

swnyteam@cornell.edu

# Cornell Cooperative Extension

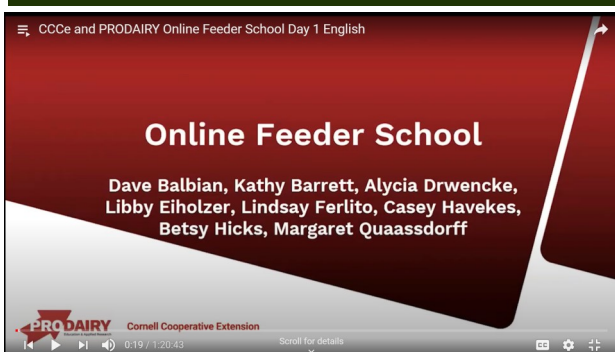
Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu

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

Quarterly Report  
October - December 2020

## Programming Highlights



### Online Dairy Feeder School Success

SWNYDLFC was part of a state wide collaboration with Regional Dairy Specialists and Cornell PRO-DAIRY to host a virtual dairy feeder school. This event was offered in both English and Spanish. Each offering of the program spanned two days and received extremely positive feedback from participants. The program had more than 143 individual registrations, with additional viewers from the same location and views of the recording on YouTube.

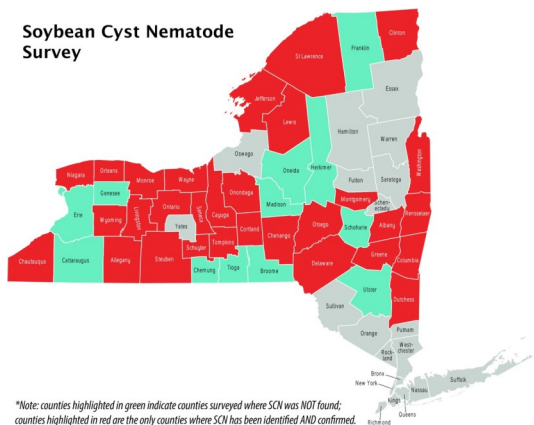


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### Soybean Cyst Nematode Survey



\*Note: counties highlighted in green indicate counties surveyed where SCN was NOT found; counties highlighted in red are the only counties where SCN has been identified AND confirmed.

### Soybean Cyst Nematode Testing with Campus Connections

Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) is considered the number one pest of soybeans nationally and globally. Field Crop Specialist, Josh Putman, participated in a 2020 statewide SCN survey which revealed 23 NEW counties confirmed with at least one field positive for SCN. In SWNY, 3 out of 5 counties tested positive for SCN (Steuben, Allegany, and Chautauqua). This brings us to a total of 30 counties with SCN confirmations since 2016.



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### So, Why Keep Predators?

- Part of a balanced ecosystem
  - They eat the things that eat what your livestock eats
- Removing individuals from a pack can result in a break down of pack social structure, potentially making predation worse before it gets better
- Removing a well-mannered predator leaves room for more aggressive predators to fill the void



### Timely Collaborations for Livestock Producers

Amy has been working with the Livestock Program Work Team on surveying red meat and poultry processing plants across the state. The goals of this project are two-fold. 1.) to develop a list of USDA, Custom Exempt, and 5A processors to provide to local farmers, and 2.) to collect information on the roadblocks for plants thinking of becoming USDA inspected to help understand what opportunities are most needed to help expand USDA-inspected processing capacity in the state.



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Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Josh assisted with herbicide resistance screenings on the maretail populations collected throughout the state in the fall of 2020. Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie is currently testing 30 populations for Roundup resistance. Results will be presented at winter meetings.



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

“Developing a Beginning Farmer Training Program for Western New York’s Minority and Low-Resource Farmers”, a joint grant project between the Providence Farm Collective and Amy Barkley, is now underway. Most classes have been scheduled for spring and summer of 2021. The team working on the grant is now developing educational materials. The first workshop will be held in spring.

## Labeling

- MUST be certified if selling >\$5,000 worth of product
- If selling < \$5,000 worth of product a year:
  - Not required to have the certification to use the term “organic”
  - Must comply with organic production and handling requirements
  - Records should be kept for at least 3 years
  - CANNOT use the organic seal or “certified organic” in marketing, labeling, and promotions



Amy has been creating and releasing short, 10-15 minute presentations on practical topics for beginning farmers and homesteaders through the WNY Beginning Farmers and Homesteaders Facebook group. These videos are released every two weeks on Thursdays at 6pm to an audience of over 650 individuals. Conversations around each topic are invited.

# 1,484

**Event and program direct participants who’ve attended one of our 7 events/ collaborations or have received our direct email/mail updates.**

## Programming and Presentations

- Online Dairy Feeder School in English 11/3 & 11/5/2020
- Online Dairy Feeder School in Spanish 11/10 & 11/12/2020
- Troubleshooting Herd Health Issues on Your Dairy Podcast Series 11/30/2020
  - Episodes will be released weekly through March 2021
- Soybean Cyst Nematode Presentation 12/17/2020
- “LEAF Live” presentations for the WNY Beginning Farmers and Homesteaders group
  - Soil Sampling 10/1/2020
  - Preparing Your Poultry for Winter 10/15/20
  - Introduction to Organic Farming 11/12/20
  - Non-Lethal Predator Management 12/10/20
- 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

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 4 farms funded to date and a fifth application in progress, led by Alycia Drwencke.



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

## Professional Development and Outreach Opportunities

- How to be an Antiracist Reading Circle, Fall 2020
- Hoards Dairyman Webinars and Market Intel, Fall 2020
- Dairy Cattle Welfare Council Webinar Series, 2020
- Precision Livestock Farming Virtual Field Day, 10/7
- Stockpiling Pastures and Cassano Pasture Walk, 10/7
- The Benefits of Fall Weed Management, 10/6
- "It's always the nutritionists fault" Webinar, 10/15
- Calf Rearing Bottlenecks, 10/20
- New Staff Orientation, 10/20-10/22
- Virtual Waterhemp Field Day, 10/21
- Xyway Corn Fungicide Webinar, 10/22
- Feeding and Managing the Newborn Calf, 10/23
- Interseeding Cover Crop Virtual Field Day, 10/28
- Cornell Ag In-Service, 11/4-11/6
- Virtual Silvopasture Workshop, 11/10
- Agronomy Society Meetings, 11/10-11/13
- Xtendflex Update - Bayer Crop Science, 11/12
- Sheep Farm Evolution – Hosted by Betsy Hodge, CCE, 11/16
- Practical Measures of the Soil Microbiome, 11/17
- National Cover Crop Summit, 11/17-11/18
- Labor Road Show IV, 11/18-11/23
- How do crop consultants use farmer data?, 12/1
- USDA Cattle and Carcass Grading, 12/1 & 12/8
- American Solar Grazers Monthly Presentation Meetings, 12/2
- Computer Vision for Digital Agriculture, 12/3
- National Fusarium Head Blight Forum, 12/7-12/11
- Selecting the Right Herbicide Tolerant Crops, 12/8
- Organic Dairy System Summit, 12/8
- Dairy Feed Dealers Seminar, 12/9
- Thinking of Starting a Red Meat Processing Plant in NY?, 12/9
- Holistic Pest Management, 12/10
- Active Soil Carbon and Protein, 12/15
- Poultry Welfare Certification Training, 12/15-12/17
- County Annual Meetings, Fall 2020