swnyteam@cornell.edu

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

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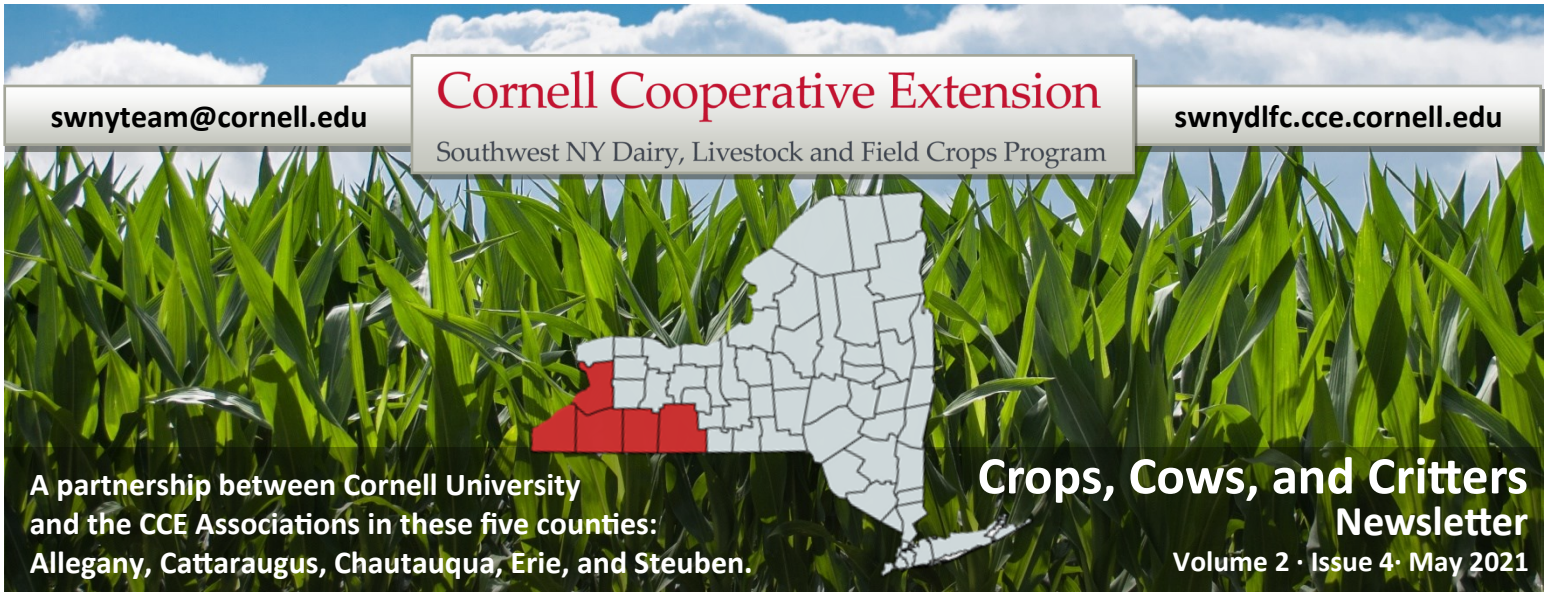


A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

Crops, Cows, and Critters Newsletter

Volume 2 · Issue 4· May 2021

Yes - You Can Ask Employees If They Are Vaccinated!

Excerpt from "Vaccination Questions, Requirements, and Policies for Employees" by Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development.

Farm employers are taking different positions on how they handle employee vaccinations. Some employers are aggressively encouraging vaccination, hosting mobile clinics, and even requiring all employees to be vaccinated. Other employers are taking a much more hands-off approach.

Can an employer ask employees if they are vaccinated?
Yes, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) weighed in on this question back in December 2020. Be cautious, however, about any follow up questions about why an employee is not vaccinated. These could lead to discussions of medical or disability issues that might be protected by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), so you want to avoid that.

Can an employer ask a job applicant if they are vaccinated?
The answer to this is also yes.

Can an employer require employees to have the COVID-19 vaccine?
Employers are certainly able to recommend and encourage the vaccine for their employees. Requiring employees to get vaccinated is a very different thing, but there appears to be no laws preventing it. That said, if an employer does require the vaccine, they must comply with employee protections in the law. Specifically, employees who refuse vaccination based on a disability or religious beliefs may need to be excused from the requirement or accommodated according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Don't Forget your Residential Agricultural Discount Application!

Farms have until July 1st to apply or reapply for a reduced electric rate available to agricultural customers who are billed under a residential service. For more information, or for hard copies of the forms, contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll at 716-640-0522.

Recruitment of Shepherds, Beekeepers, and Solar Sites for Industrial Solar Study

The American Solar Grazing Association (ASGA) announced on May 4th that it will collect and analyze data on the agricultural, economic, and environmental impacts of co-locating agricultural enterprises such as commercial beekeeping and sheep grazing on photovoltaic sites.

