

A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

Crops, Cows, and Critters Newsletter

Volume 2 · Issue 1 · February 2021

Updates for Farm Employers on FFCRA, CAA, and more related to COVID-19

Adapted from Joan Sinclair Petzen, Cornell Cooperative Extension’s NWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Team

With the new year, some of the early Federal requirements of employers with respect to COVID-19 have changed and some new guidance has been issued by NYS. Essential agricultural workers are presently in a holding pattern waiting for vaccine to become available for them in NYS. FFCRA – Families First Coronavirus Response Act (3/18/2020) and CAA – Consolidated Appropriations Act (12/27/2020) are Federal Laws pertaining to COVID-19 relief that have implications for employers. Some provisions of FFCRA expired on December 31, 2020. These changes relate to COVID-19 Sick Leave. The leave is no longer federally mandated. However, employers with less than 500 employees who choose to provide leave to their employees through the end of March 2021, can still receive a tax credit for the wages paid for COVID-19 Sick Leave.

New York State adopted regulations requiring employers with more than 10 employees and/or more than \$1 million in revenue in 2019 to provide job protected paid leave to employees, when either themselves or their minor children

are required to isolate or quarantine for COVID-19, or who must care for a family member who is certified to have a serious health condition associated with COVID-19. Employers with 10 or fewer employees and revenue less than \$1 million in 2019 are required to provide job protected time off and employees can apply for either paid family leave or disability to reimburse wages not received during the time away for COVID-19.

Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidance encourages states to include essential food and agricultural workers among the 1B phase of the effort to vaccinate as many Americans as possible to reduce potential disruption of the food supply chain for consumers due to health impact of COVID-19 on these workers. Employers need to do your part to ensure your workforce is safe and protected. Continue to encourage employees and family members to practice social distancing of at least six feet, wear a face covering and wash or sanitize hands regularly to prevent the spread of this deadly disease in your workplace.

Reminder – NYS Minimum Wage Increased

As of 12am on December 31st, 2020 the NYS minimum wage has increased to **\$12.50/hour** in Upstate NY. Farm employers should double check that they’ve made those changes to their payroll ASAP! For more information about navigating employee pay rate decisions, contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist.

2020 SWNYDLFC Annual Report Available

Visit our website (swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu) or call Katelyn Walley-Stoll (716-640-0522) for a copy.

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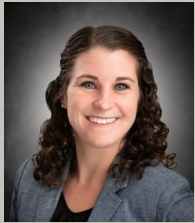
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For accommodations or accessibility concerns, please contact our specialists at least one week prior to the scheduled event. If you need information provided in a different format, call 716-640-0522.

Grain Handling and Storage Safety

Grain facilities are locations that receive, handle, store, process, and ship bulk agricultural commodities like corn, soybeans, wheat, and oats. In New York, these facilities can be quite large and can handle large quantities of grain products. Additionally, many agricultural producers have their own grain facilities for on-farm storage. The grain handling industry is hazardous because workers can be exposed to serious and life-threatening dangers. These include suffocation from engulfment and entrapment in grain bins, falls from heights and crushing injuries, fires and explosions from grain dust accumulations, grain dust/gas inhalation or lack of oxygen in confined spaces, and amputations from grain handling equipment.

What can be done to reduce these hazards? While working around a grain facility: turn off and lock all powered equipment associated with the bin, prohibit walking down the grain in the bin, provide and wear a body harness with a lifeline, ensure that there is an observer outside the bin, train all workers on the specific workplace hazards, and test the air before entering the bin to ensure there are no toxic gases or dust present. Additional tips to prevent dust explosions and fires can be found on the [OSHA website](#). Those working with grain come across many hazards, so it is important to know the precautionary measures to avoid a

life-threatening injury in this line of work. By following these tips, farms can keep employees safe. Additional information and resources can be found on the [United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(OSHA\) website](#).




GRAIN BIN ENTRY HAZARDS


FACTS:

- When an auger starts you have 2-3 seconds to react
- After 4-5 seconds in flowing grain you are trapped
- After 22 seconds you are completely covered


Flowing Grain



Bridged Grain



Avalanched Grain



NEVER enter grain bins when flowing/bridged grain is present!
ALWAYS keep your head above the grain!

