

New Jersey News

Summer NJSHS Grower Meeting at Alstede Farms

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On Wednesday, July 9, 2025 the New Jersey State Horticultural Society (NJSHS) held its 2nd annual

Summer Orchard Meeting and Educational Tour at Alstede Farms in Chester, NJ. Fifty farm family's industry personnel, Rutgers Cooperative Extension personnel, NJ Farm Bureau and private consultants attended.



Photo 1. Farm and Orchard Tour Alstede's, PYO Blueberry with Bird Netting- Photo Credit - Natalia Gamarra, Suterra

Thank you to our host Kurt Alstede for hosting us and his outstanding staff for arranging and guiding our farm tour; Colin Manning and Rebekah Alstede-Modery, Hector Ruiz as well as all the other staff the prepared food and did the meeting prep work behind the scenes.

Alstede Farm s is known for its entertainment farming marketing venues especially its Pick Your Own operations. However, they market their produce at multiple farm stands in Northern New Jersey Photos 2,3-and numerous tailgate farm markets. With over 600 acres of



Photo 2. Alstede Farm Market Chester, NJ.
Photo Credit Win Cowgill



Photo 3. Alstede Farm Market Chester, NJ.
Photo Credit Win Cowgill

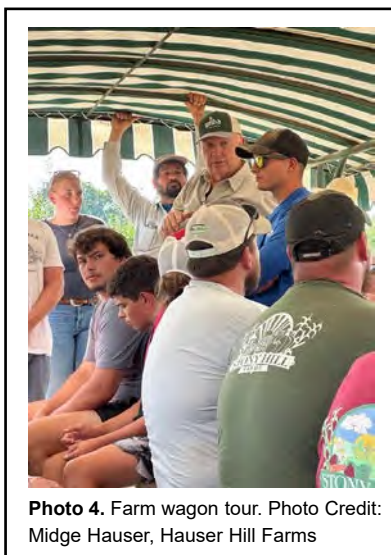


Photo 4. Farm wagon tour. Photo Credit: Midge Hauser, Hauser Hill Farms

crops Alstede's produce 30 acres of apples, 30 acres of stone fruit, including peaches, apricots, and plums, 2.5 acres of pears Asian and European and 2.5 acres of sweet and tart cherries.

We had an excellent farm wagon tour of the home farm in Chester reviewing blueberry production -Photo 1, high density tall spindle apple production, high density Asian and European pear, and the various stone fruit acreage of peach and cherry.

Following the tour, we had an excellent buffet dinner. It was followed by an educational program for our participants from our Sponsor of the tour/meeting, Suttera. Haydn Lenz- part of the technical and scientific team at Suttera made an informative presentation on mating



Photo 6. Haydn Lenz, Suttera made a power point presentation as an overview of mating disruption for apple and other fruit crops with Suttera's technology. Photo Credit: Natalia Gamarra

disruption for apple and other fruit crops. New Jersey growers have used mating disruption for peach tree borer complex for over 10 years but are just begging to adopt mating disruption for Codling Moth in apple and pear. Haydn focused on transferring this knowledge to our growers.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our meeting and tour Sponsor Natalia Gamarra, Suttera.



Photo 5. Kurt Alstede welcomes the group to the indoor Program and gave an excellent overview of his operation. Photo Credit: Natalia Gamarra, Suttera.





Photo 7. Overview of meeting at Alstede's Harvest Hall Facility- Photo Credit: Natalia Gamarra, Suterra.



Photo 8. Some of the leadership of the NJSHS with our host Kurt Alstede; from left to right, Kurt Alstede, Jim Giamarese President, John Hauser, Chair Grant Committee, Win Cowgill Business Manager and Editor of Horticultural News, Dale Davis NJSHS Board Member. Photo Credit: Midge Hauser, Hauser Hill Farms.

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