



# Cornell Cooperative Extension

South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program

Broome | Cayuga | Chemung | Cortland | Tioga | Tompkins

## DAIRY & FIELD CROPS DIGEST

Winter 25-26

# 2026 Winter Crop Meeting

### Two Dates / Two Locations

**Thurs, January 22**  
**Ukrainian National**  
**Club**

125 Washington St., Auburn

**Or**

**Friday, January 23**  
**Dryden VFW**

2272 Dryden Road (Rte 13)

### Time:

**9:15 am Registration**

**10:00 am - 3:00pm**  
**Speakers | Program**

### Cost Including Lunch:

**\$35—Pre-registration**  
**\$40—At door**

### To Register for Auburn:

[https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/  
event/preregistration\\_new.php  
?id=2693](https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event/preregistration_new.php?id=2693)

### To Register for Dryden:

[https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/  
event/preregistration\\_new.php  
?id=2694](https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event/preregistration_new.php?id=2694)

### Having trouble registering?

Contact Tatum @ 315-778-3929  
or [t1m92@cornell.edu](mailto:t1m92@cornell.edu)

### Questions on WCM?

Contact Janice @ (607) 391-2672  
or [jgd3@cornell.edu](mailto:jgd3@cornell.edu)

**3.0 DEC credits in 1A & 21-25**  
**& 3 CCA credits**

### Emerging Innovation in Plant Breeding and Technologies - A Peek at the Future | Ben Rogers, Pioneer Field Agronomist

Ben's keynote address will focus on innovations on the horizon including developments in genetics including disease tolerance and trait technology to help manage crop pests and reduced stature corn. Discussion will include pest pressure management through AI and data learning tools to help growers make timely and informed decisions about pest management practices. He will also introduce new innovations coming for a more sustainable product placement methodology as well as fungicide application and seeding rate decision making.

### Managing Herbicide-Resistant Weeds in NY Corn & Soybean | Dr. Vipam Kumar, NYS Extension Weed Scientist, Cornell University

New invasive weed species such as palmer amaranth and waterhemp (pigweeds) are rapidly spreading across NYS. Several populations of these pigweeds have recently been identified with multiple herbicide resistance. In addition, horseweed and Italian ryegrass populations have also developed resistance to commonly used herbicides. Dr. Kumar will provide an up-to-date overview of herbicide resistant weeds in NY cropping systems, highlights of results from ongoing field projects evaluating alternative chemical tools and non-chemical management strategies for controlling herbicide-resistant weeds.

### Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) Insurance Program

| KC Slade, Risk Management Specialist, Farm Credit East—Crop Growers

LRP is federally subsidized risk management program designed to protect against a decline in livestock prices, allowing producers to set a price floor and mitigate risk from marketplace volatility (producers' price doesn't affect indemnity). LRP insures a wide variety of livestock including: fed cattle, feeder cattle and swine.

### Birds & the Bees Legislation and the Fate of Neonics

| Janice Degni, Extension Field Crop Specialist

For the past 20 years neonicotinoid insecticides have been reliable seed treatments to help control both below and above ground insect pests since they translocate. It is believed that they have contributed to pollinator and bee decline. Additionally, the high solubility, persistence and toxicity of these products to aquatic insects is harming aquatic food chains.

### Emerging Disease Pests and Soil Borne Diseases of Soybean

| Dr. Camilo Parada Rojas, NYS Extension Plant Pathologist, Cornell University

Meet Dr. Parada, our new Extension Field Crop Plant Pathologist, replacing Dr. Gary Bergstrom who has retired. Dr. Parada will give an update on the status of Tar Spot in NY corn fields. He will review soil borne diseases in soybeans with a focus on white mold and Southern rust in corn, an emerging threat will be addressed.

### Solar Farms—Benefit or Detriment?

| Mr. Michael McMahon, Chair, Homer Town Planning Board

A thought provoking presentation on the challenges of solar development on productive farmland. What is driving solar development? How will NYS meet competing goals of expanding solar farms and dairy processing plant expansion in the state. How will we meet the demand for milk production at the rate we are losing farmland.

The South Central New York Dairy and Field Crops Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in six



# Cornell Cooperative Extension

South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program

We are pleased to provide you with this information as part of the Cooperative Extension Dairy and Field Crops Program serving Broome, Cayuga, Cortland, Chemung, Tioga and Tompkins Counties. Anytime we may be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call. Visit our website: <http://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu> and find us on social media! Facebook, YouTube, & Twitter!

