

NY Farms!

Building Farmer-Consumer Connections in the Empire State

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NY Farms! publishes News to Share approximately monthly to provide information about food and farming to a wide range of interested individuals, organizations and businesses. It is a compilation from a variety of sources. Articles do not necessarily represent official positions of NY Farms! For more about NY Farms! Visit www.nyfarms.info. We would appreciate receiving your information and announcements for News to Share, at nyfarms@nyfarms.info. **Please also use this address to subscribe or unsubscribe.**

Like News to Share, then Join NY Farms! Download membership application at <http://www.nyfarms.info>. Please check the calendar at <http://www.nyfarms.info/calendar.html> for upcoming events including the NY Farms! **Annual Meeting on March 14, 2008**. Download the [registration](#) and [agenda](#) here.

NEWS TO SHARE

March 3, 2008

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NEWS FROM NY FARMS

Annual Meeting

NY Farms! will have their Annual Meeting on March 14, 2008 in Albany, NY.

"Opportunities for Connecting with Markets through Agri-tourism" will be held from 9:00 AM-3: 30 PM at Cornell Cooperative Extension-Voorheesville, NY. Registration: \$15.00 members/ \$20.00 non-members payable at the door. For registration information contact: NY Farms!, PO Box 210, 124 E. 4th St., Watkins Glen, NY 14891, or call 607.535.9790. Please RSVP by March 7, 2008. Download [Registration](#) and [agenda](#) here.

NEW YORK STATE NEWS

New York to Work Together with PA & VT on Dairy Issues:

Three States to Collaborate Resources to Benefit Northeast Dairy Producers

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker today re-signed an agreement with his counterparts from Pennsylvania and Vermont to work cooperatively in an effort to further enhance the dairy industries in all three states.

New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont make up one of the three major milk producing regions in the United States. Collectively, the three states produce over 25 billion pounds of milk annually, more than 16 percent of the nation's total milk supply.

“The dairy industries in New York, Vermont and Pennsylvania all share common markets, challenges and opportunities, and they have more to gain collectively than if we all go it alone,” the Commissioner said. “Therefore, I’m pleased to renew this

collaborative agreement with our partners in our neighboring states to ensure that the Northeast remains a major milk producing and processing region in the United States.”

For full story visit <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AD/release.asp?ReleaseID=1670>

Viticultural Space Map

Excerpt from *The Wine Press* of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation

Viticultural Space Map of New York State is one of the many exciting projects in our \$400,000 Total Quality Focus research program which literally starts from the ground up, travels through the vineyards and ends up in the bottle. This project, coordinated by Cornell's Dr. Alan Lakso in collaboration with many other scientists, is a highly sophisticated system of site selection where you can grow grapes, where you can't, and where you'd be rolling the dice. Among other things, it is based on historical weather data each day for the past 27 years in order to develop a long-term high resolution climatology system. Supplementing the expertise of researchers from Cornell and Cooperative Extension is the Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technologies (IAGT) in Auburn, NY, which provides the incredible space-age technology to make this happen.

For more information:

<http://www.newyorkwines.org/informationstation/newstouse/newsletters/winepress.asp?ArticleID=1018>

Commissioner Names Members to Organic Advisory Task Force

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker today announced the formation and members of the New York State Organic Advisory Task Force. The task force is the first of its kind in New York State and its members will advise the Commissioner on how the State can help the organic community address needs and take advantage of opportunities as consumer demand for organic products grows.

