



Harvest News

ADIRONDACK HARVEST

In coordination with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Essex County Fall 2007

"We envision a picturesque and productive working landscape connecting local farmers to their communities and regional markets. Our goals are to increase opportunities for profitable and sustainable production and sale of high quality food and agricultural products; and to expand consumer choices for locally produced healthy food."

Coordinator's Report

By Laurie Davis

Most of us have made it through the busiest seasons of the year. Adirondack Harvest is no exception. We are catching our breath, wrapping up one grant before launching into the next one and beginning the new year.

Our agritourism grant is about to end with many successes. We'll have more to report in the next newsletter as our member surveys are tallied, but early observation suggests that many of our efforts helped the farm-stands and markets boost attendance and sales.

Read more about our new funding, the Spaulding-Paolozzi grant, on page 3. We were very lucky to have been introduced to this organization.

Of course, the highlight of our fall was the Harvest Festival week. This year it was quite large and featured more farm tours than ever along with chef demos, local lunches and showings of the "Three Farms" DVD. Read more about this on page 5.

Have ideas or proposals? Keep in touch with us throughout the year and let us know how we can serve you better!



Sam Hendren of Clover Mead Farm at the Lake Placid Farmers Market

Balsam Search

Any balsam or pine acreage available for trimming? Carriage House Garden Center in Willsboro is looking for a place to take cuttings for their wreaths and swags. Call them at 518-963-4330 if you have some.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

It's that time of year again—time for all our members, friends, families and anyone interested in Adirondack Harvest to come together for food, fun, networking and business! Chefs, store owners, farmers and agricultural supporters can mingle and connect at this **potluck** event. Business to cover will include review of by-laws, election of the 2008 Board of Directors, voting on your chapter representatives, learning about our new grant, and making suggestions for future Adirondack Harvest focus.

Monday, November 26th

5:30 pm

Paul Smiths College

Joan Weil Student Center

Bobcat Café

Bring a dish to share!



First Annual Farm & Field Day

On August 18, Ron & Jennifer Siver of Good Shepherd Farm in Crown Point held the First Annual Farm and Field Day for farmers and other vendors from all over the north country. The Sivers assigned everyone spaces in their high fields, next to their beautiful barns. Participants included an animal feed store, farm equipment dealer, lamb meat, flower vendor, buffalo meat vendor, Adirondack Harvest, a large animal vet, alpaca owners, Crown Point Bread, egg and poultry vendor, the Lake Cham-



Ron Siver of Good Shepherd Farm in Crown Point, discusses agriculture with Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward by the Adirondack Harvest display

plain Grape Growers Association and many more. Despite high winds that threatened to blow away the tents, the mood was hopeful that the public would find us. Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward stopped by to talk to the farmers about the state of agriculture in Essex County and New York in general. And the public did find the field eventually! The turnout was pretty good and many vendors reported good sales for a first year event. Although the Sivers have since made changes to their farming venture, we hope that they will continue to host this event in the future.

NY STATE ORGANIC INITIATIVE

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker announced a new initiative within the Department that will focus on organic farming. In response to the increasing demand for organic products and the marketing opportunity for New York farmers, the Department has added a full-time organic agriculture specialist position, and has added a new section to the Department's website, Organic Farming Resource Center.

Starting in March 2007, Sarah Johnston joined the Department as an Organic Agriculture Specialist. Johnston is the former Executive

Director of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York and has an extensive background in environmental issues. Her responsibilities at the Department are to develop and execute new initiatives to expand and support organic agriculture in New York State. Currently, Johnston has been working with producers to create a priority list of organic research needs and has created the Organic Farming Resource Center found at <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/organic/>, which features how to become certified organic, marketing opportunities in New

York, organic production, finding organic products in the marketplace, general consumer information on organic labels and production, a list of related organic associations and activities, as well as resource lists that offer web sites, studies and more. These pages put useful web-based information on organic farming in one easy to access location.

