



**Cornell University**  
**Cooperative Extension**  
**Schoharie County**

173 South Grand Street  
Cobleskill, New York 12043  
t. 518.234.4303  
t. 518.296.8310  
f. 518.234.4305

**For Immediate Release October 27, 2010**  
**Contact: David Cox, Ag Program Leader**

**“Annie’s Project” - Empowering Women in Agriculture**

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Oneida County and Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie County are pleased to offer, for the first time in New York State, an exciting new program aimed at empowering women in agriculture to become savvy business leaders and partners in today’s farming industry. Enrollment is now open for the innovative six week course called “Annie’s Project,” which is slated to begin in January 2011.

Annie grew up in a small Midwest farm community and spent her adult life as an involved business partner with her husband on their farm. Together they did great things, but it wasn’t always easy. Now, Annie has made it her mission to take her life experiences and develop an educational curriculum to share with farm women living and working in a complex and dynamic agricultural business environment.

Annie’s Project is a six-week course designed to empower farm women to manage today’s technology based information systems used in critical agricultural decision making processes, and will help participants build a network of support across the state. The program will begin Thursday, January 13, 2011, and run six consecutive Thursdays through February 17, 2011, each three-hour session from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., including one hour for lunch. The cost is \$50.00 person, which includes lunch, all course materials, and handouts. Class size is limited, pre-registration will be required.

The target audience is farm women with a passion for business and involvement. Work sessions will combine lecture, discussion, individual and small group activities, and software training, often interacting between Extension offices through a Polycom communications system. Topics will include financial statements, recordkeeping, farm business planning, marketing plans, estate planning, insurance issues, and other areas.

For more information on how to enroll or help sponsor this important program please contact Bonnie Collins at Cornell Cooperative Extension Oneida County at (315) 736.3394 x 104 or email [bsc33@cornell.edu](mailto:bsc33@cornell.edu) or David Cox at Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie County at (518) 234-4303/296-8310 or email [dgc23@cornell.edu](mailto:dgc23@cornell.edu). Cornell Cooperative Extension Oneida County and Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie County provide equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting one’s respective Extension office prior to the program.

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