The nineteen members of the New York State Organic Advisory Task Force include:

Gayle Anderson of Honest Weight Food Coop, Albany
Kathy Arnold of Twin Oaks Farm, Truxton
Jody Bolluyt of Roxbury Farm and CSA, Kinderhook
Steven Clarke of Prospect Hill Orchard, Milton
Eric Hansen of Hansen Farms, Stanley
Matt Harbur of Alfred State College, Alfred
Elizabeth Henderson of Genesee Valley Organic CSA and Peacework Organic Farm, Newark
Michael Hoffman of Cornell University, Ithaca
Carol King of NOFA-NY Certified Organic LLC, Binghamton
Zaid Kurdieh of Norwich Meadows Farm, Norwich
Mary-Howell Martens of Lakeview Organic Grain, Penn Yan
David Momberger of Growers Coop Grape Juice Co., Westfield
Rick Pedersen of Pedersen Farms, Seneca Castle
Sue Rau of New York Country Harvest and Drumlins End Farm, Massena

Cheryl Rogowski of Rogowski Farm, Pine Island
Vaughn Sherman of Jerry Dell Farm, Dryden
Martin Stosiek of Markristo Farm, Hillsdale
Greg Swartz of Interim Executive Director, Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York, Cobleskill
Linda Tikofsky-Garrison of Quality Milk Program Services, Cornell University, Ithaca

For the full story visit <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AD/release.asp?ReleaseID=1672>

Sod farms rolling out the green carpet faster with accelerated production model
Article adapted from *American Agriculturalist*

Watching grass grow is not as time-consuming as it used to be – at least for some New York sod farmers who are experimenting with faster growing techniques that could cut production costs in half. Speed, efficiency, quality and costs of various sod production systems are getting a closer look in a two-year research project spearheaded by Cornell University. Eight farms are participating in the study.

“This is a great opportunity for sod growers to have university research scientists verify some of our trial-and-error successes at the practical, farm level. With the professors behind us we believe we can produce results more quickly for the entire sod industry,” says Leonard DeBuck, owner of DeBuck’s Sod Farm, a 450-acre operation in Pine Island, Orange County.

A \$40,000 grant from the New York Farm Viability Institute, a farmer-led nonprofit organization dedicated to improving farm profits, helps fund the research. Project leader A. Martin Petrovic said, “This project is groundbreaking in that it may be the first time that research is directly focused at the growers’ needs. In the past we have been oriented to end users: sports field and golf course managers, landscapers and landowners.”

For the full story visit: <http://www.nyfarmviability.org/press-2008-02-22.htm>

Which Corn to Plant for Grain and Ethanol in 2008?:
NNY Farm Research Provides Data for Critical Decision
Northern New York Agricultural Development Program

Northern New York farmers plant more than 120,000 acres of corn for harvesting as grain and silage to feed livestock. As ethanol production creates demand for corn as a fuel source that acreage will likely increase. The variety of corn a farmer chooses to grow affects the success of the crop and its intended use. The Northern New York Agricultural Development Program funds annual corn variety trials that provide farmers with data for that making that critical decision. The Program has just released its corn grain variety evaluation results for 2008. Fact sheets with the results of the corn grain variety evaluations for 2008 are posted on the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program website at www.nnyagdev.org.

For the full story visit: <http://www.nnyagdev.org/press-02-14-08.htm>

New York Dairy Industry Task Force elects executive committee
New York Farm Viability Institute

The New York Dairy Industry Task Force recently elected its first executive committee -- and charged the group with setting guidelines for implementing projects and initiatives of the New York Center for Dairy Excellence.

The New York Dairy Industry Task Force, the advisory group for the New York Center for Dairy Excellence, held the executive committee election in mid-January.

More than 80 members of the New York Dairy Industry Task Force identify and prioritize project work for the Center. The task force also has working groups that meet throughout the year in the areas of Business and Production Management, Economic Development, Environmental Stewardship, Human Resource Development, and Outreach and Communication.

The Task Force includes farmers, researchers, educators, agri-business representatives, government officials and others in the dairy community.

The executive committee consists of 10 people elected by the Task Force and a member appointed by the New York Farm Viability Institute. The nonprofit Farm Viability Institute launched the New York Center for Dairy Excellence in 2007; its board members are active producers nominated from groups that represent a diversity of New York agriculture.

