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(Middle Granville NY) The weather is finally starting to break. Daily time temperatures are averaging in the 50's and nights are starting to be in the 30's. Looking over the temps between last year and this year; Feb of this year was 8 degrees cooler, March was 11 degrees cooler. No wonder things aren't growing like last year! Fields are starting to dry out- we will be tilling by the end of the week on ground that was prepped and bedded up last fall. Overwintered onions are looking good. They survived the winter in the mini-tunnels even though they only had one layer of 30-weight rowcover on them. We will be weeding and fertilizing them this week. Greenhouses are okay. Some serious Cercospora in the spinach which is not being driven back by Actinovate or Oxidate. New plantings of greens are coming on, overwintered kale, Swiss chard and Asian greens are bolting. Hoophouses are replanted with spring greens. Tomatoes go in late next week. Went to an auction in MA last Saturday. Prices on some things were shockingly low. Barely used 35K onion bagging line went for 5 K, Beautiful 20 foot tri-fold

TIMING STRAWBERRY MULCH REMOVAL

(adapted from Bob Tritten, Michigan State Univ.)

The best way to time straw mulch removal is to look for the beginning of leaf growth; you will need to inspect your fields. Randomly check 10 to 15 spots in a field and pull the straw off of two feet of row. If you see newly emerging leaves (they may be a yellow color) that are
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