



North Country Ag Advisor

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**Dairy FARM Program What Is
It and How Does It Work?**

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Health Workshop**

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**Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Northern New York Regional Ag Team**

October 25, 2016

Hoof Health
10-3pm Miner Institute

October 26, 2016

Hoof Health
10-3pm Extension Learning Farm, Canton

October 27, 2016

Hoof Health
10-3pm CCE Lewis County

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Ag Advisor

Cornell Cooperative Extension of
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Counties

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Our Mission

"The Northern New York Regional Ag Team aims to improve the productivity and viability of agricultural industries, people and communities in Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, and Essex Counties by promoting productive, safe, economically and environmentally sustainable management practices, and by providing assistance to industry, government, and other agencies in evaluating the impact of public policies affecting the industry."

Silver Clouds

By Paul Hetzler

They say that every cloud has a silver lining, but what happens when all you really need is a cloud? The Drought of 2016 (sounds more ominous when I capitalize it like that) has really beat up on gardens and landscapes. You know it's dry when dandelions begin to shrivel up, which is the case in my yard. The problems wrought by the drought are (mostly) obvious, but is there a silver lining anywhere?

Turns out that 2016 has been a very good year for healthy garden plants. Let's talk about the dreaded late blight (notice I resisted the impulse to use caps), scourge of tomatoes and potatoes the world over. Unlike many garden diseases, late blight spores do not reside in the soil; they blow north from southern states over the course of the growing season. For late blight, UV radiation is worse than Kryptonite—just 45 minutes of sunshine and they are toast. So far, the risk of late blight has been about as low as it can get.

Even plant diseases that reside in soil have had a lousy season. Early blight, which is unrelated to late blight despite having a last name in common, is the pathogen that kills your tomato plant starting from the bottom, and progresses upward over the summer. It infects the lowest leaves when water splashes spore-laden soil onto them. These infected leaves soon begin to release spores, which the rain splashes onto their neighbors above, and so on. Septoria spot is another garden-variety pathogen that employs the same strategy. In a wet year, these soil-borne pathogens can severely damage one's tomato crop. Powdery mildew and downy mildew, two diseases of cucumbers and squash, are airborne agents, so it is hard to avoid them when their spores reach us from down south. However, they need wet leaves to get started, so the weather is again in our favor where these pathogens are concerned.

But dry soil can actually cause a "disease" on tomatoes. Blossom-end rot turns the bottom of the tomato black, looking for all the world like some fearsome fungus has attacked. This is a symptom of calcium deficiency—not in the soil, though; just in the tomato. When plants lack water, they are unable to get enough calcium from the soil to fully form the tomatoes. You can spray to cure blossom-end rot. The product? Water.

Mulching heavily with some type of organic matter is a gardener's best defense against drought, and a lot of other things besides. Because mulch conserves moisture, it will help prevent blossom end rot. Laying



mulch at the same time you set out tomato transplants will prevent soil from splashing onto leaves and initiating the disease cycle. Obviously mulch also helps keep weeds at bay, and it is a form of slow-release fertilizer as well.

If your lawn turns brown, don't panic. Turf grasses are programmed to become dormant when they run out of water. Their root crowns are alive and well, just sleeping. As much as possible, keep off dry lawns, as root crowns are much more prone to physical damage when dormant. If it's any consolation, dry grass is impervious to diseases. When we get enough rain, lawns will perk up once again.

That is not the case for trees, however, which have no mechanism to sit out dry periods. Their fine absorbing roots begin to die back, and when it finally does rain they will have to replace those structures before they can even get a drink. The drought of 2016 will have negative impacts on trees for perhaps as many as five years.

The take-home message? Mulch the garden for happier plants, let your grass sleep, but water your trees, and pray for clouds, regardless of whether they have silver linings.

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Winter Feeding– It’s Coming Sooner than Planned-Part 1

By Betsy Hodge

Sheep and goat farmers tend to graze as long as they can into the fall, and even into winter with stockpiled forage. This year, however, the pastures have been very dry and not very productive and many people have weaned young stock so they can be fed. And many farmers are feeding hay to their normally pastured ewes and does. There are many forms of hay and baleage and many ways to feed them. Here, we take a look at feeding round bales. Next month, we’ll examine feeders for smaller farms and feeding hay in stalls.

