



Winter Dairy Management Program 2014:

Milking System Efficiency – Milking it for all it's Worth!

Friday, March 21

Crawford Hall, Lecture Rm #103 - Morrisville State College

9:30 am Registration / 10 am – 3:15 pm Program

Business Planning for a Successful Project. The New York Dairy Acceleration Program

Why Develop A Project Business Plan? A well thought out business plan allows you to organize your thoughts, seek input from key people and ask the hard questions to make sure the dream can become reality! Additionally, The New York Dairy Acceleration Program offers farmers assistance in developing business plans. This presentation will provide information on the value and key components of business plans and an overview of the Dairy Acceleration Program and what it can offer producers.

Presented by Betsey Howland, ProDairy

Low Cost Parlors- Options and Considerations

Remodeling or adding a low cost parlor requires good planning, design, and sometimes creative solutions to problems posed by the existing facility.

Presented by Dave Balbian, Extension Dairy Specialist with the CNY Dairy & Field Crops Team

Budgeting for a Dairy Modernization Capital Investment in a Realistic Way

Being able to realistically budget for a dairy modernization project is crucial to making a sound decision and ensuring a successful implementation.

Presented by Dave Balbian, Extension Dairy Specialist with the CNY Dairy & Field Crops Team

Parlors - Typical Intervals for Maintenance and Improved Numbers Game

The major costs of operating a milking parlor lie in the capital investment of the parlor and the labor used to operate the parlor. One of the goals of the milking center is to milk a certain number of cows in a specific amount of time. Parlor efficiencies and equipment maintenance are two key components that keep the milking center operating on a routine schedule. Spreading out the costs of the parlor and the labor used to operate the parlor can be done by improving parlor efficiencies. Parlor efficiencies can be analyzed in terms of hundredweights shipped per milker, pounds of milk harvested per stall and cows milked per hour to name a few. Dr. Watters will address these important factors.

Presented by Dr. Rick Watters, DVM, PhD., Quality Milk Promotion Services

Robotic Milking Systems-Different Management System

There has been increasing interest in robotic milking systems in the last 5 years or so. Although still not the norm, there are more and more farmers installing them in our region. Consequently, we are gaining more information on when these systems are a good choice for producers and how they manage them.

Presented by Kathy Barrett, Pro-Dairy.

Program and lunch fee is \$18 per person. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, March 13th. Either call (315) 684-3001 or register online at: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/WDMMorrisville_225. Box lunches will be available between 12:00-12:45pm the day of the event. ⌘

This program is sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County in cooperation with PRO-DAIRY and Cornell University.

MARCH 2014

Cornell Cooperative Extension South Central NY Dairy & Field Crops Program

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"February second, Candlemas day
Half your wood and half your hay,
You'll make it safely through 'til May.
Half the winter has passed away,

We'll eat our supper by the light of day!" (*Old English saying; author unknown*)

We know February 2 as Groundhog Day, which is the mid-point between the first day of winter and the spring solstice. Even though 2013 was an excellent year for forage yields, expanding herds, cold weather and re-building of inventory, this is a good time to see how much winter feed you have and make record of it.

There is, however, no one best time to do an inventory. Doing an inventory at different times for different reasons may be beneficial.

October/November - allows you to make a projection to see if purchased feed will be needed or if consumption rate may need to be adjusted. This will allow needed purchases when commodity prices are apt to be lower in winter and will allow purchases before December 31, assisting in tax management. (Anytime you are required by a lender to provide a balance sheet, a feed inventory and the feed value is needed)

February/March - allows you to make a mid-course correction prior to the harvest season. Estimates of density will be more accurate after having fed from storage for a while, so estimates of quantity stored will be more accurate.

