

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY

## STATION NEWS

GENEVA  
NEW • YORK

VOLUME LXXVIII • NO. 22

JUNE 6-13, 1997

## BRIEFS

## POTATO GROWERS ADVISORY

Several omissions have been made in the Cornell Cooperative Extension publication, "1997 Pest Management Recommendations for Commercial Vegetable and Potato Production," that impact potato growers. The omissions involve: 1) recommendations for the treatment of late blight in potatoes; and 2) foliar application and soil fumigation practices for potatoes.

On page 127, Table 40 should include the disease "Late Blight (*Phytophthora*), as well as Early Blight (*Alternaria*)." The two sections on General Foliar Disease Control and Soil Fumigation are missing and should read the same as was printed in the "1996 Recommendations."

A mailing about these omissions is being sent to Cornell Cooperative Extension and the 500 members of the Empire State Potato Club. Growers should refer questions to their local extension agents.

## KEEP THESE DATES!

Plan on volunteering at the Experiment Station's tent at the 1997 Whale Watch. This will be the third year of various tastings, bubbles, and exhibits. The dates are August 22-24, Friday, 5-11 pm; Saturday, 11-11 pm; and Sunday, 12-5 pm. The Station's tent will not be open all those hours, but we could use your help for 2-hour shifts Friday 5-8; Saturday 11-6 or Sunday 12-5. More details will follow in future issues of *Station News*.

## WPS TRAINING SCHEDULED

The following dates have been scheduled for Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training.

June 13, 10:30 am-Noon, Staff Room, Jordan Hall

June 27, 10:30 am-Noon, Staff Room, Jordan Hall

July 11, 10:30 am-Noon, Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Anyone who will or may come in contact with pesticides or pesticide residues applied in the field or greenhouse should be trained under this Act. Training consists of viewing a video that has been prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency plus a lecture presented by Mart VanKirk, Field Research Unit, and Pat Krauss, Administration. An individual needs to be trained once every five years. A card is given to each employee who completes training that they may carry with them in their wallet or purse.

(Continued next column)

## NYS VEGETABLE GROWERS FUND \$8,000 IN PROJECTS WITH NEW RESEARCH FUND

The New York State Vegetable Growers Association (NYSVGA) has announced the list of 1997 summer research projects that are being awarded grants from the association's new Fresh Market Vegetable Research Fund.

"This project has taken a long time to get off the ground and we are very excited to have awarded our first year of grants," said Jean Warholic, Executive Secretary for the NYSVGA.

The Fund, started in early 1996, is supported by voluntary contributions from growers. It is designed to support research on vegetable crops that growers have targeted that are not supported by other funding sources, such as the processing commodity organizations or research/marketing orders.

Monies allotted to 1997 research projects totaled \$8,000. Nine proposals were received with a total request of \$16,220. Seven proposals were funded in whole or in part. They are.

- Dr. George Abawi, Dept. of Plant Pathology, NYSAES: "Forking and Secondary Rooting of Carrots and Their Management," with an emphasis on *Pythium spp.* and soil compaction research.

- Janet Knodel, IPM Program: "Pheromone Trapping Systems: Refinement of Protocols for Monitoring European Corn Borer in Sweet Corn & Development of an Effective Pheromone Trapping System for Peppers."

- Dr. Anusuya Rangarajan, Michael Orfanedes, Cornell University and CCE: "Enhancing Earliness of Pepper and Summer Squash with Row Covers and Water Tubes."

- Dr. Robin Bellinder, Dept. of Fruit & Veg. Science, Cornell University: "Evaluation of Preplant-incorporated, Pre-emergence, and Post-emergence Applications of Prowl (Pendamethalin) Herbicide in Cabbage."

- John Mishanec, CCE/Albany County: "Funding for Replacement of Sweet Corn Insect Traps in Eastern New York."

- Dr. Richard Robinson, Dept. of Horticultural Sciences, NYSAES, for two projects: "Breeding Tomatoes for Disease Resistance," with an emphasis on bacterial speck in fresh market tomato varieties, and for "Breeding Virus and Insect Resistant Squash and Pumpkins for Improving Fruit Set" with an emphasis on disease and insect resistance in cucurbits.

Researchers will present their research results at the NYS Vegetable Conference in February and provide research summaries for the NYS Vegetable Growers Association newsletter.

