

PRE-REGISTRATIONS - Must be received by Jan. 26th

Membership dues for 2011 are \$50; benefits include:

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No-frills membership option: \$20 for 2011, benefits include:

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Mail check made out to VVBGA to: Doug Johnstone, P.O, Box 701, Springfield, VT 05156.

BUSINESS PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR AG INFRASTRUCTURE

With funding from the Vermont Agricultural Innovation Center at the Agency of Agriculture, the Vermont Farm Viability Program is extending

NOFA JOURNEYFARMER PROGRAM SEEKS APPLICATIONS

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont has received funding from Vermont's Agriculture Innovation Center to pilot a Journeyfarmer Program in 2011. The program will connect aspiring organic farmers with some experience (farm apprentices, farm workers, or next-generation of an existing farm) to established farmers, in order to help aspiring farmers be successful. Six mentee participants will receive support including: 30 hours of farmer-to-farmer mentoring, technical assistance and business planning, free enrollment in either UVM Extension's Growing Places or Building a Sustainable Business courses, free admission to NOFA-VT's Winter Conference and Summer Workshop Series, and a monetary educational stipend. The selection process begins in January. This program is open to dairy, livestock, fruit, and vegetable farmers. If interested in participating or if you are an experienced farmer who wants to mentor new farmers, please contact: Wendy Sue Harper at 802-434-4122 or wendysue@nofavt.org.

VEGETABLE FARMERS SOUGHT FOR COST OF PRODUCTION STUDY

David Conner is a new professor in the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics at UVM. One of his projects, in cooperation with Michigan State University, is aimed at learning more about how vegetable farmers set prices and how they measure costs of production. He needs vegetable farmers that are willing to share their production costs, ideally from for 2010 season for the following crops: sweet corn, tomato, bell pepper, summer squash, carrot, cucumber, lettuce, and mixed salad greens. These costs can be in spreadsheet, Word or other form, as long as they are legible; they can be electronic or on paper. All data will be confidential; no names will be attached to any data in any public document. Participating farmers will be paid \$25 for each crop budget they share (limited to one budget per crop per year). The information will be analyzed and compared to existing enterprise budgets and the results will be published and used to teach undergraduate marketing classes. If interested, contact Jenny Buckley at MSU by Jan. 15 at: jbuckley@msu.edu