NEW - Update on the Marestalk Resistance Trials at Cornell University

Horticulture Weed Scientist, [Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie](#), continues to conduct interesting research at Cornell University. 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, including marestalk. Out of 30 total marestalk populations being tested for resistance to Roundup, it appears that 27 may be resistant to the field-use rate of glyphosate (**chart below**). Correct identification, crop rotations, cover crops, and use of rotated chemistries will be important for controlling this weed in SWNY in the future. Stay tuned as resistance testing will begin on the problematic pigweed species, Palmer amaranth and waterhemp.



*Data provided by Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie



Current Resistance Screening Efforts

Percent (%) injury of New York populations of horseweed to glyphosate (higher bars indicate susceptibility)



Take proper precautions when working near or in grain handling facilities to prevent injuries on your farm!

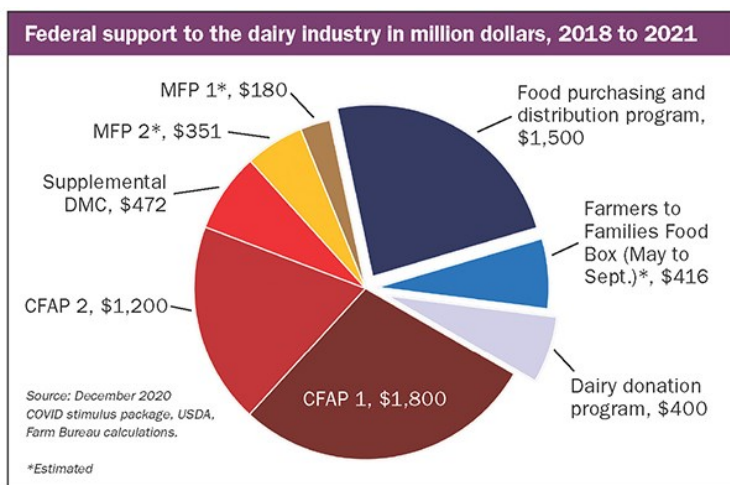
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For more information on any of these topics, contact Josh Putman at 716-490-5572 or jap473@cornell.edu.

What does the latest relief package hold for dairy?

Adapted from John Newton, American Farm Bureau Federation



Over the last few years, the federal government has provided, or will soon provide, billions of dollars in direct and indirect support to dairy. The latest COVID package provides nearly \$1.5 billion for another Farmers to Families Food Box program, a \$400 million dairy donation program, and a recourse loan program for dairy processors. For the dairy farmers, \$470 million plus-up to the DMC program over a three-year period is included.

The recently passed Coronavirus Response and Relief package should help dairy farmers who may have grown their herd size in recent years, the "CFAP 3" package includes a supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program for the 2021 to 2023 coverage years. The goal of the supplemental DMC is to raise a dairy farm's production history to the maximum of 75% of 2019's milk production or 5 million pounds of milk. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the supplemental DMC will provide more than \$470 million in additional financial support to dairy farmers from 2021 to 2023. Early in 2021, USDA will open an enrollment window to allow dairy farmers to make coverage elections for the supplemental milk enrolled in DMC.

Second, the package includes an additional \$1.5 billion for USDA to do another round of the Farmers to Families Food Box program. To the extent that USDA purchases of cheese, butter, or dry milk powders help bolster demand and reduce supplies, milk prices should climb as a result — hopefully in more of a tandem fashion than what we saw in 2020. No more negative PPDs, please.

Next, the COVID relief package includes up to \$400 million for a dairy-specific donation program. The standalone program is *CFAP Round #3 continued on page 9...*

While the latest CFAP (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program) does have benefits for dairy producers that should boost market prices, few will see additional direct payments.

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Don't Forget – Do's and Don'ts for Barn Snow Removal

By Curt Gooch and Sam Steinberg, Cornell University

While it has been a somewhat mild winter so far, some parts of our region have gotten lots of lake effect snow over the past few days – and we're definitely due for more. Safely removing snow from farm buildings is important to reduce the risk of cave-ins, injuries, and potentially deadly situations. Remember to remove snow with a systematic, zone removal, approach and be on the lookout for any signs of barn failure (creaking, bowing of trusses, rafters, and headers). Keep in mind, however, that pre-engineered metal structure will likely fail without warning. Do not remove snow unequally from a barn roof (one full side at a time) or make large piles on the roof, or against the barn side walls. For the full fact sheet, visit swnydlfc.cornell.edu or call Katelyn Walley-Stoll to have it mailed. This is a great resource to share with your employees and family!

