

QUARTERLY REPORT

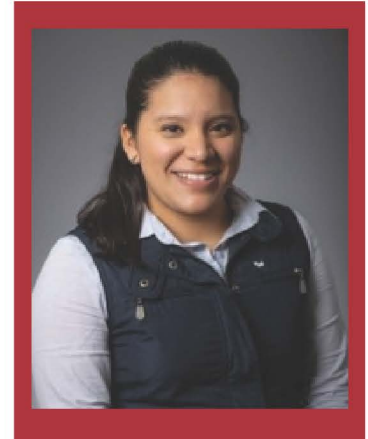
Second Quarter 2024

Please welcome our new Dairy Specialist, Daniela Gonzalez Carranza!

In January of 2024, Daniela Gonzalez Carranza began her career with the Central NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops as the Dairy Specialist.

Daniela was born and raised in Mexico City. In 2018 she earned her degree in Veterinary Medicine and enlisted in the Mexican Army as Veterinarian Soldier working with dairy cattle for two years. Subsequently, she worked on a dairy farm as a veterinarian and manager. At the same time, Daniela began as an independent consultant, collaborating with small and medium dairy farms in the community, allowing her to gain experience and interest in extension work.

Welcome to the Team, Daniela!



FARM – Animal Care Program in Madison and Schoharie County

March 15 & 22, 2024

The FARM program goal is to provide science-based standards to improve best management practices in different areas and, with this, show consumers and customers the continuous improvement of today's dairy industry. Several cooperatives and processors have joined this program as part of committing and demonstrating that farms are producing the safest and highest milk quality. With this, most farms have to adopt these standards to their farm management practices.

Dairy specialists identified a need to provide updates and continuing education on the best management practices in the five areas required by the program: calf care, non-ambulatory care, euthanasia, heifer stockmanship, and fitness for transport.

Regional specialists throughout the state organized this interactive and hands-on workshop in March 2024. For the Central New York region, the team offered the program at SUNY Cobleskill and SUNY Morrisville dairy farms. The program had attendance from English and Spanish-speaking participants, with this, the team will continue to build a strong Spanish community for the next programs. Participants earned FARM continuing education and gave great feedback regarding the program topics and activities, as well as some suggestions for future programs.

ASPIRING FARMER

February 17, 2024



Cultivating Your Dreams in **Agriculture**

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program

Highlights of the Aspiring Farmer Program:

"I am a beginner farmer, and I was looking for lots of information and this provided me a very good segway into many unknown things in farming, related support and marketing."

"That you can do a farm on different levels i.e as a hobby, side hustle or main income. I also gained the confidence to start!"

Aspiring Farmer: Cultivating Your Dreams In Agriculture

In February, CNYDLFC partnered with the Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program (CAAHP) to host a beginning farmer workshop at Fulton-Montgomery Community College. The daylong event featured plenary sessions from Erik Smith (Reading Your Land to find inspiration for farming pursuits) and Steve Hadcock from CAAHP (Make Your Farm Enterprise a Business).

Over the course of the day, participants were invited to visit sessions on topics ranging from Marketing Farm Products to Ornamental Horticulture in a morning session and again in the afternoon. Adding to the experience, there were several sponsors and partners at the event. New producers were able to visit with Montgomery County Economic Development, Farm Service Agency, NY Center of Agricultural Health and Medicine (NYCAHM) and others!

We'd like to say a special thanks to Northeast Organic Farmers Association for their generous support.



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.

Fecal Analysis Road Show: Morrisville, Norwich, Herkimer, and Cooperstown, NY



Rachel Moody and Ashley McFarland, Livestock Specialists, organized a roadshow across the CNY and Capital District regions for small ruminant producers. The roadshow included a fecal analysis lab where participants learned to examine fecal samples under a microscope to detect parasites. This lab complemented our focus on parasite detection in our FAMACHA workshops where we observed significant demand for this type of training. We were pleased with the attendance, considering it was our first time holding such a workshop. We plan to offer additional labs throughout the grazing season.

Land Valuation and Lease Agreements

The month of January brought conversations of lease and land agreements. Farm Business specialist, Nicole Tommell presented the topic to a group of producers at the CCE Oneida Crop Congress. During this meeting, producers learned how to navigate local town assessors websites and understand the RP-305 process with the real property assessment.