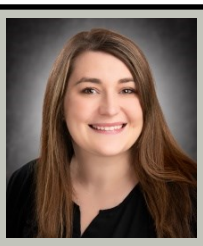
Interested in participating in this study? You can on the ASGA website at https://solargrazing.org/nyserda/ or call Amy Barkley at 716-640-0844.

ASGA

In this issue:

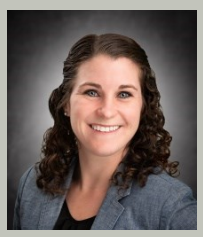
CROPS COWS & CRITTERS newsletter

Contact Our Specialists

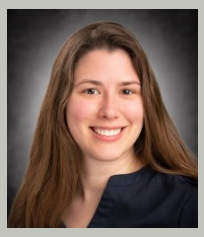


Katelyn Walley-Stoll
Team Leader
Farm Business Management
716-640-0522
kaw249@cornell.edu

Josh Putman
Field Crops
716-490-5572
jap473@cornell.edu



Alycia Drwencke
Dairy Management
517-416-0386
amd453@cornell.edu



Amy Barkley
Livestock and Beginning Farms
716-640-0844
amb544@cornell.edu

County Association Executive Directors

Allegany County
Laura Hunsberger
lkh47@cornell.edu
585-268-7644 ext. 17

Cattaraugus County
Dick Rivers
rer263@cornell.edu
716-699-2377 ext. 122

Chautauqua County
Emily Reynolds
eck47@cornell.edu
716-664-9502 ext. 201

Erie County
Diane Held
dbh24@cornell.edu
716-652-5400

Steuben County
Tess McKinley
tsm223@cornell.edu
607-664-2301

"Cows, Crops, and Critters Newsletter" by the Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program with Cornell Cooperative Extension in partnership with Cornell University and the five county region of Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Steuben and their CCE Associations. To simplify information, brand names of products may be used in this publication. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not named. Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete and up-to-date pesticide recommendations. Changes occur constantly and human errors are still possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labeling. Please read the label before applying pesticides. By law and purpose, Cooperative Extension is dedicated to serving the people on a non-discriminatory basis. Newsletter layout and design by Katelyn Walley-Stoll.

County Association Agriculture Educators

Sharon Bachman - Erie County
Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator
sin2@cornell.edu · 716-652-5400 ext. 150

Jeremy Baier - Allegany County
Community Horticulture Educator
jtb273@cornell.edu · 585-268-7466 ext. 14

Lynn Bliven - Allegany County
Ag & Natural Resources Issue Leader
lao3@cornell.edu · 585-268-7466 ext. 18

Cassandra Bull - Allegany County
Farm to School Coordinator
cb775@cornell.edu · 585-268-7466 ext. 25

Lisa Kempisty - Chautauqua County
Dairy/Livestock Community Educator
ljk4@cornell.edu · 716-664-9502 ext. 203

Ariel Kirk - Steuben County
Agriculture Educator
adk39@cornell.edu · 607-664-2574

Kathleen McCormick - Erie County
Agriculture Educator
km864@cornell.edu · 716-652-5400 ext. 146

Jesse Meeder - Cattaraugus County
Farm to School/Ag in the Classroom Coordinator
jpm453@cornell.edu · 716-699-2377

John Whitney - Erie County
Agriculture Educator
jrw44@cornell.edu · 716-652-5400 ext. 146

swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu

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For accommodations or accessibility concerns, please contact our specialists at least one week prior to the scheduled event. If you need information provided in a different format, call 716-640-0522.

Managing Forage Digestibility to Combat High Commodity Prices by Joe Lawrence, Cornell PRO-DAIRY

~ This is an excerpt, to be mailed the entire article, reach out to Kelly Bourne at 585-268-7644 ~

While striving for forage quality should always be the goal, the current price dynamics do offer an added incentive to optimize forage quality and specifically fiber digestibility entering 2021.

Hay Crops: Key factors in hay field management remain constant. As always it really boils down to optimizing yield and quality while securing the needed quantity of forage for different groups of animals on the farm. As each season presents ample chances to make low quality hay, the emphasis should be put on securing needed inventories of lactating quality feed before shifting the focus to obtaining lower quality inventory. Other factors to consider include:

- Ensure access to the appropriate quality forage at the correct time by planning in advance
- Understanding the management differences needed between alfalfa and grass or mixed stands
- Rather than crude protein (CP), fiber digestibility should be a metric used to evaluate quality
- Grass has more total NDF but it is also more digestible. If this is understood it can be accounted for in proper ration development.
- Fiber and digestibility vary throughout the season and should be accounted for when harvesting forages.

