



Photo Credit: Skip Jensen

2023

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2024

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November '23						
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President's Address



On behalf of the Board of Directors, we proudly present the Annual Report for 2022. The Board of Directors is highly grateful to Cornell Cooperative Extension's educators, staff, and volunteers for their continued dedication to delivering educational programs to our community.

If I had to describe the overall theme of 2022, it was that of transition. The first few months kept us together through the convenience and efficiency of Zoom

meetings, but at the same time, pinpointed the need for more interpersonal connection. This spring, we were able to resume in-person meetings. With this development, we can look at how we can take Extension to the next level. While CCE-Extension was able to provide services virtually and use social distancing practices in the wake of COVID-19, transitioning back to in-person programming will allow us to continue to grow in a robust manner heading into 2023.

Another area of transition this year was an organizational change, particularly in the challenging area of finance and staffing. This year, CCE-Wayne County partnered with CCE-Yates County to provide bookkeeping services. Along with the Finance Lead of the Finger Lakes Strategic Business Network (FLSBN), we addressed this area head-on and closed our books on time. With this area now stable, the Board can increase focus on other organizational and programming areas.

Another aspect of this year (as always) is the Yates County 4-H club. Our 4-H youth are always impressive, and this year was no exception. After a two-year hiatus, the Yates County 4-H club could participate in person at the Yates County Fair. 11 youths showcased 40 animals, and 21 4-H'ers entered a total of 120 projects in the Exhibit Hall. To me, 4-H programming is where people get their first exposure to Cooperative Extension, and the "Four H's" (Head, Heart, Hand, Health) is essential to all programming areas.

Looking ahead to 2023, I am thrilled to continue working with CCE-Yates County Staff and Educators, as well as with the Board of Directors and community collaborators. As we continue to get back into the

routine of in-person gatherings and meetings, I look forward to seeing the audience reach grow through online programming and social media.

I am also pleased to announce that the Board has nominated two new members: Caryl Sutterby and Lindsey Dean. Caryl is the project coordinator for the Dundee Neighborhood Health Improvement Project (Our Town Rocks) and serves as a Deputy Supervisor for the Town of Starkey, Chair of the Yates County Planning Board, Member of the Dundee Village ZBA Board, Dundee Library Trustee, Dundee Area Historical Society Trustee, and is a member of the Dundee Fresh Board of Directors. Lindsey is a partner for IDEA Collective, which creates educational programming through eco-friendly craft/gardening kits for local youth and their families. They will likely bring fresh ideas and experience to our Board.

I would also like to acknowledge the two Board members whose terms are ending this year. Bill Laffin and Suzanne Patterson have brought incredible leadership, expertise, and community connection to the Board. We are very much indebted to their service and will miss their contributions. However, they will continue to share their knowledge and time in our community beyond the world of Extension.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to Executive Director Arlene Wilson and the CCE-Yates County staff and educators. We are very grateful for your dedication to our community and members and look forward to continuing to work alongside such a superb team of individuals. I also want to acknowledge the continued support of the Yates County Legislature and the constituents they represent.

In closing, I am very grateful for all we accomplished in 2022. While it was not without its challenges, I am very proud of how CCE-Yates County has continued to pull through together and become a better, more vital organization on the other side. With that in mind, I look forward to seeing what lies ahead in 2023. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Smith".

James Smith

CCE- Yates County Board President

Mission Statement

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being.

We bring local experience and research-based solutions together, helping local Yates County families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County

417 Liberty Street,
Penn Yan, NY 14527
Phone: 315-536-5123
Fax: 315-536-5117

Web: <http://yates.cce.cornell.edu>

CCE Yates Board of Directors 2023

James Smith, President

Anne Waasdorp, Vice President

Sirene Garcia, Secretary

Daniel Wickham, Treasurer

Carlie Chilson, Legislative Representative

Adam Hughes, Cornell Representative, State Specialist

Trish Bagley

Lindsey Dean

Caryl Sutterby

Andrew Zimmerman

CCE Yates Staff Directory 2023

Arlene Wilson, Executive Director

aaw66@cornell.edu

Caroline Boutard-Hunt, Ag Educator

cb239@cornell.edu

Donald Caldwell, Viticulture Technician

dc886@cornell.edu

Vallie Castner, Life Skills Educator

vgc8@cornell.edu

Jennifer Clancey, 4-H Team Leader

jja26@cornell.edu

Lexie Davis, Nat. Resource Educator

abd97@cornell.edu

Cheryl Flynn, Master Gardener Coordinator

cj348@cornell.edu

Brittany Griffin, Administrative Assistant

bg393@cornell.edu

Maggie Mahr, Marketing Coordinator

mam752@cornell.edu

Judson Reid, CVP/HNY Team Leader

jer11@cornell.edu

Hans Walter Peterson, FLGP Team Leader

hcw5@cornell.edu

Finger Lakes Shared Business Network 2022 Update



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County recently has taken charge of the Finger Lakes Shared Business Network (SBN) as the lead organization. The Finger Lakes SBN consists of Cooperative Extension associations in the counties of Steuben, Livingston, Yates, Wayne, Ontario, Schuyler and Seneca. The shared business functions include IT, Finance and HR. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County was formerly in charge of the Finger Lakes SBN.

