## The Cornell Cooperative Extension Capital District Vegetable and Small Fruit Program presents:

## Sweet Potato Production Workshop

## Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

## Albany County Cornell Cooperative Extension Office

##  24 Martin Road, Voohreesville, NY 12186

**Agenda:**

**8:30 – Registration**

**9:00 – Announcements and Welcome –**

**9:05 – Producing Sweet Potatoes and Sweet Potato Slips in North Carolina – Jonathan Schultheis, Production Specialist, North Carolina State University.** Dr. Schultheis will describe for us how sweet potatoes are produced in North Carolina and especially how sweet potato slips are produced. He will also describe the certification process North Carolina sweet potato slip producers are required to comply with in order to sell their slips. This presentation will be a live webinar and we will be able to ask Dr. Schultheis questions during and after the presentation.

**10:00 – Sweet Potato Variety Trials – *Chuck Bornt, CCE CDVSFP.*** Chuck will share results from his sweet potato variety trials in the Capital District and ones done in Geneva by Jim Ballerstein of the NYSAES. This work is supported by a Northeast SARE Research Grant. Curing and storage will also be discussed.

**10:25 – Stretch and grab a cup of coffee break!**

## 10:30 – Sweet Potato Production and What We’ve Learned About Growing and Marketing Sweet Potatoes at Wellness Farm – *Jack Osman Wellness Farm, Stewartstown, Pennsylvania.* Jack and his wife Bev own and operate a 66 acre farm located in Southern York County, PA. They have been growing sweet potatoes for quite a few years and also host an annual Sweet Potato Festival. Jack will share with us some of his experiences with growing sweet potatoes. This will be the second webinar of the morning and we will be able to see Jack’s presentation and ask him questions during and at the end of the webinar.

**11:20 – Plastic Mulches, Floating Rowcovers and Slip Spacing Trials: What We’ve Learned So Far - *Chuck Bornt, CCE CDVSFP.*** This will be a summary of research conducted in the Capital District on how using row covers, different colored mulches (IRT and black) and different planting configurations/populations effected the yield and quality of sweet potato roots. This work is supported by a Northeast SARE Research Grant.

**12:00 Adjourn**

## Contact Chuck for more information at cdb13@cornell.edu or contact Marcie Vohnoutka to register for this meeting at (518) 272-4210 or mmp74 @cornell.edu Cost for this meeting is $5.00 per farm for CDVSFP enrollees and $10.00 for non-enrollees. Payment can be made at the door or sent in advance to the CDVSFP, Cornell Cooperative Extension, 61 State Street, Troy NY 12180. Make checks payable to CCE CDVP. If sending a check, please indicate sweet potato meeting in the memo section.

**Directions:** Take Northway (Route 87) south to the end. Turn right onto US-20 west for 2.4 miles. Turn left onto NY-155 west/State Farm Rd for about 3.9 miles. At the traffic circle, take the 1st exit onto New York 85A west/Maple Road. Continue to follow New York 85A west for 2.3 miles and Turn right onto Martin Road. The office complex will be just up the road on the right.