June/July - allows you an early warning of inadequacy of feed supplies for the up-coming feeding season. Purchases of standing crops remain an option if deficiencies are discovered. (*Focus on Forage is a forage crop information resource of the University of Wisconsin.*)

Worksheets are available for help in doing your inventory and its management. Contact your local Extension office or worksheets can also be downloaded from Cornell PRO-Dairy website

<http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/dm/factsheets.html>

Don't overlook the assistance available from nutrition professionals and extension educators who can help you with these issues and decisions. This information might help you plan to make and preserve more feed, allocate acreage or cull differently for the coming year. Take the time on Ground Hog Day to review on your operation from last year and start planning for spring. ¶ - Ron Kuck, Extension Dairy Educator, Jefferson County

We are pleased to provide you with this information as part of the Cooperative Extension Dairy and Field Crops Program serving Cortland, Chemung, Tioga and Tompkins Counties. **Anytime we may be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call or visit our office.**

The views and opinions reproduced here are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the SCNY Area Dairy and Field Crops Team of Cornell Cooperative Extension. We strive to provide various views to encourage dialogue. The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Cooperative Extension is implied. Permission is granted to reproduce articles from this newsletter when proper credit is given. Electronic copies are available upon request. If we reference a website that you cannot access and would like the information, contact Sharon.

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2014 Farm Bill farm safety net:

Summary and brief thoughts

Ohio State University Extension | Updated: 01/30/2014

Overview

This post contains a summary of key farm safety net provisions. Details are minimized to focus on key features. A few brief observations conclude the post. Mistakes are possible given the short turn-around time and interpretation of bill language. Apology is extended for any mistakes.

Title 1. Commodity Programs

- Direct payments are repealed except for reduced transition payments to cotton for the 2014 crop and even smaller payments for the 2015 crop under specified, limited conditions.
- Programs authorized for the 2014-2018 crop years and through December 31, 2018 for dairy.
- A crop farm has a one-time, irrevocable opportunity to elect either Price Loss Coverage (PLC) or county Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) on a crop by crop basis. The producer may also elect individual farm ARC, but this election applies to the entire farm. If no choice is made, the farm defaults to PLC. All producers on a farm must make the same election or face potential loss of payments for the 2014 crop.
- PLC payments occur if U.S. average market price for the crop year is less than the crop's reference price. Reference prices are: wheat, \$5.50/bushel; corn, \$3.70/bushel; grain sorghum, \$3.95/bushel; barley, \$4.95/bushel; oats, \$2.40/bushel; long grain rice, \$14.00/hundredweight (cwt).; medium grain rice, \$14.00/cwt.; soybeans, \$8.40/bushel; other oilseeds, \$20.15/cwt.; peanuts \$535.00/ton; dry peas, \$11.00/cwt.; lentils, \$19.97/cwt.; small chickpeas, \$19.04/cwt.; and large chickpeas, \$21.54/cwt.
- County ARC payments occur when actual crop revenue is below the ARC revenue guarantee for a crop year. County ARC guarantee is 86% of county ARC benchmark revenue. Coverage is capped at 10%, meaning coverage is between 76% and 86% of the county ARC benchmark revenue. County ARC benchmark revenue is based on the Olympic average (removes high and low values) of county yields and U.S. crop year average prices for the 5 preceding crop years.
- Individual farm ARC is a whole farm, not individual crop, program. In essence, it is based on the average covered commodity experience on the farm.
- For both PLC and county ARC, payment acres for a crop are 85% of the farm's base acres for the crop plus any generic base acres (former cotton base acres) planted to the crop. Individual ARC payments acres are 65% of