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*We put knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability, and social well-being.*

*We bring local experience and research-based solutions together, helping our families and our community thrive in a rapidly changing world.*

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*Dear Reader,*

*As we approach the close of another year, we want to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary commitment, resilience, and grit that define our farming community.*

*This past year brought its share of challenges—unpredictable weather, shifting markets, labor pressures, and the day-to-day uncertainties that come with working so closely with the land. Yet time and again, you met these hardships with steady determination and the problem-solving spirit that keeps agriculture moving forward.*

*Your work nourishes families, sustains rural communities, supports our local economies, and safeguards a way of life that benefits every one of us. The hours you put in—often without recognition—are the backbone of our food system, and we are deeply grateful.*

*As we turn toward a new year, may you find rest, renewal, and pride in all you've accomplished. Thank you for the care you bring to your fields, your herds, your businesses, and your communities. Your perseverance inspires us, and your contributions matter more than words can say.*

*Wishing you peace, good health, and a brighter season ahead!*

*Your Dairy and Field Crops Extension Team,*

*Janice, Betsy, Tatum and  
our partner CCE offices.*

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# US Dairy Outlook 2026

## Market Overview—Farm Credit East

- The national milk cow herd came in slightly larger than last year's August numbers. The national milk cow herd was at 9.520 million head, above the August 2024 figure of 9.344 million head. Milk per cow was up slightly from the prior year, and overall milk production was up 3.2% from August 2024.
- New York saw an increase in cow numbers from this time last year (+10,000 head to 640,000 head), and production per cow ticked up, resulting in an increase in milk production of 3.5%. Nationally, most states showed increases. California (+1.7%), Pennsylvania (+0.6%), Idaho (+8.2%), Texas (+6.0%), Vermont (+4.4%) and Wisconsin (+2.0%), showed gains, while New Mexico (-0.2%) showed a decline.
- Feed and fuel costs have declined over the last year, but other input costs have risen, most notably labor. Milk prices have declined from the 2025 peak earlier in the year. 2026 prices are forecast to start off lower but increase over the course of the year. Income-over-feed cost calculations, such as the DMC margin, are projected to range from \$10.87-12.07/cwt. in 2026, with the low point in February.
- As milk prices have fallen, dairy farm earnings have been supported by lower feed costs and higher calf and cull-cow income. A wet spring and dry weather from mid-season on led to reduced harvest and quality of hay and corn silage in many parts of the NE.

The 2026 U.S. dairy outlook anticipates a challenging year with continued pressure on milk prices due to abundant supply, but generally positive, albeit tight, profit margins for producers. The USDA forecasts lower average milk prices compared to 2025 but expects most commercial farms to remain profitable, largely due to lower feed costs.

## Key Forecasts for 2026

- **Milk Production:** U.S. milk production is forecast to increase slightly in 2026 to 234.1 billion pounds, driven by higher milk yield per cow, which will keep supplies strong. The dairy cow inventory is expected to continue expanding if feed costs remain low, potentially leading to the largest U.S. dairy herd in over 30 years.

## Prices & Profitability:

- **All-Milk Price:** The USDA's December 2025 forecast for the 2026 all-milk price is approximately **\$18.75 per hundredweight (cwt)**, a decrease from the \$21.00/cwt forecast for 2025.
- **Commodity Prices:** Forecasts for most wholesale products have been lowered. Cheddar cheese and butter prices are expected to remain under pressure, a carryover from weakness in late 2025. The dry whey price forecast, however, is raised due to strong demand expected to continue into 2026.
- **Margins:** While prices are pressured, low feed costs (e.g., corn prices are forecast at around \$3.90/bushel) are expected to help offset some of the pressure, resulting in positive, though potentially tight, profit margins for most producers.

- **Trade:** Exports remain a critical component of the market. While fat-basis exports (like butter) are expected to increase, skim-solids exports (like skim milk powder) may see a decline due to increased global competition and shifting demand patterns, particularly in the Chinese market. Imports are expected to remain low for most products.

## Strategic Considerations for Producers

- **Risk Management:** Given the price volatility, producers are encouraged to use risk management tools like the Dairy Revenue Protection (DRP) program to hedge against price declines.
- **Efficiency:** The outlook emphasizes a shift toward efficiency over volume, with a focus on maximizing yield per cow and minimizing operational costs.

