

# North Country Ag Advisor

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## Cornell Cooperative Extension North Country Regional Ag Team

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 5

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"The North Country Regional Ag Team is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, and Essex counties."

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#### 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

## New York State's Ambitious Plans to Address Climate Change – The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act and the Draft Scoping Plan – Open for Public Comment Now

By Kitty O'Neil, Zach Spangler (CCE Harvest NY), and Jenna Walczak (CCE Harvest NY)

New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA or Climate Act) was passed in 2019, and lays out a plan to progress NYS communities and businesses toward a carbon-neutral economy, with meaningful milestones along the way. Climate change presents real problems for our communities, lands, infrastructure, and economy. We expect our steadily increasing release of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) - such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide - into the atmosphere to cause severe weather patterns such as intense storms, droughts, flooding events, and more frequent and intense heat waves. This will result in catastrophes like power grid outages, wastewater and contaminant spills, and all the downstream, long-term impacts of these disruptions and damages to our communities and systems. For NYS farms, climate change increases the likelihood of weather delays during planting and harvest seasons as well as heat stress for crops and animals. To begin to solve this problem, we need to rapidly reduce our release of GHGs. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) addresses this need head-on with a systematic approach.

Goals of the CLCPA include a 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030, and an 85% reduction by 2050, compared with 1990 emissions levels. To identify and enable action toward this end, the Act tasked a Climate Action Council with conducting a complete GHG inventory and with drafting a 'Scoping Plan' to outline a framework for how NYS will equitably reduce GHG emissions. The GHG inventory has been completed and summarizes all GHGs emitted by human activity in NYS from 1990 to 2019 for four sectors – Energy, Industrial Processes, Agriculture/Land Use, and Waste. A quick read of the inventory report reveals lots of complex decisions that were needed about how to value and assign these emissions and how to draw boundaries around the different sectors. Descriptions of how this was decided and calculated, however, are also detailed. Some GHG improvements have already begun. The inventory document reports that peak emissions in NYS occurred in 2005 and we've already reduced GHG emissions by 17% since then. Our primary GHGs of concern are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and the sectors most responsible for our GHG emissions are the Energy, Waste, and Agriculture sectors. The strategies

outlined in the Scoping Plan reflect the relative scale of these various contributions by all sectors in its priorities.

The Energy sector includes all emissions associated with the generation and use of energy, including for electricity generation, transportation, and on-site fuel use in buildings for heat or manufacturing. The Energy sector encompassed the largest portion of emissions every year included in the inventory and therefore a big part of the GHG reduction strategy in the Scoping Plan is focused on this sector, aimed at achieving 100% reduction in emissions from electricity generation by 2040. Implementation of some of these strategies is already visible around us, in the form of wind and solar power generation installations, a shift toward more efficient equipment and systems, and more electric-powered buildings and transportation. The Scoping Plan outlines a strategy to generate more renewable energy, retire fossil fuel -powered electricity generation, and improve our distribution infrastructure.

Emissions resulting from the Waste sector are largely methane and CO<sub>2</sub>, generated by the decomposition and combustion of human-generated waste materials. Sources of GHG from this sector are landfills, waste incineration facilities, recycling operations, wastewater systems, and anaerobic digesters. The largest contribution to GHG emissions from waste management is the uncaptured methane emitted from landfills, as composting and natural organic matter decomposition are not included in this inventory.

The Scoping Plan defines the Agriculture sector as production of livestock, crops, dairy, timber, and wood products and its emission sources include equipment, animals, cropland, forest fires, decomposition of dead trees, and development of ag and forest land. This sector also provides carbon sequestration benefits, with its ability to remove atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and store it in trees, plants, and soil. The strategies outlined in the Scoping Plan for the Ag sector are focused on both sides of this equation – mainly reducing methane and nitrous oxide emissions and sequestering more carbon. The Scoping Plan outlines the use of the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program to provide assistance and planning for the Ag sector.

