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**To:** [SWNYDLFC-L](#)  
**Cc:** [Joshua Adam Putman](#); [Alycia Marie Drwencke](#); [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Kelly Lynn Bourne](#)  
**Subject:** CORE Pesticide Training, Herd Management, and Composting  
**Date:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:47:15 PM

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## **6.18.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program**

### **Back to Basics: Herd Management Lessons from COVID-19 by Betsy Hicks**

Betsy Hicks, Area Dairy Specialist with the [South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program](#) reminds us not to forget the basics when managing cows. During the past few months of COVID-19, many farms have seen the benefits of continuing to focus on aspects of management that can be considered basics. Focusing on these management areas can help make your farm more efficient, even in unstable times. To further discuss management considerations on your farm, contact our dairy management specialist, [Alycia Drwencke](#).

### **Poultry Processing Waste Management via Composting**

Now that the weather is finally consistently warm and pastures are lush, most producers of pastured broilers and ducks are harvesting their first flocks or beginning their flock rotation cycles. Those who are raising turkeys and geese are also getting ready to or have already placed their birds in preparation for the fall and winter holiday seasons. As the harvest windows for these birds arrive, producers processing their own birds or processing birds for others need to arrange for a way to dispose of the waste from processing. These waste products include blood, feathers, offal, heads, feet, rinse water, and cooling water and must be properly dealt with to reduce their environmental impact. Additionally, and fortunately, what we traditionally may see as waste products can go on to live a second life as nutrients for other crops on the farm through composting while eliminating the costs of having to pay for other disposal services. Livestock Specialist, [Amy Barkley](#), explores the basics poultry processing waste composting in this article. More information on composting poultry processing waste, other butchery waste, and livestock mortalities can be found on the [Cornell Waste Management Institute Website](#).

### **Virtual CORE Pesticide Training & DEC Recertification Credits Approved!**

Looking for DEC credits? Join Field Crops Specialist, [Josh Putman](#), on July 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 10:50am, or July 21<sup>st</sup> from 6pm – 7:50pm VIRTUALLY to learn about current regulations, pesticide use, labels, and pesticide formulations. Cost of the training is \$20 per person and 1.75 DEC credits were approved in the CORE category. Please have your applicator license present to receive recertification credits and if you are planning to obtain your applicator license, this training will be a great introductory course for the exam. Follow us on our [Facebook](#) page and register at our [SWNY website](#) for these events. Look forward to seeing you!

### **COVID-19 Related Farm Business Management Reminders!**

A lot of calls this week have been coming into our Farm Business Management Specialist, [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#), this week. Here are a few reminders based on the “hot topics”.

- [ALL businesses in NYS need a safety plan](#), including farms of any and all size and production types. These are a requirement, and are a good idea to protect your farm from possible

liability while also prioritizing the health and safety of your employees and your family. BUT – you don't need to reinvent the wheel. Cornell Cooperative Extension has prepared [several resources and webinar recordings](#) to help you get started.

- You DO need to [provide paid sick leave to employees](#) that are diagnosed with COVID-19.
- [CFAP \(Coronavirus Food Assistance Program\)](#) Applications are still being accepted through August 28<sup>th</sup>. You should call [your local service center](#) to get your information and application in via FSA.
- [Coronavirus is “still a thing” and we need to have safety measures in place.](#) Even as our region starts to reopen, and we continue to see new infection rates decline, and as the season progresses in NYS we may see outbreaks on our farms. Stay vigilant!
- [Health screenings are a must](#) for your employees. [This webinar](#) from Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development shares many of the considerations and processes you should consider.
- Food is safe! [COVID-19 is NOT Foodborne.](#) However, best practices for handling dairy and [all other groceries](#) still apply. Please share this message with consumers as there is an incredible amount of misinformation out there. A great website to use is [instituteoffoodsafety.cornell.edu](#).
- **[Prioritize your mental health.](#)** This is a tough time as we're dealing with a lack of rain, questionable cash flows, and new regulations that change every day. Be sure to recognize the [signs of chronic stress](#) and depression, find someone to talk to, [take a break](#), and never be afraid to reach out to [NY FarmNet](#) at 1-800-547-3276 – a 100% free and confidential service!

### **Upcoming Events**

Our team has been keeping our events page on our website as up to date as possible. You'll find SWNYDLFC generated programming and more. Several of our industry partners have been providing helpful webinars to help keep producers up-to-date while also addressing seasonal needs.

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*You are receiving this email because you have enrolled/subscribed to the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program through your local county extension office or through our contact form. To discontinue receiving updates from our program, simply reply to this email with “stop”. If you have any questions, please reach out. If you know of someone who would benefit from our team's resources or is interested in learning more, please share the online contact form available at: [https://cornell.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eVG2c8y0BtXaRgx](https://cornell.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eVG2c8y0BtXaRgx)*

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***IMPORTANT NOTE FROM OUR TEAM:*** Cornell Cooperative Extension's Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program prioritizes the health, safety, and well-being of our staff, constituents, and community members. ***We are dedicated to continuing our exceptional programming and support services for the agricultural community in our region during this time of uncertainty.*** Our team is continuing to answer requests for phone, email, and mail consultations while developing research-based virtual programming and resources to support our farm businesses.

*We are still able to travel throughout the region to conduct on-farm visits and research while following proper social distancing guidelines. We continue to communicate via weekly email updates and have increased our paper mailings to a bi-weekly service. We are proud to be in positions where we can help farmers manage their businesses during this time and hope that you and your family stay safe and healthy!*

## **Katelyn Walley-Stoll**

*Business Management Specialist and Team Leader*

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[\*Cornell Cooperative Extension: Helping New Yorkers Thrive \(VIDEO\)\*](#)

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#### **COVID-19 response:**

#### **Need information? View the following Cornell CALS and CCE Resource Pages Updated Regularly**

General Questions & Links:

<https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/>

Food Production, Processing & Safety Questions:

<https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Employment & Agricultural Workforce Questions:

<http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/>

Cornell Small Farms Resiliency Resources:

<https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Financial & Mental Health Resources for Farmers:

<https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Farmworker Program

[www.farmworkers.cornell.edu](http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu)

[www.trabajadores.cornell.edu](http://www.trabajadores.cornell.edu) (en espanol)