



Farmer-Driven Northern New York Agricultural Development Program

*Real-World On-Farm Practical Research
& Results for North Country Farms*

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Enhancing & Expanding NNY “Local” Food Production

Horticultural crop research and technical assistance funded by the farmer-driven Northern New York Agricultural Development Program is enhancing the efficiency, NNY-suitable crop variety, marketing, and economic sustainability of fruit, vegetable and specialty crop growers. Projects support seasonality as well as development of year-round production opportunities inspite of NNY’s cold weather, unique microclimates and diverse soils.



NNY Food Hub Survey Completed in 2016

254 consumers, 25 food buyers, and 125 farmers participated in a NNY regional food hub survey:

- 66% of farmers sell 75-100% of their products in the six-county NNY region
- ~60% of consumers purchase locally (in NNY or their home county) at least once a month with vegetables and fruit the most common purchase
- Major food marketing areas: Canton, Lake Placid, Lowville, Malone, Plattsburgh, Watertown
- Market channels: farmstands, farmers’ markets, CSA, restaurants, grocers, institutions. . .
- Restaurateurs and caterers are interested in local foods but with pre-requisites. . .

NNY Cold-Hardy Grapes Research Nursery “Remodeled”

2016: Old vines removed, soil refreshed at Willsboro cold-hardy grapes research nursery; NNY growers, Cornell and Minnesota university and private grape breeders identified 21 potential varieties for new plantings. Some earlier plantings remain for ongoing wine grape research. 2017: New vines will be established for research on quality, yield, vigor & winter survival.



Helping NNY Honey Production

Pollinator health educational outreach funded by the farmer-driven Northern New York Agricultural Development Program is enhancing beekeeper management practices.

See complete project results at www.nnyagdev.org

To receive email or text messaging of project news & results notices, contact 315-465-7578 or karalynn@gisco.net with Subject: NNYADP Results Request



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Farmer-Driven Projects Respond to Grower, Buyer Priorities

Cost-Effectively Targeting Key Orchard Pests

In 2016, NNY apple growers testing the efficacy of a trapping, scouting and precision management application to control key apple orchard pests found excellent control with an average 96% clean fruit at harvest plus time & money saved by reducing pest control applications. Growers also received computer-modeled data for precision orchard thinning, irrigation and harvest timing. Cornell

estimates irrigation issues can cost \$3,859-\$6,809/



100 acres. Precision harvesting trials are developing specific parameters for improved sorting of Honeycrisp apples for short-term sales and storage-based sales.

“Changes in the landscape of Northern New York apple orchards over the past decade have influenced which insects have become key economically-significant pests of the apple industry in the region.”

— Anna Wallis, ENY Commercial Horticulture Program



Field Trials, Buyer Survey Identify High-Value Potential Crop

Growers in all six NNY counties evaluated high-value potential high tunnel crops in 2016 along with a buyers survey assessing market opportunities, e.g., fresh baby ginger can sell for up to \$16/lb. but more data is needed on extending crop value beyond the short harvest window.



“Superfruit” Harvest Due: The first substantive crop from the Juneberry research nursery (NYS’ first) at Willsboro is anticipated in 2017. An 8-ounce jar of this high antioxidant “superfruit” jam can sell for \$5.95-\$7.50.



Quick Facts about the Farmer-Driven Northern New York Agricultural Development Program

- Farmer-identified, prioritized and selected small grants for research & technical assistance for Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis & St. Lawrence counties
- 100 regional farmers serve on the Program Committee
- Program Co-Chairs: Jon Greenwood, Joe Giroux, and Jon Rulfs
- Practical, on-farm, real-world results meet critical needs and maximize opportunities across all agricultural sectors regionwide
- Results often help farmers elsewhere in New York State and the Northeastern U.S.
- Producers may submit project ideas to Program Coordinator Michele Ledoux: 315-376-5270, mell14@cornell.edu; request NNYADP Results email or text updates from karalynn@gisco.net
- Find project results and more information online: www.nnyagdev.org

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