The executive committee met in January and appointed Connie Patterson, of Patterson Farms in Auburn, its chairperson. The executive committee

NYFVI Representative:
Dave Wood

Rob Noble (Dairy Farm Reps. Cont.)

Dairy Farm Representatives:
Kerry Adams
John Marshman
Stephen Palladin
Connie Patterson

Agriculture Service Representatives:
Julie Berry
Jan Bitter
Dorthea Fitzsimmons
Tom Overton
Jamie Zimmerman

More information visit <http://www.nyfarmviability.org/press-2008-02-15.htm>

January Milk Production Up
USDA NASS New York Field Office

New York dairy herds produced 1.03 billion pounds of milk during January according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field office. Milk cows declined from the previous year while milk per cow increased from the previous year resulting in a 2 percent increase in milk production compared to January 2007. The number of milk cows averaged 626 thousand head, down 2 thousand head from January of the previous year. Milk per cow averaged 1650 pounds, up 40

pounds from the January 2007 rate.

Dairy farmers in the Empire State received an average of \$21.60 per hundredweight of milk sold during January, down \$0.70 from December and \$6.80 above January a year ago.

For full story visit

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/New York/Publications/Statistical Reports/02feb/mlk80219.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_York/Publications/Statistical_Reports/02feb/mlk80219.htm)

Vineyard Planned for Staten Island

WNYC Newsroom

Looking for a taste of Tuscany? You may not have to go too far for too long. Staten Island Borough President James Molinaro and Tuscan winemaker Piergiorgio Castellani Jr. toured the future site of the Vineyard Project at the Staten Island Botanical Garden today. The proposed project will include a demonstration winemaking facility and two-acre vineyard. Molinaro's office has already pledged 1-and-half-million dollars in capital funding for the project. The project is expected to open in 2012.

For view story online visit <http://www.wnyc.org/news/articles/93882>

Commissioner Announces \$13 Million to Protect Water Quality: 46 Projects Funded To Help Prevent Agricultural Runoff from Farms Expanded Bottle Bill Would Generate More Funding for Projects as Such

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker today announced \$13 million for 46 projects that will help farmers protect New York's lakes, streams and rivers from agricultural runoff. This assistance is awarded through the New York State Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (ANSCAP), which serves as a vital component of the State's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program and is funded through the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).

"Investing in our farms is a smart use of resources, not only for the Upstate economy, but for the environment as well," the Commissioner said. "While farmers utilize a quarter of the State's total land mass, it is imperative that the State help make compliance with strict federal environmental regulations financially feasible. These grants are instrumental in ensuring that effective conservation practices are implemented on farms in order to safeguard essential soil and water resources for all New Yorkers to enjoy."

This year's round of ANSCAP funding includes:

- \$1,649,853 for Western New York
- \$3,799,881 for the Finger Lakes
- \$905,772 for the Southern Tier
- \$3,542,482 for Central New York
- \$2,454,904 for the North Country

- \$477,214 for the Mohawk Valley
- \$251,189 for Downstate New York

More information can be found at:

<http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AD/release.asp?ReleaseID=1680>

NNY Agricultural Development Program Announces 22 Projects for 2008 ***Northern New York Agricultural Development Program***

The Northern New York Agricultural Development Program awarded its 2008 grants for on-farm research projects and education programs for farmers in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties. Farmers representing agricultural sectors across the region select projects for funding from the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program.

The 22 projects awarded Northern New York Agricultural Development Program funding range in focus from preventing and treating mastitis in dairy cows and the enhanced production of biofuels. Projects will also help farmers with the production of field crops, livestock, fruit, and maple products and with coping with crop diseases, including brown root rot that was identified in alfalfa and grass fields in three NNY counties in 2005. Research continues in 2008 to further test promising strategies for controlling such crop pests as the alfalfa snout beetle.

