1.14.2021 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

Know your calves to catch illnesses early by Carla Wardin

Hoard’s Dairyman recently summarized some key points discussed in the first session of the CCE Critical Calf Care series. This article summarizes the importance of monitoring your calves behavior to catch illness early. Behavioral changes will often occur prior to clinical signs of disease, highlighting the need to understand calf behavior. For more information on calf care or behavior, reach out to Dairy Management Specialist, Alycia Drwencke.

Farm Financial Management Tuesdays Online Farm Business Education in January

CCE ag business educators are offering short, farm financial education programs this winter! All programs are 12:30pm to 1:30pm. Each program is only $5 and includes a link to the recorded webinar if you cannot join the program live. Topics will include: Assessing and Using Credit in Your Agricultural Business, Knowing Input Costs to Maximize Profits, and Cash Flow Management and the Annual Operating Cycle. More details and each session and links to register can be found here.

Meat Processing Certificate Offered at SUNY Cobleskill Spring 2021

SUNY Cobleskill is happy to announce that they are planning to run their Meat Processing and Food Safety Certificate Program May 17 - June 11, 2021. The hands-on course will cover lamb and goat processing, beef processing, HACCP, and pork processing. The certificate program consists of specialized training in the accuracy of cutting, knife handling, portion control, merchandising, and the utilization of all products. Training includes animal slaughter, primal fabrication, retail cutting, value-added products, safety, sanitation, packaging, and HACCP standards.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Livestock PWT Presents: Insights to the Cow/Calf Enterprise

Area beef producers are encouraged to register for Insights into the Cow/Calf Enterprise scheduled for Thursday January 21, 2021 from 7 to 8pm. Topics slated for discussion include the key beef business benchmarks cow/calf producers can monitor and use for decision making. Additionally, a discussion on the importance of herd vaccination protocols and programs and the relationship to a producers' bottom line. Guest speakers include Nicole Tomnall, Ag Business Management Specialist with C.C.E. CNY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crop Team, and Rob Lynch, DVM, Herd Health & Management Specialist, Cornell University PRO-DAIRY.

Herbicide Resistance Update on Marestail

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 last fall for herbicide-resistance testing to better understand the best management practices for these weeds in field crops. We now have preliminary results from the first screening on horseweed aka marestail. Thirty populations have been tested so far and, it appears, that 27 out of 30 have resistance to the field-use rate of glyphosate (Roundup). Testing will continue with different
chemistries so that we can provide growers with appropriate control options. Join us next week for the Field Crop Series, where we will cover topics on weeds, diseases, and insects in further detail.

**What does the latest relief package hold for dairy? by John Newton**

John Newton, chief economist with the American Farm Bureau Federation recently published an article in Hoard's Dairyman. Newton discusses the latest relief package and what it means for the dairy industry as well as previous government relief. You can read the entire article [here](#).

**OSHA assists in identifying and managing dairy farm hazards**

What does construction, mining and farming have in common? Each year these occupations appear on the top ten list of the most dangerous industries in America. However, a closer look at the injury data shows the total injury rates for construction and mining have decreased significantly, while farming total injury rates remain high. According to the 2019 Bureau of Labor Statistics injury data, a worker was nearly 4.5 times more likely to sustain a serious injury while employed on a farm than in mining, and nearly twice as likely to have a serious injury working on a farm than on a construction site. Farming remains a dangerous occupation and dairy farming has the added hazard of working with large animals on an almost constant basis. Coining the phrase: “Dairy Dozen”, OSHA described twelve common hazard areas identified by safety inspectors of dairy farms that all producers would be well served to take a closer look at in their operations. The full list of top hazards can be viewed [here](#).

**COVID-19 Updates for the Farm Workforce**

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development shares information on COVID-19 and the farm workforce. This recent update highlights that farm employees are essential, managing quarantine with employees, and plans for the COVID-19 vaccine. The entire article can be viewed [here](#).

**Advertise your Business**

The SWNYDLFC program is accepting sponsors for the 2021 year. Sponsors will be advertised in electronic updates and our monthly paper mailings to reach a total of more than 500 households! More information on sponsorship can be found [here](#) or contact Kelly Bourne at klb288@cornell.edu or (585) 268-7644 ext. 10.
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

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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/
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
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