10.1.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

Dairy Market Watch - September 2020 Now Available
Dairy Market Watch is an educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry. Dairy Market Watch is published on the last Tuesday of every month, funded in part by Cornell Pro-Dairy, and is compiled by Alycia Drwencke, Dairy Management Specialist with the Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program. A PDF can also be viewed here.

NESARE Invites Applicants for their 2021 Farmer Grant Program
Do you have an idea for a unique innovation or production practice for your farm? Northeast SARE is now accepting applications for its Farmer Grant Program. The Farmer Grant Program funds farmers to explore new concepts in sustainable agriculture on production, marketing, labor, farm succession, social capital and other areas through experiments, surveys, prototypes, on-farm demonstrations or other research and education techniques. Grants may not be used to help start or expand farm businesses. Up to $15,000 is available per project. The online system opens on Oct. 1 and applications are due by 5 p.m. on Nov. 17, 2020. Application materials, including detailed instructions and supporting documents, are posted at www.northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant. A webinar on how to apply is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6 from 12pm – 1pm. Please contact Amy Barkley, Livestock and Beginning Farm Specialist, at 716-640-0844 or amb544@cornell.edu if you are interested in applying for a SARE Farmer Grant.

New York Sick Leave Requirement: What We Know, Still Don’t Know, and Action Items
New York State, in the 2020 budget act, mandated annual sick leave on a permanent basis. There is no exemption for farm employers from the sick leave requirement and we expect most farms with hired employees to be affected. The amount and type of sick leave required varies by employer size and income. Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development has put together a detailed outline of known and unknowns here.

Chautauqua County to Host BQA Training
An in-person Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training will be hosted by Chautauqua County and Butternut Brook Livestock on Saturday, October 24th from 10:00am – 3:00pm. This training will consist of a lecture followed by a chute-side demonstration. The cost to attend the training will be $15 per adult or $8 per youth. Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required by October 17th by contacting Lisa Kempisty, Extension Educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County, at ljk4@cornell.edu, or 716-664-9502 Ext 203. Space is limited. Make your reservation today!

Preventing the Spread of Troublesome Weeds at Harvest in Southwest New York
Resistant weeds cause significant yield loss, increased production costs, and are becoming a bigger problem every year in New York. Farmers rarely proactively manage weeds to prevent or delay selection for herbicide resistance. They usually increase the adoption of integrated weed management practices only after herbicide resistance has occurred. Our most problematic herbicide-resistant weeds, like horseweed (marestail), waterhemp, and Palmer amaranth, can easily spread from one field, or one farm, to the next, as seeds get trapped in/on tillage, planting, and harvest equipment and ride field-to-field this time of year. It is important to continue to scout fields and clean equipment to prevent serious management challenges in the future. For more information and details about the spread of certain pests on equipment, check out our latest Field Crop Chronicle or contact Josh Putman.

"It's Always the Nutritionist's Fault!" Free Dairy Webinar
Understanding Diets and Improving Communication on Your Dairy. Cornell Cooperative Extension Northwest NY, North Country Region, and South Central NY Teams Present: A FREE Webinar for Farmers and Dairy Nutritionists to Improve Communication. Join us for a live webinar Thursday, October 15, 2020; presented twice at 12:30 pm EST, and again at 7:00 pm EST. Goals of the program are to: Improve communication between the dairy farm and their nutritionist; ensure dairy farms & nutritionists have matching goals for the farm; for the dairy farm to clearly communicate concerns to their nutritionist when they may arise; and for the nutritionist to use this as a guideline for conversations with their dairy farmer client. Please register through the following link for both 12:30 and 7:00 pm EST.
https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fqXpgrO8QxWwFBmYsJd3kQ

2020 NY Labor Law Updates
2020 brought additional changes to the NY farm labor laws. Overtime and day-of-rest rules apply to most farm employees but some family members and certain managers may be exempt from these provisions. Review a video overview of the new rules and check out a more in-depth webinar and presentation on the Cornell Ag Workforce website.

Navigating Farm Family Relationships During Business Succession Planning
Farming with family members can be one of the most emotionally taxing experiences a person may encounter, especially when familial relationships get in the way of managing and leading the business. A Northeast farmer once jokingly said, "Working with family should be against the law." Please join Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County and the Capital Area Ag & Hort Program’s Farm Business Management Educator Dayton Maxwell, Chris Tauzel of the New York State Agricultural Mediation Program and members of NY FarmNet's staff to learn how families can improve relationships to facilitate succession planning and long-term business continuation. This online webinar will be hosted on Thursday, November 5th from 7-8:15pm. Registration is $5/family. https://tinyurl.com/NavigatingFarmFamily

Reminder: Looking for Fields to Sample for Soybean Cyst Nematode in Southwest NY
Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) is the most destructive pest of soybean in the United States. Yield losses in soybean due to SCN have been estimated at more than $1 billion annually in the U.S. After
three years of intensely surveying field soils in 17 counties from Western through Northern NY counties (2014-2016), the nematode was identified for the first time in Cayuga County in 2016. **We are looking to sample 2-3 fields per county within the SWNY region and test for SCN and better monitor this pest.** The best way to confirm SCN is to scout soybean fields with symptoms, dig plants, look for cysts on the roots, and submit a soil sample for testing and confirmation. Contact Field Crops Specialist, Josh Putman, if you see soybean fields that display uneven drydown patterns or have random yellow patches.

**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.

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!

**Alycia Drwencke**
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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)