SEED VARIETIES AND SOIL CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm / Cost: $15 (NOFA-NY Members receive 10% discount)
Location: Harris Seeds, 355 Paul Rd, Rochester NY 14624
Join Daniel Eggert, Organic Seed Manager, and Gillian Meade, Trials Manager from Harris Seeds at their facility and trial fields in Rochester, NY. First, we’ll learn about Harris Seeds’ soil health plan for managing their trials long-term. Daniel and Gillian will share their soil assessment, past management practices, and the long-term goals for building healthy soil. Daniel is part of the NYS Soil Specialist Training through American Farmland Trust, and will discuss strategies for managing different soils. We’ll cover elements of food safety to keep yourself and your customer safe. Finally, we’ll look at different leafy greens and cut flower varieties, and how selecting the right seed can make the difference in your operation.

MARKET DISPLAYS: TAPPING INTO ALL THE SENSES
Time: Tabling starting at 9:00 am, Market tour at 11:00 am / Cost: Free!
Location: Brighton Farmers Market, 1150 Winton Rd. S., Rochester, NY 14618
Join NOFA-NY at the Brighton Farmers Market in Rochester, NY. NOFA-NY will be tabling at the market starting at 9:00 am – we’ll have information on food safety and education events, as well as merchandise. At 11:00 am, we’ll host a market tour that examines key vendors and their market displays.

FROM NO-TILL TO NEW CULTIVARS: IMPROVING ORGANIC CORN AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTION
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (Lunch included) / Cost: Free!
Location: Musgrave Research Farm, 1256 Poplar-Ridge Rd, Aurora, NY 13026
Connect with fellow farmers and Cornell researchers, while you check out our new no-till planter and get the latest information about rolled cover crop organic no-till soybean production. Learn about our organic cropping systems experiment and crop breeding for organic production. The NY Soil Health Trailer will also be on-site with demonstrations to show participants how healthy soil compares to degraded soil.

WATER, SOIL, TOOLS AT DEEP ROOT FARM
Time: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm / Cost: $15 (NOFA-NY Members receive 10% discount)
Location: Deep Root Farm, 2870 W Walworth Rd, Macedon, NY 14502
Starting a farm is not an easy task. How to manage start up investments, when and what to buy and determine the best field management tools can be daunting! Once you’ve grown a bountiful harvest of beautiful produce, how do you pack and wash it safely without a big budget? Join Eric Houppert, owner of Deep Root Farm – currently in its second season, and others for an interactive round table where we’ll explore strategies for managing soil and handling produce from field to market. Not all tools are created equal and some may work well with certain soils and not others. Bring a tool you love and maybe one that doesn’t work so well. We’ll try out tools from hand weeder to walk behind tractors, taking a look at how Eric manages the soil in his context and what you can do on your farm. Following the hands on demos there will be an on farm Happy Hour where people can share their own tips, lessons learned and questions about field management and wash and pack strategies.

FOOD SAFETY IN STACKED ENTERPRISE FARMING
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm / Cost: $15 (NOFA-NY Members receive 10% discount)
Location: Kingbird Farm, 9398 W Creek Rd, Berkley, NY 13736
This field day will have several layers, just as Kingbird Farm does. Managing the many facets of a farm that produces vegetables, chickens and other livestock can create some challenges when it comes to Food Safety considerations, but it also provides huge opportunities in developing healthy, living, highly productive soils. We will hear how Karma and Michael plan for optimizing their farm’s productive capacity while producing safe, nutrient dense foods.

INNOVATIONS IN ORGANIC VEGETABLE PRODUCTION
Part of the Organic@Cornell Summer Field Days Series
Time: 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm (Vegetable tastings and light meal included) / Cost: Free!
Location: Homer C. Thompson Vegetable Research Farm, 133 Fall Creek Rd, Freeville, NY 13068
Join Cornell researchers and Cornell Cooperative Extension for field tours of ongoing organic research. Learn about soil health, perennial cover crops, hemp production, tars for weed suppression, variety trials, and vegetable breeding for organic production. The NY Soil Health Trailer will also be on-site with demonstrations to show participants how healthy soil compares to degraded soil.
NOFA-NY ON-FARM FIELD DAYS

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS AND ROOTSTOCK VARIETIES FOR ORGANIC APPLE PRODUCTION

Part of the Organic@Cornell Summer Field Day Series

Time: 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm (Light meal included) / Cost: Free!
Location: Cornell Orchards, 709 Dryden Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850

Join us for an afternoon and see how mulch compares to tillage and allowed herbicides in terms of weed suppression and soil health in a block of Honeycrisp, and how ‘Modi’ performs on different rootstocks in a high-density tall spindle orchard. Advances in organic management of insect pests and diseases will also be discussed. The NY Soil Health Trailer will also be on-site with demonstrations to show participants how healthy soil compares to degraded soil.

