Cornell Cooperative Extension Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

AG FOCUS

This Issue

3rd Annual CCE NWNY Dairy Day

Margaret Quaassdorff

CCE NWNY Dairy Day is held each year to gather farmers, farm managers, local extension educators and allied industry members who are interested in hot-button issues, implementable ideas and practical research that contributes to the resilience of the dairy farm business in the NWNY region. This year's 3rd Annual one-day conference, held on February 6, 2025, at The Chalet at East Hill Creamery in Perry, NY attracted 9 NWNY dairy and beef farmers along with 28 agri-service industry members from 7 NWNY counties, and 7 other counties from 3 states. The attendance grew 28% over last year, despite challenging winter weather the day of the event.

Dr. Julio Giordano of Cornell University presented current and future options for automated herd monitoring and management through technology being designed and tested that the Cornell Agricultural Systems Testbed and Demonstration Site (CAST) for the Farm of the Future. Some of these technologies include those wearable for cows (mainly collars and ear tags), and well as indwelling sensors (rumen boluses with monitoring technology). He also talked about the use of specialized cameras and software to and their development to be used to identify and monitor the behavior of individual cows. Other cameras can be used to monitor feed bunk fill level and alert the manager through an app notification as to when the feedbunk it becoming more empty and needs to be refilled. Dr. Giordano also spoke on the development of a technology that would allow farmers to sync their cows for breeding with more precise implementation of protocol.

Dr. Kaitlyn Briggs, Dairy Welfare Lead at fairlife, commented on the company's goals, influence and partnership with some milk cooperatives and dairy farmers in New York State, and how it could provide opportunities for and impact dairies with the new construction of their processing facility in Webster, NY.

Cont. on page 3

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3rd Annual CCE NWNY Dairy Day Cont.

Kaitlyn and I shared an update on CCE NWNY Team offerings including new opportunities in Work Force Development, Transition Calf workshops, and projects happening for and with farms around the region in the next few months. Please see our calendar of events in this issue of AgFocus and check our website for more details and for future programs.

Attendees networked and swapped experiences over the lunch hour. Lunch was catered locally and featured freshly bottled milk from a nearby value-added on-farm dairy processor. The program closed with a panel discussion featuring Ryan Janney of Bonna Terra Farm, where insights were shared regarding successful transition to milking in a rotary parlor system. Dr. Rick Watters of AgroChem also shared management strategies to maintain and improve cow flow and milk quality in these systems. Farmers participated in discussions and networking with industry experts throughout the day, and were able to view art created by farm workers in the region exhibited by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts through their Creative Artists Migrant Program Services initiative. From the presentations, participants benefited from strategies to guide their farm businesses through new technology options and management ideas. The program was interactive and multiple participants reported wanting to learn more about rotary milking design and implementation for their farms. Other participants mentioned they would be looking to see how the presence of fairlife is going to affect the milk market in our region, and farm management and growth strategies in the future.

Check Out The NWNY Team Blog!

Features Crop Alerts, Dairy Alerts, Bilingual (Spanish) Resources, Upcoming Events: and more from our team members.

https://blogs.cornell.edu/nwny-dairy-livestock-field-crops/

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https://www.youtube.com/@CCENWNY

To sign up, employees can text their name and farm name to (585) 689-3114 on WhatsApp.

Wheat Pete's Word: What You Missed at Soybean & Small Grains Congress

Mike Stanyard

Around 2010, I started hearing about Peter Johnson, aka "Wheat Pete" and his on-farm wheat research network up in Ontario Canada. Peter was the Ontario Provincial Small Grains Specialist for almost 25 years at the time. Wheat Pete was known to be a great wealth of information from hands-on research experience, and an enthusiastic, and entertaining presenter. So, in 2013 I had Peter as a guest speaker at the Soybean & Small Grains Congresses. He did not disappoint.

Well, it had been 12 years since I had Peter talk to us about growing wheat. I thought it would be a good time to see what new golden nuggets he might have for us and what new changes in production management he might suggest.

Peter started out discussing how environmental factors are contributing to higher yielding wheat. Almost 50% of total yield gain is due to climate changes such as solar brightening, increases in carbon dioxide and water use. The most critical period in wheat where yield is being determined is from stem elongation (Feekes 6) to just after flowering. We need bright cool days between 59-77 degrees. Cloudy days hurt yields. You can gain 4/bu/ac/day for every day of grain fill. Every day over 77 degrees you lose 1 bu/ac/day.

He stressed keeping the wheat plants green as long as possible. He showed some definite grain yield advantages with the use of fungicides. This was particularly important during grain fill, and he showed that wheat gained 3 bu/ac for every day the plants stayed green. There was some discussion about spraying before and after heading. Peter said if you have disease, you must spray or take a severe yield penalty during this critical period.

Peter discussed that the main factors that contribute to high yielding wheat is seeding earlier with lower seeding rates. Better yields are determined by the number of fall tillers which means more heads per square meter as the goal. However, plant to plant competition matters. Wheat plants need to be at least one-half inch away from each other to negate this competition. Earlier planting with lower populations allows us to achieve this higher tiller goal. Many growers are finding success planting at the Hessian fly free date with under 1 million seeds per acre.

