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## 12.10.2020 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

### **NYS Schools Seeking Beef and Pork for Farm to School Programs**

Schools across NYS are looking for NY raised beef and pork products to use in their school lunch programs. These schools are looking to qualify for the [30% NY Initiative](#) by spending at least 30% of their lunch budget on foods grown, raised, and produced in NY. Farm to School Coordinators and Farm to School support personnel across NYS are looking to source local beef and pork for lunch trays in their local communities. Product type, amount needed, delivery requirements, and price paid varies by school district. Farms interested in participating in the program can reach out to Becky O'Connor, WNY Farm to Institution Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension – Harvest NY: [rao84@cornell.edu](mailto:rao84@cornell.edu) or (845) 706-0293.

### **Register for the Virtual CORE Pesticide Training**

Join us for another round of CORE training to obtain your pesticide license or receive 1.75 DEC recertification credits in the CORE category. [Register](#) online for [January 12<sup>th</sup>](#) from 9am – 10:50am or [January 14<sup>th</sup>](#) from 11am – 12:50pm for only \$20. We will provide an overview of the basic information involved in the pesticide application certification process and will present the basics of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as well as general pesticide safety, regulations and pesticide resistance. **\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*** Because of COVID-19, the DEC did not require growers whose licenses expired in November of 2019 or later to renew their applicator's license in order to buy & spray restricted use materials during the 2020 growing season. **That discretionary policy is no longer in effect.** If your license expired between November 2019 and November 23, 2020, you must obtain the full number of recertification credits and renew your license by February 23, 2021. If your license expires after November 23, 2020, you will follow the typical DEC guidelines. Feel free to contact [Josh Putman](#) with any questions. We hope to see you there!

### **"It's Always the Nutritionist's Fault!"**

CCE Regional Dairy Specialists Casey Havekes, Betsy Hicks and Margaret Quaassdorff, share an overview of the key topics discussed in their recent webinar "It's Always the Nutritionist's Fault!" The role your nutritionist plays in the success of your dairy goes beyond the diet they put together. Ensuring good communication, having a basic understanding of your diet, and knowing what additives are incorporated and why they are added, can improve performance on your dairy. It is equally important to recognize that herd management also plays a critical role in success as nutrition alone will only take your herd so far. In case you missed the live webinar, a recap of the main points is available [here](#). You can [also click here to watch the recording](#) on YouTube. For more information on dairy management, reach out to [Alycia Drwencke](#).

### **What's new from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University?**

Horticulture Weed Scientist, [Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie](#), has been conducting some interesting research over the past few months. Extension specialists from all around the state collected and submitted weed specimens for herbicide-resistance testing to better understand the best management practices for these weeds in field crops. Such species included marehail, Powell amaranth, waterhemp, and Palmer amaranth. In addition, Dr. Sosnoskie is working closely with [Dr. Yu Jiang](#) to develop a pocket Pigweed ID guide for growers. They are taking 3D images of the weeds at seedling stage all the way to flowering. This information and these tools will help growers maintain crop yields and apply the right herbicide chemistries to their fields.

### **USDA Section 32 milk & butter purchase program announced**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced plans to purchase \$60 million in Fresh Fluid Milk and \$50 million in butter for distribution to various food nutrition assistance programs. Purchases will be made under the authority of Section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, with the purpose to encourage the continued domestic consumption of these products by diverting them from the normal channels of trade and commerce. More information can be found [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.

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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. 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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Dairy Management Specialist

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension**

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

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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://institutefforfoodsafety.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)