A full press release and project list are online at <http://www.nnyagdev.org/press-02-15-08.htm>

Cornell Study Assesses "Food Print" Related to Consumption, Diets ***Cornell University***

Researchers at Cornell University have taken a close look at which type of diet needs the most, and the least, amount of land to support it. They found that a low-fat vegetarian diet is very efficient in so far as how much land it requires, but it is not as efficient as a diet that also includes a small amount of meat.

They equated their findings out to the fact that if everyone in New York State were to follow a low-fat vegetarian diet, the farm land in the state could support close to 50% more people than it can now, which amounts to about 32% of the current population of the state. With the high meat diet that most people follow today, the state is able to feed 22% of the population without having to get food from the other states.

More information at:

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/407798/cornell_study_assesses_food_print_related.html

MARKET TRENDS

Tipping Point

Excerpt from *The Wine Press* of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation

TIPPING POINT is how John Gillespie, President of the Wine Market Council, recently described 2007 for wine consumption trends in the United States, referring to the phenomenon described in a best-selling and fascinating book about rapidly spreading, unstoppable social epidemics that catch on and take off. The tipping point concept is that one or more factors occur that suddenly propel a product into stratospheric growth, much the way a medical epidemic spreads uncontrollably through the population. In the case of U.S. wine consumption, 2007 marked the first year that sales exceeded 300 million cases and annual adult per capita consumption topped 3 gallons. The U.S. also edged out Italy to become the world's second largest wine-consuming nation, with expectations that it will soon overcome France to become #1.

For the full story visit:

<http://www.newyorkwines.org/informationstation/newstouse/newsletters/winepress.asp?ArticleID=1018>

NATIONAL NEWS

US Wine Industry Research

Excerpt from *The Wine Press* of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation

Research funding provided by the U.S. wine industry is pitifully small compared with our friendly competitors in Australia, according to a superb comparative analysis in the current edition of *Wines & Vines* magazine. The total production value of U.S. wineries is \$11.4 billion, but the total amount for Research and Development (R&D) is only \$2 million (\$1.2 million from industry, plus \$.9 million from government). Australian wineries production value is only \$5 billion (less than half of U.S.), but R&D investment is \$23.7 million (nearly 12 times the U.S. total, with \$10.5 million from industry and \$13.2 million from government). In other words, counting just the industry figures, our Australian friends produce less than half the wine we do, but invest 5 times the dollars that we do in research.

For the full story visit:

<http://www.newyorkwines.org/informationstation/newstouse/newsletters/winepress.asp?ArticleID=1018>

Sack Your Bags:

Whole Foods to stop giving out plastic grocery bags by Earth Day

The Daily Grist

Whole Foods will stop handing out plastic grocery bags by Earth Day, April 22, this year. The mega-retailer of natural foods announced yesterday that it will instead encourage customers to bring their own reusable bags; the lazy and forgetful will have their goodies bundled into 100 percent recycled paper bags. "More and more cities and countries are beginning to place serious restrictions on single-use plastic shopping bags since they don't break down in our landfills, can harm nature by clogging waterways and endangering wildlife, and litter our roadsides," said Whole Foods' A.C. Gallo. "Together

with our shoppers, our gift to the planet this Earth Day will be reducing our environmental impact." The grocer estimates that the plastic-bag ban at all its 270 stores in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. will eliminate the use of about 100 million plastic sacks between Earth Day and the end of 2008. All together, Americans throw away about 100 billion plastic bags each year (yes, that's billion with a B).

For full story visit: <http://www.grist.org/news/2008/01/22/WholeFoods/index.html>

What's the probability your supermarket plums are genetically modified?

Ideal Bite

The Bite: What's the probability your supermarket plums are genetically modified? Plum dandy (um, pretty high). But we'll help you crunch the numbers: the little stickers on fruits and veggies have digits that let you know whether they're conventionally grown or organic, and if they're genetically modified (GM).

