

News from Northern New York Regional Agriculture Initiative of Cornell Cooperative Extension

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Northern NY Farm Products going to New York Farm Day in Washington, DC

Northern New York farm products will be represented at the 11th annual New York Farm Day in Washington, DC, on September 12, 2012. Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and local business representatives are taking a diverse array of regional foods to the gathering of 700-some federal officials, guests, area restaurant operators, and media on Capitol Hill.

CCE Essex County Executive Director Anita Deming, CCE Jefferson County Executive Director Kevin Jordan, Northern New York Regional Foods Specialist Bernadette Logozar with CCE Franklin County, CCE Lewis County Executive Director Michele Ledoux, CCE Lewis County Board President Sheila Buckingham and Mercers Ice Cream Marketing Director Roxaina Hurlburt are part of the Northern New York contingent traveling to the Washington, DC, event.

Among the North Country products the Northern New York representatives will be presenting at New York Farm Day are baguette bread made with NNY-grown organic wheat to be served with hand-blended olive oil dipping spices; freekah mix made from immature spelt and organic emmer, ancient grains grown in NNY; Honeycrisp apples; lamb sticks; maple cream and maple syrup; and Mercer's traditional and wine ice cream.

"This is a great opportunity to join with New York's agricultural industry leaders to showcase the Northern New York's agricultural industry's fabulous products," Deming said.

"The best way to prove the value of our products is to encourage people to taste and experience the quality of the foods grown and processed on farms and across Northern New York," Logozar added.

"New York Farm Day also provides the opportunity to tell our federal and state leaders that Northern New York farms add more than \$595 million in product market value and \$52 million-plus in farm employee payroll to the regional economy," Ledoux says. #