

AGRIVIEW

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Vermont's Pollinators: More Than Just Honey Bees

By Stephen G. Parise, VAAFM
Agricultural Production Specialist

Many in Vermont are aware of the pollination value that honey bees provide to both cultivated and wild plants. However, there are a great number of other pollinators that provide the same pollination function as honey bees, and are frequently better at it. More than 85% of flowering plants require an animal, mostly insects, to move pollen. Of insects, this would include butterflies, moths, bees, flies, wasps, and beetles. Pollinators provide an ecosystem service that enables plants to produce fruits and seeds. It is estimated that about 35% of crop production worldwide, at a value of \$18 to \$27 billion, is attributed to pollinators, or about one in three mouthfuls of food and drink we consume daily.

Most crop pollination is done by the European honey bee. With the advent of large,



Some of the unsung heroes of our gardens: Left – Squash Bee, *Peponapis pruinosa*; Right – Blue Orchard Bee (also sometimes called the Blue Orchard Mason Bee), *Osmia lignaria*.

in adult bee population, over the course of a few weeks, or days. Often, the queen bee and only a few hundred of the many thousands of worker bees are left in the colony, but the stored food reserves of honey and pollen remain. To date, no single cause has been attributed to CCD. Rather, it is thought to be a complex interaction between parasitic mites, diseases, nutrition, exposure to sub-lethal doses of agrichemicals, genetics, stresses due to migratory beekeeping and the general management practices of migratory beekeeping.

For many growers, native bees can be an insurance policy against continued honey bee losses. There are approximately 4000 species of native bees in North America, with about 350 species in Vermont. Compared

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commercial farming practices over the last several decades, the need for a reliable, easily moved and economical pollinator has increased. Vast tracts of land planted in a single crop such as almonds, require a tremendous number of pollinators in order to set a crop. It is estimated that about one half of all the managed bee hives in the U.S. are in California during the almond bloom in February. However, over the last 50 years or so, the number of managed hives has declined in the U.S.

by about 50% as the number of acres of crops needing pollination has doubled. Globally, from 1961 – 2006, the number of acres of cropland requiring bee pollination has tripled. There has also been a decline of 70 – 99% of the feral honey bee colonies that previously had provided a significant portion of the pollination needed.

This large decline has been a direct result of two parasitic mites affecting managed and feral honey bees in the U.S. and worldwide.

In recent years, a further, dramatic decline in managed bee colonies has been attributed to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This syndrome is characterized by a sudden reduction

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AGRIVIEW

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THE VIEW FROM 116 STATE STREET

Agricultural Safety & Health...A Family Affair

National Farm Safety & Health Week, September 16-22, 2012

By Anne Macmillan
VAAFMT Toxicologist

National Farm Safety and Health Week commemorates the hard work, diligence, and sacrifices of our nation's farmers. The 2012 event marks the annual signing of this proclamation by a U.S. President, beginning with President Franklin Roosevelt in 1944. This is a time for farm families to think about how you can make safety a priority on your farm. National Safety Council (NSC) statistics show that agriculture is still the most hazardous industry in the country in terms of work-related fatality rates. Agriculture had the highest fatality rate at 26.9 deaths per 100,000 workers, which is significantly higher than the work-related fatality rate for all U.S. industries of 3.0 deaths per 100,000 workers in 2010 (NSC 2011). The agricultural fatality rate increased 2% from 2009 (NSC 2011).

There are many unique aspects about agriculture that have led to these alarming statistics. Farm families and workers are exposed to a host of mechanical, chemical and environmental hazards every day that increase the risk of work-place injury or death.



Farm Machinery: Large, heavy machinery is used on just about every type of farm. In fact about half of the fatalities that occur to farmers are tractor-related incidents, with tractor rollovers being the single most common type of tractor fatality. Other common types of tractor incidents include runovers and Power-Take-Off (PTO) entanglements. All other types of farm machinery usually account for another 25% of farm work fatalities.

Elderly Farmers: Another unique aspect of agriculture is that many older farmers don't retire. These older farmers generally continue to work for as long as they are physically able. In fact, the average age of US farmers is close to 60 years of age now. While their strong work ethic is commendable, older farmers also experience high injury rates. Older farmers may have to take medications, work with physical disabilities, have poorer eyesight, and slower reflexes. All of these factors contribute to older farmers having a higher risk for work-related injuries.

Children: There is no other industry where families live right in the middle of a busy, 24-7 workplace, but that has been the norm for agriculture. Also, there is no other industry where children as young as 10 or even younger are performing work with large equipment, around large animals, or in dangerous environments. There has been some improvement in this area. During the period of 1998-2009, the rate of youth injuries has fallen 59 percent, from 16.6 to 6.8 per 1,000 farms (includes all children who live

on, visit, or are hired to work on farms). Injury rates calculated for just youth who live on farms also showed a significant decline, from 18.8 to 9.9 per 1,000 farms, or 47.3 percent, according to a scientific survey conducted by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

Lack of ROPS Equipped Tractors: A majority of the work-related deaths that occur to farmers are from tractor rollovers. ROPS (Rollover Protective Structures) protect the tractor operator

in the event of a tractor rollover. All tractors manufactured after 1985 come equipped with a ROPS and seatbelts. Unfortunately, current research has found that approximately 40% of the tractors in the US are not equipped with ROPS. ROPS are 99% effective if the operator wears the seatbelt. Hundreds of lives could be saved each year if farmers had ROPS equipped tractors and wore the seatbelts when operating them. The Vermont Rebates for Roll Bars program has installed over 100 roll bars on tractors in Vermont since the program launched in September, 2010. The Vermont Rebates for Roll Bars Program provides an informational hot line (1-877-767-7748) where tractor owners can find out where to a get roll bar for their tractor

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NEWS AND NOTICES

Vermont's Dairy of Distinction Farms Recognized at Champlain Valley Exposition

By Louise Waterman
Agriculture Resource Management
Specialist

One hundred and sixty-two dairy farms were recognized as "Dairies of Distinction" at the annual luncheon hosted at the Champlain Valley Exposition. The Vermont Dairy of Distinction Program was developed to recognize farms which maintain a well-kept farmstead. Attractive dairies give the consumer greater confidence in the wholesomeness of milk, stimulates milk sales, and encourages support for the dairy industry.

Dairy of Distinction judges look at the cleanliness, physical condition, and uniform appearance of buildings; neat and appropriate landscaping; well graded roads and lanes; fences in good repair; neat ditches that are free of debris; cleanliness of animals; neat barnyards; clean roads free of mud and manure; manure storage facilities out of view; farm machinery that is parked in an orderly fashion; no apparent pollution of streams; clean feed areas; and all unnecessary machinery stored out of sight.

Two farms were recognized as 2012 Dairy of Distinctions.

They are:

Nor-Dic Farm, Inc.
Richard and Linda Thurber
Panton, VT
Addison County

Westminster Farms
Clayton Goodell
Westminster, VT
Windham, County

Farms earning the Dairy of Distinction award receive a sign to display at their farmstead, an invitation to the luncheon at the Champlain Valley Exposition, and tickets to attend the fair. The Dairy of Distinction program is funded by the Vermont Dairy Promotion Council and administered by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. Volunteers are recruited to judge farms on an annual basis.

For a complete listing of Vermont's Dairies of Distinction, please visit www.vermontdairy.com. For more information, please contact Louise Waterman, Vermont Agency of Agriculture at Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us or (802) 828-6900.



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OUTREACH PROFESSIONAL SENIOR

The UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture invites applications for our new Farming and Climate Change Coordinator position (posting #005436; Outreach Professional Senior). The Coordinator will provide leadership for the Center's new Climate Change program by developing, implementing and evaluating programmatic efforts. This will require: 1) engaging in outreach and applied research with Vermont farmers to support their efforts to implement relevant practices (both adaptation and mitigation) related to climate change, with a particular emphasis on farming in the floodplains; and 2) working in collaboration with other agencies, organizations, and UVM departments. Demonstrated skills in program development and design, program implementation and evaluation, collaboration, applied research, and leadership desired. Requires excellent written and oral communication skills, networking skills, ability to travel in the region, experience working with all types of farms including fruit, vegetable, livestock and crop farms, in-depth knowledge of sustainable agriculture issues relevant to small diversified farms, and ability to work and understand the multi-faceted nature of farming from economic, social and environmental perspectives. Desirable candidates will have a minimum of Master's degree in Plant and Soil Sciences, Agroecology, Community Development and Applied Economics, Horticulture, Natural Resources, environmental sciences or related field and 3-5 years of relevant experience. Must be familiar with climate change issues affecting Northeast farming systems. Should be aware of other programmatic efforts to reach farmers in the state.

