

AG FOCUS



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Cattle Care- Eyes on Quality and Efficiency

Kaitlyn Lutz

How often are you checking in on your milking barn procedure? If you don't have a dedicated parlor manager, the answer is probably not often enough. Unfortunately, we see this under management causing a lot of milk quality issues from lack of redirection when milking protocol drift occurs. One solution that producers are turning to is Cattle Care. This innovative system utilizes artificial intelligence (AI) and computer vision to monitor individual employee performance around the clock, whether you are at the dairy or in the next town over. The system is being used on 128 dairies in the USA, accounting for over half a million cows. There are multiple farms across NY state, including our northwest region, that are operating the Cattle Care system.

Regardless of how you feel about AI (yes, I'm also still getting used to this not meaning artificial insemination), its uses are endless even within our industry. While many companies are focusing on the cow, Cattle Care understands that many of the problems on farms are two-legged issues not four-legged. One dairy producer in our region provided feedback on the system saying, "for me, it's basically like hiring another, full-time parlor manager that we don't have to manage."

Although Cattle Care can be an excellent asset, we as supervisors and managers still need to decide what to do with the information it provides. Let's remember that data is only useful if it's managed. Cattle Care will give you a weekly score of each individual employee as a percentage, indicating the time they spent adhering to the protocol while sending easily actionable objectives to management. It's then up to you to take action in a way that changes employee habits. Examples of the errors the system picks up are using a towel to wipe more than one cow, missing pre- or post-dip on a cow, using a phone in the parlor etc.

A few important decisions to make:

Cont. on page 3

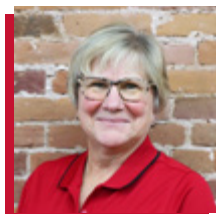


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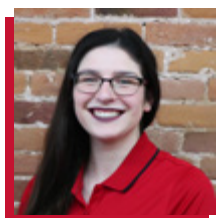
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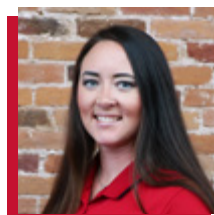
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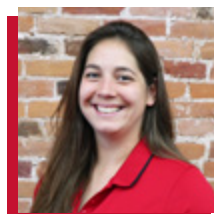
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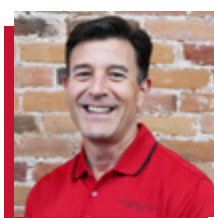
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Cattle Care- Eyes on Quality and Efficiency Cont.

1. What is your accuracy goal for milking technicians? 70%, 85%? Clear expectations will improve employee focus.
2. What is your incentive structure? Consider creating incentives for individuals who achieve high standards. Dr. Saul Garcia, a new member of the NWNy team who has joined us part-time, suggests that offering an incentive to the whole dayshift or whole night shift if all members achieve the goal may improve team morale and encourage teamwork. This is especially true in Mexican and Guatemalan collectivist cultures as opposed to the very individualistic American culture.

I had the opportunity to chat with the co-founder of Cattle Care, an innovative dairyman from California, Christian Hoekstra. Two excellent points that he made were that the key to this system, just like managing anything, is accountability. He explained that when Cattle Care is set up on a new farm, he sees an overall improvement in effort by the entire team based on follow-ups with performance numbers to not only correct errors but to help notice the employees that go above and beyond their

expectations.

Cattle Care also provides animal welfare monitoring and is developing systems to monitor high priority areas such as trim chutes, non-ambulatory cow pens etc. For more information visit: www.cattle-care.com.

