Our Mission

“The North Country 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.”
Field Crops and Soils
Wet Weather and Corn Weed Control
By Michael Hunter

At the time of writing this article, this cool, wet weather looks like a repeat of 2017. Let’s just hope things turn around soon. Not all of the corn in the North Country has been planted and what corn is up and out of the ground is looking pretty stressed. This leads me into this month’s discussion about weed control after a wet start to the planting season...

The cool, wet month of May created some challenging weed management situations for corn. There are a large number of corn acres that have been planted, but have not been sprayed with an herbicide. Much of the early planted corn has emerged (hopefully) and the weeds are also up and doing well quite well.

Unfortunately, delayed planting seasons force us to focus so much on getting the corn planted we sometimes forget (or neglect) to make timely herbicide applications. If you have corn planted and it hasn’t been sprayed with an herbicide yet, now is the time to do so. We had very limited opportunities to plant corn in May due to frequent rainfall and wet field conditions. If this holds true for June, we will have limited opportunities to make post-emergence herbicide applications to the corn. Delayed weed control will haunt you the rest of the growing season and result in lower yields at the end of the season.

If your planned pre-emergence herbicide application has been delayed, it is very important to carefully consider your herbicide choices and make necessary adjustments if the corn and weeds are emerged at the time of application. With adequate rainfall, pre-emergence herbicides can provide excellent weed control; however, once the weeds are emerged they will generally need some additional product added to the tank mix. The additional product could be another herbicide added to the tank mix or just an adjuvant such as non-ionic surfactant (NIS) or crop oil concentrate (COC).

Here is a likely situation that we will encounter this season: we have a field with corn and weeds emerged. Do we stick to our original plan and apply a pre-emergence herbicide to this field, or do we need to make adjustments to the herbicide program? Fields not treated with an herbicide prior to corn emergence need to be looked at carefully.

If you have conventional corn in the VE to V1 stage of growth and the weeds are still very small, the answer may be as simple as adding NIS or COC to the pre-emergence herbicide. Consult the herbicide label and follow the adjuvant recommendations based on the products in the tank mix. If the annual grasses are over 1 inch tall and the broadleaf weeds are 2 to 3 inches tall, it may be necessary to add another herbicide to the pre-emergence herbicide. If the previous scenario is Roundup Ready or glyphosate-tolerant corn, you may only need to add Roundup or glyphosate to the pre-emergence herbicide program. Again, check the herbicide label prior to making any herbicide applications.

This year looks like it will be another interesting growing season. If you would like more information about weed control programs or would like to schedule a field visit don’t hesitate to contact Mike Hunter (315-788-8450).
Teff as Emergency Forage

Introduction
Teff, Eragrostis tef (Zucc.) Trotter, is a warm season annual grass native to Ethiopia (Figure 1). It is adapted to environments ranging from drought-stressed to waterlogged soil conditions. The seeds are extremely tiny, containing about 1.25 million seeds per pound. Despite its small seed size, teff is an aggressive competitor once established. In its native habitat maximum production occurs with a growing season rainfall of 17 to 22 inches and a temperature range of 50 to 85°F.

In Ethiopia, teff is predominantly grown as a cereal crop and not as a forage crop. Teff flour is primarily used to make a fermented, sourdough type, flat bread called Injera. Teff is also eaten as porridge or used as an ingredient of home-brewed alcoholic drinks. It is high in iron content and contains very little gluten. In addition, the teff plant is used as a livestock forage or pasture crop. It is primarily grown in Africa, India, Australia and South America. In the United States, teff is grown on limited acres in the Pacific Northwest and Midwest.

Counties indicate great promise for teff as a forage crop. Potential uses for teff in New York include:
- Emergency hay, pasture or silage crop that can be planted in mid-summer.
- Summer annual cover crop for erosion control.
- Green manure crop.
- Stand alone annual hay crop for market.
- Rotation break crop when renovating a perennial grass or alfalfa stand or pasture.

The crop can reduce forage production losses due to "summer slump" when used as an annual pasture. It could follow winter cereal forage, straw or grain crop or spring cereal forage crop in the rotation and an additional advantage is that teff can be grown with conventional forage seeding and harvesting equipment.

Planting Date
Teff can not tolerate frost and does not establish well in cool soils. While we have not conducted any teff planting date trials in New York, teff planting should probably be delayed until June when soil and air temperatures are higher (Figure 2). Teff can be seeded from June through late July.