Many Ag sector strategies are focused on forest management, but there are also emphases on precision feed management, manure management, nutrient management, soil health, and a payment-for-ecosystem-services program. Livestock emit the dominant share of agricultural GHG as methane and nitrous oxide. Methane emissions from manure storages are targeted for investment in the form of cover-and -flare systems, anaerobic digesters, composting systems, and other methods that collect, capture, and destroy methane or prevent its production. The statewide Climate Resilient Farming grant program has already provided \$12 million in funding for some of these efforts through local county Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) offices, with another \$8 million available this year. Methane emitted from normal ruminant digestion, or enteric fermentation, is also addressed in the Scoping Plan. Though this GHG represents the largest share of agricultural emissions, methane production per unit of meat or milk has decreased from 1990 levels due to improved feed efficiencies. Further reductions in animal methane emissions are needed however, and may be achieved with more research, testing, and use of feed additives. Some of these ideas are already in progress.

The other portion of Ag sector emissions is nitrous oxide  $(N_2O)$ , mostly emitted from nitrogen fertilizer losses to the atmosphere. Reducing this loss is already desirable and prioritized on almost all farms especially in this year of record high fertilizer prices, but it will also be a target of added urgency as part of GHG mitigation efforts. Soils also release  $CO_2$  as organic matter is decomposed via natural processes. This release can be reduced, however, with elimination of tillage, and soil can even serve as a net sink of carbon with improved health practices, which also offers other resilience advantages to the farm.

Expansions of capacity and technology, training, and costshares appear throughout this Draft Scoping Plan, in addition to the bits described here, as they apply to each sector. The Scoping Plan is 340 pages in length and includes detailed presentations of strategies, rationales, and feedback plans for the six sectors of the economy included in the CLCPA – buildings, electricity, industry, ag and forest lands, and waste. Links are listed below to the Draft Scoping Plan, the GHG Inventory Report, the CLCPA website, and other materials.

One crucial component of the CLCPA initiative is the public comment and input period, which is currently open through June 10, 2022. Eight in-person and 2 virtual public hearings are scheduled to collect feedback on the Draft Scoping Plan. Event dates and locations are listed <u>here</u>. The most convenient for the North Country is **4 pm on Tuesday May 10**<sup>th</sup> **at The Wild Center in Tupper Lake** or the virtual sessions. Preregistration for these events is encouraged. Written comments are also invited, and they may be submitted via an online form <u>here</u>.

The Scoping Plan is expected to be finalized and published in January 2023.

The progress and protection intended by the CLCPA and its specific strategies will offer both challenges and opportunities to NY farms and communities. Some transitions and changes may be simple while others may be more lengthy and difficult. Each component of the plan offers potential for innovation and collaboration across sectors, with benefits to farms, the environment, and our communities. Cornell Cooperative Extension can provide technical support on many of the management practices and systems that will be needed, with our local SWCD offices providing much of the administration.

Cornell Cooperative Extension recently added two Climate Resilience Specialists to our statewide system – Jenna Walczak (518-791-1888; Jw2254@cornell.edu) and Zach Spangler (518-935-8062; Zhs3@cornell.edu). Both are housed in the Hudson Valley and are developing statewide programs to advance resilience in our agricultural production systems across NYS. Watch for their contributions to this important topic.

## **Pasture Walk and Grazing Program**



This program is applicable to any local dairy or beef farmers that graze their cattle. This program will include a pasture walk and a discussion on best management practices for pasture use and grazing. Socialize with other farms and learn from each other.

## Facilitators:

Kitty O'Neil, Field Crops Specialist, CCE North Country Regional Ag Team

Betsy Hicks, Dairy Specialist, CCE South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Team

Lindsay Ferlito, Dairy Specialist, CCE North Country Regional Ag Team

Casey Havekes, Dairy Specialist, CCE North Country Regional Ag Team



Food and drinks will be provided. This program is FREE thanks to the generous sponsorship of Goldstar Feed & Grain and Agri-King.

