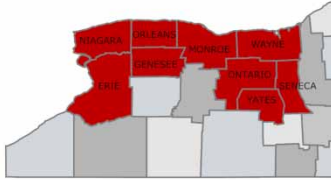


Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Cornell Vegetable Program

Serving Erie, Genesee,
Monroe, Niagara, Ontario,
Orleans, Seneca, Wayne
and Yates Counties

Cornell Vegetable Program Quarterly Report Period of April – June 2010



A Cornell Cooperative Extension team serving the vegetable, greenhouse, potato and dry bean industries within a 9-county region in Western New York

Mission: To provide vegetable producers, processors and the vegetable industry with high quality educational programs and cutting edge research-based information so they can profitably produce and market safe and healthful vegetable crops in an environmentally sound manner. This will benefit consumers by supplying safe, high quality, locally grown vegetable products while maintaining viable farms to enhance the rural landscape and economy of New York State.

Educational Outreach

Spring Fresh Market Vegetable Meeting, Avon, NY (April 9). Twenty-three vegetable growers from Monroe, Genesee, Ontario, Orleans, Livingston, Wyoming and Cayuga counties attended this “grower-requested” educational meeting. Topics included Season Extension, presented by CVP’s Judson Reid and Robert Hadad, Downy mildew of cucurbits (Robert Hadad), and a feature presentation by one of the Nation’s experts in late blight, Cornell’s own Dr. William Fry. Christy Hoepting also gave a review of weather-based information available online through the NEWA website. Overall, 95% of the participants said that the meeting was good to excellent (64% excellent), with Bill Fry’s presentation on late blight receiving the highest praise (81% excellent). When asked what new piece of information was learned, growers cited growth in new winter markets and process of late blight infestation. When asked what new technique they will implement on their farm, 50% indicated that they would use season extension in one form or another; 25% said that they would improve their scouting and spray programs. (Hoepting, Reid, Hadad)

Farm food safety training workshops were held in April, in Orleans Co. (24 participants) and St. Lawrence Co. (14 participants) as part of a statewide project funded by USDA RMA. Held an **on-farm mock food safety audit** in Orleans Co. (in May) in collaboration with the NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets. A dozen farms participated. (Hadad)

Ran a **workshop in Monroe Co. in April on hiring farm labor and cost of production**. This was held with local CSA farmer Elizabeth Henderson as part of a farmer training grant she received from NESARE. (Hadad)

In April, made **marketing presentation to a group in Wayne Co. as part of their Exploring the Farm Dream series**. About 12 participants were present. This series has been going on for 4 years and a number of the vegetable grower “graduates” have gone on to start operations that I continue to visit. (Hadad)

Held a **meeting for Monroe Co. farmers market managers covering the subjects of promotion, market rules, and county licensing for food tastings and chef demonstrations**. 8 markets were represented. (Hadad)

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

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In May, held a twilight on-farm **workshop on season extension** in Wayne Co. with 40 attendees, including two seed companies. (*Hadad*)

New website: “Swede Midge Information Center for the United States” was launched June 17th. The website which can be found at <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/swedemidge> was developed by Julie Kikkert and Christy Hoepting, CVP vegetable specialists and Tony Shelton and Mao Chen, Dept. of Entomology, Cornell University. The website features maps of the distribution of swede midge, protocols on insect monitoring and identification, best management practices for farms and home gardens, a photo gallery of damage symptoms and a comprehensive resource section. Google Analytics was set up to monitor activity on the site. Hits have already been recorded from many sites in 7 U.S. states, Canada and the U.K. (*Kikkert, Hoepting*)

The CVP website <http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu> was given a make-over. Instead of the blog format, the home page was made static and features the CVP county map, our mission statement and a section on hot-topics. All other information was re-organized into easy to understand categories. Users can also view recent posts. The CVP is monitoring hits to the website and topics searched, adding information (as needed) to meet the inquiries of visitors. The CVP has made an effort to keep the website content up to date. (*Parr, Kikkert, MacNeil*)