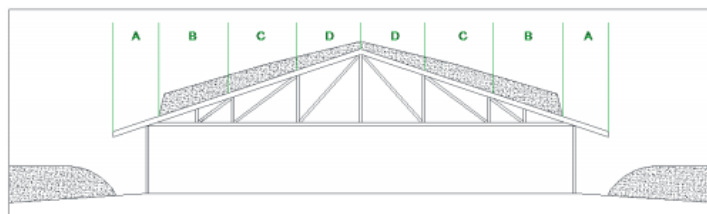


Figure 2. Remove snow from **Zone A** on both sides of the barn. It is important to keep the loads symmetrical on each truss.

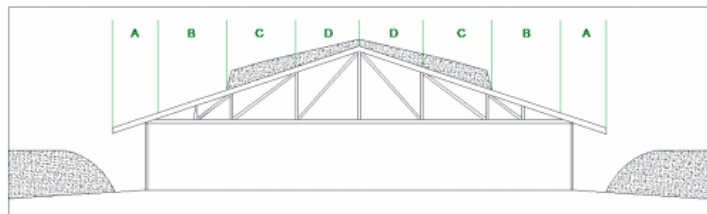


Figure 3. Move snow from **Zone B** down to Zone A and then off of the roof. Make sure to keep the snow on the ground off the sides of the barn. The posts, siding, and /or curtains are not designed to handle this type of load.

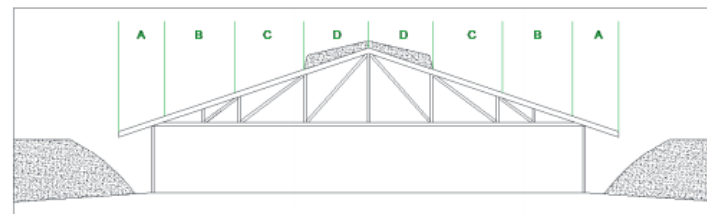


Figure 4. Move snow from **Zone C** down to Zones B and A, and then off of the barn and continue to remove snow away from barn sidewalls.

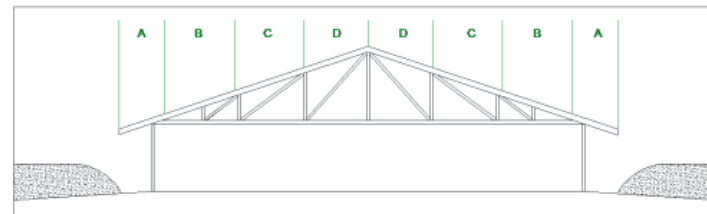


Figure 5. Snow fully removed from roof and away from barn sidewalls.

Removing roof snow without a proper approach may actually cause more damage than if left alone in some cases by creating an unbalanced and/or concentrated roof loads.

Know your calves to catch illnesses early

By Carla Wardin, Michigan Dairy Farmer

An excerpt from the article published in *Hoard's Dairyman*

Since calves are highly susceptible to disease, farmers should be using both physical and behavioral indicators to help identify a potential illness. Monitoring calves frequently for changes helps for early intervention and improves the long-term outcomes.

"In addition to physiological kinds of disease, calves will also exhibit a range of behavioral changes when they're ill," said Alycia Drwencke, Cornell Cooperative Extension Regional Dairy Specialist. "Oftentimes these behavioral changes can be identified earlier than many of physical signs they can present, so it really makes it extremely important to pay close attention to what they're doing, to know if they're going to deviate from normal."

Look for these signs

Behavioral changes to monitor include:

- Human interaction
- Grooming
- Feed and water intake
- Isolation
- Posture
- Play behavior
- Length of time lying down

Monitoring these behaviors regularly can help farmers identify if calves are healthy or experiencing a health event.

To help with diagnosis and treatment, University of Wisconsin researchers developed a system for diagnosing respiratory issues that assigns a score for symptoms.

"You're basically going to assign a score to the calf based on these areas," Drwencke said during "Recognizing and Diagnosing Disease," a Cornell Cooperative Extension podcast. "If she has a cough, you're going to give her two points, if she has a fever above 39.2°C (102.5°F), you're going to give her two points. If she has nasal discharge, you're going to give her four points," said Drwencke. "What these researchers establish is that if a calf scores a total of five or higher, you're going to classify this as a respiratory case. You can use that knowledge to further make your treatment and management decisions."