**Consolidation:** The industry is expected to continue structural changes and consolidation. Mid-tier operations may face significant challenges, while larger farms and those with a specific niche or strong processor relationships are better positioned to survive.

Source: This content was created by a large language model based on information from public data and simulated forward-looking statements typical of agricultural economic reports. (AKA—AI)

# The Handy Bt Trait Table for U.S. Corn Production

Updated August 2025

Compiled by  
Chris DiFonzo  
Michigan State University

Web site hosted by  
Pat Porter  
Texas A&M University

The most up-to-date version and related extension materials are free online at: [www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html](http://www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html)  
Questions? Comments/ Complaints? [difonzo@msu.edu](mailto:difonzo@msu.edu)

## Several formatting changes for 2025

Resistance to Bt proteins continues to be a major theme for 2025. Localized populations of southwestern corn borer (SWCB) and European corn borer (ECB) have been found which survive one or more of the Bts labeled for their control (except VIP for SWCB). Both species developed resistance in isolated regions, often where single-trait hybrids were still being planted. For SWCB, this was in corn production on irrigated pivots in the southern New Mexico. For ECB, this was in small production areas outside of the corn belt in the Canadian Maritime provinces, Quebec, and Connecticut.

With the increase in species surviving Bts, the table was redesigned to eliminate a separate resistance column. That information is now captured in the control column. An 'x' means a trait package is effective against that insect. Resistance to all traits in a package is indicated by 'R' if it is common or 'RL' if only in localized areas.

All single-trait packages were moved from Table 2 to Table 1 (below), the 'time capsule' of older products. Single-trait hybrids increase the chance of resistance development and thus were supposed to be phased out after introduction of seed-blend refuge fourteen years ago. In 2025, single trait hybrids are still listed in some seed catalogs. Moving single traits out of the main trait table draws attention to the problem of their continued availability.

## ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS used in the TRAIT TABLE

### Insect Pests

BCW black cutworm  
CEW corn earworm  
ECB European corn borer  
FAW fall armyworm  
NCR northern corn rootworm  
SB stalk borer  
SCB sugarcane borer  
SWCB southwestern corn borer  
TAW true armyworm  
WBC western bean cutworm  
WCR western corn rootworm

### Herbicide Tolerance

GLY glyphosate/Roundup-Ready  
LL glufosinate/Liberty Link  
LL\* check bag tag for LL status  
Enlist 2,4-D & fops/Enlist trait

**Refuge:** Unless specified as a seed blend, percentages in table assume a separate 'structured' refuge planted in strips, blocks, borders, or in an adjacent field

TABLE 1: TIME CAPSULE Trait packages phased out by industry & single- traits in limited supply	letter code	Traits in the package *****  Font type denotes target: caterpillar or rootworm	Expected control by traits in the package *one or more remain effective (x) *resistance to all, widespread (R) / localized(RL)												Refuge in northern states (higher in the south)	Weed control trait	
			B	C	E	F		S	S	S	T	W	N	W			
			C C W	E W	C B	A W	S B	C B	W C B	A W	B C	C R	C R				
AcreMax1	AM1	Cry1F      Cry34/35Ab1	x		RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	10% blend 20% ECB	GLY	LL	
AcreMax RW	AMRW	Cry34/35Ab1										RL	R	10% blend	GLY	LL	
AcreMax TRIsect	AMT	Cry1Ab   Cry1F      mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	10% blend	GLY	LL	
Agrisure 3010 (Agrisure GT/CB/LL)	3010	Cry1Ab		R	RL			x	RL					20%	GLY	LL	
Agrisure 3000GT	3000GT	Cry1Ab      mCry3A		R	RL			x	RL			x	R	20%	GLY	LL	
Agrisure RW or GT/RW	-	mCry3A										x	R	20%	GLY		
Herculex I	HXI	Cry1F	x		RL	RL	x	x	RL		R			20%	GLY	LL	
Herculex RW	HXRW	Cry34/35Ab1										RL	R	20%	GLY	LL	
Herculex XTRA	HXX	Cry1F      Cry34/35Ab1	x		RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	20%	GLY	LL	
Intrasect TRIsect	CYHR	Cry1Ab   Cry1F      mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	20%	GLY	LL	
Intrasect Xtra	YXR	Cry1Ab   Cry1F      Cry34/35Ab1	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	20%	GLY	LL	
Intrasect Xtreme	CYXR	Cry1Ab   Cry1F      Cry34/35Ab1   mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	5%	GLY	LL	
TRIsect	CHR	Cry1F      mCry3A	x		RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	20%	GLY	LL	
VT Triple PRO	VT3P	Cry1A.105   Cry2Ab2      Cry3Bb1		R	RL	x	x	x	RL			RL	R	20%	GLY		
YieldGard Corn Borer	YGCB	Cry1Ab		R	RL			x	RL					20%	GLY		
YieldGard Rootworm	YGRW	Cry3Bb1										RL	R	20%	GLY		
YieldGard VT Triple	VT3	Cry1Ab      Cry3Bb1		R	RL			x	RL			RL	R	20%	GLY		