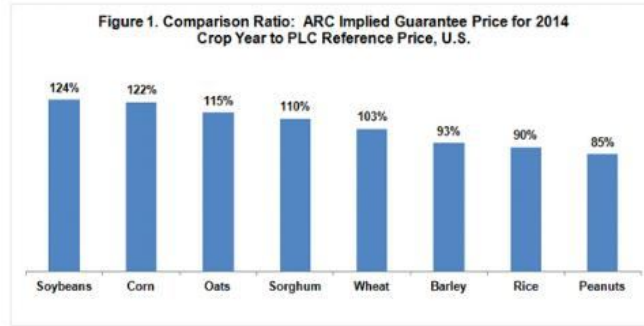


- the sum of the farm's total base acres and any generic base acres planted to covered crops on the farm.
- Total base acres on a farm are the same as current base acres. However a farm can elect to reallocate base acres among the farm's covered crops according to each covered crop's share of the farm's total acres planted to covered crops over the 2009-2012 crop years.
- The Secretary of Agriculture is to develop procedures for identifying and eliminating base acres on land that has been subdivided and developed for multiple residential units or non-farming uses and is unlikely to return to agriculture uses.
- PLC payment yields can be updated to 90% of the farm's average planted yield over the 2008-2012 crop years.
- The 2008 Farm Bill's nonrecourse marketing loan and loan deficiency payment program and associated loan rates are extended, except for modifications to the loan rate for cotton, which now can range between 45 and 52 cents per pound.
- The Dairy Product Support and MILC programs are replaced with a Dairy Production Margin Protection Program based on the difference between the price of milk and feed cost of producing milk. A producer elects a coverage level between \$4 and \$8 per cwt. No premium is paid for the \$4 coverage level; premiums are paid for higher coverage levels. Premium schedules are specified for production of 4 million or fewer pounds and for production greater than 4 million pounds. No supply control provision is included.
- A Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance program is funded permanently. It includes a Livestock Indemnity Program for livestock losses from adverse weather or attacks by federally reintroduced animals; a Livestock Forage Program for losses resulting from drought or fire; a program of emergency relief to producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm raised fish not covered by the two previous programs; and a Tree Assistance Program for natural disasters.
- The so-called permanent laws of 1938 and 1949 are not repealed.
- Payments indirectly or directly received by a person or legal entity under Title I are limited to \$125,000. Limit for a person and spouse is \$250,000. A separate payment limit for peanuts is retained. The only Title 1 crop program not included in this single payment limit is the benefit derived from forfeiting nonrecourse loans.
- USDA is to write new regulations defining "active engagement in farming."
- The two (farm and nonfarm income) adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation tests are replaced with a single \$900,000 AGI limitation for certain commodity as well as conservation programs.

(Continued on page 4)

Title 11. Crop Insurance

- Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) provides farms the option to purchase county level insurance that covers part of the deductible under their individual yield and revenue loss policy. Coverage level cannot exceed the difference between 86% and the coverage level in the individual policy. Subsidy rate is 65%. SCO is not available if enrolled in ARC. A slightly different Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX) is offered for cotton. Implementation begins the 2015 crop year.
- The higher subsidy levels for enterprise insurance are made permanent.
- A new revenue-minus-cost margin crop insurance contract is authorized. The initial target is rice for the 2015 crop year.
- Several provisions encourage data sharing, with a focus on U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies. One objective is to increase availability of county-based insurance products.
- Insurance plug yields are increased from 60% to 70%. A producer may exclude a yield for a crop year in which the county planted acre yield was at least 50% below the average county yield over the previous 10 consecutive crop years.
- Budget limitations are placed on renegotiations of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement, including budget neutrality with regard to the crop insurance programs.
- Insurance benefits are reduced if a farm tills native sod for production of an annual crop.
- Insurance coverage is to be offered by dryland and irrigated acres of a crop.
- Beginning farmers and rancher are eligible for a higher subsidy rate on insurance.
- Proposal to reduce the level of insurance subsidies for high income individuals was deleted.
- The Risk Management Agency is given a clear mandate to focus on developing insurance products for underserved commodities. Immediate priorities are revenue insurance for peanuts, margin insurance for rice, and a specialized irrigated policy for grain sorghum. Studies are authorized of insurance for swine and poultry catastrophic disease, poultry business interruption; and food safety. Insurance for organic crops is to offer price elections that reflect the retail or wholesale price, as appropriate. Index-based weather insurance pilot programs are a priority.