The Benefits:

- **Better odds for your body.** GM foods have been in stores only since the 1990s, so we don't know the long-term health risks, and in a 1998 EPA sampling, 29% of the foods tested contained detectable pesticides.
- **Less of an eco-gamble.** Scientists are concerned that GMOs will reduce biodiversity.
- **Winning the taste-bud lottery.** Foodies all over the world agree that the range of possible flavors is greater when we just let Mother Nature do her thing.

Those stickers used to annoy us because they're not always easy to peel off, but now we have a newfound appreciation for the little buggers.

Look for the labels stuck on your fruits and veggies:

- A four-digit number means it's conventionally grown.
- A five-digit number beginning with 9 means it's organic.
- A five-digit number beginning with 8 means it's GM.

Full story at: http://www.idealbite.com/tiplibrary/archives/supermarket_numbers_game/

Follow-up posted on COMFOOD listserv:

Product look up codes ("PLU codes") are the numbers of the stickers on produce and bulk items that are priced by weight or by bunch. They are different than Universal Product Codes (bar codes or UPC's) on packaged goods.

PLU codes for produce are governed by a system of voluntary cooperation of producers and sellers led by the International Federation for Produce Standards (online at www.plucodes.com). This entity, because it depends on voluntary cooperation,

acknowledges that there are wide disparities in how their system is used or not used. Individual countries, trade associations, and retailers are free to set and use their own PLU coding systems and there appears to be wide diversity in how these systems are used. According to the I.F.P.C.'s users guide on Produce PLU, PLU's are 4-digit numbers, which can be preceded by an 8 to signify organic and a 9 to signify genetic modification.

The key words in all this are "voluntary", "can be" and "wide diversity."

The next trip to your local grocery store will likely show that this labeling scheme is widely ignored by producers and retailers, where most PLU-coded produce includes only a 4-digit number without this IFPC-recommended prefix digit.

As for UPC's on packaged/standard weight goods, these (usually) 12-digit numbers cannot be decoded with regard to organic/GM production or other things. The codes include a section of digits that specify the manufacturer (a "company prefix") and then a section of digits assigned by each manufacturer to their own products (an "item reference number"). According to GS1US, the supply chain standards entity that assigns UPC's in the United States, there is no rhyme or reason to how these numbers are assigned. Quoting from their bar code faq's page: "Each unique product is assigned a unique Item Reference number. The best demonstrated practice is to assign Item Reference numbers sequentially to your products without any logic or intelligence in the number."

As for the unrelated hazard warning on chemical wipes, I would encourage people (and animals) not to eat them.

CALL FOR ACTION

New York Agriculture In The Classroom- Cornell University

In the last few weeks, [the NYAITC] staff has been brainstorming ideas to help promote and revitalize AITC and its programs. One way we are hoping to reach this goal is through the creation of activity books for both the Kids Growing Food and Blue Bird Grant programs. These activity books will contain tested activities and lessons aligned with NYS learning standards, and serve as a supplement to both new and established school gardens and Blue Bird facilities.

We would like to utilize the amazing talent found throughout the AITC community by incorporating the tested lessons and activities of previous KGF and BB grant winners into these activity booklets. This will truly make these activity books top notch! If you are a previous grant winner who would like to share your KGF or BB related lessons or activities with teachers around the state please submit them to the AITC office for consideration.

Please title submissions KGF and/or BB Activity book and send to the NYAITC Office: NYAITC, 106 Kennedy Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, 14853. Contact: email hed24@cornell.edu or fax: 607-255-7905.

For more information visit <http://www.nyaged.org/aitc/index.html>

RESOURCES

Online Calculator Helps Figure Food Crop Profitability Compiled By Staff Wallaces Farmer.com

Demand for locally-grown foods is on the rise and thanks to research funded by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa food crop producers and restaurateurs have a better understanding of how to maximize their working relationship. An online calculator will even help Iowa farmers determine the profitability of various food crops.