Applications from women and people of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged. To apply, submit a resume, cover letter outlining interest and relevant experiences, and the names and contact information for three references through the web site www.uvmjobs.com, refer to posting #0040584. Applications due by October 5, 2012. For more information contact sustainable.agriculture@uvm.edu.

The University of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Applications from women, veterans and people from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged.

MARKETPLACE

Advertising in Agriview

Classified Ads: *Free to subscribers only*, limited to two ads per issue, ads will run for two issues. **Must include subscriber number with ad request** (number appears at the top of the mailing label)

Deadline For Ads: 10 days prior to the publication date.

Display Ads: Information available upon request

Classified advertisements must be sent:

- *By mail:* (see address on page 2)
- *By e-mail:* (to Agr-agriview@state.vt.us)
- *By fax:* (802) 828-2361
- *Online at:* <http://www.vermontagriculture.com/Agriview/agriviewclassified.html>

• **We do not accept ads over the phone.**

Only items of an agricultural nature will be listed. The only real estate which will be listed are tracts of Vermont land two to five acres or more which are being used or can be used for agricultural purposes. All Feed, Hay and Forage ads must have county, town, and phone number, **and must be renewed each month.**

The Secretary reserves the right to make a final decision on the eligibility of items listed. The editor reserves the right to censor and edit ads. **The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets assumes no responsibility for transactions resulting through advertising in Agriview. Advertisers are cautioned that it is against the law to misrepresent any product or service offered in a public notice or an advertisement carried in any publication delivered by the U.S. Mail.**

Bees & Honey

3-frame sealed brood nuclei with 2012 NW Carniolan queen: \$140, NW Carniolan queen clipped and marked: \$28, shipped: \$33, 5 gallon my honey: \$180 (\$175 w/ clean/dry pail return), qt. \$18, pt. \$11, propolis 2 oz. tincture \$16, fresh frozen pollen \$28 qt., lindenap@gmail.com, Linden Apiaries, 603-756-9056, ALSTEAD.

HONEY - New 2012 crop of liquid honey, raw honey, honey combs now available. Ways Ponderosa, 629 Route 7 South, Milton, VT 802-878-0232. (10/12)

Cattle

Wanted: dairy herds, heifers, beef cattle, bulls, steers, feeders, veal, sheep and goats, leave message at 413-441-3085. (9/28)

Certified Organic cows for sale 9 Jerseys, 6 reg. 3 reg. Ayshires, 1 Holstein/Jersey cross, call Florence at 802-483-2889. (9/28)

Bomber-black Jersey/Holstein 13 mos \$375; Rambler-black and white Jersey Holstein 13 mos \$375; Carrot-Black and white Holstein 16 mos \$500; Bailey-black and white Jersey/Holstein 18 mos \$500; Nia - black Jersey/Holstein 22 mos not bred only because she was too young when I ran the bull with the last group of heifers. \$600; Lisa - black Jersey/Holstein 9mos

\$325; Nicole-purebred Jersey 8 mos \$325; Durango-black Jersey(sired by Accelerated Genetics LOTTO)/Holstein 18 mos \$500; Prefer to sell sooner than later so...All prices are OBO. All heifers currently out to pasture(as in fence trained) all will lead with halter(some better than others!) all dehorned, rabies vacc May 2012, Serious inquiries only please contact 802-433-6232 or 802-477-2043. (9/28)

Three certified organic Holstein heifers. Due soon. 802-265-4496. (9/28)

18 month old bull. Holstein/Ashyire, black and white. Good markings, Large frame, 1100 lbs. Good temperament, nubbed horns. \$950.00 Cash only, Westford. 802-879-4269. (10/12)

Two open Black Angus heifers 3 years old. Generations of AI breeding, \$1.10/lb. Can deliver in towns adjoining Westford. 802-878-7405. (10/12)

Employment

Bob-White Systems, Inc. in Royalton Vermont is seeking a full time energetic sales associate for both inside and outside sales with cheese making skills and experience. Top notch organizational and communication skills are required. Call 802-763-2777 or email info@bobwhitesystems.com for details. (9/28)

Equipment

Gooseneck hitch, with ball, 2'x4' plate, ready to install, \$125.00; Delta pick up aluminum tool box, \$75; 20' hay elevator w/ motor, good condition \$850, trades or best offers always considered, contact 802-236-4917. (10/12)

For sale; 2 9x18 steel hay wagons \$1500 and \$1200, contact 802-282-3254. (9/28)

For Sale: New Holland 451 sickle bar mower, 7' bar, extra knife, very good condition \$1800, contact 802-685-3147 or marc.mckee@mountainschool.org. (9/28)

For Sale: Blacksmith Anvil, like new \$150.00, commercial butcher block 18"x24"x14" \$1500, contact 802-287-9421. (9/28)

1989 Ford TW-35 Series II, 170 hp, 4wd, cab w/ A/C, stereo, 16 speed dual power transmission 4700 hrs new 20.8x38 Firestone Deep tread 23 radial tires with bolt on axle duals tractor is clean and well maintained stored under cover and in excellent condition, \$26,500, contact 802-759-2480. (9/28)

Brillion seeder, 5ft, no covers; \$575; Farm loader fits 50-75 H.P. tractor \$975; Oliver 4 bottom plows, auto \$975; Hay elevator 32 ft, motor tube type \$1150; Spring tooth harrows, 10ft \$575; Gehl Hi-Throw blower - under cover \$2750; Gates 14ft \$95; Corral panels 12ft \$90; Seeder, 3pt, clean \$550; Ford 800 with half-tracks, clean \$5500; wood splitter, fits tractor hydraulics \$550; 1971 Ford 4500 bucket backhoe, best offer. Contact 802-483-2870. (9/28)

For Sale: Itn't 766- Black Stripe-Cab- 3100 hrs orig- Super nice! \$12,500.; Int'l 574-50 hp- gas, 3ph \$3800; Fransgard Winch V-5000, \$2300; Sitrex 17' tedder, \$2300; Kverland Round Bale Processor...\$2500. Full line of other farm equipment available! www.youngsmilkywayfarm.com 802-885-4000 (9/28)

JD Two row narrow corn head. New condition. S.N. #E00ORCX916742 \$3200 802-265-4496 (9/28)

Fabulous Farm Equipment for Sale: 2006 Kubota M6040 Tractor. Only 150+/- hours. 4WD, foldable ROPS, Ag tires. Includes canopy and LA1153S front loader with quick coupler, grill guard, as well as woods 74" HD bucket, and bush hog model 286-02 6' 3-point hitch rotary

cutter. \$26,000; 60" Taylor-Pittsburgh Tiller also available for \$1,200. Bought new in 2009 and used once. 1957+/- International Cub tractor also for sale. Inquiries: sovtfarm@gmail.com. (9/28)

Universal milk machine pump 5 horse Gould century motor w/ oil reclaimer and air tank, asking \$1,000 or best offer contact 802-293-5698 (9/28)

2 inch glass receiver jar asking \$500 or best offer contact 802-293-5698. (9/28)

20 ft John Deere tandem kicker wagon; 16 ft., 24 ft., hay elevator; 450 New Holland mower, like new; 8 ton Brock bin like new; 10 ton grain bin; 3 ton grain bin, call 802-895-4683. (10/12)

Dump rack & 2 hay loaders (need some wood work). Dari Kool Bulk tank 150 gallons, contact 802-223-5993. (10/12)

WANTED: Allis Chalmers D-17, contact 603-209-6683. (10/12)

JD, FB-B 8' Grain Drill; HD lift with grass seed box \$1200; Pittsburgh 3 PTH 1 row cultivator w/shields \$300; AC 3PTH 1 row cultivator \$250; Ford 3PTH 3 bottom plow trip 14" \$450; MF 3PTH 2 bottom 16" \$300; Jari Walk behind mower \$200; Husky 1256 lawn tractor \$500; Cub Cadet 104 mower deck hyd lift kit \$500. Contact 603-835-6816. (10/12)