Let’s talk about the hay itself first. Round bales come in different sizes, different qualities, first cut, second cut, and different lengths from long stems to roto-cut. The type of hay makes a difference in how well various feeders work and how much hay is wasted.

Almost every style of hay feeder requires some pushing and pulling of the hay by the farmer, so that livestock can reach good hay. Long-stemmed hay, like some first cut bales, can be difficult for sheep and goats to pull out of the feeders, especially if bales are packed tightly. This can lead to a “bird’s nest” of poor quality stems blocking access to the better feed underneath. Long-stemmed hay tends to be harder to feed in every style of feeder. Second cut hay tends to be shorter stems, and also more palatable, so less feeder adjustment is necessary. Baleage can become stuck together or frozen in a large mass. It is important to feed baleage during cooler weather to avoid spoilage and listeriosis. We have found that baleage can actually freeze hard enough to occasionally be almost impossible to feed. Baleage in general though is very tasty and the sheep don’t waste

very much. We haven’t found a feeder that works great with baleage and generally feed it without using a feeder. We then need to clean up the area in the spring, before the sheep have time to go back and pick through the waste. The moisture content of the baleage makes a big difference — ideally it’s wet enough to make good silage, but dry enough that it doesn’t freeze. Another possibility is to use a special saw to cut frozen bales down the middle to make them easier for animals to eat.

Roto-cut hay is shorter lengths and is easier for sheep and goats to get out of the feeders, but also falls out easier. My experience is that there is less sorting with the roto-cut hay but a lot will depend on the hay quality. Roto-cut hay does not tangle into a bird’s nest in the feeder and is easier for sheep and goats to pull apart.

Sheep and goats are selective eaters and will pick through most hay and baleage eating only the parts they like. When hay quality is low, selecting the best parts is not necessarily a bad thing. This selectivity is why you get the “bird’s nest” effect. There’s not a lot you can do to prevent this except to offer as good quality forage as you can and then adjust the hay in the feeders regularly.

Sheep and goats (especially lambs and kids) can not reach as far as cows and will need a feeder that brings the hay closer with sliding or collapsing panels or with gravity that helps it drop down. Often farmer assistance is needed to help make this happen and to maximize forage intake.

Round bale feeders come in many styles. Basket feeders hold the bale off the ground and the sheep eat from underneath or around the sides. Gravity helps keep the feed where the sheep can reach it. One caution: it’s easy to catch a sheep or goat head in the feeder as you drop the bale into the feeder. If you have a situation where you can close the animals out while you put in the feed this isn’t a problem. Feed will contaminate the fleece of wool sheep or angora goats when it falls down on their backs. Horns are another consideration depending on the configuration of the feeder where the bale rests.

Slider feeders are square and have two ends that stay in place and two sides that slide together. They can work well in certain situations, though it is possible to get a head pinched in the stationary panel when the slider gets pushed in, but it doesn’t happen often. A bigger problem is hay collecting in the bottom so the sliders won’t slide. You have to fix this by pulling the slider panels out and forking the hay



out and up on top and pushing the slider back in. When used outside, snow will also block the sliders and fill up the feeder. They're best used inside in the winter. Some sliders have a solid panel at the bottom making them harder for small or young animals to use. In the right situation, with some effort to adjust the hay it can be a good feeder. It's easy to pull up out of the bedded pack, open and refill. Slider feeders are easy to take down and move, although keeping track of all the metal rods that hold them together can be a challenge. The panels can each be used by themselves across a corner or along a wall inside to make a small hay feeder in a stall or pen.

The last type of round bale feeder is made of panels, either home made from cattle panels or purchased. The purchased panels are stronger and heavier. It takes five or six panels to go around a 400-800 lb round bale. The advantage of six panels is that it can collapse into a figure 8 and make it easier for the sheep or goats to reach the disappearing hay. It takes more panels to reach around 1000-lb bales. Most use panels about 4 feet wide that are clipped, tied, or connected with spring hinges. I have also seen cattle panels curled around the bale in one piece and clipped. These are less adjustable, but can work and are certainly simple.

Homemade panel feeders are popular. If you have to move feeders by hand, a homemade panel feeder typically weighs less than a purchased model. Over time however, the homemade panels tend to break at the welds and leave very pokey ends sticking out. Amazingly, the sheep don't seem to get hurt on these, but they are murder on people. If they break and leave a big hole, the livestock guardian dogs will slip in and use the bales as really nice dog beds. They may be joined by lambs or kids who have no scruples and will pee and poop all over the hay. Luckily, a broken panel is easy to replace and doesn't cost much. The home made panels require a tool to cut the panels and grind the sharp ends round. We have used bolt cutters and hand files or grinding wheels, or even better, a bench grinder.