First Look at PLC - County ARC Comparison

The PLC - ARC decision involves many considerations, but a key one is the level of downside protection. Figure 1 presents a very crude, first look at this consideration in the context of the PLC - county ARC decision (individual ARC is not considered here). Figure 1 compares the estimated implied guarantee price for ARC to the PLC reference price for the 2014 crop year. The ARC implied reference price equals ARC's coverage level of 86% times the Olympic average

U.S. price for the 2009-2013 crop years. This comparison suggests that for 2014 ARC's price coverage level is more favorable for corn and soybeans while PLC's reference price is more favorable for peanuts, rice, and barley. The figure implies the same farm may choose different programs for different crops, a feature this farm bill allows. However, Figure 1 is only a starting point because the decision involves all 5 crop years between 2014 and 2018 and comparing price (PLC) vs. revenue (ARC) programs, fixed (PLC) vs. moving average (ARC) programs, and other important differences. Farmdocs will offer more detailed and complete discussion of these decision options in the future.

Summary Thoughts

- Much has been made of the delay in completing this farm bill, including the implication that the farm lobby has lost power. I suggest caution. It is quite an accomplishment to complete a farm bill in the current divided political environment. Few initiatives have gotten this far.
- This farm bill was the first to be distinctly impacted by multilateral international trade agreements. Cotton will eventually have no safety net against multiple year low returns, an unlikely outcome without the World Trade Organization ruling in the U.S.-Brazil cotton case. It should give pause to U.S. farm safety net supporters about the consequences if programs become too generous.
- Due to its size but also expansion in this farm bill, cost and performance of crop insurance will likely be a notable focus of the next farm bill debate.
- Last, this farm bill did not settle the question of what is the best policy for multiple year assistance, price or revenue and fixed vs. moving targets. The next farm bill will continue this debate but with experiences that at present appear likely to be based on a more normal, potentially low, income. In other words, the context of the next farm bill debate will likely significantly differ from the context of this farm bill debate, raising the potential for different outcomes.



Source: Carl Zulauf, Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, The Ohio State University

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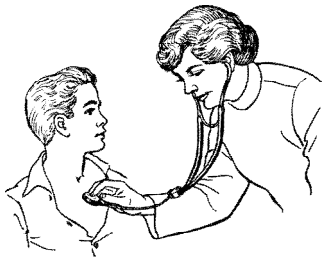
Who are we?

Finger Lakes Community Health is a federally funded Migrant Health Program providing affordable health services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers across New York State. Migrant and Seasonal farm workers can access health care anywhere in New York State by calling 1-800-724-0862 to locate a provider and to schedule an appointment.

Finger Lakes Community Health, as a Migrant Voucher Program, has many partnering sites across New York State that provide medical, dental, and specialty services to migrant and seasonal farm workers.

Services:

- Medical
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- Family Planning
- Behavioral Health
- Multi-lingual staff
- Tele-health
- Mobile Medical Program
- Mobile Dental Program
- Chiropractic
- Medicaid/Child Health Plus Advocacy
- Out-of-State Linkages
- Transportation



If you need more information in finding a health center, or other health services, please call us at 1-800-377-9968.

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Quienes somos?

Finger Lakes Community Health es un programa de salud para trabajadores agricolas migratorios creado con fondos federales propocionando servicios de salud economicos a trabajadores agricolas migratorios y de temporada a traves del estado de Nueva York. Trabajadores agricolas migratorios y de temporada pueden conseguir acceso a asistencia medica donde quiera en NY llamando al 1-800-724-0862 para localizer un doctor y para hacer una cita.

Finger Lakes Community Health, como un Migrant Voucher Program, colabora con muchos otros centros en el estado do Nueva York; que propocionan servicios medicos, dentales y de expecialista para trabajadores agricolas migrantes y de temporada.