Figure 1: Teff is a warm season annual grass with great promise as an emergency forage crop in New York.

Figure 2: Teff does not tolerate frost or establish well in cold soils so delay planting until June when it is warmer.
Seeding Rate and Methods
The suggested seeding rate is 4 to 5 lbs/acre. A limited number of seeding rate studies from other universities showed that increasing the seeding rates beyond 4 to 5 lbs did not impact forage dry matter yields. Proper seed depth is critical; plant teff between ½ and ¾ inch deep into a very firm seedbed. Planting deeper than ½ inch is likely to result in a complete stand failure. Teff may be planted with a cultipacker seeder (i.e. Brillion seeder) or a conventional or no-till grain drill equipped with a small seed box attachment. The small seed size makes it very easy to plant too deep. If planted at the right depth, teff could emerge in 3 to 4 days.

Fertilizer
A soil test should be used to determine if P and K are adequate for the crop. If additions are needed, apply P and K similar to perennial grass establishment. One year of field data from four locations in New York showed an optimum N rate of 50 lbs N/acre broadcast at planting (Figure 3). At higher rates, lodging occurred, making harvest very difficult.

![Graph showing yield vs nitrogen rate](image)

Figure 3: An application of 50 lbs N/acre at planting was sufficient for Teff grown as forage crop at 4 locations in New York State in 2006.

These data are consistent with recent teff N studies at Oregon State University, Montana State University and the University of Kentucky but additional site-years in New York are needed. Crude protein increased with N rates. All N studies were conducted under a single cut system. Under a multiple cut system, additional N might be needed.

Harvest Management
For optimum forage quality, teff should be harvested in the late vegetative stages (pre-boot to early-boot stage). First harvest will occur approximately 50 to 55 days after planting and subsequent harvests should be expected in 40 to 45 days depending on moisture and temperature. In a multiple-cut system a 3 to 4 inch cutting height is necessary to promote vigorous regrowth; cutting lower than this will stunt the crop.

Teff can be harvested as a high moisture forage crop and ensiled, or baled as dry hay. Teff can also be used as pasture forage for livestock. Maintaining forage quality and obtaining adequate dry matter yields through the summer months remain a challenge for pasture-based dairy and livestock production. Perennial cool-season pasture grasses generally yield very well throughout the summer months if rainfall is near normal. Under hot and dry environmental conditions these pasture grasses lose quality and dry matter yields are reduced, especially in the latter half of the summer. Warm season summer annual grasses, such as teff, may offer a solution to this potential problem.

Forage Quality and Yield
When teff is harvested at the proper time and sufficient N was applied, crude protein will generally be between 15 and 16% of dry matter. Neutral detergent fiber (NDF) 48-hr digestibility averaged over 128 forage samples was 69.4% of NDF and the NDF was 60.7%. In each of the two years of New York field trials, teff produced 2 tons of forage dry matter with harvest approximately 50 days after planting. These results show that teff can rival average New York grass hay dry matter yields and produce relatively high quality forage with proper management.
Several species of cutworms are found in New York; the black cutworm is most commonly found in corn. The adults (moths) migrate into the state from the southern overwintering sites on the spring storms and are attracted to weeds on which they lay their eggs. One or more generations may occur per year, but it is the first generation which causes economic loss in NY corn. Cutworm larvae are large (1 to 2 inches long when fully grown), smooth, dull-colored caterpillars, which curl tightly when handled. They hide in the soil during the day and feed at night at the base of small corn plants during May and June. Symptoms include missing, cut, or wilted plants. The large, nearly mature larvae do most of the feeding damage. Each one is capable of destroying several plants, and damage may appear very suddenly as the larvae grow larger.

The key to cutworm control is to monitor emerging plants closely, particularly in fields with conditions favoring cutworm outbreaks. These conditions include late planting; weed infestations; low, wet areas; and fields previously in pasture or sod. Cutworm problems may be worse in fields planted with minimum or no tillage. Plowing, good weed control, and early planting should help reduce cutworm problems. Check fields every two or three days until plants are well established for signs of missing, cut, or wilted plants. Search for the larvae in the soil near damaged plants. Treatment is suggested if 5% or more of the plants have been cut.

Cutworm larvae should be controlled while small (1/2 inch long or less). Since the larvae are active at night, chemicals should be applied late in the day. When the soil is dry and crusted, larvae remain beneath the soil surface and will be difficult to control. Only the infested area and a 20- to 40-foot surrounding border need be treated. Direct the spray at the base of the plants. Portions of the field may need to be disked and replanted if damage has gone beyond the point of control.

