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decision was based on three factors: a gradual but steady decline in business, the lack of funds to replace essential, outdated equipment, and the desire to not compete with commercial labs offering the same services.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.
Tom Sachs,
OSU Farm Relations Program,
Agriculture Business Enhancement Center,
440 E. Poe Road, Suite 201,
Bowling Green, OH 43402,
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.

>> 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
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
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,
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.)
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.

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.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Keith L. Smith, Director, Ohio State University Extension.

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