The importance of fall weed control was a big deal and I have been pushing this since marestail started becoming a real problem years ago. Peter found that winter annuals and perennials did not reduce yield potential in the fall but once spring came and those weeds went reproductive, there was a 22% yield reduction. Those fall weeds need to be controlled in the fall because who knows how long spraying can be delayed during a soggy spring. Peter found that if you have good wheat crop, annual weeds don't matter in the spring and the wheat will outcompete the weeds with 0% impact on yield.

Peter also talked about how to keep your wheat crop from lodging. He said you lose 1/bu/day for every day that the crop is lodged prior to harvest. So, you want to keep it standing as long as possible. Some environmental factors which contribute to lodging risk include more moisture, cloudy days (reduce photosynthesis), warm nights (over 70 degrees doubles respiration), lower areas in the field (wetter) and soil type (lighter soils). He started off by saying "growth regulators are not the easy button". They are a good tool but can be stressful on certain varieties and if it gets cold at night.

Here are the top 7 things that Peter talked about that you need to focus on to prevent lodging.

1. Pick a variety that has a low lodging potential.
2. Earlier planting dates result in taller plants.
3. Do not apply too much nitrogen. Find your sweet spot.
4. Utilize a growth regulator application.
5. Split nitrogen applications can help manage lodging
6. The higher the seeding rate, the higher the lodging risk.
7. Manage diseases which rob photosynthesis with fungicides.

Peter has been the agronomist for RealAgriculture.com for the past ten years. Yes, he knows a lot more than just wheat. You can check him out every Wednesday on his podcast Wheat Pete's Word, https://www.realagriculture.com/wheat-petes-word/. He can also be seen on many of their Crop Schools that they have throughout the season. Wheat school is one to look up. If you haven't watched Wheat Pete before, I suggest you check him out. You won't be disappointed.

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2015 MACK TITAN TD713 w/36" SLEEPER; 605 HP Mack MP10; 18-Spd. Manual Transmission; 18K Front Axle; 46K Locking Rears; Air Ride Susp.; 246" WB; Dual Exhaust & Air Cleaners; 3.91 Ratio; Wetline; 274,608 Miles; Stk. # 6957 - **$107,900**

2015 PETERBILT 365 CAB & CHASSIS; 455 HP Paccar MX13; Allison Auto. Trans.; Double Frame; 20K F/A; 46K Rears; Hendrickson Haulmaax Susp.; 278" WB; 208" CTR; 30' Frame; Pintle Hook; Plumbed For Pup Trailer; 295,209 Miles; Stk. # 6952 - **$68,500**

2013 PETERBILT 365 CAB & CHASSIS; Double Frame; 425 HP Cummins ISX12; 8LL Manual Trans.; 18,740# F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Air Trac Susp.; Steerable 20K Lift Axle; 322" WB; 24'8" Frame Behind Cab; 236" CT; PTO w/Controls; Frame Sandblasted and Painted; 205,052 Miles; Stk. # 6942 - **$72,900**

2014 KENWORTH T880 DAYCAB; 500 HP Paccar MX13; 18-Spd. Manual; 14.6K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Kenworth 8-Bag Air Ride Susp.; 12R22.4 Front Tires; 11R22.5 Rear Tires; 202" WB; 3.91 Ratio; 507,195 Miles; Stk. # 6965 - **$55,900**

2009 INTERNATIONAL PAYSTAR 5600i; Cummins 430 HP; Engine Brake; Alison Automatic Trans.; 20K F/A; 65K Rears; Hendrickson Spring; 244" WB; PTO; Double Frame; Supreme 1400T Tailgate Chute; (2) Mixing Augers; Wide Rear Conveyor; 35,054 Miles; Stk. # 6901 - **$108,700**

2019 WESTERN STAR 4900 DAY CAB; 560/600 HP Clean Detroit DD16 Engine; Allison 4500 RDS Auto. Trans.; 13,220# F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; AirLiner Susp.; 204" WB; Headache Rack; Dual Exhaust & Air Cleaners; 4.56 Ratio; 484,488 Miles; Stk. # 6971 - **$89,900**

2000 PETERBILT 357 w/KUHN KNIGHT VT180 VERTICAL FEED MIXER; Truck Scale System; Cummins ISM (Recent In-Frame Overhaul); Allison Auto. (Reman Weller Trans.); 20K F/A; 46K Rears; 397,000 Miles; 6,889 Hours; Stk. # 6829 - **$78,900**

2006 KENWORTH T800 CHASSIS; Heavy Single Frame; 390 HP CAT C13; 13-Spd. Manual; 16K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Air Ride Susp.; 22'6" Frame Behind Cab; 168" CT; 85,554 Miles; Stk. # 6785 - **$49,900**

2007 WESTERN STAR 6900 CAB & CHASSIS; XD TRI-DRIVE; Double Frame; 490 HP Reman Detroit 14L Engine In 2015; Allison RDS4500 Trans.; 20K F/A; 69K Full Locking Rears; 272" WB; 330" Bridge; 25'6" Frame Behind Cab; Front Engine PTO; 7.17 Ratio; Stk. # 6481 - **$59,450**