Corn Silage: The 2020 growing season can be generalized by below average rainfall which challenged the corn crop in many areas; however, one benefit realized was the positive impact the drier weather had of corn silage fiber digestibility. When considering a number of potential influences on corn silage fiber, aside from unique traits like BMR, we know that rainfall tend to have one of the most significant impacts on digestibility. With this information, by August we should have a relatively good idea as to whether fiber digestibility is going to trend higher (like 2020) or lower (like 2017). This picture can help with planning ahead and managing feedout. This could help planning in two ways. First, it may influence harvest decisions, specifically chop height. Penn State summarized a number of chopping height studies and found that on-average NDFd increases by 2.5 percent for each six inches the cutting height is increased. In a situation where the 2021 growing season results in a high yielding crop but there are concerns of below average fiber digestibility, increasing corn silage cutting height may be a worthwhile consideration. Conversely, if 2021 is similar to 2020, with limited rainfall, securing adequate forage inventory may be of more concern. Understanding that this will likely be offset by higher overall digestibility in the crop suggest a lower harvest height could be worth considering. Second, having some level of confidence in whether fiber digestibility will be above or below average prior to harvest will provide a glimpse into what diet adjustments may be needed when switching to the new corn silage crop.

An inherent challenge of a dry year is that while digestibility is often higher, overall yield is often lower. This creates a scenario where cows are likely to consume more of the forage, particularly if striving for a high forage diet to combat high commodity prices, while inventories may be stressed. Planning ahead and using this information may aid in decision making regarding how many acres on the farm are harvested for silage versus grain or if purchasing additional corn silage (standing in the field or post-harvest) is warranted.

Preparing a Forage Budget

~ Adapted from an article by Gonzalo Ferreira in Hoard's Dairyman ~

Preparing a forage budget can prevent unexpected shortages and promote smooth diet transitions which can promote cow health. To prepare a forage budget:

1. Determine the amount of forage needed, including what you need for animals that may freshen or change classification in the next month. Best practice is to also take shrink or lost forage into account in these projections.
2. Estimate current forage inventory on the farm, including corn silage, dry hay, haylage, etc.
3. Prepare a budget by comparing expected need to current inventories. If the forage budget shows a deficit in what you have compared to what you need, a conversation should be had with the nutritionist to determine if diets will be adjusted or forage will be purchased. Reducing shrink in any way possible when forage is tight can also be useful.

Now is the time to plan for the 2021 forage on farms by taking inventories and understanding the effect of digestibility on the diet.

CROPS COWS & CRITTERS newsletter

For more information on this topics, or for paper copies of any of the resources, contact Alycia Drwencke at 517-416-0386 or amd453@cornell.edu.

Dairy Market Watch

April 2021

PRO DAIRY Education & Applied Research
prodairy.cals.cornell.edu

Prepared by Katelyn Walley-Stoll.
Funded by PRO-DAIRY.

Milk Component Prices			Milk Class Prices				Statistical Uniform Price & PPD				
Month	Butterfat	Protein	I (Boston)	II	III	IV	Jamestown, NY		Albany, NY		Albany $/gal. to farmer
Mar 20	$1.92	$2.84	$20.71	$16.75	$16.25	$14.87	$16.59	$0.34	$17.19	$0.94	$1.48
Apr 20	$1.32	$2.48	$19.89	$13.87	$13.07	$11.40	$13.77	$0.77	$14.37	$1.30	$1.24
May 20	$1.38	$2.09	$16.20	$12.30	$12.14	$10.67	$12.32	$0.18	$12.92	$0.78	$1.11
June 20	$1.86	$4.53	$14.67	$12.99	$21.04	$12.90	$14.51	($6.53)	$15.11	($5.93)	$1.30
July 20	$1.95	$5.62	$19.81	$13.79	$24.54	$13.76	$17.93	($6.61)	$18.53	($6.01)	$1.60
Aug 20	$1.63	$4.44	$23.03	$13.27	$19.77	$12.53	$16.87	($2.90)	$17.47	($2.30)	$1.51
Sep 20	$1.59	$3.39	$21.69	$13.16	$16.43	$12.75	$15.65	($0.78)	$16.25	($.018)	$1.40
Oct 20	$1.64	$5.01	$18.45	$13.63	$21.61	$13.47	$15.92	($5.69)	$16.52	($5.09)	$1.41
Nov 20	$1.56	$5.62	$21.29	$13.86	$23.34	$13.30	$17.12	($6.22)	$17.72	($5.62)	$1.53
Dec 20	$1.54	$3.03	$23.12	$14.01	$15.72	$13.36	$16.11	$0.39	$16.71	$0.99	$1.44
Jan 21	$1.55	$3.04	$18.39	$14.18	$16.04	$13.75	$14.76	($1.28)	$15.36	($0.68)	$1.32
Feb 21	$1.44	$2.98	$18.79	$14.00	$15.75	$13.19	$14.65	($1.10)	$15.25	($0.50)	$1.31
Mar 21	$1.72	$2.70	$18.45	$15.07	$16.15	$14.18	$15.35	($0.80)	$15.95	($0.20)	$1.38

March Utilization (Northeast): Class I = 30.4%; Class II = 25.6%; Class III = 25.4%; Class IV = 18.6%.

