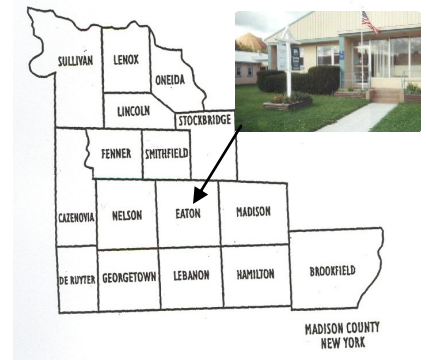


Madison Manager



Upcoming Programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County



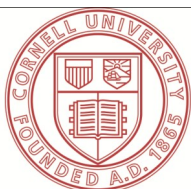
The Next Generation in Tie Stalls For Cow Comfort

Thursday, March 17 at 1 PM
At the Meeker Farm, 5387 Brown Rd., Munnsville



Quality Assurance Training Comes to Madison County

Certify as a BQA Producer on **Wednesday, April 9** at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County and at "chute-side" training at Agri-Venture Beef Enterprise, West Elm St., Canastota

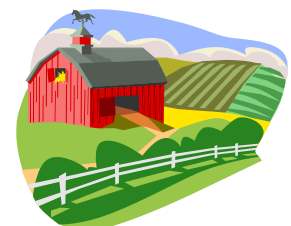


Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Madison County

For more information and to register for any of the above programs please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County at 315-684-3001 or kab21@cornell.edu

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2011 Crop Congress Well Attended

By: *Kathe Evans, Community Educator,
CCE Madison County*

CCE of Madison County presented this year's Crop Congress on February 1 at Empire Tractor, Cazenovia. The day-long program highlighted corn and soybean management and offered farm managers the opportunity to not only brush up their knowledge of cropping techniques but also to receive pesticide recertification credits.

Topics included new weed control products and the proper use of herbicides to enhance long term usefulness of important herbicides. Russ Hahn, Cornell University, presented information that is highlighted on pages 3-4 in this issue of Madison Manager. Bill Cox, Cornell, discussed planting dates and populations that maximize potential profit for both corn and soybeans; Gary Bergstrom, Cornell

Plant Pathologist, filled farm operators in on emerging disease problems in corn and soybeans and methods of protecting or rescuing these crops from disease pressure. Julie Hansen discussed alfalfa varieties that are being tested around the state and Dan Kinsley, NY DEC, updated the audience on rules and regs that will affect them when applying pesticides.

A delicious lunch was provided by the Lucas Family & Empire Tractor. The Crop Congress is an annual program that is designed to help farmers keep up-to-date on research done at the land grant institutions and around the state and to provide an opportunity to receive pesticide recertification credits necessary to maintain pesticide applicator licensure.



Joe Szalach
*Inside Sales Manager, Empire Tractor,
Demonstrating GPS*



**Daniel Kinsley, Pesticide Control Specialist,
NYS DEC, Legislative Update**

Buckwheat Update

Grain prices are up all over, and buckwheat is no exception. Birkett Mills announced their 2011 contract prices today. This year's harvest will receive \$27 per cwt for conventional, \$31 for organic. It's a big jump!

These are full production contracts, so all seed must be delivered to the mill.

That's modern IP protection for you! For each acre contracted, the grower leases a bag of seed (50 lb) at \$27 (\$31 org).

While \$300 to \$400 per acre is nosebleed territory for buckwheat, growers may still see it as significantly less than other options. Nevertheless, the production cost and labor are very low compared to all

else. Growers with abundant moderate-fertility land, a combine and no helpers often find buckwheat a good fit. It is useful as a rotation crop for tith restoration and quackgrass reduction. Finally, it's about the only field crop choice when you get to the end of June and still have ground to plant.

