

**From:** [Alycia Marie Drwencke](#)  
**To:** [SWNYDLFC-L](#)  
**Cc:** [Alycia Marie Drwencke](#); [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Joshua Adam Putman](#); [Kelly Lynn Bourne](#); [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#); [Craig Trowbridge](#)  
**Subject:** Soil Testing, Online Dairy Feeder School, Cover Crops, Labor Webinar  
**Date:** Thursday, October 8, 2020 3:05:05 PM

---

## 10.8.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

### **Taking, Preparing, and Submitting a Soil Sample for Testing**

Soil testing is the easiest way to identify and quantify nutrient imbalances in our agricultural soils. It will identify major nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium as well as pH, organic matter, and some micronutrients. Following a proper sampling technique is essential to achieving a representative sample, and preparing both the sample and submission form appropriately will allow for complete test results in addition to precise nutrient and liming recommendations. For more information about soil testing or report interpretation, please reach out to [Amy Barkley](#), Livestock and Beginning Farm Specialist at [amb544@cornell.edu](mailto:amb544@cornell.edu) or (716) 640 - 0844 or [Josh Putman](#), Forage and Field Crop Specialist at [jap473@cornell.edu](mailto:jap473@cornell.edu) or (716) 490-5572.

### **Feeder Online School/Escuela en Línea para Alimentadores in English and Spanish**

The Feeder Online School is a 2 part program offered in Spanish and English. The same presentations will be offered in both the English and Spanish sessions. Each day of Feeder Online School will be held from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm ET. The session in English will take place on November 3rd and 5th, 2020. The session in Spanish will take place on November 10th and 12th, 2020. For questions, reach out to [Alycia Drwencke](#), Dairy Management Specialist. Register [here](#): [https://ncrat.cce.cornell.edu/event\\_preregistration\\_new.php?id=1343](https://ncrat.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=1343)

La Escuela en Línea para Alimentadores es un programa de 2 partes que se ofrece en español e inglés. Las mismas presentaciones se ofrecerán en las sesiones en inglés y en español. Cada día de Escuela en Línea para Alimentadores se llevará a cabo de 1:00 pm a 2:30 pm ET. La sesión en inglés tendrá lugar los días 3 y 5 de noviembre de 2020. La sesión en español tendrá lugar los días 10 y 12 de noviembre de 2020.

### **Seasonal Business Labor and Immigration Webinar Series**

Harris Beach PLLC Attorney at Law is putting on a virtual webinar series to cover the topics of H2B, H2A, and Seasonal Business labor options. The series will take place virtually from 9 – 10:30 am. H2B will be discussed on October 20<sup>th</sup>, H2A will be covered on November 17<sup>th</sup>, and foreign labor options for seasonal business will be discussed on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Visit [here](#) for more information or the registration links.

### **Commissioner Ball Shares Reminder to Agribusinesses on NY Forward Guidance**

Commissioner Ball is reminding agritourism businesses of the importance of following NY-Forward Guidance, including those which offer pick-your-own fruits and vegetables, hayrides, corn mazes, and other fall activities. Strict enforcement of the facial covering, social distancing, and reduced capacity mandates is being implemented across all industries in NY. Best practices for low-risk outdoor activities can be reviewed here: <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm->

[resilience/best-management-practices-for-agritourism-covid/](#)

### **Input from Sheep and Goat Producers Requested!**

Researchers at Cornell AgriTech and SUNY Cobleskill are investigating shrub willow (*Salix* spp.) as a feasible forage crop for sheep and goats in the Northeastern United States. Shrub willow is a fast-growing, woody perennial produced as a carbon neutral, bio-fuel crop. Shrub willow can provide ecosystem services such as streambank stabilization, nutrient retention in riparian buffers, and early spring pollinator forage. Preliminary research efforts have shown that shrub willow may be a viable forage for livestock animals. This survey is intended to garner information relative to sheep and goat producers, their livestock enterprises, and their attitudes toward adopting new feedstuffs for small ruminants. [https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3yiANRhHQDNly8J](https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3yiANRhHQDNly8J)

### **Cover Crops in New York**

The harvest of low residue row crops, such as corn for silage or soybeans, usually means the soil surface of a field will be left fallow until the next crop is planted. In the Northeast, the next planting and new crop canopy establishment, may be several months away. During this time, bare soil can be subject to soil erosion; cover crops offer an opportunity to reduce this effect. Cover crop use and management should be based on your objective(s): soil erosion, soil quality and health, nutrient management, or forage use. Not only can soil erosion be significantly reduced, many other benefits can be derived as well. With corn and soybean harvest well underway in Southwest NY, cover crops may be considered for your operation. Contact [Josh Putman](#) for more information about cover crops or visit our [website](#).

### **Register Now! Herbicide Resistant Weed Control Virtual Field Day**

Join Cornell Faculty and Cornell Cooperative Extension on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00am to 1:00pm for a virtual demonstration and walking tour of 16 different PRE- and POST-emergence herbicide treatments in soybean and 10 different treatments and combinations in corn. Waterhemp and marestail are two weeds that are resistant to glyphosate and ALS herbicide modes of action in the WNY and Finger Lakes regions. Each year the number of acres with resistant weed populations expands. For herbicides to be an effective tool in weed management, we have to know what chemistries & application timings are most effective against these resistant weeds. For event requirements and registration, [visit](#) the Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Team page.

### **Dairy Farm Business Summary Highlights Factors Associated with Variations in Earnings for 2019**

The [Dairy Farm Business Summary](#) is a free, voluntary, and confidential program offered by [PRO-DAIRY](#) and Cornell Cooperative Extension. PRO-DAIRY's Jason Karszes recently released an overview of 2019 data to highlight trends from farms divided by profitability quartiles. The average rate of return on capital without appreciation increased from 1.1 percent in 2018 to 5.6 percent in 2019. For more information, or to complete a Dairy Farm Business Summary for your own operation, contact [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#), Farm Business Management Specialist.

### **New York State COVID Alert App**

COVID Alert NY is New York State's official Exposure Notification App. This is a free smartphone app for anyone 18+ that lives and/or works in New York available for download in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store starting October 1st. The COVID Alert NY app notifies users if they have been in

close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Upon receiving an exposure notification, the app will encourage users to contact their physician or the State Health Department hotline (1-833-227-5045) to get more information about quarantining and testing. Anyone who downloads the app does not have to worry about being tracked, identified or having their personal information shared. The app is completely anonymous and does not track your location or movement. No personal data is collected. COVID Alert NY uses Bluetooth proximity-enabled exposure notification technology provided by Apple and Google which is safe and secure. Visit [here](#) for more information.

### **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\\_eVG2c8y0BtXaRgx](https://cornell.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eVG2c8y0BtXaRgx)*

-----

***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

**Cornell Cooperative Extension**

**SWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops**

Amd453@cornell.edu | swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu | 517.416.0386

Pronouns: She/her/hers

*Cornell Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer.*

**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](http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu)

[www.trabajadores.cornell.edu](http://www.trabajadores.cornell.edu) (en espanol)