Fork Lift with grapple made by Craig - quick release for J.D. 544 \$7500 OBO, Contact 603-543-3616. (10/12)

7 yard sawdust bucket made by Craig for quick hitch, \$7000, contact 603-543-3616. (10/12)

1968 Fiat Allis 545 loader \$5,000. 1988 Chevy diesel 8 yard dump truck, power gate, air brakes \$3,000. Eager Beaver 10 ton trailer needs work \$1,000. Contact 802-485-7757. (10/12)

Universal milk machine pump 5 horse Gould century motor w/ oil reclaimer and air tank, asking \$1,000 or best offer, contact 802-293-5698. (10/12)

MFTO 35 Diesel \$3,000; MF 35 Gas \$2500; MF 50 Gas \$2500; MF Ind 20 with loader \$4500; AC B with sliding saw rig all restored \$2000; Dear Dorn 3 PTH saw rig with PTO box \$200; AC 4 row no till corn planter new cond \$1200; INT 3PTH 2 row corn planter new fertilizer box many plates Clark

bog harrow \$200; pull behind \$500; Oliver trailing 2 bottom disk plow \$400; 16 & 18" dry firewood \$170 cord; 18" dry pine \$50 cord, 4" dry pine & hemlock \$30 cord. Contact 603-835-6816. (10/12)

Rear Cargo box for 3PH tractor, 4'x3'x18" professionally designed and built welded steel frame with pressure treated wood bed and sides, nearly new, very rugged \$400, contact 802-685-3321. (10/12)

Bale basket, by Forage King, self-unloading wagon for square bales \$2,400. MF 124 baler, used this season, runs well \$950. Newbury 802-584-3769. (10/12)

DeLaval model 84 Vacuum Pump - 10 horsepower single phase with 3" Oil Reclaimer, \$1750; 69 gallon stainless steel Receiver jar (26"x30") with 1hp Leeson milk pump and Sta-Rite liquid level controller - \$1700; Used Boumatic electric pulsators - 5 available - \$65/each; Rotary rakes- 10'- 13'...\$1800. & up; Krone #130 & MF #828 Round balers...\$4500. & \$4000; Manure sprdrs- 90-150 bu....\$1200.- \$2300; Henke chipper- hyd feed..\$1800. Full line of other farm equipment available! www.youngsmilkywayfarm.com or contact Ken at 802-885-4000. (10/12)

For Sale quick release post driver brand new never used that goes on a skid steer. Sells for \$5700 Make offer. For Sale round bales-could be used to grow mushrooms or grind up for bedding or whatever. Contact 518-585-7696 (10/12)

1942 9N Ford tractor with Dearborn loader. New brakes and axel seals. New head gasket and new tires. Tractor is in good shape. asking \$2095.00 Call 802-728-4152..evenings after 7pm. (10/12)

Farm And Farm Land

Trustee's Sale At AUCTION; 184± Acre "Bakie Farm" Kingston, New Hampshire. Sat., Sept. 15th at 10:00 a.m. This property will be very affordable for someone looking to have a working farm. Auction to include farm equipment, antique horse drawn items and furnishings, as well as, the real estate. For a property information package with terms and more information go to: www.paulmcinnis.com - Lic. #2089 - (603) 964-1301 - Ref. #12PM-44 Auction subject to all Terms of Sale. (9/28)

MARKETPLACE

Have tillable and pasture acreage with irrigation potential and barn. no chemicals have been used. lease or barter. Bennington County. Hidden Pond Farm on the Battenkill River. 802.375.6009 or fran.levine@gmail.com (10/12)

Farm for Sale in Fayston. 48.6 acres, barn, milkhouse, good ag soils, 3-bed home. Restricted by easement and option to purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks buyers who will farm commercially. \$175K. Contact Jon Ramsay at (802) 533-7705 or jramsay@vlt.org. www.vlt.org/bragg. (10/12)

WANTED: 5 year lease of 5 tillable acres with water source and within 30 miles of Montpelier. Buildings, electricity, equipment, and/or residence are valuable but nonessential. We farm organic vegetables, fruit and small livestock and will work with landowner on improvements to infrastructure. Contact Justin: justinpote@gmail.com (10/12)

Feed

2012 1st cut square bales dust free \$3.50 bale in barn, contact 802-748-2740. (9/28)

Hay for sale, 16 dry round bales, \$45 each. Can deliver to locations within reasonable distance. Call Moe 802-674-6929. (9/28)

2nd cut hay, \$3.50 a Bale. 1st cut, \$3.00 a Bale, Mulch Hay also available. 802-453-2543. (9/28)

2012 1st cut timothy and clover from fertile fields. \$4.50/bale plus delivery. 603-256-8422 (9/28)

NOFA-certified hay for sale. 4 x 4 round bales, both wrapped & dry. First and second cuts available. Pick up at the barn or delivery negotiable. Tamarack Farm, Cabot, VT 802-563-2107. (10/12)

70+ Acres standing river bottom corn. Whitehall, NY 518-499-0973 or 518-744-0963. (10/12)

Certified organic hay. 1st cut 4x4 dry round bales, Nice 2nd cut square bales 45-55 lbs. Call for more information - 802-525-1188. (10/12)

For sale: two 200 foot ag bags, Cliff Haven Farm, Newport Ctr, VT 802-334-2401. (10/12)

General

A-Maize-ign heat wood pellet and corn, hot air furnaces and boilers, (new) 80,000 to 165,000 BTU variable rate, suitable for

home, shop and greenhouse applications. Hot air furnaces, \$4500 each, Boilers \$5500 each. Power vents available. (I am using the furnaces in some of my greenhouses). Contact Bruce at 802-626-9545

Raised Garden Beds made with full 2" by 8" cedar, 4'x8' with 4 metal bows, \$99 without bows \$64, other sizes available, contact Bruce at 802-626-9545

Garlic for sale, German Extra Hardy. Minimum bulb size is 2 1/2". \$9.00/lb. Gorham Farm, West Rutland, VT. 802-438-2243. (9/28)

Dry sawdust delivered in walking floor trailer loads, reliable & sustained supply, please call 802-228-8672 for details. (10/12)

Goats

Registered Purebred and American Nubian doelings, buck, and milking does (in milk) for sale. Hand-raised, CAE free, excellent bloodlines. Available by mid-March. Email orchardnubians@aol.com for more information and pricing.

2 Female Angora Goats for sale. Sold as a pair only. One registered born 2009, the other born 2005. Both hand-raised and friendly. \$250 for both. (9/28)

Three Registered Saanen bucklings and two Alpines ready for service this Fall, top genetics for production and conformation, \$200 each, contact 802-875-3159. (9/28)

2 Nubian Does. 2 sisters, 6 years old, friendly and used to children. Registered Nubians, vaccinated, healthy. Fed organic grain and clean pasture all their lives. Good milkers ready to be bred again this fall. Currently dry. Contact 802-453-6936. (10/12)

Horses & Other Equine

Draft Cross Suffolk/Cleveland Bay 8 yrs old mare & gelding 16.1 & 16.2, bay with black points long tail 1500 lbs each broke single, double and ride worked on mowing machine, hay tedder, rake, manure spreader, public hay rides. Friendly kind dispositions, athletic, good feet, trailer well, \$6500, contact 802-748-2740. (9/28)

14 year old Registered Morgan Mare. 16 hand bay, no markings. Has been shown hunter in the past. Has not been ridden for several years now. Needs patient rider to bring her back to condition. \$1600. Would



negotiate for the right home. Call-860-659-3426 Leave a message. (9/28)

For Sale: Team of dapple grays, Large ponies ponies 11 and 12 years old. M&G, never pulled. Team weight: 2700 to 2800#. Call 446-2203. (9/28)

Horse Equipment

14 year old Registered Morgan Mare. 16 hand bay, no markings. Has been shown hunter in the past. Has not been ridden for several years now. Needs patient rider to bring her back to condition. \$1600. Would negotiate for the right home. Call-860-659-3426 Leave a message. (9/28)

Llamas & Alpacas

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Llamas for sale, great fibered llamas available for pets or for guarding your sheep, goats and alpacas. Excellent quality fiber for hand spinning or blending with your sheep wool. Many to choose from, young males and females, breeding females, etc., available in many colors. Contact 802-293-5260.

