

From: [SWNY Team](#)
To: [SWNYDLFC-L](#)
Cc: [Kelly Torrey](#); [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Katelyn Miller](#); [Katie Callero](#); [Kate Elizabeth McDonald Polakiewicz](#)
Subject: Don't Put All Your Eggs In One Basket, Converting Old Dairy Barns and more!
Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025 4:07:36 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

12.18.2025 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 **Bradley Griffith from Growmark FS** and **Amelia Parseghian from NY FarmNet** for sponsoring this Weekly Update.*

Webinar: Converting Old Dairy Barns into Swine Facilities, Wed. January 21st, 6pm - 7:30pm

Tim Terry, Farm Strategic Planning Specialist with Cornell's Pro-Dairy program, will share information on what it takes to transition an old dairy barn for swine production. We plan to cover flooring, ventilation, and lighting, considerations for system workability, and more! Registration is free, and you can access it [here](#).

Early Bird Registration is Open for the 2026 Northeast Dairy Innovation Summit!

Join NE-DBIC in Albany, NY for two days focused on innovation, modernization, and growth across the dairy sector. From dairy farming to processing to workforce development and policy, the Summit gives you an opportunity to learn from those who are innovating now and to hear from experts on what's coming in the future.

Lean Management Workshop – February 2026

Dairy and agricultural operations across New York are invited to participate in the upcoming *Lean Management Workshop Series: Tools for Continuous Operational Improvement and Efficiency*, a practical, hands-on training designed to help farm teams streamline operations, reduce waste, and strengthen a culture of continuous improvement. Note registration deadline is quickly approaching —December 19th.

Don't Put All Your Seeds in One Basket

While harvest has stretched on for many, attention is beginning to shift toward planning for the 2026 growing season. This article highlights key factors to consider as seed ordering approaches, helping ensure selections align with field conditions and production goals.

Participate in Dairy Specialist Apprenticeship: Growing Skills and Growing Farms

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development's Dairy Specialist Apprenticeship is one of New York's most innovative workforce training solutions. The three-year program is designed to help farms build skilled employees through structured on-the-job training paired with related technical instruction. If you want to learn more or become a participating Dairy Specialist Apprenticeship farm, contact Jay Canzonier at Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development: jc3277@cornell.edu.

Upcoming Events

For more information and to register, click on the title hyperlinks.

Title	Date(s)	Location	Time
<u>2025 Cornell Food, Beverage & Animal Feed Manufacturer Survey</u>	December 19	Survey	Last Day to Complete: 12/19
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Breeding Today for the Herd you Want Tomorrow: Tools to Support Semen Choice Tradeoffs</u>	January 13	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>Advanced Hoof Health Program*</u>	January 15	TBD (Allegany County)	TBD
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Research in Precision Livestock Health</u>	January 20	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>Webinar: Converting Old Dairy Barns into Swine Facilities</u>	January 21	Zoom	6pm-7:30pm
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Early Calf Management: Key Influences on Heifer Development</u>	January 27	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Evidence-based Development of Best Cattle Management Practices</u>	February 3	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN</u>			

<u>Forecasting Performance: How Clues From Blood, Milk and Sensors Can Predict Unfortunate Outcomes in Multiparous Cows</u>	February 10	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Advancing Milk Quality: Integrating Workforce Development and Artificial Intelligence in QMPS Research</u>	February 17	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>BOOTS IN THE BARN Sensor Technologies in Calf Health Monitoring</u>	February 24	Zoom	12pm-1pm
<u>Cornell Organic Field Crops & Dairy Conference</u>	March 6	Waterloo (Ontario County)	8am-4:30pm
<i>*Denotes that the event is hosted by, or includes speakers from, SWNYDLFC.</i>			


GROWMARK FS, LLC

Bradley Griffith
716-664-3294 or 716-499-4826
bgriffith@growmarkfs.com

**Fertilizer, Crop Protection, Seed
and Custom Application**



Cornell University

Cooperative Extension

SWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops

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

585.268.7644 ext. 10

klb288@cornell.edu | swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Cornell Cooperative Extension: Helping New Yorkers Thrive \(VIDEO\)](#)

Cornell is an equal opportunity employer. For more information click [here](#).