

# Cornell Cooperative Extension

Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

## DAIRY ALERT

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### USING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) PRACTICES FOR FLIES ON YOUR CATTLE 🦟

The combination of stable, horn, face and house flies can cause economic losses in beef cattle and dairy production. Flies are not only a bother to our dairy cattle, but they can also exacerbate the spread of diseases such as pinkeye or nematode eye worm. In the milk room or in calf barns, house flies can contribute to increased bacteria in milk fed to calves, and can raise a red flag during a facility inspection. In addition, cows bothered by flies on pasture also burn more valuable calories keeping themselves fly-free, which can really dig into their time budget for eating and resting and negatively affect production performance.

The use of multiple control tactics are summed together into an IPM program. NYS IPM has two new publications on how your farming operation might measure up in the use of IPM for flies on cattle. Ken Wise, NYS Extension IPM Specialist has created a checklist of cattle IPM practices. Points are accumulated for each IPM tactic you implement. Once the checklist is complete, add up the points. If you get at least 80% of the total points, you can be considered an IPM operation. This is a good way to check and see what you are doing well and what other practices you could implement. Elements of IPM are available in both English and Spanish:

[Elements of IPM for Flies on Dairy Cattle in New York State](#)

[Elementos de MIP para Ganado Lechero en el Estado de Nueva York](#)

[Elements of IPM for Pastured Beef Cattle in New York State](#)

[Elementos de MIP para Ganado de Carne en el Estado de Nueva York](#)

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### COVID-19 SUPPLIES

Are you in need of face masks or hand sanitizer for your farm operation? Many CCE Associations across the state are helping to coordinate distribution of materials provided by the government to local farmers. Check with your local CCE office to find out how to arrange a pick up.



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## BUNKER SAFETY

Before we know it, first cutting haylage will be harvested across the region. Don't forget to conduct safety training with all employees who will be helping to pack or cover bunk. This doesn't have to be complicated! Consider the following before you start chopping or covering bunk:

- If possible, have everyone on or around the bunk wear a safety vest.
- Remind everyone on the farm to be careful of increased truck traffic on the farm.
- Remind those operating packing tractors to wear their seat belt and pack the silage at a safe slope.
- Have a quick huddle with everyone before covering the bunk. Review the plan so everyone knows what their job is.
  - No horseplay.
  - Stay away from the edges of the bunk as much as possible.
  - Watch out for one another.



## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesdays in June at 1 pm: [Northeast Dairy Management Webinars](#)



We are currently working from home and we are available via phone and email. Need a consultation that would normally require a farm visit? We can set up a video call or zoom meeting to visit your farm virtually!

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