Alpacas on sale now during the annual Mid-Summer Sale at Snowshoe Farm. Quality alpaca breeding stock in a variety of colors and bloodlines. Special low prices on select alpacas. Excellent service and support. Contact us at terry@snowshoefarm.com or 802-592-3153. (9/14)

Vermont Alpaca Company has a beautiful selection of alpacas for sale. Breeding quality animals

in discounted start up packages available. We offer financing, reproductive guarantees, and strong customer support. Contact us for more details at www.VermontAlpacaCo.com or 802-765-9639. (9/28)

Sugaring Equipment

SAP BUCKETS, lids, spouts for sale. Leader, Warner and Soul brands, plus others. I have hundreds. 5.50 per set of one bucket, lid and spout. Call Jake 802-439-6426 (9/28)

30" x 8' Leader front pan and arch made in 1998; in good condition. \$1,000. Used for many happy years at Shelburne Farms in Shelburne Vermont. Call Dana at 802-734-5489 or email dbishop@shelburnefarms.org (10/12)

3'x12' Dominion Grimm Evaporator, 3'x8' stainless steel drop flue back pan and 3'x4' stainless 4-section front pan on King arch. Stainless steel base stack and seven 3-foot sections of 14" stainless smoke stack. Asking \$4800.

300-gallon stainless steel storage tank for \$280. 5 barrel galv gathering tank, buckets, spouts, covers also available, Call 802-229-5878, Berlin, VT. (10/12)

Swine

For Sale: Three piglets born 6/22/12 \$60.00 each, Call 603-256-8422. (9/28)

Pigs, bred sows \$500.00 O.B.O., piglets \$65 each, call 802-796-6067 or 802-306-6216. (10/12)

Heritage piglets for sale: Large Black x Tamworth-\$75.00. Argyle, N.Y., 518-638-8628 or 518-638-8074. (10/12)

Wanted

WANTED: Loader detachable, for Hesston 80-66 DT, four wheel drive, 80 HP tractor, would like to find one with brackets to fit, but will consider all makes, willing to fabricate, can pick up, contact 802-236-4917. (10/12)

WANTED: McCormick-Deering #9 mowing machine any condition, contact 802-748-2740. (9/28)

WANTED: 2 HP vacuum pump for small dairy in Southeastern Vermont, contact 802-875-3159. (9/28)

WANTED: Heavy Duty commercial meat grinder excellent condition call 603-543-3616. (10/12)

WANTED: 3 PTH log gapple tandem wheel dump trailer, contact 603-835-6816. (10/12)

WANTED: Tie stall divider bars and rails enough for 6 stalls on a small Jersey farm. Will consider using free stall dividers if you have them instead. Would like them to be in decent condition. Please call (802) 429-2537. (10/12)

Winter Tunnel Production and Season Extension

October 2, 2012 - 3:00pm - 5:00pm
Bread and Butter Farm, Shelburne, VT

Bread and Butter Farm harvests kale, chard, spinach, cilantro and other crops from their high tunnel all year long. In this workshop, Corie Pierce will explain the four keys to winter hoop house production: crop selection, timing seeding and planting, crop protection needs, and overall system management. Vern Grubinger, Vegetable and Berry Specialist with UVM Extension, will be on hand to provide additional information and answer questions. Corie Pierce is the co-owner and vegetable manager of Bread & Butter Farm, a two-family farm that raises grass-fed beef, year-round veggies, a small herd of Jersey cows, and also runs a wood-fired oven bakery and hosts community events. Presented in cooperation with UVM Extension, the Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers Association, and USDA Risk Management Agency.

Registration: To register go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012Nofasummerworkshops. For more information call 802-434-4122 or email info@nofavt.org

NEWS AND NOTICES

USDA Research Prepares Farmers for Change

by Jenna Jadin, AAAS Fellow/
Advisor, Office of the Chief
Scientist from the USDA Blog

Over the past decade, we've seen a lot of variability in the weather, with severe droughts in some places, excessive flooding in others, and more extreme weather events all over the country. While there has always been variability in the weather, scientists predict increasing variability in weather patterns as the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG) increases in the atmosphere. Such changes present challenges for farmers, who, in many areas, are trying to grow crops under hotter,

drier climate regimes and must protect their crops from damage during extreme weather events. That's why the USDA is actively doing research on how to produce crops and livestock through increasing climate variability, and that's why the fourth in a series of Office of the Chief Scientist white papers on the Department's research portfolio is focused on what USDA science is doing to help prepare the agency, and the nation's farmers for a changing climate.

In this white paper, the Research, Education, and Economics (REE) agencies have outlined four main strategies for helping to prepare the nation's producers for

climate change. The strategies are to (1) explain the processes driving the direct and indirect effects of climate change on natural and managed ecosystems; (2) develop the knowledge and tools to help adapt agriculture and forestry to climate; (3) develop the knowledge and tools to help mitigate atmospheric GHG emissions through reductions in gross GHG emissions and increases in carbon sequestration; and (4) support decisions at local, regional, and national levels with information and techniques provided by USDA science.

USDA research has already come a long way towards

helping farmers adapt to climate change. For example, NIFA and ARS scientists are investigating varieties of every major crop and many specialty crops in the U.S. to find genes that confer drought tolerance and disease resistance. They are investigating animal varieties to find heat-resistant breeds chicken and cattle, or ways to manage manure so as to lessen methane emissions. Research is also showing how different nutrient formulations and management techniques are affecting carbon sequestration and water use. And research done through ERS and NASS is helping to analyze the effects of climate

policies in the farm sector, and helping to predict what the consequences of climate change will be for farmers in different regions of the U.S. Finally, as all this research is produced, extension agents across the U.S. are taking it and translating it into usable information for farmers, ranchers and the public. So whatever kinds of variability in weather and environment that the future may hold, be it northward spread of pests, or decreasing rainfall across the Great Plains, USDA is making sure that our agriculture continues to be strong, resilient, and ready to feed the nation and the world.



NIFA-funded grad student checks soil moisture gauge.

NOFA-VT Poultry Extravaganza

September 24, 2012 - 10:00am - 3:00pm
VT Small Business Development Center
1540 Vermont Route 66, Randolph Center, VT

Welcome to a day filled with poultry from chick to chicken dinner with speakers on poultry production, business management, processing and adding value. Featuring Dr. Jeff Mattocks of Fertrell, Inc. (see bio below) who will focus on health and nutrition of pastured poultry, including balancing poultry rations with alternative feeds. Additional speakers will

cover market research, processing opportunities and barriers, and preparing birds to maximize consumers' experience and the farmer's bottom line. These sessions are designed for experienced commercial poultry producers, however there is plenty to be learned for poultry producers of all size and scale.

Co-organized by NOFA VT, UVM Extension, and the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture. Supported by USDA Risk Management and the VT Agriculture Innovation Center.

Registration: To register go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012Nofasummerworkshops. For more information call 802-434-4122 or email info@nofavt.org

Livestock Producers Affected by Disasters Urged to Keep Good Records

by Juan Garcia, Administrator, Farm Service Agency
from the USDA Blog

The Farm Service Agency would like to remind livestock producers affected by natural disasters such as Hurricane Isaac [or Tropical Storm Irene] to keep thorough records of their livestock and feed losses, including additional expenses for such things as feed purchases because of lost supplies.

In addition to Isaac, there are a variety of disasters from fires in the west, floods in Florida, storms in the Mid-Atlantic and drought and heat affecting the heartland. Each of these events is causing economic consequences for ranchers and producers including cattle, sheep and dairy operations, bee keepers and farm-raised fish, and poultry producers.

FSA recommends that owners and producers record all pertinent information of natural disaster consequences, including:

- Documentation of the number and kind of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by photographs or video records of ownership and losses;
- Dates of death supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts;
- Costs of transporting livestock to safer grounds or to move animals to new pastures; and
- Feed purchases if supplies or grazing pastures are destroyed.

We also are reminding producers that the department's authority to operate the five disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill expired on Sept. 30, 2011. This includes SURE; the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP); the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Production losses due to disasters occurring after Sept. 30, 2011, are not eligible for disaster program coverage.