Legume ipmPIPE (Pest Information Platform for Education and Extension) project – This nationwide project brings specialists who work with snap beans, dry beans and some other legumes together to provide research and education on these crops. Julie Kikkert has represented NY since 2009. She is scouting snap bean plots in commercial grower fields for insects and diseases. The data is shared in biweekly conference calls with the group and is entered into a national database which is then posted on the website <<http://legume.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>>. Pocket-sized disease identification cards were also developed by the group. (*Kikkert*)

Led a tour of two farms for a **graduate summer field course** with about 20 graduate students to see pests, pest management, good soil management and organic production practices. (Yates) (*MacNeil*)

Presented ‘Local Foods’ to Penn Yan FFA annual banquet, June 21, 40 high school students and their families. (*Reid*)

Guest speaker at the Oswego County Onion Growers Twilight Meeting (June 16th): 1) Reducing wind erosion by growing onions in a minimum tillage system. 2) Minimizing fertilizer use in onions. (*Hoepting*)

Muck Donut Hour continues to be a grower favorite!

Every Tuesday morning from 8:30 am to 9:30 am (or longer for the “extended” version) in the Elba muck, Christy Hoepting meets with onion growers to discuss the status of the onion crop, its pest problems and what to do about them. Growers check in to compare notes on pest pressure and to get management recommendations. For the first half of the season, from May 18 until June 29, 13 growers, 2 industry representatives and 2 special guests stopped by for a total of 30 contacts in 7 weeks. (*Hoepting*)

Pest Management

Doing a great deal of **scouting for late blight in tomato and potato** for farmers across the region. Received many calls for assistance in checking out fields. Worked to teach growers what to look for with disease symptoms. (*Hadad*)

Identified downy mildew in cucumbers in Erie and Niagara Counties at the end of June (first areas in the state to have the disease) by keeping on top of situation in Canada where an outbreak happened in a cucumber greenhouse operation in early June. Warned growers in advance of potential disease threat.

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Most growers jumped into action preparing for the problem. When it did show up, the incidence was fairly mild (partially due to the drier weather – lucky break there) and did not impact the crop. Farmers have been able to harvest and maintain profitability. (*Hadad*)

Working in association with Cornell specialists on **two new pest problems** facing vegetable growers. One is the **leek moth** which has been found in the North Country. This is a Canadian pest that could have adverse implications for our specialty crop leek growers who sell at the late season markets. So we are on the look-out. The second pest is in **garlic** and it is the **bloat nematode**. This has been found in garlic fields in western NY and in several other areas of the state. A number of growers have lost a fair amount of money due to this problem. We are currently scouting for the problem, getting the message out, and working with Cornell Plant Pathology on getting samples analyzed for the problem. (*Hadad*)

Training on the **Late Blight Decision Support System (DSS)**, a forecast system using both past weather and pin-point weather forecasts to predict late blight development and fungicide weathering, was done with two new growers. (Ontario, Wayne) (*MacNeil, Gibbons*)

Onion and other crop scouting, and recommendations for action, were made on five farms (Yates, Wayne) (*Gibbons, MacNeil*)

Directed a **cucumber mosaic virus (CMV)** specialist and a virologist from Cornell to five sites of **severe snap or dry bean loss to CMV** last year to sample perennial plants nearby as potential overwintering hosts of the virus. Beans will also be sampled for virus this year. (*MacNeil, Kikkert*)

CVP team members cooperate in the **Western, NY Sweet Corn Pheromone Trap Network** (led by Abby Seaman, IPM specialist) to monitor flights of European corn borer, corn earworm and fall army worm – all important “worm” pests of sweet corn. Team members maintain and check traps in Batavia (Genesee Co.), Bellona (Yates Co.), Eden (Erie Co.), Farmington (Ontario Co.), LeRoy (Genesee Co.), Lockport (Niagara Co.), Medina (Orleans Co.) and Spencerport (Monroe Co.). Trap catches are reported weekly to A. Seaman who analyzes the data and provides recommendations on scouting and spray schedules. The information is sent out to growers, crop scouts, and processors by e-mail and in our weekly Pestminder. The information helps growers/scouts know which pests are around locally and aids them in management decisions. Growers save money by avoiding unnecessary sprays, while worm-free corn increases marketability. (*Gibbons, Hadad, Hoepting, Kikkert, Klotzbach*).