Recently-completed work studied the costs and decision-making processes of independent restaurateurs, local food producers, and restaurant patrons. Increased understanding of these attitudes may help expand the availability of locally-grown foods in Iowa restaurants.

A free Produce Profitability Calculator, on the Web at www.iastatelocalfoods.org/calculator, helps producers create scenarios to help make decisions about what and how much to plant as well as sales decisions such as how, where, when and setting a price. The tool was developed as part of a Leopold Center competitive grant to the Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management program at ISU. A user's manual for the calculator is at:

www.leopold.iastate.edu/research/marketing_files/profitability_0108.pdf.

For more information visit:

<http://wallacesfarmer.com/index.aspx?ascxid=fpStory&fpsid=32100&fpstid=2>

The Food Chain

The Food Chain is an audience-interactive newstalk radio program that airs live on Saturdays from 9am to 10am Pacific time. The Food Chain, which has been named the Ag/News Show of the Year by California's legislature, is hosted by Michael Olson, author of the Ben Franklin Book of the Year award-winning MetroFarm, a 576-page guide to metropolitan agriculture.

MetroFarm's online magazine about metropolitan agriculture <http://www.metrofarm.com/> is well worth a visit.

You can read or participate in MetroFarms' online forum, and find out about The Food Chain's current and past shows. There are four ways to listen:

1. Log on to listen on your local radio station: (Check listings for time)
2. Log on to listen live on your computer: (Saturday 9am Pacific)
3. Browse recent shows for downloadable recorded shows:
 - (A) Select a show title below.
 - (B) Click on the "Listen Now" icon or text--Left click to stream or right click to download and save.
4. Subscribe to our podcast using your favorite podcast aggregator (such as Juice or iTunes) by clicking here or copy our feed link into your aggregator.

For more information visit http://www.metrofarm.com/mf_Food_Chain_Radio.php

EMPLOYMENT

Also available at <http://www.nyfarms.info/JobListings.html>

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County Agroforestry Resource Center Position Opening: 4H Agriculture and Food Systems Educator

The Agroforestry Resource Center of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County is seeking an educator to work with youth audiences. The position will seek to provide experiences for youth that *create supportive learning environments in which diverse youth reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, and caring citizens*. This position will be responsible for recruiting and supporting adult volunteers in the 4H Club Program and providing subject matter expertise and volunteer leader support in the areas of plant and animal science, veterinary medicine and agriculture and food systems.

This position requires a Bachelors degree in agriculture, plant science, natural resources or similar field and the successful candidate will possess excellent communication skills and emotional competencies that lead to effective teamwork and productive networks with county youth service providers, agency collaborators and Cornell faculty. We seek someone with a passion for youth and education with the ability to effectively and tactfully interact with volunteers, staff members and clientele from diverse backgrounds to achieve common goals.

Applications will be reviewed beginning 2/15/08, or until an acceptable pool of applicants has been identified.

Send letter of intent, resume, and transcripts to Cornell Cooperative Extension, 6055 Route 23, Acra, NY 12405. (Call the office 518-622-9820 to request a complete position description or email amt18@cornell.edu)

Poughkeepsie Farm Project (PFP) Program Intern

The Poughkeepsie Farm Project is a non-profit organization that works toward a just and sustainable food system in the Mid-Hudson Valley by operating a member-supported farm, providing education about food and farming, and improving access to healthy locally-grown food.

The program intern will work with PFP staff, members and other interns to implement educational and food justice programs.

This full-season internship is a 7-month position, 45 hours per week, which includes 3-4 days implementing program activities (helping with farmers' market management, leading educational activities, supporting seed garden activities and conducting public outreach) and 1-2 days gaining agricultural skills through hands-on farm work. The

programming internship provides a hand-on opportunity to increase experience implementing community food projects with a grassroots organization and gain knowledge of issues surrounding sustainable agriculture and community food security. The intern will have the opportunity to participate in the Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training (CRAFT) program, and will also receive a weekly stipend.