With CCE Steuben as the lead organization of the seven counties, they are acquiring three new staff members:

- **John Bouwens, Finger Lakes SBN Finance Lead**
- **Kelsey James, Finger Lakes SBN HR Lead**
- **Scot Mantelli, Finger Lakes SBN IT Lead**



CCE Steuben Executive Director Tess McKinley says, "CCE Steuben is grateful and excited for the opportunity to serve other CCE Associations in the Finger Lakes region. We are honored to have been chosen to support the seven counties in our area and look forward to what is to come with the Shared Business Network. We inherited a wonderful team which will be key to our success."

About the SBN:



Shared Business Networks (SBN's) were created several years ago to provide an updated infrastructure for Cornell Cooperative Extension associations statewide. Associations participating in the SBNs have access to competent, knowledgeable "leads" in the areas of finance, HR, and IT. The SBN leads have access to training, troubleshooting, and business practice development with on-campus administrators.



CCE Administration works through the local SBN functional leads. The functional leads work directly with association staff to address needs as they arise. The vision creates a structure that provides increased effectiveness at reduced transaction costs, both locally and at Cornell. Another outcome of this vision is to better position CCE in ways that will enhance the sustainability of programming in difficult economic times.

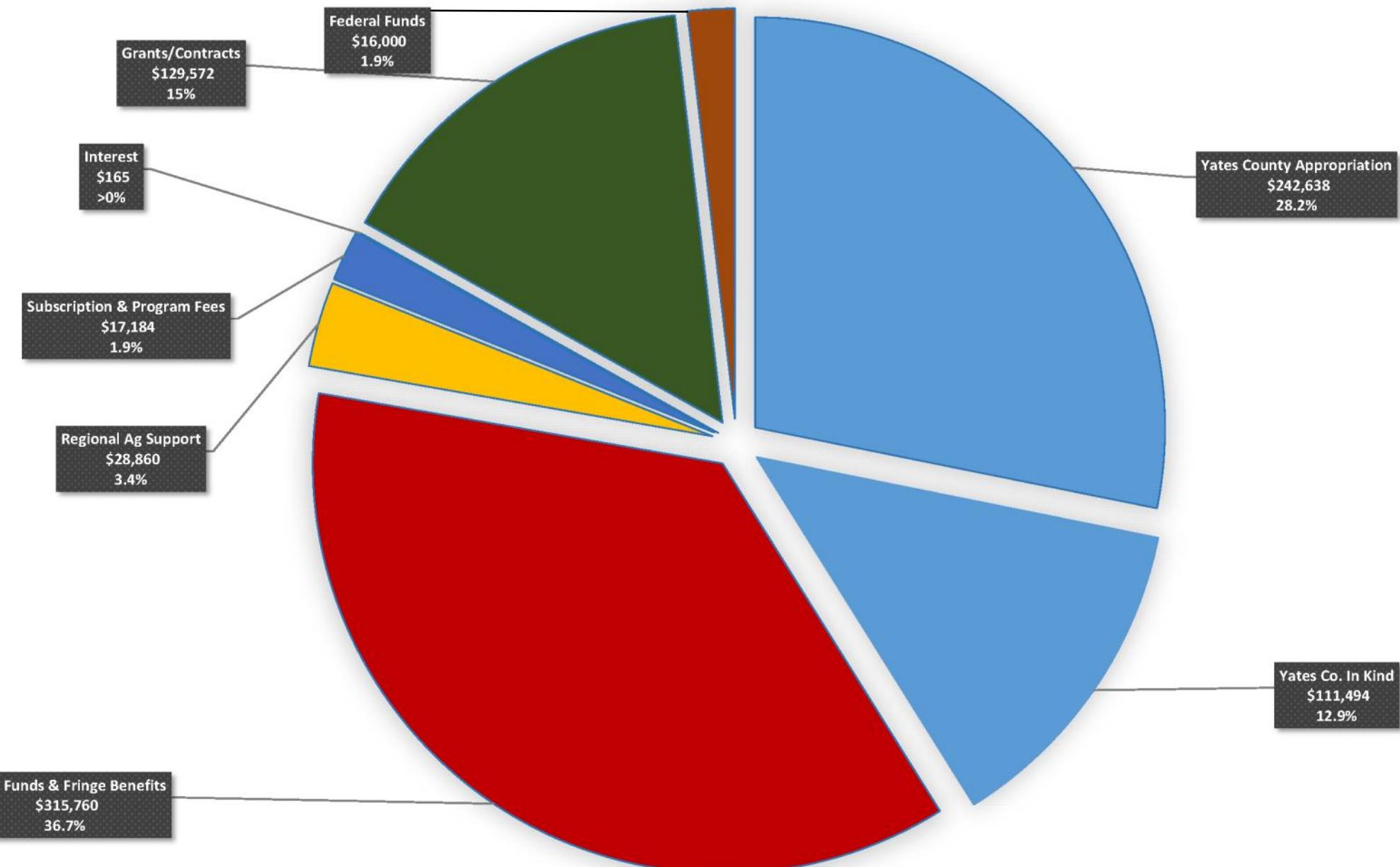
Regular mechanisms are in place for each statewide group of functional leads to communicate via conference call or other electronic means one or two times per month. These connections provide a forum for a statewide team approach to addressing issues and problem-solving and assure SBN leads are kept current on matters that will affect local CCE association business. "Lead" Executive Directors of SBNs also meet monthly via conference calls. CCE Administration functional leads and staff facilitate these meetings.