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TABLE 2 Principal trait packages available in the U.S. (alternate names in parentheses)	letter code	Traits in the package *****  Font type denotes target: caterpillar or rootworm	Expected control by traits in the package *one or more remain effective (x) *resistance to all, widespread (R) / localized(RL)												Refuge in northern states (higher in the south)	Weed control Trait  *check bag tag
			B	C	E	F	S	S	T	W	N	W				
			C	E	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	C				
			W	W	B	W	B	C	B	W	B	C	R			
AcreMax	AM	Cry1Ab Cry1F	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R			5% blend	GLY LL	
AcreMax Leptra	AML	Cry1Ab Cry1F Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5% blend	GLY LL	
AcreMax Xtra	AMX	Cry1Ab Cry1F Cry34/35Ab1	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	10% blend	GLY LL	
AcreMax Xtreme	AMXT	Cry1Ab Cry1F Cry34/35Ab1 mCry3A	x		RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	5% blend	GLY LL	
Agrisure Above (Agrisure3120E2)	AA	Cry1Ab Cry1F	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R			5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
AA Refuge Renew (Agrisure3120)																
Agrisure Total (Agrisure3122E2)	AT	Cry1Ab Cry1F Cry34/35Ab1 mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
AT Refuge Renew (Agrisure3122)																
Agrisure Viptera 3110	3110	Cry1Ab Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			20%	GLY LL	
Agrisure Viptera 3111	3111	Cry1Ab Vip3A mCry3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	20%	GLY LL	
Duracade (Agrisure5122E2)	D	Cry1Ab Cry1F eCry3.1Ab mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
D Refuge Renew (Agrisure5122)																
Duracade Viptera (Agrisure5222E2)	DV	Cry1Ab Cry1F Vip3A eCry3.1Ab mCry3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
DV Refuge Renew (Agrisure 5222)																
Duracade Viptera Z3 (Agrisure5332E2)	DVZ	Cry1Ab Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Vip3A eCry3.1Ab mCry3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
DVZ Refuge Renew (Agrisure5332)																
Intrasect	YHR	Cry1Ab Cry1F	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R			5%	GLY LL	
Leptra	VYHR	Cry1Ab Cry1F Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5%	GLY LL	
PowerCore Refuge Adv.	PWRA	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R			5% blend	GLY LL	
PowerCore Enlist or Enlist Refuge Advanced	PWE PCE	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R			5% Adv 5% blend	GLY LL Enlist	
PowerCore Ultra Enlist or Ultra Enlist Refuge Advanced	PWUE PCUE	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5% Adv 5% blend	GLY LL Enlist	
QROME	Q	Cry1Ab Cry1F Cry34/35Ab1 mCry3A	x	R	RL	RL	x	x	RL		R	x	R	5% blend	GLY LL	
SmartStax or Genuity SS	SS SX	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F Cry3Bb1 Cry34/35Ab1	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	5%	GLY LL	
SmartStax Enlist SS Enlist Refuge Advanced	SSE	Same as SmartStax	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	5% Adv 5% blend	GLY LL Enlist	
SmartStax Refuge Advanced SmartStax RIB Complete	SXRA	Same as SmartStax	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	RL	R	5% blend	GLY LL	
SmartStax PRO	SSPro	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F Cry3Bb1 Cry34/35Ab1 dvSnf7	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	x	x	5%	GLY LL	
SmartStax PRO Enlist SSPro Enlist Refuge Advanced	SSPro	Same as SmartStax Pro	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	x	x	5% Adv 5% blend	GLY LL Enlist	
SmartStax PRO Refuge Advanced RIB Complete or w/RNAi Tech	SSPro	Same as SmartStax Pro	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	x	x	5% blend	GLY LL	
Trecepta RIB Complete	TRERIB	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5% blend	GLY	
Viptera (Agrisure3220E2)	V	Cry1Ab Cry1F Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
Vip Refuge Renew (Agrisure3220)																
Viptera Z3 (Agrisure3330E2)	VZ	Cry1Ab Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Vip3A	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x			5% blend Renew: 5%	GLY LL*	
VZ Refuge Renew (Agrisure3330)																
Vorceed Enlist	V	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F Cry3Bb1 Cry34/35Ab1 dvSnf7	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	x	x	5% blend	GLY LL Enlist	
Vorceed Enlist Structured - Expected in 2026	VS	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry1F Cry3Bb1 Cry34/35Ab1 dvSnf7	x	R	RL	x	x	x	RL		R	x	x	5%	GLY LL Enlist	
VT Double PRO	VT2P	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2		R	RL	x	x	x	RL					5%	GLY	
VT2 PRO RIB Complete	VT2PRIB	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2		R	RL	x	x	x	RL					5% blend	GLY	
VT3 PRO RIB Complete	VT3PRIB	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Cry3Bb1		R	RL	x	x	x	RL			RL	R	10% blend	GLY	
VT4 PRO w/RNAi Technology	VT4PRO	Cry1A.105 Cry2Ab2 Vip3A Cry3Bb1 dvSnf7	x	x	RL	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	5% blend	GLY	