Unless otherwise noted, all articles in the Harvest News are written by Laurie Davis, Adirondack Harvest Coordinator. Contact her at 962-4810 x404 or lsd22@cornell.edu for submissions to upcoming quarterly newsletters.

Adirondack Harvest Chapter Updates

Franklin County Chapter

No news at this time from Franklin County. Contact Jane Desotelle at 425-3306 or janedesotelle@earthlink.net to participate in this chapter.



Southern Chapter

No news at this time from our southern counties. Contact Elizabeth Mangle at 548-3991 to participate in this chapter.

Clinton County Chapter

Damian Gormley, Board member from Clinton county will be meeting with the Clinton County Legislature to update our elected officials about Adirondack Harvest. He has spoken with and met Bob Butler, the legislator for the Saranac town area. Damian is working with Anita Deming and Laurie Davis to develop a comprehensive and informative session for the legislature featuring a Power Point presentation and other informational aids.

Monica Clark, from Saranac

and the Adirondack Eco-Farm, is meeting with Pastor Pete Pearson of the Saranac Methodist church on Friday November 2 to plan a potluck dinner highlighting the National Hunger and Homelessness project and the local food security link with local foods. It will take place in November—look for more info in the local press.

A harvest meeting/potluck will be announced shortly for the Clinton County chapter of Adirondack Harvest. Interest or feedback, please call 518-293-8226.



SPAULDING-PAOLOZZI GRANT

Adirondack Harvest has been awarded a two-year \$50,000 expansion grant from the Countess Alicia Spaulding-Paolozzi Foundation of Charleston, South Carolina. This organization was founded by Countess Alicia Paolozzi to support efforts concerning the environment, the sustainability of agriculture, issues involving the elderly and issues involving women. The Countess was truly a concerned and involved citizen of the world, philanthropist, activist, businesswoman and pioneering sportswoman. Throughout her life, she brought to bear her considerable influence, wealth and personal energy to causes important to her.

We will use some of the funding to upgrade our web site, making it more user-friendly and expanding the search options. However, most of the funding will be used to expand Adirondack Harvest's presence in St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis and Oneida counties.

The heart of Adirondack Harvest's work is connecting producers of food within the Adirondacks with their local and regional consumers. Thus far, our focus has been primarily in the eastern counties of the Adirondacks with significant financial support from Essex County and NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets. Franklin, Clinton, Warren and

Hamilton counties contribute primarily through donated time from County Cooperative Extension employees and member volunteers.

We are planning to expand to the other counties by training core contact people, creating membership chapters and expanding farmer, restaurant and store participation. Our goal by 2010 will be to have every participating county in the Adirondacks supporting active chapters of Adirondack Harvest.



News Briefs

Edible Upstate

I received an exciting email the other day from Michelle Bowen. Here's what she said: "I am the publisher & editor of *Edible Upstate* magazine which will be launching in the upstate NY region in Spring 2008. As proud member of Edible Communities, our mission is to transform the way our community shops for, cooks, eats, and relates to the food that is grown and produced in our area. We value local, seasonal, authentic foods and culinary traditions, and we strive to put a face on every farmer, chef and food artisan as we tell their stories and champion their efforts toward a more sustainable and safe food system. Edible publications have won the IACP Award of Excellence for Consumer Education twice and has been quoted as the official literary journals of the farmer-writer movement."

Michelle has asked to collaborate with Adirondack Harvest to discuss ways we can bring our goals for eating local into the minds of the upstate New York consumers. Stay tuned for more info!

SARE Grants

SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) is a competitive grants programs providing grants to researchers, agricultural educators, farmers and ranchers, and students in the United States.