When significant business practices change across the system, those changes are implemented through the SBN functional leads instead of the former practice of dealing with all 57 counties individually and simultaneously. The SBN infrastructure allows for a communication pathway between CCE Administration and the SBN leads and then between the SBN leads and Associations. This feedback mechanism provides CCE administration with information from the field on topics such as which options will work best, how to deploy a change, how to fix a problem, etc. When an association experiences a business-related problem or question, the appropriate SBN functional lead is the first contact and serves in the role of relaying information to CCE Administration when needed.

Pictured (from top to bottom): Tess McKinley, John Bouwens, Kelsey James, and Scot Mantelli



2022 CCE Revenue Resources



Executive Director's Note

As we say goodbye to another growing season and carefully move back to social and holiday gatherings in our post-COVID new normal, I reflect on the role of Cooperative Extension.

We are an educational organization tasked with being the "bridge" between Cornell University and the community. We lead from the front (by example), bringing new research and best practices for raising livestock, field crops, grapes, and vegetables. We host workshops in person and on ZOOM and share new regulations and funding opportunities to benefit agriculture, natural resources, and the community.

We lead from the back by providing support (strategic planning, ZOOM meeting hosting, note taking, photocopies, mailings, social media postings] and services (free supplies, free equipment, survey design, administration, grant writing, etc.) behind the scenes.

In our role as intermediaries, we are the go-between. We facilitate committee meetings on farmland protection planning; we work with governmental departments and community organizations to survey the changing needs of the agricultural community and respond accordingly. We participate in community meetings and brainstorming sessions on health, transportation, economic development, and after-school programming. We lead from the center, bring grantors to the community to meet key providers of not-for-profit services, and provide an opportunity for them to tell their own stories. We meet up with people on the job and around the community, considering where there may be opportunities to work together for the greater good.

We are in a time of change and transition. There are many complicated decisions to be made about so many areas (Solar Farms? Wind? Organic food? Pesticides? Climate Change? Business Development? Food Insecurity? Watershed

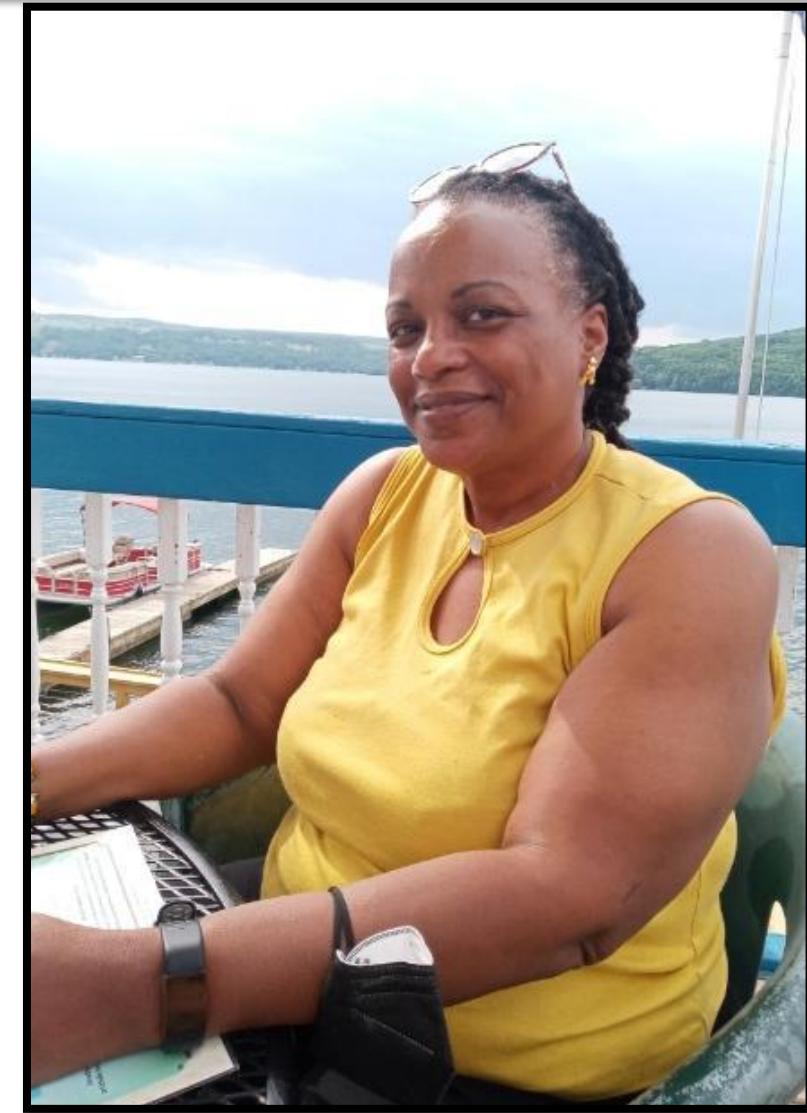
Protection?), and there are no easy answers.