The heavier purchased panels can be handled easier by breaking them down into two three-panel halves. The halves are easier to drag around than the entire 6 -panel feeder, which requires a tractor to move very far. Panels come with different sized holes. The cattle panel openings are about 8 x 6 inches and many sheep and goats can stick their whole heads through. Horned animals can sometimes get their heads through but not out again. The purchased panels have small three or four inch openings and then larger openings for heads to reach through. Horned animals would be less likely to get stuck in these



panels because the small openings are too small for their heads and the big openings are big enough to get their heads out. Both types of panel feeders cut down on waste compared to not using a feeder. Panel feeders can also need some adjusting, especially for lambs and kids and for poorer quality forage. Both types can also freeze into ice and snow during cold weather. I have spent hours hacking them out with a bar and shovel. If they are stuck in the ground, they can't collapse together and the animals can't reach the last of the feed. The trick is to pick them up to free the bottom every day when you check the sheep or goats to make sure they are loose.

Hay always needs adjusting, especially with smaller animals. It is simple to open the panel feeder at the clips and pull the hay out from around the bottom, clip the panels together and then yank on the feeder to position it up against the hay.

In conclusion, there is no perfect hay feeder. You need to consider the cost, the ease of moving feeders around, the ability of the feeder to cut waste, the durability, and the suitability to the type of feed and animal you are feeding. We have three different types of feeders at the Extension Learning Farm. Come and see them if you are trying to make a decision about what type of feeders to use at your farm.

Do You Want to Make Your Hoppy Hobby Your New Job?

By Lindsey Pashow (CCE Harvest NY) and Jesse Strzok (ENYCHP)

Are you ready to turn your brewing passion into a business? With New York's different alcohol licenses, it is now more affordable than ever to get started.

The farm brewing law, passed in 2012, has hard rules for production, serving, selling, and sampling of product. Some of those rules allow production of up to 75,000 barrels of New York State labeled beer and/or cider annually; beer sold by the glass at up to five branch locations; and selling of other New York State label beer, cider, wine, and spirits.

These different laws also require that raw materials for brewing be produced in New York. The farm brewery law currently requires that 20% hops and 20% other ingredients must be grown in New York State until the end of 2018. The requirements increase in 2019, to at least 60% hops and 60% other ingredients be grown in New York State through to the end of 2023. Starting in 2024, 90% hops and 90% all other ingredients must be grown in New York State. It's important to note that in meeting these criteria, water is not classified as a locally-sourced ingredient.

Starting a new business can be daunting. Key items to develop before pursuing a brewery venture include: a strong business plan, an easily accessible location for the public, funding and capital access including grants and loans, and, finally, a quality product.

Whether brewing in your basement or brewing in large batches sold to the public, you'll need strict quality control. However, there are some major differences between the small and large

scale operations. For example, it may hurt a little to dump a 5-gallon batch of home brew when something goes awry, but it's a whole different story if you have to scrap 100 gallons--the economic loss can be crippling.

As with any start-up, it's important to be realistic. After all, only 50% of businesses survive the first five years.

The craft beverage industry is growing daily and is becoming more and more competitive. Finding the right niche for your farm brewery is vital.



Helpful Links:

New York State Brewery Supply Chain Analysis: http://harvestny.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/submission/pdf21_pdf.pdf

Wholesale Application Instructions: <http://www.sla.ny.gov/system/files/Wholesale-Application-Instructions-061713.pdf>

Wholesale Application: <http://www.sla.ny.gov/system/files/Wholesale-Application-06012016.pdf>

Wholesale Fee Chart: <http://www.sla.ny.gov/system/files/Wholesale-Fee-Chart-03112016.pdf>

Alcohol Label Information NYS: http://www.sla.ny.gov/system/files/Advisory_2014-7_-_Brand_Label_Registration.pdf

U.S. Department of the Treasury – Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau: <https://www.ttb.gov/beer/index.shtml>

Starting a Farm (Cornell University): <http://www.nebeginningfarmers.org/resources/guides/farming-guide/>

NYS Wine, Beer, Spirits & Cider – One Stop Shop: <http://esd.ny.gov/nysbeveragebiz.html>

Remember, you will need to contact New York State Agriculture and Markets (1-800-554-4501) for when the time comes to arrange an inspection of your brewery.