(3) 2017 PETERBILT 567 DAYCAB; 500+ HP Clean Paccar MX13 Engine; Allison 4500 RDS Auto. Trans.; 12K F/A; 46K Locking Rears; Air Trac Suspension; 206" WB; 4.30 Ratio; Wetline; 462K/521K/567K Miles; Stk. # 6997/6998/6999 - **$58,900 Ea.**

2014 FREIGHTLINER CORONADO SD122 CAB CHASSIS Clean, Double Frame; 450 HP Cummins ISX15; Allison 4500 RDS Auto. Trans.; 18K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears On AirLiner Susp.; (2) 11K Steerable Lift Axles; 292" WB; 198" CT; 24'8" Frame Behind Cab; 4.10 Ratio; 374,584 Miles; Stk. # 6976 - **$68,900**

2015 WESTERN STAR 4900SB TRI-DRIVE DUMP TRUCK; Double Frame; 560 HP Detroit DD16; 18-Spd. Manual; 20' Tub Style Steel body; 20K F/A; 57K Full Locking Rears; Plumbed For Pup Trailer; AirLiner Susp. 355,813 Miles; Stk. # 6780 - **$87,000**

2013 PETERBILT 367 DAYCAB; Very Clean; 390 HP Cummins ISX; Allison Auto. Trans.; 212" WB; 20K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Wetline; Air Trac Susp.; 18,400 lb. Chassis Weight; 15' Frame Behind Cab; 130" CT; 213,229 Miles; Stk. # 6768 - **$74,900**

1999 INTERNATIONAL PAYSTAR 5000 DOUBLE FRAME DAYCAB; Cummins N14 370+ HP; Allison Auto. Trans.; 184" WB; NEWAY Air Ride Susp.; Wetline; Rubber 95%; 90,427 Miles; Stk. # 6745 - **$34,900**

2005 PETERBILT 357 CAB & CHASSIS; Cummins ISM 385 HP; Jake Brake; Allison Auto. Trans.; 20K F/A; 46K Rears; 252" WB; 21' Frame Behind Cab; 168" CT; Chalmers Susp.; Rear Engine PTO (REPTO); Frame Has Been Sandblasted and Painted; 68,882 Miles and 14,682 Hours; Stk. # 6924 - **$56,900**

(2) 2007 MACK CHN613 DAY CAB TRACTOR; Low Mileage; 380/410 HP Mack AC; 13-Spd. Manual; 14K F/A; 44K Rears On Camelback Susp.; 210" WB; Wetline, 63K/45K/53K Miles; Stk. #6873/6872/6895 - **$42,900**

2012 MACK LEU613 PACKER; Double Frame; Labrie Side Load Packer; 20K F/A; 46K Rears; Haulmaax Susp.; Allison Auto. Trans.; LH/RH Side Drives; 212" WB; 180" CT; 20'6" Frame Behind Cab if the Packer is Removed. ***HP Can Be Increased to 395-425 with Software Flash.*** 59,375 Miles/13,276 Hours - **$54,000**

2009 MACK GRANITE GU813 CAB & CHASSIS; Double Frame; Mack 395 HP; Allison Auto.; 20K F/A; 46K R/A; Air Ride Susp.; 280" WB; 20'6" Frame Behind Muffler; 174" Frame Behind Muffler To Center of Trunnion; 169,543 Miles; Stk. # 6550 - **$58,900**

2004 STERLING L9500 DUMP TRUCK; Double Frame; Mercedes OM 460LA 18-Spd. Manual; 24' Alfab Alum. Body w/60" Sides and 6" Sideboards; Tarp; 20K F/A; 46K Locking Rears; Hendrickson HN Susp.; (4) 11K Steerable Lift Axles; 425/65R22.5 Front, 11R24.5 Drive Tires; 310" WB; 246" CVT; 24'6" Frame Behind Cab; 583,000 Miles; Stk. # 6931 - **$62,900**

2007 STERLING LT9500 CAB & CHASSIS; Clean; Double Frame; 385 HP CAT C13; Allison Auto.; 20K F/A; 46K R/A; Hendrickson Spring Susp.; 248" WB; 184" CT; 21' Frame Behind Cab (Muffler Takes Up 14'); 276,988 Miles; Stk. # 6914 - **$49,500**

2005 PETERBILT 357 CAB & CHASSIS; Cummins ISM 350 HP; Jake Brake; Allison Auto. Trans.; 20K F/A; 46K Rears; 252" WB; 21' Frame Behind the Cab; 168" CT; Chalmers Susp.; Rear Engine PTO (REPTO); Frame Has Been Sandblasted and Painted; 163,857 Miles and 17,869 Hours; Stk. # 6925 - **$56,900**

2000 OSHKOSH; Detroit Diesel V8 500 HP Turbo Diesel Engine; Engine Brake; Automatic Trans.; 86,000 lb. GVWR; Two 55,000 lb. Winches; Aux. Winch; 8x8; Rear Wheel Steer; Exhaust Brake; Air Ride Susp.; PTO; Fifth Wheel Ramp Plates; Central Tire Inflation System; Stk. # 6696 - **$59,900**

2010 MACK TITAN TD713 RAWHIDE DAYCAB; 605 HP Mack MP10; Maxitorque ES 18-Spd. Transmission; Headache Rack; 18K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Neway Air Ride Susp.; 220" WB; Wetline; 437,396 Miles; Stk. # 7028 - **$64,000**

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Cornell Cooperative Extension | Livestock Program Work Team

Presents

Parasite Issues and Management

For Small Ruminants

FREE!

