



## August 2022

### National Peach Month is Celebrated in August



The Scarlet Rose™ Rutgers peach

[National Peach Month](#) is celebrated in the U.S. in August. Of the roughly 20 states that commercially produce peaches, New Jersey ranks among the top five. In terms of production value, [New Jersey was ranked No. 3 in the U.S. for peaches in 2021](#) according to data from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. Much of the Garden State's ability to stay competitive is credited to [Rutgers development of hardy varieties](#) that ripen one after the other, providing fresh fruit to buyers for the whole peach season from early

July through September. In 2021, Rutgers patented a white peach variety named Anna Rose™ and in spring 2022, patented Felicia™, a yellow-fleshed peach. NJAES continues to support the industry to help it address a range of challenges, including through diversifying the range of available peaches to increase the industry's competitiveness.

### ESC Founding Director Karyn Malinowski Honored with 'Service to Youth' Award



Karyn Malinowski, founding director of the Equine Science Center at Rutgers, received the 2021 Harness Horse Youth Foundation (HHYF) Service to Youth Award on August 5 during a ceremony at the Meadowlands Racetrack. Malinowski's career involving youth in 4-H programs was recognized, including her work with her students and staff to develop the famous website portal, "Equine Science 4 Kids!", which engages youth around the globe the basics of caring for and managing horses. A Rutgers faculty member since 1978, Malinowski has also served as extension specialist in equine

sciences, professor in the Department of Animal Sciences, and director of Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Her research and extension programs concentrate on improving the well-being and quality of life of the equine athlete, while ensuring the viability of the equine industry.

### HSRL Leads \$12.6 Million Federal Project to Develop Oyster-based Shoreline

**David Bushek**, professor in the Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences (DMCS) and director of [Rutgers Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory](#) (HSRL), is principal investigator of \$12.6 million award from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to develop an oyster-based shoreline ecosystem to help protect coastlines from storm damage, flooding, and erosion. The concept evolved through a collaboration with the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary and its work on living shorelines in the Delaware Bay. NJAES collaborators on this project are **Ximing Guo**, Distinguished Professor, and **Daphne Munroe**, associate professor, DMCS/HSRL.

### Scientists Track Dramatic Bee Decline at New Jersey and Pennsylvania Farms

A dramatic decline in the bee population at fruit farms in New Jersey and Pennsylvania has Rutgers scientists wondering whether it is a natural phenomenon or a warning about a future threat to the

world's food supply. In a recent study published in the science journal, *Insect Conservation and Diversity*, the scientists said pollination of watermelon flowers by wild bees decreased by more than half between 2005 and 2012. [The decline was similar for bumble bees and other types of wild bees](#), while the population of honey bees, which aren't native to the region and are managed in hives by farmers, remained stable. The researchers said their data underscores the need for studies conducted over a span of time that can confirm more authoritatively whether the population of bees overall is declining or if the numbers reflect a natural variation over time. More long-term studies are needed since bee pollination is necessary for plants to reproduce and crucial to supplying food to animals and humans throughout the world.

## Of Interest

The following new fact sheet is available on [NJAES Publications](#):

[FS1346 - Web Soil Survey: A Useful Tool to Understand the Natural Soil Properties of Your Farm Field](#)  
Errickson, W, Gohil, H, and Muehlbauer, M.

### **Rutgers Special Collection of Limited-edition Merchandise Features Work of NJAES Field Station**

A new university initiative to showcase points of pride at Rutgers through a [limited-edition collection of retail merchandise](#) features the work of SEBS and NJAES. The initiative used the 50th anniversary of the [Rutgers University Marine Field Station](#) (RUMFS), an NJAES field facility of the Rutgers Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, to kick off the campaign that runs from Aug. 1 to Sept. 30. RUMFS was chosen for this inaugural collection to showcase its [important work](#) related to the state's coastal ecosystem and protecting the habitat for a wide range of sea life in New Jersey.

### **Non-herbicide Management Strategies for Nutsedge**

Specialty crop growers can learn more about the weed nutsedge and appropriate non-herbicide management strategies based on the plant's growth preferences and dislikes in order to develop a short- and long-term management plan for nutsedge control. Visit the NJAES Weed Management YouTube playlist for a [video presentation on Nutsedge](#) or download the [nutsedge decision tool fact sheet](#).

## In the News

**Anne Nielsen**, associate extension specialist, Department of Entomology, was quoted in *NJ.com* regarding the prevalence of the spotted lanternfly throughout New Jersey. She reported that Rutgers researchers are focused on limiting the impact of spotted lanternflies on agriculture in the state. [Spotted lanternfly invasion is so bad N.J. residents no longer need to report sightings - NJ.com](#)

## Events

In-person seminar for licensed pesticide applicators to obtain recertification credits will be held Oct. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office in Gloucester County, 254 County House Road, Clarksboro, NJ. Call 856-224-8040 ext. 1 or email [jmedany@co.gloucester.nj.us](mailto:jmedany@co.gloucester.nj.us) to pre-register or for more information.