

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

First Quarter Report 2023

Dairy Feeder School

Richfield Springs, NY

A Dairy Feeder School was held in November with both English and Spanish speaking participants. Two thirds of the participants were English speaking and a third were Spanish speaking. The C.C.E. Northwest Dairy Specialist, Kaitlyn Lutz and Jorge Blanco, PhD candidate in Dairy Science were on hand to provide Spanish translation to our Spanish speaking participants. This program trained 24 people how to properly load and mix a total mixed ration (TMR) so that it mimicked what the herd's nutritionist formulated. Adjusting "As Fed" weights to "As Forage Dry Matters" is an area where mistakes often occur. How to properly make this adjustment, along with a multitude of other topics, were covered in a classroom and hands-on on-farm session.



Students learning about bunk face management



Classroom Training

A Series of in Person & Virtual Educational Programs are bring planned in conjunction with ProDairy and other Regional CCE Dairy Specialists in New York. They include Dairy Technology and Calving & Calf Care in person at CCE Madison.

A program and funding partnership between Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations of Chenango, Fulton, Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Otsego, Saratoga and Schoharie Counties.

A.I. Workshop in Little Falls!

In December, Ashley McFarland and David Balbian held an artificial insemination course for cattle at Insight Dairy, LLC. in Little Falls NY taught by John Jacobs from Select Sires. The program offered a classroom setting for producers to learn the ins and outs of reproduction along with a full day of hands-on training with live cattle. The goal of this program was to teach producers how to artificial inseminate their own animals and understand the steps for success. At this workshop there were 14 producers from across the state. Due to the interest we have had from dairy farm employees, our plan is to hold a Spanish speaking workshop in the summer of 2023.



First Day of In-Class Training



Second Day - Hands On Training

Mental Health First Aid Training

July of 2022, Nicole took part in a specialized training curriculum on educating people for Mental Health First Aid. In November she co-instructed with Todd Hyne of Farm Bureau an 8 hour intensive course on Mental Health First Aid. This course was conducted in Fulton County and had 15 participants ranging from folks in county corrections to farmers.

Over the course of the 8 hour program, students learn the signs and symptoms of mental health and how to approach and assist a person experiencing a mental health challenge. Additionally, a section on addiction is covered.

Thank you to the collaborative efforts of NY FarmNet to provide this free training.

Manure Management and CAFO Permit Training

In the month of December, Erik hosted a meeting on Manure Management. in Waterville on Dec. 6th, and in Ballston Spa on Dec. 8th with over 60 participants attending.

Depending on the venue, folks received an overview of the following topics:

- New CAFO general permit requirements (ECL SPDES GP-0-22-001)
- Fertilizer value and N-credits from manure
- Opportunities for utilizing food waste (co-digestion) for energy and nutrient recycling
- Green House Gas mitigation options during manure storage
- Manure storage options and solutions

Throughout the day long program, participants were able to hear from different agencies.

Guest speaker included Kirsten Workman Nutrient Management & Environmental Sustainability Specialist, Cornell PRO-DAIRY and Jeff Miller, Agronomist from CCE Oneida.



NY Labor Road Show VI



November brings the Labor Road Show to Saratoga CCE. This year was no exception. With over 40 attendees from the eastern region, folks learned about topics ranging from H-2 guest worker programs, housing management and development, farm safety from NYCAMH, TN Visas and more.

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Other Educational Activities: October -December 2022

- Nicole taught Quickbooks for Small Farms with Steve Hadcock, CAAHAP Team through Cornell Small Farms Program.
- Nicole Visited with Professor Dave Thompsons Class at SUNY Cobleskill to talk about leading people through the pandemic in the workplace.
- Nicole taught her first Mental Health First Aid Training Course in Fulton County.
- Erik, Ashley and Nicole participated at CCE In-Service week on campus.
- Nicole helped plan and facilitate 2 Labor Road Shows (Auburn, NY and Saratoga, NY)
- Erik presented Weed Identification and Management to the Delaware, Herkimer, Otsego, and Schoharie county Master Gardener volunteers on November 7th.
- Erik presented Soybean Cyst Nematode: Sampling Results and Status Update at the Northeast Region Agribusiness & CCA Conference in Syracuse from 3-4 and 4-5 pm on Nov. 30th.
- Erik participated in the Celebrate Madison County event by hosting a Weed Identification workshop from 11am-12pm on Dec. 3rd.

Future Grant and Project Activities:

- Dairy Advancement Program (DAP) applications continue to come in. Our team plays a critical role by conducting baseline interviews and evaluation of outcomes. The emphasis has changed to resiliency with these applications.
- Erik will be co-creating a human-machine interface better adapted for on-farm data recording, curation, management, and use.
- The Team is serving on the Grasstravaganza planning committee that is meeting routinely. The event will take place at SUNY Morrisville in Summer of 2023.
- Nicole will be working with NY FarmNet to provide training on Mental Health First Aid in a statewide effort to local extension and public service folks.
- The Precision Feeding for Beef Cattle grant through NYFVI was awarded to the CNY Team. It will commence February of 2023 and will include topics on feeding, economics, & environmental impacts with grass fed beef cattle.
- Nicole will be working on training folks in Quickbooks. Currently 2 meeting times are scheduled for 2023 - Madison and Montgomery Counties.
- Keys to Designing Succession Plans will take place in March 2023. This is a 3 part series designed to tackle specific topics in succession planning.
- Nicole and Steve Hadcock, CAAHP Team are planning a Human Resource management program in Saratoga for February 2023.
- Present Weed Identification and Management for Small Vegetable Farms at the Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference on January 12th.
- Finalized Plans for Corn Day and Dairy Day at the Otesaga, February and March 2023.

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