March 5, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

zoom

Featuring guest speaker Jessica Waltemyer
ProLivestock Small Ruminant Extension Specialist

PRO LIVESTOCK

- Common parasite signs and lifecycles
- Five point check
- Treatments and management
- Resources

To Register:
https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/7f-Ty0jVRCiBPyCEDRXzqQ

Presentation to be recorded for future viewing

Questions? Contact Rachel Moody at ram72@cornell.edu, (518) 272-4210

Livestock Program Work Team

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Poultry Health and HPAI Update Webinar

Tuesday, March 18, 2025
6:30-8:00 PM

HPAI Update for Poultry Flocks -
Dr. Chad Wall, NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets

Common Poultry Diseases –
Dr. Jarra Jagne, Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine

Q & A

Register Here for Free
https://tinyurl.com/HPAI2025

For registration information contact Nancy Glazier at nig3@cornell.edu or (585) 315-7746

Raising Laying Hens for Eggs: Is It All It's Cracked Up to Be?

Tuesday, March 11, 2025
6:30-7:30 PM via Zoom

Join us to learn about:

- Local Regulations for Chicken Ownership
- Expectations for Your FLock
- Raising Layers from Peep to Egg
- Costs of Owning Your Own Flock
- Best Practices and Regulations for Selling Eggs
- Q & A

Register Here for Free
https://tinyurl.com/GettingStartedLayingHens

For registration information contact Amy Barkley at amb544@cornell.edu or (716) 640-0844

A Year with H5N1 in Dairy Cattle

Kaitlyn Lutz

As we close in on a year since the initial case of H5N1 was found in dairy cattle in the United States, let's look at where we stand. As of February 13th, 2025, there have been 968 confirmed cases of H5N1 in dairy cattle over 16 states. These 16 states include: CA, CO, IA, ID, KS, MI, MN, NC, NM, NV, OH, OK, SD, TX, UT and WY, with all cases being isolated to CA and NV so far in 2025.

We have learned a lot about this virus since it was first detected in Texas, but there is still so much yet unknown. In a recent webinar by National Milk Producers Federation, Dr. Jason Lombard, Associate Professor and Dairy Systems Specialist with Colorado State University, presented new data from on-farm investigations on dairy herds affected by H5N1. Below are some summaries of what they learned about the behavior of this virus. The importance of this information for producers in NY is to understand one, what signs to watch for in your herd, and two, the reality of how this disease will affect infected herds and our industry. As this outbreak evolves it is more apparent that we do not want this virus in NY state and that it has more severe economic and welfare impacts than originally thought.

First, let's talk about the clinical signs of disease, which have remained relatively constant since early in the outbreak. Here is the timeline of appearance of clinical signs in one of the study herds: 10/28- nasal discharge, 11/1- mastitis, 11/4: loose manure.

Serum samples were then collected on 11/29 and 11/30 to look for animals with detectable virus. Of 450 samples, only two were found to be positive. This shows a quick resolution of disease; however, it is within the early part of the disease process that things prove more difficult.

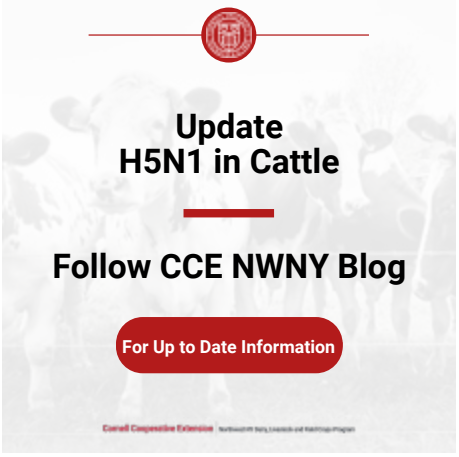
Dr. Lombard's team found that it was difficult to determine which cows were shedding virus as not all were symptomatic. On this case farm, they started doing pen-level sampling as soon as the bulk tank sample was positive. By one week after the positive bulk tank sample, half of the pens were positive for disease, despite this farm isolating affected cows in a hospital pen. Many of these cows were non-clinical and shedding virus. Something that they found different from previous cases reported was the onset of clinical signs of disease. Previous reports found that clinical disease usually occurred about 14 days after the bulk tank became positive; however, on this farm clinical signs were detected 4-7 days after.

One question becomes, are non-clinical cows as risky to their herd mates? Lombard's studies found that viral shedding was very variable across clinical and non-clinical cows and some farms shed virus for much longer than others. So that means we cannot rule out "Trojan horses" infecting herd mates. However, more clinical cows shed virus than their non-clinical herd mates (33% vs. 19% and 95% vs. 30% on Lombard's study farms). Also, almost 100% of cows whether clinical or not do seroconvert, meaning they have been exposed to the virus and developed an antibody response.