**Registration:** This program is free, but pre-registration is preferred. <u>https://ncrat.cce.cornell.edu/event\_preregistration\_new.php?id=1853</u>

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension** North Country Regional Ag Team

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June 14, 2022 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Hidden Hill Ranch 2081 Thayer Hill Rd Boonville, NY



June 14, 2022 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Zufall Farm 20 Campbell Rd Lisbon, NY



Any current state, local, and Cornell University COVID-19 guidelines will need to be followed.

<u>Contact Info:</u> Lindsay Ferlito Lc636@cornell.edu 607-592-0290

## **Burndown Herbicide Options in No-Till Soybeans**

By Mike Hunter

Glyphosate resistant and multiple resistant (Group 9 and Group 2) marestail is spreading across New York State and may already be on your farm. If you don't have it on your farm today, chances are you will at some point in the future. The presence of herbicide resistant marestail in northern NY is changing the way we manage weeds. We need to use burndown herbicide programs with more than one effective site of action to delay the development of resistant weeds and provide the best control. The use of glyphosate alone should no longer be considered a viable burndown herbicide program.

In no-till, strip-till, and very minimum till (i.e. one pass with a vertical tillage tool) situations, burndown herbicides will be encessary to control emerged weeds prior to planting.
Marestail can be either a summer annual or winter annual.
The winter annual marestail rosettes are present right now and as it warms up these will begin to bolt and grow tall
quickly. Once resistant marestail gets any taller than 6 inches it becomes very difficult to control.

Xtend, Enlist, and Liberty Link traited soybeans are the choices that allow for effective postemergence control of multiple resistant marestail. In Roundup Ready or conventional soybean fields we have no effective herbicides for the postemergent control of multiple resistant marestail.

Burndown herbicide programs for no-till soybeans will include either glyphosate, glufosinate, or paraquat tank mixed with 2,4

rates higher than that will lengthen the planting interval. If using a burndown option that includes Sharpen, apply 1 oz/ acre for no preplant restrictions (except for coarse soils with 2% or less organic matter where the preplant restriction is 30 days).

Here are choices that include more than one effective site of action for the control of resistant marestail in soybeans:

- Sharpen (1 oz) + glyphosate + metribuzin
- 2,4-D ester (1 pint) + glyphosate + metribuzin (7 days prior to planting)
- 2,4-D ester (1 pint) + Sharpen (1 oz) + glyphosate + metribuzin (7 days prior to planting)
- Sharpen (1 oz) + glufosinate (Liberty)
- Sharpen (1 oz) + glufosinate + metribuzin
- 2,4-D ester (1 pint) + Sharpen (1 oz) + glufosinate + metribuzin (7 days prior to planting)
- Paraquat (Gramoxone) + metribuzin
- 2,4-D ester (1 pint) + paraquat (Gramoxone) + metribuzin (7 days prior to planting)

Always read and follow label directions prior to using any herbicide. If you have any questions or would like more information regarding burndown herbicide programs for soybeans contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office.

-D and/or Sharpen (saflufenacil). The addition of metribuzin to the burndown program will provide additional residual control of marestail.

If dandelions are also a problem in the field, consider using one of the listed programs that include 2,4-D ester. Don't substitute 2,4-D amine formulations for the ester formulation. Apply 1 pint per acre of 2,4-D ester (4 lb gal formulations) to keep the preplant interval to 7 days,



# Dairy Cattle Handling and Safety Program for Youth

This program is applicable to any local youth that currently work with (or aspire to work with) dairy cattle. This on-farm program will focus on cattle behavior, flight zone, good handling practices, risks and hazards when handling cattle, and it will include a hands-on portion. Ages 12 and up.