Go Online To Receive Pesticide Recertification Credits

It is now possible to receive recertification credits online. The Cornell Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP) has designed a program in cooperation with the NYS Integrated Pest Management Program (NYS IPM) that allows an individual to go online and receive recertification credits at a time and place of his/her own choosing. Participants must have access to a computer with speakers or headphones. Courses are PowerPoint presentations at the present time. There is a fee of \$25 per credit to take part in the online courses.

Both Core and category courses are available right now. It is anticipated that the number of courses will increase. It might be

worth reminding folks that 25% of recertification credits must be received in the category in which they are certified. The remaining 75% of recertification credits can be category specific, core or a combination of the two.

Core and category courses are available and those who participate will be monitored. At least one hour per credit must be spent on the learning module before taking a test. Completing the course in less than the specified time will result in forfeiture of credits and \$ spent. In addition, it goes without saying that the applicator earning credits must be the one taking and

completing the course. Anyone using a substitute is committing fraud and will forfeit their credits and application fee. In addition, one may not take the same course twice in a recertification cycle. There are, however, no limits on the number of different courses you can select and participants can not spend more than 7 hours per day training. To access courses go to <http://pmeppcourses.cce.cornell.edu>, select course and follow directions. After filling out required information participants will receive and email giving a secure username and password. Passing grades must be 80-90% (depending on the topic). After submitting the test and passing the candidate for credits will receive a temporary certificate and an official certificate at a later date.

Antibiotics In Spotlight - Again

By: *Kathryn Evans, Community Educator - CCE Madison County*

Dairy Farmers are well aware of the negative consequences of antibiotic residue found in milk. One of the best selling points we have as producers of milk is the assurance of no adulteration of milk to be consumed by the public. In general, producers work very hard to keep records of treatments and test either at the farm or the milk plant to make sure that milk is clear of any antibiotics. The unfortunate thing is that there is always somebody who tries to beat the system. Sooner or later they will provide the industry a black eye by being caught.

We as producers have a new problem to take care of—residue in cull cows and bob veal. The FDA is looking at a more stringent testing procedure for testing milk and meat. The vast majority of antibiotic residue violation at slaughter come from bob veal and cull dairy cows. These antibiotics run the gamut from OTC approved ones such as penicillin and certain sulfas to off label ones such as gentocin and Baytril. Since routine milk screening does not include the majority of these antibiotics that are found at slaughter, the FDA wants to thoroughly screen milk for some two dozen antibiotics from 900 offending dairy farms. The following article from Dave Wolfgang from Penn State really does a nice job of describing the problem and the solution.

Are You Part Of The Residue Problem Or Solution?

By: *Dr. David R. Wolfgang, Extension Veterinarian, Penn State Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences*

You may have noticed a number of articles in popular farm journals that address the issue of antibiotic residues and/or resistance. Data regarding antibiotics in dairy products and meat has been monitored and of concern for many years, but recently government agencies, medical personnel, and consumers have placed much more interest in this public health issue. Why has this issue seemed to re-appear?

The Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) recently released its most current data on residues. That report was from 2008 data. In that year, approximately 34.7 million cattle were harvested. Tests were positive in 0.0007% of bob veal calves, and 0.0004% of dairy cattle. While these numbers seem low, they are much higher levels than found in steers, swine, special fed veal, or poultry. Of all the positive antibiotic residues from meat, dairy cattle contributed 66% of all the positives and bob veal calves contributed 24% of the positive tests. Dairy cattle account for approximately 28% of the total pounds of beef nationwide. Bob calves only contribute about 33% of the veal into market channels. Since both the market (cull) dairy cow and bob veal calf are essentially residue problems due to animals leaving dairy farms with volatile residues, much emphasis and finger pointing has been turned toward the dairy producer.

The FDA and FSIS personnel are also being more aggressive in trace back to individual farms to identify repeat offenders with greater fines and restrictions. Some of the controversy is complicated by concerns from public health officials and some consumers regarding antibiotic resistance.