Following up after the outbreak, of the 22% clinically affected cows in one herd (800 of 3600), 40% had been sold and 8.5% died by 7 months post outbreak. In preweaned heifers raised off site, their seroconversion was much lower than heifers raised on-site (7% vs. 87%) indicating a potential protective affect of being away from the main herd.

Lastly, in the current California outbreak, they are suspicious of aerosol transmission being as nearby neighboring dairy farms became infected with H5N1 after strong wind events with no other known exposure.

As with any new disease, we must remain vigilant with biosecurity and continue to evolve with evolving knowledge. Please stay tuned for continued H5N1 updates and feel free to reach out with any questions.



https://blogs.cornell.edu/nwny-dairy-livestock-field-crops/

Cornell Cooperative Extension Wayne County

Wayne County Cornell Cooperative Extension & NYS DEC are proud to offer a Pre-Exam Training and Test to Become a Certified Pesticide Applicator

Agriculture Specialist Mike Stanyard from the NWNY Team, Janet van Zoeren of the Lake Ontario Fruit Team, and Josh Bowman Ag Economic Development Educator with CCE Wayne will review core concepts and commodity-specific items in preparation for the Pesticide Applicator exam. *This is not a 30-hour course, NO DEC RECERTIFICATION CREDITS*

Training Classes

When: March 13 & 17, 2025

Time: 1:00pm - 5:00pm
arrive by 12:45pm on the 13th to check in

Where:
Wayne County Cornell Cooperative Ext.
1581 NY-88, Newark, NY 14513

Cost: $50 for both days

Questions: Contact,
Josh Bowman 315-331-8415 ext 125
or by email cjb394@cornell.edu

The Certification Exam

The exam will be conducted on March 20th by the DEC for Qualified Applicants. Registration opens at 1 PM, with the exam beginning at 1:30 PM. The fee for the exam is $100, and please bring a check made out to NYSDEC on the day of the test. You are welcome to bring your lunch; however, please ensure that no food or fingerprints come into contact with the test forms.

Remember, you must register with the DEC to participate in the exam.

To register for the exam

or if you have questions regarding the Certification Process, please contact:
Justin Schoff at the Bath DEC office @607-776-2165

All participants must have experience working on their own farm, or through employment on another farm. Participants must register directly with DEC to take the Exam and if you have any questions on exam eligibility they must be answered by DEC representatives.

Cover Cropping Alternatives, Genesee River Watershed, NY: Highlights from a Demonstration Farm Network Study

John Hanchar & Aaron Ristow (AFT)

The work described here would not have been possible without the time, effort, and locations provided by three watershed farm business owners: Donn Branton, Branton Farms, LLC, Genesee County, NY; JD Pankow, Pankow Farm, Wyoming County, NY; Tom Jeffres, RL Jeffres & Sons, Inc., Wyoming County, NY.

For detailed reporting on this topic, please see <https://farmland.org/project/genesee-river-demonstration-farms-network/> scroll down to "Planting Green Case Studies">

Summary

• Research based information helps farmers successfully plan, and implement changes to best achieve economic, environmental, and other community related objectives.
• A question frequently asked regarding soil health practice adoption is "Can my farm business successfully implement soil health practices, while maintaining or improving economic performance?
• A Genesee River Demonstration Farms Network (GRDFN) project designed to answer the question above, and others, concluded that farm business owners can successfully implement alternative cover cropping practices, while maintaining and, or improving economic performance.

Background

While working on this project, Tom Jeffres, RL Jeffres & Sons, Inc., one of several cooperating farm business owners, commented, "If there's something better out there, we want to know about it." Tom used "better" to describe their pursuit of better economic, environmental, and other community related results. Environmental results include those related to soil, water, and air quality, and climate sustainability.

Cover cropping is a soil health system practice. When compared with cover crop termination prior to cash crop planting, planting green, a post planting cover cropping option, postpones cover crop termination to allow for planting grain crops into a growing cover. Delaying termination can help address potential challenges associated with successfully implementing cover crops, for example, mitigating difficulties of wet spring soils and late emergent weeds.

Expected Economic Effects Associated with Two Cover Cropping Options versus No Cover Crop Planted

When considering adoption of soil health practices, farm business owners seek information regarding expected economic effects of changes to the farm business. This work sought to answer the question from the Summary section at the beginning of this article.

Selected aspects of this work follow.
• Project team members led by American Farmland Trust, cooperating farm business owners (3), analysts from the Cornell College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, and others designed, and conducted on farm trials in 2021 and 2022 to compare four cover cropping treatments to a control.
• For each farm location, cover cropping practices were absent on control plots, while treatments included the following: 1) a farmer selected seeding rate, pre-plant termination; 2) the farmer selected seeding rate, post planting termination (planting green); 3) double the farmer selected seeding rate, pre-plant termination; 4) 2X the farmer selected seeding rate, planting green.

For individual farm results, please see the web page provided at the top of this article. For this article, analysts combined results by farm by treatment by year, treating the information as one large data set. Calculated difference in profit, treatment versus control, ranged from a low of negative $110.55 per acre for a 2021, 2X seeding rate, planting green treatment to $102.55 per acre for a 2022, 2X seeding rate, pre-plant termination treatment, and averaged about $0 per acre. Results suggest that on average, implemented cover crop practices were associated with a 0 difference in profit. Considering variability of the results, calculated differences in profit were quite near 0, suggesting that cover cropping practices can be implemented, while maintaining economic performance.