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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 14K/46K Rears 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	 Low Mile Mixer 2009 INTERNATIONAL PAYSTAR 5600i; Cummins 430 HP; Engine Brake; Allison 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	 Allison Auto. 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	 46K Lockers 2000 PETERBILT 357 w/KUHN KNIGHT VT180 VERTICAL FEED MIXER; Truck Scale System; Cummins ISM (Recent In-Frame Overhaul); Allison Auto. (Riman Weller Trans.); 20K F/A; 46K Rears; 397,000 Miles; 6,889 Hours; Stk. # 6929 - \$78,900
 Low Miles 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	 Clean Chassis 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	 Reman Detroit (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.	 Allison Auto. 2014 FREIGHTLINER CORONADO SD122 CAB CHASSIS; 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
 46K Lockers 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. 350,813 Miles; Stk. # 6780 - \$87,000	 Low Miles 2013 PETERBILT 367 DAYCAB; Very Clean; 390 HP Cummins ISX; Allison Auto. Trans.; 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	 Allison Auto. 1999 INTERNATIONAL PAYSTAR 5000 DOUBLE FRAME DAYCAB; Cummins N14 370+ HP; Allison Auto. Trans.; 184" WB; NEWAY Air Ride Susp.; Wetline; Rubber 95%; 40,427 Miles; Stk. # 6745 - \$34,900	 Long 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
 44,000# Rears (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	 Qty. (3) 2012 MACK LEU613 PACKER; Double Frame; Labrie Side Load Packer; 20K F/A; 46K Rears; Haulmax 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	 Long Heavy Spec 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	 24 ft. Alum. Box 2004 STERLING L9500 DUMP TRUCK; Double Frame; Mercedes OM 460LA 18-Spd. Manual; 24' Allab Alum. Body w/60" Sides and 6" Sideboards; Tarp; 20K F/A; 46K Locking Rears; Hendrickson HN Susp.; 18K F/A; 46K Full Locking Rears; Neway Air Ride Susp.; 220" WB; 246" CVT; 24'6" Frame Behind Cab; 583,000 Miles; Stk. # 6931 - \$62,900
 Heavy Spec Chassis 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	 NO RUST 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	 THE BEAST. SIZE DOES MATTER! 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. # 6596 - \$59,900	 18K/46K Rear Lockers 2010 MACK TITAN TD713 RAWHIDE DAYCAB; 605 HP Mack MP10; Maxtorque 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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Mental Health Awareness Month, May 2025

John Hanchar

Summary

- Early in May, messages will circulate throughout the Cornell College of Agriculture & Life Sciences' land grant system recognizing May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month.
- NY FarmNet helps New York State farms navigate times of transition, opportunity, and challenge, accomplishing its mission through educational programming and holistic consulting that addresses financial, family, and social stress. For services call 1-800-547-3276.
- At <<https://www.nyfarmnet.org/farm-stress>>, the visitor can find valuable resources addressing farm stress, and other mental health topics.

NY FarmNet and its Resources

Founded in 1986 in response to the national farm crisis, NY FarmNet supports farmers, farm families, agricultural service providers, veterinarians, milk truck drivers, and others involved in the agricultural industry in New York State. For services call 1-800-547-3276. NY FarmNet provides free, confidential, on-farm consulting to any farmer, farm family, or agribusiness employee in New York State. NY FarmNet helps New York State farms navigate times of transition, opportunity, and challenge, accomplishing its mission through educational programming and holistic consulting that address financial, family, and social stress. The program operates a "1-800" help line (1-800-547-3276) where a caller can reach someone any time of day, throughout the year, without having to navigate through a phone menu. The program's website contains many resources -- NY FarmNet, 1-800-547-3276, <www.nyfarmnet.org>. A short item on the topic of stress follows.

How Farmers Can Cope with Stress

Farmers and farm families are faced with a variety of stressors on a daily basis. Learning to manage feelings and behaviors during hectic times takes time, practice, and help from a professional. Farms of all sizes are feeling the impact of deteriorating economic conditions in New York's agricultural sector.

Some stress in everyday life is normal, and can help us meet daily goals and expectations, both personal and professional. Stress becomes a negative force when it is severe, prolonged, and leads to an acute stress response, or "flight or fight" response. Signs of increased stress may include feeling depressed, feeling irritable and impatient, sleep disturbances, feeling overwhelmed, and lacking energy and motivation with usual tasks, among others

To relax and manage stresses well during chaotic farming seasons takes discipline, practice, and mindfulness. Following are some techniques individuals may use to help cope with stress in their daily lives and on the farm.

- **Take care of yourself.** Take care of your body. Exercise, eat well-balanced meals, get plenty of rest. Try to avoid stimulants like caffeine or tobacco, or using alcohol or other drugs.
- **Take a break.** Park the tractor and take a walk to clear your head. Sometimes events on the news, online, or in the newspaper can add to your stress. Schedule information breaks – turn off the television, put away your phone, and focus on something else that you enjoy. Take time to balance your work and play.
- **Talk with others.** Share your problems and how you are feeling and coping with a family member, friend, counselor, doctor, or clergy. Talking with someone may help you feel better. In turn, sharing your experience with someone else who may also be struggling, and giving them support may also help you.
- **Follow a normal routine, as much as possible.** Wake up and go to sleep at your usual times. Eat meals at regular times. Continue to go to work, school, church, or other community meetings. Engage with friends and family.

