

Pattison Receives Perrine Award For Pomology

GENEVA, N.Y. — Jeremy Pattison, a first-year graduate student in horticulture at Cornell University, received the 2001 Perrine Scholarship Award on March 9, in acknowledgement of his outstanding graduate work in pomology.

Hugh Price, chairman of the horticultural sciences department at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, presented the award to Pattison on behalf of the Perrine family.

The scholarship was established by David Perrine (Cornell 22) in 1993 to support pomology research at Geneva. The \$2,000 award

supports Pattison's doctorate research program and educational expenses. Pattison is the sixth recipient of the award.

Pattison has six years of practical experience in horticulture and graduated from East Stroudsburg University in 2000. Most recently he served as a vineyard manager and winemaker's assistant.

Since coming to Cornell to pursue his master's degree, he has worked under small fruit breeder Courtney Weber at Geneva. Pattison conducts research on Phytophthora root rot in red raspberries, a disease that limits production in New York

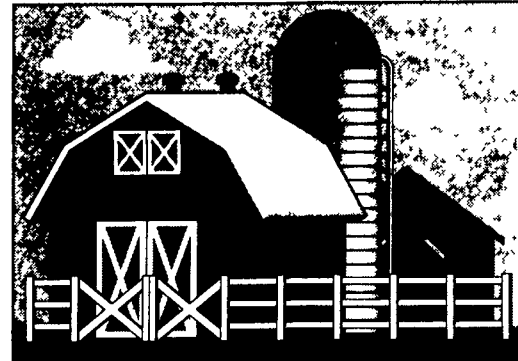
State and all other regions of the world. Because raspberries are perennial crops, developing resistance to this disease is important because the plants remain in the same location for years.

"The main goal of my project is to design a molecular screening procedure that can weed out the copious number of susceptible genotypes to breed raspberry populations in an efficient and cost-effective manner, and hasten the development of resistant cultivars," said Pattison.

"Phytophthora root rot is the most damaging disease of

the crop," said Weber. "Jeremy's research will help us pinpoint the underlying genetic component of resistance and allow us to breed cultivars in the future that will resist the disease. Awards like the Perrine award really help graduate

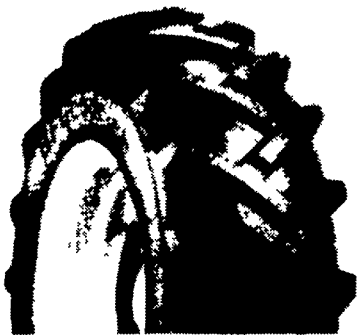
students do good research, and it makes them realize that people appreciate the work they are doing. I think Jeremy's contribution to fruit research is just beginning and this award will help him to succeed in his efforts."



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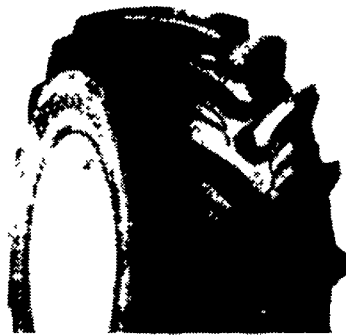
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