Western bean cutworm (WBC) is a new (to NY) pest of field and sweet corn, dry beans, and to a much lesser extent, tomatoes, that has been migrating eastward from its historic range in the western corn belt since about 2000. It was first detected, in low numbers, in NY in 2009. In 2010 there is an extensive pheromone trapping network to survey where WBC is being found in NY, and how many are present. WBC traps have been added to most of the Sweet Corn Pheromone Trap Network locations, as well as an additional 31 locations across the state. CVP team members are participating in the trapping efforts and have kept growers up to date via. articles in PestMinder and Veg Edge. (*Gibbons, Hadad, Hoepting, Kikkert, Klotzbach, MacNeil*).

Supervised scouting and implemented **biological control trials** at 6 cooperating farms in Monroe, Ontario, Seneca and Yates as part of NE SARE grant. (*Reid*)

Onion Research Projects Established:

11 research projects for which Hoepting is the PI or co-PI were established in Orleans, Genesee and Yates counties with 8 grower cooperators/participants.

- Integrating reduced fertility and selective insecticides to advance onion thrips management in onion – NIFA-Pest Management Alternatives Program (*Nault, Hsu, Reiners, Hoepting*) – Genesee & Orleans
- Onion/onion thrips foliar insecticide x fungicide tank mix interaction study – Onion Research and Development Program (*Nault, Hsu, Hoepting*) - Genesee

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- Bacterial disease of onion sample collection - Onion Research and Development Program (*Beer, Hoepting, Ullrich*)
- Evaluation of inoculation timing and bactericides for control of bacterial disease caused by *Burkholderia cepacia* in onions – Onion Research and Development Program (*Hoepting, Klotzbach, Beer, Lorbeer*) – Orleans
- Evaluation of selected fungicides for control of leaf diseases of onions – Syngenta Crop Protection, Bayer Crop Science, Viva Inc. (*Hoepting, Klotzbach*) – Genesee
- Evaluation of seed treatments for control of onion maggot and onion thrips – Nunhem’s Seed (*Hoepting*) – Orleans
- Evaluation of Rancona with and without Pro Gro applied as seed treatment to control onion smut in onions – Chemtura (*Hoepting*) – Orleans
- Evaluation of selected seed treatments for control of onion smut in onions – Syngenta Crop Protection (*Hoepting*) – Orleans
- Evaluation of selected seed treatments for control of onion maggot – Syngenta Crop Protection (*Hoepting*) - Orleans
- Evaluation of fall applied Dual Magnum for control of yellow nutsedge in onions – Syngenta (*Hoepting*) – Yates
- Testing new *Botrytis* leaf blight onion lines and hybrids to develop the best strategies for disease control on conventional and organic farms Field testing of Cornell developed breeding lines for resistance to *Botrytis* leaf blight in onions – 2009 NYSDAM Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (*Mutschler, Hyde, Hoepting, Ullrich*) – Genesee

Impact: On-farm trials conducted locally in grower fields makes Cornell research results highly relevant to CVP growers. It also builds strong relationships among growers, Cornell researchers and Cornell Cooperative Extension Vegetable Specialists.

Provided training in onion scouting to an employee of Ken Datthyn Farms (*Hoepting*). **Impact:** When a grower knows exactly what pest pressure occurs in his fields, he can make smart and economical spray decisions.

