

VegNet Vol. 5, No. 29. November 24, 1998  
Ohio State University Extension Vegetable Crops

Happy Thanksgiving

#### The R.E.A.L. Situation

As you may or may not have heard by now, the Research-Extension Analytical Laboratory (R.E.A.L.) at OARDC in Wooster is closing Dec. 31, 1998. Lowell R. "Skip" Nault, OARDC associate director, said the decision was based on three factors: a gradual but steady decline in business, the lack of funds to replace essential, outdated equipment, and the desire to not compete with commercial labs offering the same services. The Research-Extension Analytical Laboratory was established in 1976 to test soil, plant tissue, feed, manure and other materials for farmers, gardeners, agribusinesses and scientists. At the time it was the only such facility in Ohio. Since then at least eight commercial testing labs have gone into business in the state (see listing below).

The REAL lab has been continually losing numbers. At one point they were running 100,000 samples per year and that number now has dropped to about 20,000 samples. As analytical and electrical equipment wear out, the cost of replacement and upgrading was estimated to be about 1 to 2 million dollars. Also, the OARDC campus was closing its mainframe 1/1/99 and no changeover to a micro based system had even been initiated.

Samples received before Oct. 1 will be processed, but no new samples will be accepted. If you have sent a sample into the lab, they will try to complete work on it by the closing date. Any samples they cannot get to will be sent to another laboratory for completion of the analysis with all additional costs absorbed by the REAL lab.

Purdue Univ. discontinued their lab 9 years ago. On Page 3, is a list of Alternative Labs and the type of tests they perform.

#### Licensing a Migrant Labor camp

Tom Sachs

The Farm Labor Relations team has just completed a handbook on licensing a migrant labor camp in Ohio. Copies are available at no charge by calling the: Agricultural Business Enhancement Center at 800-358-4678.

Or email me and I will see that you receive a copy.

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USDA OFFERS FARMER DIRECT MARKETING INFORMATION ON INTERNET  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 1998

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it has launched a new farmer direct marketing Internet web page. The web page provides a wide variety of resources and information on this growing agricultural sector.

"USDA's newest web page is aimed at small and medium-sized producers and others interested in learning more about farmer direct marketing," said Michael V. Dunn, USDA's under secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs. "The farmer direct marketing web page covers a variety of topics and also links to federal, state, university, and other web sites relating to direct marketing."

The site features a monthly newsletter, publications, a bibliography, and schedule of national and regional conferences and workshops. Resources such as information about list servers and links to other USDA and federal programs, state departments of agriculture, national and regional associations, and individual farmers and public markets with web sites are available. The web page also provides contact information, and eventually will feature on-line order forms for publications.

"This web page is one component of a larger comprehensive farmer direct marketing initiative within USDA," said Dr. Enrique E. Figueroa, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. "It offers a readily accessible and useable information exchange for those involved in farm direct marketing, a marketing channel of vital importance to the continued growth and expansion of agriculture."

The Farmer Direct Marketing web site can be found at  
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/directmarketing>

For more information on the web site, or USDA efforts in the area of farmer direct marketing, call

Claire Klotz at (202) 690-4077,  
or e-mail: [j\\_claire\\_klotz@usda.gov](mailto:j_claire_klotz@usda.gov).

>> List of Alternative Laboratories and Materials Tested <<  
(See the Key to Materials Tested at the bottom of the list)

AGRICULTURAL ANALYTICAL

SERVICES LABORATORY

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA 16802

PHONE:(814)863-4540

Materials Tested\*: A, B, C, E, F, G, J

DARRYL WARNCKE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPT. OF CROP & SOIL SCIENCES

EAST LANSING, MI 48824

PHONE:(517)355-0210

Materials Tested\*:A, B, C, F, H, I, J.

ALLOWAY TESTING

508 BISSMAN CT

MANSFIELD, OH 44906 PHONE:(419)223-1362 -LIMA :(419)535-1644-MANSFIELD

Materials Tested\*: A, E, G, I, J.

