiian papaya industry a second chance.

"The efforts of the team clearly portray the potential benefits of biotechnology in agriculture and have led to further scientific discoveries that will impact the development of disease resistance in other valuable crops throughout the world. The course they followed through the development, testing and commercialization processes has received national and international recognition. Their work certainly represents one of the great success stories in American agriculture," said Susan A. Henry, the Ronald P. Lynch Dean of CALS.

Previous recipients of the Alexander von Humboldt Award in Agriculture at Geneva include Wendell Roelofs, Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of insect biochemistry and chairman of the entomology department.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

JULY 12 - 19, 2002

LTC

Open Lab

Date: July 17, 2002
Time: 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Place: LTC
Title: Flex Tutorials
Facilitator: Jane Irwin

FITNESS

Aerobics

Date: Monday and Friday
Time: 12:10 - 1:00 PM
Place: Sawdust Cafe

Taekwondo Class

Date: Monday, July 15, 2002
Time: 12:10 - 1:00 PM
Place: Jordan Hall Auditorium

Taekardio Class

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2002
Time: 12:10 PM
Place: Jordan Hall Auditorium

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Men's golf clubs, Wilson 1200 LT, metal woods plus extra oversize driver, complete irons, Arnold Palmer bag, used twice. \$120.00 firm. Email mlh5 or call 787-2423.

FREE: Have you been looking for baby food jar for arts, crafts or to store small objects? If so, Rye eats a lot and we would be happy to save the jars and lids for you. Please contact Betsy at eab38@cornell.edu if you are interested.

CAR FOR SALE: A 1993 Ford Thunderbird in good condition with 126,000 miles. Light blue. Replaced engine at 110,000 miles. Asking \$2,800. Selling car because moving new baby in/out of a two-door car is no fun. If you have any questions or are interested please email Betsy at eab38@cornell.edu

CAR FOR SALE: 1994 Plymouth Voyager Minivan, 3.0L V6, 10,7K, 7 Passenger, red, no rust, automatic, dual air bags, cruise control, new transmission (remaining 1 year warranty), new radiator, new A/C belt, new thermostat, new rear brakes. Asking price \$2000/bo. Contact Kyung Man You at kmy4@cornell.edu or call 787-2344.

CAR FOR SALE: 1993 Ford mercury topaz, 13,0K, 4Cyl., red, automatic, A/C, air bag, minor collision damage, runs well, \$400/bo. Contact Kyung Man You at kmy4@cornell.edu or call 787-2344.

CAR FOR SALE: 1971 SkyLark travel trailer (15'x 71/2'). Good condition. \$500. Contact Jeanne at jrs6 or 789-8763 after 5:30.

FOR SALE: Minifish sailboat, \$200. Reclining chair, \$15. Portable lacrosse goal, \$10. Men's Raleigh 10 speed bike, \$15. Men's Univega 10 speed bike, \$15. Scotts 1000 seeder, \$10. ams5@cornell.edu or call 7889 2310 (home).

FURNITURE FOR SALE: Full size futon and mattress, metal frame, \$125; twin mattress, box spring and frame (\$60). Please contact Kawal at 2622 or kst23.

Fruit Field Day, August 1

Visit six fruit farms in and around Albion, NY, in Ontario County, on Thursday, August 1, from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. for an instructive Fruit Field Day, sponsored by the Lake Ontario Fruit Program, Cornell University, and the New York State Horticultural Society.

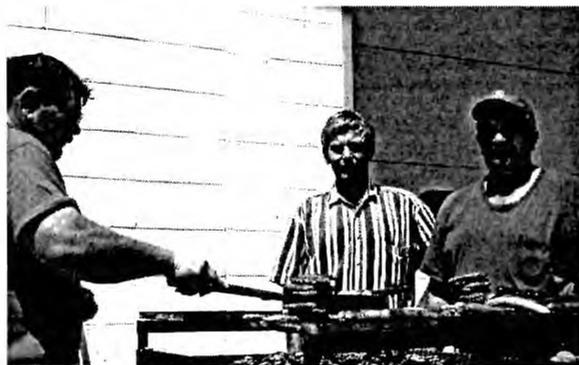
Researchers and fruit extension educators will cover a variety of topics including: new rootstocks, how to produce big Gala apples, the results of thinning trials using new thinners, preventing russet on apples, planting systems for apples and peaches, new insecticides currently labeled, mating disruption strategies for peach pests, on-farm propagation of trees, new variety reviews, storage tips and more. Equipment will be demonstrated on-farm, at several of the orchards, and during the lunch stop at Lake Ridge Storage, from noon-2:00. Several nurseries, chemical companies, and distributors will also have exhibits.

During lunch, Experiment Station stone fruit breeder Bob Andersen will release two new sweet cherries from the Cornell stone fruit breeding program: BlackGold™ and WhiteGold®.

Organizers for this year's Fruit Field Day includes Terence Robinson, Steve Hoying, Debbie Breth, George Lamont, Peck Babcock, Jeff Alicandro, Randy Paddock, and Jim Misiti. Last year's Fruit Field Day was held at the Cornell Orchards in Ithaca. Two years ago, it was held at the Experiment Station in Geneva.

Pre-register by July 25, by contacting Kim Hazel at 585-589-5561 or Mary Durham at 315-331-8415. Lunch will be provided. NYS DEC Recertification credits will be available. Bring your applicator ID card.

Independence Day Cookout



Each year—for the past eight years—Joe Shail has hosted a 4th of July cookout at the Station. The motivation for the annual event, according to Joe, “is simply to pause and reflect as we celebrate America’s birthday, and what better time than now.” Mark Scott and the farm crew secured a flag pole in time for the holiday and John Ludwig donated the flowers for around the base. “It’s a fun

time,” Joe said, “People help as they can, food shows up, Lee and Steve do their thing, and the tradition continues.” Joe is pictured here, center, at the grill with chefs Lee Hibbard, left, and Steve Gordner on the right. More than 50 showed up for this year’s barbecue at the Field Research Unit area out at the Veg Crops farm.

(BRIEFS, continued)

to first know what you’re dealing with,” said Henick-Kling.

Honored authors of the Best Paper nominations receive complimentary registration to the ASEV Annual Meeting and an invitation to the Board of Director’s reception and dinner, June 25, to receive an engraved plaque and a \$1,000 award for their achievement.

Henick-Kling was also awarded an honorary membership in the International Association for Enology, Management and Wine Marketing for his work in the Association promoting education and international collaboration. Their goal is to present to the wine industry the newest scientific findings in enology. He received the award at the Association’s 13th triennial International Enology Symposium, held this June in Montpellier, France.

Of the dual recognition for the Enology Group, Henick-Kling said, “I thank the members of my group who have contributed through their work as technicians, students and visitors, my colleagues within and out-

side Cornell who have collaborated with us on various projects, and members of the New York wine industry for their support over the years.”

**RED CROSS
 BLOOD
 DRIVE**

**Monday, August 12
 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM**

Jordan Hall