Co-author of peer reviewed journal article: “Identifying sources of Iris Yellow Spot Virus and their potential role in the onion-IYSV pathosystem”, Temporal dynamics of Iris Yellow Spot Virus and its vector, onion thrips *Thrips tabaci* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae), in direct-seeded and transplanted onion fields”, Hsu, *Hoepting, Fuchs, Smith and Nault*, submitted to Plant Disease: accepted with revisions.

Compiled list of **Pesticide Updates 2010** for June issue of *Veg Edge* (*Hoepting & Klotzbach*). This article was also picked up by Muck and Mineral newsletter in Orange Co.

Cultural Practices

Promoted the use of sub-soiling for farm fields that were prone to phytophthora crown and fruit rot. Sub-soiling rips the hardpan allowing for better and quicker drainage. Some areas were hit hard by rains and the disease infected some plantings of squash and other vine crops early. Fortunately, the farmers were able to get into the field ahead of time and get the drainage started. (*Hadad*)

Implemented **Grafting Cucumber** trial at cooperating Yates County farm. (*Reid*)

Supervised **foliar testing** at 6 cooperating farms in Seneca County. (*Reid*)

Carried-out **hanging basket/tomato trial** in a cooperating high tunnel as part of NE SARE grant. (*Reid*)

Two trials established: **Evaluation of seed treatments for vigor** – Nunhems Seed Co. (*Hoepting*) – Orleans.

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Grant awarded and trials established: **Cultural practices to manage bacterial diseases in the small-scale intensive production of fresh market onions** – NE IPM Partnership Grant (*Hoepfing, Reid, Gugino*) – Seneca, Lancaster, PA.

Small-scale diversified fresh market vegetable growers who grow onions intensively are constantly challenged by yield losses due to bacterial bulb rots, which greatly compromise the profitability of the crop. If bacterial diseases cannot be managed, the profitability of this industry will not be sustained or expanded. The focus of this project is to evaluate, demonstrate and encourage adoption of cultural tactics to reduce bacterial diseases in small-scale intensive production of fresh market onions. We will evaluate the effects of mulch type and planting configurations on incidence of bacterial disease of onions, yield, bulb size, economic return and grower adoption. Potential Impact: Successful demonstration of research-based recommendations to modify planting configuration and/or mulch type will result in 50 to 100% adoption of the 54 onion growers in the Finger Lakes region of NY and Lancaster County, PA. Consequently, losses due to bacterial rot and number of copper bactericide sprays will decrease, while yield, profitability and acreage of intensively managed sweet onions will increase, and more locally grown produce will be available to the consumer, and the small-scale fresh market onion industry will be sustained.

Variety Evaluation

Working with a farmer to set up a **sweet corn variety trial**. This will be evaluated later in the season. (*Hadad*)

Facilitated and assisted with planting of a **Cornell fresh market potato variety trial**, and facilitated the planting of a **Cornell dry bean variety trial**. (*MacNeil, Gibbons*)

Implemented determinate **tomato variety trial** at cooperating Yates County farm. (*Reid*)

Secured \$3000 in funding from Harris Seed, Inc. to perform **pepper variety trial**. (*Reid*)

Final evaluation: **Storage cabbage variety evaluation** – Cabbage Research and Development Program (*Hoepfing*) – Monroe. 17 entries were evaluated for quality and storability after 5 months of refrigerated storage.

Trial Established: **Broccoli variety evaluation** (*Hoepfing, Klotzbach*) – Orleans. For the first time in at least 15 years, Cornell is conducting a broccoli variety evaluation, which is being conducted in conjunction with the Capital District Vegetable and Small Fruit Program. An early planting with 17 entries from 7 seed companies including 5 industry standards was planted in mid-May. A second planting with 21 entries was planted in mid-June and a third planting with 24 varieties is scheduled for mid-July.