LOCAL FOODS FOCUS

Bringing Locally Grown Food to Southwestern Vermont Medical Center

By Abbey Willard, VAAF Local Foods Administrator

Laura LaCroix, Executive Chef at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center in Bennington loves the partnership they've established with The Tutorial Center, also located in Bennington, to have fresh, nutritious, and locally grown produce delivered to the hospital each week. "If I can highlight that it is local, they will know and they will eat it," claims Laura of the hospital's Coffee Shop Café patrons.

The Youth Ag Project (YAP) started at The Tutorial Center in 2006 as a way to engage students in food preparation and physical outside work and now has evolved into a truly successful Farm to Institution success story. Throughout the past growing season, 17 at-risk youth who experience home life factors that suggest traditional school environment can be tricky, were enrolled in the YAP program. The program offers work readiness skills and opportunities to positively reengage in education through providing food to a local customer. According to Jack Glade, Executive Director of The Tutorial Center, the YAP program exposes students to the institutions in their community and offers possibilities for job shadowing and future food industry employment. He loves to see how participation in the YAP program "somehow lights the fire about what their future could be."

When the option to collaborate with YAP to get more local food into the hospital became available, Laura and others had reservations about streamlining labor and ordering simplicity, but the prospect of healthy, fresh, and

locally grown food encouraged them to participate. The online ordering proved to be easy, the delivery provided by YAP was similar to service the hospital was already receiving, and only a bit more labor was required to wash the local greens. "If I put in my order on Monday and they don't have it, I know immediately. This helps me plan menus, and I know exactly what will be delivered on Tuesday." Laura comments, "You also can't beat the improved quality, taste, and presentation in home-grown food."

Serving healthy food is not a new concept for the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center. About 80% of the food served in the 423,575 meals prepared each year is from scratch, including all soups, entrées and sides. They even have their own kitchen herb garden to provide a copious amount of herbs used to flavor dishes and soup broths in place of salt. Laura has found she can cut down in some areas to keep costs affordable and allow the hospital to feature local items. The hospital cannot currently afford to only serve local products so she has to know where local can be best used and best seen on the menu. This is why she has chosen to pilot the local items at a high profile and high traffic café located at the entrance to the hospital.

For next season, the hospital would like to increase participation to have the YAP provide 40-50% of their fresh vegetable needs in selected areas. To be able to accommodate this growth in production, The Tutorial Center will need to expand the program by investing in storage infrastructure, increased staff time dedicated to the program, consider leasing a refrigerated truck, and

making other equipment purchases. Students would also need to increase their role in product delivery, inventory and financial management, which would make for an outstanding student internship opportunity. The Tutorial Center sees this pilot expanding as a regional YAP Food Network that would include additional institutions, more agricultural land in production, and definitely new area producers.

The key to success pro-

claims Jack, is "understanding the capacity of what each side can do and functioning within those limits. We need to continuously discuss what the hospital can manage and what production the farms can provide." Jack acknowledges The Tutorial Center could not maintain YAP on its own and it is the relationship network with regional farmers that is important. Currently local produce for the hospital is grown at two Tutorial Center locations, in

Bennington and Manchester, as well as by two independent growers in the community.

For now, YAP is working hard to support the local producer network and is happy to know that the hospital is a steady and growing partner. The program is developing, in small steps, so as not to overpromise what they are capable of providing, while maintaining a long term vision of an interdependent, viable food system.

Study: Undergraduate Women Outnumber Men in Land-Grant Ag Programs

By Lisa Hightower, Food and Agricultural Education System From the USDA Blog

A national study of 70 land-grant universities found that undergraduate women enrolled in agriculture programs outnumber undergraduate men by more

than 2,900 students. This study, conducted by the Food and Agricultural Education Information System, explored trends in the gender of undergraduate students enrolled in 14 agriculture academic areas at land-grant institutions from 2004 to 2011.

The rise in undergraduate

women in agriculture academic areas is a relatively recent phenomenon. In 2004, undergraduate men outnumbered undergraduate women by more than 1,400 students. By 2008, the number of undergraduate women and undergraduate men enrolled in agriculture academic areas were roughly equivalent.

In 2009, undergraduate women outpaced undergraduate men by 249 students. This trend continued for 2010 and 2011 with enrollment numbers for undergraduate women increasing each year. In 2011, the undergraduate women enrolled in agriculture academic areas exceeded the number of undergraduate men enrolled by more than 2,900 students.

This trend corresponds with an overall rise in women farm operators. According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, the number of women farm operators increased nationally by 19 percent – to 1,008,943 – between 2002 and 2007.



Virginia Tech student Stefanie Pagano weighs a mouse as part of a research study on work level and food taste. Photo courtesy of Jim Stroup.

MARKETPLACE

Agriview Hay and Forage Directory

Where Did My Hay and Feed Ad Go?

Hay and Feed ads now need to be updated each month. This is why ads now have an expiration date after each listing. Please re-enter your ad online or email Agr-Agriview@state.vt.us with your updated ad.

Addison County

Addison – Large Square Bales, 1st & 2nd Cut, Under Cover, Never Wet, SL Moore @ (802) 463-3875 or Alden @ (802) 989-0479.

Chittenden County

Underhill Center – First cut Timothy and mixed grass bales, all stored under cover \$4.25 per bale, please call 802-899-4677.

Franklin County

Fairfax – Hay and Straw large or

Attention Hay and Forage Advertisers

DUE TO ANTICIPATED HAY AND FORAGE NEEDS, non-subscribers are invited to post their ads in the Hay and Forage Directory. In order for information to be kept as up-to-date as possible, listings now need to be updated each month. Beginning with Issue 2, you will see an expiration date after your listing. Please call us to ensure your listing remains current. This directory will also be made available as a pdf for you to share.

Need to update your hay ad? If so, e-mail agr-agriview@state.vt.us or fax it to (802) 828-2361. PLEASE delete any old fax numbers you may have as those numbers are no longer monitored.

small square bales whole or processed by bale at farm, we load or direct delivery by trailer load. Mountain View Dairy Farm, contact 802-849-6266.

Grand Isle County

Alburgh- 2nd cut square bales \$4.00 per bale, contact 802-796-6067 or 802-309-6216. (11/2)

Orange County

Randolph - 1st cut hay \$3.50/bale, 3rd cut hay \$4/bale, contact 802-249-0504 (11/2)

Orleans County

North Troy – 2012 early cut 4-9x200 Ag Bags of Haylage, and Large dry round bales stored in barn, \$35 each, call for Ag Bag prices, delivery can be arranged, 802-988-2959 or 802-274-2832.



Orleans – Big Squares, small squares, first & second cut, certified organic hay, big/small squares, straw big/small squares, call Richard at 802-525-3645 or 802-323-3275.

West Glover – Certified organic hay, 1st cut 4x4 dry round bales, Nice 2nd cut square bales 45-55 lbs, and 2nd cut wrapped round bales, Call for more information – 802-525-1188

Rutland County

Rutland – small square bales, 1st cut grass hay, also 4x4 bales of 1st cut wrapped baling, please call 802-236-4917. (10/12)

Outside of VT

Claremont, NH – Excellent Quality 2012 Horse Hay, 1st cut – \$4.75 per bale, 2nd cut \$5.25 per bale, contact 603-543-3616.

Vermont's Pollinators

continued from page 1

to honey bees, native bees have a number of advantages. They tend to be active earlier in the day, season and in cooler, wetter weather; they perform buzz pollination, which is very important for crops like tomatoes and peppers, where the pollen must be physically loosened to complete pollination; they collect both pollen and nectar when foraging, unlike honey bees, which often will collect only one or the other; they often will compete with honey bees on the same flower, which will force the honey bees to visit additional flowers, which equals more pollination; and there is no pollination fee, as for honey bee colonies.

Blue Orchard Bees (BOB), for example, are active at low light levels and low temperatures. When compared to honey bees in a field experiment, the BOB's spent 33 hours

foraging over 5 days compared with 15 hours for honey bees. 250 to 750 individual BOB females could successfully pollinate an acre of apples compared to 1 to 2.5 hives of honey bees, with a foraging population of 10,000 to 25,000 bees.