There are 5 different types of grants awarded in the Northeast. The "farmer grant" applications are due by Dec. 18, the "partnership grant" applications are due by Dec. 4, and the "sustainable community grant" applications are due by Nov. 27. For more information on these grants please visit: <http://www.uvm.edu/~nesare/grants.html>

MarketMaker

The New York MarketMaker website went online mid-July, and its Cornell domain name <http://nymarketmaker.cornell.edu/> also went 'live' in August.

This site promises to become a major resource for *all* NY producers, processors and food entrepreneurs— they've already registered the producers on the Pride of NY database, along with NOFA-NY and many of the growers contacted during off-season conferences from January through April. The New York producer database is presently equal in size to the other 4 states in the network! Producers who aren't listed can self-register or update the info that's there at present, either by clicking 'Register Your Business' or emailing them at nymarketmaker@cornell.edu

Two innovations are being added to the site and the national network: [1] Ag Marketing Resource Center (www.agMRC.org) from Iowa State serves as the national portal for MarketMaker, and they're receiving over 3.5

million 'hits'/month; [2] A 'Buyers and Sellers' Forum is being added to the site. We are still seeking website sponsors who will have a click-through logo on the face page of the New York site, and producer groups can 'time share' the sponsorships (i.e., have their logo come up every other click) .

Market Grants

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets invites proposals to provide promotional support for farmers' markets in New York State in amounts up to \$5000.

Eligible projects will involve advertising and marketing activities that promote one or more farmers' markets. Projects may include, but are not limited to: the design and purchase of portable signs and banners, billboard advertising, brochures, and media advertising campaigns.

Grant recipients must match awards made under this program with at least equal amounts of cash, in-kind services, or other resources.

Deadline for application is Tuesday, Dec. 4.

For more information visit: <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/RFPS.html> and click on the Farmers Market RFP link of your preference.



HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEK

September 9th through the 15th was a busy week here at Adirondack Harvest. It was our Harvest Festival Week and this year's celebration was larger than ever.

38 farms or other agricultural locations participated in our farm tour line-up which was a new record and not surprising as Adirondack Harvest continues to expand into some of the western counties including Lewis and Jefferson. With some regional help from the other Cornell Cooperative Extension offices we were able to better publicize in areas further away from Essex County.

Several farmers markets held chef demonstrations, including the Keene Farmers Market which featured chef Matt Baldwin of the Deer's Head Inn (Elizabethtown). Matt also served a delicious 5-course local meal to the Essex County legislators after one of their meetings. Representatives of



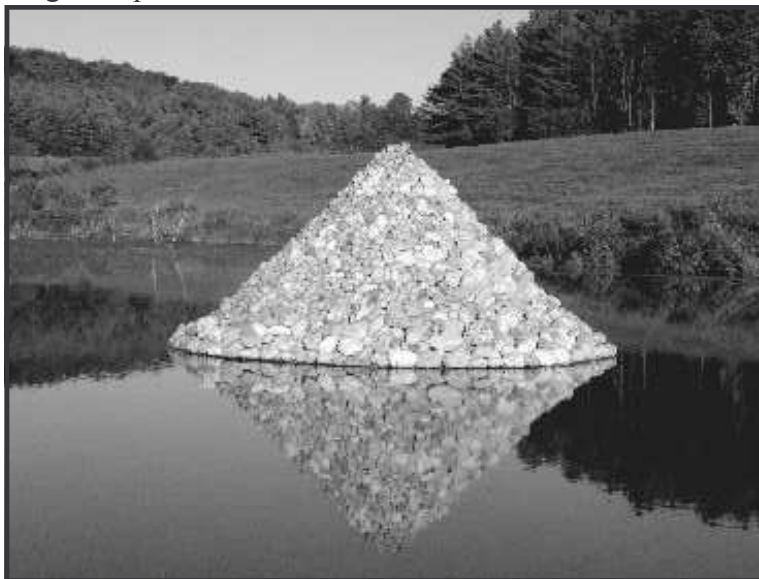
Kristin Kimball of Essex Farm, the year-round CSA in Essex works her fields with her two draft horses. Essex Farm hosted many visitors during their tour.