Sometimes taking healthy steps on your own to lower stress is not enough, and that is ok. Recognize when you need more help. If problems continue, or you are thinking about suicide, talk to a doctor, social worker, or professional counselor.

NY FarmNet

1-800-547-3276, www.nyfarmnet.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

988, <https://988lifeline.org/>

Crisis Text Line

Text "START" to 741-741, www.crisistextline.org

New York State County Mental Health Directory

<https://omh.ny.gov/>

Closing Thoughts

New York State is fortunate to have NY FarmNet resources that help the state's agricultural community navigate times of transition, opportunity, and challenge by way of educational programming, and holistic consulting that addresses financial, family, and social stress. It would be difficult to overstate the value of the program's services. Successfully supporting the farm community in times of stress demands resources – people hours and information. Resources must possess, reflect knowledge, and understanding of mental health concepts, and methods. Not all possess the education, and training to successfully provide the support needed.

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CCE Dairy Educators

Forage Quality & 1st Cutting

Jodi Letham

We are so excited to be back in the field with you! To kick off the season, let's start with knowing when the right time for 1st cutting of hay crops will be. Harvest is not linked to a certain calendar date but instead is dependent on growing degree day accumulation (heat) and soil moisture. Now is the time to check your winter triticale's growth stage. Triticale should be harvested at Feekes 9-flag leaf stage for optimal quality. At this stage the collar of the flag leaf will be visible. Many fields across the region are just entering Feekes Stage 8. At stage 8 the flag leaf is just emerging from the top of the plant. Fields will need to be closely monitored over the next 2 weeks to ensure harvest occurs at the right time. Mike Stanyard put together a short video showing the optimal time for triticale harvest and how to determine Feekes stage 9, <https://vimeo.com/129684323>

Harvesting hay at the proper growth stage will also ensure high quality feed and hopefully can reduce the amount of grain supplemented in the feed ration. A guide and chart have been provided below to help you determine proper timing to obtain the highest quality forage.

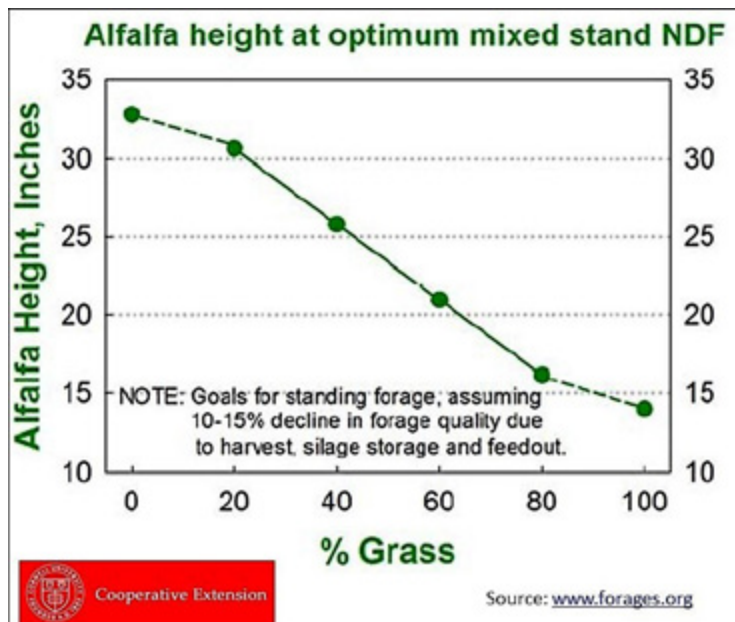
Measuring the height of alfalfa has been proven to be the best indicator of harvest time for your local climatic conditions and individual fields. Predicting percentages of mixed stands can be difficult and a high percentage of people tend to overestimate the amount of alfalfa in the stand. Sampling and weighing the grass and alfalfa samples can help determine the mix percentage and train your eye to estimate hay mix percentage with more accuracy. Dr. Jerry Cherney of Cornell has developed an accurate system to assist in your percentage prediction at <https://tools.forages.org/>. Click on the grass, alfalfa-grass, or the alfalfa estimator to initiate prediction. You will be asked to enter in alfalfa height, percent grass, NDF target, and weather (normal, hot, cool) and the system will tell you how many days until your field, under your conditions will be at peak quality for harvest.