# New York State, Regional and County Level Nitrogen and Phosphorus Balances for Harvested Cropland

By: Olivia Godber<sup>1</sup>, Kirsten Workman<sup>1,2</sup>, Kristan Reed<sup>3</sup>, and Quirine Ketterings<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Nutrient Management Spear Program, <sup>2</sup>PRODAIRY, <sup>3</sup>Department of Animal Science, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

New York (NY) state is one of five states that collectively produce more than 50% of the annual milk supply within the United States. The local environment allows farmers to integrate crop and livestock systems, facilitating cycling of manure nutrients back to cropland. Thus, dairy farming provides NY with benefits, opportunities, and challenges in terms of environmental sustainability and climate resiliency. Improved balancing of crop needs for nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) with supply from manure is key for a circular agricultural economy. The objectives of this study were to calculate and evaluate (1) regional and county level N and P balances of harvested cropland; and (2) the contribution of manure to a circular agricultural economy for NY.

Nutrient balances were calculated for 2017 (most recent USDA Census of Agriculture year at the time) as the difference in nutrient inputs through purchased fertilizer and recoverable manure, and nutrients removed in harvested crops. Atmospheric N deposition, legume N fixation, and manure nutrient losses during collection, transfer, storage, and treatment were also estimated.

## Key Findings!

The 2017 NY State P balance was 9 lbs P/acre. The N balance was between 35 and 85 lbs N/acre, depending on the proportion of legume cropland assumed to have received manure (Figure 1).

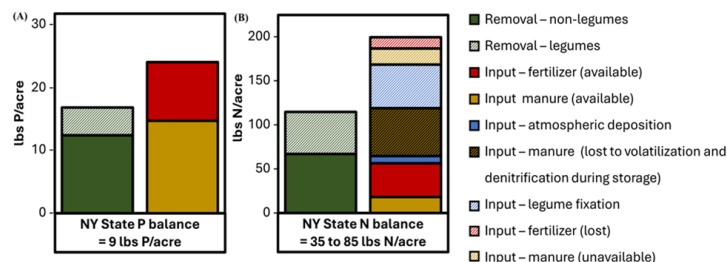


Figure 1: Breakdown of the inputs and crop removal of (A) phosphorus (P), and (B) nitrogen (N) at the New York state level in 2017. Estimated N losses of manure N during storage through volatilization and denitrification are identified.

For P balances at the regional level, a small range of 5 to 10 lbs P/acre was seen (Figure 2). Chemung County was the only county with a negative balance (-3 lbs P/acre).

