## **Cornell Cooperative Extension**

## Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Second Quarter Report 2023

### 2023 CNY Corn Day

Cooperstown, NY

On February 14th, the CNYDLFC's annual Corn Day conference was held at the Otesaga in Cooperstown. More than 100 attendees were able to earn up to 2.5 DEC pesticide applicator recertification credits and 3.5 Certified Crop Advisor CEUs while learning the latest agronomic and IPM strategies for producing corn crops in our region. In addition to the conference, participants had opportunities to visit industry representatives at the first ever Corn Day trade show.



2023 Corn Day Conference

## **Dairy Technology Tuesdays**

The Statewide Dairy Specialists and Pro-Dairy organized and carried out 7 short webinars over the lunch hour for dairy producers, employees and advisors. Topics were Reproduction, Calves, Remodel or Build New, Drones for Feed Inventory, Looking Ahead, Milking and Integrated Barn Climate Systems. Dave spearheaded and hosted the last event.

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.

# Hands-on Calving & Dystocia Workshop Morrisville, NY

Along with Statewide Dairy Specialists and Pro-Dairy the CNYDLFC team organized and carried out a calving & dystocia workshop for both English and Spanish speaking participants using a "model cow & calf" to depict various difficult birth situations and how to manage them. During this time, participants had the opportunity to practice various situations under the guidance of Dr. Rob Lynch, DVM. Both English and Spanish speakers gained knowledge through class/lecture and hands on learning depending on their specific needs!



Student feeling the presentation of the model calf in the birth canal



Dr. Rob Lynch explaining calving positions on model calf

### **Tools for Farm Succession Planning Series**

During the month of March, the Farm Business Team created a three part series on understanding the tools needed to begin successful succession planning. The series delivered information on: Building a Stong Management Team, Assessing Your Business and Tax Management in Succession Planning. Each session was 1.5 hours and gave participants the opportunity to ask questions at the end. All materials gathered for this series are housed at the www.farmbusiness.cornell.edu. Each participant recieved a link the recordings, powerpoints and materials at the conclusion of the series.

# QuickBooks for New and Beginning Farmers Fonda, NY

A small group of folks took part in the 4 week course designed to teach new and beginning farmers the basics of QuickBooks Desktop. During the course, the following topics were discussed: Chart of Accounts, Invoicing, Recording Expenses, Reconciling Accounts, Pulling Basic Reports, and Managing Vendors and Customers. This was a hands-on workshop where CNYDLFC provided pre-loaded laptops for folks to learn the mechanics and ask questions in real time.

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# Farm Show at NYS Fairgrounds Syracuse, NY

The NY Beef Producers and the NY Beef Council organized an educational event at the NY Farm Show in February geared towards consumer education. The goal was to educate consumers on what they are purchasing when they buy halves, quarters or shares of beef. A workshop was held to determine label differences that are often seen on meat products as well, for example: grass fed vs. grain fed. Ashley led the workshops at this event as the advisor for both the council and the beef producers.

#### Other Educational Activities: January 2023-March 2023

- Worked with NY FarmNet to provide training on Mental Health First Aid in a statewide effort to local extension and public service folks. (Tommell)
- Presented Weed Identification and Management for Small Vegetable Farms at the Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference on January 12th. (Smith)
- 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. (McFarland, Balbian, Smith, Tommell)
- Invited speaker for the SWNY regional Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops team's virtual crop congress March 22nd. (Smith)
- Weed Identification and Management Options at the Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference on January 12th at SUNY Delhi. (Smith)
- Attended Risk Management Conference in Chicago, Completed Professional Development on Heirs Property 12-hour course. (Tommell)

#### **Future Grant and Project Activities:**

- Dairy Day rescheduled to April 2023 due to weather at the Otesaga. (Balbian)
- 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. (Balbian, Tommell)
- 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 July 2023.
- Investigate and possibly work with Cornell Pro-Dairy in partnership with a private company that received a NYFVI grant to conduct experimental work on a manure storage to determine if methane and other greenhouse gasses can be reduced. (Balbian, Smith, McFarland, Tommell)
- In late April and May, the team will measure alfalfa fields around the region as part of their annual First Cutting Forage Quality project. (Balbian, McFarland, Smith, Tommell)
- USDA PARP/ ERP Training Meeting (Tommell)
- Value Added Producer Grant Training with guest Erika Gogis (Montgomery Co), most recent awardee of the grant funds. (Tommell)
- Received grant funding with other FBM folks for AgFTAP for tax education- Fall 2023 (Tommell)
- Applying as Co-PI on organic /grazing dairy benchmarking with Mary Kate MacKenzie (Tommell)
- Central NY Virtual Soybean and Small Grains IPM Congress on April 4th from 9:30 am 12:00 pm via Zoom (Smith)
- Present Weed ID and Management in Agricultural Systems on April 18th at CCE-Oneida County for area small farmers. (Smith)
- Organize and carry out a Hands-on Artificial Insemination training in Spanish on a local farm for dairy operations (Balbian, McFarland)

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