But Cooperative Extension of Yates County will bring best practices and the latest information. We will talk to individuals and hear their ideas and concerns. And we will always encourage people to sit down, listen and speak to each other.



Arlene A. Wilson, Executive Director

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County



One leads from the front by example
One leads from the back by encouragement
One leads from the center by bringing people together
-Indonesian Proverb

January 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 ML King Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Notes: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>			



Pictured (clockwise, from the left): Brisco Smith, Reggie Larkin, and Brenna Hathway

Yates County 4-H Public Presentations: A Foundation of Success

4-H Public Presentations is an annual event allowing youth as young as 5 years old to gain experience developing a presentation and speaking in front of an audience. Youth receive constructive feedback from volunteer judges, with the opportunity to advance from the county to district, state, and even national level of competition as skills develop and improve. Many 4-H alum credit 4-H Public Presentations to successes in high school, college, and beyond – successfully preparing them for a variety of experiences beyond their 4-H careers.

In April of 2022, **9** youths participated in the Yates County 4-H Public Presentations, located at the Yates County Office Building in Penn Yan. Topics included origami, how to make meringue, isopods, and much more. To add a unique twist on this year's event, over **HALF** of our participants were first-time presenters!



Skills Learned

4-H Public Presentations allows youth to grow and develop a variety of skills:

- **Organization**
- **Time Management**
- **Self-Esteem**
- **Self-Discipline**
- **Communication**
- **Critical Thinking**
- **Poise**
- **Creativity**
- **Professionalism**
- **Sportsmanship**

February 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
				Groundhog Day		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Valentine's Day				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Presidents' Day				
26	27	28	Notes:			

Agricultural Programming In Yates County

CCE-Yates County provides programming, farm visits, and educational outreach to support farms of all sizes.

In 2022, our association hired a part-time crop scout to monitor participating farms throughout the county for emerging pest issues. The results were shared with the farms, along with IPM recommendations, and in the [Yates County Farm Update](#) (our FREE weekly field crop and forage newsletter).

We look forward to continuing this program during the next field season. If you are interested in subscribing to the [Yates County Farm Update](#), or in participating in the crop scouting program, please call our office at 315-536-5123 to sign up.

Outreach By The Numbers:

- Over **90** Agriculture Questions answered via phone or e-mail
- **21** in-person farm visits
- Weekly Scouting in Starkey, Jerusalem, and Torrey (**35** visits)
- **47** Yates County Farm Update Newsletter Subscribers

Save The Date!

Yates County Field and Forage Crop Symposium is March 22nd, 2023. Topics include:

- Weed management through understanding weed biology
- Soil health and cover crop selection
- Disease Management



Programming & Major Projects in 2022:

- Fundamentals of IPM: Field and Forage Focus Class
- Private Pesticide Applicator Training (2 classes)
- Pesticide Credit Classes “on demand” (2 classes)
- Biology and Management of Aphids Class
- Yates Farm Safety Day (assisted w/planning and facilitation)
- Orchard Pruning and Maintenance Workshop
- Blueberry Pruning Workshop
- Tractors 101: Choosing, Purchasing, and Maintaining Your Tractor
- Farmland Protection Plan Update– Request For Proposal and Plan Development

March 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Savings Time Begins						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Spring Begins			Yates County Field & Forage Crop Symposium			
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Community-Based Gardening in Yates County



The Master Gardener Program is a national program of trained volunteers who work in partnership with their county Cooperative Extension Office to share information throughout the community.

Our 10 Master Gardeners:

- Provided over **230** hours of volunteer service.
- Grew and donated over **280** pounds of produce to local food banks
- Helped plan public and not-for-profit gardens to beautify the community.
- Distributed Container Garden Kits to all pre-k students in Yates County with the generous backing of a Beacon Grant through the Elks Lodge #1722
- Planted and maintained children's' garden beds throughout the county.

Gardening Matters Newsletter



Photo Credit: Maggie Mahr

In 2022, the Gardening Matters Newsletter celebrated **4** years of publication. Written and published by the Yates County Master Gardener volunteers, this quarterly newsletter continues to be an educational resource for over **50** subscribers! For more information (or to view previous issues), visit our website at <https://bit.ly/gardeningmatters>.