To help give you an idea of when to harvest first cutting, I will be out measuring alfalfa

height to predict Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) for alfalfa, alfalfa-grass mixtures and grass stands in several fields across the 10 counties. Field locations will reflect the diversity of heat, elevation and soil moisture in the area.

Here are helpful numbers when using alfalfa and grass height as an indicator of NDF content:

Percentage Stand	Alfalfa Height	NDF Goal	What to do:
100 % Grass Stand	13 Inches tall	50% NDF	Start to cut Grass Stands
50% Grass- 50% Alfalfa	23 Inches tall	44% NDF	Cut your Mixed Stands
100 % Alfalfa	30 Inches tall	40% NDF	Cut Alfalfa Stands



Factors Affecting Heifer Completion Rate

Margaret Quaassdorff

With a fewer number of them produced on-farm and a higher demand in the market space, replacement heifers are a hot topic in the dairy industry right now. There are several reasons for a failure to produce or secure enough replacements including the strategic decision to breed a higher percentage of the dairy herd to beef sires in favor of taking advantage of the high beef x dairy calf market, errors in estimating true replacement needs, or unforeseen disease outbreaks. Herds who have found themselves with an insufficient supply of replacement heifers have seen this factor influence voluntary culling decisions on-farm. This often shows up as a restriction on the preference of which cows can leave the herd, or a delay in the culling cows that may leave for factors such as low milk production, reproductive efficiency or health factors.

Non-completion rate refers to the percentage of heifers that were born alive on the farm, that never make it through the rearing period into the milking herd. Heifers maybe be removed from the pool of replacements due to a variety of reasons such as death, chronic disease, poor growth, injury, or reproductive failure (failure to conceive or abortion). Theoretically, it would seem better to have a very low non-completion rate, and that would be true, except heifers may also leave the replacement pool due to an economic opportunity (sale to another dairy) or selected removal due to genetic/genomic selection. In this case having extra heifers available in the pool would be beneficial, and a higher non-completion rate would be fine. Heifer non-completion rate helps to measure the number of heifers that do not make it to the milking herd, but it doesn't necessarily take into account the time it takes to get them there. Therefore, it is best when reviewing this, to monitor at what stage of growth are heifers leaving the system and why.

For this we can look at an example of completion rates (percent of heifers that do make it to each stage) given by Dr. Mike Overton from this year's Western Dairy Management Conference proceedings. To help describe typical heifer completion rates and the variation commonly observed in the field, a convenience sample of 65 herds representing 251,000 cows was collected. This set contained 13 Jersey herds and 52 Holstein herds from across the U.S. Heifer completion was determined using several defined stages of the heifer replacement pool. These endpoints were stillborn risk, % liveborn sold or died by 90 days of age, % liveborn sold or died from 91 to 365 days of age, % of heifers that reached 365 days of age that then successfully conceived, and % of heifers conceiving that actually calved. For each endpoint,

the median and interquartile range was calculated, and these results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Stage-specific risks that contribute to heifer completion rate

	Median	Interquartile Range			Number	# Needed: 410
% of heifers that conceive that subsequently fail to calve	4%	2%	-	6%	17	427
% that fail to conceive (>365 days of age)	6%	4%	-	8%	27	454
% Died from 91 to 365 days	4%	2%	-	6%	19	473
% Sold from 91 to 365 days	2%	1%	-	3%	10	483
% Died by 90 days	4%	3%	-	8%	20	503
% Sold by 90 days	0%	0%	-	3%	0	503
% Stillborn	3%	2%	-	4%	16	519
% Heifers (pregnancies) lost before calving	11%	9%	-	18%	64	583

The approach shown in Table 1 reflects the performance for each "stage" for the most recent 12 months across each herd. When calculating these outcomes, it is critical that each animal included in the denominator must have sufficient time at risk to reach the stage's endpoint, and only animals within this defined population at risk are eligible for inclusion as a "case" in the numerator. When these stage-specific results are then combined sequentially, an estimate of heifer completion rate is produced that is a much timelier estimate versus calculating the true completion rate for a cohort born 2.5 to 4 years ago. However, it is not appropriate to simply add up each proportion failing since the risk for each category is derived from varying numbers of heifers at risk.