Servicios:

- Atencion Medica
- Atencion Dental
- Planificacion Familiar
- Salud Conductual
- Servicios de interprete/Personal bilingile
- Tele-Salud
- Atencion medica en los campamentos o en su casa
- Programa Dental Mobil
- Quiropractico
- Inscricion a Medicaid/Child Health Plus
- Conexiones fuera del Estado de NY
- Transporte cuando es necesario

Si desea mas informacion sobre donde encontrar un centro de salud, o otros servicios de salud, por favor llamenos al 1-800-377-9968. ✿

ORGANIC WEED CONTROL!

WEEDS HAPPEN. Weeds are a fact of life for organic farmers, and even after over 20 years of growing organic row crops and small grains on our Penn Yan farm, weed control is our biggest challenge each year.

We have learned *many* things over the years, but the most important is this: it is very possible for organic weed control to be fully equal to chemically-induced weed control, as long as we remember that:

It is ALWAYS the 3-way combination of (1) specific soil/crop conditions, (2) careful observation/timing, and (3) choosing/setting the machinery correctly that determines success . . . or not.

An effective weed control program integrally involves every aspect of organic crop production. As many farmers begin to explore organic possibilities, invariably the first two questions are “what materials do I buy for soil fertility?” and “what machinery do I buy to control weeds?” We too asked these questions at the beginning, but quickly realized that for both our weed control and our soil fertility programs to be successful, we had to integrate all of the following – soil health & drainage, mineral nutrient levels, prevalent weed species, weather, crop rotations, field histories, crop varieties, markets and specific market quality demands, and our available time and labor, along with our equipment and repair/upgrade needs. Although we farm 1600 organic acres with large equipment, these factors are really size-independent, from the smallest vegetable farm to the largest organic grain farm, with pastures and hayfields definitely included!

CULTURAL WEED CONTROL

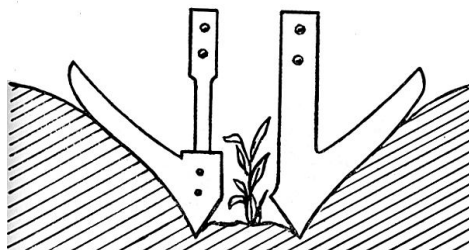
Do you think that cultivation is the only way to control weeds? Do you think weeds are just random events? Think again! There are many things you can do to change field conditions, favor crop growth and competition, change prevalent weed species to ones easier to control, and reduce overall weed pressure.

Cultural weed control - that is, changing the conditions that promote weed growth - is a multiyear, whole-farm approach:

1. Know your Enemy - learn how to identify your troublesome perennial and annual weed species, study their life cycles and growth patterns, and learn their weaknesses and vulnerabilities.

For example – Canada thistle is a tough, invasive perennial weed, but it is very vulnerable to mowing right before bloom.

Targeting thistle-infested areas by



South Central NY Dairy & Field Crops Digest

mowing at bloom will often bring it under control. Putting a thistle infested field into hay or annual forage for a couple years, and mowing at the most vulnerable times, can often control a serious patch of thistle.

2. Crop Competition – without a doubt, THE most effective way to control weed growth is to have highly vigorous crops. It is important to use high quality vigorous seed, well-adapted varieties, optimal soil fertility, good drainage and tilth, proper soil preparation etc to produce the most competitive crop possible. The faster your crop grows taller than the weeds and shades the ground surface, the less competitive weeds will be.

A healthy vigorous crop that emerges quickly and uniformly and then grows rapidly is certainly a weed’s worst enemy, and a farmer’s best ally!

3. Soil Fertility and Condition – In an organic system, an active, diverse microbial population is the primary source of soil fertility, tilth and resilience. Soil organic matter, obtained through cover crops, plant residue, manure, and compost, provides essential food for the microbes and soil water holding capacity. Soil tests can be useful, but only if the results are interpreted carefully for an organic system. The balance of key nutrients can often change weed problems by changing soil physical and chemical conditions, although the more we see, the more we suspect the weed species present are largely determined by the microbes favored by the certain soil conditions! Some weed species are favored by low fertility (bedstraw), while others are favored by high fertility (galinsoga, lambs quarters) Some weed species are favored by hard crusty soils sspringplanted crops with fall-planted crops, heavy feeders with light feeders, row crops with close-planted crops.