Not only does early intervention improve outcome, but it also reduces cost. Options for observation include a technological approach, such as using an activity monitor and data from auto feeders. "Or you can simply take the time to do some good, old-fashioned observation in person," Drwencke said.

Monitoring and troubleshooting herd health on farm promotes welfare and productivity of calves and cows.

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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 at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AFT-dairy-forward>. Funds will be paid directly to business providers.



Reminder - Podcast series from CCE Dairy Educators and PRO-DAIRY, "Troubleshooting Herd Health Issues on Your Dairy" is being release!

Episodes focus on troubleshooting health problems in your herd throughout an animals' life. Look for a new episode each week on the PRO-DAIRY website (<https://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/events/podcasts/>) where you can find each episode along with additional resources and speaker contact information. You can also listen via SoundCloud on the CCE Dairy Educators channel.



For more information on any of these topics, contact Alycia Drwencke at 517-416-0386 or amd453@cornell.edu.

Dairy Market Watch

January 2021



Prepared by Katelyn Walley-Stoll.
Funded by PRO-DAIRY.

Milk Component Prices			Milk Class Prices				Statistical Uniform Price & PPD				
Month	Butterfat	Protein	I (Boston)	II	III	IV	Jamestown, NY		Albany, NY		Albany \$/gal. to farmer
Dec 19	\$2.19	\$3.65	\$22.58	\$16.81	\$19.37	\$16.70	\$18.13	(\$1.24)	\$18.73	(\$0.64)	\$1.61
Jan 20	\$2.11	\$2.96	\$22.26	\$17.05	\$17.05	\$16.65	\$17.63	\$0.58	\$18.23	\$1.18	\$1.57
Feb 20	\$1.98	\$3.03	\$20.80	\$16.84	\$17.00	\$16.20	\$16.97	(\$0.03)	\$17.57	\$0.57	\$1.51
Mar 20	\$1.92	\$2.84	\$20.71	\$16.75	\$16.25	\$14.87	\$16.59	\$0.34	\$17.19	\$0.94	\$1.48
Apr 20	\$1.32	\$2.48	\$19.89	\$13.87	\$13.07	\$11.40	\$13.77	\$0.77	\$14.37	\$1.30	\$1.24
May 20	\$1.38	\$2.09	\$16.20	\$12.30	\$12.14	\$10.67	\$12.32	\$0.18	\$12.92	\$0.78	\$1.11
June 20	\$1.86	\$4.53	\$14.67	\$12.99	\$21.04	\$12.90	\$14.51	(\$6.53)	\$15.11	(\$5.93)	\$1.30
July 20	\$1.95	\$5.62	\$19.81	\$13.79	\$24.54	\$13.76	\$17.93	(\$6.61)	\$18.53	(\$6.01)	\$1.60
Aug 20	\$1.63	\$4.44	\$23.03	\$13.27	\$19.77	\$12.53	\$16.87	(\$2.90)	\$17.47	(\$2.30)	\$1.51
Sep 20	\$1.59	\$3.39	\$21.69	\$13.16	\$16.43	\$12.75	\$15.65	(\$0.78)	\$16.25	(\$0.18)	\$1.40
Oct 20	\$1.64	\$5.01	\$18.45	\$13.63	\$21.61	\$13.47	\$15.92	(\$5.69)	\$16.52	(\$5.09)	\$1.41
Nov 20	\$1.56	\$5.62	\$21.29	\$13.86	\$23.34	\$13.30	\$17.12	(\$6.22)	\$17.72	(\$5.62)	\$1.53
Dec 20	\$1.54	\$3.03	\$23.12	\$14.01	\$15.72	\$13.36	\$16.11	\$0.39	\$16.71	\$0.99	\$1.44

December Utilization (Northeast): Class I = 31.8%; Class II = 20.8%; Class III = 25.0%; Class IV = 22.4%.

Class I = fluid milk; Class II = soft products, cream, and yogurt; Class III = cheese (American, Italian), evaporated and condensed products; Class IV = butter and milk powder.

