



**Vermont Vegetable and Berry News –December 5, 2018**  
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[www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry](http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry)

**VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING**

Monday, January 21, 2019

**MULCHING AND TARPING CONFERENCE**

Tuesday January 22, 2019

At Lake Morey Resort, 1 Clubhouse Road, Fairlee, VT 05045 800-423-1211

**Sponsored by:** Johnny's Selected Seeds, Rimol Greenhouse System, Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets, Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation, Vermont Compost Company, University of Vermont Extension, Vitalis Seeds, and the VVBGA.

**January 21**

8:00 Registration, Refreshments, Visit Trade Show

9:30 **President's Remarks.** Mary Skovsted, Joe's Brook Farm, St. Johnsbury

9:50 **A Tour of Growers on their Farms, 2018.** Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension

10:10 **Blueberry and Raspberry Production at Sunshine Valley Berry Farm.** Rob Meadows, Rochester

10:30 **Powdery Mildew on Cucurbits and Tomatoes.** Meg McGrath, Cornell University, Long Island

10:50 **Our On-Farm Education and Event Kitchen.** Gillian Files, The New Farm, Creemore, Ontario

11:10 **Pros and Cons of Strawberry Varieties.** Charlie Gray, Four Corners Farm, S. Newbury

11:30 1-Minute Pitches from Trade Show Exhibitors on their Products and Services

12:00 Lunch and Visit Trade Show

1:40 Business Meeting: Election of Officers, Vote on Revised By-Laws

2:00 **Vegetable and Berry Disease Updates.** Ann Hazelrigg, UVM Extension

- 2:20 **Growing Leafy Greens at The New Farm.** Brent Preston, Creemore, Ontario
- 2:50 **farmOS for Nutrient Management and RAPS Compliance.** Becky Maden, UVM Extension
- 3:10 **Three Decades of Greenhouse Tomatoes at Longwind Farm.** Dave Chapman, E. Thetford
- 3:30 **A Tour of New and Upgraded Farm Pack Sheds.** Hans Estrin, Andy Chamberlain, UVM Extension
- 3:50 Fill out evaluations, get a 2019 New England Vegetable Management Guide or Pest ID Booklet
- 4:00 Adjourn

**January 22**

- 8:30 Registration and refreshments.
- 9:00 **Lessons Learned from 30 Years of Hay and Straw Mulching.** Paul and Sandy Arnold, Argyle NY
- 9:20 Discussion.
- 9:30 **Mulching and Soil Health.** Brandon Smith, USDA-NRCS Soil Health Division
- 9:50 Discussion.
- 10:00 **Crafting the Perfect Mulch on Elmer Farm.** Spencer Blackwell, E. Middlebury
- 10:20 Discussion.
- 10:30 **Tarps for Cover Crop Based No-Till.** Natalie Lounsbury, University of New Hampshire
- 10:50 Discussion
- 11:00 **Tarps, Mulches, Reduced Tillage: Lessons from Many Trials.** Brian Caldwell, Cornell University
- 11:20 Discussion
- 11:30 **On-Farm Research: Summer Tarping vs. Tilling.** Gillian Files & Brent Preston, Creemore, Ontario
- 11:50 Discussion
- 12:00 Lunch.
- 1:00 **Landscape Fabric, Weed Mat or Cover Crop Between Rows?** Andrew Knafel, Shaftsbury
- 1:20 Discussion.
- 1:30 **Clear Plastic Tarps for Weed Solarization.** Sonja Birthisel, University of Maine
- 1:50 Discussion.

2:00 **Used Tunnel Plastic to Solarize Small Areas of Cover Crops/Residues.** Mari Omland, Northfield  
2:20 Discussion

2:40 **Getting Started with Tarps on our Farms.** Ben Dana, Fairlee and Eric Skovsted, St. Johnsbury  
3:00 Discussion.

3:20 Complete evaluations.

3:30 Adjourn

**To register for meetings and/or join the VVBGA,** go to: <https://vbgga2019.eventbrite.com>

**Annual Meeting and/or Tarping Conference pre-registration** is \$40 per day, per person, for VVBGA Members; \$50 per day for Non-Members. Add \$10 per day, per person, for walk-in registrations. VVBGA member dues for 2019 are \$45 per farm if paid by January 31.

**Commercial membership in the VVBGA** is \$55 per company or organization, per year. Membership includes a ¼ page ad in the Annual Meeting booklet if submitted by Dec. 17. Commercial members may also register for the meetings and request an exhibitor table at the annual meeting, but space is limited. Go to: <https://vbgga2019commercial.eventbrite.com>

**If you need overnight lodging,** please make your own room reservations by contacting the Lake Morey Resort at 800-423-1211. Ask for the VVBGA rate of \$109/night for single or double occupancy, plus tax.

Attendance on Jan. 21 will earn 3 **Pesticide applicator recertification credits,** attendance on Jan. 22 will earn 2 credits, in categories 1A, 2, 3, 6 and 10.

**Questions?** Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension, 802-257-7967 ext. 303, or [vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu](mailto:vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu).

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in these events, please contact Virginia Jaquish at (802)323-2138 or e-mail [vbgga@uvm.edu](mailto:vbgga@uvm.edu) by December 31, 2018, so that we may assist you.

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