Interested candidates are requested to apply by February 15, 2008; however, the position will remain open until filled. For more information, or to receive an application, contact Susan at susan@farmproject.org.

Export Development Internship

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources seeks a student for a paid internship position (\$13 - \$15/hour - up to 20 hours per week in Boston. The ideal candidate will have experience, education or a strong interest in subjects relating to food marketing and export market development. Strong communication and computer skills are necessary.

How to Apply: Please e-mail a cover letter and résumé to marybeth.burnand@state.ma.us. **If you have questions contact:** bonita.oehlke@state.ma.us

Farm Manager Wanted

Applicants must have extensive experience with organic vegetable farming (fruit a plus), including planning crop schedules, propagation, crop-rotation, harvest, marketing as well as weed, insect and disease control. They must be able to use computers. The ideal person is outgoing, a natural leader with vision and a business sense. They must be willing to work at least 70 hours a week. The farm manager will work closely with farm owners to improve the farm plan and operations. The position is salaried with insurance. Manager's house provided. The starting date is March 15, 2007, but may be flexible. This position will run at least through November 15, but a year-round manager is preferred. Couples are welcome. Farm Description: The property is a 50 acre historic farm in a wooded private valley along a protected river with Catskill Mountain view. Open land totals 13 acres, 2 acres fenced. There are vegetables, fruit, flowers, herbs and bees. We would like to explore livestock. The farm is located in Stone Ridge, NY, in Ulster County, a two hour drive north of NYC. The property includes a new greenhouse, cellar, new tractor and implements. The farm sells to NYC and local restaurants and at farmers' markets.

For more information, email esopuscreekfarm@gmail.com or call 917-309-7511. To apply, email a resume with three references and requirements.

Other positions are available.

Greenmarket Openings

Greenmarket, a program of the non-profit Council on the Environment of NYC, operates 46 open-air farmers' markets in all five boroughs of New York City. Greenmarket's

mission is to promote regional agriculture and ensure a continuing supply of fresh local produce for New Yorkers. Greenmarket supports farmers and preserves farmland for the future by providing regional, small family farmers with opportunities to sell their fruits, vegetables and other farm products to New Yorkers.

We are excited to be hiring for four positions for this coming market season. Greenmarket is looking for passionate, organized, outgoing people from all walks of life, interested in promoting regional agriculture and food justice. We will be hiring for the following positions:

1 EBT Project Coordinator
3-5 EBT Market Managers
1 Americorps*VISTA EBT Outreach Associate
3-5 Market Managers

Full details on each position can be found at www.cenyc.org/about/careers and additional information about Greenmarket and our farmers' markets can be found at www.cenyc.org/greenmarket. The Council on the Environment is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

OPPORTUNITIES

USDA Rural Development Providing \$18.4 Million in Grants for Value-Added Agricultural Projects

United States Dept of Agriculture, Rural Development

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that \$18.4 million will be made available this fiscal year to help independent agricultural producers enter into value-added activities.

Value-added activities are projects that create additional revenue from existing crops and other production. Examples include the processing of raw commodities to a finished product – such as apples to apple butter or milk to ice cream – and the conversion of farm crops to create renewable energy.

The deadline for applications is March 31.

For more information visit:

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ny/toolbarpages/pressreleasepages/2008/VAPG_announcement_FINAL2_020508.doc

WHAT'S IN SEASON?

We're glad you asked. This month we're featuring MAPLE. If you are a producer and not listed on this website please send us your contact information.

<http://www.nyfarms.info/whatsinseason.html>

SAVE THE DATE

For an updated calendar of events, visit: <http://www.nyfarms.info/calendar.html>

Like News to Share, then Join NY Farms! Download membership application at <http://www.nyfarms.info>. Please check the calendar at <http://www.nyfarms.info/calendar.html> for upcoming events including the **NY Farms! Annual Meeting on March 14, 2008**. Download [Registration](#) and [agenda](#) here.