

A REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

June 2022

Scott Glenn, Board of Governors Professor in the Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences and codirector of Rutgers Center for Ocean Observing Leadership, testified before the U.S. Congress Subcommittee on the Environment regarding the future of weather research in the United States. The June 14 session "What's the Forecast: A Look At the Future of Weather Research" transcripts and video recording are available at: House Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

Conservation and wildlife management expert **Joseph Paulin** was invited to the state capitol to present the results of the recently published deer study at the June 13 Assembly Agriculture and Food Security Committee. This is the second time the Assembly has requested a briefing on the research to inform discussions on proposed policy relating to enhancing white-tailed deer management in New Jersey. Paulin presented the results of the study that includes co-authors **Nazia Arbab**, assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, and **Brian Schilling**, director of Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Coverage of the meeting can be viewed at: New Jersey lawmakers seek solution to excessive deer population (news12.com).



L-R: Joe Atchison III, NJ Assistant Secretary of Agriculture; professor Carey Williams; and professor Karyn

The 2021 Governor's Award for Horseperson of the Year was presented to professor **Carey Williams**, who has served Rutgers as the equine extension specialist since 2003 and is Rutgers Equine Science Center associate director of outreach. Williams accepted the award at the 65th Annual New Jersey Breeders Awards Celebration at the Horse Park of New Jersey on June 1. Williams' work is focused on the areas of equine nutrition and exercise physiology. She is a leader in the field of antioxidant supplementation and oxidative stress in horses, and her antioxidant work has been recognized nationally and internationally in the nutrition and veterinary fields. Rutgers Equine Science Center Associate Director of Outreach, Carey Williams, Receives the 2022 Governor's Award for Horseperson of the Year: Newsroom

Seventy faculty and staff of Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and NJAES met on campus for a full-day event to assess efforts and inspire further work related to Soil Health. Organized by **Stephanie Murphy**, director of the Rutgers Soil Testing Lab, the *Soil Health Connections* symposium covered a wide range of topics, including land use and conservation, climate and climate change mitigation, soil fertility and pest management, plant and animal health, soil structure aspects and water management, the soil microbiome, economic considerations, and soil contamination. The goals of the symposium include creating awareness of soil health research and outreach currently being performed at SEBS/NJAES, and networking opportunities for future collaborations, and enhancing progress in agricultural sustainability for New Jersey. The symposium was sponsored by NJAES as one of several Soil Health efforts made possible by Vision 2025 funding. Read more about Rutgers NJAES soil health projects at Soil Health (Rutgers NJAES).

Of Interest

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources is currently accepting applications for the county agent III (assistant professor) commercial agriculture viability faculty position for Somerset County: https://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/165649.

Rutgers Equine Science Center (ESC) partnered with New Jersey Assemblyman Ronald Dancer to bring awareness to equestrian safety and launched the inaugural "New Jersey Equestrian Safety Week" from June 5 to June 11. Riding is considered one of the most dangerous sports in the U.S. because injuries are more likely to be severe and require hospitalization than injuries resulting from other sports, and traumatic brain injuries are one of the most common injuries reported among those injured while riding. These injuries can be significantly reduced with equipment like a well-fitting helmet (to reduce the chances of a head injury), or a safety vest (such as a foam safety vest, which is designed to protect the torso during a fall). Rutgers Equine Science Center Announces New Jersey Equestrian Safety Week: Newsroom

The following new fact sheet is available on <u>NJAES Publications</u>: <u>FS1342: Site Selection Considerations for New and Expanding Farms (Rutgers NJAES)</u>. Errickson, W., Hlubik, W., Pearsall, B. and Errickson, L.

In the News

NJ101.5 reported on the Assembly hearing, mentioning the NJAES deer survey and quoting **Joseph Paulin**, <u>Too</u> many deer in NJ — hunting not the best answer, advocates say (NJ1015.com)

My Central Jersey reports on the wine certificate program and quotes food science professor **Beverly Tepper**, <u>Rutgers University launches Grape and Wine Science Certificate Program (mycentraljersey.com)</u>

Agricultural agent **Rick VanVranken** provides examples of farms using high tech in the *Growing Produce* article, <u>How Farm Markets Can Use Tech but Keep the Charm - Growing Produce</u>

Events

Rutgers Cooperative Extension's next seminar in the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series will be held on June 30, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Featured speaker Katie Morgan (NOAA) will discuss "Marine Debris in the Mid-Atlantic: Ongoing Efforts to Address a Global Challenge." The free Zoom webinar is open to all. Register by June 27 at http://go.rutgers.edu/eatjnrfn.

The Equine Science Center will host its annual "Summer Showcase" July 13, 12 to 2:00 p.m. at the Equine Exercise Physiology Laboratory on College Farm Road on the George H. Cook Campus in New Brunswick. The Summer Showcase is open to the public and perfect for all equine enthusiasts, ages 8 and up. There is no charge for the Summer Showcase, however, participants must register in advance at https://go.rutgers.edu/ESCShowcase2022.

Snyder Research Farm Open House and Tomato Tasting will be held August 31, 1 to 7:00 p.m., at 140 Locust Grove Rd., Pittstown, NJ. Register at Snyder Research and Extension Farm Open House and Tomato Tasting.