Other Educational Activities: April– June 2020

Dave promoted a CCE webinar about on-farm dairy processing. Handled follow-up questions from local producers. Distributed a hard copy mailing to producers on COVID-19 and agencies available to assist producers.

Dave sent out a number of emails to our team list regarding dairy markets, dumped milk, dairy policy, on-farm processing and podcasts.

Received thanks from dairy producers who attended DMC informational meetings we hosted. These producers signed up for the full 5-year DMC program. They received substantial payments because of the huge milk price decline caused by COVID-19.

Dave is part of a CCE Dairy Specialists group that is meeting to organize resources related to animal welfare issues/complaints.

Nicole worked with other extension educators in NYS to provide producers information on the CFAP (Corona Food Assistance Program) with USDA in a webinar setting.

Growing Degree Day (GDD) monitoring is being conducted by our summer intern, Peter Burritt. That information is being provided to our producers on a weekly basis via electronic delivery.

The team continues to review & process DAP (Dairy Advancement Program) applications. We conduct baseline interviews to provide more detailed information to the review team at Cornell.

Ashley completed sheep grading classification school, a series of value added product webinars and participated in a beef cattle grazing school offered by OSU.

Grant and Project Activities: April—June 2020

The Team conducted first cutting alfalfa monitoring this spring with 32 fields across our region tracked to provide our producers with detailed optimal harvest dates. Even though we scaled down the number of fields monitored because of COVID-19, we still monitored enough representative fields across our region.

Growing Degree Day (GDD) monitoring is being conducted by our summer intern, Peter Burritt. That information is being provided to our producers on a weekly basis via electronic delivery.

The team continues to review & process DAP (Dairy Advancement Program) applications. We conduct baseline interviews to provide more detailed information to the review team at Cornell.

Dave has continued to work on the Precision Feeding Topic Specific Team in Madison County sponsored by NYFVI.

This effort will reach its conclusion after the second calendar quarter is complete.

Nicole is wrapping up the 2020 CNYDLFC Cash Rents Survey. The survey will conclude in July of 2020.

Dave is part of a CCE Dairy Specialists group that is meeting to organize resources related to animal welfare issues/complaints.

Nicole worked with other extension educators in NYS to provide producers information on the CFAP (Corona Food Assistance Program) with USDA in a webinar setting.

Growing Degree Day (GDD) monitoring is being conducted by our summer intern, Peter Burritt. That information is being provided to our producers on a weekly basis via electronic delivery.

The team continues to review & process DAP (Dairy Advancement Program) applications. We conduct baseline interviews to provide more detailed information to the review team at Cornell.

Dave has continued to work on the Precision Feeding Topic Specific Team in Madison County sponsored by NYFVI.

This effort will reach its conclusion after the second calendar quarter is complete.

Nicole is wrapping up the 2020 CNYDLFC Cash Rents Survey. The survey will conclude in July of 2020.
Dialing Into Your Best Dairy

A Podcast Series
Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension Regional Dairy Specialists and Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY

Dairy producers and others involved in the dairy industry often talk about the tremendous strides in milk production potential achieved by the nation’s dairy cows because of genetic progress over the years. Yet we sometimes hear dairy professionals speak about management deficiencies on individual farms that limits milk production. Some of these management issues influence an animal’s production potential over their entire lifetime! We often focus on milk production levels because higher producing herds tend to be more profitable than lower producing herds.

During the COVID-19 quarantine, Extension Dairy Specialists across the state and Pro-Dairy staff teamed up to produce a series of podcasts that dairy producers, their employees, and others involved in the dairy industry could listen to. They highlight a number of management decisions in the life of a dairy cow that could limit that animals’ ability to express its genetic potential and discuss management strategies that will unlock that genetic potential. What prompted the production of these podcasts was the announcement of a new world record of 78,170 lbs. of milk with 3,094 lbs. of butterfat and 2,993 pounds of milk protein in 365 days by a 7-year-old Holstein cow in Wisconsin. The last podcast includes an interview with the farm owners where they discuss their management strategies that have allowed this cow to set a new world’s record. These podcasts are 15 to 20 minutes in length. A new podcast was released every Monday over an 8-week period. Hoard’s Dairyman, a National Dairy Farm Magazine, has been listening to the podcasts, as they have been highlighting the main points from these podcasts in their online “Hoard’s Dairyman Intel,” which they send out via email twice a week.