"We will solicit funding projects for the next round of projects for the 1998 growing season in the fall of '97" said Warholic, noting that the committee is looking to award grants to projects from the public as well as the private sector. She expects the growers to contribute another \$8000 for projects for 1998. She said the funding committee is especially appreciative of the generous contributions of certain members.

## STATION DEFENDS CORPORATE CUP

This Saturday, June 7, the Station Club is sponsoring a 10-person team in the Corporate Challenge at the YMCA in Geneva. The Experiment Station team is the defending champion from the 1996 First Annual Challenge event.

If you would like to join in the fun, then put on your Experiment Station T-shirt (or anything else) and come and cheer on the team. At ca. 9:15 a.m., the swimming events will start with a 200 meter relay event and then an inner tube relay race. Participants from the Experiment Station will be Rosa Corral, Carmen Fagoaga, Dave Wieman, Dave Felicetti, and Alan Lakso. Then Dave Wieman and Karen Hokanson will race "around the block" in an all-out sprint for men and women, while the volleyball team of Pat Wallace, Jennifer Grant, Alan Lakso, and John Thibault will strive to continue our domination in this event from last year. After this, the team will participate in various events, such as a big game of Twister, a Jell-O slurping contest (Bill Arehart and John Thibault), an obstacle course of various things like 3-legged race, etc., a 6-person/team tug-of-war, and finally a team Cheer about the Experiment Station. It should end around 1 PM.

This year there are 5 teams, including a strong team from the YMCA, a team from the Savings Bank of Geneva, and 2 teams from Pucker Hamilton.

## COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES HAS SUMMER INTERN

Liz Spittler, a senior who has just graduated from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, will be interning with Communications Services this summer. Her concentration is writing and editing, so you may see her on the Experiment Station "beat," filing stories for *Station News*, and performing other media relations work. She will also be doing html mark-up for the Station's WWW site, and spending time in the Photo Lab at Barton, working on electronic imaging. Liz is the daughter of Terry Spittler, Senior Research Associate in FST.



## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

JUNE 6-13, 1997

## EVENTS • MEETINGS

**Monday, June 9, 11:00 am**

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

1997 Retirement Incentive Program

**Tuesday, June 10, 9:00 am**

Auditorium, Jordan Hall

Department Chairs' Retreat

**Wednesday, June 11, 3:00 pm**

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Chairs' and Unit Leaders' Meeting

**Friday, June 13, 10:30 am**

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Worker Protection Standard Training (see related story)

## SEMINAR

## FOOD SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

**Date:** Thursday, June 12**Time:** 11:00 am**Place:** FST Conference Room**Speaker:** Mary Ellen Burris

Wegmans

**Topic:** Consumer Trend

## CLASSIFIEDS

**ROOM NEEDED:** Seeking room to rent for 7 months. Contact Laura Benson at x421**PIANO AVAILABLE FOR LOAN:** Looking for someone to use a large good upright piano free for a few years until owner has permanently settled and has room for it. Contact Wendell at x321.**ROOM NEEDED:** Graduate student seeks furnished room for the months of June through mid-August in Geneva. Contact Muhmmet Tonguc at x245 or mt59@cornell.edu.**MOVING SALE:** 19" Samsung VCR-TV, \$300; double mattress and box spring, \$100; humidifier and toaster oven, \$10 each; end table, \$5; brass floor lamp, \$100; lots of kitchen wares. Call Myoyong Lee at 789-2476 or e-mail at MYL5@cornell.edu.**PENPALS WANTED:** Two girls, ages 9 and 12, who live in Japan want American penpals (girls) of similar age. Please call Kenji at x224 or e-mail ks64@cornell.edu. Or you can directly contact their father, Dr. Ban, at e-mail kys00161@niftyserve.or.jp.CORNELL RECREATION  
COMMUNITY PICNIC

Cornell Recreation Community will be holding their annual picnic on Saturday, June 14. This year's festival will be an all-day event including a pancake breakfast, games, auction, craft fair, barbecue, and dancing to the music of The Bernie Milton Experience.

Geneva employees are members of the CRC, so take advantage of the events they sponsor.

Posters will soon be placed in your departments/units so you can obtain further details, or you can contact Janet Beebe in the CRC office (jmb26@cornell.edu).