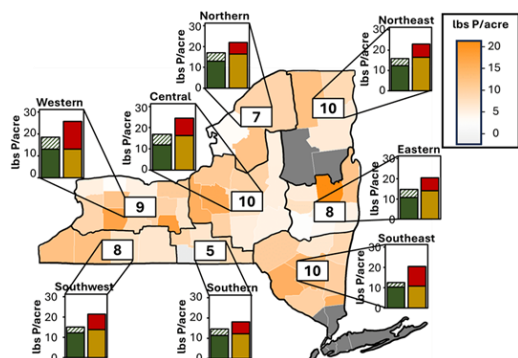
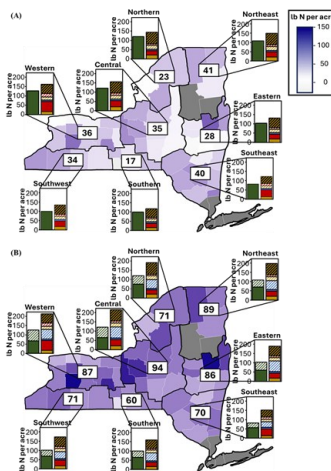


Figure 2: Breakdown of phosphorus (P) inputs and crop P uptake at the regional level, and P balance at county and regional level for New York in 2017; counties in gray were excluded.



For N balances at the regional level, a small range of N balances from 17 to 41 lbs N/acre was seen (Figure 3A) when balances were calculated assuming that manure and purchased fertilizer N were applied to all cropland, and no N fixation occurred. Under the assumption that no manure or purchased N fertilizer was applied to legume cropland, and additional N inputs were included as a result of N fixation on legume cropland, a higher but still small range in N balances from 60 to 94 lbs N/acre was seen (Figure 3B). Under both assumptions the balances were calculated before storage and application losses of N.

Redistribution and application of manure to meet P-removal on only the non-legume cropland left a surplus of 3 lbs P/acre at the NY state level. Applying surplus manure to legume and non-legume cropland resulted in a slight, state-level, P deficit. In both scenarios, the large N deficit that cannot be met through legume N fixation alone indicates N fertilizer is required to meet crop needs under the reported yield and manure supply conditions. These results show NY's ability to capitalize on the value of manure.

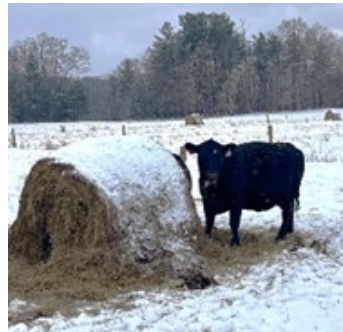
Figure 3: Breakdown of nitrogen (N) inputs and crop N uptake at the regional level, and N balance at county and regional level for New York in 2017, assuming manure and purchased N was applied to (A) all cropland (assumes no legume N fixation) versus (B) non-legume cropland only (assumes legumes received N through fixation). Counties in gray were excluded.

Manure has value to cropland beyond N and P and consideration of these factors at the field level, in combination with field management history and soil test results, could help to prioritize where manure should be applied, and where purchased N and P inputs are required. Development and adoption of advanced manure treatment, storage, and application practices, with consideration of how livestock feeding practices can influence manure characteristics, could all help to further improve the value of manure, improve balances, and increase circularity and sustainability of the agricultural sector in NY.

**Next Steps?** As updated manure excretion rates and the amount of nutrients lost during storage and application of manure become available, combined with an expected continuation in the upward trend of both cow numbers and milk production for NY, it will be important to continue assessments of nutrient balances and animal densities, and explore manure treatment options to allow for transport of manure nutrient throughout NY to avoid creating nutrient "hotspots" within the state. With the recent release of the 2022 USDA Census of Agriculture data, we aim to evaluate these scenarios in more detail for the 2022 state balances.

# Come on Down and Kick the Bales in 2026

Troy Bishopp "The Grass Whisperer", NatGLC, Northeastern Region Grazing Resource Manager .



"Coming down and kicking the tires" on something is a colloquial invitation for someone to come and inspect or test a product or service before buying it. For farmers and the folks who help them, this premise extends to the practice of bale-grazing on the land. Whether in a checkerboard pattern, rolled out or fed in rings, there's lots to learn from practitioners and value in seeing field-level management considerations.

