Cornell University Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County Annual Report 2012

President's Report Yates CCE 2012

I'd like to thank everyone for coming here tonight to our annual meeting and helping us celebrate another very productive year. This year has been no different from recent years, as we find ourselves navigating through a host of ever-changing economic environments. The staff and specialists at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County continue to work hard to boost the local economy by implementing and overseeing diverse programs. Over the past year I've been privileged to witness many of these in action, seeing research based knowledge put to work as carefully-tailored Yates County initiatives. It's noteworthy that one of my talking points at the annual dinner last year was worded like this: "A new forest management program has begun under the direction of local Master Forest Owner's group." Now, one year later I can say that the Master Forest Owners reached 114 landowners at workshops on Quality Deer Management, Small Woodlot Management and Landowner Liability.

During 2012 Yates County CCE worked through a variety of ways. Here is a sampling of other 2012 highlights:

- Successful implementation of an Eat Smart NY Program with 177 participants covering 59 nutrition lessons for making healthy food choices
- Implementation of a healthy eating program for youth with 32 participants
- CCE specialists assisted 21 families with budget management skills
- 37 local, regional and state government representatives toured four agricultural sites on the Agricultural Tour highlighting the productivity and diversity of Yates County
- We participated in a new partnership with Workforce Development, pairing teenagers learning employment skills with groups of younger children to teach them about recycling, energy and horticulture
- Renewable Energy workshops and a tour were held with 83 participants learning how to incorporate new energy saving technologies at their home or farm
- Master Gardeners, in collaboration with the town, local businesses and a non-profit agency, created a water quality garden to help protect the creek running alongside the Penn Yan Community Garden
- Finger Lakes Grape Program partnered with Martini Vineyards and Finger Lakes Community College to create a Teaching and Demonstration Vineyard
- NWNY Dairy and Livestock Program co-sponsored a Tile Drainage Workshop and continues to make progress on precision feed program in Yates County
- Cornell Vegetable Program and the new Harvest NY team worked with local producers and area markets to strengthen relationships
- Conservation Field Day, sponsored jointly with the Yates County Soil and Water Conservation District, brought together over 200 middle school students from Penn Yan and Dundee participating in 10 interactive stations ranging from renewable energy to public safety to ground water
- The 4-H program continues to do its crucial work of strengthening the character and skills of YC Youth with its many highly-successful science-based programs

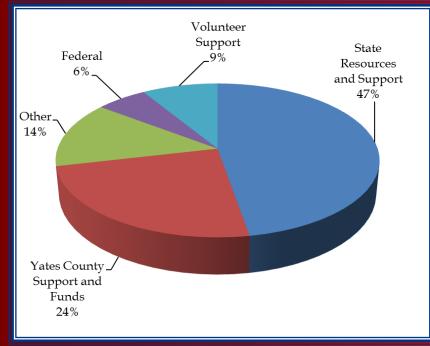
My report would not be complete without mentioning that when Peter Landre finished as Executive Director last February, our Board of Directors began the careful process of selecting a replacement. We are all indebted to Jessica Spence for stepping in and doing a great job in the role of "Bridge Director" until an Interim Director could be found. Jess's experience and expertise guaranteed a very smooth transition. In April, Nicole Landers became our Interim. The Search Committee conducted a thorough national search and named Nicole as our new Director, and she has jumped in with both feet and is doing a stellar job.

To conclude, I'd like to thank many folks for CCE's success in 2012

- The Yates County Legislature, for its appropriation of funds which enables us to leverage millions of dollars from various sources.
- The CCE Board of Directors and Search Committee for their excellent work.
- Our program and staff team who have shown dedication and creativity.
- All the many volunteers that make programs possible and valid.
- The innovative citizens of Yates County who creatively use CCE material and knowledge to improve their lives and businesses.