Water Recommendations: Location, Space, Quality

By Lindsay Ferlito

Water is an essential nutrient for dairy cattle, and the amount of water a cow consumes will vary based on many factors such as her age, production level, and ambient temperature, as well as the quality and quantity of water available. Milk is about 87% water, so water is a vital nutrient for dairy cows, and greater water availability and milk production have been linked. Data from a survey of dairies in Ontario indicates that pen water space tended to be associated with milk production; each additional 1 inch of linear water space per cow was associated with an increase of 2 lbs/d of milk.

Location

The location of the water troughs can have a large impact on water consumption. Water troughs should be provided in each pen, and ideally also in the parlor exit alley. In the pen, water troughs are usually placed in the crossover alleys connecting the stall and feed alleys. Ensure that crossover alleys are wide enough (14 feet) so there is still good cow flow across the crossover even while cows are at the water trough (see diagram below). Crossover alleys should be spaced at least every 25 stalls so that a cow never has to walk more than 50 feet to get water. Unless that is the only possible location in the pen, do not place water troughs at a dead end in the alley as this could reduce traffic to the water. In a bedded-pack pen, it is recommended to only allow cows access to water troughs from the feed alley side to reduce spillage on the bedding side which will make the bedding wet and dirty.

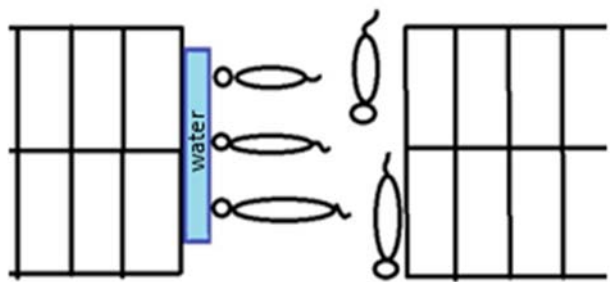


Diagram of a properly placed water trough in a crossover alley. The alley is wide enough to allow cows access to the trough while other cows are walking behind them.

Size and design recommendations

Each pen should have at least 3.5 inches of linear water space per cow, and have at least two water troughs to provide cows with multiple locations to access water. Trough height will vary depending on cow size, but for Holsteins,

24-32 inches above the ground is usually appropriate. Water should be at least three inches deep so the cow can submerge her muzzle 1-2 inches, and the water should sit no more than 2 inches down from the top of the trough. In tie-stalls, the cow should be able to fit her whole muzzle into her water bowl, and the bowl should be about 18 inches above the stall surface with no obstructions for 24 inches above the bowl. Water troughs in parlor exit alleys should be large enough so that all cows released at one time can access the trough (i.e.: if you have a double 8 parlor, each side should have a trough large enough for 8 cows to drink at once; $8 \text{ cows} \times 2 \text{ feet wide/cow} = 16 \text{ feet of water on each side}$).



A wide crossover with the water in the middle provides cows sufficient space to walk and access the water trough from both sides.

Effects of Season

There are also seasonal effects that should be considered. In the winter months, ensure water troughs are placed so they aren't as likely to freeze, and check them regularly to ensure water is still flowing. In the spring and summer, ensure there is ample access to water as cows will consume significantly more water during times of heat stress.

Quality

Water quality can affect intake and cattle should always have access to a clean source of water. Troughs need to be dumped and scrubbed on a weekly basis to reduce the build-up of grime and bacteria in the trough. If you are concerned about a more serious water quality issue, have your water tested to find out exactly what you are working with on your farm.

Marginal New Seedings, Forage Shortages, and Soil Compaction

By Mike Hunter

For many growers in Northern New York, extremely hot and dry conditions have really made it a miserable growing season. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss marginal new seedings, forage shortages and soil compaction.

In June and early July I looked at several marginal new seedings that were struggling to survive and many of these looked just downright ugly. We knew at the time that some of these were going to be complete failures and for others we took a “wait and see” approach. Some of the alfalfa seedlings germinated and then died and some seed just failed to germinate due to a prolonged period of dry soil conditions.

