

starting to work on a modification which will enable me to use it as a garlic planter in the fall. Devices like the transplanter are essential to my success on the farm. The area I am located in does not support super-premium pricing so my opportunities for profit improvement are primarily in the areas of cost reduction.

## **11. Outreach**

I presented preliminary project results in a Cornell University/Cooperative Extension statewide video-conference call this fall. A page describing the project and its status can be found on my website: [www.FellenzFamilyFarm.com](http://www.FellenzFamilyFarm.com). I have responded to every email or phone call inquiry I have received regarding the project. Following the initial planting trials this spring, I plan to submit press releases about the project to the NOFA-NY newsletter, Growing for Market, New Farm website and Farm Show magazine.

## **12. Report Summary**

The project goal was to develop a self-propelled transplanter suitable for transplanting 100 to 1,000 plants at a time. The original design concept of a ride-on transplanter was abandoned after encountering several problems and a second approach of a walk-behind transplanter was taken up. Initial testing of components for the walk-behind transplanter has been successful. The critical components of the walk-behind transplanter have been machined and fabricated and final assembly of the transplanter will be complete in early April. Through literature research, I have learned of several commercially available Japanese walk-behind and ride-on transplanters suitable for planting up to 6 acres/day. Unfortunately, there do not appear to be any plans to export these machines to the US. Outreach through Cornell Cooperative Extension was successful and generated interest in the project at the NOFA-NY winter conference in January 2007. While I did not accomplish all of the goals set for the project within the timeframe of the project, I am confident that I will see results from the project this growing season.

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