Ticket prices are as follows:

- \$8.00 FOR ALL EVENTS . . . or
- \$5.00 for pancake breakfast (children under 5 eat free) served from 7:00-10:00 am
- \$3.00 for BBQ (children under 5 eat free)
  - Hots, hamburgers, hot sausage served from 11:00 am-2:00 pm
  - Chicken BBQ served from 3:00-5:00 pm
  - Adults 21 and over will receive one free beer ticket
- PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS AND YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS.
- \$2.00 for a dance ticket

Shuttle buses will run all day from Cornell's "O" lot by the Vet. School and Caldwell Road. The CRC Park is on Monkey Run Road.

## MARX'S PEAS LEAVE GENEVA

An era in Station history came to a close on Monday, June 2, with the shipment of the bulk of Gerald Marx's pea seed stocks to Pullman, Washington.

On May 29, Dr. Fred Muehlbauer, a pea breeder for the USDA, arrived at the Plant Genetic Resources Unit to package and ship these seeds to his facility in Pullman. After coordination with Dr. Norm Weeden who had been assigned responsibility for the seeds while they were in Geneva, John Oughterson of the PGRU and Dr. Muehlbauer spent two very long days sorting and packing nearly 70,000 packets of peas.

For those who knew him, Dr. Gerald Marx was a pea geneticist *par excellence*. His enthusiasm for studying, crossing and breeding peas was boundless. Interesting pea mutants filled his greenhouse, his office walls were covered with photographs of pea flowers, pea pods and pea chromosomes, and, of course, his dog was named Mendel. During his 30 years of work at the Geneva Experiment Station, he amassed quite a collection of pea lines and breeding populations so that at the time of his death in 1988, he had over 70,000 packets of pea seeds in storage.

Marx was renowned as a breeder, not only of peas, but also of other vegetables. To quote Volume 21 of *The Pisum Newsletter*: "He made significant breeding improvements for tomatoes, winter squash, carrots, and beets. However, he was best known for his work with garden peas. In 1969, he was instrumental in founding the Pisum Genetics Association, with the aim of fostering genetic research of the pea, facilitating exchange of information, and ensuring the preservation of valuable genetic stocks. He developed at Geneva an immense and highly valuable dynamic collection of thoroughly documented genetic stocks of peas. He shared this valuable germplasm with researchers from all over the world and will long be remembered for his generous encouragement of students and other scientists interested in investigating the nature of gene action."

After Marx's death, his pea collection was stored by USDA-ARS in storage facilities at the Geneva PGRU, and until 1990, the PGRU continued to regenerate and gather data on portions of the collection. In 1991, the USDA relocated to Pullman the USDA *Pisum* collection as well as a selected set of Marx's lines known as the Marx Genetic Stock Collection. However, the bulk of Marx's seed stocks stayed behind. When the storage facilities used for the peas needed to be renovated, Muehlbauer volunteered to take over responsibility of storage and handling of the seeds.

In keeping with Dr. Marx's tradition of generosity, these seeds are available to anyone upon request through Dr. Muehlbauer.

BIKE WEEK  
'97 A SUCCESS

Over 50 Station employees and students traded in their car keys for walking sneakers and bicycle helmets last week to make Bike Week '97 a success. Plant Pathology won the inter-departmental competition with 31 commuters, beating out last year's leaders, Entomology and Horticultural Sciences.

In addition to personal satisfaction in improving their health and saving the environ-

ment, bicyclists and walkers were treated to food and prizes. Each morning a different department hosted a breakfast of juices, fruits, breads and sweets, including Sheri Day's homemade granola bars and cinnamon rolls. Daily drawings awarded lucky participants with Station T-shirts, grocery gift certificates and bicycling paraphernalia.

Though the overall turn-out was a little less than last year's, which Jennifer Grant attributes to this chilly spring season and Memorial Day vacation, the station still stands a chance to win the Genesee Transportation Council's "Roll & Stroll Challenge." This competition awards those businesses in Monroe and Ontario Counties that have the highest participation levels during Bike Week.

Congratulations to all the Bike Week participants and many thanks to its sponsors: Station club, the Geneva Bicycle Center, Wegmans and Tops; and also to the representatives from each department.



## STATION SOFTBALL

## Last week's results:

Thursday, May 29  
Tuesday, June 3

Serv Staff def. PGRU  
Serv Staff def. FSPE

## This week's schedule:

Tuesday, June 10 Serv Staff vs. HS/X-tras  
Thursday, June 12 FSPE vs. PGRU