## Facilitators:

 Christina Day, Agriculture Safety Educator, New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
 Lindsay Ferlito, Dairy Specialist, CCE North Country Regional Ag Team
 Casey Havekes, Dairy Specialist, CCE North Country Regional Ag Team



Bassett Healthcare Network New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health

Snacks and drinks will be provided. This program is FREE thanks to the generous sponsorship of Lowville Producers Dairy Cooperative.

**Registration:** This program is free, but pre-registration is preferred. <u>https://ncrat.cce.cornell.edu/event\_preregistration\_new.php?id=1855</u>

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August 1, 2022 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Beiler Farm 9967 High Falls Rd Croghan, NY



Any current state, local, and Cornell University COVID-19 guidelines will need to be followed.

<u>Contact Info:</u> Lindsay Ferlito Lc636@cornell.edu 607-592-0290

# Dairy

## <sup>|</sup>Management Matters... Even After Weaning!

By Casey Havekes

#### \*\*This article originally appeared in the Progressive Dairy March 2022 issue\*\*

It is easy to fall in the pattern of thinking that once calves are weaned off milk the hard part is over and that you can turn a blind eye to them until it's time for breeding. In many ways, getting calves through the first 6-10 weeks of life is the most challenging when we think about disease susceptibility, scours, and the stress of weaning. However, the weeks and even months following weaning are equally important in terms of nutrition and management. Post-weaning management becomes increasingly important when we consider the impact that management during early life can have on first, and even subsequent lactation performance, as well as the cost associated with heifer rearing. Below are three simple management and nutrition tips to help heifers transition from the weaning to pre-breeding and breeding phase successfully.

#### 1. Maintain average daily gain.

The goal for any heifer program should be to have heifers that achieve optimal growth to target an age at first calving of 22-24 months, at which point heifers should be 80% of their



mature bodyweight. After calves are weaned, their growth relies solely on their ability to consume and digest solid feed. At weaning, calves should be consuming at least 4 lbs per day of starter. Ensuring this will help minimize the post-weaning growth slump that occurs when calves aren't able to consume and process enough solid feed to make up for the loss in nutrients coming from milk. Remember, once calves are weaned, their primary energy source is the volatile fatty acids from digesting concentrate feeds like starter grain, rather than lactose and fat from milk or milk replacer, so encouraging solid feed intake throughout is critical to success. Once calves are fully weaned off milk, the goal for heifer development continues with the objective of achieving high rates of protein/muscle gain and low rates of fat gain. Overfeeding energy can lead to reduced epithelial cell proliferation and more fat deposition in the mammary gland which could result in poorer milk production later in life. On the other hand, underfeeding energy can lead to poor growth, delayed onset of puberty, and consequently delayed breeding and age at first calving. Average daily gain post-weaning to calving should be calculated based on mature body weight and desired age at first calving (AFC). On average, aiming for 1.75 lbs/day (0.8 kg/d) should allow heifers to achieve desirable age at first calving at the proper weight. Keep in mind that at puberty there is a metabolic shift where body protein deposition slows down and body fat deposition starts to pick up, so it can become increasingly easy to get heifers too fat. One tip to avoid excessive body fat gain is to ensure metabolizable protein is never lower than metabolizable energy in post-weaned heifer diets. It's also encouraged to frequently take body weight measurements and evaluate body condition scores to ensure that heifers are achieving proper body composition in relation to their weight.

#### 2. Avoid introducing silage too early.

Even in the weeks following weaning, 85% of a heifer's daily dry matter intake (DMI) should still come from concentrated feed. With high concentrate prices, it may seem more desirable to swap out concentrated feed with homegrown silages following weaning, but it is highly discouraged. Proper growth and development goes beyond just pounds of weight gain – heifers need to have properly developed and functioning rumens before we introduce fermented feeds, otherwise they will not be able to properly digest those nutrients and DMI could be limited. The recommended age