To learn more about cover cropping, and other soil health practices see <https://farmland.org/project/genesee-river-demonstration-farms-network/ >

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Seneca County 2025 Pesticide Training and Recertification Series

Thursdays March 6, 13, 20, 2025, 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Exam Thursday, March 27, 2025
Noon – 4:00 pm
Romulus Fire Hall
2010 Cayuga Street, Romulus, NY 14541

PROGRAM SERIES

Class 1 – Pesticide Laws & the Environment
Presenter: Russell Welser, CCE Ontario
Highlights:
Toxicity of pesticides, pesticide residue & tolerance
Environmental considerations
Pesticides and ground water
Pesticides and wildlife
Types & formulations of pesticides

Class 2 – Pesticide Safety
Presenter: Russell Welser, CCE Ontario
Highlights:
Personal & environmental safety; Selection & use of personal protective equipment; Symptoms of pesticide poisoning; Pesticide storage & disposal; Understanding the pesticide label.

Class 3 - Pesticide Mixing, Equipment, and Calibrations
Presenter: Russell Welser, CCE Ontario
Highlights: Procedure for mixing and filling; Calculations for mixing pesticides; Equipment calibration. Types of pumps, nozzles, sprayers

Pesticide Certification Exam Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025

AUDIENCE/REGISTRATION

Cost $190.00: includes training manuals and attendance at all four classes. Check made payable to CCE Ontario. No confirmation will be sent. Sign up on registration form on next page | Pesticide Certification Training.

$100.00 DEC exam fee, due the day of the exam. Check for the exam, made payable to NYSDEC.

Certified applicators, private or commercial, seeking recertification credits will receive 2.5 core credits per class. Sign up on registration form | Recertification Credits. **Cost: $40.00/person/class**

This is NOT a 30-hour credit course that is required for those who do not meet DEC eligibility requirements for commercial certification.

Private Certification: This is for the person who will be applying restricted pesticides to their own or employer's property or rented property.

Commercial Certification: This is for the person who will be applying pesticides for hire.

If you have any questions contact: Cornell Cooperative Extension Seneca County (315) 539-9251 or the instructor.

Ask Extension: What Are Options for Livestock Water on My Farm?

Nancy Glazier

Over the winter I had questions and comments about farms' water supplies for grazing. Here is a brief overview of some options. If you think of others, let me know!

The NWNY region is rich with water; the obstacle is getting it to where you need it. New York is home to 0.3% of the world's population with 2.0% of the world's surface water with roughly 8,000 freshwater lakes, ponds, and reservoirs! Climate trends are pointing to longer growing seasons, so crops will need additional water. There will also be an increasing number of heavy rainfall events, and wetter spring seasons. The water will be there, but management may need to be adjusted to meet the farm's needs.

Water drives feed intake. If livestock are without water, they won't consume as much as they normally would. You will need to estimate the amount of water needed by your animals. When temperatures are cool, pastures are lush, water consumption will be lower. As the temperatures climb and plants dry out consumption increases. Don't let water be your limiting factor to production! Consumption can be as high as 50 gallons a day for lactating dairy cows down to 2 gallons for sheep.

Quality is critical; some water in our area is very hard and can disrupt intake and metabolism. And, regardless of source, the water still needs to get to the animals. Ideally, an alternative source can be connected to your existing water lines.

First, review the obvious. Fix leaks, reduce spills, make sure water troughs are level. Keep livestock cool with shade or bring them back to the barn during the midday heat. Have plenty of water available at the barn so they get their fill before heading back out to pasture.

A quick fix would be a water wagon. If your current source is low, water can be hauled from a municipal well or other source. It can be hauled to a remote pasture that is used only occasionally. Hauling is time-consuming.

A couple of farms I've talked with are planning to install ponds as a water source. They can be collection basins for springs or rainfall. Placement and sizing is important, as well as soils and subsoils. Depending on the topography of your farm, proper placement would allow gravity flow to stock tanks. A small solar-powered or gas-powered pump can get the water to where it needs to go. Water could be pumped to a storage tank then gravity-fed. Research has shown livestock will generally drink more water if pumped to a tank as opposed to directly drinking from the same pond.

Is there a spring on the farm that could be developed? This is another option. A spring can form when a fracture occurs in an impervious rock layer. Water will seep out of the aquifer, through the crack and reach the ground until the aquifer level drops below the ground outlet. Springs can be collected into a pond or catch area then pumped to where water is needed.

If you are fortunate enough to have a stream on the farm, maybe that can be developed as a source. Some waterways can have seasonal flow so use may be limited. Remember to limit livestock access or pump from the stream to prevent erosion and contamination problems.

Maybe it is time to drill a new well. Again, placement is critical; it may be worthwhile drilling in a remote location or at the farmstead. A power source is needed to pump the water. One option would be a solar panel with a battery for storage.

Your county Soil & Water Conservation District or Natural Resources Conservation Service can help with options and layout. A great resource for information and options is the booklet, Water Systems for Grazing Livestock by Ben Bartlett, DVM, retired Michigan State extension educator. I have a bunch available if you would like a copy. An abbreviated version can be found here, https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/resources/pdfs/watering_systems_for_grazing_(e3097).pdf.

