“Meat” your Farmer Success!

On November 5th and 9th, CCE Chautauqua County and the CCE SWNY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program partnered to put on two events in Ellicottville and Jamestown that connected the community to their local livestock farmers. Our program allowed farmers to bring their product and set up a booth not only to sell meat, but also to have conversations with the potential customers about how livestock are raised and processed. The formal program, highlighting Shining Star Cattle Company’s Tyler Strub (NYBPA’s Region 1 Co-Director), NYBPA President Ted Card, and Amy Barkley, shared information about how to purchase bulk meats, building relationships with farmers, and options for purchasing bulk meats locally. This event was the first of its kind for Cattaraugus County, and the second of its kind for Chautauqua County, connecting 21 unique farms with 84 members of the public, with an overwhelmingly positive set of reviews from both groups.
In November of 2022, Camila Lage, in partnership with Victor Malacco from MSU Extension, hosted a webinar on Raising and Managing Cows for Automated Milking Systems. We had 242 registrants, and 102 participants live. Around 15 questions were answered during the Q&A session. The webinar was recorded, the link was shared with registrants and on our extension channels, and it has been viewed almost 200 times. This partnership was born out of a need to bring to our audience (farmers and independent consultants) the latest unbiased, high-quality information delivered by researchers working with AMS. Since there is not much information on the topic provided by Universities, we received overwhelmingly positive feedback. We decided to bring the series to 2023, with a tentative webinar to be hosted in April about Navigating Transition Period in Automated Milking Systems.

Soybean Cyst Nematode Sampling in SWNY

Through a grant from the NY Corn and Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA), Katelyn Miller was able to sample 11 different fields throughout Cattaraugus and Erie counties for 6 farmers. Each sample was tested for Soybean Cyst Nematode, a pest that feeds on the roots of soybeans, causing symptoms such as sudden death syndrome, early drying, and stunting. SCN is present in over 30 counties in New York State and is the number one yield reducing pest of soybeans. Even when there are no symptoms present, yields can be reduced by 30%.