In late July and early August I fielded several calls from growers that wanted to fix these marginal new seedings by drilling or broadcasting more seed over the poor stand. My response was to not even bother wasting the time and money to try to thicken up any of these marginal seedings. They were marginal because of drought like conditions and it did not look like soil moisture was going to improve.

Now that it is September, it is too late to try to fix any of these marginal new seedings. Even with adequate soil moisture, any alfalfa or clover you plant now will need six to eight weeks of growth before it freezes to ensure good chances of winter survival. It is just too risky to do at this point.

It is time to take a real close look at your new alfalfa seedings to determine if they are good enough to keep. If you have 15 alfalfa plants per square foot, it is worth keeping, and anything below that should be abandoned. It is a very tough decision to walk away from a new seeding, but in reality if it is marginal right now the chances of it improving by spring are slim to none. If you decide to keep a marginal new seeding it will cost you a lot more in the future with low yields and poor forage quality (weeds will fill in the bare spots).

For the areas of NNY impacted by the drought, corn and hay crop yields are anticipated to be well below normal. If you are going to be short on forage and are looking for a quick fix or something to plant right now you could consider planting a winter cereal grain such as rye or triticale for an early spring forage crop.

If you choose to grow one of these two crops for forage, I would not wait to plant them; early September is a great time to get these crops planted. The earlier they are planted the better chance they will have to get established this fall. Later planted winter rye or triticale has a higher risk of winterkill

and produces lower forage yields in the spring. Expected dry matter yields in the spring will range from 1 ½ to 3 tons per acre, depending on the growing season.

Here is a quick review of the recommended practices for growing a winter triticale or rye for forage. Drill, don't broadcast seed, a seeding rate of 100 to 125 lbs/acre. A uniform seed depth of 1 ¼ to 1 ½ inches is important for winter survival. Manure applied prior to seeding will reduce the nitrogen requirement in the spring. If manure was applied just prior to planting, apply 50 lbs of actual N per acre in the spring. If no manure was applied prior to planting, you will need to apply 75 to 100 lbs of actual N at spring green up.

For optimum forage quality, you will need to harvest the winter cereal crop when the flag leaf is fully emerged, but no heads are visible. Harvest will usually occur in mid to late May. Following triticale or rye harvest it will be time to harvest cool season grasses followed by alfalfa grass mixed stands and then pure alfalfa fields.

The last topic I want to talk about is soil compaction. We normally don't think about soil condition following an extremely dry season. However, if the soil conditions remain dry after harvest, it is an ideal time to consider alleviating soil compaction with subsoiling or deep ripping.

Before deciding that you are going to deep till a field to fix a perceived soil compaction problem, you need to be certain that soil compaction is actually a yield limiting issue. You should use a shovel or a soil penetrometer to determine if the soil is compacted and if so, how deep is the compacted layer. Once you know how deep this compacted layer is, set the shanks to rip just below this depth.

Remember, the soil conditions must remain dry enough to shatter the compacted soil between the shanks of the subsoiler or deep ripper in order to reduce the compaction issue. To save time and fuel, it may only be necessary to deep till only the problem areas in the field, such as the headlands and any wet holes (assuming they are still dry).

If you have any further questions about marginal new seedings, winter cereal grain forage, or soil compaction please contact one of the NNY Regional Field Crop Specialists, Kitty O'Neil (315)854-1218 or Mike Hunter (315)788-8450. Also, if you don't have a soil penetrometer and would like to borrow one please contact either Kitty O'Neil or Mike Hunter.



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Early Weaning

By Ron Kuck

With all of NYS in various severities of drought, it is very likely that if pasture has not already run out, it will do so soon.

Options are:

1. To wean early.
2. Cull the cow herd deeper than normal.
3. And/or start feeding hay.

Advantages of Early Weaning

1. Dams of early weaned calves are in better condition at calving and that carries over to breeding season.
2. Calves can be fed to grow to their genetic potential when forage conditions are not optimal for the dam.
3. It may be the key to more efficient feed use during times of drought or other periods of feed shortage.
4. Early weaned calves are very efficient at converting feed to gain.
5. A high percentage of early weaned calves fed a growing ration for a short period of time then stepped-up on a high concentrate diet can achieve a USDA Quality Grade of

average choice or better.

6. Early weaning permits more cows to be carried on a limited forage supply.

With calves weaned before or very early in the breeding season, pregnancy rates will be greater for thin cows.