***Class I** = fluid milk; **Class II** = soft products, cream, and yogurt; **Class III** = cheese (American, Italian), evaporated and condensed products; **Class IV** = butter and milk powder.*

Dairy Commodity Markets (USDA Dairy Market News – Volume 88, Report 16, April 23rd, 2021)

Cheese: Cheese availability has varied by region and within regions, but barrel producers have begun reporting strength in demand, as well as a limit regarding supply. The CME markets exhibited some of the strength in barrel markets this week, as barrel prices overtook block prices on Tuesday after a $.06+ bounce. Market tones, in general, are a little shaky as some questions go unanswered regarding the effect of the different direction the government is taking in regards to the food box programs. Milk remains generally available, although there were some overages reported this week from Midwestern cheese producers.

Fluid Milk: While milk production is nearing, at, or just past peak levels in the southern parts of the country, milk output is said to be steady to lower across much of the northern parts of the country. Regardless, manufacturers contend there is plentiful milk available for processing.

Butter: Cream supplies vary regionally. Butter makers are generally receiving adequate volumes of cream to support seasonal production levels. Inventories remain stable. Retail demand varies but is trending steady to lower. Nationally, food service orders have markedly improved since the Ides of March.

Dry Products: Low/medium heat nonfat dry milk prices continued to move higher this week. Even with ample milk supplies and active production, domestic and export customers are actively seeking out loads. High heat prices are steady to higher. Manufacturers are focusing on the production of low/medium heat NDM in order to keep up with the abundance of milk. Buttermilk powder prices are steady to higher. Discounted loads of dry buttermilk resulting from shipping delays were not reported this week. Dry whole milk powder prices moved slightly higher at the bottom of the range. Prices for dry whey are mostly higher and supplies remain tight. Animal feed whey prices are steady to higher, on light trading. Lactose prices are steady to lower. A few higher priced sales cleared the market, but the market tone is stable. Rennet and acid casein prices are firming, with supplies mostly committed until Q3.

Friday CME Cash Prices					
Dates	3/26	4/1	4/9	4/16	4/23
Butter	$1.78	$1.85	$1.88	$1.85	$1.77
Cheese (40# Blocks)	1.72	$1.78	$1.83	$1.78	$1.79

An educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry.

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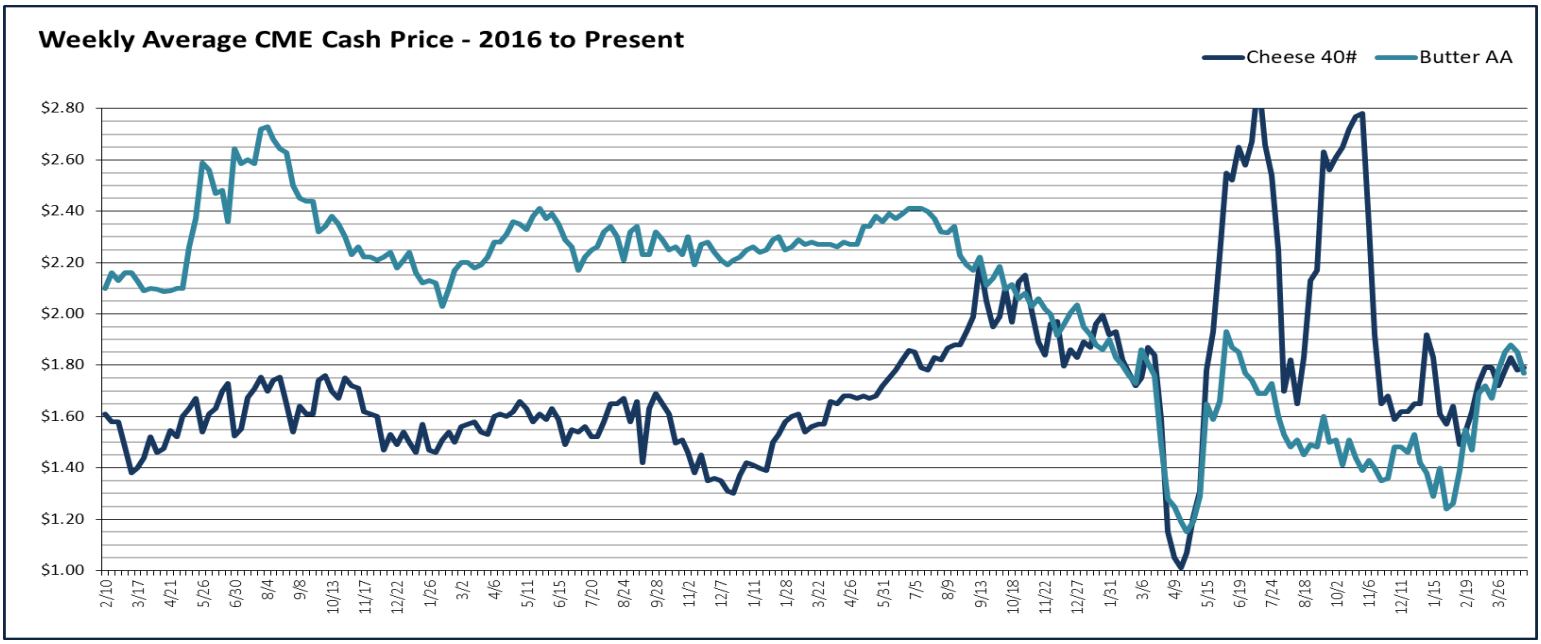
For more information on Dairy Business Management and Market Analysis, contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist, at 716-640-0522 or kaw249@cornell.edu.



