

**Report to the Ontario County Board of Supervisors**

**2014 Annual Agricultural District Enrollment Report:  
Proposed Inclusion of Viable Lands to NYS Agricultural Districts in  
Ontario County, NY**

**March, 2015**

REPORT PREPARED BY THE ONTARIO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

THOMAS HARVEY, DIRECTOR

20 ONTARIO ST.

CANANDAIGUA, NY 14424

585-396-4455

[WWW.CO.ONTARIO.NY.US/PLANNING](http://WWW.CO.ONTARIO.NY.US/PLANNING)

## **2014 Annual Agricultural District Enrollment Report: Proposed Inclusion of Viable Lands to NYS Agricultural Districts in Ontario County, NY**

Pursuant to Ontario County Board of Supervisors (BOS) Resolution No. 294-04, the 2014 annual thirty-day enrollment period during which landowners could request that land be added to an Agricultural District was held November 1-30, 2014. Three parcels totaling 359 acres were submitted for consideration. Table 1 on following page profiles each parcel.

The following summarizes the inclusion process. Copies of Board of Supervisors Resolutions and public hearing records are included at the end of the report.

### **1. Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board Review**

The Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board (AEB) met on January 27, 2015 to consider the requests for inclusion according to criteria in NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) CIRCULAR 1150 ARTICLE 25AA -- AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS §303b.:

- a. The parcels proposed for inclusion in the agricultural district consist predominantly of viable agricultural land<sup>1</sup>; and
- b. The inclusion of such land would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the district.

Based on that review, the Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board (AEB) recommended to the Ontario County Board of Supervisors that all three parcels met the above criteria and should be included in their respective agricultural district.

### **2. Public Notice and Hearing**

BOS Resolution No. 32-2015 authorized that a public hearing be conducted on February 12, 2015 to obtain public comments on the proposed inclusions. The municipal clerks of the Towns of South Bristol and Victor and the landowners were sent the public notice as well.

The public hearing was legally noticed and held before the BOS. No public comments were offered.

### **3. Board of Supervisors Recommendation**

At the March 5, 2015 BOS meeting, after considering the information contained in the Environmental Assessment Form, the Board determined that the proposed action to include the three parcels as viable agricultural land in the respective agricultural district would not result in any significant adverse environmental impact (See Resolution 129-2015) and recommended that the NYSDAM include the three parcels (See Resolution 130-2015).

---

<sup>1</sup> Article 25AA §301. 7 Definition: "Viable agricultural land" means land highly suitable for a farm operation as defined in this section.

**Table 1. Parcel Inclusion Information**

Municipality	Tax Map Number	Property Address	Primary Owner	Acres	Agricultural District No.	Viability as an Agricultural Operation	AEB Inclusion Recommendation
Town of South Bristol	166.00-1-12.111	5565 CR 33	Frank Koch (Timber Trail Forest Farm)	230	9	This is a start up agricultural operation with 40 acre sugar bush and four acres in shitake mushroom. The farmer intends to expand the sugar bush and add fruit trees (some have been planted). Additional parcels will be added in 2015.	Yes
Town of Victor	40.00-1-23.100	6465 CR 41	Edward Guinan	118	1	Currently farmed by Roger Bowe (adjoining farmer) whose land is in Ag. District 1. The parcel currently receives the Agricultural District Exemption	Yes
Town of Victor	5.04-1-62.000	515 Log Cabin Rd.	Joseph Hurley Kettle Ridge Farms, LLC	11	1	Addition to 50 ac. apiary & sugar bush operation in the Town of Victor	Yes