A & L GREAT LAKES LAB

3505 CONESTOGA DRIVE

FORT WAYNE, IN 46808

PHONE:(219)483-4759

Materials Tested\*: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J.

BROOKSIDE LABS

308 S MAIN ST

NEW KNOXVILLE, OH 45871

PHONE:(419)753-2488

Materials Tested\*: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J:

C L C LABS

325 VENTURE DRIVE

WESTERVILLE, OH 43081

PHONE:(614)888-1663 Materials Tested\*: A, C, I, J

CALMAR LAB

130 S STATE STREET

WESTERVILLE, OH 43081

PHONE:(614)523-1005

Materials Tested\*: A, B, C

COUNTRYMARK/LAND O'LAKE

AFFILIATED LOCAL COOPERATIVES

950 N MERIDIAN ST

INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

PHONE:(317)685-3000 Materials Tested\*: A, D

HOLMES LAB

3559 U.S. RT. 62

MILLERSBURG, OH 44654

PHONE:(800)344-1101

:(330)893-2933

Materials Tested\*: A, D, E, I

NA-CHURS

421 LEADER STREET

MARION, OH 43302

PHONE:(800)622-4877

Materials Tested\*: A, C, D, E, I, J

SPECTRUM ANALYTICAL INC

PO BOX 639

WASHINGTON COURTHOUSE,

OH 43160  
PHONE:(800)321-1562 Materials Tested\*: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J  
WOODSEN-TENENT  
313 HELENA ST  
PO BOX 164  
DAYTON, OH 45404  
PHONE:(937)222-4179 Materials Tested\*: D, J  
\*Key To Types of Materials tested:

A = SOIL  
B = SOILESS MIX  
C = PLANT TISSUE  
D = FEED  
E = MANURE  
F = COMPOST  
G = SLUDGE  
H = NUTRIENT SOLUTIONS  
I = WATER  
J = SPECIALS

#### What's New At The VegNet Web Site

>> 1998 Pumpkin Yield Data is Here!...Plus the First Set of Pumpkin Pictures

See how your favorite varieties performed.

Check out new varieties.

View Powdery Mildew Tolerance ratings

plus the effects of spray programs on pumpkin production. More pumpkin pictures coming.

First Look At:... Ohio Fruit and Vegetable Congress, Feb. 1999 Complete Truck Crops, Processing Crops and Potato Programs. Visit: "The Talk Between the Rows".

In: "Problem Of The Week": Late Blight Warning for OH Greenhouse Tomatoes plus problems from previous weeks.

In The Pumpkin Patch, JULY 1998, My Pumpkins Are Bigger Than Yours Returns, See: Bacterial Wilt, Angular Leaf Spot and Crop Status.

Visit: "The Problem of The Week" For Pictures of...

Septoria Leaf Blight and Phytophthora Blight of Tomato.

Angular Leaf Spot, Buckeye Rot and Phytophthora Blight of Cucurbits.

Timber Rot and Hail Damage.

The Meigs /Washington Vegetable Tour from SE Ohio, (Sweet corn, tomatoes + peppers)

Check Out the New Look of the Tomcast Section (requires your browser to be able to view frames.)

+ A New Tomato Research Report by C. A. Wyenandt, R. M. Riedel, M. Bennett and C. Welty.

From The Vegetable Crops Planner: Links now provided to the National Weather Service Offices in Cleveland and Wilmington, OH. Provides Agricultural

Observations, soil temperatures, climate summaries, growing degree days and much more.

1998 Ohio Vegetable Production Guide - Online. Visit: "The Library

Return to Vegetable Crops Homepage Ohio State University Extension

We appreciate very much the financial support for this series of vegetable reports which we have received from the board of growers responsible for the Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit research and Development Program. This is an example of use of Funds from the "Assessment Program".

Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Ohio State University Extension is implied. Although every attempt is made to produce information that is complete, timely and accurate, the pesticide user bears the responsibility of consulting the pesticide label and adhering to those directions.

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