#### NORTHWEST NEW YORK DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & FIELD CROPS TEAM



### Managing for Success: Transition Cows

#### By: Jackson Wright & Jerry Bertoldo

The transition period is critical to a successful lactation. It is defined as the three weeks prior to calving through day 21 of lactation. During this period the cow undergoes multiple physiological and metabolic changes as she transitions into lactation. Stress is the catch-all phrase used to categorize

the effect of these challenges. In addition to these biological changes, a natural lag exists between her ability to generate milk and her ability to consume enough feed to meet these new energy requirements. As a result, every cow experiences some

form of negative energy balance during early lactation. Stresses associated with diet, pen/stall changes and the calving process add to the transition challenge. However, proper management can reduce the length and severity of this negative energy balance providing benefits on both milk production and reproduction.

The severity of this negative energy balance is also dictated by the biology of the cow, a key component of which is how well the cow is able to coordinate the metabolic changes required to produce large quantities of milk. The currency for these metabolic changes is glucose (energy). The rumen consumes feed source glucose in the fermentation process. This is not a loss to the cow since unlike monogastrics, cows cannot readily absorb glucose from the gut.

Instead the cow produces large amounts of volatile fatty acids (acetic, propionic) through ruminal fermentation and converts these precursors into glucose in the liver. This process is known as gluconeogenesis.

The liver is the center of energy con-

version, protein manufacturing, blood detoxification, mineral complexing and many other metabolic functions. It requires a wide variety of enzymes, energy and a good deal of time for the liver to convert fat to useful energy sources. De-

pending on the demand and amount of fat pulled from around the body, the liver may have to store fat. The ability of the liver to carry on its normal duties decreases as the amount of fat stored within the liver increases.

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#### **Mission Statement**

The NWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops team will provide lifelong education to the people of the agricultural community to assist them in achieving their goals. Through education programs & opportunities, the NWNY Team seeks to build producers' capacities to:

- Enhance the profitability of their business
- Practice environmental stewardship
- Enhance employee & family well-being in a safe work environment
- Provide safe, healthful agricultural products
- Provide leadership for enhancing relationships between agricultural sector, neighbors & the general public.



As fat accumulates in the liver, the liver is less capable of generating glucose which can lead to multiple metabolic disorders including ketosis, metritis, displaced abomasum and mastitis.

Some older estimates put the cost of clinical ketosis around \$145 per case and subclinical ketosis at \$78. Uncomplicated ketosis may reduce lactation output by up to 775 lbs. Weight loss is a prominent feature. One pound of body weight conservatively converts to 6 pounds of milk. In addition, reproductive efficiency and disease resistance declines as a result of ketosis.

If metabolic problems are common on your operation a good starting point is to quantify the extent of the problem. Often pre-calving non-esterified fatty acids (NEFA's) or post calving beta-hydroxy butyric acids (BHBA's) serum levels are good indicators of energy status. If your cows are suffering from severe or prolonged negative energy balance, you should consult with your herd veterinarian or subsequent advisor regarding your herd management practices, especially surrounding the transition period. Newer cowside tests have significantly helped in assessing ketosis



risks.

Consider some of these recommendations for transition cow success:

- reducing stocking density during the transition period – 80% is ideal, less than 100% critical, less competition at the feed bunk, water trough and for resting places
- maintain a fresh cow group fine tuning the ration, return to positive energy balance sooner and tracking intakes better
- improve cow comfort flooring, stall design, water access, ventilation, cooling, lighting
- use a rumen protected choline both pre and postcalving – helps transport fat out of the liver enhancing overall liver function

Focusing on better cow management during the transition period can improve liver function and can increase peak milk yield and profitability. The events surrounding calving have no equal in determining a cow's potential for health and productivity.





# A Rainbow of Molds in Corn and Soybean Grain

#### By: Mike Stanyard

As producers pushed ahead with harvest into November, I received many calls on rejected loads due to moldy grain. Other calls resulted in field visits looking at standing crops with corn ears colored pink, green, white, gray, and black. Soybeans were not immune as some seeds were shrunken white and purple. Jerry and Jackson's article last month gave a great explanation of how and why it happened. The combination of bird damage, short husks, upright ears and lots of rain was the just too much. Many corn ears and soybean pods even began to sprout! Unfortunately, there was nothing we could have done to prevent it. The question now becomes "does this color of fungus produce mycotoxins"? Below is a series of pictures I have taken from the field identifying the different fungi and their potential to produce toxin.



