

AUGUST 2025 AG REPORT

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

PAST WORKSHOPS

Gardening 101 series Part 3 - August 6th: A hands on workshop at the CCE teaching garden where participants learned about vining plants, pest control, disease identification, pollinator benefits, pruning and harvesting.

Community Preservation Acts - August 6th: Attendees learned about Community Preservation Acts, what they are, how they are implemented across the Hudson Valley, and what steps municipalities and counties can take to adopt them.

Techniques for Water Management at Unbroken Acres - August 18th: Participants learned how to apply strategies like berms and swales to slow, spread and sink water on their property and toured real examples of berms, swales, and catchment pond features already in place on the farm.

Invasive Species Walking Tour at Hurleyville Rail Trail - August 27th: Participants walked along the rail trail learning how to identify invasive species, what threat they pose, and management methods for eradication.

Farmer Mixer at Angry Orchard - September 8th: Attendees had a private tour of Angry Orchard where they learned about their research projects with Cornell University, toured the apple orchard and the facilities, and learned about the history of the orchard.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

- **Soil Health & Management at Bobolink Farm - September 23rd from 5-7pm**
- **Agritourism Farm Tour with Mother Earth Farmstead - September 29th from 5-7pm:** Get an inside look at Mother Earth Farmstead's operations, history, and approach to sustainable agriculture.
- **Turning Harvests into Profits: A Value Added Workshop for Farm & Food Businesses with Cornell Food Venture Center - October 1st from 3-5pm:** Hear from the Cornell Food Venture Center, and learn about regulatory requirements food safety standards, product testing, labeling and business planning.
- **Farmer Mixer at Finca Seremos Farm - October 6th from 5-7pm**
- **Pasture Management & Grazing Webinar - October 30th from 6-8pm:** Attendees will earn pesticide recertification credits and will provide farmers and land managers with practical strategies to improve pasture productivity. This session will also cover pesticide safety, focusing on proper handling, storage, and recordkeeping to ensure compliance.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 142 Soil/Hay Tests: 17 Farm Visits: 2

Technical Assistance was provided on land access, ag districts, farmland preservation, Catskills Kitchen (insurance, business structures, permitting & licensing), soil testing, accessing markets, crop rotation/production, cover cropping, soil tests, funding, livestock breeding, greenhouse and high tunnel production, invasive species, pest Identification, native gardens, orchard care and composting. **36 total Hours of Technical Assistance.**

FARMLAND PRESERVATION:

Number of Municipal 239 Review's: 1
Ag Assessment, Ag Zoning & Ag District
Technical Assistance: 22

2025 Ag District 30 Day Window: A final report has been created for NYS Department of Ag and Markets and will be submitted to NYS in Sept.

County-Wide Farmland Preservation Project (and Report from Orange County Land Trust)

- OCLT met with the Town of Delaware Board to discuss farmland preservation strategies and inclusion in HV Community Preservation Act
- Conducted a farm visit to explain the Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) process to a potential applicants.
- We received six (6) pre-applications from farmers interested in the NYS Purchase of Development Rights program. Applications will be reviewed by the County Ag Board on 9/18.
- Scheduled three additional municipal and farmer seminars for November and December.
- Ongoing outreach to identify sustainable funding sources for matching and soft costs needed to support farmland preservation.



FARM BUSINESS TRAINING:

CCE is hosting our annual Farm Business Training Series in October and November. Participants will work with consultants, business owners, and Extension Educators to develop and write a Business Plan, and attend 4 workshops. At the end of the series and upon completion of a Business Plan, participants are eligible for a \$500 stipend.

Farm Business Management Training Series - October 20th & 27th November 3rd & 10th

- Session 1 October 20th– Planning Your Farm & Production Practices (In-Person)
- Session 2 October 27th– Business Plan Development (Webinar)
- Session 3 November 3rd – Financial Statements & Record Keeping (Webinar)
- Session 4 November 10th – Marketing & Social Media (Webinar)

Get Everything You Need to Start or Grow

YOUR FARM BUSINESS

Are you starting, or do you own an existing Farm Business? Don't miss this 4-session series where experts share strategies for building or improving your agri-business! First class is in-person; subsequent classes via virtual connection. Engage in activities, discussions, and videos via Zoom and through Teachable. A \$20 fee and a short application is all that's needed to begin!

Upon completion, a \$500 stipend will be given to assist with participation and beginning steps for establishing your business.

OCT. 20, 27, NOV. 3, 10 5:30pm-7:30pm

October 20 Planning Your Farm & Production Practices

November 3 Bookkeeping and Financial Management

October 27 Business Plan Development

November 10 Marketing



COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AT:
sullivancce.org/FarmBusiness

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Sullivan County

Hudson Valley
AgriBusiness
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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