Essential Information for Researchers and Educators
Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station (Cornell AES) Farms

This document provides general information for faculty, staff and students who wish to conduct work at farms managed by the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station (Cornell AES). It is **highly recommended that you review this document** for information on farm facilities, farm contacts, billing procedures and rates, and basic expectations for working in the farm environment.

Farm Resources and Contacts:

The world-class farms and orchards managed by Cornell AES serve as living laboratories having the land, equipment and knowledgeable personnel to support diverse agricultural projects. Nine farm operations are under the management of Cornell AES (listed in order of proximity to main campus). More information on each farm operation can be found at: [http://cuaes.cals.cornell.edu/farms](http://cuaes.cals.cornell.edu/farms).

- **Campus Area Farms**, Ithaca. Made up of 325 acres of farm fields located within 15-minutes of campus. Customary expertise with field crops, bioenergy crops, vegetables and ornamentals.
  - Gene Szepanski, Farm Supervisor, gs594@cornell.edu / 607-255-3234
- **Dilmun Hill Student Farm**, Ithaca. The farm occupies 12 acres, managed organically, and led by Cornell students as an empowering resource for experiential learning in agriculture/general gardening.
  - Betsy Leonard, Organic Coordinator, bai1@cornell.edu / 607-423-8366
- **Cornell Orchards**, Ithaca. The Orchards currently have 17 acres of apples, grapes, stone fruits and berries in active research, which includes a small parcel of certified organic land.
  - Eric Shatt, Farm Manager, ecs222@cornell.edu / 607-793-1428
- **Farm Services**, Ithaca. This operation provides larger-scale equipment services upon request and manages the University compost facility on Stevenson Rd. Compost is available upon request.
  - Bill Huizinga, Farm Supervisor, wh48@cornell.edu / 607-257-2235
- **Bluegrass Lane Turf & Landscape Research Center**, Ithaca. The 20-acre operation offers expertise with turf, annual and perennial flowers, and woody landscape plants.
  - Eric Shatt, Farm Manager, ecs222@cornell.edu / 607-793-1428
- **Homer C. Thompson Vegetable Research Farm**, Freeville. The farm has both conventional and certified organic land, across 260 acres. Customary expertise with vegetable crops.
  - Steve McKay, Farm Manager, spm8@cornell.edu / 607-844-8167
- **Musgrave Research Farm**, Aurora. The farm has both conventional and certified organic land, totaling 335 tillable acres. In a given year, roughly 100 acres are in dedicated research, with the remainder rotated in field crops. Customary expertise with field crops.
  - Paul Stachowski, Farm Supervisor, pjs16@cornell.edu / 315-364-8296
- **Willsboro Research Farm**, Willsboro. The farm serves as the north-country location for work on field crops, high-tunnels and some fruiting species. The farm is 352 acres, and an additional 40 acres are available at the nearby Miner Institute, in Chazy.
  - Mike Davis, Farm Supervisor, mhd11@cornell.edu / 518-963-7492

- **Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center (LIHREC)**, Riverhead. This farm provides a resource for work in support of agriculture on Long Island, with a greenhouse complex and 68 acres supporting projects with flowers, ornamentals, vegetables and grapes.
  - Mark Sisson, Farm Supervisor, mps21@cornell.edu / 631-727-3595

**Farm Maps:**

- View aerial maps of each farm field at: [http://cuaes.cals.cornell.edu/farms/maps](http://cuaes.cals.cornell.edu/farms/maps).

**Requesting Land:**

- Requests for land should be made directly with the farm manager(s). The farm manager will attempt to assign a field space(s) that aligns with your project goals and the goals of your peers. The “Researcher and Educator Checklist” can be a useful template to share critical information on your project with Cornell AES farm staff. **It is highly recommended that you sit down with the farm manager** as far in advance of beginning a new project as possible, to establish shared expectations.
Paying for Services:

- The cost to provide services, goods, and land/infrastructure across farms is largely subsidized by Cornell AES and CALS. The remaining cost is borne by Cornell programs who request specific services or plot areas.
- **Billing of incurred fees occurs once monthly**, to a Cornell investigator’s default account number, through the University Reservation and Billing System (https://rnb.cals.cornell.edu/). New users must be set up within the billing system.
- **Rates are subject to annual adjustment.** Any rate change will generally occur in the off-season, between December and March, prior to taking effect the following growing season.
- **The most current rate and fee structure can be found at the Cornell AES website**, on the page Farm Resources for Cornell Researchers.

General Expectations:

- **Farms are unique environments.** There is noise, dust, mud and frequent operation of heavy equipment and application of pesticides. There are very hot days, very cold days, days of intense rain or sun, and days bringing all variation of weather in-between. Insects and wildlife persist on the farm. The presence of noxious weeds or allergens is common.
- **Please be prepared when you come to a farm.** Wear appropriate clothing, footwear, bring sunscreen and rainwear as needed, have insect repellant available, stay hydrated, and have access to appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). **Program faculty and staff must educate students and staff in their programs on the expectations of working in a farm environment.**
- All university stakeholders share a responsibility for land stewardship such that (1) the farmland continues to serve the ongoing and generational needs and (2) that on-farm land management practices serve as a positive model for growers and the community-at-large. Please review the Land Stewardship Policy for Cornell AES farms, located on the page Farm Resources for Cornell Researchers.