Yates County Pollinator Bracket Competition

On May 9th, the Legislature of Yates County adopted Resolution No. 183-22, formally naming the Squash Bee (*Peponapis pruinose*) as Yates County's Pollinator of the Year. This was the result of CCE-Yates County's first annual pollinator bracket tournament, a 5-week long interactive event held on social media (**March 7th-April 8th, 2022**). The purpose behind the tournament was to educate the community and bring attention to the variety and importance of pollinators in the support and continuity of agriculture. In summary, the tournament averaged a total of **14,966** views, with the squash bee winning **56%** of the vote during the final round.

To learn more about squash bee and the other pollinators considered, visit our YouTube channel for a full recap video of the tournament via this link: <https://youtu.be/N-r0h58VvNw>.



Photo Credit: Maggie Mahr

2022 Workshops and Events: By the Numbers

This year, the Master Gardener Program held **10** classes, workshops, and events including:

- Seed to Supper (A 4-Week Food Gardening Class- **14** attendees)
- Native Plants for Pollinators Sale- **88** attendees
- Gardening Matters Day- **24** attendees
- Penn Yan Community Garden Open House-**33** Attendees

Other topics included pollinator health, birds, and ecological lawn care.



Save the Date! Gardening Matters Day is April 15th, 2023!

April 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	Notes: _____ _____					

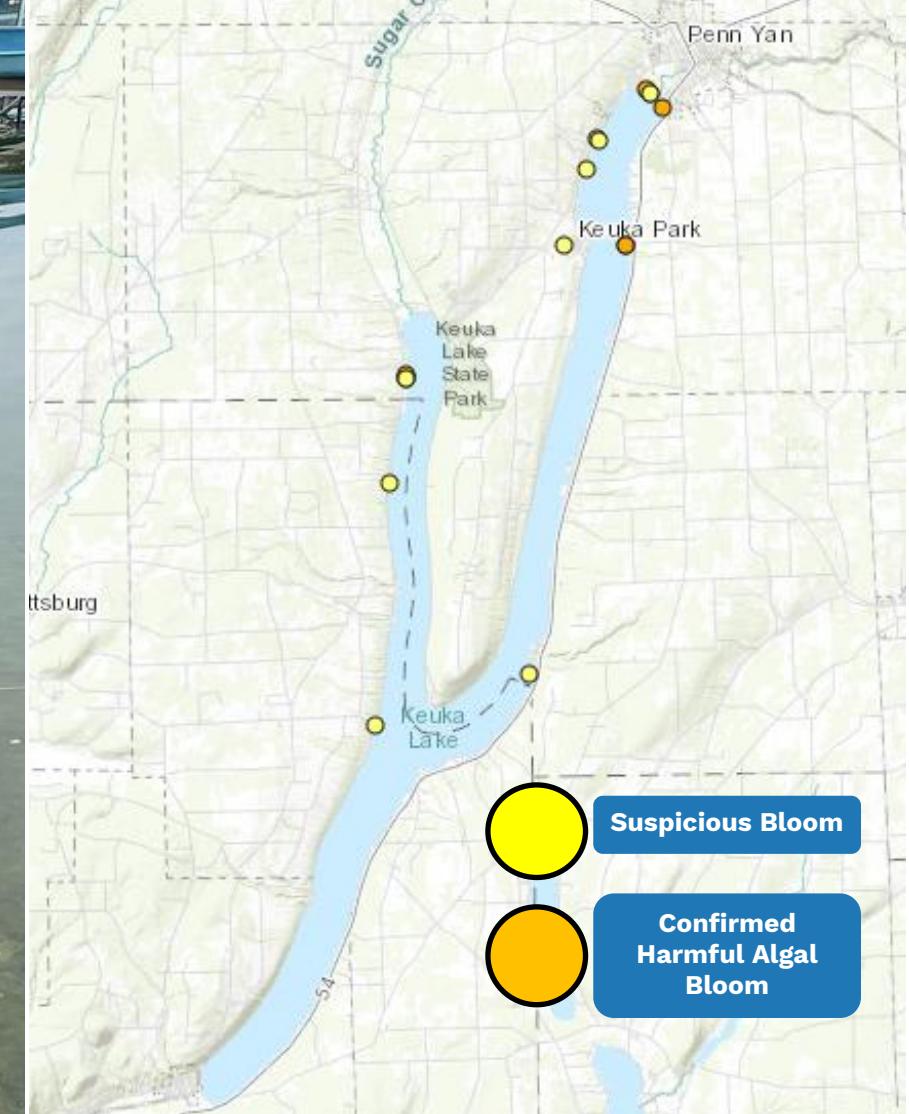


Natural Resources Education

Photo Credit: Nancy Jameson

Shoreline Monitoring Program Update

Since 2020, CCE Yates County has worked with the Keuka Lake Association in developing and maintaining the Shoreline Monitoring Program for Keuka Lake. With the help of 57 volunteers, 246 surveys were completed this year for Keuka Lake. A total of 19 suspicious blooms were reported in 2022. If you are interested in joining the Shoreline Monitoring Program, reach out to Lexie Davis at abd97@cornell.edu.



