CALS-CCE 2015 Invasive Species Summer Internship: Cornell/Tompkins

**Title of project:** CCE Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship

**Worksite location** (CCE association or associations where intern will work): in or adjacent to Tompkins County

**Contacts are:** Caroline Marschner, CCE ISP Invasive Species Specialist (cam369@cornell.edu)

**Faculty sponsor:** Antonio DiTommaso, Dept. of Crop and Soil Sciences (ad97@cornell.edu)

**Other campus-based mentors/supervisors:** Deborah Grantham, Dept. of Crop & Soil Sciences, CCE Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program (dgg3@cornell.edu)

**Project summary and intended outcomes (no more than 5 – 10 sentences):**

Assess management practices such as mowing frequency and timing to control invasive species that threaten agricultural lands. To be of practical value, this research will need to be performed and data collected during multiple growing seasons. This work will support the work of the CCE Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program and the NYS PRISMs (Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management) (see nyis.info).

**Brief description of the student intern’s role and responsibilities (no more than 5-10 sentences):**

Intern will identify, inventory, and map specific invasive plant species in or bordering agricultural fields before and after mowing. Results will be analyzed with Professor DiTommaso and reported to the Finger Lakes and other PRISMs and the CCE Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program. CCE Educators will assist in identifying suitable fields and obtaining landowner permission to enter the property.

**What qualifications and previous coursework does the student need in order to be prepared for this internship?**

Intern will need to be able to identify the species of interest, know inventory methods, and be able to map point and extent data (use of GPS and an on-line mapping system).

**What benefits/skills will the student gain through this internship?**

Intern will learn about invasive species, their impacts, potential management strategies, and design of an applied research approach to the issue. Agricultural pests will be the focus of the project. The intern also will learn about Cornell Cooperative Extension, its mission and approaches, and how CCE interacts with and supports partners.