*Gibberella* has the distinctive pink to reddish color on the grain usually starting on the ear tip. This is the same fungi that causes head scab in wheat. <u>It does produce vomitoxin</u> and is toxic to livestock, especially swine.



*Tricoderma* is green and has been the most common fungi that I have seen affecting grain corn this fall. Fortunately, this fungus does not produce any mycotoxins.





*Diplodia* is commonly white to gray and will affect the whole ear usually starting from the butt end. It also does not produce any harmful mycotoxins.



*Stem and Pod Blight* has been found affecting soybeans this year particularly in wet low lying areas of the field. Seeds become shrunken, moldy and turn white. Disease severity usually becomes worse as harvest is delayed. Infection reduces seed quality but no toxins are produced.

*Cercospora Leaf Blight and Purple Seed Stain* in soybeans were very common this season. Cercospora infection causes leaves to turn a dark purple and seeds have purple blotches. High humidity and long dew periods favor this fungus. This reduction in seed quality may cause loads to be rejected.

#### Storing & Future Management:

Dry down to below 14%. If you have to store infected grain, do so only during the winter months and keep below 35 degrees. Periodically test for hot spots, mold and insects. All of these corn fungi will survive and overwinter on corn residue. Tillage and rotation away from corn is encouraged. Corn hybrids can also vary in their susceptibility to ear rots.

# Rural Tax Education at www.ruraltax.org

#### By: John J. Hanchar

As the end of year draws near, farm business owners will begin turning attention to an important farm financial management task- completion of 2011 Income Tax Returns. The website, www.ruraltax.org, can be a valuable source of information as individuals complete returns themselves, or as they work with a tax preparer. The following are five of several useful items that stand out when you visit the home page of the Rural Tax Education website.

#### Overview

The purpose of the Rural Tax Education website is to provide farmers and ranchers, other agricultural producers and Extension educators with a source for agriculturally related income and self-employment tax information. The emphasis is on information that is both current and easy to understand. The home page notes that "Tax issues are important for agricultural operations, because income and self-employment taxes are a major cost and also because more and more USDA programs are being linked to a producer's federal income tax return." The website is overseen by the National Farm Income Tax Extension Committee.

#### Hot Topic

The current hot topic on the website is extreme



weather. As the site states, "In many cases the damage to farms, rural businesses and private homes from extreme weather qualifies as a casualty loss due to the unexpected

damage. The Internal Revenue Code has provisions that allow persons affected by such sudden events to apply beneficial tax rules to their circumstances if they meet the qualifications of these rules. Involuntary conversion and a related article on weather related sales of livestock explain how to apply the rules to businesses as well as personal casualties."

#### Webinar Announcements

Visit the Rural Tax Education website for information on viewing archived versions of webinars.

# Tax Guide for Owners and Operators of Small and Medium Size Farms

The thirteen chapters in this guide cover several areas including an overview of taxes, income and deductions, tools to manage tax liability, and buying and selling a farm among others.

#### **Tax Topics**

This section contains fact sheets and articles covering important income tax and self employment tax topics as they apply to farm business owners.

- ✓ Farm, Farming and Who's a Farm for Tax Purposes
- ✓ Filing Dates and Estimated Tax Payments
- ✓ Farm Losses vs. Hobby Losses: Farmers Must Plan Ahead to Avoid Adverse Tax Consequences

#### **Related Links**

This section contains a summary of recent tax law changes, webinar archive, and the valuable IRS publication <u>Farmers' Tax Guide (IRS PUB 225)</u>. Links to websites and articles also are placed in this section including a link to the IRS website.

Last month's issue of AgFocus reviewed the topic of farm business summary and analysis. If you are interested in improving your farm business' ability to practice sound financial management, then please contact me to learn more about some of the tools available and their value and/or to discuss plans for completing a farm business summary and analysis for 2011. Owners of all types of farm businesses are encouraged to contact me. The NWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program has the capacity, using the above tools, to develop valuable farm business summary and analysis. The NWNY team also has the capacity and desire to work with a variety of farm businesses- dairy (small, medium, and large; conventional; organic; grazing; and others), field crop, livestock, and others.