Join fellow farmers at Jacob and Alexa Newton's Hillside Farms for a "kicking", Bale-grazing workshop on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 10am to noon in Truxton, NY. This morning program will be a hardy, on-farm, dress accordingly, winter weather event. Space is limited for this workshop so first come-first serve. There is no cost for the event, but pre-registration is required! [https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event\\_preregistration\\_new.php?id=2678](https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=2678)

Hillside Farms is a direct-to-consumer farming operation who specialize in grass fed beef, pastured poultry and forested pork. Their grass-based operation supplies pastured protein for roughly 320 families, two farmers markets and three restaurants. They utilize bale grazing primarily for the beef cow and yearling herds. They supplement feed with bale grazing during drought periods, optimal frozen winter conditions, and in areas of reclaimed pasture on our farm in need of nutrient application. The winter pasture walk will be on established pasture and reclaimed pasture areas.

Questions can be directed to Betsy Hicks at [bjh246@cornell.edu](mailto:bjh246@cornell.edu) or Troy Bishopp at (315) 749-4528. In the case of cancellation due to "extreme winter weather" (think: road closings and emergency weather declarations) a cancellation email will be sent to those who have registered by 7 pm Friday, January 9th.

This workshop is a collaboration between the Northeast Region National Grazing Lands Coalition, Hillside Farms and the South-Central NY Cornell Cooperative Extension Team which is part of a National USDA-NRCS CIG Grant by the University of Kentucky Research Foundation entitled: Bale Grazing: A Practical, Low-Cost, and Environmentally-Sound Management Strategy to Winter Beef Cattle.

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## **SAVE THE DATE - March 2026**

### ***From Dry to Fresh -- Setting Up Cows for Success***

This one-day on-farm program will be offered in four different regions across the state in March 2026. Topics covered will include dry cow management, calving model demonstration, fresh cow health check ups and facility considerations

#### **Topics:**

- How to Do Dry Cows Correctly -- precision dry cow management
- Dystocia model -- demonstrate and discussion on calving interventions
- Health Checks on Fresh Cows
- Facility Considerations and Pen Management

Cornell Cooperative Extension and Cornell PRO-DAIRY are excited to offer a sponsorship opportunity for our upcoming "From Dry to Fresh-setting up cows for success" training program.

Sponsorship can be paid online via credit card, or contact Tatum Langworthy, CCE SCNY, [tlm92@cornell.edu](mailto:tlm92@cornell.edu) for more options. Sponsorship confirmation is requested by February 20, 2026.

Payment link: [https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/donation\\_invoice\\_new.php](https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/donation_invoice_new.php) Please write "Dry to Fresh Sponsorship" in the reason for the donation section.



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For more information or to make an appointment



# Cornell Cooperative Extension

## South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program

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## Upcoming Events Calendar

January 10 10:00 am –12 pm Hillside Farms, Truxton	<b>Winter Bale Grazing Pasture Walk</b> —Join us for the second Bale Grazing Winter Pasture Walk! Have you heard about or seen bale grazing and wondered if it would work for you? Are you interested in seeing the impacts of bale grazing on land and animals from a practicing farmer? Registration: <a href="https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=2678">https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=2678</a>
January 12th Virtual or in person	<b>2026 Agricultural and Food Business Outlook Conference</b> Registration: <a href="https://web.cvent.com/event/6326ce23-9fad-4d28-b19d-5ae376704bc6/register?environment=P2">https://web.cvent.com/event/6326ce23-9fad-4d28-b19d-5ae376704bc6/register?environment=P2</a>
January 13 12 pm	<b>Boots in the Barn: Webinar Series</b> — Cornell Dairy Research Updates Webinar Series every Tuesday starting January 13th @ 12:00pm to February 24th. Agenda details and registration: <a href="https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2697">https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2697</a>
January 22 January 23 9:15 –3 pm	<b>Winter Crop Meeting</b> —Ukrainian Club, Auburn <a href="https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2490">https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2490</a> Winter Crop Meeting—Dryden VFW <a href="https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2491">https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2491</a> CCA & 3 DEC recertification credits in cats 1A and 21-25 will be earned
Feb 3 12:30 am-3:00pm	Shop Meeting @ the Donald Farm. Discussions on Pest Management. 2062 E. Venice Road, Moravia. DEC & CCA Credits will be earned.

### Check Out Our Online Platforms

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Use the QR Code to see all our event listings!

