

**Ag Issues:**

*Support Ulster County Farmland Protection Board Activities- Program Effort 25%*

Currently writing a grant proposal with Mike Fargione addressing Global Climate Change, Energy efficiency and alternative energy options for the farm.

**Commercial Ag Production and Marketing**

*Vegetables, ornamental horticulture-(floriculture, nursery, turfgrass and greenhouse) production and horticultural business management – Program Effort 50%*

The following are educational programs that I organize/present for growers in the Hudson Valley as part of a regional horticulture educator team:

*Completed-* Sept.13- Chrysanthemum Trial and Pest Update at Wallkill & Silverleaf Greenhouses. I presented a one hour seminar on pest identification and control in fall ornamental crops. 50 growers from the Hudson Valley Region attended. White rust on chrysanthemums was an important topic for this audience as this pest is on the Federal Quarantine list of imported pests. This growing season, white rust has been diagnosed and confirmed at one major greenhouse production facility in Orange County.

*Coming up-* Jan. 8 – Nursery and Greenhouse Growers School- Ulster BOCES Conference Center, New Paltz.- Nursery & Greenhouse Growers' School (formally known as Bedding Plants School) has been expanded to include a wider variety of ornamental crops including perennials, shrubs and bedding plants and greenhouse/high tunnel vegetable production. Growers get the latest information on pest control, cultural control and marketing from industry experts and a day networking with professionals and other growers.

Looking for the "I" in Integrated Pest Management?

IPM promotes the integration of methods of pest management, but combining biological and chemical controls can be confusing. This year's featured speaker is Elizabeth M. Lamb Ornamentals IPM Coordinator of the New York State Integrated Pest Management Program. Elizabeth's presentation will cover the types of pesticides that can be used in conjunction with biological control agents for common greenhouse pests.

Also in the Program:

- Disease ID and Control Update from Margery Daughtrey, Insect/Mite ID and Control Update from Dan Gilrein. ( Long Island Horticulture Research Lab)
- Learn what to expect when the state inspector comes to visit. Horticulture Inspector, John D'Allessandro, and Senior Horticulture Inspector, Ethan Angell from New York State Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Horticulture Inspection Division will present on licensing, inspections and quarantine procedures.
- Don't miss Tom DeCillo from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Tom will cover Worker Protection Standards Compliance which will be an especially important topic this spring as random inspections are expected in our area.
- Growers earn DEC pesticide license recertification credits

**Individual Grower Consultations:** *(by telephone, office visit and on-farm as requested)*

Examples: Many are start up calls, individuals interested in hydroponic tomato production, best cash crop on 4 acres, vegetable processing (frozen ,organic), agricultural exemptions.

**Written Publications:** *Hudson Valley Horticulture* is a monthly e newsletter that is distributed in 5 Hudson Valley counties. I am serving as interim editor until I go out on maternity leave.