11.12.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

NY Farm Service Agency to Host Meetings on Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) 2
The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) in New York is hosting two meetings about the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2). The first meeting will be Tuesday, November 17th at noon, and the second, which will focus on the specialty crops portion of CFAP 2, will be Wednesday, November 18th at noon. FSA is accepting applications for CFAP 2 through December 11, 2020. To find the latest information on CFAP 2, eligible crops, payment rates, and the application and payment calculator, visit farmers.gov/cfap.

Preparing Poultry for Winter
As the daylight hours continue to wane and the cold begins to weave its way across the landscape, it is apparent that winter is coming, and our minds shift to preparing our livestock for winter. Poultry are hardier than we think, and with a few modifications to housing and care, they will be prepared for the bitter winds and incessant snowfall which are part of life in SWNY.

New Option for Managing Corn Rootworm in NY
Across the U.S. and within NY, corn rootworm (CRW) is developing resistance to the Bt-Rootworm traits in our corn hybrids, causing increased root damage and decreasing yields. Yield losses from CRW root feeding can surpass 10% without any above ground symptoms, making this type of loss difficult to detect. Dr. Elson Shields, Field Crops Entomologist with Cornell University, has been working with a biocontrol nematode to combat alfalfa snout beetle in Northern NY and most recently, to battle CRW in the state. “New York research data indicates a single soil inoculation establishes these NY adapted biocontrol nematodes in the soil profile for many years, where they attack a wide range of pest soil insects across a wide variety of crops. During the corn years, these biocontrol nematodes attack rootworm larvae and during the alfalfa years, attack wireworms, white grubs, clover root curculio feeding on the alfalfa and grass in the field” says Shields. With 2020 harvest coming to an end, did you notice any fields of lodged corn? Contact Josh Putman if interested in learning more about this yield-robbing pest.

Certified Crop Adviser Exam Registration Now Open!
Interested in becoming a CCA? Exam registration is open through December 11, 2020. Digital exams are being offered for February 2021. If you are thinking of becoming certified as a CCA or if you are interested in one of the specialty certifications. Registration, Performance Objectives, and other study material can be found on the Exam section of the CCA website. PLEASE NOTE: The Sustainability Exam will not be offered for February 2021--it will be offered again in August 2021.

Horizontal Silo Feedout Safety Protocols By James Carrabba
Removal of feed from a bunker silo or a drive over silage pile is a daily task on the farm that has a lot of potential for serious injuries. The dangers include falls, engulfments, runovers and entanglements, which can result in serious injuries or death. There have been cases where feeders have fallen from the leading edge of a silage face and dropped 15 to 20 feet to the concrete pad below. Another very serious safety hazard is silage face collapse which can happen without warning. Even the most meticulously maintained silage faces can collapse suddenly. Unfortunately, for producers, there are no universal industry standards that can be referred to for horizontal silo feedout safety. In the rest of this article, James Carrabba, Agricultural Safety Specialist with New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) shares safety protocols for horizontal silo feedout.

**COVID-19 prevention efforts by New York farmers - A survey of farm managers conducted during summer 2020**

New York farmers confronted a massive, new challenge in 2020 from the global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus and the disease it causes in humans, COVID-19. Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development conducted a survey to capture a snapshot of the actions that farmers took in their businesses to prevent the spread of the coronavirus among the farm workforce, customers, and other farm visitors, and in the local community. As essential businesses, New York farmers were faced with the unenviable task of maintaining operations, while at the same time being responsive to numerous infection prevention directives. The farm managers who responded to this survey gave us some glimpses of the significant struggle they had with implementing COVID-19 prevention actions on their farms. In spite of the difficulties, it appears that respondent farms widely recognized the seriousness of the pandemic and took robust action to prevent spread of the virus in their farm businesses. The results of the survey can be viewed here.

**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!

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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/](https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/)  
Food Production, Processing & Safety Questions:  
[https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/](https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/)  
Employment & Agricultural Workforce Questions:  
[http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/](http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/)  
Cornell Small Farms Resiliency Resources:  
[https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/](https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/)  
Financial & Mental Health Resources for Farmers:  
[https://www.nyfarmnet.org/](https://www.nyfarmnet.org/)  
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