

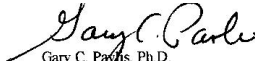
BLUEBERRY OPEN HOUSE
February 14, 2024

Dear Growers:

This year we are holding our BLUEBERRY OPEN HOUSE at Frog Rock Golf & Country Club, 420 Boyer Avenue, Hammonton, NJ, 08037. Enclosed is the program that has been organized to include valuable information from many sources. I hope you will schedule this meeting on your calendar. Frog Rock Country Club is accessible to the handicapped.

Please take note to the new directions about registering and paying online this year. The information you will need is on the next page. The Blueberry Bulletin 'Reader Survey' as always is on the last page. Please take a minute to fill it out. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Sincerely,


Gary C. Pavlis, Ph.D.
Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

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- 9:00 Registration: Coffee and Danish
- 9:30 'Your Blueberries in your Census of Agriculture'- Bruce Eklund, NASS-USDA
- 9:50 'What is new in the IPM program' - Carrie Mansue, Sr. Program Coordinator, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 10:10 'USDA Blueberry Breeding: Where we are / where we're going' – Mark Ehlenfeldt, USDA-ARS
- 10:30 'Next generation blueberry breeding at Rutgers' – Gina Sideli, Specialist in blueberry/cranberry breeding, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 10:50 Update from Industry Vendors - Break
- 11:00 'Update on insecticides and new strategies for controlling insect pests' – Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Specialist in Entomology, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 11:20 'Addressing pollination needs in New Jersey blueberries' – Beth Ferguson, Jack Collins, James Shope, and Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 11:40 'Pesticide Safety & Compliance Tools for Blueberry Growers and Applicators', Patricia Hastings, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator
- 12:10 Lunch
- 1:10 'What we're learning about blueberry soil health' - Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Dr. Peter Oudemans, Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Dr. Thierry Besancon, Carrie Mansue, Dr. James Polashock, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and USDA-ARS.
- 1:30 'Improvement of blueberries in the genomic era' - Dr. James Polashock, Plant Pathology, USDA-ARS
- 1:50 'Commercial container grown blueberries - methods and tools', Bill Sciarappa, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 2:10 'Introduction to the USDA blueberry/cranberry pre-breeding program'- Jeffrey Neyhart, Research Geneticist, USDA-ARS
- 2:30 'Update on weed management studies for New Jersey highbush blueberry' - Thierry Besancon, Specialist in Weed Science, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 2:50 'Disease Management Strategies 2024'- Dr. Peter Oudemans, Specialist in Plant Pathology, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- 3:10 'Mitigating blueberry scorch virus using autonomous drones and artificial intelligence' - Hieu D. Nguyen Professor Dept. of Mathematics, Rowan University
- 3:30 Adjourn: Pesticide Re-certification Credits

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

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Beginning this year we will be implementing a new method of registration and payment. They will both be taken online.

This new system will allow you to pay by debit/credit card or e-check. We feel this will be a much simpler process for all involved.

The website is called ANCOR and you will log in following the directions to create an account.

<https://ce-catalog.rutgers.edu/coursedisplay.cfm?schID=91197>

Here are the directions to set up your account should you have any questions.

[Online Registration Instructions \(site.com\)](#)

If you need any assistance with this new process, please don't hesitate to reach out. (Lori-609-625-0056)

The new prices will be as follows:

Growers -	\$75.00
Rutgers Staff and Interns -	\$40.00
Vendors -	\$150.00

THE BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

Update 2024

The Blueberry Bulletin is a seasonal weekly newsletter beginning in late March and ending in late Summer.

NEW

The Blueberry Bulletin will be available from this point forward via email or online at:

<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin/>.

Please be sure we have your email address to send it to you.

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis
County Agricultural Agent
RCE - of Atlantic County
6260 Old Harding Highway
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

THE BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

READER SURVEY

1. Do you find *The Blueberry Bulletin* newsletter USEFUL? Yes ____; No ____
Comments _____
2. Is the information in the newsletter TIMELY for your purposes?
Very timely ____; somewhat timely ____; not timely ____.
3. Do you READ *The Blueberry Bulletin* (check all those that apply):
Regularly ____; occasionally ____; never ____; as soon as I receive it ____.
4. Do you SHARE INFORMATION in *The Blueberry Bulletin* with your customers, clients or colleagues?
Yes ____; No _____. If yes, how many people? _____.
5. Is the TECHNICAL DETAIL of the articles: about right ____; too detailed ____; not enough detail ____.
6. Are the TOPICS in the newsletter meeting your needs? Always ____; sometimes ____; never ____.
What topics are missing? _____
7. Do you USE IPM practices in your business? Always ____; sometimes ____; never ____.
8. If you use or recommend IPM practices does *The Blueberry Bulletin* ASSIST YOU in using IPM? Yes ____; No ____.
9. As a result of reading the newsletter have you CHANGED OR SEEN CHANGES in any of the following:
(check those that applies) Greater profitability ____; reduced costs ____; increased sales ____; reduced labor ____;
Increased yields ____; increased IPM practices ____; reduced fertilizer usage ____; Improved plant or crop quality ____;
increased efficiency ____; reduced pesticide use ____.
10. Please rate the USEFULNESS of *The Blueberry Bulletin* information by circling the number that applies:
(Circle '5' as most useful and '1' as least useful and N/A if the information doesn't apply to your business.)
Topics

	Very useful		Not useful		Does not apply	
a) Pest Management Updates						
IPM	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Diseases	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Insects	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Weeds	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Pesticides	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Weather	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
b) Crop/Plant Management						
Varieties	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Soils, Mixes & Fertility	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Cultural Practices	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Irrigation	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Plant Diagnostic Lab Update	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
c) Farm/Business Management						
Ag Safety	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Labor	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Financial	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Marketing	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Wildlife Damage	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
Meeting Notices & Descriptions	5	4	3	2	1	N/A

11. What CHANGES can we make to improve *The Blueberry Bulletin*? _____