Bob Gillespie President Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527 Phone: 315-536-5123 Fax: 315-536-5117 Web: http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates/

CCE Yates Total Value of Resources 2012



MISSION STATEMENT

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping local Yates County families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

CCE Yates County Board of Directors 2012

Robert Gillespie, President Jonathan Hunt Kathy Waye, Vice President Sarah Stackhouse **Catherine Fritz. Secretary Dawn Dennis** Peter Martini, Treasurer **Skip Jensen** Leslie Church, Legislative Representative **Dana Burton Charles Fausold, Cornell Representative Robert Corcoran Nicole Landers, Executive Director** Lew Ann Giles Staff Directory Nicole Landers, Executive Director naw26@cornell.edu Jessica Spence, Team Coordinator ils233@cornell.edu Elizabeth Newbold, Sustainable Agriculture ejn22@cornell.edu **Educator & Land Protection Specialist** bjm21@cornell.edu **Barb McGuffie. Nutrition Educator** jja26@cornell.edu Jen Clancey, 4-H Community Educator Vallie Castner, Life Skills Program Educator vgc8@cornell.edu Vivian Flynn, Office Manager vfj1@cornell.edu **Barb Elias, Finance Manager** bje6@cornell.edu **Doreen Koch, Administrative Assistant** dek26@cornell.edu Karen Gavette, Administrative Assistan Tech keg255@cornell.edu Sharrey Calvetti, Assistant Bookkeeper slc284@cornell.edu

Finger Lakes Grape Program

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Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crop Team

Michael Stanyard, PhD., Field Crops Specialist Jerry Bertoldo DVM, Dairy Specialist John Hanchar, Farm Business Management Spec. Nancy Glazier, Small Farm Support Specialist Jackson Wright, Dairy Support Specialist Bill Verbeten, Field Crops and Soils Specialist Libby Gaige, Bilingual Dairy Specialist Joan Sinclair Petzen, Farm Business Mgmt. mjs88@cornell.edu grb23@cornell.edu jjh6@cornell.edu nig3@cornell.edu jbw243@cornell.edu wdv6@cornell.edu geg24@cornell.edu jsp10@cornell.edu

Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists

Carol MacNeil, Potatoes, Dry Beans, Soil Healthcrm6@cornell.eduJulie Kikkert, Processing Cropsjrk2@cornell.eduJudson Reid, Greenhouse & Fresh Mkt., Sm. Farmsjer11@cornell.eduRobert Hadad, Food Safety, Organic,Business, Mktgrgh26@cornell.eduChristy Hoepting, Onions, Cabbage, Pesticide Mgmtcah59@cornell.edu

Harvest New York Specialists

Megan Fenton, Agriculture Economic Developmentmef46@cornell.eduTristan Zuber, Dairy Processingtjz2@cornell.eduBeth Dahl, Dairy Modernizationaed49@cornell.edu

Harvest New York



Harvest New York is a pilot program in Western New York designed to expand and enhance existing regional agriculture extension programs with the addition of three new areas of expertise: agriculture economic development, dairy modernization, and dairy food processing.

The Harvest New York agricultural team specialists, housed at separate locations throughout the region, will work in close consultation with Cornell faculty members, local and regional staff and grower groups. They'll bring new information and resources to the table, particularly in areas where there is potential for industry growth and expansion.

Goals of Harvest New York

- To maximize connections to the research and resources of Cornell University and Cooperative Extension
- To respond to emerging issues in agriculture and food systems
- To increase profitability in New York agriculture
- To develop the workforce of the region so they can access careers in agriculture and the supporting industries

Meet the Team:

Tristan J. Zuber, Dairy Processing Extension Associate Beth Dahl, Dairy Modernization Specialist Megan Fenton, Agriculture Economic Development Specialist



JANUARY 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY** 417 Liberty Street Cornell University Penn Yan, NY 14527 315-536-5123

http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates



Cooperative Extension Yates County

Yates County Master Gardener Program

The mission of the Master Gardner Volunteers is to extend research-based horticultural information to the communities of Yates County. They accomplish this mission in a number of ways:

- Maintaining hotline hours during the growing season
- Monthly Extension Corner article in local newspapers
- Annual spring plant sale at the Windmill
- Annual spring educational workshop Yard N' Garden Day
- Continuing their own education
- Invasive species tracking
- Collaborating with the Penn Yan Community Garden



Collaborating with the Penn Yan Community Garden



Invasive Species Tracking



Bejo Seed Garden Tour



Pruning Workshop



Yard N' Garden Day Presentation



Windmill Plant Sale

FEBRUARY 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY**

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EAT SMART NEW YORK EAT BETTER FOR LESS!

417 Liberty Street Penn Yan, New York 14527 http://cce.cornell.edu/Yates

Phone: 315-536-5123 Fax: 315-536-5117 E-mail: jls233@cornell.edu

Eat Smart New York Impacting Lives in Yates County!