Dairy Commodity Markets (USDA Dairy Market News – Volume 88, Report 3, January 22nd, 2021)

Cheese: Cheese production has regained momentum in the third week of the year. Growing milk supplies, with lighter Class I demand than in previous years, kept spot milk at steep discounts. Spot milk ranged from \$8.50 under to \$4 under. Prices last year bottomed out at \$3.50 under, while two years ago slight overages were reported and the low was \$2 under Class. Typically, schools returning from holiday breaks would spread milk a little thinner. However, with limited in-person activity at schools throughout the country, more milk is bound for the cheese vat. Additionally, a fairly mild winter in many parts of the country has milk levels higher ahead of the spring. Cheese inventories have grown, and even with the food box continuation announced, market tones have responded more to active production/heavy milk supplies than they have to the governmental program news.

Fluid Milk: Western milk production is described as stable, steady, and strong. Mild winter weather has helped milk production in the East, Midwest, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico. Milk production in the rest of the country is growing. Cream is readily available in the East and Central Region. California cream spot sales are steady to down and most condensed skim loads are clearing through the dryers.

Dry Products: Low/medium heat nonfat dry milk prices are higher in every facet in the East and Central Regions. The focus is contracting, leaving limited spot market offerings. Dry buttermilk prices are steady to higher. Available dryer time is limited because nonfat dry milk is being given preference. That limits dry buttermilk production, or results in more sales of condensed buttermilk. Export interest is strong.

Butter: Nationwide, butter producers are reporting similar tones this week to last week; churning is busy, as cream remains readily available. Butter production is generally heavy as runs include salted and unsalted butter. As butter interest typically declines after the holidays, demand for wholesale bulk butter is moderate and buyers generally order as needed. Having said this, retail sales are being impacted by the seasonal dip in demand. Contacts say butter inventories are steadily building into cold storage.

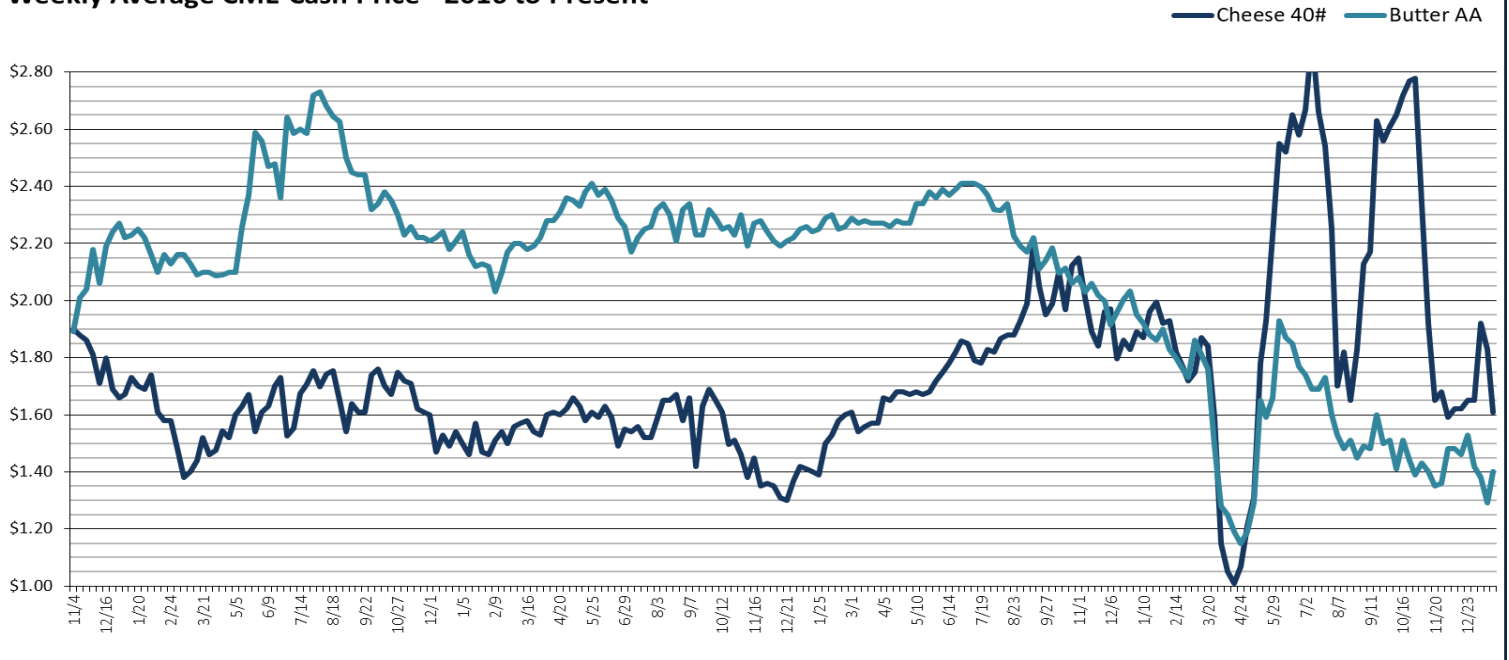
Friday CME Cash Prices					
Dates	12/23	12/31	1/8	1/15	1/22
Butter	\$1.53	\$1.42	\$1.38	\$1.29	\$1.40
Cheese (40# Blocks)	\$1.65	\$1.65	\$1.92	\$1.83	\$1.61

An educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry.



For more information on Dairy Business Management and Market Analysis, contact Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist, at 716-640-0522 or kaw249@cornell.edu.

Weekly Average CME Cash Price - 2016 to Present



What will 2021 bring? A somewhat candid reflection.

By Katelyn Walley-Stoll, Farm Business Management Specialist, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Usually, I reserve the January issue of Dairy Market Watch for a thoughtful reflection on the previous year's milk market. I discuss the highs, the lows, the seasonal changes, and the subtle nuisances that accompany such a complex marketing and price system. Then, I try to summarize predictions of what the new year will bring, tying together thoughtful projections and carefully calculated forecasts done by industry experts who have a whole lot more wisdom and experience than I do.

However, as I sit down to gather all of the information for this month's Dairy Market Watch, I have to say this is a much different, and less articulate, reflection than I'd normally have... My summary for 2020: What the heck. And my carefully summarized prediction for 2021: I dunno.

I think that 2020 has taught us all that our predictions and expectations can very quickly be thrown out the window, even on a worldwide milk market scale. There are several things that will come into play through this new year.

We've already seen government initiatives that provide dairy product purchases support milk prices, and these could continue with new rounds in the coming months under a new administration. We at least know that the current Farms to Families Food Box Program will run through April, along with Section 32 product purchases, and the \$400 million Dairy Donation Program. We've also seen strong household purchases of dairy products as people

continue to cook at home and eat comfort foods (I know our house has had a steady rotation of milk and cereal, pizza, mac and cheese, and ice cream). We can also expect a big surge of restaurant and wholesale purchases later in the year when things open again.

However, milk production continues to run higher than expected. December milk production was 3.1% higher than a year ago with 1.1% more cows. Dairy stocks are also building, which will create less demand from buyers. As Bob Cropp highlighted in his [January 2021 Dairy Situation and Outlook](#), December 31st butter stocks were 44.4% higher than a year ago along with a 5.7% increase in total cheese stocks. This higher supply and lower demand is affecting cheese and butter prices negatively, and could continue to do so throughout 2021. Dairy sales, both domestic and international, will remain lower than "normal" for as long as the world contends with COVID-19.

Then there is the question of what effects the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to have as we experience another major spike across the country and face the challenge of new strains and a taxed healthcare system. The worldwide recession that we're just beginning to understand will not be easy to come back from.

So – what will 2021 bring? [USDA has forecasted](#) Class III to average \$16.90, compared to \$18.25 last year, and

Dairy Market Watch continued on page 9

[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.

Milk production AND milk components are at an all time high. December milk production was 3.1% higher than last year's.

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Taking Inventories of Stored Forages

By Amy Barkley, Livestock and Beginning Farms Specialist

For farmers with cattle, sheep, and goats, the growing season is typically spent grazing their animals and growing fields of grasses and legumes to store for the upcoming winter. However, the wet spring and dry summer of 2020 created a poor growing season that led to reduced hay production. Pastures also suffered, and some farms had to supplement livestock with feed during the grazing season that was set aside for winter. In years where stored forage may be lower than usual, it is especially important to check forage inventories thoroughly. If there is not enough stored feed available to make it through the winter and early spring, the information from a forage inventory will help farms make decisions about whether they will need to buy in forage or sell some of their stock to make sure there is enough feed to go around.