April 2021 Dairy Situation and Outlook, April 21, 2021

Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin Madison, Division of Extension

Originally published online at https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/dairy/april-2021-dairy-situation-and-outlook/

Despite relatively strong milk production growth, dairy product prices continued to show strength during April. While prices on the CME moved up and down during the month, the price of cheese, dry whey, butter and nonfat all strengthened. The result of these stronger dairy product prices the April Class III price will be near $17.70 compared to $16.15 for March and the April Class IV price near $15.50 compared to $14.18 for March.

These stronger prices are the result of several factors. Food service which normally accounts for about 50% of cheese and butter sales has improved as more restaurants have more fully opened and some schools have returned to partially or full in classroom instruction. Dairy products have been purchased under the Farms to Families Food Box Program which was to end on April 30th but has been extended to the end of May. And there have been dairy product purchases for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Dairy exports continue to increase as dairy product prices are competitive on the world market.

USDA estimates milk production for the month was 1.8% higher than a year ago. Milk cow numbers continue to increase with 8,000 more than February resulting in 77,000 more cows than a year ago for an increase of 0.8%. The increase in milk per cow slowed some with an increase of 1.0%.

The level of milk production for the remainder of the year is very crucial to how milk prices will fair. USDA is forecasting a relatively strong increase in milk production for the year being up 2.3% higher than last year Leap Year adjusted. Milk cow numbers are forecasted to average 72,000 head higher or 0.8% and milk per cow 1.5% higher. This amount of milk will be difficult to move through the domestic market and exports and maintain relatively favorable milk prices. But milk production could well slow by the second half of the year as higher feed costs could encourage heavier culling of cows and ration adjustments that reduces the increase in milk per cow.

Continued improvement in the economy, further opening of restaurants, return of fans to sports events, return of conferences and in person classroom instruction all for the second half of the year would support milk prices. With some improvement in the world economy, modest increase in milk production around 1% for major dairy exporters like Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia, and U.S. dairy product prices competitive on the world market should all be favorable for dairy exports this year. But unless milk production ends up less than what USDA is currently forecasting there will a lot of pressure on milk prices.

Class III futures have been somewhat volatile during the month with Class III at times in the $17's and in the $19's. Class IV futures have shown continued strengthening. Currently Class III futures are rather optimistic being in the $19's May through September and the higher $18's October through December. Class IV futures are in the $16's May through July and the $17's August through December. USDA's latest forecast is not this optimistic. USDA forecasts Class III to average 17.10 for the year compared to $18.16 last year.

So, uncertainty as to where milk prices will end the year continues. Unless milk production ends up lower than what USDA is currently forecasting, in my opinion $19 Class III futures are too optimistic. I could see Class III in the $17's. I hope I am wrong, but time will tell. We will need to keep watching how things develop month to month.

April Class III price will be near $17.70 compared to $16.15 for March and the April Class IV price near $15.50 compared to $14.18 for March.

Currently Class III will likely be in the $17's in spite of optimistic futures market numbers.

Feeding Small Grains to Beef Cattle

Authored by Daniel M. Kniffen and John W. Comerford, Penn State Extension

Cattle feeders for all classes of cattle are encountering corn prices that are at or near record levels. Alternative feeds may provide an alternative feedstuff and in many cases will make financial sense as an ingredient in the ration. One of the options is the use of small grains.

Price and Value:

The first issue to consider for replacing corn with small grains is how to make an equivalent exchange for both feed value and price. The following table describes the protein and energy value of some selected small grains as compared to corn.