Eat Smart New York's (ESNY) goal is to promote health by helping low-income individuals establish healthy eating habits and a physically active lifestyle. Poverty is a risk factor for numerous health problems including heart disease, diabetes, cancer, poor pregnancy outcomes, and obesity. Positive changes in nutrition and physical activity are needed to avoid negative consequences of these health conditions. With your agency's support, our nutrition educators will teach the important connection between nutrition and health to more of the 5,369 residents living at or below the poverty level (12.5%) in Yates County.



Who We Reach

Low Income:

- Families with Children
- Individuals
- Youth
- Pregnant Women
- Seniors (60+)

What We Do

Participants learn through a series of nutrition lessons how to better feed their families with less money. ESNY graduates improve their skills and knowledge about healthy eating by:

- Increasing vegetable and fruit consumptions
- Eating smaller portions and decreasing salts and fats
- Increasing level of physical activity

What Our Participants Say

<u>Adults</u>

- **98%** improved in at least one behavior construct
- 84% improved in at least one of four nutrition practices
- 67% improved in at least one of four food resource
 - management practices
- **36%** improved in at least one food safety practice

<u>Youth</u>

57% improved food preparation and safety skills

- "...I have energy. I've cleaned my house, I've been moving more, and watching what I eat." 34 year old mother of 3
- "I have never used an apple slicer or a grater before and I didn't know you could mix fruits and vegetables in recipes together." 19 year old new mom
- "I've cut way back on soda. I used to drink a 12 pack of Mt. Dew per day, I may drink 2 cans a week now!" 28 year old mother of 4

ESNY is an educational program available to SNAP recipients and other income-eligible redidents. ESNY is a program provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension of yates County in partnership with the Yates County Department of Social Services, funded by USDA's SNAP Program. This institution provides equal employment opportunities.



MARCH 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY** 417 Liberty Street Cornell University Penn Yan, NY 14527 Cooperative Extension Yates County 315-536-5123 http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates

<u> ANNA MARAMANA BARANA</u>

Industry Partnerships Fuel Greenhouse Vegetable Research

The reputation and stability of the Cornell Vegetable Program has led to long-term industry partnerships with manufacturers, and fertilizer and seed companies. This allows the Cornell Vegetable Program to conduct cutting-edge research in:

- Soluble fertility solutions for sustainable yields of organic tunnel vegetables. Evaluation of new tomato varieties before they reach the market.
- Cold tolerant cucurbit rootstocks for earlier yields.
- In-ground heating of salad mixes for winter market windows.
- Grafting of greenhouse tomatoes for improved rootstock and scion combinations leading to higher yields.
- Selection of disease resistant tomatoes that thrive in New York greenhouse environments.

CVP Program Areas: Food Safety Pest Management

Variety Evaluation Market Development

Cultural Practices

These relationships create a robust synergy between Cornell Vegetable Program, commercial growers, and the agri-business sector. This private investment is a testament to the value of the applied research and educational role played by Cornell Vegetable Program Specialists.

APRIL 2013

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Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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4-H Living History



Living History is a movement where people learn from the past, not unlike the oral history tradition of early man. In the United States, not long after the Civil War, people began to study the battles of the war by re-enacting them in front of audiences. This movement of teaching by living gained in momentum during the 1970's with the approach of the Bicentennial of the American War for Independence. During this time period, people began to dress and live as people from the earlier eras as a way of teaching about the past." ~Allison Sacheli In Yates County 4-H, Living History is part of the Shooting Sports program and is taught by certified instructors Allison and Lucian Sacheli. In 2012, over 60 youth gained a sense of what everyday life was like for our ancestors and 13 youth intensively studied the 1600's time period.



Plans for 2012-2013 Journaling Cheese Making Meat Pies Scrimshaw Basket Making Gourd Canteen or Pitcher Time appropriate field trip



The most valuable part of Living History is, "spending time with friends with similar A interests".

One thing I plan to do as a result of participating in Living History is, continue re-enacting and teach more about this time at my school".

MAY 2013

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Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF TATES COUNTY

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Master Forest Owners Volunteer Program of Yates County

Yates County MFO Volunteer Program Goal: To provide Yates County forest owners with the information and encouragement necessary to manage their forests to improve ownership satisfaction.