To calculate a farm's forage inventory, start with counting the number of animals on the farm as well as identifying their age and stage of production. Different animal groups (adult males vs pregnant females vs young animals) will consume different amounts of feed. Then, take the weights of 6 bales of each bale type (small square, large square, round, and baleage) and count the number of bales available. Next, estimate the amount of hay wasted from each bale during storage and feeding. This will be used to estimate the true amount of forage being consumed by the herd or flock. Having an idea of the number of days that forage will need to be fed will help get a good estimate of feed needs for the remainder of the winter. From these numbers, an estimate of the amount of feed that will be consumed can be compared to the forage currently available.

Because feed consumption will vary based on the weather and what stage of production the animals are in, farms should calculate their inventories at least twice during the time when stored feed is being provided to shore up estimates. Ideally, feed stocks should be checked at the end of the grazing season, in the middle of winter, and in early spring.

Getting on the Land: To Own or Lease?

By Amy Barkley, Livestock and Beginning Farms Specialist

Before making the decision to lease or buy, understanding your business needs is an important first step to narrowing down available properties. For example, vegetables thrive more readily in good quality soil, livestock operations may benefit from available fencing and barns, and mushroom cultivation requires woodland that is easy to access by people and equipment. Distance to an identified market is also a consideration, as is a purchaser's or renter's personal fit with the area or region.

Leasing land offers flexibility and can be a way to attain extra acreage for a current operation or to start building a farm business without the large, upfront financial commitment that buying entails. If leasing, drawing up a contract that is agreed upon by both parties is vital. While handshake agreements can work, contracts leave nothing left unknown and allow for peace of mind for both the landowner and renter. Considerations for lease agreements include what can be grown, what previously existing infrastructure is available to use, which party will maintain upkeep of which portions of the property, length of the arrangement, what the payment rate will be, and when payments are due.

There are multiple ways to find land available for sale or lease. Local classified ads, real estate websites, bulletin boards at local businesses, and talking to neighbors with farmland are great places to start. Farmland for a New Generation New York is another tool to keep in mind when the search for land begins. The program connects current landowners with potential buyers or leasees. It allows for searches by region, acreage (both open and wooded), infrastructure and equipment availability, and permitted crops and livestock. There is also an opportunity to create an online profile for landowners to review and contact you, should they have a property that may meet your needs. More about this free program can be found at:

<https://nyfarmlandfinder.org>.



Beef Cattle Market Update January 22, 2021

There have been some shifts in the beef market as of late as well as 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. Lighter stockers may be discounted in the marketplace as finishing operations opt for heavier weight cattle. As of this report, 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.

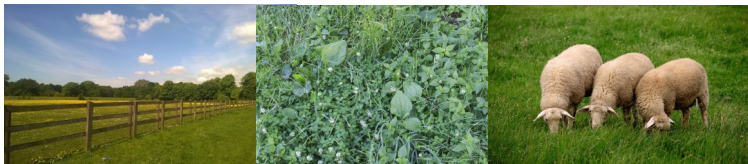
The Beef Cattle Market Update is compiled by Dr. Mike Baker, Cornell Beef Extension Specialist. For a copy of the full update, make a request to Amy.

**CROPS
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newsletter

If you are interested in learning more about any of the stories shared here, contact Livestock and Beginning Farm Specialist, Amy Barkley, at 716-640-0844 or amb544@cornell.edu.

Attention dairy and livestock grazers - We've got a smorgasbord of webinars for you!

Keep in mind that you can participate even if you don't have internet access. We always offer call-in options and can coordinate getting you written transcripts and resources as well. Just give any of our team's specialists a call.



Spring Pasture Management Classes

Join Livestock and Field Crops Specialists, Amy Barkley and Josh Putman, for webinars focused on preparing for a productive 2021 grazing season.

Thursday, February 25th, 6:30pm—8:00pm; Cost \$15

Early Season Pasture Weed Management

****1.5 DEC Credits approved in Categories 1a, 10, & 21****

Thursday, March 4th, 6:30pm—7:30pm; Cost \$10

All About Frost Seeding

Thursday, March 11th, 6:30pm—7:30pm; Cost \$10

Designing Your Grazing System for 2021 and Beyond

Thursday, March 18th, 6:30pm—7:30pm; Cost \$10

Rotational Grazing Management

All classes will be held over the Zoom platform and will be recorded for later viewing. Notes will be provided.

