

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

A partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in these ten counties:
Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming & Yates

CROP ALERT

Saturday, May 18, 2019

Mike Stanyard & Jodi Putman, Regional Agronomists, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NWNY Team page 1

Alfalfa

Locations around the region are listed where we have measured alfalfa height (see spreadsheet). You can use the location and elevation as a guide to conditions that may be similar to your farm.

Measuring alfalfa this week was a wet affair. Older stands are suffering from waterlogged soil conditions, with some going backwards. Unfortunately, I would not expect much from those stands. Younger stands on

ground without standing water looked good.

While measuring stands I also did some sweep netting and found adult weevil and pea aphids. This weekend is going to provide some of you with an opportunity to get first cutting off. Please be selective on which fields you choose to take and remember its ok to switch and take one field for quality and another for tonnage.

Next report will be May 5/24/19.

County	Town	Elevation	Alfalfa Height Inches	Predicted Grass % NDF	Predicted 50/50 Mix % NDF	Predicted Alfalfa % NDF	Predicted Date to Cut Grass	Predicted Date to Cut Mix	Predicted Date to Cut Alfalfa
Monroe	Scottsville	620	14.75	49.7	36.9	28.8	5/2/19	5/10/19	5/20/19
Wyoming	Castile	1340	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/3/19	5/12/19	5/22/19
Livingston	Geneseo	850	15	50.0	37.1	29.0	5/2/19	5/10/19	5/20/19
Orleans	Holley	322	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/3/19	5/12/19	5/22/19
Wayne	Ontario	397	15	50.0	37.1	29.0	5/2/19	5/10/19	5/20/19
Wayne	Ontario	397	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/3/19	5/12/19	5/22/19

Alfalfa Weevil Adults are Out in Full Force!

Adult weevils are very active in alfalfa fields and lots of egg laying is occurring. We saw a little bit of tip feeding so that means some of the earliest eggs have hatched. Tip feeding damage will increase until first cut harvest. We usually only have to treat first cut when we have early warm springs. Not the case this year! Let's hope the weather turns around so we can get a timely harvest. Treatment threshold on first cut is if 40% of the stems have tip-feeding injury (see picture). We may be more concerned with second cut regrowth this year. Threshold for treatment is if 50% of the stems have tip-feeding. You may be able to judge your weevil larvae load based on how many are crawling on the front of the cutter bar!



Adult Weevil in a sweep net.
Photo by Jodi Putman

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Triticale Forage Harvest

Now is the time to start checking the growth stage of your earliest planted winter triticale! I'm sure these fields are at the right stage to harvest, if you can get on them. Triticale should be harvested at Feekes 9 for optimal quality. At stage 8 the flag leaf is emerging from the top of the plant but not fully. **At Feekes 9, the whole leaf has pushed up so that the collar of the flag leaf is visible.** Picture:

growth stage 8 on the right and 9 on the left. Note leaf collar on the flag leaf (circled) on the left but not visible on the right. We have a

short video showing the optimal time for triticale harvest and how to determine if your crop is at Feekes stage 9, <https://vimeo.com/129684323>.



Black Cutworm and Common Armyworm Update

We continue to catch high numbers of Black Cutworms at our sites in Castile and Seneca Falls while Ontario and Caledonia stay low. While we do not have many corn acres planted right now, BCW females will be laying eggs on other weed and grass species near or in fields intended for corn. See the May 3 Crop Alert for more details about calculating degree days. Armyworms continue to be caught in Niagara and Genesee counties. Our site in Seneca is the first real flight that we have seen in our traps. There are plenty of wheat, barley and grass fields that are attractive egg laying spots for females. Looking forward, egg hatch will probably not happen until the very end of May into June.

	BCW Ontario	BCW Seneca Falls	BCW Castile	BCW Caledonia	CAW Ontario	CAW Seneca Falls	CAW Castile	CAW Caledonia
	Wayne	Seneca	Wyoming	Livingston	Wayne	Seneca	Wyoming	Livingston
April 29	1	12	0	NA	0	0	0	NA
May 6	1	29	19	0	0	0	0	1
May 13	5	64	42	4	0	12	0	0

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