Goals are met through:

- One on one site visits: MFOs have walked nearly 900 acres during one on one site visits with landowners.
- Classroom style educational workshops.
- Interactive, hands on workshops in the woods.
- Guided woods walks.















Training opportunity every Fall for those interested in becoming an MFO volunteer.

JUNE 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY

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Presenting a project to a judge for the first time



Exhibiting showmanship skills



Preparing for show



Great friends portraying great sportsmanship



The county fair is a time for 4-H youth to come together with 4-H'ers across the county and showcase what they have worked on throughout the year. While the fair is a lot of fun, it's also a lot of work and 4-H'errs can be seen throughout the weeks demonstrating their talents, learning new skills , and helping others.

In 2012 there were...

- 51 4-H'ers showcasing 373 projects in the exhibit hall
- 36 4-H'ers exhibiting 163 animals
- Over 20 youth learning job readiness skills by working in Scooper's Dairy Bar
- 10 plus teens increasing leadership skills by serving as Junior Superintendents in the animal barns and exhibit hall



Working in Scoopers Dairy Bar

Lending a helping V hand during Gymkhana events

JULY 2013

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Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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Yates County Agriculture

Highlights from the Cornell Cooperative Extension August 2012 Agriculture Tour:

Finger Lakes Produce Auction

Judson Reid, Senior Extension Associate with the Cornell Vegetable Program, has provided extension support since the establishment of the FLPA in 2000. The FLPA serves as a model of agriculture economic development by providing a well-established platform for buyers and sellers to do business right here in Yates County.



Benton Berries



Cornell University Cooperative Extension has been a source of research based information and guidance for Benton Berries from the development phase and continues to provide weekly services such as pest management advice and foliar testing.

Farmland Protection

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County has obtained \$3.8 million in grants from the New York State's Department of Agriculture and Markets Farmland Protection Program which has protected 1,134 acres of viable farmland in Yates County. These acres will remain in agricultural production forever through permanent conservation easement since the state purchased the development rights from the farmer.



FLGP Teaching Vineyard



Cornell Cooperative Extension's Finger Lakes Grape Program (FLGP) and Finger Lakes Community College's (FLCC) Viticulture and Wine Technology Program are in the second year of developing a new teaching and demonstration vineyard on property owned by the Anthony Road Wine Company.

Yates County stands out as one of the top agricultural growth counties in NY State. By analyzing the 2007 Census of Agriculture the facts are clear, Yates County Agriculture is strong, diverse and continues to grow!

- Statewide there was a loss of 903 farms, we saw a dramatic increase of 142 farms from 722 in 2002 to 864 in 2007 and farm acreage increased by over 11,000 acres from 115,113 acres in 2002 to 126,118 acres in 2007.
- Yates County has the highest percentage of agriculture (58.3%) of any county in the state comprising 126,118 acres of active agricultural land.
- The largest agricultural economic sector in the county is dairy. The number of dairies increased from 223 to 262 during the five year census (17.5% increase).
- A vast majority of YC farms (619) grow commodity crops including corn, wheat, soybeans, barley, and other grains with a value of \$31,812 million, up from \$21 million in 2002.
- Grapes are another important agriculture sector producing fruit for wine production, juice and fresh table grape markets. Grape acreage increased from 5,387 to 6,270 acres on 168 farms. The value of fruit sold (excluding wine) in the county increased by nearly a \$10 million increase (121%).
- Yates County is also one of the largest organic farm counties in the state. In 2007, there were 49 organic farms utilizing over 5,500 acres of cropland and pastureland, generating sales estimated at \$2,720,000.

AUGUST 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Tue Mon Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY** 417 Liberty Street Cornell University Penn Yan, NY 14527 Cooperative Extension Yates County 315-536-5123 http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates

Finger Lakes Grape Program

On May 31, 2012 Cornell Cooperative Extension's Finger Lakes Grape Program and Finger Lakes Community College planted a teaching and demonstration vineyard at Anthony Road Wine Company.



