9.3.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

**Don't Forget to Complete the 2020 Census!**

Have you completed the 2020 Census? Completing the 2020 Census will determine where over $675 billion in federal funding is spent in states and communities for the next ten years. When filling out the Census, your personal information is kept confidential by law. Whether it's funding in communities across your state or helping determine the number of seats your state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives - every count makes an equal impact. Be sure you are counted and visit [2020Census.Gov](http://2020Census.Gov) for more information.

**Design Your Succession Plan Series Announced!**

More than 80 percent of farm families hope to pass the family farm on to the next generation, but research shows only 30 percent of family farms survive to the second generation, and only 12 percent survive to the third generation. A successful transition to the next generation takes careful planning. A cohort of Cornell Cooperative Extension educators all across the state are working together to offer a new interactive program that will provide tools and resources for producers who want to begin the succession planning process. This program will be offered as a 4-evening remote course via Zoom in conjunction with an online learning platform to be used between meetings. The program will run from 6:30-8 p.m. October 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. For more information, contact [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](mailto:Katelyn.Walley-Stoll@cornell.edu). Please register by September 30th! The cost to participate is $60/farm and will include all four sessions, access to the online learning platform, and a comprehensive workbook that will be mailed out before the series begins.

**Reminder – Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Deadline is September 11th**

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds farmers and ranchers that the deadline to apply for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) is Sept. 11, 2020. This program provides direct relief to producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19. Over 160 commodities are eligible for CFAP, including certain non-specialty crops, livestock, dairy, wool, specialty crops, eggs, aquaculture, and nursery crops and cut flowers. All eligible commodities, payment rates, and calculations can be found on [farmers.gov/cfap](http://farmers.gov/cfap). Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer general assistance or call your local service center.

**Governor Cuomo Announces New State Guidelines for Agritourism**

On September 1st, Governor Cuomo announced new state guidance, aligning with [NY Forward](http://nyforward.ny.gov) requirements, for corn mazes, pick-your-own fruit and vegetable operations, hayrides, and haunted houses. Outlined are safety precautions for these operations to take during the upcoming fall season. Read the full guidance [here](https://www.governor.ny.gov) for more information.
Safe Harvest 2020: COVID-19 Office Hours @ 12:30 PM, September 8
Since late August Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development and Cornell Cooperative Extension have hosted a weekly office hour on Tuesdays for farmers and packers to answer any questions about managing and responding to protect the farm workforce during COVID-19. Office hours will be held at a new time on September 8, at 12:30 PM EDT, and will continue to be held each Tuesday through September. Registration is free but required. Questions can be submitted during registration or asked during the office hours. Register here.

Corn Silage Harvest
Corn silage harvest is under way in New York. An article recently published by Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY, describes the Corn Silage Processing Score (CSPS), implementation of kernel processing, and how to monitor processor performance. In a second article, they explain the effect of corn plant characteristics on corn silage processing scores. Listen to the newly published PODCAST series titled "Corn Silage Harvest Considerations." Links to the latest episodes are included below. Lastly, the latest SWNY Field Crop Chronicle is now available on our website. For more information, contact Field Crops Specialist Josh Putman.

Upcoming BQA Recertification Webinars
BQA Recertification is required every 3 years. The NY Beef Council is offering three upcoming continuing education virtual classes which meet the requirements for re-certification. Topics include: Examining the Effectiveness of your Vaccination Protocol, Pre-Weaning Calf Care, and Direct Marketing Beef: Pre & Post Harvest Considerations. You can register for these free lectures here.

Corn Silage Harvest Considerations Podcast Series
Episode 2 Timing and Processing: Casey Havekes, CCE Regional Dairy Specialist, CCE NNY Team, interviews Margaret Quaassdorff, Regional Dairy Specialist, CCE NWNY Team and Joe Lawrence, Forage Management Specialist, Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY. Margaret and Joe discuss the importance of timing and whole plant dry mater, theoretical length of cut, and kernel processing.
Episode 3 Monitoring and Preserving Quality: Betsy Hicks, Regional Dairy Specialist, CCE SCNY Dairy Team and John Winchell, Territory Sales Representative, Alltech discuss why and how to take corn silage samples at harvest and feed out, mycotoxin considerations, best practices for inoculant use and maximizing the fermentation process.
Episode 4 Filling and Packing: Devon Shelmidine from Sheland Farms in Jefferson County, NY, Ron Kuck, Dairy Educator, CCE Cayuga County and Joe Lawrence, Forage Management Specialist, Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY discuss the nitty gritty of getting corn silage into the bunk, packed and covered to maximize forage quality.

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_eVG2c8yOBtXaRgx

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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!

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Pronouns: She/her/hers  
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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  
www.trabajadores.cornell.edu (en espanol)