Year	Number of Volunteers	Number of Blooms
2020	50	17
2021	57	39
2022	57	19



**Save the Date! New York State's
Invasive Species Awareness Week is
June 6th-June 12th, 2023!**

May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____		



Family, Budget, & Life Skills Programming

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County offers the TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Life Skills 1:1 program to eligible, qualifying Yates County residents. This is a number limited (20 per year) as well as specific eligibility requirements due to the program funding. While it is specific in terms of participant eligibility, the program is rich with information, education, tips, and tools which are provided to family participants.

It has been important to assist individuals and families to help address their additional needs during these difficult and changing times. Efforts included the following: home drop-offs of program materials, garden seed kit distribution, and assisted with blankets, clothing, bath towels, and household items. Encouragement/assistance with connecting to local community resources (Keuka Housing Council, Inc./ESG, The Well, the Keuka Pantry, and DSS) for possible funding assistance and food security. Sometimes an individual just needed the physical accompaniment and

encouragement of our CCE Life Skills educator when reaching out to a local resource. Some past program participants have requested to have monthly check-ins (a text, email, or phone call and to be notified of any new updates and community resource information).

CCE partners with Workforce Development to offer Self Sufficiency workshops. This year the workshops have been presented virtually via Zoom and topics include community resources, budget education/information, a food unit, simple energy tips, and more.

To see if you qualify for the TANF Life Skills 1:1 Program, contact the CCE-Yates County office at 315-536-5123, or visit us online at <https://bit.ly/36Nlry5>.

**How can we help you meet
your savings goals?**



Community Feedback

"This class gives you great tools and information to help you down a good path no matter how far back you start, I have been incredibly more cautious of electric usage and tracking spending."

"Very communicative and helpful, a lot of sources and things I was able to take from other and use it in day-to-day life. Because of program participation I am trying make (a) list as well as keep receipts for what I use/buy". This participant also reported she" has taken a lot of things from here such as unit pricing and making meal preps and use them to my best".

"...Wonderful information, a good refresher and the budgeting, (pieces)"

"I am more cautious of how to save money and learned places that provide resources to help financially. I liked learning how to save money and be more aware of spending on wants vs. needs."

June 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Juneteenth		Summer Begins			
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Finger Lakes Grape Program



Pictured: Pinot gris grapes with sour rot developing. The disease is caused by multiple microorganisms and spreads rapidly by fruit fly activity.

Sour Rot Trial Shows Promising Results

One of the major focuses of the FLGP over the past few years has been to find better ways to control late-season bunch rots, which negatively impact the quality of the grapes and growers' revenues. We are particularly interested in practices that do not involve multiple chemical treatments because of their high cost and gradual ineffectiveness due to the development of pesticide resistance, which we have documented in Finger Lakes vineyards.

Past research has shown that removing leaves opposite the clusters at the beginning of bloom can reduce the number of berries that form on a cluster, making them looser and less prone to cracking, which allows sour rot to develop. In addition, research at Cornell AgriTech has found that exposing clusters to UV light during the ripening period can reduce the incidence and severity of sour rot.

To evaluate if these practices can benefit growers, the FLGP started a field trial this year with Dr. Katie Gold, grape pathologist at Cornell AgriTech, to assess both practices for their ability to reduce the incidence and severity of bunch rots compared to chemical applications. Our results from this first year showed that both practices resulted in less rot development than just the chemical treatment alone. This is an encouraging result. The FLGP will work with Dr. Gold and other Cornell scientists to develop a proposal for a more robust trial. These findings will determine if these new practices can be cost-effective treatments for growers to reduce bunch rots in grapes while also reducing pesticide use.

The Finger Lakes Grape Program is a partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne and Yates Counties.



Exposing grape clusters to UV light may help to reduce crop loss to sour rot, reducing the need for chemical controls.

July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Independence Day				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____				

Friends of Extension 2022 Campaign

CCE of Yates County continues to serve all residents, businesses, and communities. CCE's programs touch the lives of many in our community. We would like to thank the individuals, families, and businesses listed below that support us through the Friend of Cornell Cooperative Extension fundraising efforts. We would also like to acknowledge our gratitude of the grants received from the organizations and foundations. To date*, we have raised over **\$5,000*** through this campaign. Our gratitude goes out to the following contributors:

Sally & Tim Acomb - In Honor of Irene & Lee Alexander

Lois Agliata

David & Jessica Baum

Bedient Vineyards (James Bedient)

Buzzard Crest Vineyards (Eileen Farnan)

Beverly & Brian Cerow - In Memory of Barbara Ford

DB Miles Agency, Inc.

