

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND TWILIGHT  
MEETINGS**

**Wednesday, October 25, 3-6 pm.**

**Extending the Brassica Harvest – from  
Midsummer Broccoli to Winter Greens**

**On-farm tour at Holcomb Farm CSA**

**111 Simsbury Road, West Granby, CT**

**Host: Sam Hammer**

Join us for a tour of fall crops at Holcomb Farm CSA in Granby, Connecticut. Holcombe Farm provides food for 500-household CSA, as well as selling at a farmers market and donating produce to social service organizations. Sam Hammer, the farm manager, cultivates 24 acres with over 35 crops, including pick-your-own cut flowers and berries as well as the complete array of vegetables and salad greens.

Sam is working on several ways to expand his harvest season and quality for Brassica crops. The tour will feature field-grown fall greens, protected by row cover, and salad mix in the greenhouse, that will be harvested through November. These operations expand the range of crops available for a fall share option in the CSA.

Having good quality broccoli in July is another way to expand the Brassica season. For mid-July harvest, Sam tested various broccoli varieties including Everest, Gypsy, Green King, Premium crop, Arcadia and Pacman and he will report his results.

We will discuss pest and nutrient management in brassica crops, as well as tour other fall crops and the overall farm operation. Enjoy the fact that your farm schedule is slowing down (a little), and visit this busy fall farming operation!

This tour is part of the SARE project, Achieving High Quality Brassica Crops on Diversified Vegetable Farms and is co-sponsored by UMass Extension and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

For more information, contact Kim Stoner at or Andy Cavanagh at 413-577-3976.

**Directions:**

I-91 to Exit 40. Go West on Rt. 20 for approximately 14.5 miles (12 miles to Granby Center, then continue on Rt. 20 for 2.5 more miles) Take a left onto Day St. South for 0.4 mi. Then take a right onto Simsbury Road, go 0.2mi. Then take a left into Holcomb Farm CSA Parking Lot (big red tobacco barn)

**Wednesday October 25, 2006 from 3 pm – 6 pm  
Open House: Vermont's First On-Farm Oil Seed  
Processing Facility  
State Line Farm, Shaftsbury Vermont**

Come see the progress to date in constructing Vermont's first on-farm facility dedicated to cleaning, pressing and processing oil seeds such as canola, mustard, flax and sunflower for use as a renewable energy source. The 'virgin vegetable oil' can either be burned directly in waste oil furnaces or it can be combined with alcohol and a catalyst (lye) to make biodiesel. The leftover meal has value as animal feed. This year, John Williamson and Steve Plummer grew several varieties of these crops. They have also been growing sweet sorghum for many years and they will explain how it's grown and processed into ethanol for use in their on-farm biodiesel production. Heather Darby of UVM Extension and Roger Rainville of Borderview Farm in Alburg will be on hand to describe the results of their canola, sunflower and sugarbeet trials in northern Vermont. This work has been funded by a grant from the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, the Frank and Brinna Sands Foundation, and the University of Vermont Extension / Center for Sustainable Agriculture.

Directions: Get to the village of North Bennington. From the corner with the bank, go west on Route 67 about 1/4 mile. Turn right at the fork (convenience store is in middle of fork) towards White Creek NY. Go 3 miles to State Line Road on the left (just before Entering NY sign) The farm is 1/2 mile up the dirt road, on the left.

Questions? [vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu](mailto:vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu) or 802-257-7967 x13

**New Grape Grower Workshop  
Zorvi Vineyards Sandown, NH**

**Thursday November 2, 2006**

**8am- 5pm**

Dr. Tony Wolf (Virginia Tech) and Dr. Mark Chien (Penn State) are offering a one-day workshop for beginner and prospective grape growers. This course offers a broad overview of commercial vineyard development into the third year including economics and marketing information, equipment and supply requirements as well as all the basics from site selection and preparation to planting and tending your vines through their third year of growth. This seminar is not a substitute for your own learning initiatives or any extended training/education you may have an opportunity to acquire, but it is a good overview of what is involved with getting a commercial vineyard started in the New England. If you are considering planting a vineyard, or you have just

recently done so, you will benefit from the information provided in this course.

