

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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Contact: Jon Greenwood, 315-386-3231; Joe Giroux, 518-563-7523;  
R. David Smith, Cornell University, 607-255-7286

### **NNY Agricultural Development Program Makes Two New Soybean Fact Sheets Available to Region's Farmers**

The Northern New York Agricultural Development Program has produced fact sheets for growing soybeans in Northern New York and for coping with the plant disease known as Asian Soybean Rust. The farmer-driven research and education program drew on the expertise of Cornell University Professors William J. Cox – crop and soil science and Gary C. Bergstrom – plant pathology to develop the fact sheets.

“Crop production fact sheets based on current research conducted in the Northern New York and made possible by the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program and its sponsors provide regional farmers with accurate and up-to-date information to help them evaluate opportunities and risks,” says Jon Greenwood, co-chair of the 33-member farmer committee that directs the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program (NNYADP). Greenwood owns and operates Greenwood Dairy near Canton.

The 10-page growing fact sheet identifies varieties suited to Northern New York and notes the correct variety selection can influence profit by \$20-40. The information covers planting, management of weeds, pests and disease; harvesting and storage. The Coping with Asian Soybean Rust Fact Sheet provides information on preventative and curative measures, including 2005 fungicide use guidelines; and lists five websites for monitoring the addition of permitted fungicides and the spread of the disease, which is now in fields as far north as Georgia.

“These fact sheets are particularly timely whenever agriculture faces a new crop management challenge such as soybean rust, or an long-standing obstacle such as the alfalfa snout beetle,” says NNYADP Co-Chair Joe Giroux, a Plattsburgh area dairy farmer.

The new fact sheets are found online at <http://www.nnyagdev.org> and are available from Cornell Cooperative Extension offices. # # #