- The 2.5-acre vineyard will serve as a site where the FLGP can conduct applied research projects and demonstrations for current and prospective grape growers in the Finger Lakes region and beyond.
- Students from FLCC's Viticulture and Wine Technology program will have the opportunity to participate in some of this research in addition to providing most of the vineyard labor. Students will learn how characteristics of grapes translate into winemaking through vineyard tasks such as: pruning, shoot thinning, leaf removal, taking field samples, and harvesting.
- The vineyard contains fourteen different varieties: Catawba, Cayuga White, Riesling, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay, Lemberger, Gruner Veltliner, Zweigelt, Marquis, Jupiter (both Marquis and Jupiter are seedless table grapes), Vidal, NY81.0315.17 (a Cayuga White x Riesling cross from Bruce Reisch's breeding program), Corot Noir, and Marquette.
- This project has been funded by a grant from the Genesee Valley Regional Market Authority. We thank them for their support of this new and valuable resource.

There are over 5000 acres of grapes just in Yates county.





SEPTEMBER 2013

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Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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Cooperative Extension Yates County

4-H Achievement Night

Honoring 4-H members, leaders, and volunteers



4-H'er of the Year



Laura Decker Memorial Award for Public Speaking



Fenton Wager Memorial Award for Animal Husbandry



2012 Stepping Stones Award recipients



Recognizing our wonderful volunteers



OCTOBER 2013

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Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team

partnering with CCE in Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties

The NWNY Mission:

The NWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team will provide lifelong education to the people of the agricultural community to assist them in achieving their goals. Through educational programs and opportunities, the NWNY Team members seek to build producers' capacities to:

- ♦ Enhance the profitability of their business
- ♦ Practice environmental stewardship
- ♦ Enhance employee and family well-being via safe work environment
- ♦ Provide safe, healthful agricultural products
- ♦ Provide leadership for enhancing relationships among the agricultural sector, neighbors and the general public

Grant Funded Projects:

- NYSERDA-LED: Lighting Systems to Improve Milk Production and Energy Efficiency
- EPA—Cover Cropping Education and Implementation
- NESARE—Precision Feed Management; Profitability & Environmental Stewardship in Yates County



Dairies:

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- Disaster Preparedness Course
- Group-Housed Calf System
- Quality Milk Production
- Hoof Health & Lameness
- Hispanic Employee Management Discussion Group
- Employee Training in Spanish
- Young Managers Discussion Group
- Artificial Insemination & Reproduction
- Quality Forage Production
- Precision Feed Management Workshop





Small Farms/Livestock:

- Northeastern Silvopasture Conference
- Step It Up Grazing Conference
- BQA in a Day, Beef Quality Assurance Training
- Direct Marketing Grass Finished Beef



Farm Business Management:

- Dairy Farm Business Summary Program
- Economic Analysis



Field Crops:

- WNY & Finger Lakes Corn Congress
- NY & Finger Lakes Soybean/Small Grain Congresses
- Cover Crop Twilight Tours
- Tile Drainage Field Day
- NY Corn & Soybean Yield Contests
- Pesticide Certification Training
- Invited Industry Presentations
- Crop Issues: Common Armyworm Attack!
- Western Bean Cutworm on the Rise

NOVEMBER 2013

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities **NOTES** Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF YATES COUNTY**

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ENERGY

Energy Efficiency

• It's important to understand your appliance's demands by measuring your energy usage with either a Kill a Watt or a Watts Up? Pro Meter. It's easy to adjust some habits without changing your lifestyle such as, placing appliances that draw phantom energy (when energy continues to be consumed even when device is turned off) on a Smart Strip which automatically turns off connected devised when not in use.

Geothermal

Since geothermal "is an electrically powered device that uses the natural heat storage ability of the earth and/or the earth's groundwater to heat and cool your home" there are many variables to consider, including: size of the building being heated and cooled; heat loss of the building; location of the building; type of heat required; how big of a lot is available; and what are the conditions of the ground. For more information, please visit http:// www.igshpa.okstate.edu/

<u>Solar</u>

• A solar panel or hot water system does not have to be large to be effective or economical. For more information on solar energy, please visit www.solarenergy.org



Wind

With wind, it is important to ensure that you have a good wind resource and that the turbine will be placed at the best possible site. To have a "Wind Resource Report" generated for your site, please visit http://nyswe.awstruepower.com

Incentives

 For a comprehensive source of information on state, federal, local, and utility incentives and policies for renewable energy and energy efficiency, please visit the Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency at http://www.dsireusa.org/

DECEMBER 2013

NOTES

Helping to Build Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/yates



Yates County

Cornell University Cooperative Extension Yates County



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