The Somerset County Board of Agriculture Proudly Presents the

2010 “Agriculture in Action” Day

(Hillsborough) The Somerset County Board of Agriculture will be hosting its “Ag in Action” open house on September 12, 2010. A regularly held event to promote agriculture and educate the public, 2010 marks the first time the “Ag in Action” will be hosted by two farms in Somerset County. Visiting and touring two adjacent farms will help showcase the amazing diversity of today’s Somerset County agriculture.

Rainbow Run Farm, owned by former NY Giant Brad Benson brings a bit of the west to Somerset County. It is home to some of the best cutting horses in the country, and regularly hosts competitions, as well as training and lessons to showcase and support this unique program. Additionally, Brad raises hay and grass-fed beef on the farm’s 350 acres.

Laine Farms, a long time family-owned farm run by Jim and Tom Laine, raises hay and grain, and operates a grain mill which supplies feed to many of Somerset County’s livestock operations. The brothers also work with the Audubon Society growing birdseed, and are experimenting with alternative fuels in the development of pellets used in furnaces.

Ag in Action will be held from 10 am to 4 pm, with opening ceremonies taking place at Rainbow Run at 12 noon. We hope that you will join for at least an hour or so to enjoy all that “Ag in Action” has to offer. The event is free and open to the public – a food booth will be available for lunch.

Rainbow Run Farm is located at 86 Rainbow Hill Road in Hillsborough, NJ. More information on our host farm, including driving directions, can be found online at www.rainbowrunfarm.com. More information on the Laine Farm’s collaboration with the NJ Audubon Society’s Support Agricultural Viability and the Environment (SAVE) birdseed, please visit www.njaudubon.org/SectionConservation/FocusontheFarmers.aspx.

“Agriculture in Action” Day will be held rain or shine. We hope to surpass all previous attendance numbers and invite everyone to come out and take a wagon tour of the farms, have fun with your friends and family, witness modern farming challenges and opportunities, and speak with Somerset County farmers and producers to learn more about important issues that touch all of our lives and impact the future of agriculture here in Somerset County.

Call 908-526-6293 or visit http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu for further details.
The Somerset County Board of Agriculture proudly presents

“Agriculture in Action”
Open House
Sunday
September 12, 2010
10 am - 4 pm

Rainbow Run Farm
86 Rainbow Hill Road in Hillsborough, NJ

See website above for directions and farm details
Ample parking ($2 per carload suggested donation)
Exhibits and displays, including milking demonstrations from Araby Farms
Educational wagon tours for the whole family!
Refreshments and facilities available

The wagon tours will also include:

Laine Farms

- Long time family-owned hay and grain farm run by Jim and Tom Laine
- Operates a grain mill that supplies feed to many of the county’s livestock operations
- Audubon partner for the production of SAVE™ birdseed
- Experimenting with pellets as alternative fuel for furnaces

Questions? Call 908-526-6293 x 3 or visit www.somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu for more details
Taste of Jersey Fresh Somerset Ag Picnic

Saturday, July 31, 2010 was the date for the annual ‘Taste of Jersey Fresh Somerset Agriculture’ picnic, held in support of the Thomas Everett Memorial Scholarship Fund. This year’s event was held at the Griggstown Quail Farm in Princeton, http://www.griggstownquailfarm.com/. Nearly 270 visitors thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment, farm tours, and of course freshly cooked Jersey Fresh picnic foods donated by growers from all across the county. Photos below are courtesy of Kevin J. Henry (kevinhenry.com).

In the centered photo below, Joanne Powell presents the 2010 Thomas Everett Memorial Scholarship Winner Ms. Kristen Semanchik with her commemorative check.
Environmental Demonstration
Horse Farm Open at Rutgers

A team of Rutgers researchers affiliated with the Equine Science Center and several state and federal agencies began a multi-year collaboration to develop a demonstration working horse farm on the George H. Cook campus that would use agricultural best management practices to provide solutions to many of the problems facing farm owners and stable managers.

Today, that farm is a reality. Researchers have identified numerous environmental issues, such as preserving water quality, proper nutrient and waste management, farm and pasture management, weed control, fencing, pasture rotation, and soil enrichment. These are just a few of the many facets of farm management that the project addresses.

Located at the existing Ryders Lane facility on approximately 40 acres, the facility emulates a model best management practices horse farm. It is also a learning center where research, education and proactive outreach through live demonstrations and twilight seminars will enrich visitor’s understanding of how to successfully manage the environmental challenges their farms may pose.

For more information on visiting this demonstration farm or attending an educational program at the Equine Science Center, please contact them at (732) 932-9419, esc@aesop.rutgers.edu, or visit their website at http://www.esc.rutgers.edu/.

On-Campus
Farm Animal Tours

The Department of Animal Sciences and the NJAES Animal Care Program have developed a Farm Tour Program aimed at guiding small groups (25 or so) of children and/or adults around the cattle, goat, horse, pig, and sheep facilities on Sheepfold Lane. This site is located off Route 1 on College Farm Road on the George H. Cook Campus at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. These tours, usually an hour in length, are led by undergraduate students majoring in Animal Science. There is a nominal fee for the tour (e.g., $75 for a group of up to 25 children). Chaperones are welcome to accompany a school group at no extra cost. Tours are available weekdays from April through October.

