

From: [SWNY Team](#)
To: [SWNYDLFC-L](#)
Cc: [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#); [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Camila Flavia de Assis Lage](#); [Katelyn Miller](#); [Kelly Lynn Bourne](#)
Subject: Tar Spot, Bale Grazing, Union Conversations, and More!
Date: Friday, December 16, 2022 8:15:42 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

12.16.2022 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 Curtis T. Corkey from [Principal Financial Services](#), Ayshea Heckman from [Ernst Seeds](#), and Matt Budine from [Progressive Dairy Solutions, Inc.](#) for sponsoring this Weekly Update.

Bale Grazing: Feed the Cattle, Feed the Pasture, by Brett Chedzoy

This method of winter feeding uses the distribution of bales of hay on winter pastures to move the cattle around constantly as they feed. This helps distribute manure, reseed spotty pastures with little effort, and may improve cattle health and welfare outcomes.

Don't undercut the high-producing cows

With input costs rising, farmers across the country are looking for ways to improve profitability and reduce spending. Feed is a significant cost center and one that often gets scrutinized. Still, during the November Hoard's Dairyman webinar, Mike Hutjens advised the audience that the ration is not the place to cut corners. [Learn more](#)

Reflecting on Tar Spot in 2022

While tar spot was first found in Pennsylvania in late 2020, its spread was limited in the commonwealth until recently. This year (2022), tar spot was found across the majority of southern PA and in western PA into the Lake Erie region. We want to emphasize that there were no reports of yield loss due to tar spot in the areas affected. [Read on](#) to learn how the pathogen survives and spreads along with possible management strategies if the disease has been identified in your area.

Reminder – Handling Union Conversations on Your Farm

There has been an uptick in union conversations around the state. There are certain things employers can and can't say when discussing unions with farm employees. Can't Say **TIPS** (Threats, Interrogate, Promises, Surveillance) and Can Say **FOE** (Facts, Opinions, Examples). Learn more from [Cornell's Ag Workforce Development Program](#).

It's County Enrollment/Subscription/Support Time!

Our program (SWNDYFLC) exists because 5 incredibly supportive Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations came together and partnered to better serve the needs of our region's agricultural community. One way you can support them is by signing up for their enrollment/subscription/support programs. Reach out to your county's Cornell Cooperative Extension Association to learn more! Click here for: [CCE-Allegany](#); [CCE-Cattaraugus](#); [CCE-Chautauqua](#); [CCE-Erie](#); [CCE-Steuben](#).

Thank you Principal Financial Services, Ernst Seeds, and Progressive Dairy Solutions, Inc. for sponsoring this Weekly Update.



The image shows three stacked business cards. The top card is for Principal Financial Services, featuring a photo of Curtis T. Corkey, ChFC, and his contact information. The middle card is for Ernst Seeds, showing a logo with a seed and the company's website and phone number. The bottom card is for Progressive Dairy Solutions, Inc., featuring a logo with a cow and the company's name and contact information.

Principal
Curtis T. Corkey, ChFC®
Financial Representative
Principal Securities Registered Representative
Financial Advisor
607-661-2734
Corkey.Curtis@principal.com

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ERNST SEEDS
www.ernstseed.com
(800) 873-3321
sales@ernstseed.com

PROGRESSIVE DAIRY SOLUTIONS, INC.
A NUTRITION & MANAGEMENT CONSULTING FIRM
Matt Budine
mbudine@pdscows.com
209-481-3649

Cornell University

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716.640.0522

kaw249@cornell.edu | swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

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