Table 1. Protein and Energy Values for Small Grains

Grain	Crude Protein %	Net Energy-gain (Mcal/CWT)
Oats	13	52
Wheat	14	65
Barley	12	61
Rye	12	59
Corn	9	64
NRC, 2001		

Table 2. Equivalent Value of Corn Grain and Small Grains

Grain	Bushel wt.	Energy price ($/bu)	Protein price ($/bu)
Corn=$5.00/bu			
Oats	32	2.32	4.13
Wheat	60	4.74	7.26
Barley	48	4.08	6.67
Rye	56	4.61	6.66
Corn=$4.00/bu			
Oats	32	1.85	3.30
Wheat	60	3.79	5.81
Barley	48	3.26	5.34
Rye	56	3.69	5.33

These data show small grains will usually be a lower cost of protein as compared to corn, but, for most classes of beef cattle, protein will be a small or non- limiting nutrient. The most limiting nutrient will be energy, so the feeder should focus on the equivalent value of small grains as a source of energy and compare prices based on this feature.

Oats:

Oats are generally lower in energy and have more fiber content than other small grains. The hull of the oats will represent 24-30 % of the weight of the grain (John and Boyles, North Dakota State University.) Thus, their value as a source of energy in high-grain diets will be limited. Because of the high fiber content coupled with a relatively high energy value, oats are most effectively used with younger cattle to transition them to a grain diet. This can include using oats as a creep feed for nursing calves. Feeding programs for club calves and junior steer projects will often include oats as a means of adding energy to the diet with a lower potential for bloat and acidosis as compared to corn-based diets, although weight gain will be reduced. Oats may be processed by rolling or crimping and processing can add 5% efficiency to their use by the animal. However, this improved efficiency may not be enough to offset the cost of processing. Oats are usually not effective in a finishing diet because the energy value is lower, the total intake of feed may be reduced, and the cost may be prohibitive. As shown in Table 2 corn will be a cheaper source of energy than oats when corn is priced at $4.00/bu and oats are more than $1.85/bu.

Wheat:

Wheat provides a highly-degradable, high starch source of energy for the ruminant. Both the energy and protein content is often higher than in corn. However, wheat cannot totally replace corn as the energy component of the diet because of a higher incidence of acidosis and founder. Therefore, as a general rule wheat should not replace more than 50% of the corn in the diet, particularly for feedlot steers.

Because of the high degradability of wheat energy, cattle should be switched to wheat rations slowly to allow adaptation by the rumen. It should take up to 2 weeks to shift feedlot cattle for corn to high-wheat diets. The fiber level of wheat is also low (about 3%), so the fiber content of the ration would need to be adjusted to keep it at least 6% in the total ration. Wheat should be coarsely ground or rolled to prevent fines. Wheat should never be fed as a finely-ground product because in will greatly increase the potential for acidosis and bloat. Generally, wheat should not be used in starter diets for young cattle or for replacement heifers.

Wheat harvested late and (or) in wet conditions may be sprouted. Several studies have shown sprouted wheat will be as good as, and sometimes better than, unsprouted wheat as cattle feed. An Idaho study showed a diet that contained 60% sprouted wheat (with up to 36% sprouted kernels) resulted in similar cattle performance and feed efficiency in feedlot steers.

Small Grains continued on page 7...

The April 30th commodity report shared corn prices have reached $7.39/bu. Futures indicate these prices will decrease slightly moving into summer, with July futures at $6.73/bu.

CROPS COWS & CRITTERS newsletter

If you are interested in learning more about the stories shared here, contact Livestock and Beginning Farm Specialist, Amy Barkley, at 716-640-0844 or amb544@cornell.edu.

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"Farm Business Foundations" is a Virtual Workshop Series for Beginning and Transitioning Farmers presented by Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program. Funding for this project provided by the State of New York and American Farmland Trust. FSA Borrower Credits Pending.

SO, YOU WANT TO START A FARM?

Thursday, May 6th · 7pm - 8pm

basics of starting a farm business · who's who · resources galore · is farming right for you

FARM BUSINESS PLANNING FOR BEGINNERS

Thursday, May 13th · 7pm - 8pm

management · marketing and regulations · insurance · SWOT analysis · what's your why

ANALYZING FARM ENTERPRISES

Thursday, May 20th · 7pm - 8pm

hops, hogs, and honey - oh my! · market analysis · evaluating assets · farm diversification

FARM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BASICS

Thursday, May 27th · 7pm - 8pm

record keeping methods · common financial statements · tax considerations

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IS THIS FOR ME?
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Katelyn Walley-Stoll
716-640-0522
kaw249@cornell.edu
swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu

… Small Grains continued from page 6

Similarly, rye can be used in cattle diets using the same considerations as wheat since the grain formation will be similar. There will usually be less energy and protein in rye compared to wheat, so the total amount available in the diet for cattle may be less. Additionally rye is less palatable than wheat therefore it should be limited in the ration as it may reduce intake.

