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To: [SWNYDLFC-L](#)
Cc: [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Camila Flavia de Assis Lage](#); [Kelly Lynn Bourne](#)
Subject: RMS, Paired Housing, Castration, Handbooks - and more!
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 10:17:14 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

3.15.2022 Updates from Cornell Cooperative Extension's SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

A partnership between [Cornell University](#) and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in these five counties: [Allegany](#), [Cattaraugus](#), [Chautauqua](#), [Erie](#), and [Steuben](#).

*Thank you **Country Crossroads Feed and Seed LLC, Laing-Gro, and Wild Acres Family Farm** for sponsoring this Weekly Update.*

Did you catch February's issue of Crops, Cows, and Critters? (Our monthly newsletter).

Robotic Milking Systems - Fact sheet series – PRO-DAIRY

Robotic milking systems (RMS) give individual cows the freedom to enter the milking unit at their discretion. [This](#) fact sheet series covers management changes and considerations, designing and starting up a new RMS facility, and the pros and cons of different cow flow strategies. [Check it out!](#)

When is the Right Time to Castrate Bulls? by Jeff Robe

Castration of bulls destined for beef production is seen as a value-added practice that is most impactful and least stressful for the animal earlier in life and well before weaning. When looking into the value of castration, consider that heavier weight bull discounts at market can average \$6 - \$12/cwt (\$30-\$60/head).

Cornell Ag Workforce Releases Example NY Employee Handbook – Free!

Have you been copying the same employee handbook for several years without verifying it accuracy? Is your current policy manual compliant with all of New York's labor laws? Use this resource to help build your employee onboarding documents and contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll for additional support.

Facility Focus: Does Paired Housing Make Sense for Your Calves? - Dairy Herd Management

Raising calves in any type of facility doesn't come without its own set of challenges, and paired calf housing is certainly no different. However, research has been showing that in addition to improving welfare, companionship can improve the calf's adaptability to change, which can translate into better resilience to stress throughout their lives. Learn more [here](#).

Cornell Self-Paced Poultry Processing Course

[Looking to process broilers this year and unsure of where to start? Is your insurance company requiring that you take a poultry processing course for them to cover your pastured poultry enterprise? If so, this class can help!](#)

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A partnership between Cornell University and the five Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben Counties.

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This email probably contains far too many exclamation points – [and it's okay!!!](#)

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