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for silage introduction is 4-6 months, but even then, fermented feeds should be introduced slowly with adequate fiber provision so that the rumen can adjust and function properly. At this point in time, heifers' rumens are not properly developed enough to digest and capture the volatile fatty acids from fermented feeds, so they should not make up a majority of the diet until the heifers are at least 6 months of age. Once fermented feeds are making up a large portion of the diet, pay attention to intakes and body condition. Heifers can easily over consume energy and become fat when a large amount of corn silage is fed. Using good quality grass silage can be a more effective base ingredient for heifers once they hit the appropriate age. Keep in mind, heifers in this age group still require a good amount of protein, so feeding poor quality haylage is not an effective strategy.

Lastly, heifers need consistency just like preweaned calves do. The introduction of novel feeds could be an opportunity to introduce undesirable feeding behaviors (like sorting and slug feeding). Ensuring diets are provided at a similar time each day, that they are mixed sufficiently, and that always heifers have access to feed will help promote healthy feeding behavior.

## **3.** Minimize stressors and provide appropriate facilities.

The weaning period is already one of the most stressful times for calves so minimizing the additional stressors they face can go a long way in their transition. There are some postweaning changes that are inevitable, like

housing and nutrition, but minimizing the degree of change can be a helpful strategy. For example, keeping familiar pen mates and the same bedding in the new location can be great approaches to minimize the stress associated with moving. Similarly, providing the same concentrate that was fed during the pre-weaning phase in the first post-weaned group will help heifers maintain intake as they adjust to their new surroundings. Post-weaned heifers may not need nearly as much care and attention as pre-weaned calves, but they still require adequate facilities. Post-weaned heifers should have at least 35-40 sq ft of bedded space (yes, bedding is required!), at least 12-18 inches of bunk space, and at least 2-3 inches of water space. It is also important to maintain adequate ventilation for these heifers. The target air

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exchanges per hour remain the same post-weaning as they did pre-weaning (40-60 air exchanges per hour in the summer, 4 air exchanges per hour in the winter). Ensuring these requirements are met will help promote healthy behaviors and maximize comfort for these heifers.

The effort that goes into raising healthy heifers should carry forward even when calves are weaned off milk. Proper nutritional management, as well as limiting stressors and providing good facilities are key steps to ensuring heifers are calving in at your target AFC.

## "Transition Cow Tuesdays" and "Healthy, Hardy, Heifers!" Webinar Recording Links

#### Transition Cow Tuesdays!

Transition Cow Nutrition – Dr. Tom Overton, Cornell University <u>https://youtu.be/hVbN7dUY7cg</u>

**Feeding the Transition Cow** – Dave Balbian, Betsy Hicks, Margaret Quaassdorff, CCE Regional Dairy Specialists <u>https://youtu.be/pg-EZiGKT-0</u>

Selective Dry Cow Therapy – Dr. Daryl Nydam, Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine <u>https://youtu.be/AyxjrThB7HY</u>

Facility Considerations – Lindsay Ferlito, CCE NCRAT Regional Dairy Specialist https://youtu.be/oWLXS57wBPg

**Calving Considerations** – Dr. Rob Lynch, Cornell PRO-DAIRY, and Margaret Quaassdorff and Dr. Kaitlyn Lutz, CCE NWNY Regional Dairy Specialists <u>https://youtu.be/6lj4WlisxGg</u>

**Post Calving Monitoring** – Dr. Rob Lynch, Cornell PRO-DAIRY, and Margaret Quaassdorff and Dr. Kaitlyn Lutz, CCE NWNY Regional Dairy Specialists <u>https://youtu.be/gM6-ethnGaQ</u>

**Evaluating Transition Management** – Judy Moody, Dairy One <u>https://youtu.be/OFRt4wCXcvw</u>

# TOL NO FOR A



#### Healthy, Hardy, Heifers!

Series Kick-Off – Dr. Murilo Carvalho, Holstein Canada https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=QKIiMGM3C5E&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJp d6ENjwd76&index=1

