8.19.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

Southwest NY Field Crop Chronicle: CORE Pesticide Training & Virtual Pasture Management Series – August 19, 2020
- Looking for DEC credits? 1.75 credits in the CORE category have been approved. Join Field Crops Specialist, Josh Putman, as he provides an overview of the basic information involved in the pesticide application certification process and will present the basics of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as well as general pesticide safety, regulations and pesticide resistance. Register online for the September 22nd or our September 24th class for only $20. We look forward to seeing you there!
- The SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program explores new ways of providing growers with timely information. Join Josh and Amy in this 3-part series centered around weed ID and management, soil sampling, submission, and soil test interpretation to improve your pasture.

Managing Employee Workloads
There are many hands at work on the farm, and oftentimes it can feel like there just aren’t enough around! Balancing the constant demands of farming with well-balanced employee workloads can be challenging, especially in light of Farm Labor Law requirements. Cornell Pro-Dairy has a helpful tool that is useful for scheduling the activities of individuals to help avoid underemployment and employee burnout. This is available free of charge and can be customized to fit your farm’s tracking and evaluation needs. For more information, contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist.

Onboarding Dairy Employees 2020: Safe, Productive and Engaged from Day One
Employee training and retention can be difficult on farms. Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development is seeking dairy farmers to participate in the second year of an onboarding project funded by the New York Farm Viability Institute. Over the next year, the Ag Workforce Development Team will partner with 25 farms in a three-session Zoom series to develop onboarding materials, trainings and methods. If your farm is looking for a way to improve employee retention and increase overall productivity of employees, contact Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development, at res396@cornell.edu, Alycia Drwencke, Dairy Management Specialist or Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist.

Vigilance and Biosecurity Can Help Reduce the Spread of RHDV2-Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease
RHDV2-Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease is a fatal disease of rabbits, causing sudden death in both domestic and wild rabbit populations. Although not yet detected in SWNY, it was found in New York City in March 2020 and has been spreading across multiple states including Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, and Texas. This is a reportable animal disease in NY, and reports should be made to the NYS Department of Agriculture or the USDA as soon as symptoms are identified. More about identification of infected individuals and prevention of this virus can be found in this fact sheet, compiled by USDA-APHIS.
**Summer Dairy Culture Coach Available**
Libby Eiholzer of the Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program has recently prepared her latest issue of *Dairy Culture Coach*. This is a helpful tool for communicating with your Spanish-speaking employees. The [summer edition](#) covers: New and effective method for cockroach control, 2020 census information, and coronavirus related topics.

**Cornell Nutrition Conference**
The 82nd Annual Cornell Nutrition Conference for Feed Manufacturers is Now Virtual! This event will be held October 19 - 22, 2020 from 10:00AM - 2:00PM EDT Daily via Zoom. For 82 years, the Cornell Nutrition Conference has provided industry leading research and information across the spectrum of animal nutrition to feed industry professionals and nutritional consultants. In addition to the daily live feed, all registrants will receive access to electronic proceedings and a mobile event app with exclusive content and networking opportunities. Join us live each day or watch sessions on-demand later. Registration can be found [here](#).

**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. 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!

**Alycia Drwencke**
Dairy Management Specialist
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://instituteforfoodandsafety.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
www.trabajadores.cornell.edu (en espanol)