The residue and resistance controversy tends to be different. Most of the resistance issue is related to antibiotics in feed or water. Antibiotics administered in this way rarely are implicated as a residue problem. In this case, antibiotics are usually given on a herd or flock basis. Residues are more found after treatment of individual animals (or contaminated milk fed to bob veal calves). In both cases the long-term damage to the image of dairy and livestock owners is related to the perception that cattle producers, as well as veterinarians, are not doing everything possible to use antibiotics judiciously and avoid residues. It is very likely that if progress is not made on the residue and resistance issue, in the near future, restrictive legislation may greatly limit the use and access livestock producers and veterinarians have to antibiotics.

One reason that antibiotic residues appear to have increased in cull cattle over the last few years is related to the strategy now employed at most processing plants to target animals likely to be positive for residues. Federal inspectors now target for

additional testing animal that upon inspection appear likely to have been treated, have blemishes, or may be from a producer who had a history of previous positive tests. Further new tests have been developed to identify compounds that might not have been detected a few years ago. This is certainly the case for flunixin meglumine (Banamine®, Intervet Schering-Plough; Millsboro, DE, USA). The use of flunixin meglumine has been promoted to improve animal well-being, and is a real aid for pain and fever. In this case, a good and effective product has been used more frequently and advocated. This product is labeled for IV use but is frequently given IM or SQ. Many veterinarians and producers were not aware that this product creates a tissue blemish and at a packing plant it is easy to predict where this or other products have been injected into animals.

A few years ago there was no simple test to detect flunixin meglumine either in milk or meat. While withdrawal and with-holding times were advocated and published, on-farm tests would be negative and some producers likely were tempted to assume there was no residue. Cull cattle or milk could have been inadvertently marketed while positive. It is very important that producers follow the label instructions for all products and only deviate from the label instructions if they receive specific directions from their veterinarian. If products are used at levels higher than normal or in tissues or therapeutic conditions different than those published on the label,

(Continued on page 6)

Seeking Meat Goat & Sheep Farms For The Cornell Low Input Lambing/Kidding Study This Year

Cornell University is seeking more meat goat and sheep farms for the Cornell Low Input Lambing/Kidding Study this year. If you are a farm that is making some changes in your kidding or lambing management programs or your facilities this year that you hope will lower your labor or feed costs or improve your herd's productivity, please contact us ASAP at TLS7@cornell.edu for more information about the study. We are particularly seeking farms in PA, VT, NY or nearby states. A brief summary of some of our very general results from 2009 are included below.

Lambing And Kidding – Where Does The Time Go?

The potential for profitability of a meat goat or sheep farm is strongly influenced by the success of kidding or lambing season. Because of this, most farmers invest substantial labor and feed inputs at birthing and cite these increased demands as a barrier to herd expansion or a reason for "early" retirement. These concerns prompted us to embark on a multiyear study of the distribution of labor and feed inputs across different farms and birthing seasons. The objectives of this study were to obtain information for different birthing tasks under various birthing systems during different seasons of the year and to identify efficient birthing practices. Eighteen and 24 case study farms collected birthing data in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

The study is ongoing. However, based on information provided thus far, we can make some generalizations. As you would expect, labor demands per Dam during birthing time were higher in Winter '09 (range = 1.2 to 10.8 h, mean 4.7 h), than in the spring (0.7 to 3.1 h, mean 1.2 h) or fall (0.9 to 4.1 h, mean 1.8 h). This was primarily due to the substantial increases in time spent by several farmers to check for and assist births during winter. There was not a clear relationship between herd size and increased labor spent. Smaller herds varied widely in labor demands during winter birthings with some farms spending 12 to 15 extra hours per day as compared to others spending only 2 to 3 extra hours per day with comparable mortality and growth rates. There were noticeable differences in time spent on birth checks, artificial rearing, and transitioning dams and offspring from pregnancy to lactating areas. The occurrence of dam rejection and the success of offspring fostering varied widely but was not particularly related to the amount of labor the

farmer invested. However, keep in mind that we used very experienced farmers for the first year's study. Unexpected catastrophic health problems such as floppy kid syndrome, Cache Valley Virus, etc. had far more impact on newborn mortality rates. Observational skills were helpful at diagnosing common health problems, such as ketosis, early and helped reduce labor, emphasizing that prevention and early treatment are effective practices. Organizational skills helped shorten the time spent on management tasks. Several farms with lower labor inputs included dystocia and poor mothering as culling criteria for dams. The workshop includes visual examples of several effective birth management practices.

