Interested to see if our strip crops of buckwheat and potatoes lead to acceptable control of CPB, as suggested by some recent Cornell Extension work.

(Grand Isle) We are dodging rain storms to get the last of the summer time transplants out in the field. We continue to do greenhouse seedings for the fall broccoli transplants. Asparagus picking started early so will also end at an earlier date than we are used to. We are picking ripe

(Argyle NY) Too hot, too wet, too cool;

A combination of pre-pant cultural practices are necessary to manage the disease and reduce risk of crop loss. These include: Only rent land for susceptible crops that has no history of this disease. Power-wash tillage equipment between fields to prevent contamination of new fields. Use long rotations and wait 5 years to replant cucurbits, peppers, eggplant or tomato in fields where infections occur.

CYCLAMEN MITES IN STRAWBERRIES

I am seeing more of this problem than in the past, and in NY Extension also reported many farms with this pest last year. Cyclamen mite feeding causes wrinkled, distorted leaves, slightly darker in color than uninfested leaves. Injury is similar to winter injury, herbicide damage, or virus infection. When populations are low, leaves grow to nearly full size. Heavily infested leaves become stunted and crinkled, resulting in a compact leaf mass in the center of the plant. Fruit on infested plants is small, bronzed, with prominent seeds. Mites overwinter as adult females in the strawberry crown. At low population densities, they are found along the midrib of folded leaves and under the calyx of the fruit. At higher population densities, they can be in any protected part of the plant. They prefer high humidity. Populations build rapidly soon after a field becomes infested, and tend to peak in late spring and again in early fall. Mites can be spread to new fields on infested planting stock and transferred from plant to plant by routine cultural practices. Closely inspect new plants upon arrival before setting them in the field! In established fields, walk a large area and look for plants slightly stunted with distorted or crinkled leaves. Pinch out the newest leaves in the crown