4.20.2022 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.

**Dairy farming essentials: Fine-tuning your calf disbudding management**
Disbudding calves is no one’s favorite task on the farm. The best method for you will depend on factors related to your management and the preference of the caretaker. Regardless of the method of choice, the critical point is to ensure all the steps are being followed to assure your program’s safety, welfare, and success. Read more by clicking here.

**Let’s Talk About Making a Profit: Defining, Determining, and (humbly) Demanding a Farm Profit**
Demanding a profit might sound like something a heartless monster might say (or at least your friendly, local farm business management extension specialist), but it’s an important concept for the sustainability of your farm business. Learn more about profit from Katelyn Walley-Stoll here.

**NYS Adds Poultry Auctions, Sales, Meets, and Swaps to Live Fowl Ban**
This expanded order by Commissioner Ball now includes all events that would bring poultry together from multiple locations. At this time, the ban does not include individual farms selling poultry, farm supply stores, chicks being shipped into the state from hatcheries, poultry processors that operate under a 5A or USDA Exemption, or live bird markets.

**Dairy Acceleration Program (DAP) Funds Available**
Funds available for Recordkeeping systems (up to $2,500), Operational planning (up to $2,500), Advisory Team (up to $3,000), New business planning (up to $5,000), continued business planning (up to $2,500) and more. DAP covers 80% of the cost up to the value of the award, and the farm is responsible for 20%. Learn more here.

**It’s That Time of Year - Managing to Prevent Grass Tetany**
Grass tetany, or hypomagnesemia, is a potentially fatal condition classified by low blood magnesium and is made worse by the consumption of low-magnesium forages. This article written by Dr. Mike Baker further explains the biology, risk factors in both animals and pastures, and practical prevention methods.

**NY Tax Credits for Farm Employers, Including Overtime**
The 2022-23 Budget Act for NYS included a couple of important tax credits for farm employers, including the Farm Workforce Retention Credit and the Farm Employer Overtime Tax Credit. Learn
more from Cornell’s Agricultural Workforce Development.

**Evaluating a Goat for Purchase – A Free, Live Webinar for Veterans on May 5th from 6pm – 7:30pm**

This free, virtual webinar takes students through what to look for when purchasing these compact, hardy, and entertaining animals. Our discussion topics will include breeds & production considerations, purchasing options, common diseases to look out for, and integrating newcomers into the herd.

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