



## Educational Activities

### 2017 Central NY Dairy Day

The Dairy Day had to be rescheduled from 3/14 to 3/28 because of the late season blizzard and managed to come off without issue. The topic of discussion was dairy reproduction. Well attended with around 120 people. Speakers were Dr. Julio Giordano and Dr. Tom Overton from Cornell. The over 100 in attendance were also able to interact with vendors at a trade show. (Balbian)



Dr. Julio Giordano from Cornell University relates the latest in dairy reproduction research at the Dairy Day.



Ken Wise, Eastern NY Extension Livestock and Field Crops IPM Specialist discusses seed corn maggot control at a Field Crop Pest management meeting

### Field Crop Pest Management Meetings

Conducted at all of the CCE offices in the region these meetings review pest management problems from 2016 and highlight areas of pest control field crop growers need to consider in the future. This year Ken Wise, Eastern NYS Extension Livestock and Field Crops IPM Specialist added his expertise discussing insect pest problems found in central NY. The ninety six in attendance also received DEC pesticide applicator recertification credits which are needed to maintain their licenses. (Ganoe)



### **Winter Dairy Management**

This year's Winter Dairy Management focused on lameness in dairy cattle with a meeting Richfield Springs and a second date at Ballston Spa with a WebEx version of this program. This is part of a road show series that PRO Dairy coordinates and Dave serves on the planning committee. Around 50 people attended. (Balbian)

### **2017 Corn Day**

Keynote speaker of this year's program was Dr. Margaret Smith, Professor of Plant Breeding, Cornell University whose talk "Genetically Engineered Crops and Pest Management: Silver Bullet or Just Another Tool in the Toolbox?" was well received. The over 100 in attendance learned more about perennial weed control, choosing corn silage hybrids based on Cornell's corn silage hybrid testing program and western bean cutworm control. (Ganoe)



Dr. Margaret Smith, Professor of Plant Breeding, Cornell University talks about using genetically engineered crops as one part of an integrated pest management program on a farm.

## **Current Projects and Grants**

### **New York Farm Viability Institute Income Over Feed Cost Grant.**

The team received a 6 month no cost extension to complete this project. A very successful mini project that became part of this effort included a very comprehensive analysis of 21 Corn Silage samples from these participating farms. Results were run through the same theoretical ration as the 2016 Cornell Corn Silage trial samples. Three meetings were held with participants to explain differences in their won samples. Kevin participated to cover the agronomic aspects of Corn Silage. This work with their own samples was highly impactful. These participants also met another time to learn about the Dairy Profit Monitor program from Ashley Howlett of the Pro Dairy Program. (Balbian, Ganoë)

### **Dairy Acceleration Program.**

Exit Interviews were completed on 1 Farm in Schoharie County, 4 in Montgomery County, and 2 in Herkimer County. 1 Business Plan just completed in Otsego County. 1 Facility Plan being worked on in Chenango County. 1 Montgomery County Farm indicated that our help saved their farm from going out of business.

A new barn has recently gone up in Otsego County because of this program. Another program that affected this decision was a Dairy Day program highlighting farms that had transitioned from a tie stall to a free stall & low cost milking parlor. (Balbian)

## **Emerging Issues and Individual Assistance**

Assisted in promoting and helping with logistics that day with the “Strategizing for the Future” meeting held in Ballston Spa put together by Aaron Gabriel. Attended by sixty people. (Balbian)

## **Team Administration**

Administrative Management Group gave approval to hire a regional livestock specialist for the team. Worked with Peter Landre from Cornell Cooperative Extension administration to recruit, interview and hire the new specialist. Ashley McFarland will join the team in April. (Ganoë)

## **Speaking Opportunities:**

Dave spoke at the Forage Congress in Mt. Morris N.Y. His topic was “Precision Feeding High Forage Economics”. (Balbian)

## Next Quarter and Future Activities

Continue work on the Dairy Acceleration Program as Dave is the facilitator for this program across our region. (Balbian)

Continue with individual assistance on facilities & dairy nutrition. (Balbian)

Continue work of the NYFVI IOFC Grant. (Balbian)

Conduct soybean scouting program for soybean producers and hire a summer intern to do the scouting. (Ganoë)

Participate in a bird repellent corn seed study. (Ganoë)

Participate in state wide corn insect trapping program. (Ganoë)

Help acclimate new livestock specialist to the team and extension programming. (Ganoë)

Conduct 1<sup>st</sup> cutting quality monitoring and distribute summary. (Balbian, Ganoë)