Application of soil insecticides at planting does not provide effective control of cutworms despite claims by the insecticide manufacturer.

For more information, visit: https://fieldcrops.cals.cornell.edu/corn/insects-corn/cutworms/
WASHINGTON, April 30, 2019 — Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced today the availability of a new web-based tool – developed in partnership with the University of Wisconsin – to help dairy producers evaluate various scenarios using different coverage levels through the new Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program.

The 2018 Farm Bill authorized DMC, a voluntary risk management program that offers financial protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. It replaces the program previously known as the Margin Protection Program (MPP) for Dairy. Sign up for this USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) program opens on June 17, 2019.

“With sign-up for the DMC program just weeks away, we encourage producers to use this new support tool to help make decisions on participation in the program,” Secretary Perdue said. “Dairy producers have faced tough challenges over the years, but the DMC program should help producers better weather the ups and downs in the industry.”

The University of Wisconsin launched the decision support tool in cooperation with FSA and funded through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Office of the Chief Economist. The tool was designed to help producers determine the level of coverage under a variety of conditions that will provide them with the strongest financial safety net. It allows farmers to simplify their coverage level selection by combining operation data and other key variables to calculate coverage needs based on price projections.

The decision tool assists producers with calculating total premiums costs and administrative fees associated with participation in DMC. It also forecasts payments that will be made during the coverage year.

“The new Dairy Margin Coverage program offers very appealing options for all dairy farmers to reduce their net income risk due to volatility in milk or feed prices,” said Dr. Mark Stephenson, Director of Dairy Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin, Madison. “Higher coverage levels, monthly payments, and more flexible production coverage options are especially helpful for the sizable majority of farms who can cover much of their milk production with the new five million pound maximum for Tier 1 premiums. This program deserves the careful consideration of all dairy farmers.”

For more information, access the tool at fsa.usda.gov/dmc-tool. For DMC sign up, eligibility, and related program information, visit fsa.usda.gov or contact your local USDA Service Center. To locate your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.

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Apps in Ag – Some Useful Applications for Smart Phone Users in Agriculture

By Betsy Hicks, South Central NY Dairy & Field Crops Team

There are times when a latex milking glove only holds so much information, or a pen can only take being used like a pry bar so many times before it doesn’t write. Pretty much around the clock, though, having a smart phone on your person is normal. As being such, I’ve put together a list of applications I find useful in the ag world – ones that I use pretty regularly. I do use an Android, so some of these apps may not work in an Apple system. Feel free to send me a note on other apps you use that should be recognized.

Disclaimer: in no way is the listing of these applications an endorsement of any application or product.

Cattle Market Mobile – a free app that has a few great features, including USDA Auction Reports, USDA Commodity Reports, and Market Submitted Reports, as well as Futures Markets. You can also mark your “favorite” auction reports, and the app will send you a notification when there is a new report available. The app posts some news and resources, and has other useful tools such as a gestation calculator and calf calculator.

Cattle Breeding Calculator – a free app for calculating forward or backward dates. You can save the dates by animal name or number and view them later, as well as email the calculated dates. It’s a very simple app, and useful for making quick notes or determining predicted calving dates when counting back three months just doesn’t work.

Dairy News & Markets – the latest dairy news and advice from experts on markets and other topics, in one easy to use, free app.

Calf Health Scorer – is only available on the iTunes App Store. This app utilizes the University of Wisconsin’s calf health scoring chart to evaluate calf health based on scoring clinical parameters developed by Dr. Sheila McGuirk. After scoring calves, the report button will show the data you choose – list to treat, list today, or today treat.

Breeding Wheel App – this app is mimicked after the real breeding wheels everyone used to use and can no longer find pins for the wheel. You can identify animals, define a service schedule, and distribution of calves, dry dates, and more. This app also lets you send a file with your animal’s data to another device so that technicians can provide assistance from a distance. This app is also free, and best used with dairy herds.

Merck Vet Manual – this is the same Merck Vet Manual that has been used as an animal health reference for more than 60 years and covers all species and disorders of veterinary interest worldwide.