Episodes in this series discuss management practices and tips to reach a dairy herd’s full genetic potential. They discuss the different life stages of the dairy cow, including raising calves through the milk phase and weaning; managing weaned heifers up to freshening; making decisions about which replacements to keep including talking about inventory, disease prevention, and culling decisions; feeding and nutrition management during lactation; facilities, time management, and ventilation considerations throughout lactation; and management factors around reproduction, gestation, and the dry period. David Balbian, Area Dairy Management Specialist, played the majority role in three of the eight podcasts. You can find them at https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/events/podcasts/

Peter Burritt, Cornell University Intern

Peter Burritt of Poughkeepsie, NY is our summer intern. Peter is a student at Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the Agriculture Science Program. This summer, Peter is working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meet Erik Smith, Ph.D.!
New Area Field Crops Specialist

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meat Marketing Zoom Workshop

On behalf of Director Chris Watkins, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Erik Smith to the position of Field Crop Specialist for the Central NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Team, effective August 1. Erik comes to us with more than 15 years of experience conducting agricultural research and educational outreach as a graduate student, postdoc, and extension professional. As a Finger Lakes native with grain and forage crop farmers in his family where he spent time helping out farming, he has a deep connection to New York’s agricultural community, and is looking forward to the opportunity to combine his skills and passion into serving farmers in the Central NY region.

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meet Erik Smith, Ph.D.!
New Area Field Crops Specialist

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Dialing Into Your Best Dairy

A Podcast Series
Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension Regional Dairy Specialists and Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY

Dairy producers and others involved in the dairy industry often talk about the tremendous strides in milk production potential achieved by the nation’s dairy cows because of genetic progress over the years. Yet we sometimes hear dairy professionals speak about management deficiencies on individual farms that limits milk production. Some of these management issues influence an animal’s production potential over their entire lifetime! We often focus on milk production levels because higher producing herds tend to be more profitable than lower producing herds.

During the COVID-19 quarantine, Extension Dairy Specialists across the state and Pro-Dairy staff teamed up to produce a series of podcasts that dairy producers, their employees, and others involved in the dairy industry could listen to. They highlight a number of management decisions in the life of a dairy cow that could limit that animals’ ability to express its genetic potential and discuss management strategies that will unlock that genetic potential. What prompted the production of these podcasts was the announcement of a new world record of 78,170 lbs. of milk with 3,094 lbs. of butterfat and 2,993 pounds of milk protein in 365 days by a 7-year-old Holstein cow in Wisconsin. The last podcast includes an interview with the farm owners where they discuss their management strategies that have allowed this cow to set a new world’s record. These podcasts are 15 to 20 minutes in length. A new podcast was released every Monday over an 8-week period. Hoard’s Dairyman, a National Dairy Farm Magazine, has been listening to the podcasts, as they have been highlighting the main points from these podcasts in their online “Hoard’s Dairyman Intel,” which they send out via email twice a week.

Episodes in this series discuss management practices and tips to reach a dairy herd’s full genetic potential. They discuss the different life stages of the dairy cow, including raising calves through the milk phase and weaning; managing weaned heifers up to freshening; making decisions about which replacements to keep including talking about inventory, disease prevention, and culling decisions; feeding and nutrition management during lactation; facilities, time management, and ventilation considerations throughout lactation; and management factors around reproduction, gestation, and the dry period. David Balbian, Area Dairy Management Specialist, played the majority role in three of the eight podcasts. You can find them at https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/events/podcasts/

Peter Burritt, Cornell University Intern

Peter Burritt of Poughkeepsie, NY is our summer intern. Peter is a student at Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the Agriculture Science Program. This summer, Peter is working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meet Erik Smith, Ph.D.!
New Area Field Crops Specialist

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meat Marketing Zoom Workshop

On behalf of Director Chris Watkins, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Erik Smith to the position of Field Crop Specialist for the Central NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Team, effective August 1. Erik comes to us with more than 15 years of experience conducting agricultural research and educational outreach as a graduate student, postdoc, and extension professional. As a Finger Lakes native with grain and forage crop farmers in his family where he spent time helping out farming, he has a deep connection to New York’s agricultural community, and is looking forward to the opportunity to combine his skills and passion into serving farmers in the Central NY region.

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.

Meat Marketing Zoom Workshop

On behalf of Director Chris Watkins, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Erik Smith to the position of Field Crop Specialist for the Central NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Team, effective August 1. Erik comes to us with more than 15 years of experience conducting agricultural research and educational outreach as a graduate student, postdoc, and extension professional. As a Finger Lakes native with grain and forage crop farmers in his family where he spent time helping out farming, he has a deep connection to New York’s agricultural community, and is looking forward to the opportunity to combine his skills and passion into serving farmers in the Central NY region.

Erik earned his B.A. from SUNY Oswego in Biology and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University in Entomology working with Dr. Brian Nault and Dr. Elson Shields. He conducted post-doctoral research with Dr. Shields on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) as biological control agents for soil-borne insect pests of field crops (alfalfa, corn) and fruit. He then served as an IPM specialist for the Agri-Food Veterinary Authority of Singapore and a Research Scientist at the National Institute of Singapore.