Disadvantages of Early Weaning

1. Excellent calf nutrition and management is required.
2. More labor is necessary.
3. The facilities and feed must be available for small calves.
4. Calves spend a lot of time in a dry lot prior to slaughter.
5. If you have developed a cow herd that has above average milk output, the potential increase in weaning weights through milk production is not realized.

Information on dam performance from production records will be of limited use.

*Dr. Rick Rasby, Professor of Animal Science
Animal Science, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Lincoln, NE*

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For more Information Contact

**Tatum Langworthy at 315-788-8450 or
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VCPR: What It Is and Why Do You Need One?

By Kimberley Morrill, PhD

The dairy industry likes acronyms, TMR, AI, DIM, ET, DOA, the list could go on and on. Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship or **VCPR** has become a buzz word and is generating a lot of questions. The National FARM program, Version 3.0, has announced that starting January 1st, 2017, all farms participating must have a signed VCPR.

What is a VCPR?

The VCPR is a signed document between the veterinarian, and dairy producer (client) representing how they will work together to ensure the health and welfare of cattle (patient). According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (2013) the VCPR is the basis for interaction among veterinarians, their clients, and their patients. A VCPR means that all of the following are required:

1. The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarians' instructions.
2. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.
3. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following: veterinary emergency coverage, and continuing care and treatment.
4. The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance, and outcome.
5. Patient records are maintained.

Beyond the signed document, dairy farm owners and veterinarians need to work together and build a customized agreement that specifies how they work together (who's responsible for what) and how they communicate with each other.

Why is a VCPR important and why is the National FARM Program putting an emphasis on having one?

Veterinarians and dairy farm owners are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the health and well-being of dairy cows and the safety of their contribution

to the food supply. A close working relationship between farmers and veterinarians provides a strong foundation of a herd health plan. Verification of this relationships – a signed and dated document – allows us to ensure the consumers, as well as regulatory agencies, that animal care is important to us and that best practices are being implemented between farms and veterinarians.

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Dairy FARM Program – What Is It and How Does It Work?

By Kimberly Morrill, PhD



Dedicated farmers. Healthy cows. Wholesome milk. That's what the National Dairy FARM Program is all about. FARM, or Farmers Assuring Responsible Management, demonstrates dairy farmers' ongoing commitment to the highest standards and shows consumers that

they are doing what's right for the cows. Created by the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), with support from Dairy Management Inc. (DMI), the FARM program raises the bar for the entire industry, creating a culture of continuous improvement. Over 82 cooperatives and processors, representing nearly 98% of the U.S. milk supply participate in FARM.

How does FARM work?

The FARM program helps establish on-farm best management practices through the use of the FARM Animal Care Reference Manual that farmers must follow for every calf and cow on the farm – these guidelines continually evolve to represent the latest research on quality animal care. The manual, as well as corresponding training videos, detail the highest standards for animal care when it comes to animal health from birth to end of life, facilities and housing, nutrition, equipment and milking procedures, transportation, and animal handling.

The second part of the program is a second-party evaluation of the farm. Participating farms are evaluated at least once every three years and provided feedback on how they're doing by veterinarians, extension educators, university personnel, co-op field staff or other qualified evaluators who have completed the two-day, intensive training and have passed a comprehensive exam. The evaluation provides farmers with information they need to develop action plans for continuous improvement.

The third part of the program is third-party verification. This ensures the integrity of the program. When the dairy industry says it's taking great care of its animals, third-party verification measures it – providing statistically verified data demonstrating that excellent animal care is an expectation of the dairy industry.



Resources including the Animal Care Reference Manual, Milk and Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention, protocol examples, and much more are available online at <http://www.nationaldairyfarm.com/>.

If you would like help developing and reviewing protocols, or learning more about the FARM evaluation, please contact myself, Kimberley Morrill (kmm434@cornell.edu) or Lindsay Ferlito (lc636@cornell.edu).



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A Day at the FARM

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Admission · Dairy Products
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Greenwood Dairy Farm

(1087 State Highway 310, Canton)

September 24, 2016 10 - 2 pm



Put the **PLUS+** in your herd productivity



Save time to milk additional cows per day and increase milk production



Potential to save water and energy



More milk per cow



Impact on feed cost and downtime



Greater labor efficiency



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 **DeLaval**

Northern NY Dairy Institute Hoof Health Workshop

*Keynote Speaker Neil Andrew, ZINPRO
Account Manager Northeast*

Topics of Discussion:

- Identifying lame cows in a tie stall and free stall barns.
- Designing and managing foot baths.
- Classroom and on-farm activities.