Geo Area Calculator – ever wonder how big that field is? Need help determining the size of a pasture that needs to be split up into paddocks? This app was my best friend when determining both those items. Super simple to use and the satellite images are fairly up to date, so looking for landmarks from a bird-eye view is pretty easy to do.
Bull Search - Genex’s app for searching bulls. Directly from the app store: “search and sort dairy bulls industry-wide from your device. The Bull Search app includes genetic evaluations on approximately 40,000 bulls, including Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Ayrshire, and Milking Shorthorn bulls. Users can lookup bulls by their short name, NAAB code, or registration number to view their genetic details and pedigree information. Active bulls can be sorted or filtered by a main genetic index or individual traits. Ideal Commercial Cow (ICCS) index values are available on GENEX Holstein and Jersey bulls. The app includes file export options. Export a list of bulls with their genetic trait details to an Excel or CSV file. The file can be saved to the user’s device, emailed, or sent via text message. After the initial download of data, an internet connection is not needed for searching or sorting bulls. Users will be notified when new genetic data is available for download.”

ID Weeds – from the University of Missouri’s College of Ag, Food & Natural Resources’ Plant Science Division. You can search for weeds by common or Latin name, or identify weeds based on different characteristics.

Calf Book – this app is more for beef producers and is not free, although it comes with a free one-month trial period. This is the app that I use with my herd. You can track calving data, weaning, and yearling performance and generate reports by sire or calf crop. It also can generate individual cow productivity by keeping annual calf performance.

Instagram – I know, this is a social media app, but there are so many great AG-voices out there to follow when you need to feel empowered. Some suggestions for you to follow:
- nyfarmgirls – in CNY, the Leubner daughters share stories daily.
- seejessfarm – Jessica Peters from PA shares some awesome cow stories, especially on #tongueouttuesday.
- dairycarrie – Carrie Mess always has great shares about the goodness of milk, from WI.
- newmexicomilkmaid – I recently started following Tara, a dairy farmer from NM. It’s so fun to learn more about the daily care of a dairy farm in a different part of the US.
- dairygirlnetwork – empowering women in all walks of dairy – a great page to follow.
- Cortland_county_dairy – the Cortland County Dairy Promotion Committee updates with the happenings of the Cortland County Dairy Princess and other local events.
- nyfarmnet – yes, our very own NY FarmNet has an Instagram page. Keep up to date on their workshops and events.
- trinityvalleydairy – Trinity Valley posts mouthwatering pictures of all the goodies they make and sell in store, as well as celebrating Ag and Dairy.
- nyanimalag – The NY Animal Ag Coalition is a great place to find posts for ag-vocating.
- Thefarmerswifee – Krista is a dairy farmer and mom and gets real on both topics.

BCS Cowdition – Bayer’s app for simplifying and standardizing dairy cow body condition. This app allows you to save cows and track changes in BCS over time. It will sync with herd management software on farm as well. It utilizes your phone’s camera to line up the cow you’re measuring with a cow silhouette to determine BCS.