Another example is the Squash Bee. Squash Bees are ground-nesting bees, often found at the base of squash plants. They are active very early in the morning, often before sunrise. They will often pollinate squash flowers before honey bees begin flying. In 67% of 87 sites studied across the U.S., squash bees provided all the pollination necessary to set a crop for the grower.

Nearly 70% of native bee species nest underground and in most cases, a solitary female excavates her own nest tunnel. These resemble ant-nests from above, and may be found in turf, but are more often on bare, exposed ground. A sandy to loam soil is preferred, but some

There are approximately 4000 species of native bees in North America, with about 350 species in Vermont. Compared to honey bees, native bees have a number of advantages.

species will nest in clay soils. Ground nesting solitary bees may be anywhere from several cm deep or up to one meter or more in depth. Nest chambers are often lined with waxy glandular secretions, which can resist flooding.

About 30% of native bee species nest in hollow or pithy stems, old beetle borer holes, or man-made cavities. Their nest tunnel partitions are constructed of mud, leaf pieces or sawdust. Once the nest is complete, the solitary female generally dies. Her offspring will remain in the nest for about eleven months, passing through the egg, larva

and pupa stages before emerging as an adult to renew the cycle the next year. Some of these bees are managed for a few specific crops.

Only about 45 native bee species in the U.S. are social bumble bees (17 in Vermont). These bees nest in small cavities, such as abandoned rodent burrows, that are found under rocks or tussocks of grass. Depending upon the species, their colonies may have a couple of hundred workers by mid-summer. The mated queen bumble bee overwinters as a solitary individual, and begins a new colony in early spring.

Good Habitat Supports Native Bees

Unless they are killed by insecticides, good habitat can support strong and diverse communities of native pollinators. If populations of one bee species decline because of natural cycles of parasites or disease, other native bee species can fill

the gap, thus providing a stable reliable source of pollination.

In addition to the benefits of pollination, restoring or creating habitat has other ecological benefits. If placed along drainage ditches or field edges, these conservation plantings can reduce erosion of farm soils and thus save the cost of cleaning out ditches or tail-water ponds. They can also reduce the loss of irrigation water and the leaching of pesticides and fertilizers. When firmly established, native plant habitat created adjacent to fields can supplant the sources of weed seeds that were growing in those same places. Over the long term, removing the weed seed bank will lead to a reduction in the amount of time, resources, and herbicides used to maintain these areas.

This habitat will also support other wildlife. Beneficial insects, such as parasitic wasps and predaceous beetles, will take up residence and help reduce

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MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Prices

September 12, 2012

Wholesale prices paid per dozen for Vermont Grade A brown eggs delivered to retail stores.

Vermont Egg Prices:

Jumbo	\$2.09
X-Large	\$1.59
Large	\$1.50
Medium	\$1.15

Market is steady.

Demand and supply are good.

You can find more reports online at

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>

This is the web source for USDA Market News

Northampton, MA • September 11, 2012

All prices are per hundredweight on the hoof unless otherwise indicated.

Source: Northampton Cooperative Auction Association, Inc., www.northamptonlivestockauction.homestead.com

Calves:				LOW	HIGH	Cows:				LOW	HIGH	
Good & Choice:	61-75 lbs	20.00	65.00	cwt	Canners	10.00	59.00	cwt				
	76-95 lbs	37.00	65.00	cwt	Cutters	60.50	73.00	cwt				
	96-105 lbs	40.00	60.00	cwt	Utility	74.50	84.50	cwt				
	106 lbs and up	56.00	68.00	cwt	Sows	39.00		cwt				
Farm Calves		70.00	100.00	cwt	Hogs	60.00		cwt				
Starter Calves		none		cwt	Boars	8.50	15.50	cwt				
Feeder Calves		63.00	94.00	cwt	Shoats	none		cwt				
Vealers		99.00	117.00	cwt	Feeder Pigs	28.00	41.00	each				
Bulls		83.00		cwt	Lambs	120.00	125.00	cwt				
Replacement Heifers		none		cwt	Sheep	45.00	117.50	cwt				
Replacement Cows		none		each	Goats	21.00	185.00	each				
Steers		none		cwt	Rabbits	1.00	16.50	each				
					Hay (18 lots)	2.00	5.20	bale				

Addison County Commission Sales • Middlebury, VT • September 10, 2012

Cattle: 121

Calves: 251

Slaughter Cows

Breakers 75 - 80% lean	Not well tested		cwt
Boners 80 - 85% lean	60.00	78.50	cwt
Lean 85 - 90% lean	30.00	74.50	cwt

Feeder Calves

Holstein Bulls	92-125 lbs.	55.00	100.00	cwt
	80-90 lbs.	55.00	68.00	cwt
Vealers (good & choice)	60-120 lbs.	20.00	53.00	cwt
Holstein Heifers	69-108 lbs.	Not well tested		



Vermont's Pollinators

continued from page 8

the number of pest insects on a crop. Snags left along stream banks or field edges for tunnel-nesting bees will also provide perches and nest sites for woodpeckers and other birds. Owls and other raptors may take up residence in restored habitat and can help control rodent populations. Protecting, enhancing, restoring, and creating habitat for pollinators will have wider benefits for that a farmer's bottom line and for wildlife.

One important way to enhance native bee populations

in your backyard, garden, or on your farm land is to incorporate flowering plants, that they can utilize as food sources, and nesting materials. Some basic guidelines to follow when selecting plants:

Use local, native plants. Research suggests native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers.

Choose several colors of flowers. Flower colors that attract native bees are blue, purple, violet, white, and yellow.

Plant flowers in clumps. Flowers clustered into clumps of one species will attract more pollinators than individual plants scattered through the habitat

patch.

Include flowers of different shapes. Bees are all different sizes, have different tongue lengths, and will feed on different shaped flowers.

Have a diversity of plants flowering all season. By having several plant species flowering at once, and a sequence of plants flowering through the various seasons, you can support a range of bee species that fly at different times of the year.

Native plants should be your first choice to help our native bees. The list below offers a few suggestions of the many species available.

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Aster | Lavender |
| Basil | Lobelia |
| Basswood | Lupine |
| Beebalm | Milkweed |
| Blueberry | Mountain Mint |
| Boneset | Purple Coneflower |
| Borage | Serviceberry |
| Catmint | Sunflower |
| Cosmos | Wild Indigo |
| Goldenrod | Wild Mint |
| Hawthorn | Willow |
| Hyssop | |

It is also beneficial to let common garden plants flower, and go to seed, such as broccoli, asparagus and carrots - all are eagerly visited by native bees.

There are a great variety of resources available related to native bees and their conservation. One of the most comprehensive is the Xerces Society, www.xerces.org.

Portions of this article were presented at the Vermont Pollinator Conservation Short Course, held in Randolph, VT on 8/7/12, presented by Jennifer

Hopwood of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Portions of this article were also taken from the publications:

Attracting Native Pollinators, by Mader, E., M. Shepherd, M. Vaughan, S.H. Black, and G. LeBuhn. 2011. The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Farming For Bees; Guidelines for Providing Native Bee Habitat on Farms, by Vaughan, M., M. Shepherd, C. Kremen, and S.H. Black. 2011. The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Open Farm Day

Bring the kids & the camera!

Saturday
Sept. 29th
10:00 to 4:00

No dogs please!



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VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



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Reports From The Field

(Plainfield) Spotted wing drosophila is everywhere. I have them in my elderberries, raspberries and grapes.

(Rochester) The "sudden softening" of our blueberries was in fact an infestation SWD. Our vinegar traps did not catch any, tricking us into thinking we were free of this pest, but by waving a sticky card above the bushes in the early evening we caught a bunch of males, the spotted wing visible to the naked eye. The last quarter of what had been a bumper crop was lost, and our efforts turned to control, and rescue of the fall raspberries. We picked every ripe and not-quite-ripe raspberry and blackberry and froze them, to later turn into jam. We sprayed the entire orchard with Entrust. With volunteer help we stripped all the remaining blueberries from the bushes and put them into black plastic bags to bake in the sun. Don't compost them, we were advised, as the larvae/pupae may not all be destroyed. Even burying them may leave survivors. The Entrust seemed to cause a dramatic drop in the numbers of flies, which was encouraging. We are now picking every raspberry punctually, even a little early, but are not comfortable selling them to anyone who doesn't plan to

use them immediately, so most are going into the freezer. Virtually every raspberry that is allowed to over-ripen reveals tiny larvae when turned inside out. The good news is that fall raspberries emerge slowly and we are able to keep up with harvesting. Hoping for a really cold winter this year to kill these and other insect pests, and for a good plan to deal with SWD next year.