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### Cover Crop Carbon & Nitrogen Content: Fall of 2010 Sampling

#### By: Quirine M. Ketterings

#### Introduction

Cover crops have received increasing interest from farmers in recent years. The reasons vary from erosion control and nutrient uptake to improved soil quality, increasing organic matter and field trafficability. As fertilizer prices continue to increase and farms aim to reduce N loss to the environment. producers are asking about the N benefits of cover crops for silage corn systems. In the fall of 2010,

with Federal Formula Funds, we sampled cover cropped fields in typical field crop/dairy or vegetable rotations to determine total carbon (C) and nitrogen (N) pools just prior to snowfall. We also calculated the C:N ratio of each sample because the ratio drives N release by cover crops over time (N dynamics); once the ratio exceeds 25-30, the microbes that break down the

biomass will have to take up N from other sources as the plant material itself does not have enough N to down the biomass. temporarily break This immobilizes some portion of freely available inorganic N, and can cause competition for N with crops and short-term N deficiency. If the C:N ratio is higher than 25-30, the cover crop might not contribute at all to the N supply that season, though a trade-off likely exists between short-term fertility and long-term soil benefits of plant materials that are more resistant to decomposition. If farmers terminate their cover crops when the C:N ratio is below or around 25, the biomass can quickly be broken down and release N to the soil. Here we present the results of the fall 2010 measurements taken at four western NY farms.

#### **Materials and Methods**

The biomass samples were harvested from four NY dairy or cash grain farms in western NY and included 14 species of cover crops: annual ryegrass (4 samples), annual ryegrass/crimson clover mix (4),

crimson clover (4), forage turnips (17), oats (22), oats/rye mix (4), peas/oats mix (4), tillage radishes (46), sorghum sudangrass (8), and triticale (24). The samples were either from individual farm fields or from actual experiments (species comparisons, method of establishment comparison).

Depending on the biomass of the species and individual plant size, either one 10 sq. ft. or two 2.14 sq. ft. frames were placed over the sample at ground level. For oats, pea/oats mixture, annual ryegrass,

> sorghum sudangrass, and crimson clover, only above ground biomass was sampled. For turnips and radishes, both roots and above-ground biomass were sampled and analyzed separately. All the samples were sorted bv species, plant part (root or shoot) and treatment, if the field was part of a trial. Each individual sample was analyzed for total C and N.

#### **Results and Discussion**

Cover crops seeded after small grain harvest The C:N ratio of the summer seeded cover crops ranged from a low of 11 to a high of 32. Where roots and shoots were analyzed (radishes and turnips), the roots had a larger average C:N ratio than the shoots (25 versus 13 for radishes and 21 versus 16 for turnips)(Table 1).

Total C pool ranged from a low of 882 lbs C/acre for above ground biomass of sorghum sudangrass (unfertilized) to a high of 2825 and 2869 lbs C/acre for two pure stands of oats (two farms, above ground biomass). Total above ground N pool ranged from a low of 66 lbs N/acre for the sorghum sudangrass stand to a high of 172 lbs N/acre for the tillage radishes seeded after peas at CY Farms. For tillage radishes, roots contained on average, 51% of the total C and 34% of the total N with the remainder in the above ground biomass. At Branton Farms, oats had the greatest N uptake in the above ground biomass (145 lbs N/acre).



At Lightland Farm, the oats and turnip and oats mixture showed the highest total N uptake in the above ground biomass (119 lbs N/acre for the oats and 122 lbs N/acre for the turnip and oats mixture). The tillage radishes had 30% of its total N uptake in the roots for an overall N uptake of 135 lbs N/acre. It is unknown how large the root C and N pools were for oats. It should be taken into account that with root sampling it is difficult to obtain all roots and that in some of the mixtures, we did not always obtain root biomass for all species so the actual percentage of root biomass and C and N pools is likely somewhat higher than we report here.

#### Cover crops seeded after corn silage harvest

The cover crops that were seeded after corn silage harvest showed C:N ratios with slightly higher values for roots than shoots as well (similar to the summer seeded cover crops) but considerably lower C and N pools reflecting a shorter growing season.

The total C pool ranged from 271 lbs C/acre and 21 lbs N/acre for an oats/rye mix to 372-434 lbs C/acre and 27-29 lbs N/acre for triticale, suggesting an average N uptake by fall seeded cover crops of 20-30 lbs N/acre (fall of 2010).

The percentage of total C in the below ground biomass was considerably higher for the summer seeded cover crops (average of 47% of total C and 31% of total N in roots for summer seeded cover crops) than it was for the fall seeded cover crops where most of the C and N (73-82% of the total C pool and 76-90% of the total N pool) were in the above ground biomass.