DeMarco Vineyards (David DeMarco)

Tim & Dawn Dennis

Wendy Disbrow

Fox Run Vineyards (Scott Osborn)

Dr. & Mrs. Gerry Gacioch

Lew Ann Giles

Glenora Wine Cellars, (Gene Pierce)

KanPak, LLC

Bill Laffin

J. Robert & Madeleine Lawrence

Loyal Order of the Moose #2300

Mary-Howell & Klaas Martens (Lakeview Organic Grain) - In Honor of Yates County Organic Farmers

Morgan's Grocery

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Osgood

Overlook Farms (Harry Humphreys)

Thomas A. Pearson, PhD

Pine Ridge Vineyard (Lynn E. Simmons)

John H. Potter- In Memory of Joe Donahue

Karen L. Scholler

Seneca Shore Wine Cellars

Neil & Joyce Simmons

James Smith

Anne Waasdorp

Glenn Zimmerman

Foundation Support

Cornell Innovation Grant

DEC Emergency Food Grant

Elks Foundation Beacon Grant

Extension Foundation

Genesee Finger Lakes Chapter Air & Waste Management Foundation

Joan and Harold Feinbloom Foundation

NYS Agriculture and Markets

NYS Council on the Arts

Rochester Area Community Foundation

Tripp Family Foundation

USDA Sea Grant

Yates Endowment Relief Grant

Many thanks as well to those contributors wishing to not have their names published.

August 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	

Conservation Field Day 2022

The 55th Annual Conservation Field Day for all of Yates County's (Penn Yan, Dundee, and Prattsburgh) sixth graders occurred Thursday, September 22nd, 2022, at the Keuka Lake State Park in Branchport. Conservation Field Day is a yearly, one-day environmental education program designed to introduce students to topics in ecology, water, natural resource management, conservation careers, safety and more.

This year, over **200** sixth graders were educated on the following topics:

- **Forestry**
- **Boat Steward Program**
- **DEC Law Enforcement**
- **Emergency Preparedness**
- **Crop Management**
- **Lake-Friendly Living**
- **Waste Water Treatment**
- **Ticks, Lyme Disease, & Rabies**
- **Detecting Asian Longhorned Beetle**
- **Tree Identification**

After the event, students are encouraged to create a poster on one of the topics. Teachers are then requested to select the three best from their class submit them to CCE-Yates County to be judged in a contest. Top posters from each class will receive a one-year subscription to [The Conservationist](#) magazine, sponsored by Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District, and CCE-Yates County.

55th Annual Yates County Conservation Field Day Cooperating Agencies:

CCE-Yates County
Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District
Yates County Public Health
NYS Department of Environment Conservation
NYS Department of Public Health
NYS State Department of Public Services
IDEACollective



Pictured (top left to right): Yates County Public Health, Crop Management Display, Pictured (middle): Colby Petersen, Ethan Hall, Crystal Bailey (YC Soil & Water), Lexie Davis (CCE-Yates County)
Pictured (lower left to right): DEC Law Enforcement, Tree Identity Activity



September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Fall Begins

2022 Award Recipients

- **County Medals** – Presented to youth who have reached a level of mastery in a project area, resulting from several years of project work using their head, heart, hands, and health to take their project to a higher level and encompassing all the 4-H ideals.
 - **Brenna Hathaway** – Leadership, Sportsmanship, and Citizenship
 - **Maddie Smith** – Leadership, Sportsmanship, and Citizenship
- **Aleen Stewart Memorials Award** for home environment, leadership, and a positive attitude – Ariel Winfield and Arianna Winfield
- **Fenton Wager Memorial Award for Animal Husbandry** – Brenna Hathway
- **Dave Eames Memorial Award for Service Above Self** – Maddie Smith
- **Laura Decker Memorial Award for Leadership and Public Speaking** – Maddie Smith
- **4-H Sportsmanship Award** – Ariel Winfield
- **Friend of 4-H Award** – Penn Yan Elk's Lodge
- **Rising Star Award** for outstanding efforts within the 4-H Program – Cyndy Harnett
- **Outstanding 4-H Volunteers** – Marge Hathway, Beth Smith, Denise Slocum, Jen Stape, Angela Winfield, Melissa Larkin, Laura Hight, Charlene DeMarco
- **Event Sponsors** – The Stewart Family, The Decker Family, Yates County Farm Bureau, Penn Yan Rotary, Farm Credit East, ACA, Lyons National Bank, Five Star Bank, Community Bank



4-H Year-End Awards

Achievement Night Recognizes those that have:

- Demonstrated or improved upon new skills
- Shown courage by stepping out of their comfort zone
- Excelled in a specific project area
- Exhibited growth and personal development
- Demonstrated leadership and follow through
- Exhibited Service above Self
- Gone above and beyond the call of duty
- Devoted their energy and countless hours of time to help improve the lives of youth in Yates County



Pictured: Jen Clancey (4-H Team Leader), Launy Redman, Brenna Hathway, Grayson Hathway, Payton Allison, Lucie Martens, and Ginny Savage



yates.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth

October 2023



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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Columbus Day/
Indigenous People's
Day

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Notes: _____

Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Vegetable Program



Yates County is Tops in High Tunnels!

Recent studies reveal a rapidly changing economic reality for New York farmers. Potassium and phosphorus fertilizer indices nearly doubled over the last year, and nitrogen, in some cases, tripled! However, ongoing research by the Cornell Vegetable Program contributes to farm sustainability by reducing reliance on shipped-in nitrogen and decreasing input costs.