Careful use of cover crops during times when the ground would be bare will add nutrients and organic matter, suppress weeds, increase microbial diversity, and prevent erosion. A diverse crop rotation will prevent well-adapted weed populations from developing.

5. Allelopathy – some plant species compete with each other by releasing chemicals from their roots. We can incorporate these crops in rotations to target weed problems. Common alleopathic crops include rye, barley, buckwheat, alfalfa, barley, oats, and red clover. Short-term cover-cropping with buckwheat or mustard can suppress specific weed and insect problems.

6. Sanitation – it is always best to prevent weed problems. Using clean seed, mowing weeds around the edges of fields, hand-roguing weeds in problem areas, cleaning machinery and thoroughly composting manure are some ways to prevent weed seeds from building up in the field.

(Continued on page 7)

MECHANICAL WEED CONTROL

It is important to divide mechanical weed control into 4 main phases – (1) tillage, (2) planting, (3) early season ‘blind’ cultivation, and (4) between-row cultivation. Each



stage is absolutely critical to achieving weed control.

1. Tillage – appropriate pre-plant soil tillage (1) creates a good seed bed for vigorous uniform crop emergency, (2) prepares the ground for successful subsequent mechanical weed control, and (3) can eliminate much of the weed potential. If initial tillage is done 7-10 days before planting, one large flush of germinating weeds can be killed during final field preparation. If tillage can be done on a hot sunny day, this will dessicate perennial weed roots. However, if tillage is done when the soil is wet, this can create compacted and cloddy soil which will make subsequent weed control much more difficult.

2. Planting – more crop is lost, and more weed problems created, by a poorly adjusted or worn planter than most farmers realize. Repair/replace worn and warped planter parts before the beginning of the season. Test the planter early. Get off the tractor regularly and dig up some seeds to check accuracy, uniformity and depth. Make adjustments as needed. Avoid planting in wet or lumpy soil.


3. Early Season Blind Cultivation – this involves shallowly tilling the entire field shortly after planting to stir the top 1-2 inches, adding air and causing the millions of tiny germinating weeds to dry out and die. The larger crop seeds are planted below this level and will not be damaged. There are several tools that are used for blind cultivation – coil tine harrows, rotary hoes, Lely finger weeders and Einbock tine harrows are most common. Different style teeth stir the soil in different ways, so you may need to study the available tools to choose the style best for your soil, crop plants and conditions.

4. Between-row cultivation – when the crop rows are clearly visible, usually when corn plants are 8-10 inches or soybeans are in the third trifoliate stage, it is time for between-row cultivation. There are rear, belly and front mounted cultivators, and many types of cultivator teeth, shanks and points.

Each work somewhat differently. Some farmers favor tractors with only rear-mounted cultivators, while others prefer a combination of 2 or more units.

Additionally during cultivation, farmers need to make constant in-field adjustments of (1) tractor speed (2) horizontal and lateral adjustment of the shovels (3) depth of shovels (4) down pressure on the gangs (5) distance of shovels from the row. These factors may change across the field or in the course of a morning, as soil, crop and weed conditions change. Watch all the rows carefully, and be aware when conditions change.

For more information on cultural and mechanical organic weed control under Northeast conditions, please see several articles at

http://www.lakevieworganicgrain.com/pub_art1/pub_art_index.html 


DAIRY FARM BUSINESS SUMMARY

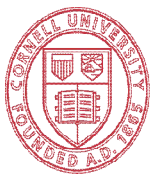
The Dairy Farm Business Summary is published each year to give producers an easy to use tool to analysis the financial health of their business and to be able to make plans for the future. The program allows for dairy farm owner/operators to compare the farm to itself year-over-year as well as compare to farms of similar size, region and state wide.

Farms are also able to work closely with extension educators who help interpret the data and provide the producers with insight on current issues within the dairy industry.