An elevated water tank is an option to gravity feed water to lower pastures.

Science-Based Strategies for Equine Pasture Management in the Northeast Series

Register:
https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2561

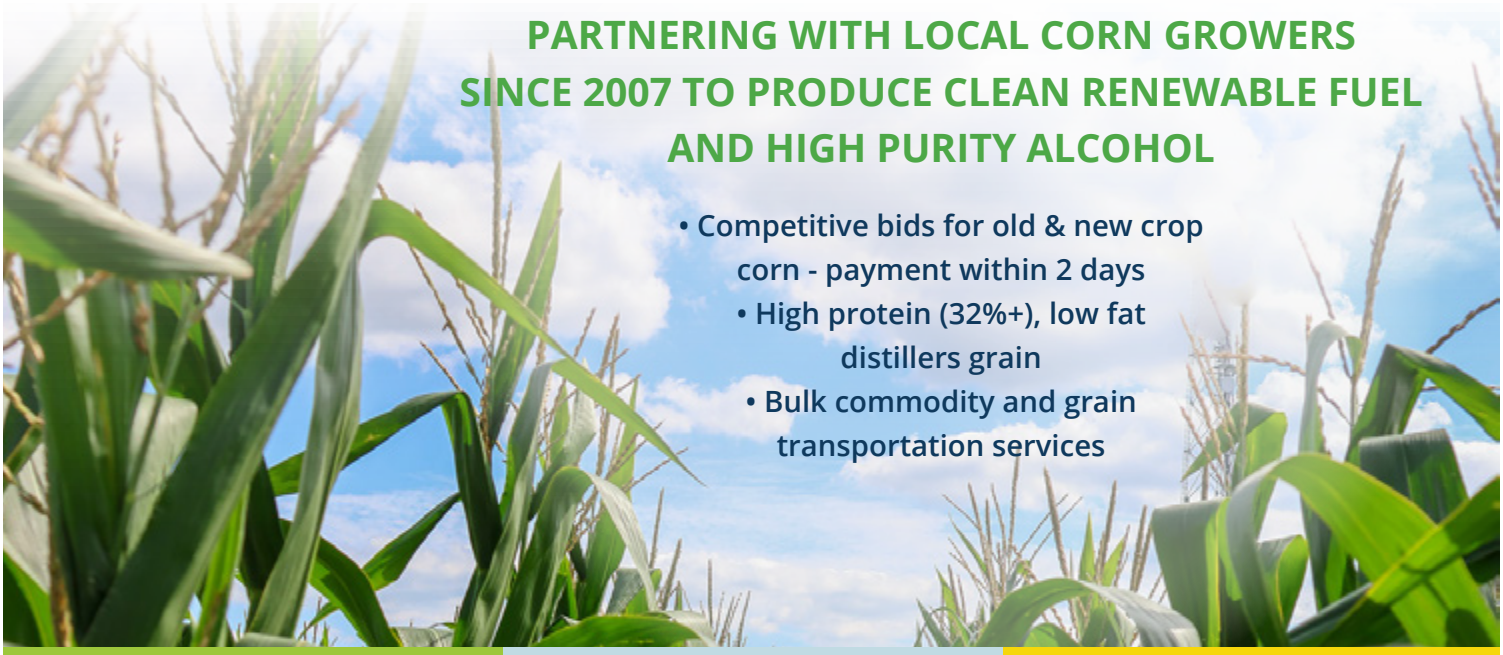
SCHEDULE

6 pm - 7:30pm | ZOOM*

$150 FOR SERIES

3/5	**Session One: Introduction & The Role of Pastures in Equine Health & Nutrition**
3/19	**Session Two: Soil Health & Fertility Management & Forage Selection & Establishment**
4/2	**Session Three: Grazing Management Strategies & Weed & Pest Management**
4/16	**Session Four: Manure & Nutrient Cycling & Seasonal & Long-Term Pasture Maintenance**
4/30	**Session Five: Real-World Applications *on-farm site TBD* & Expert Insights & Conclusion & Actionable Steps**

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program



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Soil Health & Nutrient Management Workshop:

Featuring the Manure Roadshow

ONTARIO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Friday, March 28, 2025

8:30am-3:00pm

5 Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Credits Pending

Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District

Cornell CALS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

PRODAIRY Education & Applied Research

Location: Ontario Produce Auction, 4860 Yautzy Road, Stanley, NY

Cost: $15 if registered by 3/25/25, $20 for walk-ins (cash or check only)

To register, please call Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District at (315)536-5188. Make checks payable to Yates County SWCD and mail to: 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY, 14527.

LET'S TALK TICKS

What Every Livestock Producer Needs to Know

Joellen Lampman, Community IPM Extension Support Specialist
from the NYS Integrated Pest Management Program

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

6:30-7:30 PM

CCE WYOMING
36 CENTER ST,
WARSAW, NY

Register by March 10!
https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2519

Ticks have been on the rise in New York and a new tick in town is raising the stakes even further.

Joellen Lampman, Community IPM Extension Support Specialist from the NYS Integrated Pest Management Program will lead a webinar to discuss what we know about the impacts of ticks and tick-borne diseases on livestock in New York, steps being taken to learn more, and what we might do to mitigate risks for our stock and ourselves.

