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Subject: DEC Credit Course, Dairy Market Watch, Supplemental Heat, Dairy Microgrant
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1.28.2021 Updates from the SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

Thank you to our sponsors for their support of this Weekly Update: American National, Country Crossroads Feed and Seed LLC., and Laing-Gro.

LOOKING FOR DEC CREDITS? Approved Online Courses for NY in 2021

Extension specialists across the state are working to provide growers and industry representatives with DEC recertification credits through online trainings. We now have the new 2021 list of pre-approved online recertification courses made available by the Pesticide Management Education Program Distance Learning Center. These courses range from CORE to category specific information that can help you add points to your applicator license. If you need points, consider visiting [this website](#) to participate in these online courses and obtain credits.

Dairy Market Watch Now Available – January 2021

Read this month's commentary and market prices from [Katelyn Walley-Stoll](#), where she discusses what 2021 could bring as we continue to see the economic impacts of COVID-19. [USDA has forecasted](#) Class III to average \$16.90, compared to \$18.25 last year, and Class IV to average \$14.10, compared to \$13.48 last year. Dairy Market Watch is an educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry.

Safety for Supplementing Heat to Livestock

When it becomes necessary to provide supplemental heat to livestock, management of the barn and heat sources is important to ensure building and livestock safety. The selection of an appropriate heat source in addition to how that source is managed can help prevent animal injury and potentially devastating barn fires. This information, as well as emergency preparedness tips, can be found in this [article](#).

Microgrant for Dairy Farmers in NY

The new Dairy Forward program is a partnership between American Farmland Trust (AFT) and Chobani. This program aims to help select dairy farm families in New York access information and professional services to help plan for farm transitions in the face of tremendous challenges such as a weak dairy economy, disruptions from severe weather, and an aging farmer population. AFT will make grants of \$500 to \$5,000 for professional services that further goals associated with farm transfer and succession planning, farm business planning, permanently protecting land, or adopting regenerative farming practices. This is a great opportunity for dairy farm families who are thinking about transitioning their farm to a new generation, hoping to protect their farm, looking to improve farm profitability, or are interested in adopting regenerative practices. [Applications](#) are currently available until funds are used up. Funds will be paid directly to business providers.

Soybean Cyst Nematode Keeps Spreading, Economic Losses Increasing

-Information provided by Julianne Johnston, The SCN Coalition-

“In just the past three years, soybean cyst nematode (SCN) has spread to 55 new U.S. counties in 11 states,” says Dr. Greg Tylka, Iowa State University (ISU) nematologist and co-leader of [The SCN Coalition](#). “SCN is now widespread in New York,” says Dr. Gary Bergstrom. “Soybean growers are fortunate that in most fields where SCN has been detected, population densities are low, although it’s concerning that a few counties had higher numbers.” Growers are asking questions about SCN-resistant varieties, nematicide seed treatments, and soil testing for SCN. In 2020, researchers concluded that from 1996 to 2016, SCN caused yield losses of \$32 billion dollars; averaging \$1.5 billion annually. Research and sampling will be continued into the 2021 growing season in SWNY and throughout the state.

Beef Market Update from Dr. Mike Baker – January 22nd

There have been some shifts in the beef market as of late, and some changes for the year 2021, including increased costs of grain. With corn prices approaching \$5.50/bushel, there may be an advantage to running stockers this year. Generally, the trends in the market have been as follows: cull cows have maintained the same price year over year, finished prices have declined, feeders were up \$5/cwt in 2020 vs 2019, and bull calf values are up. The details can be found in the [full report](#) by [Dr. Mike Baker](#).

Using Google Classroom for Employee Onboarding and Training

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development and CCE are offering a 30 minute training on using Google Classroom to onboard and train farm employees at 11am on February 3rd. This training is free, but [registration is required here](#). Setting up a Google Classroom is easy to do, free, and will streamline and standardize your onboarding process – making it a positive and efficient experience for everyone involved.

Dairy Environmental Systems Issues Fact Sheets - Advanced manure treatment and antibiotic resistance

For those thinking about exploring advanced manure treatment, a four-part fact sheet series from Cornell’s PRO-DAIRY Program is available:

- [Part 1 – Overview](#)
- [Part 2 – Phosphorus recovery technologies](#)
- [Part 3 – Nitrogen recovery technologies](#)
- [Part 4 – Energy extraction](#)

A fact sheet describing [basic manure characteristics](#), including composition and phosphorus, nitrogen, and potassium characteristics, has also been posted. A [new case study](#) is available that describes the persistence and decay of antibiotic residuals and antibiotic resistance genes through a dairy manure treatment system consisting of a solid-liquid separator and a rotary drum composter/BRU (bedding recovery unit).

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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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://instituteoffoodsafety.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

www.trabajadores.cornell.edu (en espanol)