Transition After Weaning – Casey Havekes and Lindsay Ferlito, CCE NCRAT <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=OdFqhM6lj4o&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5lBJpd</u> <u>6ENjwd76&index=2</u>

Pre-Breeding Comfort and Nutrition – Lindsay Ferlito, CCE NCRAT, and Betsy Hicks, CCE SCNY <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> v=\_32lWN6qSgE&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5lBJpd <u>6ENjwd76&index=3</u>

Hoof Health – Dr. Dorte Doepfer, University of Wisconsin Madison <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75yl-</u> <u>ii1OE8&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJpd6ENjwd7</u> <u>6&index=4</u>

Repro Strategies – Dr. Julio Giordano, Cornell University <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=BGJh0dPkc0E&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJpd</u> <u>6ENjwd76&index=6</u>

Bred Heifers – Dr. Tom Tylutki, AMTS https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=qiftIY0B5g4&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJpd6E Njwd76&index=5

Pre-Caving Nutrition – Dr. Mike Van Amburgh, Cornell University <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> v=OG2Hrn0eeGo&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJp d6ENjwd76&index=7

Pre-Calving Comfort and Facilities – Dr. Katy Proudfoot, University of PEI <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> v=yXwLVF7LdyA&list=PLcUCF1v3nnnEqpMt5M5IBJpd <u>6ENjwd76&index=8</u>

# Farm Business

## 6 Reasons Why You Might Want to Drag Your Feet to the Carbon Credit Market

By Katelyn Walley-Stoll, CCE Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

I recently attended the National Extension Risk Management Education Conference in Omaha, NE (doesn't sound exciting, but I promise that it was). In the midst of topics related to financial analysis, succession planning, and sound farm practices were several outstanding speakers sharing researchbased information on one hot topic - Carbon Credits.

Interestingly enough, we're not seeing a huge pick-up here in New York, but I am getting a lot of questions on the topic. As with any new program or initiative, there are always those early adopters that jump right in and can either see a really big payoff or troubleshoot all of the frustrations for the rest of us. However, even more so with this topic, it does seem like there are some pretty big issues at play, and the "opportunity cost" of being an early adopter might be higher than expected.

First, some background information from Iowa State University: "A carbon credit is a tradable asset (similar to a certificate or permit) that represents the right to release or emit carbon into the atmosphere. Carbon credits are created when entities (compared to a set baseline) reduce their carbon emissions or sequester carbon." So, companies can pay people to sequester carbon on their behalf (or pay a third -party aggregator). Farmers, and their carbon sequestering agricultural practices are one of their primary targets/ partners. These transactions take place on the voluntary market.

For some, selling carbon credits can be a helpful and efficient way to boost/diversify farm income. Especially since most of the practices that are used to sequester carbon also provide added soil health and additional benefits to the farmstead. Now, here are some key considerations and questions that you should consider before jumping right in.

1. Additionality. Most companies will only pay for newly adopted carbon-sequestering practices. For farms that are already implementing practices like no-till, cover cropping, creating permanent pasture in marginal crop production fields, or reducing fertilizer applications - additionality means they won't qualify for selling carbon credits. Unfortunately, the hope of future carbon credits



prevents some farms from implementing these soilsaving, best management practices while leaving behind those who have already done the work. Some companies will offer a one-time "look back" which will pay for practices adopted within the past 2-5 years.

