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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Take Free Farm Tour through Rondout Valley Corridor
Chamber of Commerce Event Paints Broad Picture of Ag in Ulster County

On Monday, Aug. 29, 2005 from 1 to 5 pm take a FREE farm tour through the fertile Rondout Valley corridor courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce of Ulster County. Cornell Cooperative Extension agriculture experts Mike Fargione and Teresa Rusinek, will help to give an insiders tour of three distinctly different family farms. This free tour highlights the picturesque settings, diversity and economic impact of agriculture in the Rondout Valley corridor, and celebrates a heritage that dates back to Ulster County's original settlers. Participants may take a bus provided courtesy of Ulster County Area Transit bus or follow along in their own vehicles.

Tour Schedule:

- 1:00** Ulster County Area Transit bus leaves the Kingston Plaza (*behind the former Ames store*)
- 1:15** **Gill Corn Farm**, Hurleywatch corn being harvested & enjoy a roast corn variety tasting.
- 2:45** **Kelders Field of Dreams**, KerhonsBerry picking and much more!
- 3:45** **Shady Maple Farm**, Mettakahonts Rd., AccordWell celebrate Christmas in August with Gordon Bell at his spectacular tree farm

The bus returns to the Kingston Plaza by 5 pm or participants may attend a mixer at Ivans Restaurant at the Rondout Country Club. There will be transportation back to Kingston at 7 pm. for those choosing to attend the mixer.

On December 12, 1913, the Kingston Businessmens Association (which later became the Chamber of Commerce of Ulster County) played a critical role in the founding of Extension by contributing \$1050 toward the initial \$2500 necessary to form the Association. Nearly 100 years later they remain committed to Extensions initiative to foster agricultural profitability in Ulster County. Join us for a great afternoon.

The tour is rain or shine. Reservations must be made through CCE- Ulster County or the Chamber office by no later than Friday, August 26, 2005. Please use downloadable registration form available at www.cce.cornell.edu. For more information please call the Chamber of Commerce of Ulster County, 845-338-5100.

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