BALANCING QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY AMID AN EVOLVING LABOR FORCE: MYTH-BUSTING H2A FOR SMALL FARMS

Time: 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm / Cost: $15 (NOFA-NY Members receive 10% discount)
Location: Kent Family Growers, 1301 CR 31, Lisbon, NY 13658

Daniel and Megan Kent grow 25 acres of certified organic vegetables with their family near the St. Lawrence River in Waddington, NY. They provide CSA shares across the North Country, attend the Canton Farmers Market, and their produce can be found at restaurants and stores from NYC to Boston and Buffalo.

Kent Family Growers will share how their farm manages the challenges of reaching these far-flung markets while their produce can be found at restaurants and stores from NYC to Boston and Buffalo.

BUILDING RESILIENCE INTO ORGANIC FORAGE PRODUCTION

Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (Lunch included) / Cost: Free!
Location: Twin Oaks Dairy, 3185 NY-13, Truxton, NY 13158

Join Kirk and Kathie Arnold and learn about mixed intercropping, interseeding into corn, and double cropping with triticale and sorghum sudangrass. Cornell researchers will discuss improving soil health and other ways farmers can increase resilience to extreme weather events. The NY Soil Health Trailer will also be on-site with demonstrations to show participants how healthy soil compares to degraded soil.

NEW TOOLS FOR MANAGING ONION THrips AND FOLiAR DISEASE IN ORGANIC ONION PRODUCTION

Time: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm / Cost: Free!
Location: Cornell AgriTech Research Farm (Gates West), 3394 Gates Rd, Geneva, NY 14456

Join other onion growers and Cornell researchers, to learn about current projects on organic management of an important insect pest, the onion thrips, and foliar diseases of onions. Tour active research plots to see how new resistant onion cultivars, plastic mulches, and OMRI-Listed pesticides and adjuvants are managing these pests.

EXPANDING ORGANIC SEED AVAILABILITY: FARMER BREEDER COLLABORATION

Time: 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm / Cost: $15 (NOFA-NY Members receive 10% discount)
Location: Norwich Meadows Farm, 105 Old Stone Rd, Norwich, NY 13815

Join Zaid Kurdiheh and Dr. Michael Mazourek in exploring how farmers and seed breeders can develop and revive more resilient seed varieties. We’ll cover restoring lost seed options, high tunnel seed varieties, and other projects at Norwich Meadows Farm. Dr. Mazourek will also discuss a low tech harvest tracking system he developed for Norwich Meadows.

BUILDING YOUR FARM TEAM TO BUILD HEALTHIER SOIL

Time: 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm / Cost: Free!
Location: Soul Fire Farm, 1972 NY HWY 2, Petersburg, NY 12138

This field day will focus primarily on two components, communication strategies on the farm and building healthy soil and the mutual support between the two.

For Soul Fire Farm, positive relationships and clear communication among team members are essential to the organization’s work to fight racism in the food system while promoting soil health and carbon sequestration on the farm. During this field day, the Soul Fire Farm team will explain the benefits and challenges of the communication strategies they use for building healthy organizational culture. The Soul Fire team will also discuss their implementation of reduced tillage practices and other regenerative soil farming methods and describe Soul Fire’s other programs including Black-Indigenous-People of Color (BIPOC) farmer and builder immersions, youth food sovereignty programs, and multiracial Uprooting Racism in the Food System workshops.

In addition, the Soul Fire Farm team will share their perspectives on the process of engaging in Food Justice Certification and how it has supported development of organizational policies. A representative of the Agricultural Justice Project will report on the joint NOFA-AJP project to provide technical assistance to farms on their labor and pricing policies and answer questions about Food Justice Certification.

Field day participants will have a chance to both witness and try communication and feedback tools such as Real Talk and Courageous Conversations. There will be a tour of the farm highlighting the regenerative soil farming practices that have transformed rocky and depleted soil. This land now provides weekly vegetables, fruit, and eggs to 100+ families in Albany and Troy through Soul Fire Farm’s sliding scale, doorstep delivered CSA.

Following the tour, participants will be invited to engage in a round table exchange about their soil building practices where they will discuss these questions:
1) What are the main practices that YOU are using to build healthy soils?
2) What additional research is needed to identify and demonstrate the effectiveness of healthy soils practices?
3) What would be the best incentives or support mechanisms that would help you and those you know accelerate adoption of these practices?