Soil Health

Encouraged two new growers to fill more open niches in their rotations with **cover crops**. One grower planted spring oats ahead of late cabbage for the first time, after last year's late harvested field corn. Another had a clover cover crop ahead of this year's cabbage, and will consider a summer cover crop like buckwheat to fill the niche between peas and winter wheat. Evaluated fields where five growers tried the new fall tillage radish cover crop, or spring mustard for disease management. Fall radish cover crops typically die over winter but the mild winter, and in one case interplanting with oats, resulted in overwintering and the potential for seed production. (Genesee, Monroe, Ontario, Yates, Wayne) (*MacNeil – photos available upon request*)

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Continued **reduced tillage** activities with five new growers guided by an experienced grower committee. New growers range from large processing and fresh market farms to small, fresh market farms, and an organic farm. Growers acquired equipment by purchase, from neighbors, as a commercial demo, from Cornell, or expanded RT into vegetables from field crops. Some new growers added a discing to reduced tillage as “insurance.” Some used GPS to line up planting rows on rips where discing obliterated the tillage zone/rip. Unfortunately the distance between ripping units and planting units on tool bars doesn’t match the accuracy of the GPS, at its best, so crops may end up planted to the side of the rip by up to 3 inches. This may or may not be deleterious, depending on the crop and the soil moisture. Crops grown were winter squash/pumpkins, sweet corn, snap beans, and transplanted cole crops. Data on stand and early season top growth will be collected in two side by side comparisons. (Genesee, Monroe, Ontario, Wayne) *(MacNeil, Gibbons – photos available upon request)*

Cornell Soil Health Test sampling was done in three wooded blocks on different soil types to compare the results to nearby long term pastures, heavily cover cropped, long rotation production fields, and intensively managed vegetable fields. Results were similar for the long term pastures and the woods. Water stable soil aggregate stability was very high in both, making the soils extremely resilient to heavy rains. *(MacNeil, Gibbons)*

Grant Awarded and Trials Established: **Improving the profitability of onions grown on aging muck soil that has high pH** – NESARE Partnership Grant *(Hoeping)* – Genesee, Orleans.

The problem with growing onions on aging muck soils in the Northeastern United States is that the pH is above the optimum for growing onions, which results in reduced yield and profitability, and environmental contamination. If the pH issue could be addressed via altered management practices, the production of onions on aging muck soils could be sustained and phosphorous (P) loading into water ways reduced significantly. To remedy this situation, an acid forming fertilizer and manganese sulfate can be applied in a band at planting 2-3 inches below the seed, which will reduce the pH and improve the availability of P, manganese (Mn), zinc and boron. Ultimately, the amount of P that escapes as a pollutant to waterways will be reduced, because it will not be applied in the row middles where it is unavailable to the crop and free to escape into the environment. The focus of this project is to evaluate, demonstrate and encourage the adoption of this sustainable practice, as well as to evaluate whether foliar applications of Mn and P to onions deficient in Mn and P will benefit the crop. To better understand the relationship between pH, nutrient availability and yield under highly variable field conditions, we plan to monitor pH and available macro- and micro-nutrients in the soil, and compare to plant health, maturity and yield in several fields over a wide range of soil pH. Together, we will use the results generated from this project to make fine-tuned recommendations to onion growers that will help them to become more profitable and better stewards of the land.

Organic

Keeping the organic farming community informed on the issues of late blight and downy mildew early and through the season. Since the management options are not chemically-based, it is important to give them cultural practice information early so they can put them in place. *(Hadad)*

Marketing

Working with **Monroe Co. on second annual “September is Localvore Month”**. Assisting some area farmers markets with promotions to attract more customers. Also working with growers on doing a better job of presentation and pricing. *(Hadad)*

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Labor

DEC Special Permit Training for Non-certified Applicators and Handlers of Federally-Restricted Use Pesticides

- cooperative effort with Lake Ontario Fruit Team
- 160 non-licensed agricultural workers (33% who spray vegetables) from fruit & vegetable farms in Genesee, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Erie, Wayne and Yates Counties received their DEC special Permits to apply and handle federally restricted use pesticides.