(Guilford) This is not something we want to report but as small fruit growers we are at a crossroads after two years of heavy SWD infestation. We do not want to sell sprayed berries or under-ripe berries. We must find a way to prevent infestation, figure out some alternative ripening environment, or stop being blueberry and raspberry growers. I am also worried they will end up earlier and in the strawberries. What will we do for the future? I am wondering if some structure, plastic, net combination would keep them out? Does anyone successfully grow blueberries under cover for SWD? Could fruiting be sped up to get more of a crop in ahead of fruitflies? Are researchers looking at release of infertile fruitflies? There is a glimmer of hope in that last year, at some point we didn't accurately record, the SWD stopped and we got some raspberries again. Was it frost? Could we do LATE outside raspberries?

(Craftsbury) Blueberry season ended on August 30 after 40 days of steady picking. This year's yield was comparable to last year's record crop despite August's lack of rainfall which withered late ripening fruit and shortened the season.

(Montpelier) Home gardeners had a great year this year and it showed in reduced sales at farmer's market. Value added product (gazpacho, salsa, pesto, malpé BBQ

sauce) sales continue to increase. Already tearing out greenhouse items and starting to get set for winter production. Late field plantings of brassicas, leeks, cilantro, parsley all looking good. Finally had a great year with Roma tomatoes. Put them into the new high tunnel. They came in four weeks early, yields were great and so was quality. Plenty of tomato sauce for this winter. Tomato hornworm was worst I have had in 10 years. Luckily they showed up about the time we started tearing things out, so I am not too concerned. Heterorhabditis nematodes in the greenhouses appear to have done a great job controlling cucumber beetle as well as Asiatic garden beetle by attacking the soil stage of their life cycle. Anaheim chilis had a great run as well. Plants hit five feet tall and fruit load was impressive. White plastic is the way to go in the greenhouses.

We are going to run four lines of drip tape per bed for the winter salads and spinach. Had very nice results in the trial beds last year. No overhead irrigation and no hand watering except in the dead of winter. A lot of pressure on 'traditional' markets with all the new growers coming in, so putting a lot of effort into creating new markets. Less than 10% of Vermont's food is local which means a 90% market share opportunity if you can figure it out.

(Shelburne/S. Burlington) All winter crops are either growing or seeded to be transplanted. The winter kale is looking great. I am running an easy trial to experiment with transplanting dates as I suspect we can move them back at least a week so I have three dates. We'll see if the kale is mature enough by November 1 or if that planting date is actually earlier than it needs to be. I have four different spinach varieties to



Putting the onions on plastic probably saved the crop since we would not have had enough help to weed them. Cukes are done. Broccoli is beautiful. Carrots are tasty; finally got the barrel washer set up, why didn't we get one sooner?

trial this winter: Space, Winter Longstanding, Bloomsdale, Tye. I've overwintered all of them and they have all done well but I am excited to actually take yield data on this year to really know which are best for us here.

(Fairfax) Swede midge, grape leek moth and SWD all in one year; what fun. Gone are the days of benign neglect. I knew it was time to reduce the brassica acreage; Swede midge was just the encouragement I needed. It destroyed our main kale crop, but luckily we were able to go three miles down the road to plant our fall broccoli and it is doing very well. Rotations of 1,000 feet or more are recommended so looks like we've got lots of planning to do for the winter. Other than that the sweet corn and peppers have been fantastic.

(Tunbridge) More red peppers this year than in the last 20 combined. Last planting of zucchini wilted and died. Basil turned yellow; the patch right next to it that had bolted was not affected. Still have one more planting under a row cover. Beans are doing great. Kale got hit hard by flea beetles, waiting for it to grow out. Other fall greens like arugula, tatsoi, pak choi had no flea beetle pressure. Outside tomato plants are pretty much done. We had a great run with them. It was nice to have them early and not need to worry about them going into the fall. Onions are all in, best crop ever despite the maggot early on. We put the nematodes to them 3 times 2 weeks apart.

(Benson) We're having a great time performing all of our fall chores about three weeks early. Three days topping beets last week, put 600 lb. of watermelon radishes in the root cellar and it looks like we will have to harvest fall carrots early October. I prefer to wait until Nov. 1 for the sweetest fall carrots. Making fall plantings of kale, spinach, chard, Asian greens etc. We've started construction on a 30 x 144 high tunnel with root zone heat and hope to be able to plant into it in a couple of weeks. Very much looking forward to fall weather, deer hunting, winter markets and the need for wood heat.

(Williston) Days are noticeably shorter and evening temperatures are cooler. We were lucky enough to get some decent rain recently. Plants are still producing but regrowth is slower these days. Starting to harvest shallots to dry. Lemon grass is ready to harvest too. Winter cover crop of pea/oat/vetch is growing nicely especially after the rain. Starting to get hoop house ready for fall planting of herbs and flowers.

(Plainfield NH) Shorter, cooler days and some much needed rain last week have abated the summer drought on our farms, now the task of picking up the irrigation pipe before mowing it with a bush hog. Isaac brought no CEW (surprisingly) to our farm; the Heliethis trap showed only one moth. SWD is present on our farm, but not yet in numbers to make the fruit unacceptable to the buying

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS

public. This stay of execution is perhaps being generated by weekly applications of synthetic pyrethroids or spinosad and trying to keep the fruit cleaned off; maybe some luck as well. *The Valley News* did a front page story over Labor Day on SWD for us all, but despite that, the story was defused somewhat by thoughtful responses and quotes by farmers and Extension people on both sides of the River. No damage from it, yet. Otherwise trying to get stuff cleaned up and covers down despite a shortage of people in the field. Have the regular plethora of fall diseases and shortages of coffee and chocolate needed to overcome general exhaustion of the workforce.

(Little Compton RI) What a strange year for rain. A farmer just three miles away can have three inches and you will get a tenth. Worse yet if you are part of an FSA insurance for drought relief, your state total rain fall will be the statistic they use. You could be all burned up but it doesn't matter. This has been our story: the state capital got 7 inches of rain in the last two weeks and we got less than 3/4 of an inch. Flea beetles have gone into hibernation but the cucumber beetles just won't quit. Worse year ever for just constant attack from one species or another. Spider mites seem to be everywhere; and not just in the greenhouse this summer. On the deer front, a friend gave me a new little solar blinking red lite that you can order from Sears.com called Nite Guard. My goodness, I think it really works, or at least it is working for now. You will need one every 150' facing toward the direction of deer staging area. Just need my beans to be left alone for another month. Our over-wintering carrots are up and growing thanks to our Kifco 140B. We would have lost a lot of crops if it wasn't for this little water cannon. Its width 150' and the retrieval

tube is 280 long. It runs on a little 38 PSI but will need at least a 13 GPM flow of water. Greenhouse is still keeping us in tomatoes but have to clear them out by October 1 to keep to our schedule for planting winter greens. Late blight was all around us but the greenhouse made it through without one treatment.

(Plainfield) Lots of fall greens, wholesale demand is strong. Great tops on the rutabagas, hoping the roots fill out. Hybrid butternut is mature and ready to cut, looks like a good yield. Carmen and Italia red peppers pouring in. Fall raspberries starting to ripen. Spraying Entrust alternating with Pyganic in hopes of holding off the SWD.

(Argyle NY) We have been using Agrid 3 to successfully control rats and mice; it's OMRI labeled, not sure if it will help with the bigger rodents; pellets and chunks are both effective. We have had English sparrows for several years and we have to net our GH benches of all new seeds and seedlings; they love baby lettuce plants also. We will be doing bird netting next spring on the 2 sides of the GH as bench netting is a management nightmare; 22 shot is helpful also. We have confirmed SWD in our blueberries which made the last variety get soft and drop. One more new critter to deal with. We finally have many beds of nice spinach germinating with 17 varieties! Previous trials show many are very productive, but some do better with rain, cold, etc. and the diversity seems to work well for us. I'll give further reports on them next time. Looking to harvest lots of fall crops, and doing our final sweep through fields for weeds in preparation for cover crops. Will start to transplant into the high tunnels very soon.