We recently completed a project that included on-farm research for both winter nitrogen fertilizer rates for greens crops such as spinach, in addition, to cover cropping in rotation with warm-season tomato crops in high tunnels.

Why does this matter locally? Yates is the **#1** county in New York State for high-tunnel vegetable farms (including a **60%** increase in acreage from the previous census)! Crops from Yates County high tunnels are primarily marketed through the Finger Lakes Produce Auction, conducting over **\$5 million** in annual sales.

By elucidating appropriate cover crop practices and appropriate nitrogen rates, this project leads to increased profitability by

The Cornell Vegetable Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and CCE Associations in 14 counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates

Impact:

After program exposure, **71%** of farmers reported a greater understanding of how winter cover crops can be used in high tunnels. Of those that adopted cover crops, **92%** report planting in the fall or winter.

Of those that have implemented cover crops, **90%** reported an improvement in their operation associated with adoption. We estimate our work created a new gross savings of up to **\$89,760** per year for these reporting farms.

Pictured (left to right): New York Mennonite Farmer Nelson Hoover and Jud Reid (Cornell Vegetable Program) at Maple Lane Produce, Penn Yan NY.

reducing inputs and improving soil sustainability. Educating farmers on our research findings, we help the local industry remain profitable in the volatile fertilizer input market. We trialed two cover crop species: Austrian field peas and Triticale, at a cooperating farm, Maple Lane Produce, in Yates County, NY.

An outreach program brought our findings to farmers and service providers via in-person and virtual events. Specifically, we reached **5107** individuals statewide through combined in-person meeting attendance and media exposure for the project. Examples include nine media outputs, such as print articles, podcasts, and YouTube videos, as well as **36** presentations by the project team.

Our Cornell Cooperative Extension project team included Judson Reid, Caitlin Vore, Elisabeth Hodgdon, and Andy Galimberti. We are very grateful to the Yates County farmers who collaborate to advance our knowledge on this topic. This work was funded by a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant administered by the New York Farm Viability Institute.

November 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____	

Master Forest Owner Program



In Yates County:

Yates County MFO volunteers meet monthly with the Regional Director of the MFO Program (Northwest Region) and the regional NYSDEC forester to discuss woodlot visits, general forest health questions, and woodlot management practices.

Pictured: MFO Field Session in June 2022

What is the Master Forest Owner Program?

The Master Forest Owner (MFO) Program provides private woodland owners of New York State with the information and encouragement necessary to manage their forests wisely.

Over **140** experienced and highly motivated volunteer MFOs are available statewide, ready to assist neighbor woodland owners with the information needed to start managing their woodlands, through free site visits to landowner's properties. All MFOs are graduates of a 4-day training program, where they learn about sawtimber and wildlife management, woodland economics, and ecology. The MFOs continue to receive information updates, attend refresher classes and maintain contact with natural resource managers from private, public, and academic organizations.

Do you have questions or need more information about your woodlot? MFO volunteers offer free educational assistance and connect you to a network of professionals. If you would like to schedule a visit from a Master Forest Owner Volunteer or learn more about the program, scan the QR code!



How do I become a Master Forest Owner?

All Master Forest Owner volunteers are graduates of an online training program with an additional field session where they learn about sawtimber and wildlife management, woodland economics, and ecology. After training, volunteers conduct visits to local forest owners' woodlots to provide information on how to achieve their goals for their land. In 2022, 53 new MFO volunteers were trained!

If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, contact **Lexie Davis (Northwest Regional Director)** at abd97@cornell.edu.

Find us on 

<https://www.facebook.com/MFONorthwest/>



December 2023



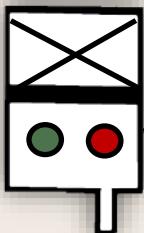
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____					

Christmas Day

Winter Begins

CCE-Yates County Programming Area Reach

RUSHVILLE



MIDDLESEX

POTTER

ITALY

JERUSALEM

PENN YAN

BENTON

TORREY

BARRINGTON

MILO

STARKEY

DRESDEN

DUNDEE

Programming Areas Key

4-H/Youth Programming: Seasonal youth programming, 4-H Youth programs and projects; County & State Fair

Agriculture: field crops, produce, fruit, grapes, livestock education and programming. Incl. Pesticide credits, and Farmland protection Planning

Clean/Solar Energy: Education about heat pumps, solar, agrivoltics. Access to programs and services

Family Economics/Community Education: TANF clientele, financial management, budgets, community resource education

Food Insecurity/Nutrition: Support of community planning to address food deserts. Provisions of produce. SNAP-Ed programs and services, fruit & veg Rx Program

Horticulture: School/Community Gardens. Grow vegetables, herbs, flowers, and provide to students and community. Seeds and gardening kits distributed to communities.

Natural Resources: Watershed education, testing, citizen scientist, land-based invasive species (insects and plants). Private woodlot management. Conservation Field Day

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Yates County
417 Liberty Street
Penn Yan, NY 14527

<http://yates.cce.cornell.edu>



(315) 536-5123

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