This workshop has been presented to eager audiences up and down the east coast and received high praise. It is fine opportunity to learn from experienced eastern viticulture specialists. Information provided will focus on suitable wine grape varieties for New England including V. vinifera and Hybrid varieties.

Cost is \$100 per person with a reduced rate of \$50 for a second registration from the same farm or family. This price includes many handouts and resource materials, as well as lunch and refreshments. Many thanks to Zorvino Vineyards for hosting this exciting event.

For registration or information, please contact Sonia Schloemann at 413-545-4347 or [sgs@umext.umass.edu](mailto:sgs@umext.umass.edu).

**High Tunnel Farm Tour**  
**Red Fire Farm, Granby MA and Hampshire**  
**College Farm, Amherst Ma**  
**Wednesday, November 8, 2006,**  
**12pm- 3:30 pm**

Innovative farmers educate agency personnel and other farmers about the design and management of high tunnels. To register in advance call 518-271-0744.

High tunnels are greenhouse-like structures that offer farmers an inexpensive means to extend growing and marketing seasons, intensify production, and reduce weather-related risk. Since early 2005, a Northeast SARE project has been documenting how innovative farmers in four states are using high tunnels to enhance their enterprises. The project has been a collaboration between the Regional Farm & Food Project and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

On Wednesday, November 8, 2006, from 12:00 noon until 3:30 PM, a free tour is offered to educate extension educators, researchers, agricultural marketers, farmers' market managers, and other agricultural service providers, as well as farmers, about the real world uses and designs of high tunnels. Learn how two experienced farmers are using high tunnels to grow early tomatoes, early carrots, winter spinach, and a wide range of other fall and winter salad crops.

The tour will visit two farms in Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley — Red Fire Farm in Granby, MA, and the Hampshire College Farm located on the Hampshire College campus in Amherst. There is a half hour drive between the two stops.

Reservations are strongly encouraged. Please contact Billie Best at 518-271-0744 or [billie@farmandfood.org](mailto:billie@farmandfood.org). Please

bring a bag lunch or eat prior to the tour. Dress for the outdoors as part of the presentation at our first stop will be in an unheated barn. Directions are below.

**Directions to Red Fire Farm**

From Route 116 take Amherst Street to Route 202. Turn left onto Route 202 North. From Route 202 North go through Granby Center and take a right onto Taylor Street. Turn left at the first stop sign onto what continues to be Taylor Street. Turn left again at the next stop sign onto Carver Street. Red Fire Farm will be on your left. From Route 202 South turn left onto School Street. Follow School Street, which becomes Chicopee Street, until it merges with Carver Street. Bear right onto Carver and the farm will soon be on the right. From the Mass Pike take Exit 6 and turn right at the light after exiting the toll booth. This is Burnett Road, which will become Holyoke Street. Stay on this for about 2 miles. Take a left onto West Street. (It's the second light you come to, there is a Mobil on your left). Follow West Street for about 3 miles. Turn right onto Brook Street. This becomes Taylor Street. At the stop sign go right onto Carver Street and look for the farm on your left

**Directions from Red Fire Farm to Hampshire College Farm**

Take a right onto Carver Street, which becomes Taylor Street. At next intersection, take a right to continue on Taylor Street. Take a left on Route 202. Take a right on Porter Street (there should be a sign for Route 116). Bear left on Aldrich Street. Take a right on Amherst Street. Take a right on Route 116. Continue past Atkins Farm Market. Turn left into the main entrance to Hampshire College. At the stop sign take a right. Turn into the second parking lot on the right. The greenhouse will be on your right.

**New England Vegetable and Berry Association**  
**Winter Meetings**

**1. Saturday, December 2, 2006**

Best Western Hotel, Portsmouth, NH  
9:30 AM registration. Program, 10:00 – 4:00 pm

**2. Friday, January 5, 2007**

Day's Inn at the Parwick Centre, Chicopee, Mass. (450  
Memorial Drive, next to Exit 5 off I-90)  
9:30 AM registration. Program, 10:00 – 4:00 pm

**3. Saturday, February 3, 2007**

Waltham Extension Center, Waltham  
9:30 AM registration. Program, 10:00 – 4:00 pm

Note: There is no November meeting this year. More program details will be published in the November issue of Vegetable Notes. For more information, call John Howell at (413) 665-3501