#### **Summary and Conclusions**

Nitrogen uptake for summer seeded cover crops (after small grain harvest) was considerably higher than for fall seeded cover crop (after corn silage harvest) illustrating the importance of early seeding for fall N uptake. The actual N uptake and N benefits of overwintering cover crops might be considerably larger than suggested by the fall sampling and for those species spring growth should be taken into account. Such studies are currently ongoing for the plots at Van Slyke's, Branton Farm and Lightland Farm as well as at the Valatie Research Farm in eastern NY (wheat, triticale, rye). Weekly soil sampling is ongoing as well to determine N release to the soil for 6-8 weeks after turnover/kill of the cover crop.

#### Acknowledgments

This work is supported with Federal Formula Funds and a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). For questions about the cover crop biomass and carbon and nitrogen content sampling contact Quirine M. Ketterings at 607-255-3061 or qmk2@cornell.edu, and/or visit the Cornell Nutrient Management Spear Program website at:

http://nmsp.cals.cornell.edu/.

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	carbon (C ) and nitrogen (N) po in or peas) in western NY in the				seeded
Location	Cover crop (single species/mix)	Plant part	total C	total N	C:N
			lbs/acre		
Branton Farm					
	Oats	shoot	2869	145	20
	Sorghum sudangrass	shoot	1375	83	17
	Annual ryegrass	shoot	1562	75	21
	Peas/oats/radish	total in mix	2188	128	
	Peas/oats/radish	root (radish)	659	31	22
	Peas/oats/radish	shoot (radish)	815	72	11
	Peas/oats/radish	shoot (peas/	714	25	29
		oats)			
	Tillage radish	total	2246	104	
	Tillage radish	root (radish)	1298	41	32
	Tillage radish	shoot (radish)	948	63	16
CY Farms	Tillage radish	total	2503	172	
	Tillage radish	root (radish)	1272	59	23
	Tillage radish	shoot (radish)	1231	113	12
Lightland Farm	Tillage radish	total	2186	135	
	Tillage radish	root (radish)	975	40	25
	Tillage radish	shoot (radish)	1211	95	13
	Radish/oats	total in mix	2170	112	
	Radish/oats	root (radish)	407	18	22
	Radish/oats	shoot (radish)	750	62	12
	Radish/oats	shoot (oats)	1013	32	32
	Turnip/oats	total in mix	2185	126	
	Turnip/oats	root (turnip)	57	4	14
	Turnip/oats	shoot (turnip)	910	78	12
	Turnip/oats	shoot (oats)	1218	44	28
	Oats	shoot	2825	119	24
	Forage turnip	total	2096	110	
	Forage turnip	root (turnip)	288	11	27
	Forage turnip	shoot (turnip)	1808	99	19
	A. Ryegrass/crimson clover	shoot	1558	103	15
	Crimson clover	shoot	1094	84	13
	Sorghum sudangrass	shoot	882	66	13

# Survival Of The Fittest

By: Kirk Shoen

Farm Business Educator Rensselaer County

**R** ecently I attended a grazing meeting entitled "Letting the Farm Choose the Cow: Breeding and Selection Practices for Greatest Net Profitability on the Farm" hosted by The Hudson Mohawk Resource Conservation & Development Council at Crosby Farm in Berne, NY. The speaker, Bill Hodge, from Cooperative Extension of Carroll County,

Georgia, discussed a holistic approach to breeding, animal selection, and herd management for better productivity on grass fed beef operations.

Bill introduced us to the concept of using the microclimates on farms to build a better herd. Every farm has slight variations in their resources, land, buildings,

feed and even management styles that influence livestock productivity. All of these conditions or microclimates affect whether particular animals will merely survive or thrive in their environment. In order for the farm to be profitable the herd has to thrive under its given conditions.

Bill discussed using a modified process of natural selection to produce a herd that will be profitable under your farm's conditions with the least amount of input, and excel with minimal input. He has developed his genetic selection process over years of onfarm research. The research found that beef farmers consistently breed for traits like size, effectively building inefficient and less profitable herds. These herds needed costly extra resources to be maintained and developed health and reproduction issues when these resources were not available. Animals developed under optimum conditions should do well and can be a false indicator of health and profitability.