Livestocked – another free app to track herd performance with a business mindset. This app can be accessed via smart phone or computer, and can track herd information, semen, and embryo inventory, sales and financials, as well as pasture. This app is also multi-species and can be used for cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, alpacas, and llamas.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Dairy Cattle (LGM-Dairy)</th>
<th>Dairy Margin Coverage Program (DMC) (Formerly MPP)</th>
<th>Dairy Revenue Protection (Dairy-RP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You Are Covered For</td>
<td>- Increased feed cost&lt;br&gt;- Decreased milk prices</td>
<td>Decrease in milk revenue due to decreased milk prices or production</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>You Are NOT Covered For</td>
<td>- Dairy cattle death&lt;br&gt;- Unexpected decreases in milk production&lt;br&gt;- Unexpected increases in feed use&lt;br&gt;- Anticipated or multiple-year declines in milk prices&lt;br&gt;- Anticipated or multiple-year increases in feed costs</td>
<td>- Increased feed cost&lt;br&gt;- Production decreases uncorrelated with state milk yield&lt;br&gt;- Dairy cattle death&lt;br&gt;- Other loss or damage of any kind</td>
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<tr>
<td>You Select</td>
<td>- Percent of production you want covered (0-100%)&lt;br&gt;- Length of coverage (2-10 months)&lt;br&gt;- Deductible ($0-$2 per cwt, available in $0.10 increments)</td>
<td>If opting for premium coverage¹:&lt;br&gt;- Percent of production you want covered (5-95%)&lt;br&gt;- Guaranteed margin ($4.00-$9.50 per cwt, available in $0.50 increments)</td>
<td>- Revenue pricing option: The class pricing (combination of Class III &amp; IV) or component pricing (butterfat and protein test levels)&lt;br&gt;- Total milk production protected&lt;br&gt;- Coverage level (70-95%)&lt;br&gt;- Protection factor (100-150%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Can be combined with DMC</td>
<td>Can be combined with LGM-Dairy</td>
<td>Cannot be combined with LGM-Dairy in the same quarter, can be used with DMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>Monthly, can enroll for 2-10 months</td>
<td>Life of current farm bill with annual coverage decision: 25% discount on annual premium for 5-year commitment</td>
<td>Quarterly (3 months), up to 15 months out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coverage Limits</td>
<td>Up to 100% of your monthly production with maximum of 240,000 cwt² per year</td>
<td>Tier 1 premium pricing applies to first 50,000 cwt¹, tier 2 premium pricing applies to additional production</td>
<td>There is no limit on how much milk can be insured, but milk marketings must be at least 85% of covered production</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payment Triggers</td>
<td>Actual margin minus deductible is less than the guaranteed margin³</td>
<td>Actual margin for a 1-month period is less than the covered level⁵</td>
<td>Quarterly declines revenues due to declines in price (milk or component) or production indexes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basis Risk</td>
<td>Difference between your prices/costs and CME milk prices, CBOT feed prices</td>
<td>Difference between your price/cost and US All Milk Price, weighted feed costs for corn, soybean and alfalfa (as reported by NASS and AMS)</td>
<td>Difference between your prices and CME prices for Class III &amp; Class V milk or CME-implied component prices; Difference between your production and state-indexed milk production</td>
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<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Last business Friday of each month</td>
<td>Sign-up period expected to open on June 17 for 90 days</td>
<td>Sales for a quarter end 15 days before the beginning of the quarter</td>
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<td>Coverage Offered By</td>
<td>Insurance agents working with a RMA Approved Insurance Provider (AIP)</td>
<td>Farm Service Agency (FSA)</td>
<td>Insurance agents working with a RMA Approved Insurance Provider (AIP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DAIRY RISK MANAGEMENT
2019 Crop Year, New York

1- Catastrophic coverage is available to all enrollees who have paid their $100 administrative fee and covers $5 margins at 90% of established production.
2- Approximately 1,050-1,200 cows
3- Approximately 220-250 cows
4- Actual gross margin is calculated from Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group futures contract daily settlement prices, not the prices you receive at the market.
5- Actual margins are the difference between the national all milk price and the national average feed cost, as estimated from prices reported by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Dairy Cattle (LGM-Dairy)
LGM-Dairy protects producers when the actual dairy margin (milk price - feed cost) falls below the expected margin. Futures market feed and milk prices are used to determine the expected and actual gross margin. Producers do not choose the margin that is guaranteed by the policy.

Dairy Margin Coverage Program (DMC)
DMC is the successor to the Margin Protection Program (MPP). This program makes payments when the national average dairy margin (futures market milk price - futures market feed cost) falls below the guaranteed margin. Unlike LGM-Dairy, the producer is able to decide the margin that is guaranteed ($4/cwt-$9.50/cwt). Producers opting for a 5-year commitment will receive a 25% premium discount. Producers who enrolled in LGM-dairy in 2018 may enroll in 2018 MPP retroactively.

Dairy Revenue Protection (Dairy-RP)
Dairy-RP protects producers against unexpected drops in quarterly revenue from milk sales. The producer can choose the value of the insured milk based on either a combination of Class III and IV milk prices, or a price based on their butterfat and protein test values. A “Protection Factor” can be applied to increase the value of the insured milk. Payouts are based on futures market prices and state or regional-level (state-level in NY) production, as reported by USDA-NASS.

Contact FSA to Learn More (DMC)
Find your nearest FSA office at https://www.fsa.usda.gov/

Find an Agent (LGM-Dairy and Dairy-RP)
Ask a neighbor for a recommendation or use the Agent Locator tool at http://cli.re/gzPvWy

Learn More
Find crop insurance information at https://agriskmanagement.cornell.edu

Cornell University delivers crop insurance education in New York State in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency. Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.
Ever wish you paid more attention in that accounting class? Maybe you’re a bit rusty on financial ratios, or looking to learn something new. Each month I will go over an accounting or finance topic as it relates to your farm business, so stay tuned. This month is on calculating and planning for family living costs.

While milk prices continue to be stagnant, time presses on and your business still needs to move forward. Maybe you are looking for a way to become more efficient, or maybe there is a next generation you would like to bring home. In either case, it is important to quantify the financial improvement needed to keep up with inflation or bring in another partner. The first step in planning is to calculate how much additional profit your business will need to generate to keep up your standard of living or pay a new partner.