For example, 4% Died by 90 days = 20 heifers ($4\% \times 503$), but 4% of pregnant heifers that fail to calve = 17 ($4\% \times 427$) since the population at risk changes across the raising period. Thus, it is helpful to work backwards from the initial target needed by use of the following approach. # of pregnant heifers needed = $410 / (1 - .04) = 427$.

Three different versions of completion rate can now be calculated: % completion from liveborn-to-calving = $410 / 503 = 82\%$; % completion from birth-to-calving = $410 / 519 = 79\%$; and % completion from heifer pregnancy-to-birth-to-calving = $410 / 583 = 70\%$. Each of these final values represent reasonable expectations for many herds but do not include any allowance for selective removal, they do not account for the actual herd-to-herd variation commonly observed goals. If 5% of heifers that survive to 90 days are selectively removed due to poor genomic test results, the final completion rates decline to 77%, 75%, and 67%, respectively.

Hard to Control Weeds in High Oleic Soybeans

Mike Stanyard

Soybean acres continue to rise in NY. The USDA National Ag Statistics Service released their Northeastern Region Perspective Planting Report at the end of March. New York soybean growers are predicted to plant 380 thousand acres, up 10,000 acres from last year.

Some of this acreage increase could be due to the recent popularity of high oleic varieties like Pioneer's Plenish® and Seedway's high oleic soybeans. I have heard estimates of up to 140 thousand acres of New York's soybeans will be Plenish® and another 5 to 8 thousand more will be Seedway's brand this year. Many dairies are looking to grow these higher oil beans to feed their dairy cows for increased milk fat and milk yield. For more information on the benefits of feeding high oleic oil soybeans, see our dairy specialist, Margaret Quaassdorff's article, "What is Different and Special About High-Oleic Soybeans for Dairy?" in last month's AgFocus.

Being a field crop specialist, I am more concerned with best management practices to achieve the best yields with these soybeans. As far as agronomics, these high oil beans are no different than any other soybeans. As far as pest management goes, weed control could be the biggest challenge depending on your weed spectrum. For 2025, Plenish® beans will only have the Roundup Ready herbicide trait. The Seedway high oleic beans will all be conventional (no herbicide resistance traits).

With three glyphosate resistant weeds now documented in New York, (waterhemp, marestail and Palmer amaranth), weed control is not getting any easier or cheaper for soybean growers. In addition, the loss of Dicamba use over-the-top eliminated another valuable tool for management of these resistant weeds. Growers have quickly adopted Enlist E3® soybeans which are tolerant to 2,4-D Choline (Enlist One) as well as Glyphosate and Glufosinate (Liberty). The Enlist platform gives growers two options to control all three glyphosate resistant weeds post-emergence.

In the next couple of years, all high oil soybeans will most likely be available with the Enlist E3® traits. However, what do we do in the meantime if we want to grow these beans and know we have one or more of the resistant weeds in our fields? A strong pre-emerge herbicide program will be the key to keeping these fields clean as long as possible knowing we have limited post-emergence options.

Cornell weed scientist, Vipan Kumar, has been looking at effective pre-emergence herbicide programs for waterhemp control in soybean the last two seasons. He has tested four programs that combine different modes of action with residual control (see chart below). Each has a different combination of groups 2, 5, 14 and 15. All have been effective in keeping waterhemp populations suppressed early. However, the problem with pigweeds like waterhemp and Palmer is that they germinate all season long. In Plenish® varieties, glyphosate is an option for grasses and other broadleaves that are not resistant. For resistant pigweed escapes, options are limited to Flexstar (glyphosate + Reflex) and Cobra. We know Cobra will also burn the soybeans so don't look at them for two weeks. You also should know that if you spray Warrant Ultra pre, you cannot spray Flexstar post due to label restrictions on the amount of Reflex (fomesafen) allowed per growing season.