Each worker learned Worker Protection Safety, and the potential hazards of specific materials to non-target species and the environment, and how to prevent the risk of exposure for each of the federally restricted use pesticides (soil fumigants not included).

Interactive training with new Turning Technology allowed us to quiz our trainees on subject matter throughout the duration of the course, which strongly encouraged our trainees to stay alert. The class average was 73% correct answers! (*Hoepfing, Klotzbach*)

Farm Visits and Consultations

Visit farms across 5 counties regularly and 2 more a little less (not weekly) 15-25 farms a week depending on circumstances. Phone calls and emails account for another 20-30 contacts a week. (*Hadad*)

149 farm visits, phone or email consultations were done. (*MacNeil, Gibbons*)

6 requests for enrollment information, sample newsletters or Veg Guidelines (*Parr*)

Responded to 30 requests for information/troubleshooting calls (*Kikkert*)

77 farm visits (*Reid*)

55 Farm visits and consultations (*Hoepfing*)

Newsletters

Edited the **20 county monthly Veg Edge**, spending an average of 13 hours/issue for the April – July issues (busiest months) editing articles, revising to fit the 4 page format, and proofing. (*MacNeil*)

Compiled the **Veg Edge** articles, laid out articles and ads, and sent both email (full color with live links) and mail versions the first of the month to 281 enrollees in the CVP, taking an average of 27 hours per issue for the April – July issues. (*Parr*)

Contributed articles to 3 issues of Veg Edge (*All CVP Staff*)

9 issues of **PestMinder** were written and edited reaching about 220 growers, consultants and agribusiness representatives with the latest information on all aspects of vegetable, potato and dry bean production and marketing. (*All CVP Staff*)

Professional Development

All members of the CVP attended training meetings for the Cornell **CORE Evaluation Partnership Project**. Team members worked in small groups on 5 project areas to develop Logic and Pathway models. Initial work on evaluation questions has begun. (*All CVP Staff*)

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Attended the June 16th **Oswego Onion Meeting**, hearing an update on onion seed treatments, a summary of an extensive muck soil testing effort, and a summary of a first year trial of no till onions planted into killed cover crops (resulting in decreased tillage and increased wind protection). (*Hoeping presented, MacNeil, Gibbons*)

May 13th **Civil Rights Webinar**, Ontario CCE (*MacNeil*)

Attended “**The Science of Leadership**” workshop, sponsored by CCE Monroe, June 9. (*Reid*)

Grant Activity

Continuing: NYFVI **Reduced Tillage** grant support ended March 31st but work is continuing with new growers at a reduced level. (*MacNeil, Gibbons*)

Continuing: Empire State Potato Growers **Late Blight Decision Support System** grant support ended in mid-June but Bill Fry, Cornell, has \$1,000 to cover our expenses through this season working with new growers. (*MacNeil, Gibbons*)

Rejected: Submitted a joint Wayne SWCD, Wayne Planning, CCE- CVP proposal in May for a \$300,000 grant, “*Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) Improving Groundwater and Water Quality Conditions within the Salmon Creek Watershed – Wayne County*”, in cooperation with the Sodus muck growers group, DEC, and the towns of Marion and Sodus. The objective is to **improve water quality by reducing flooding** of farm fields through drainage system design, improvements and management. This will also **improve vegetable crop yields and quality, and reduce crop losses**, thereby improving business viability. There are approximately twenty two miles of drainage ditches in this watershed that are tied to about 1,000 acres of muck land on 12 farms. (*MacNeil*)

As a cooperator, submitted documentation and solicited grower letters in support of a grant entitled “**Managing Nematodes** on As-needed Basis, Promoting Sustainable IPM Strategies, and reducing the Use of Chemical Soil Nematicides” submitted to 2010 Pesticide Registration Improvement Renewal Act (PRIA2) Partnership Grants by G. Abawi and C. Petzoldt. (*Kikkert*)