(Hampton NY) The cool nights and lack of moisture

have slowed most production to a crawl. I doubt the 4 inches of rain we recently received will matter much at this point. Kale and Swiss Chard are liking the weather and turning on productions again. Agribon over the tomatoes plants that lost leaves to had Septoria definitely reduced the amount of sun scald. A late night visitor picked every Roma tomato that I had off of 72 plants so no bushel sales this year. The pumpkins are going on the stand this weekend and the corn stalks are going up next weekend. Early planted winter rye is already up 6" with more being planted this weekend. New garden area for 2013 has been soil tested and limed.

Update From The UVM Plant Diagnostic Clinic

Ann Hazelrigg

Squash: Black rot showing up in butternuts. This is the fruit symptom associated with the leafspot and stem symptoms called gummy stem blight, which causes oozing on the stems near the soil line. http://vegetablemndonline.ppath.cornell.edu/factsheets/Cucurbit_GSBlight.htm This is one of the diseases you are trying to control on squash/pumpkins when you spray for powdery mildew. This disease originates in the field, although you may not see it on the fruit until they are in storage.

Tomato: More late blight showing up; it's hit or miss around the state but all areas seem to be represented. As we see more morning fogs and dew and fall rains, it will keep spreading. Leaf spot diseases (Septoria and Alternaria) are really making headway now due to recent rains and heavy fruit loads.

Garlic: Have not seen much Fusarium basal rot. <http://www.nevegetable.org/index.php/crops/garlic?start=3>

Saw some late season (3rd generation?) onion maggots

infesting garlic bulbs. <http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/vegetables/onion/om.pdf>

Also, more reports of damage from onion leek moth tunneling in hollow leaves. <http://web.entomology.cornell.edu/shelton/leek-moth/index.html>

Basil: More reported downy mildew in basil; it looks like dirt on the leaf undersides and is hard to control. <http://vegetablemndonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/BasilDowny.html>

Impatiens downy mildew is showing up in Vermont,

yet another new disease. Symptoms include stunting, dieback, defoliation. Leaf undersides are covered with white downy mildew spores. Destroy all plants or landfill and consider growing other bedding plants next year as this one may be around a while and will wipe out the common garden impatiens very fast. <http://extension.umass.edu/landscape/news/impatiens-downy-mildew-confirmed-massachusetts>

Green stink bugs have seemed to die down a bit. Lots of damage seen around gardens in sunflower, tomato, corn, etc.

National Farm Safety & Health Week

continued from page 2

and how much it will cost after receiving a rebate of 70% of the total cost (up to \$765) from the program. All funds that go into rebates are raised by the program from businesses and individuals in Vermont. The Vermont ROPS website is ROPSR4U.com.

Hazardous Environmental Factors: Weather, terrain, and atmospheric conditions all present risks to farmers. To maintain profitability, farmers must work long hours in all types of weather and terrain conditions. Floods, droughts, and other severe weather cause significant impacts to farms. Many farmers may find it necessary to work at a full or part-time job off the farm which can further lead to fatigue.

Increased Risk for Motor Vehicle Crashes: Road travel with farm machinery presents a serious occupational hazard for agricultural workers. Thousands of roadway incidents occur each year between agricultural machinery and other motor vehicles. Agricultural equipment tends to be large and moves slowly, usually less than 25 mph. A hazard exists when fast moving traffic quickly approaches agricultural machinery traveling on roadways. Proper lighting

of machinery and use of Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblems help to reduce these hazards.

Health & Safety Regulations not Enforced on Small Farms: Federal safety and health regulations are not enforced on immediate family members, or on small farms (10 or less employees) because of special exemptions that are granted to agriculture. Therefore, it is up to each small farm to make sure that they are providing a safe work environment for all the family members and workers at that farm.

Even with all of the associated hazards, agriculture is a great way of life and is filled with many rewards. Take some time during National Farm Safety & Health week to celebrate, and think about ways to create a culture of safety on your farm. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture and UVM Extension want to help your farm become a safe place for everyone who works or lives there.

For more information, contact Louise Waterman, Louise Waterman, Education Coordinator, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, 802-828-6900, or Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us, or George Cook, UVM Extension at (802) 888-4972 ext.401, or George.Cook@uvm.edu.

FARMS, FIELDS, AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Chaput Family Farms Honored as Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year

By Lisa Halvorsen
Freelance Agricultural Journalist for
UVM Extension

Vermont dairy farmers Reg and Michael Chaput are always looking for the next great idea to increase the profitability, self-sufficiency and sustainability of their 1,800-head Holstein operation. As owners of Chaput Family Farms in North Troy, they continually strive to make what is already a topnotch dairy farm even better.

Quick to embrace new technology, they were among the first farmers in the state to install a methane digester to produce electricity and just this year purchased their own milk truck and tanks to haul milk from their farm to the proces-

sor, a cost-saving measure that also gives them more control over milk quality.

These attributes coupled with their strong commitment to dairying led to their nomination for the prestigious Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year award earlier this year and recent selection as the 2012 recipient. The award is sponsored by the New England Green Pastures program, which recognizes an outstanding dairy farm in each of the region's six states every year.

Their interest in new technology led the brothers to install a methane digester in 2010, which produces enough electricity for 300 average-sized homes. They contracted with Vermont's Sustainably Priced Energy Development program to sell their electricity for the

next 20 years for a guaranteed 16 cents a kilowatt hour (kWh). In addition, they have a five-year contract with Green Mountain Power's Cow Power program to sell the renewable energy credits for an additional four cents per kWh.

With roughly 72 percent of the \$2.2 million cost of the digester covered by grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Clean Energy Development Fund; Central Vermont Power Service; the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets and a U.S. treasury grant, Chaput predicts that the system will pay for itself relatively quickly.

"We saw this as a cushion for when low milk prices hit," the dairy producer admits, "but we also like the idea of decreasing our environmental footprint on the earth. We feel this is a win-win for us and for Vermont's green power agenda." Chaput Family Farms was the seventh farm in Vermont to install a digester, and the second in Orleans County. The first was Maxwell's Neighborhood Farm in Coventry.

What's next for Chaput Family Farms?

"We don't plan to grow in size in acreage or cows," Chaput says, "but we want to continue to improve what we do to have everything in place for the next generation." Nathan Chaput, Reg's son, has expressed interest in joining the business but plans to finish college and explore the world first to see if life leads him back to the farm.

Recently, they signed up for UVM Extension's current pilot program on aerial seeding of cover crops by helicopter. Thanks to a Vermont Agency of Agriculture grant they hope to begin installation of a dragline system for manure application next year to minimize nutrient



Chaput Family Farms in North Troy was named the 2012 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year by University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Dairy Industry Association for its overall excellence in dairying. From left to right, Kimberley Morton, Reg Chaput, Sasha Morton, Nathan Chaput and Michael Chaput. (photo credit: Peggy Manahan/UVM Extension)

loss and allow them to diminish ground impact. In 2014 they plan to begin a five-year project to install a tile drainage system on 1,000 acres of tillable ground, which should improve crop production by 20 percent or more.

The brothers will be rec-

ognized at a special banquet at Eastern States Exposition in W. Springfield, Mass., in September, along with Green Pastures winners from the five other New England states. They also will be honored at the VDIA banquet at the Vermont Farm Show in Essex Junction in January.



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In the Localvore's Kitchen

Greens with Bacon

[Editor's note: We are blessed with an abundance of pasture raised pork producers here in the state, and one of my local favorites makes what I consider the best bacon around! The fats in bacon help the body assimilate the deep nutrition of dark greens, so they pair well. This is simple, but filling. A great side for a late summer meal!]

Collard greens or kale, stripped from stems and chopped
2 thick strips or 3 thin strips of bacon
2-3 T water

Sauté bacon until not too crispy (depending on your preference). Chop into pieces and set aside.

Turn up heat and throw greens into the pan. Much popping will ensue. Coat pieces evenly with bacon fat.

When coated, toss in the water and immediately cover the pan. Steam greens until done, about 5-7 minutes. Add water as needed.

Mix in reserved chopped bacon with greens and serve!