Preregistration is required to receive a 'Don't Get Ticked New York' kit for their farm. Kits contain tick removal equipment and identification cards.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

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Wyoming County

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Managing Fertilizer Costs and Optimizing Yields: Strategies for NWNY Farmers in 2025

Jodi Letham

Fertilizer remains a critical input for crop production, directly impacting yield potential and farm profitability. In 2025, global fertilizer costs continue to fluctuate due to geopolitical factors, energy prices, and supply chain dynamics. Additionally, recent trade policies under President Trump's administration, including tariffs on imports from Canada and Mexico, have further strained the fertilizer market. Understanding these trends and implementing efficient management strategies can help producers make informed decisions about nutrient use and cost-saving measures.

Fertilizer Cost Trends

The cost of fertilizers in 2025 is influenced by multiple factors, including raw material availability, global trade policies, and energy prices. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 2024), nitrogen-based fertilizers such as urea and anhydrous ammonia have seen a moderate price increase due to natural gas price volatility. Phosphorus and potassium fertilizers have remained relatively stable but are still subject to international supply chain disruptions.

A recent report by the International Fertilizer Association (IFA, 2024) suggests that fertilizer prices may remain elevated due to continued demand from developing agricultural markets and regulatory changes limiting production emissions. Furthermore, the American Farm Bureau Federation (2025) warns that tariffs on Canadian potash imports—responsible for supplying 85-86% of U.S. potash—could increase fertilizer prices by $50 to $75 per ton, reducing profit margins and potentially affecting crop yields.

Strategies for Farmers to Navigate Rising Fertilizer Costs and Supply Chain Issues

Farmers in Northwest New York can mitigate rising fertilizer costs by optimizing nutrient management and leveraging local expertise. With my guidance, producers can tailor nutrient management plans using precision agriculture tools, field histories, soil testing and pH, variable-rate application, and enhanced efficiency fertilizers. Implementing variable-rate fertilizer applications can improve nutrient uptake while reducing losses, ensuring more efficient use of expensive inputs. Additionally, incorporating cover crops and crop rotations can enhance soil health and nutrient availability, reducing the need for synthetic fertilizers (Cornell Cooperative Extension, 2024). Utilizing manure and compost, particularly from local dairy farms, provides a cost-effective alternative to commercial fertilizers while improving soil organic matter (Workman & Lawrence, 2022).

Another critical strategy is diversifying fertilizer sources and establishing partnerships with regional suppliers to mitigate supply chain disruptions. Local agricultural cooperatives provide bulk purchasing programs and advisory services to support farmers in accessing cost-effective fertilizer solutions and optimizing nutrient management strategies. Programs like the New York Soil Health Initiative and funding from the USDA-NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) can assist farmers in adopting conservation practices that reduce reliance on synthetic fertilizers (USDA-NRCS New York, 2024). By combining these strategies, farmers in the NWNY region can sustain productivity while minimizing input costs in an increasingly volatile market.

Conclusion

Fertilizer prices in 2025 remain a significant factor in farm profitability, exacerbated by recent trade policies and supply chain challenges. By implementing integrated nutrient management, precision agriculture, conservation practices, alternative nutrient sources, and supply chain diversification, producers can mitigate costs while sustaining soil health and productivity. Utilizing regional resources in New York and the Northeast can further support farmers in navigating these economic and agronomic challenges effectively.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5

Parasite Issues and Management for Small Ruminants Webinar

6:30PM : ZOOM : Free

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/events.php

March 12

Let's Talk Ticks
What Every Livestock Producer Neeeds to Know

6:30PM - 7:30PM : CCE Wyoming, Warsaw, NY : Free

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2519

March 17

On-Farm Research Network
Enhancing Agriculture Decision Making

9AM - 2PM : Peppermints, Avon NY : $35

Lunch NOT included
Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2562

March 18

Calf Transition Workshop #1

10AM - 3PM : Breezyhill Dairy Strykersville, NY : $25

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2513

March 18

Colostrum and Calf-Hood Technology: Dinner Meeting

6PM - 8PM : BW's Restaurant, Pavilion, NY : $30

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2515

March 19

Calf Transition Workshop #2

10AM - 3PM : Lightland Farm Stanley, NY : $25

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2514

March 20

Shop Talk: High-Oleic Soybeans

1PM - 3PM : 1154 Hopeton Rd, Penn Yan, NY : Free

Registration: https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2564

March 28

Soil Health & Nutrient Management Workshop
Featuring the Manure Roadshow

8:30AM - 3PM : Ontario Produce Auction, 4860 Yautzy Road, Stanley : $15 for pre-registration/$20 at the door

Registration: please call Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District at (315)536-5188.

January 21st - March 5th

Webinar
To Keep or Not to Keep:
Dairy Welfare and Profitability Considerations

12PM - 1PM : ZOOM : Free

Registration: https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3V8B_M-eTUam2K9603Vj6Q#/registration

February 25 **Managing Euthanasia** Drs. Jennifer Walker and Kaitlyn Lutz
March 4 **Maximizing Harvest Value** Dr. Julia Herman