As a cooperator, solicited growers letters in support of a grant entitled “Determining the marketable yield and reactions of advanced **snap bean** breeding lines and cultivars infected with **cucumber mosaic virus**” that was submitted to the NY Specialty Crops Grant Program by P. Griffiths (*Kikkert*)

Wrote quarterly and final reports for NYFVI grant. (*Reid*)

Developed and submitted SCRI Block Grant proposal “**Optimizing productivity in high tunnels through improved soil management**”- \$72,665. (*Reid*)

Grant Funded: **Developing an Eastern broccoli industry** – USDA-SCRI Coordinated Agricultural Project (Project Director: Thomas Bjorkman; PIs: Farnham, Gomez, Griffiths, Hutton, Kopsell, Myers, Sams, Van Ryn). *Christy Hoeping* will be one of 18 collaborators on this massive multi-million dollar grant. CY Farms (Genesee) and Hansen Farms (Ontario) are also collaborators on this grant. The Need: Broccoli buyers in the Eastern U.S. depend on increasingly expensive and environmentally challenging transport from the West Coast of the U.S. and Mexico. Providing a local supply of high-quality broccoli requires varieties that are better adapted, a skilled grower base, and a developed distribution chain. The long-term goal of the proposed project is a reliable, year-round supply of quality Eastern-grown broccoli that is welcomed in East Coast markets.

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Provided and coordinated support letters for grant application (Hoeping):

- Towards reducing losses from bacterial diseases of onions in New York State – NYS Specialty Crops Block Grants Program (Steve Beer): provided a support letter from myself, and 2 grower support letters.

Impact: Grower support letters carry a lot of weight in whether a grant proposal receives funding. Extension vegetable specialists play a critical role in coordinating and drafting grower support letters for Cornell research faculty grants. Support letters from Extension specialists carry a lot of weight, because they are known to be on the field level of grower issues.

Other

Reported to the **CVP AMG** April 16 on the extensive efforts of the CVP in 2009 and 2010 on reaching commercial growers and gardeners as well as EDs, APLs, MG coordinators, Ag Support Staff, on **potato and tomato late blight**, with the most current info on risk factors, ID, where to take samples, conventional and organic recommendations for control, resources for gardeners and growers, and the new Late Blight Decision Support System forecast (see above). (*MacNeil*)

Reported to the **Wayne CCE Board** (as to the CVP AMG above) April 22 on the effort to manage **potato and tomato late blight**. (*MacNeil*)

Participated in a joint CVP/Capital District Vegetable & Small Fruit Program (CDVSFP) staff meeting via polycom on April 29th, discussing joint and separate newsletters, and plans for a retreat together to see the Capital District vegetable industry. (*CVP Staff*)

Empire State Fruit & Vegetable Expo Planning Committee Meetings – April 14th and June 17th, Geneva (*Kikkert, MacNeil, Reid, Hoeping*)

Monroe Co. Legislative Event at Springdale Farm – April 29 (*Kikkert*)

Ontario Co. Board of Supervisors Dinner – June 3 (*Kikkert*)

Monroe Co. CCE Board of Directors Meeting, reported on current issue in **processing pea production** – June 17 (*Kikkert*)

Seneca Co. Board of Supervisors Dinner – June 22 (*Kikkert*)

Traveled to Republic of Georgia as part of USAID funded development project for greenhouse vegetables. Presented to AMG on June 25. (*Reid*)

Presentation to Orleans County Legislature, Albion, NY, April 28 (*Hoeping*).

Served as the “**muck expert**” for the **Agriculture Day of the Leadership Genesee Program**, Stafford, NY, June 23 (*Hoeping*)

Gave four representatives from **Nunhem’s Seed Company**, including research scientists from Holland, a **tour of onion field research trials underway** in Elba, June 22 (*Hoeping*).

Gave two representatives from **Syngenta Crop Protection**, a tour of **onion field research trials underway** in Elba, June 7 (*Hoeping*).