

In preparation for harvest we had the usual plus a few procrastinated wrenchings happen
Axle swaps on trucks, rollers, blades wiring on windrowers, harvester gearboxes.

Pumpkins are amateur level weedy, totally gross.

(E. Wallingford) Still picking blueberries (Elliot) with no signs of SVD this year. Good pruning
and trying to keep fruit off the ground seems to help. We received some decent rain in the last
week or so and that really helped the pumpkins, sizing up nicely and starting to turn orange.
Winter squash look good except where deer are eating. Ordered peach trees for spring 2023
planting high density V system.

(Westminster West) We got an inch of rain a few days ago, too late for summer crops but a nice
boost to the fall carrots, Gilfeather and Napa crops. Almost finished with the squash and
starting on pumpkins tomorrow. Seems like crops are at least a week earlier than last year and
the yields and quality are much better. Almost all our crop rows with plastic mulch

(Winchester NH) We're enjoying nice harvests of to

BE ALERT FOR CYCLAMEN MITES IN STRAWBERRIES

This pest is not visible to the naked eye. It can come in on every stock and cause serious damage if undetected and unmanaged. Cyclamen mites live and feed on the inside of folded leaves, the underside of newly unfolded leaves, the crown, and inside flower buds and fruit calyxes. Females overwinter deep inside the crown of the plants in the soil posing a major threat to 2nd year plantings. Due to their minute size, cyclamen mite infestations may go unnoticed and identified only when symptoms occur, including severely crumpled and crinkled leaves, and stunted plants. For images of symptoms and scouting info see: <http://omafra.gov.on.ca/IPM/english/strawberries/insects/cyclamites.html>

TEST SEED GARLIC FOR BLOAT NEMATODE

University of Arkansas nematode diagnostic lab charges \$30 for out of state samples. You must fill out their submission form and also include their latest APHIS permit to ship samples to them from out of state. Contact me for the forms.

It is during the latter part of the summer that we start to see some of berry crop pollinators, bumble bee queens. They begin to emerge, mate, and feed to ready

some queens flying in late July while others, including the ubiquitous common eastern bumble bee (*Bombus impatiens*)

in the 1st week of August, we saw a northern amber bumble bee (*Bombus borealis*) queen and drone mating in a farm field while foraging on red clover.

For more on bumble bee identification <https://val.vtcostudies.org/projects/vtbees/bombus/>

FARM TRANSFER PLANNING FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS

Zac Smith, UVM Extension Agricultural Business Educator

Succession planning is often complex and dynamic, with a variety of issues to address. UVM Extension Agricultural Business team recently conducted a survey of Vermont farms regard farm succession preparedness. Nearly half the respondents requested business planning support for transitioning ownership of the farm. In response to this need, the team created a service that allows farmers to directly contact and be assigned a specialist to help farmers find the information they need, and to provide feedback on developing a plan to address their unique needs. This is a free service. [Click here to contact the agricultural business team](#)

GIVE YOUR INPUT ABOUT ON-FARM ACCESSORY BUSINESSES

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture has been supporting the Natural Resources Board in preparing a report to the Legislature around Accessory Farm Businesses (AOFBs) and Act 143. We know that AOFBs are vital to long-term farm viability, but the current legislation can be difficult to understand and varies across the state. This report will analyze current conditions, understand challenges, and offer specific suggestions to help strengthen AOFBs in Vermont. Input from the agricultural community is needed. Please complete this survey by Sep 7 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X9V72WL>

HOLD THE DATE FOR IN PERSON VVBGA ANNUAL MEETING!

Tuesday January 24, 2023, at the Capital Plaza Hotel, Montpelier, VT. Commercial members can reserve exhibit tables now, and/or become an annual meeting sponsor! To do so, please visit <https://vvbga.org/commercialmembership>