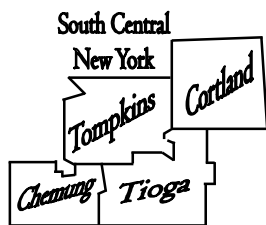
Many farms have worked with the DFBS for multiple years as the information that is provided is essential for farm business management and outlines the financial area that many lenders need to see when working with the farms. Just as with any other business, running and managing a farm can only be done if you have a good understanding of the financial standing of the business.

Considering the current volatility of the dairy industry, it becomes more important each year for producers to have a strong handle on input costs. The Dairy Farm Business Summary is an excellent way for farmers to organize and evaluate their farm financials as they make management decisions. As the motto of the DFBS states, “You can’t manage what you can’t measure. But if you measure it, you can improve it.”

If you are interested in participating in the DFBS please contact Richard Kimmich, rak279@cornell.edu, who works with the DFBS at Cornell. 



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
South Central New York Dairy & Field Crops Team



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Area Dairy & Field Crops Team

The Cornell Cooperative Extension educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research-based knowledge to work.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- MAR 20 GRASSFED RISING – Promoting Health from the Soil Up:** Chemung County Fairgrounds, 6 – 8 pm. **Video Series: Video participants are:** Dr. Don Huber, Bill Helming, Dr. Allen Williams, Abe Collins, Doug Peterson, Dr. Fred Kirschenman, Neil Dennis. During each meeting, a light dinner will be served while watching the video, followed by discussion amongst those present. To RSVP contact Sharon VanDeuson at 607-753-5078 or shv76@cornell.edu or for more information contact Fay Benson at afb3@cornell.edu. Sponsored by: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cortland County, USDA, NY Grazing Collation and NY Ag & Markets Crop Insurance Education.
- MAR 21 WINTER DAIRY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 2014: *Milking System Efficiency – Milking it for all it's Worth!*** Crawford Hall, Lecture Rm #103 - Morrisville State College. **9:30 am Registration / 10 am – 3:15 pm.** Program and lunch fee is \$18 per person. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, March 13th. Either call (315) 684-3001 or register online at: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/WDMMMorrisville_225. Box lunches will be available between 12:00-12:45pm the day of the event. *See the cover for more info.*
- MAR 25 AG CELEBRATION DINNER:** Tinelli's Hathaway House, Solon. **6:30 – Cocktails / 7:00 Dinner.** Keynote Speaker: Richard Ball, Commissioner of NYS Ag & Markets. The Annual Geraldine Young Friend of Ag award will be presented. \$15 pre-paid to Cortland County BDC, 607-756-5005.
- MAR 26 CROP PROTECTION:** 4-H Building, Chemung County Fairgrounds, 170 Fairview Road, Horseheads. **3.25 DEC credits. Registration 9:30 am and presentations 10am - 3 pm.** Cost: \$25 includes lunch. Topics: Corn leaf blight epidemics: The new normal? New developments in soybean and small grain diseases. Weed, Insect and Disease Management in Corn. Please pre-register with Sharon @ 607-753-5215. Questions? Call Janice 607-753-5215.
- MAR 26 BREAKING NEW GROUND: Building a Sustainable Business for Generations to Come –** The Genesee Grand, 1060 Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13210. **7:45 am – 4 pm.** Topics: The Top 10 Mistakes that Break Up a Family Business and Leadership and Professional Development Discussion. Pre-register. \$50 per person. Call Farm Net 1-800-547-FARM.

The results of the 2013 Cornell corn grain and soybean variety trials are now available.

In the tables you will find a listing of the top performers of the early and medium early corn varieties and the group I and II soybean varieties that were in the trial this past season. Yields were exceptional on the test sites.

For more detailed information about this year's corn variety test results you can go to Cornell's website: <http://plbrgen.cals.cornell.edu/programs/departamental/corn/>. For additional information about the soybean variety trial results: <http://www.fieldcrops.org/VarietyTrials/Pages/default.aspx>.