Farmers that developed herds on poorer pasture with minimal inputs selected animals that performed well in that farm's micro-climate. They chose the best ani-



mals and used purchased stock, breeding programs, and traits from AI bulls to improve on herd quality. These animals were able to grow, maintain body condition, and reproduce under the farms worst conditions. When they were provided with a limited amount of extra inputs they used them to their optimum efficiency and were more profitable.

Reproduction is the most important factor for any herd. The best animals are ones that consistently

> breed back and drop a healthy calf regardless of size. Choose animals for consistency not physical characteristics. If you have a 1500 lb cow in your operation you have to maintain that cow. A smaller 1300 lb cow that does well on the farm and reproduces regularly can be more profitable long term. Careful selection

can produce a lower cost sustainable herd.

Dairy operations have micro-climates as well and deal with similar animal issues. Some farms keep larger cows even when they are dropping in milk productions. These cows require higher inputs "costs" to maintain than smaller more efficient cows. Farmers often breed animals for traits with assessing how those characteristics work in their environment. The herd should fit the farm. Feel free to contact me with any questions, Kirk Shoen, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County at (518-272-4210) ex 113, email: kjs264@cornell.edu.



### Management of the Transition Cow Course Slated for January

The next segment of our Dairy Skills Training Program will focus on managing transition cows. Upon completion of the course, participants will have learned the skills necessary to implement sound transition cow management practices. Instructors from Cornell Cooperative Extension, local veterinary clinics and Alfred State College will teach the classes about:

- ⇒ What Transition Cows Need
- ➡ Calving Management
- ➡ Performing Physical Exams
- ⇒ Post-Calving Problems and Treatments
- ⇒ Records, Protocols and Tracking Tools

Management of the Transition Cow is scheduled for 6:30 - 9:00 pm in January on Monday, the  $9^{th}$ ; Wednesday, the  $11^{th}$ ; Tuesday, the  $17^{th}$  and Thursday, the  $19^{th}$ , and from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm , on Saturday, the  $21^{st}$ . The evening sessions will be held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Offices in Ontario and Wyoming Counties. The Saturday morning session will be held at a farm location to be determined.

Closely managing this critical period in the life of dairy cows promotes high production and prevents many health challenges. Farms doing the best job

managing transition cows minimize the number of cows culled during the first 60 days of lactation. The transition period sets the stage for production level throughout the lactation. Cows that transition without issues are more productive than cows that struggle through this period. This course is a chance for dairy workers to bone up on transition cow management skills.

The cost of the course is \$150.00 which includes all course materials. For more information or to register, please contact Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County at 585-786-

2251 or by E-mail at WCDI@Cornell.edu. Students who desire Alfred State College Credit for completion of the course will be required to complete online testing and an independent study project and pay an additional \$55.00 for credit.

Courses in Managing Crop Production Processes and Nutrient Management Practices are planned to start in February and March. A Quality Milk Production Management Course will be offered in May. If you have an interest in one of these course please call for details.

Dairy Skills Training is provided through a partnership among the North West New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crop Team, the Wyoming County Dairy Institute including Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Board of Supervisors, Pro-Dairy, Alfred State College, Quality Milk Production Services, local veterinary clinics and Genesee Community College. Funding to initiate the program was provided by the New York Center for Dairy Excellence.





New Services & Upgrades

# **10th Annual Celebrate Agriculture Dinner**

The 10th Annual Celebrate Agriculture Dinner has been set for Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 6 pm at the Alexander Fire Hall, Rt. 98 in Alexander. This event is a celebration of the number one industry in Genesee County – Agriculture. This extremely popular community tradition has become firmly established as a festive, fun filled opportunity to come together and socialize before the beginning of yet another growing season.

Tickets go on sale December 1. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Last year the event sold out by early January! Tickets may be purchased for \$25 each or \$230 for a table of ten from the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce at 210 East Main St. in Batavia or call the office at 585-343-7440 ext. 27.

This event is coordinated by the following partners: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County, Genesee County Chamber of Commerce, Genesee County Soil & Water Conservation District and Genesee County Farm Bureau.





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# 2012 Pesticide Training & Recertification Classes

A series of pesticide training and recertification classes are being offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension. Anyone interested in obtaining a pesticide certification and meets the D.E.C. (Department of Environmental Conservation) experience/education requirements or current applicators seeking pesticide recertification credits should attend.