Interested in registering? Contact Amy Barkley at amb544@cornell.edu or (716) 640-0844.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Pasture Prep:

Virtual Ruminations for your 2021 Grazing Program



CCE SWNY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops and SCNY Dairy and Field Crops teams are excited to offer a grazing series with an emphasis on dairy herds, but all grazers are welcome! Join us **VIRTUALLY** for a 6 week series on unique topics around grazing. This series will be offered every Tuesday starting March 2, 2021 at Noon EST.

Our last session on April 6, 2021 will be a panel discussion at 7pm with our series presenters. Presenters will include Betsy Hicks, Alycia Drwencke, and Mary-Kate Wheeler with CCE, Troy Bishop, Upper Susquehanna Coalition Regional Grassland Conservation Professional, Sam Corcoran with UMass Extension, Jeff Wheeler and Dr. George Dawson with Diamond V, and Don Burkhard with Cows Come First.

Registration:

<https://tinyurl.com/dairygrazing>

Cost: \$25

This fee gives you access to all 6 sessions and presentation files ahead of the meetings and recordings to be shared after.

For registration help or questions please contact:
Donette Griffith, dg576@cornell.edu
607-391-2662



Tuesdays via Zoom

March 2, 2021:
Considerations for 2021 Spring Green Up
Noon

March 9, 2021:
Nutrition & Grazing Through the Season
Noon

March 16, 2021:
Incorporating Annual Forages to the Grazing Plan
Noon

March 23, 2021:
Examining Lameness on Grazing Dairies
Noon

March 30, 2021:
Maximizing Pasture Investment
Noon

April 6, 2021:
Expert Panel Discussion with Series Speakers
7 pm

Dairy Market Watch continued from page 7

Class IV to average \$14.10, compared to \$13.48 last year. While **some industry experts are forecasting higher** (Class III in the mid \$17's and Class IV in the mid \$16's), I think it's safe to say that we'll just have to wait and see how markets are able to recover from an unprecedented pandemic.

A Note: Huge kudos and thanks to my colleague and our team's Dairy Management Specialist, Alycia Drwencke, for covering Dairy Market Watch over the past few months. I appreciate her effort and willingness to jump right in while I was out on maternity leave! In September, our family welcomed baby #4, which has been a bright ray of sunshine and hope in such dark and uncertain times. I hope you and your family are safe and healthy as we start our new year!

CFAP Round #3 continued from page 4....

designed to facilitate the timely donation of dairy products and minimize food waste.

The bill does direct USDA to make additional payments to ensure that CFAP assistance more closely aligns with the revenue losses of farmers. Most read this to mean that any dairy farm that saw CFAP support reduced due to payment limitations could likely see additional supplemental payments up to 80% of the revenue loss.

The next step for these programs is rulemaking and implementation. Some of the dairy-related provisions have been announced, such as the new Farmers to Families Food Box program, while others, such as direct payments for crops and livestock, will likely come later. However, one thing is certain — the milk check outlook for 2021 includes more ad hoc support.

Would you like to receive information faster?
Sign up for our weekly update email.
Contact Kelly Bourne:

585-268-7644 ext 10
klb288@cornell.edu

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While we are continuing to offer our winter programming virtually, please reach out to any of our specialists for information on accessing events via phone or receiving paper copies of the presentations.

Thank you to our Newsletter Sponsors!



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For more information on becoming a sponsor, contact Kelly Bourne, Administrative Assistant, by calling 585-268-7644 ext. 10 or email klb288@cornell.edu.

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Stay connected: Follow us on social media, sign up for our newsletter, visit our website.

Upcoming Events

Date and Time	Topic	Location	Learn More...
Tuesday, February 16th 6:00pm-8:00pm	Raising Pigs for Market	Virtual via Zoom	Laura Biasillo, CCE Broome County 607-584-5007
Tuesday, February 16th 7pm - 8:30pm	OSU Extension Small Ruminant Nutrition Webinar	Online Webinar	The Ohio State University Extension sheep.osu.edu/events
Thursday, February 25th 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Spring Pasture Management - Early Season Pasture Weed Mngmt	Virtual via Zoom	Contact Amy or Josh, SWNYDLFC Learn more on page 9
Tuesday, March 2nd Noon - 1:30pm	Pasture Prep - Considerations for 2021 Spring Green Up	Virtual via Zoom	Contact Alycia, SWNYDLFC Learn more on page 9
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