To wrap up the month, a zoom meeting was held to elaborate on the topic. The meeting boasted over 130 registered participants with over 90 joining in for the hour long meeting. The meeting concluded with a question and answer session. This elicited great conversation from the participants.

Throughout the balance of the quarter, producers have had the opportunity to participate in a land rental survey. The survey sponsored by the NY Farm Viability Institute will be published for May of 2024.



Send your email to: landrental@cornell.edu

Other Educational Activities: January – March 2024

- Webinar series (January through March) with different topics on farm management and efficiency. (Gonzalez)
- Calving workshop for SUNY Cobleskill students (Gonzalez)
- The 2024 edition of Grasstravaganza was held at SUNY Morrisville on March 9th. CNYDLFC were members of the planning committee, and Erik led a breakout session on pasture and livestock entomology with Ken Wise (NYSIPM Livestock Specialist). (Smith)
- On February 28th, Erik hosted two grower meetings focused on weed management. (Smith)
- Annual Corn Day was held on February 21, 2024 at the Otesaga Hotel, there were 96 people in attendance.
- NYSDEC Pesticide Applicator Exam Prep Course on March 27 & 29, 2024 with CCE Madison Ag Educator, MaryEllen Sheehan. (Smith)
- CNYDLFC specialists met with the CCE Madison Advisory Board to discuss programming efforts (All)
- Erik and Nicole met with the Schoharie County Board of Directors to discuss programming efforts. (Smith & Tommell)
- AgFTap program for farm succession planning in Orange, Schoharie, Saratoga and Oneida Counties. (Tommell)
- AWDC meeting in Syracuse, NY to discuss human resource, labor issues and farm worker housing. (Tommell)
- Montgomery County MCAMP grant classes to 15 people consisting on 2 - 2 hour trainings. (Tommell)
- NAP (Non- Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) for farmers in English and Spanish zoom meeting. (Tommell)
- Baskets to Pallets Workshop (10 hours of instruction) using the Cornell Small Farms curriculum online. (Tommell)

Future Grant and Project Activities:

- The team will continue work on the Forage Quality for Grass-fed Beef grant (NYFVI) by collecting forage samples and hosting producer meetings.
- Erik and the team will conduct our annual Alfalfa First Cutting measurements around the region to provide area farms with timely harvest forecasts.
- Erik will begin his weekly field season pest monitoring activities around the region.
- In Fall/Winter 2024 Erik will host Integrated Pest Management meetings for growers in each of the region's CCE offices (1-2 DEC credits)
- Erik will host a high-oleic soybean variety trial at a local farm.
- Erik and Ashley will be involved in a NYSIPM project researching dung beetle diversity on NY livestock farms, and investigating the effects of feed-through insecticides on dung insect communities.
- Nicole will be speaking at the ERME (Extension Risk Management Conference) in Salt Lake City. She will be conducting a talk on teaching QuickBooks in a flipped classroom style.
- Nicole and Daniela will continue to support all DAP funded grants with Pro-Dairy.
- Dairy Day will be held on April 3/4, 2024 with guest speakers Rick Grant and Ev Thomas.
- The team will be hosting an Ag Summit with our county ag educators on June 20, 2024. We hope all will attend.
- Ashley and Daniela will be hosting an Artificial Insemination class (English & Spanish), Summer 2024.
- A meeting on farm safety hazards with first responders and NYCAHM will be conducted Summer 2024.
- Nicole will be involved with CCE Broome's Farmers Market Grant with NERME - " Cultivating Profits"

Nicole Tommell,
M. Ag. Ed.

Team Leader
Farm Business
Management Specialist
Phone: 315-867-6001
Email: nt375@cornell.edu

Daniela Gonzalez
Carranza, MPS

Area Dairy Specialist
Phone: 315-749-3486
Email: dg647@cornell.edu

Ashley
McFarland, PAS

Area Livestock Specialist
Phone: 315-604-2156
Email: am2876@cornell.edu

Erik Smith,
Ph.D.

Area Field Crops Specialist
Phone: 315-219-7786
Email: eas56@cornell.edu

Website: cnydfc.cce.cornell.edu
Facebook Page: facebook.com/cnydlfc
Join our E-mail list: <http://eepurl.com/hh3vBj>