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

10AM-3PM

Miner Institute, Chazy

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

10AM-3PM

Extension Learning Farm, Canton

Thursday, October 27, 2016

10AM-3PM

Cornell Cooperative Extension
of Lewis County, Lowville



PERFORMANCE MINERALS®

For more information contact
Tatum Langworthy at 315.788.8450
or email tlm92@cornell.edu

Registration will be held each day at 9:45AM
Cost is \$30.00 if registered before 10/14/2016;
\$40.00 at the door .

Register online:

<https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/10512>



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Northern New York Regional Ag Team

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Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Beef Herd Culling Decisions

By Ron Kuck

With all of NYS in various severities of drought, it is very likely that if pasture has not already run out, it will do so soon.

Options are:

1. To wean early
2. Cull the cowherd deeper than normal
3. And/or start feeding hay

Early weaning is addressed on page 10. We'll focus on culling decisions here. These are all procedures you should be doing every year to help with culling decisions.

1. Pregnancy status: Pregnancy check - no need to carry over females who won't give you a calf. Also think about culling those cows who will deliver their calf outside your intended calving window.
2. Poor performance: Weaning weight – cows with unacceptably low milk production and cows and bulls passing on inferior genetics to their calves for economically important performance traits are potential culls.
3. Health problems: Respiratory issues – replacement heifers that were treated are potential culls. Research in dairy calves has found that those that survive calfhood pneumonia continue to do poorly as adults. Cows that have Cancer eye, Johnes, or prolapses should be marked for the cull list.
4. Udder and structural soundness: Udder soundness affects milk production, milk consumption, and ultimately calf weaning weights. Lameness and other structural issues cause difficulty in moving around pasture and decrease market appeal.
5. Disposition: Calves inherit bad attitudes and can also pick up undesirable habits from their dams during the suckling phase.
6. Age: Older cows and bulls should be culled before they decline in reproductive and nurturing performance.

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Save the Date!

Making Links: Producers "Meat" Consumers

November 11, 2016

12:30 - 7:30 p.m.

November 12, 2016

8:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

\$40 for 1 day; \$60 for both

Ramada Inn, Watertown NY



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Jefferson County

This event is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 14-LFPX-NY-012.

This conference is an excellent networking opportunity for meat producers and consumers who desire to purchase local meat. Workshops will include marketing, production costs, cuts of meat, food safety, and more. A tradeshow will be available to participants on both days.

Friday's registration includes dinner and presentation titled
*"Animal Welfare is not Rare,
It's Well Done!"*

Register online at https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/LivestockConference_222.

Visit www.ccejefferson.org or
contact Kaitlyn Lawrence
at kml264@cornell.edu
315-788-8450 for details.



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Conventional Parlors vs. Robots

A workshop on how to evaluate your options

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

7PM -9PM

St. Lawrence County BOCES
40 W. Street
Canton, NY 13617

Cost is \$35 if registered by November 1;
\$40 at the door.

Register online at
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/_10512



- ◇ **Jason Karsazes** will be presenting his method of analysis of the per unit cost of harvesting milk for both conventional parlors and a robot parlor.
- ◇ We will look at the total capital investments involved with each parlor and how those affect net worth and future plans.
- ◇ This is an interactive workshop, so definitely come with questions!!
- ◇ Workshop will include printed materials and evening refreshments.

For more information contact Kelsey O'Shea at 315.955.2795
or email kio3@cornell.edu.



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Jefferson County Soil Health Field Day – October 28th, 2016

Healthy Soils = Healthy Crops

SAVE THE DATE!!!

FREE EVENT!

Where: Starts at Smithville Fire Hall at 9AM. Examine cover crops at two locations. End back at fire hall for lunch, presentations, and discussion.

When: October 28th 2016 at 9AM

Why: Teach local farmers benefits of soil health and learn tools to implement soil health practices. Earn herbicide and pesticide credits.

How: Take bus tour to two local farms who make soil health and cover crops a priority. Look, in person, at four different demonstration plots and the equipment used that help improve soil health in the field. Also, presentations at the Smithville Fire Hall by USDA Soil Health Professionals, Cornell Cooperative Extension Regional Field Crop Specialist, and a Chenango County Farmer who has been no-tilling for 40 years and is a sought after guest speaker for many soil health events nationwide.