- 2. Complexity of Payments. Every carbon market entity handles payments for carbon credits differently. Some will offer portions of the payment up front, after the first growing season, or within their annual lease agreements. However, others might hold portions of payment for 5+ years to ensure continued compliance. Another consideration is the type of payment. While some will simply mail a check, others might offer stock, purchase credits, "tokens", or even cryptocurrency.
- 3. **Stacking.** Usually, fields that are enrolled in a carbon credit program will not be eligible for other government programs or other environmental credit markets. So, if you enter into a contract selling carbon credits, and another program comes along offering payment for adopted practices, you won't be able to use those fields in the new program for a certain length of time (set in your contract). Those new programs might offer even more incentive or fit your farming practices better.
- 4. **Permanence.** Carbon Credit contracts can last anywhere from 1 to 10 or even 20 years. Over the length of the contract, the implemented practice will likely need to stay in place or there may be penalties and fees involved. This is an important consideration as it might take a much needed tool out of your toolbox lost for decades like your 10mm socket. If you, for example, have an herbicide *Continued on Page 12...*

resistant weed pop up in a no-till field, how will you manage the growing weed pressure without tillage? It's not impossible, but it does bring up some interesting management decisions. What if your farm changes production or diversifies into new crops? What about your succession plan and future farm ownership?

- 5. Data Management. When selling credits, a lot of sensitive farm data will be collected. This will include things like contact information, historical cropping practices, yields, and values. It's important to clarify how your data will be protected and how it will be handled. In some situations, companies may want to share, use, or sell your data to other entities.
- 6. Determining Payments. In addition to how you'll get paid, there are some complexities with how much you'll be paid. What type of process will be used to submit soil samples or prove that carbon has been sequestered and to measure that carbon? Some companies will have a price floor, some will pay market value, some will spread payments out over a period of time. Will you be paid a set

per-acre rate, or will that vary by the amount of carbon you sequestered?

I think that it's safe to say that we all see the challenges of climate change in our work every day. Sequestering carbon, and implementing best management practices in field crops production systems will benefit soil health, farm production, and the environment as a whole. Yet, as with most things nowadays, it's important to utilize technical advisors and sound legal counsel when considering entering the Carbon Credit Market. The starting contracts that are out there are drafted by the purchasing companies and will always put their interests first - having someone on "your side" to ask questions, challenge clauses, and clarify details will be key before locking into a multi-year contract agreement.

This information is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for sound legal counsel. Cornell Cooperative Extension is dedicated to providing research-based information to our agricultural producers. Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete, and up-to-date recommendations. Changes occur constantly and human errors are possible.





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## Job Opportunity with the Quality Milk Production Services

## We are hiring: Extension Aide –AHDC QMPS (Located in Canton)

The Extension Aide supports the services provided by Quality Milk Production Services (QMPS) by serving to facilitate the needs of both dairy farms and the mastitis-testing laboratory through daily interactions. Highly collaborative, this individual performs a variety of essential specimen collection, courier, and processing responsibilities that have a direct impact on herd health. Extremely reliable and flexible in dealing with unpredictable workloads, they enjoy identifying and troubleshooting problems to complete routine and detailed tasks. To apply please click link: <a href="https://cornell.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/CornellCareerPage/job/lthaca-Main-Campus/Program-Fateriae.com">https://cornell.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/CornellCareerPage/job/lthaca-Main-Campus/Program-Fateriae.com</a>

Extension-Aide-II WDR-00030773-2



## SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING ROBOT BARN TOUR

CCE Dairy Specialists are excited to offer an in-person robot barn tour this summer. If you're a dairy producer interested in robotic milking facilities, this program is for you! The Jefferson County location has two barns to visit (one smaller, retrofit facility with DeLaval robots, and the other is a larger, new build with Lely robots). Lunch will be provided! Stay tuned for registration & location details and for more details on the SWNY region program!

July 11, 2022 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm | Jefferson Co July 12 | SWNY (details TBD)



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

# What's Happening in the Ag Community

Due to COVID-19, there may be some restrictions for in-person work and programming. Check out our CCE NCRAT Website, Blog, and YouTube channel for up to date information and content.

Grazing & Pasture Discussion, see page 5 for more information

Dairy Cattle Handling and Safety Program for Youth, see page 7 for more information.

Beef Quality Assurance Training, see page 8 for more information.

Robot Tour Program, see page 13 for more information

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