- In general, family living or draws can account for 10-15% of gross farm revenue. So in the case of $300,000 of gross revenue, at 15% this would be $45,000 of family living per year.
- Each year, inflation costs can be assumed at a minimum of 3%, meaning that your cost of living goes up 3% each year. So if $45,000 is the cost of living, you would need $46,350 in the next year or $9,000 of additional gross income with the assumed 3% increase in expenses.
- It is important to note that increasing income may not always be a possibility, so in exchange of that, expenses could be reduced or diversification/other enterprises could be explored.
- If another partner/generation is looking to return to the farm, how much will that next generation need? Let’s assume 10%. So with our first example that would be $30,000 that would need to become available either through increased gross income from the same production sources, increasing producing units, or decreased expenses.

Family living is always difficult to calculate given that each person requires something different. These are provided as guidelines for planning the next step in your business. As the prices and markets continue to fluctuate and change, it is imperative you evaluate your goals regularly. Budgeting and planning can allow you to make changes in your business that have real quantitative impacts. Should you want assistance with your farm budget or plan, contact Kelsey O’Shea at kio3@cornell.edu.
Protect Your GMO & Non-GMO Corn Yield with Gowan Branded Post-Emergence Herbicides!

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- Delivers residual control for later germinating weeds following application.
- Excellent control of: sedges, large and small seeded broadleaf weeds including: bindweed, morning-glory, lambsquarter and many others.

PERMIT® HERBICIDE

- Gold Standard for Nutsedge control.
- Delivers residual control for germinating annual broadleaf weeds.
- Excellent crop safety.

PERMITPLUS® HERBICIDE

- Post Lambsquarter control.
- Controls: Sedges and annual broadleaf weeds.
- Delivers residual control for germinating annual broadleaf weeds.

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Once again we find ourselves watching the calendar days flipping by with continued wet weather keeping farmers from working in the field. If the wet weather continues to keep farmers from planting their corn and soybeans, it prevents them from a timely harvest of first cutting hay crops. This not only reduces the quality but sets the stage for the rest of the hay harvest throughout the summer. For those farmers that purchased crop insurance on their corn or soybeans they can sleep a little easier at night. This is because they have options to leave fallow those fields that are too wet to plant or are drowned after they are planted by using the “Prevented Planting” or “Replant” options of their crop insurance policy.

A number of farmers I have interviewed claim their sole reason for buying crop insurance is for the prevented planting option which is available on corn and soybean policies. Prevented planting decisions should be made as you approach the final planting date for the crop. In New York, June 10th is the Final Planting Date for soybeans, and for silage and grain corn.

**Replant payments**

You must have a loss of the lesser of 20 acres or 20% of the insured planted acres to qualify for a Replant payment. Be sure to contact your crop insurance agent once you decide Replant is needed. Do not destroy any evidence of the initial planting before reporting the loss to your sales agent.

**Prevented Planting**

Prevented Planting can be claimed as any insurable cause of loss that keeps you out of the fields prior to 6/10/2019, providing the cause is general in the area, and other requirements are met. If a farmer applies for prevented planting they will receive 55% of the crop’s guarantee for corn and 60% of the crop’s guarantee for soybeans. When signing up for crop insurance farmers have the option to increase their prevented planning coverage by 5% of their guarantee by paying a premium.

One added decision farmers will need to make this year is the possibility of “Market Facilitation Program” payments being made by the government. If Prevented Planting is used those acres will have no bushels to apply for such payments.

If your planting is delayed or prevented due to an insurable cause, be sure to notify your crop insurance agent in writing within 72 hours of the final planting date for the affected crop. Additionally, if you participate in Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs, it is important to report your prevented planting acreage within 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the crop in order to receive prevented planting acreage credit.

**Claim Prevented Planting losses before June 10th.**
Are you interested in advertising in
The North Country Ag Advisor?

We reach ag communities across Jefferson, Lewis, Franklin, Essex, Clinton, and St. Lawrence Counties.

For more information, contact:

Tatum Langworthy
315-788-8450 or tlm92@cornell.edu
What’s Happening in the Ag Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County Dairyland Festival</td>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>Dulles State Office Building, Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County Day at the Farm</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Murrock Farms, 24658 NYS Route 283, Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis County 5K Milk Run/Walk</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Lewis County Fairgrounds, Lowville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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