

**From:** [bounce-124662677-85609580@list.cornell.edu](mailto:bounce-124662677-85609580@list.cornell.edu) on behalf of [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#)  
**To:** [SWNYDLFC-L](#)  
**Cc:** [Joshua Adam Putman](#); [Alycia Marie Drwencke](#); [Amy Marie Barkley](#); [Kelly Lynn Bourne](#)  
**Subject:** Heat Abatement, Beef Industry Update, Dairy Market Watch, and Moth Captures  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 9:23:06 PM

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## **5.28.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program**

### **Considerations for identifying and abating heat load in cattle**

While winter held out as long as it could, spring has arrived in a hurry and with it, much warmer temperatures. These increased temperatures are great for planting fields and harvesting forage, but are less ideal for our cattle. Some important considerations for identifying and abating heat load in cattle can help improve profitability within your herd. To learn more about heat abatement efficiency and utilizing cow-based indicators, reach out to our Dairy Management Specialist, [Alycia Drwencke](#).

### **May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020 NY Beef Industry Update, by Dr. Mike Baker**

More good news for beef producers: Processing capacity is now estimated to be around 70%, and is continuing to rise, albeit slowly. It's uncertain if the packing portion of the industry will exceed 90%, due to precautionary measures which have been instated at plants to protect workers. However, even with this and the backlog in animals ready for market, it's helping to raise the prices for NY beef. As of the May 22nd Livestock Report, feeder prices are up compared to last year, while finished steers and cull cows continue an upward trend as well. You can [read the full report](#) on the Cornell Beef Management Blog.

### **Dairy Market Watch Now Available – May 2020**

Read this month's commentary and market prices from [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#) where she discusses the recent market optimism and what producers can hope for in 2020. Dairy Market Watch is an educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry.

### **Black Cutworm and True Armyworm Moth Captures Increase Significantly in Southwest New York**

Field Crops Specialist, [Josh Putman](#), with the [Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops program](#) scouted traps and fields throughout the region. This week, moth captures increased significantly at both locations in the region. In Avoca, NY, both moth species were present having 13 cutworm and 11 armyworm. Higher numbers were captured in Springville, NY with 21 black cutworm and 13 armyworm collected; no evident feeding from larvae was present in corn fields that were emerged. Field Crops Specialists from the [Northwest NY Program](#) are finding much higher numbers of both pests in their traps this week. Correct identification of the larvae and larvae feeding can be difficult; contact your local extension specialist for proper identification and management.

### **NYS Ag and Markets Provides Official Guidance for Farms Addressing COVID-19**

New York state has released official guidance specific to farms addressing COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus). [The "Interim Guidance for Prevention and Response of COVID-19 at Farms" document](#) covers: cleaning and disinfection, face coverings, social distancing, high-risk locations, coordination

with local health departments, employee health screening, quarantine/isolation, and farm-provided employee housing. [A companion document is a helpful checklist](#) for farms to be sure they have covered every required item. Also included is [a tipsheet intended for farm workers](#). This document is presently in English but should be available in more languages soon, and it's recommend that you distribute it to all employees. Please carefully read the last section of the document titled "Empower Yourself," this section informs workers about how to file complaints. Make sure that your business is in full compliance with all federal and state COVID-19-related sick leave and paid family leave requirements and that you are communicating this information to employees, [see this post](#) for more information. As a reminder, all businesses in NYS, including farms, [need to have a Safety Plan in place](#) in response to NY Forward. For more information or clarification, please feel free to reach out to [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#), Farm Business Management Specialist.

### **Farm Employee Training Resources and Standard Operating Procedures**

Cornell Cooperative Extension specialists across the state have been working to curate a helpful database of resources for farm employee training. These include videos, fact sheets, and websites to help farm owners and managers train employees in general farm operations. These resources are free and will help managing employees during onboarding and beyond.

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*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)*

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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 to a bi-weekly service. 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!

**Katelyn Walley-Stoll**

*Business Management Specialist and Team Leader*

**Cornell University**

**Cooperative Extension**

## **SWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops**

CCE-Chautauqua @ JCC-Carnahan Center

525 Falconer Street, PO Box 20

(GPS use 241 James Avenue)

Jamestown, NY 14702-0020

[kaw249@cornell.edu](mailto:kaw249@cornell.edu) | [swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu](http://swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu) | [Facebook](#)

**716.640.0522**

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

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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)