If you have ever been interested in cover crops, no – tilling, or just trying to improve the health of your soils this event is not to be missed! We are fortunate to be able to put together a free event like this in the North Country.

Please contact Dave Komorowski – USDA Soil Conservationist in the Watertown Field Office if interested.

315-782-7289 x 114. RSVPs are encouraged so we can get an idea of how much food to order.

app of the MONTH

FREE



ZINPRO - Step-Up App

Zinpro Corporation – in conjunction with the Beef Cattle Institute and Kansas State University – developed the Step-Up™ Management Program to provide comprehensive resources to identify, diagnose and treat lameness, as well as helping beef operations decrease the prevalence of lameness among cattle. Lameness is a significant issue affecting the overall productivity and profitability of beef operations. Locomotion scoring is an effective tool for assessing the prevalence and severity of lameness within a herd. Use locomotion scoring to help determine the extra profit potential your herd can achieve by reducing the prevalence of lameness. Determine your increased revenue potential now.



Classifieds

For Farmers only: To place a free classified advertisement in NNY Regional Ag *Classifieds*, please fill out this form and mail to: **Tatum Langworthy** at **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County, 203 North Hamilton Street, Watertown, NY, 13601**. Or, you may email your ad to **Tatum Langworthy** at tlm92@cornell.edu. Please provide all information requested below. Unless specified, your ad will run one time only, in the next monthly publication. Additional ads may be written on another sheet of paper. Please limit each ad to 25 words or less and include your contact info. **Deadline for submitting ad(s) is the second Monday of the month for the following month's publication.**

NAME: _____ FARM NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ AD SECTION: _____ MONTH(S) TO RUN AD: _____

AD: _____

Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations of Jefferson and Lewis Counties reserve the right to reject any advertisement deemed unsuitable for our publication.
Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations of Jefferson and Lewis Counties do not endorse any advertised product or business. We are providing an informational service only.

Livestock



Crops

FOR SALE: 100-125 acres of standing corn for sale. Early dent on 8/24/16. Canton area. Greg Hargrave, 315 869 8802.

FOR SALE: 25 acres of standing corn, 102-day variety in the Winthrop area. Audra and Rich Hickman, 315-212-1386.

FOR SALE: Barley straw for sale. 150-200 small square bales. Arnold Chapin 315-854-4513.

Farm Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies

FOR SALE: Large thermal pride oil furnace. Make an offer. Call 315-482-9092.

FOR SALE: Military trailers, tires like new. Call 315-482-9092.

FOR SALE: Kory Wagon Model 6672, good rubber, several to choose from. Call 315-482-9092.



How to Advertise in NNY Regional Ag Classifieds

Farmers: Advertising in *NNY Regional Ag Classifieds* is **FREE** for farmers. To place an advertisement, fill out the "For Farmers only" form in this publication or email to Tatum Langworthy at tlm92@cornell.edu by the second Monday of the month before you want your ad to appear. Publication is the first week of every month.

Fine Print: To qualify for free advertising, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- You must own, rent, or be employed on a farm.
- Your farm must be actively engaged in the production of agricultural commodities, such as milk, meat, eggs, produce, animal by-products, or feed, etc.
- Your goods must relate to farming.

Anyone wishing to purchase a larger display ad in the newsletter, should call Tatum Langworthy at (315) 788-8450 for more information. (All income generated from the sale of ads goes to publication and mailing costs)

NNY Regional Ag reserves the right to reject any advertisement deemed unsuitable for our publication.

NNY Regional Ag does not endorse any advertised product or business—we are providing an informational service only.

CCE Northern NY Regional Ag Team
203 North Hamilton Street
Watertown, New York 13601

What's Happening in the Ag Community

"Make Your Own Goat Cheese" Friday, September 9, Extension Learning Farm Canton from 7-9PM

Day At the Farm - Greenwood Dairy, see page 12 for more information.

Meat HACCP training at Cornell, October 9 & 10

Poultry Cutting - October 11, SUNY Cobleskill

NNY Dairy Institute Hoof Health Workshop, see page 14 for more information.

Conventional Parlors vs Robots Workshop, see page 18 for more information.

Livestock Conference, Ramada Inn, Watertown, November 11 & 12

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