Although most groups typically include children in Kindergarten through Grade 2, our tour guides are very willing and able to adapt to upper elementary, middle school, high school, or adult groups. The farm environment provides an excellent location for students to observe animals, learn about their growth and nutrition, and other topics related to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Peggy Severino by phone at (732) 932-1036 or via email at severino@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Organic Weed Control
Hands-On Training Program for Agricultural Educators and Farmers
September 16, 2010
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Rutgers University Snyder Research Farm
140 Locust Grove Road, Pittstown, New Jersey

A one-day hands-on training program for agricultural educators and farmers interested in organic weed control practices and vegetable production should attend.

Saturday, October 2nd 9AM
Rutgers Gardens
112 Ryders Lane
New Brunswick, NJ
All fun run proceeds benefit the
Frank G. Helyar Woods
and the Rutgers University Ecology and Evolution Graduate Student Association.

Early registration: $20
Same-day registration: $25

Attend our early registration & packet pickup event
Sept. 16th-17th, 5pm-8pm at North Brunswick Road Runner Sports and receive an additional 10% discount on all in-store merchandise.

Prizes will be issued to the top three finishers overall
in the men’s & women’s divisions: 14 and under through 70 and older, with new divisions every 5 years. All participants will receive an event t-shirt & race packet.

Helyar Woods is located adjacent to Rutgers Gardens
and is a 43-acre virgin forest which offers several miles of trails that traverse an old-growth oak-hickory forest, a wetter sweetgum and maple forest, young forests recovering from prior clearing, and open fields. Rutgers Display Gardens will offer walks through plantings of ornamental trees, shrubs, and flowers for families and participants after the race.

For more information, please contact Marsha Morin, Graduate Program Administrator, Ecology and Evolution Graduate Program, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, phone 732-932-3213 or via email mmorin@sebs.rutgers.edu.

To register for the race online, please visit www.Active.com.
ATTENTION
LIVESTOCK OWNERS

As required by law, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture adopted regulations in March 2009 that require all livestock farm owners to responsibly manage the manure generated on their operations – including those with horses, dairy cows, cattle, swine, goats, sheep, poultry and all other domesticated species defined as livestock.

The regulations require:

- All farms with any livestock to comply with the General Requirements of the rule.
- All operations with 8 to 299 “Animal Units” (one Animal Unit = 1,000 pounds) to develop an Animal Waste Management Plan by September 2010.
- Operations with 8 to 299 “Animal Units” with animal densities greater than 1 AU per acre are required to have their Animal Waste Management Plan reviewed to ensure conformance with the NJ-FOTG, while those with densities less than 1 AU per acre only need to submit their Declaration page to their local RCE office.
- Operations with 300 or more AUs, regardless of animal density, are required to develop and implement a CNMP and be certified by the NJDA.
- Farms that receive or apply 142 or more tons of animal waste per year must develop an Animal Waste Management Plan.

Key Deadlines:
- March 2010: All farms must comply with the General Requirements of the rule.
- March 2012: Animal Waste Management Plans must be implemented.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension has provided training for livestock farmers during the spring and fall of 2009 and the winter of 2010 to assist them in developing Animal Waste Management Plans. Please contact the following offices or visit the Animal Waste Management website, http://njaes.rutgers.edu/animal-waste-management/ for additional information:

- Hunterdon County Extension Office: (908) 788-1338
- Salem County Extension Office: (856) 769-0090
- Sussex County Extension Office: (973) 948-3040
- Burlington County Extension Office: (609) 265-5050

A list of Extension offices and contact information may be found at http://njaes.rutgers.edu.
The Snyder Research and Extension Farm and The Melda C. Snyder Teaching Garden present the 20th Annual

Great Tomato Tasting

Save the Date!

September 1, 2010
3:00 pm – Dusk

Please RSVP at www.snyderfarm.rutgers.edu/ or by calling 908-713-8980

Please join us in this unique opportunity to taste over 60 tomato varieties (heirlooms and hybrids) along with basil, cucumbers, sweet peppers, apples, peaches, and herbs. Stroll through our teaching garden and take a wagon tour highlighting today’s NJAES agricultural and horticulture research.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.
The 2010 Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Jack M. Ciattarelli, Director
Robert Zaborowski, Deputy Director
Peter S. Palmer
Patricia L. Walsh
Patrick Scaglione

The 2010 Somerset County Agriculture Board of Agriculture

Richard Norz, President, Hillsborough
Edward Seidel, Vice President, Belle Mead
Edward Pierce, Recording Secretary, Neshanic Station
Paul M. Smith, II, Treasurer, Hillsborough
Kenneth Osterman, County Director, NJ Farm Bureau, Neshanic Station
Joanne Powell, County Director (alt.), NJ Farm Bureau, Somerville

Promoting all forms of sustainable agriculture; assisting, enhancing and furthering agriculture as it relates to the economics, environment, aesthetics, and the high quality of life here in Somerset County.

The 2010 Somerset County Agriculture Development Board

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Celebrating 27 Years of Preserving farmland and enhancing the industry of agriculture in Somerset County

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Watch for the Next Issue of Green and Growing
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