#### This training is NOT a 30-hour certification course.

The Pesticide Training and Recertification classes will be held at Cornell Cooperative Extension – Ontario County on February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2012 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm with the exam being offered on March 5, 2012 from 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

The cost for the pesticide training to obtain a license is \$120.00, includes training manuals and attendance at all four classes.

# This does not include the \$100.00 DEC exam fee, due the day of the exam payable by check.

Certified applicators, private and commercial, seeking recertification credits will receive 2.5 core credits per class. The cost for recertification is \$70.00 for all four classes or \$20.00 per class. To receive registration material or for additional information, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County at (585) 394-3977 ext. 427, email nea8@cornell.edu or ext. 436, email rw43@cornell.edu The registration form is available on-line at www.cceontario.org



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# Agri*cultura*

#### By: Greg Coffta

f you visit one of New York's mid- to large-size L dairy herds, you would see many employees in the milking parlor who are immigrants of Hispanic descent.

This isn't a news flash — these employees have been working on some dairies for more than 10 years now. In recent years, the increase in immigrant labor from Mexico and Central America has become a hotbutton political issue achieving national attention.

People make many assumptions about this workforce: It's uneducated, unskilled and suitable for only the most routine, tedious tasks such as milking. A closer look at our dairy farms proves those beliefs to be misconceptions. The Hispanic workforce on New York dairy farms is being promoted to higher positions and given more responsibilities.

#### New tasks and responsibilities

Responsibilities vary from dairy to dairy, but in general Hispanic employees complete some of a herd manager's responsibilities. Dairies' reproduction programs have benefited greatly from Hispanic employees' taking on additional responsibilities. Heat detection and the delivery of ovulation synchronization injections are now popular jobs for Hispanic employees. On some dairies, Hispanic employees are also performing AI. And they've been trained to identify lameness and often trim hooves.

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The calf barn has probably benefited the most from Hispanic employees being trained to work outside the milking parlor. Caring for heifers from their first day to their first service is an important job that many Hispanic employees now perform.

There are many reasons why Hispanic employees are diversifying in their job duties, but two of the biggest reasons for this change are:

- A. The quality of the Hispanic workforce. That is to say; the dedication, responsibility and effort that most exhibit.
- B. The decline in the number of trained herd managers. Dairy managers and owners are having more difficulty in finding trained herd managers, and vacancies can be empty for months. A dairy can't stop operating, so many managers have decided to fill the gaps with current Hispanic employees who have a record of competence and high performance. Dedicated, skilled employees are valuable not just in the milking parlor but everywhere on a dairy.

Many dairy managers have learned that Hispanic employees aren't an *unskilled* workforce but simply an untrained workforce. They have discovered that these employees are a valuable resource beyond their traditional role as milkers.





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## Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Save the Date...

### December 2011

- Farm Disaster Preparation Certificate Pilot Workshop, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., CCE-Ontario Co., 480 N. Main St.,
  Canandaigua, Cost: \$25 per person includes lunch, handouts. *Pre-registration is required by: November 29*, Nancy Anderson: 585.394.3977 x427 or nea8@cornell.edu
- Growing & Marketing Ethnic Vegetables and Greens, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., CCE-Ontario Co., 480 N. Main St.,
  Canandaigua, Cost: \$20 per person, includes lunch, handouts, and expert advice on ethnic vegetable production. Registration:
  Nancy Anderson: 585.394.3977 x 427 or nea8@cornell.edu
- 16 NYS Dry Bean Meeting, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., LeRoy Country Club, 7759 E. Main Road/Route 5, LeRoy, 1.5 DEC & CCA Credits, Lunch Reservation by: Monday, December 12, Contact: Carol MacNeil: 585.313.8796 or crm6@cornell.edu

### Upcoming Programs...

### January 2012

- 18 WNY Corn Congress, Clarion Inn, 8250 Park Road, Batavia
- 19 Finger Lakes Corn Congress, Holiday Inn, 2468 NYS Route 414, Waterloo

### February 2012

- 8 WNY Soybean/Small Grains Congress, Clarion Inn, 8250 Park Road, Batavia
- 9 Finger Lakes Soybean/Small Grains Congress, Holiday Inn, 2468 NYS Route 414, Waterloo

### March 2012

Celebrate Agriculture Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Alexander Fire Hall, Route 98, Alexander, Tickets go on sale: December 1. Cost:
 \$25 or @230 for a table of 10 from the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce, 210 E. Main St., Batavia or call:
 585.343.7440 x 27