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Cornell Cooperative Extension

Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

Quarterly Report July - September 2020

swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu



Programming Highlights

Forage Variability Research Underway

SWNYDLFC is part of an effort to bring regionally specific research-based recommendations directly to our region by conducting research trials. Dairy Management Specialist, Alycia Drwencke, is working with Dr. Kristan Reed of Cornell University to collect forage sample data that will influence dairy cattle nutrition recommendations. This work will bring in over \$10,000 in PGF for Alycia's efforts.



Herbicide-Resistance Testing with Campus Connections

Josh Putman, Field Crops Specialist, is working with Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie to collect weed seed for herbicide-resistance testing this fall. This testing will help provide field crops producers with targeted management recommendations, protecting their crop's production and their farm's profitability.



Straight from our Farmers: Public Facebook Review from The Vanstrom Homestead

"So our back paddock is cursed by the chicken gods. These birds are days away from butchering and something scared a bunch of them to death last night. Luckily (or not?) We already had Amy from SWNY Cornell Cooperative Extension coming out to see our youngest group of birds (who have not had a good week to say the least) and happens to be a poultry person. She necropsied the big birds and found most of them most likely had heart attacks. Except for finding a bunch of dead birds first thing, it was a neat morning learning how to do a preliminary investigation on chickens. If you ever have bird or farming questions be sure to check this team of awesome people out. Link in the comments."



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Katelyn Walley-Stoll worked with Cornell University professors to develop a central Farm Business Management website as part of a grant program that brought

\$12,000 in PGF to the team. This website will provide news, updates, and other helpful information for the agricultural industry.



Our 2020 Fall Pasture Management Series was a success! The program focused on late summer management topics and had 30 attendees. There were also videos and resources created to aid in future programming.

Programming and Presentations

- Steuben County Speakers Series 7/14/2020. Public oriented presentation on SWNYDLFC and general agriculture.
- CORE Pesticide Training 7/14/2020. Providing basic IPM information and DEC Credits to Field Crops Producers.
- Heat Stress Webinar in English 7/21/2020.
- CORE Pesticide Training 7/21/2020.
- Heat Stress Webinar in Spanish 7/22/2020.
- Pasture Management Series: Late Summer Weed ID and Management 9/3/2020.
- Pasture Management Series: Soil Sampling, Preparation, and Submission - 9/10/2020.
- Pasture Management Series: Interpreting Your Soil Report 9/17/2020.
- CORE Pesticide Training 9/22/2020. Providing basic IPM information and DEC Credits to Field Crops Producers.
- CORE Pesticide Training 9/24/2020.
- Attended Board of Director, Ag Program Committee, and County Association Staff meetings as requested.
- Provided updated reporting information with targeted success stories to assist with county funding efforts.
- Continue to release regular Press Releases, Quick Points Updates, Weekly Update Newsletters, Dairy Market Watch, and Field Crops Chronicles to keep our producers, stakeholders, and community members aware of our programming and support resources.

Research and Outreach Grant Updates and Awards

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Farm Consultations on topics related to Farm Business Management, Field Crops, Dairy Management, and Livestock Production.



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Management Specialist, has developed a comprehensive guide for beginning farmers available electronically and via hardcopy that features existing resources developed by various agricultural agencies as part of a grant effort with American Farmland Trust's Regional Navigators program. Team Specialists will continue to use this resource when working with beginning or transitioning farmers as a way to communicate various production pathways.

The SWNYDLFC Team has been working with Cornell PRO-Dairy to bring information and connections to the Dairy Advancement Program, providing grant funds to dairy producers in the region that will improve farm profitability, with one successfully funded project to date, led by Alycia Drwencke.

Our team works collaboratively with other Regional Agriculture Programs to meet the diverse needs of our growers. Josh Putman of SWNYDLFC recently visited farms from the Plain Community in

Franklinville to address soil health, production issues, and fertility recommendations. He worked alongside Elizabeth Buck (CVP) and Esther Kibbe (Harvest NY).

1,261

Event and program direct participants who've attended one of our 16 events/collaborations or have received our direct email/mail updates.

- Amy Barkley has been written into a SARE Partnership grant with the Providence Farm Collective to develop an on-farm training
 program for beginning marginalized farmers on how to raise and process broiler chickens. The goal of this project is to help these
 farmers develop an alternative income stream, become more self-sufficient, and provide them access to more traditional poultry meat.
 Other livestock species will be part of this project, and will be selected in the coming months.
- Katelyn Walley-Stoll completed four Beef Farm Business Summary Analyses across the region, bringing in \$2,500 in program generated funds. This program provides sound financial data for farms to use to make management decisions that will improve the profitability of their farm business.
- Josh Putman is working with Toni DiTommasos' lab at Cornell University to submit weed samples from SWNY Growers for identification
 as part of the Weed Ecology lab (NYS Weed ID Network) and communicate the findings with the grower. This project provides \$700 in
 funding for the team.

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Website submissions and Facebook posts providing timely information to a large audience.