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**Subject:** Dairy Market Watch, Testing Manure, Dicamba Decision, Anaerobic Digestion  
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## 10.29.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

### **Dairy Market Watch - October 2020**

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. For more information, reach out to Alycia. A PDF is also available [here](#).

### **The Importance of Testing Manure**

The time after the fall harvest allows an opportunity to spread manure on agricultural fields to prepare them for the spring growing season. As bunkers, lagoons, and storages are emptied, testing for manure nutrients can help dial in a farm's nutrient management plan and field nutrient contents. Manure nutrients vary quite a bit from season-to-season, farm-to-farm, and species-to-species. While there are published databases of manure nutrient values out there to reference to calculate application rates, many come with the disclaimer of high variability. [This article](#) explores potential reasons for variability as well as manure sampling, analysis, and interpretation.

### **Cornell CALS releases new white paper focusing on 2020 NYS food and farm COVID-19 effects**

In this series of nine discussion papers, Cornell CALS experts seek to provide perspectives and insights on the impact of COVID-19 to selected agricultural sectors. Their goals are to assist in bringing a greater understanding of the effects of immediate and sustained disruptions in the farm and food system on the agricultural economy and assist in highlighting lessons learned to strengthen the food system going forward. For more information, [please contact Julie Suarez](#), associate dean for Land-Grant Affairs. The discussion papers can be viewed [here](#).

### **EPA Announces 2020 Dicamba Registration Decision**

On Tuesday, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced that EPA **is approving new five-year registrations** for two dicamba products and extending the registration of an additional dicamba product. All three registrations include new control measures to ensure these products can be used effectively while protecting the environment, including non-target plants, animals, and other crops not tolerant to dicamba. "With today's decision, farmers now have the certainty they need to make plans for their 2021 growing season," said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. "After reviewing substantial amounts of new information, conducting scientific assessments based on the best available science, and carefully considering input from stakeholders we have reached a resolution that is good for our farmers and our environment." Through today's action, EPA approved new registrations for two "over-the-top" (OTT) dicamba products—XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology and Engenia Herbicide—and extended the registration for an additional

OTT dicamba product, Tavium Plus VaporGrip Technology. These registrations are only for use on dicamba-tolerant (DT) cotton and soybeans and will expire in 2025, providing certainty to American agriculture for the upcoming growing season and beyond. New control measures have been put into place to help prevent off-site movement of dicamba and can be found in this [full article](#).

**Monetizing electricity produced by farm-based anaerobic digestion in New York**

PRO-DAIRY Dairy Environmental Systems has produced a fact sheet series that summarizes the options for monetizing electricity produced by farm-based anaerobic digester (AD) systems in New York. The series walks through the current New York State electricity generation tariffs that apply to manure and co-digestion AD systems, both new and existing, compares the value of each and identifies the eligibility guidelines. Examples of how each tariff (net energy metering, value stack and community distributed generation) impacts a farmer’s utility bill is also illustrated.

- Part 1: [Decision tree to identify electricity tariff options available](#)
- Part 2: [Compare and contrast electricity tariff options](#)
- Part 3: [Overview and eligibility guidelines of Net Energy Metering and Phase One Value Stack electricity tariffs](#)
- Part 4: [How the Net Energy Metering \(NEM\) tariff works](#)
- Part 5: [How the Phase One Value Stack tariff works](#)

For information on the Dairy Environmental Systems Program visit:  
[PRODAIRY.CALS.CORNELL.EDU/ENVIRONMENTAL-SYSTEMS](http://PRODAIRY.CALS.CORNELL.EDU/ENVIRONMENTAL-SYSTEMS)

**Dairy farm manure cover and flare off systems reduce odors and methane**

New York Farmers are implementing innovative manure management techniques for environmental stewardship, farm viability, and the community. [Cornell Cooperative Extension](#) and Cornell PRO DAIRY partner with New York State and County Soil & Water Conservation Districts to help farms afford and design manure pit cover and flare systems. Check out more information [here](#) or reach out to Dairy Management Specialist, [Alycia Drwencke](#).

**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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**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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### **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)