GrowNYC's FARMroots provides aspiring and established farmers with business technical assistance and training designed to ensure the long-term viability of farms and farmland.

Natural Disaster Emergency Loans Available for Hudson Valley Farms
by Jack Hornickel

The USDA recently designated much of the Hudson Valley as a natural disaster area, due to a powerful storm that occurred on Tuesday May 15, 2018. This declaration makes FSA Emergency Loans available to farmers who experienced crop loss and damage to their farms.

FSA Emergency Loans are available for farmers who suffered a 30% loss in crop production, or a physical loss in livestock, products, real estate, or equipment. Farmers can borrow up to $500,000 for a term of up to seven years for crop / livestock / products / equipment loss and up to 30 years for real estate damage. They must provide adequate collateral and demonstrate an ability to repay. The deadline for Emergency Loan applications is March 9, 2019.

The storm arrived in the late afternoon with extreme winds (75 – 100mph), hail, lightning, and a total of five confirmed tornadoes in the region, including touchdowns in Orange and Putnam counties. It felled innumerable trees and left about 200,000 homes and businesses without power for the remainder of the week. The disaster declaration includes Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, and Ulster counties in New York; as well as Fairfield and Litchfield counties in Connecticut; and Berkshire County in Massachusetts. Noticeably absent is Sullivan County, where a State of Emergency was declared for a full eight days.

A separate disaster declaration was also made for Essex, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Warren counties in New York. Also, in Addison, Bennington and Rutland counties in Vermont, for a strong wind storm that occurred on May 4, 2018.

Vegetable Disease Update

Allium Leafminer Adult Activity Confirmed in Ulster County
by Ethan Alexander Grunenberg

On Tuesday, September 11th, we confirmed adult
allium leafminer (ALM) activity at one site near Kingston, NY. We have yet to confirm ALM activity elsewhere in the region; however, this suggests that the fall flight has begun. Using insect netting or row cover is the most effective strategy to prevent damage to alliums; covers should be put on ASAP. Fall leeks are particularly susceptible to damage from ALM as the maggot mining activity through the stem opens up pathways for bacterial soft rot pathogens that render the leeks completely unmarketable. During the spring flight, ALM was found as far north as Saratoga, as far west as Ithaca, and into Berkshire County, MA.

This article that appeared in the CCE ENYCHP newsletter last week has more details and images of ALM damage. Feel free to email me (Ethan) or Teresa Rusinek with questions.

Late Blight and Botrytis in High Tunnel Tomatoes by Beth K. Gugino Ph.D

This fall as temperatures drop, dew periods extend, and the skies remain cloudy- be on the lookout for late blight and Botrytis gray mold in high tunnel tomatoes.

Although high tunnels provide direct protection from rain, high relative humidity and dew can still provide the moisture necessary for disease development. To read the full article please click here.

Putting Down Roots

If you are a beginning farmer with agricultural experience looking for farmland in New York State, consider applying to Putting Down Roots, an advanced training program at no cost to farmers to prepare you to find suitable land for your farm business.

Putting Down Roots is a three-part workshop series offered this fall to advanced beginning farmers in two locations – the Mid-Hudson Valley and Western New York.

The workshops will review farm tenure options, how to evaluate personal readiness and farmland requirements, financial statements and planning, as well as tools for finding and making decisions about farmland.

Farmers who complete all three workshops will also receive follow-up support from instructors.

For all details and application: https://www.farmland.org/puttingdownroots

The series is hosted by American Farmland Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County, Farm Credit East and the National Young Farmers Coalition
Resources

Conference/Events

Sep 14-15, **New York State Horse Council Annual General Meeting**, Saugerties, NY

Sep 22, **Searching for Farm Land in All the Right Places**, 232 Plaza Road, Kingstown, NY

Sep 24, **Chefs, Eaters, & Breeders at Variety Showcase NYC**, Project Farmhouse, NYC, NY

Dec 5-7, **the 2018 Young Farmers Conference**, Stone Barns, Tarrytown, NY. The lottery registration application deadline is October 12

Dec 9-14, **Entrepreneurship Intensive for Farmers**, Stone Barns, Tarrytown, NY. The application deadline is September 22

Recorded, **Business Planning: Taking Your Market to the Next Level** by the Farmers Market Federation of NY

Reads/Webinars

**Resource Guide for Organic Insect and Disease Management** by Brian Caldwell and collaborators

**Grants and Incentives for Northeast Agriculture** by Farm Credit East

**Free Legal Services for Farmers Available through Penn State Law** by Penn State Extension

**Southern Tier West: The Invigoration of Local Livestock and Processing Industries** by Kitchen Table Consultants

Sep 18, **This Study May Save You Millions: Writing a quality feasibility study for your meat business**, 12 PM from the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network

Workshops/Courses

Sep 20, **Agronomic Pesticide Applicator School**, 8 AM-3:30 PM, Manheim, PA

Sep 21, **Silvopasture Workshop**, 9:30 AM -3:30 PM, Valley Falls, NY

Sep 27, **Learning to Grow Ginseng**, 4:00-6:00 PM, Acra, NY

Starting on Sep 28, **Grow a Successful Agritourism Business**, Highland, NY

Oct 3, **Legal Solutions for Farm Business Futures**, Utica, NY

Oct 18, **Fungi in Your Farm Systems**, 10:00 AM-3:45 PM. Stone Barns, Tarrytown, NY

Nov 1, **Extending the Grazing Season for Livestock**, 1:00-4:00 PM, Diamond Hills Farm, Hudson, NY

Support GrowNYC

By shopping at your neighborhood Greenmarket farmers market, you are directly supporting small family farms and ensuring continued access to fresh local food for all New Yorkers.

**Farmroots** is a program of GrowNYC, a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

Learn more about GrowNYC's community gardens, recycling and hands-on education programs and make a donation to support small family farms [here](#).