Herbicide	Rate (ounces/acre)	Group (Site of action)
Classic + Valor + Metribuzin	1.25 + 2 + 4.75	2 + 14 + 5
Panther Pro (Pursuit + Valor + Metribuzin)	15	2 + 14 + 5
Warrant Ultra (Acetochlor + Reflex)	64	15 + 14
Boundary (Dual + Metribuzin)	32	15 + 5

What are the Seedway high oleic growers doing for weed control? Fortunately, most of these growers have been in NNY and the two resistant pigweeds have not become an issue there yet. Mike Hunter who is the Field Crops IPM Coordinator with the NYSIPM Program has been working with growers with a pre-emerge herbicide program that is effective in these conventional beans. Mike has recommended Tendovo (FirstRate + Dual + Metribuzin) and it has done a great job. Sharpen + Metribuzin + a Group 15 (Dual/Warrant/Outlook) would be another effective option which would be better if marestail is a big threat. The bigger problem is what to do about pigweed escapes post-emergence. Beyond Xtra (Raptor) and Pursuit would be options. Cobra would be a last-ditch alternative. Remember, there are no effective herbicide post-emerge options to control resistant marestail in Roundup Ready or conventional soybeans.

Small Ruminant Parasite Management and Husbandry



Saturday, May 31, 2025
10:00am- 3:00pm

Wyoming County Ag & Business Center
36 Center Street, Warsaw, Learning Center Room 1



Register: <https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/small-ruminants-WYCO-2025> 256

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Wyoming County and NWNYS Dairy, Field Crops, and Livestock Regional Team are hosting a workshop with Jessica Waltemyer, CCE Small Ruminant Extension Specialist from the Cornell's PRO-LIVESTOCK team.

Parasite management and husbandry techniques are important for livestock health and well-being as well as for profitability.



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Prepare for Internal Parasite Season in Ruminants

Nancy Glazier

Spring is in the air. By the time you read this, many of our herds and flocks will be out on pasture. Grazing is a great alternative to feeding stored feeds, but pests can be a problem if not managed. Continuing with my parasite theme for 2025, this month will be on internal parasites – the roundworms. These are nematodes that can lower production (weight gain, milk) and if severe lead to death.

Worms will spend the winter hibernating in gut lining and as days get longer, they become active, reproduce and lay eggs. If they are in a dry lot/barnyard the area can become highly infected. Any growing forage will be covered with larvae at a stage where they are highly infective. If they are out on short pastures in early spring, move them through the system quickly. The goal is to keep them from consuming the infective stage. This is more of a problem with youngstock as they are more susceptible. Immunity builds after exposure during the first growing season. Don't expect winter

Protect refugia. Do not deworm the entire group of livestock! Check animals for parasites with fecal egg counts. Treat ones with high numbers. Use the same dewormer each time you deworm. You can work with your veterinarian on this or attend a class to learn (see below). The Five Point Check© should always include FAMACHA© scoring sheep and goats to estimate their state of anemia, which is the primary indicator of barber pole worm infection. We all should know that overuse of any product can lead to resistance. Any resistant worms will mate with susceptible worms and reduce the progression of resistance. Repeating egg counts can help find family lines that are inherently resistant to worm loads. This can help with culling decisions.

Protect growing grass from grazing shorter than 3". Better yet, count the number of leaves. Delay the starting the grazing season until three leaves are present to prevent crown/growing point damage. Keep livestock off recently grazed pastures for 60-105 days. The unfortunate thing is pasture rest needs to be longer than normal recommendations

for growth or nutritive value. Other options include clipping pastures short after grazing, grazing another species, or taking the forage for hay.

Much more research has been done on the topic in small ruminants. To learn more about internal parasites in sheep and goats I have organized a workshop for May 31 from 10 am – 3 pm at the CCE Wyoming Learning Center. Jessica Waltemyer, Cornell PRO-LIVESTOCK's Small Ruminant Extension Specialist, will be presenting and conducting fecal egg counts. Participants will become FAMACHA certified. Check out the information here, <https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2591>, or reach out to me.



Photo: Leith MacKenzie. Manage pastures to keep your livestock healthy.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

May 31

**Small Ruminant Parasite
Management and Husbandry**

10 AM - 3 PM :Wyoming County Ag
& Business Center, Learning Center
Room 1 \$10

Registration:

[https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/
event.php?id=2591](https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2591)