Barley:

There may be some differences in animal performance in barley varieties for cattle fed limited diets containing barley. However, for feedlot cattle, no differences by variety would be expected. Additionally, there are mixed results for feeding low test-weight barley. In most cases, barley above 45.7 lbs/bu (Mathison et al., 1991) will perform similarly in feedlot diets.

In general processing will increase the efficiency of use for barley compared to the whole grain. Barley can be ground or rolled, but, like wheat, should never be finely ground. There is a relatively high starch content of barley which implies fiber content of the diet should remain at 6% or higher, there should be no fines, and the diet should be introduced slowly to allow the rumen to adjust to the starch content. Acidosis and bloat are two symptoms of fines or non-adjustment. Barley has been used successfully as part of growing diets that include dry hay for up to 0.25% of total intake. In feedlot diets, barley has been used successfully to substitute for up to 2/3 of the corn in finishing diets, which is higher than that for wheat because the fiber content is higher and the starch content is slightly lower. Barley is generally the most flexible small grain substitute for corn provided price is compared and feeding standards are met.

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Contact Kelly Bourne:
585-268-7644 ext 10
klb288@cornell.edu

CROPS COWS & CRITTERS newsletter

While we are continuing to offer most of our programming virtually, please reach out to any of our specialists for information on accessing events via phone or receiving paper copies of the presentations.

How to Talk About COVID-19 Vaccination with Your Employees

By Mary Kate MacKenzie, Farm Business Management Specialist; Richard Stup, Agricultural Workforce Specialist; and Mary Jo Dudley, Director of the Cornell Farmworker Program

The decision to receive the COVID-19 vaccine is a highly personal one, yet each individual's decision has profound implications for public health. At the farm level, that makes farmer and farm worker vaccination an important risk management issue. The more people on your farm who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the lower your risk of experiencing a COVID outbreak with consequences for employee health and farm operations. As a manager, your words and actions have potential to influence employee attitudes about the vaccine. How can you communicate effectively about COVID-19 vaccination with your family members and employees? Here is a list of Do's and Don'ts to help you have productive conversations that lead to more vaccinations.

DO

1. Be the first person on your farm to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Actions speak louder than words. Leading by example is an easy way to demonstrate that you take the threat of COVID seriously and you view the vaccine as an important tool to reduce COVID risk. It also gives you the ability to speak from your own experience about the process of getting vaccinated and any side effects that you experienced.

2. Discuss COVID-19 vaccination early and often with your employees. Encourage employees to get the COVID-19 vaccine and discuss how vaccination is good for the farm. Share your reasons for getting vaccinated and describe your experience with the vaccination process. Be sure to provide information in your employees' native language.

3. Share the fact that vaccines have a long and effective history of controlling and eradicating diseases in both humans and animals. Measles, mumps, diptheria, whooping cough, and polio are just a few of the devastating human diseases that we control routinely with vaccines. Similarly, animal agriculture industries have long used vaccines to prevent disease in livestock. Farmers should be very familiar with vaccines and understand the import role they play in controlling disease and promoting health.

4. Help employees navigate the logistics of getting vaccinated. Make sure your workers know that, in New York State, vaccination is free and available to anyone age 16 and up who lives or works in the state. Share information with your employees about clinic locations, dates and times, and how to register.

5. Listen to employee concerns and consider whether you can do anything to alleviate them. Listening without judgement to employee questions and concerns is one of the best ways to build confidence in the COVID-19 vaccine. Some employees may voice concerns stemming from a lack of information or misinformation about the vaccine.

6. Continue sharing information about new opportunities to get vaccinated. Farmworker vaccination efforts across New York State are gaining momentum. Now that eligibility is based on age, farmers and farm workers may access the vaccine through multiple channels, including sites run by New York State, county health departments, and pharmacies.

DON'T

1. Repeat doubts about the safety of COVID-19 vaccinations from unreliable sources. The scientific community is strongly in support of the vaccines that are approved for use in the U.S. because they are **safe and effective.** This was demonstrated both through large scale trials while the vaccines were being developed and now by the hundreds of millions of people who have safely received them. Rumors and doubts expressed by leaders can make employees afraid of the vaccine.

2. Disregard or judge employees when they ask questions or share their concerns. These are truly uncertain times and the pandemic has provoked historic levels of fear in our society. Stress and anxiety can hinder good decision-making and leave people vulnerable to unfounded rumors and misinformation. Do not dismiss employees' concerns with a quick judgement. Instead, listen and ask questions.

3. Fail to encourage your employees to get vaccinated. It is not enough to rely on public messages to encourage your employees to get vaccinated. As a business manager, you are a trusted source of information and guidance. Your silence about COVID-19 vaccination might be read by employees as indifference or, worse, hostility toward vaccination.

Leadership matters. Your efforts to encourage vaccination for your employees and their families could have far-reaching effects in protecting health and life. Please do your part to encourage the people you lead to get the vaccine, get protected, and help snuff out COVID-19.