Adirondack Harvest were present to speak with the legislators and educate them on the mission of our organization.

Our "Three Farms" DVD was

shown at two venues: Keene and Essex. The Champlain Valley Film Society sponsored the showing in Essex at the Masonic Lodge and it was very well attended. After the movie, featured farmers Sam Hendren and Mike Davis answered questions about their work and local agriculture.

One of the more disappointing parts of our Harvest Week was our Cook Local restaurant challenge. Although letters were mailed to every restaurant in Essex County and many in Clinton and Franklin counties, we heard from virtually nobody. Clearly we need to be working harder to make connections between farmers and chefs to get local food into our restaurants.



"Floating Stone Cone" is one of the sculptures featured in the tour of Ted Cornell's art farm, Crooked Brook Studios, in Wadhams

Upcoming Classes & Workshops

AgVenture Introductory Classes for New Farmers,
Nov. 3, 6, 13, 20, 27 – See page 7 for details

Berry Growers Weed Workshop –

Monday, Nov 26

8am – 12:30pm.

**CCE Albany Co - Live
 CCE Franklin Co - Video
 Conference. \$10.**

Refresh your weed ID skills. Learn best management practices for weed management in Berry crops, including how to use cover crops to your best advantage. Find out how to implement TracBerry, a data tracking software made for berry growers. Learn about a new Berry program that will help berry growers realize a greater productivity. NYS DEC Pesticide Applicator

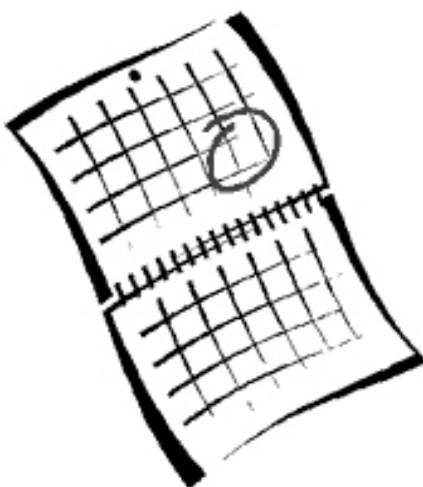
Re-Certification credits will be available for participants at all sites. Program sponsored by Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYS Berry Growers Association and New York Farm Viability Institute. For more information, contact Laura McDermott, Berry Extension Support Specialist, Eastern NY, 415 Lower Main Street Hudson Falls, NY, 12839. 518-746-2562 or email at lgm4@cornell.edu.

Taxes and Transfers for Farm Business Managers

**Wednesday Nov 28, 1 to 3
 CCE Office Westport, and
 CCE Office Plattsburgh**
 Jeff Fetter, attorney and Dan

Galusha, consultant at Farm Credit will discuss how to exit the agriculture. Topics include selling, retiring, gifting, transferring to kids, etc. Preregistration is required. This is a video conference but the time may change.

Call Sharon at 962-4810 ext 0 or Darlene 561-7450



Quickbooks for your Farm

Dec 7 Miner Institute

Dec 10 Westport

From 12:30pm to 4pm

Learn how to make your own spread sheets and analyze your records. Jessica Prosper from CCE Franklin county will be here live with our computers or you may bring your own laptops.

Preregister with Sharon at 962-4810 ext 0 or Darlene 561-7450.

2007 Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference.

Nov. 5th and 6th. Hyde Park, New York.

“The Northeast Competitive Advantage – Increasing Producer Access to

Markets” At this year’s conference, producers, buyers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers will share their insights on distribution, market access, and expanding market opportunities in the Northeast and ways producers can capitalize on them. For more information, contact: Todd Schmit, Dept. of Applied Economics and Management, at 607-255-3015 or tms1@cornell.edu

New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference and Trade Show

December 11, 12, 13. Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH

Twenty-seven sessions over 3 days covering major vegetable, berry and tree fruit crops as well as various special topics. A Farmer to Farmer meeting after each morning and afternoon session will bring speakers and farmers together for informal, in-depth discussion on certain issues. Also an extensive trade show with over 100 exhibitors. Registration info at www.nevbc.org or call Jude Boucher at 860-875-3331.