Do you need more information about supporting employee education and vaccine access? Give Katelyn Walley-Stoll a call at 716-640-0522.

CROPS COWS & CRITTERS newsletter

Your attitude towards vaccinations will set the tone for your workforce. Please do your part to encourage the people you lead to get the vaccine and get protected.

We Want to Collect your Cereal Leaf Beetle Larvae!

Location	county	collection date	crop	# larvae collected	% parasi-tized
Livingston	Columbia	4-Jun	conventional oats	76	0
Livingston	Columbia	4-Jun	organic spring wheat	71	0
Livingston	Columbia	4-Jun	conventional spring barley	64	0
Livingston	Columbia	4-Jun	organic winter barley	58	3.5
Valatie	Columbia	4-Jun	conventional winter wheat	10	10
Valatie	Columbia	4-Jun	conventional oats	46	23.9
Ithaca	Tompkins	10-Jun	conventional winter wheat	77	2.6
Trumansburg	Tompkins	15-Jun	conventional winter wheat	62	0
Seneca Falls	Seneca	11-Jun	conventional winter wheat	14	0
Baldwinsville	Onondaga	12-Jun	conventional winter wheat	128	0
Rose	Onondaga	12-Jun	conventional winter wheat	100	0
Baldwinsville	Onondaga	12-Jun	conventional winter wheat	83	0
Baldwinsville	Onondaga	12-Jun	conventional winter wheat	79	0
Shortsville	Ontario	17-Jun	conventional winter wheat	98	0
Aurora	Cayuga	24-Jun	conventional spring barley	20	0
Ithaca	Tompkins	24-Jun	conventional spring oats	77	0

Many growers have had issues with cereal leaf beetle in small grains. In the late 1960s and 1970s, USDA released a parasitoid the controlled cereal leaf beetle at very high levels. It was established and did a good job on control for many decades.

In some parts of NYS, there are very low levels of these parasitoids. We are looking to reestablish them in those areas.

In 2020 NYS IPM (Jaime Cummings) conducted a survey on the percent parasitism of cereal leaf beetle larvae in several areas of the state.

See chart to the left:
Source: K. Wise / Senior Extension IPM Coordinator

Horseweed (marestail) Found Resistant to Herbicides in NY

Thirty populations of horseweed (marestail) were collected in the fall of 2020 and are being screened for resistance to commonly used herbicides. Of the 30 collected, 27 appear to be resistant to glyphosate (Roundup) and 28 populations appear to be resistant to cloransulam herbicide, an ALS-inhibitor. This indicates that we have multiple-resistance in NY. Growers should consider alternative control measures such as tillage and rotation of herbicides to prevent further resistance here in NY. Photos below are from Herbicide resistant marestail and resistance screening - 3/31/21

Photos: *J. Putman (Left & middle in Cattaraugus County, NY) & Dr. Sosnoskie (Right)*

Cool, wet conditions are making it difficult for adequate weed control. Refer to the label for proper herbicide rates based on weed height and species!

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For more information on any of these topics, or for a paper copy of any of the referenced resources, contact Josh Putman at 716-490-5572 or jap473@cornell.edu.

Would you like to expand the reach of your ag business?

For more information on becoming a sponsor, contact Kelly Bourne, Administrative Assistant, by calling 585-268-7644 ext. 10 or email klb288@cornell.edu.

Upcoming Events

Date and Time	Topic	Location	Learn More...
Friday, May 14th	Produce Wash/Pack Line Basics	Back Porch Produce Farm Farmersville Station, NY	Contact Lynn Bliven, CCE Allegany County
Thursday, May 20th	**Analyzing Farm Enterprises**	**Online via Zoom**	**Contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, SWNYDLFC More info on page 7**
Tuesday, May 25th	Producer Brownbag: How do I Find Buyers for my Products?	Online via Zoom	Contact Laura Biasillo, CCE Broome County
Wednesday, May 26th	**Brooding and Rearing Basics: Introduction to Waterfowl**	**Online via Zoom**	**Contact Amy Barkley, SWNYDLFC**
Thursday, May 27th	**Farm Financial Management Basics**	**Online via Zoom**	**Contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, SWNYDLFC More info on page 7**
Wednesday, June 9th	Whole Farm Weed Management Field Day	Farm of Mr. Girod Fillmore, NY	Contact Lynn Bliven, CCE Allegany County

*** Bolded entry indicates SWNYDLFC event**

Beginning Farmers

New Self-Paced On-Farm Poultry Processing Course Available

Has your insurance provider told you they won't underwrite your on-farm processing of poultry unless you complete a training? Do you need to brush up on best practices for processing meat birds on-farm?

Learn more: http://allegany.cce.cornell.edu/agriculture/beginner-farmer

To register, please contact Lynn Bliven
lao3@cornell.edu
585-268-7644 ext. 18

swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu

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