AgVentures

Join us for the 2007 AgVentures Introductory Classes for New Farmers. CCE Educators from the North Country have come together with successful farmers to put on an interactive program that will cover topics such as evaluating your farm resources (climate, soils, buildings, equipment, etc.), laws, regulations, direct marketing, sanitary regulations and much more. In addition there will be a series of Production Workshops to concentrate on various agriculture niches. Starting with an introductory workshop on Sat. Nov. 3rd, everyone will meet and begin preparing for farm hood. Additional workshops will be held via polycom meetings at an extension office in your area!

Saturday, November 3rd – 10 am to 3 pm @ Paul Smith's College

10:00 10:40 Evaluate Your Farm Resources: climate, soils, buildings, equipment and water resources and what you farm enterprise needs - Anita Deming

CCE Essex County

10:40 11:20 Laws, Regulations, and Cautions: agricultural districts, taxes, labor, pesticides and manure – Molly Ames CCE Jefferson County

Break

11:35 12:15 Marketing/Adirondack Harvest: sanitary regulations, promotional ideas, and value added – Bernadette Logozar

Lunch

\$15 for
Saturday
Event

Series of Production Workshops

1:00- 1:50	Presenter	2:00- 2:50	Presenter
Greenhouses	Rob Hastings Rivermede Farm	Community Sup- ported Agriculture	Kristen Kimball Essex Farm
Beef Production	Steve Ledoux Adirondack Beef Co	Sheep and Goat Raising	Kirby Selkirk Kirbside Garden
Maple Syrup	TBA	Herbs and Wild Flowers	Jane Desotelle Underwood Herbs
Organic Grains	Bob Perry Cedar Hedge Farms	Hay Production	Mark Wisley Wisley Family Farm
Vegetable Production	Amy Ivy CCE Clinton	Berries & Small Fruit Production	Amy Ivy CCE Clinton
Pasture Management	Martha Pickard ADK North Country Assoc.		

AgVentures in-depth for New Farm Enterprises

Tuesdays Nov 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 6:30- 9:30 by VC at Plattsburgh Westport and Malone CCE Offices

Nov. 6th Goals, Skills and Resources-Molly Ames CCE Jefferson
Choosing an Enterprise- Steve Vandermark CCE St. Lawrence

Nov. 13th Marketing What You Produce- Jim Manning CCE Oneida
Evaluating Land, Equipment and Facilities- Carl Tillinghast CCE Franklin

Nov. 20th Maintaining Healthy Land for Healthy Profits-Anita Deming CCE Essex
What Will it Take to be Profitable?- Peggy Murphy CCE Lewis

Nov. 27th Regulations Taxes and Legal Issues- Bernadette Logozar CCE Franklin
Sharing Your Plans/Ideas- Everybody

Series of Classes \$40

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ADIRONDACK HARVEST MEMBERSHIP FORM

If making a donation, please make checks payable to "Adirondack Harvest".
Clip and mail to P.O. Box 388, Westport, NY 12993

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please circle type of membership:

Farmers, Producers, and Processors no charge (donations are appreciated)

Supporter: Restaurants and Stores no charge (donations are appreciated)

Friends (circle level of membership) \$25 \$100 \$500 \$1000 other _____

If you are a new member you will need to include the appropriate information sheet for your business so that we can add you to our data base and web site. Forms are available on the adirondackharvest.com website under Member Resources/ Become a Member, at the bottom of the page, or contact Laurie Davis at 962-4810 x404 or at lsd22@cornell.edu.
Donations to Adirondack Harvest are tax deductible.