The percentage of young weaned per dam was lower for fall birthings (115 to 186%, mean 146%) as compared to winter (141 to 216%, mean 183%) or spring birthings (127 to 200%, mean 163%) resulting from fewer newborns delivered per dam rather than increased mortality rates. This corresponds to previous studies indicating that the primary disadvantages of out of season breeding include lower litter sizes as well as reduced conception rates.

In the spring, pasture birthing versus barn birthing did not result in decreased herd productivity as measured by mortality rates, growth rates or weaning percentages but resulted in substantial savings in feed costs per dam. Feed costs for pasture-birthing goat herds averaged \$6.80 per dam as compared to \$21.74 for barn-kidding herds and \$8.14 for pasture-birthing sheep flocks as compared to \$42.86 for barn-lambing sheep flocks.

Data indicated that decisions about fencing choices, predator control, parasite management and prenatal nutrition greatly impacted the success of pasture birth systems. Some farmers loved birthing on pasture while others felt they had too little control at a time when labor demands needed to be focused on field or hay crops.

Thus far, we have only studied the 2009 birthing information provided by 18 case study farms and are still analyzing the 2010 data. However, one farm did have 2008 birthing available to us for comparison. They changed their birthing management system in 2009 to 1) lambing on pasture in the spring with shed access and then returning after lambing to a drylot for 2 to 4 weeks before going back on pasture, and 2) lambing in a common dry lot and shed in the fall. Previous to this, all their lambing had been in barns with ewes and their lambs being juggled after lambing followed by loose housing in the barn until weaning.

Feed costs per ewe per day from lambing to weaning were \$.23 for Spring 2009 and \$.43 for Fall 2009 as compared to \$.58 for Spring 2008 and \$.52 for Fall 2008. Labor demands per ewe for the actual birthing periods were 0.91 h for Spring 2009 and 0.9 h for Fall 2009 as compared to 1.13 h for Spring 2008 and 1.35 h for Fall 2008. Lamb mortality rates, daily gain from birth to weaning, and lambs weaned per ewe were 4.8%, 0.72 lb/d, and 184.4% for Spring 2009 and 6.3%, 0.69 lb/d, and 115.4% for Fall 2009 as compared to 10.8%, 0.78 lb/d, and 178.4% for Spring 2008 and 27.3%, 0.73 lb/d, and 109.1% for Fall 2008. Growth rate was slightly lower in 2009 but was offset by reduced mortality rates, decreased feed and labor costs, and increases in lambs weaned per ewe.

Kixor – A New Herbicide For Corn And Soybeans

By: *Russell R. Habn, R. J. Richtmyer III, and Paul J. Stachowski, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Cornell University*

Three new herbicide products, Sharpen, Verdict, and OpTill, were recently registered for use in NY State. Each contains a new active ingredient, Kixor (saflufenacil). Kixor is a PPO inhibitor or Group 14 herbicide. PPO (an enzyme) inhibition results in lipids and proteins being attacked and oxidized. The resulting loss of plant pigments and leaky membranes allows cells to dry and rapidly disintegrate. PPO inhibitors are also known as cell membrane disrupters. Other Group 14 herbicides include Reflex, Cobra, Resource, Valor SX, and Aim. Worldwide, only four weeds have developed resistance to this site of action. Two of these, tall waterhemp (a pigweed) and common ragweed, have been confirmed in the U.S.

Kixor is rapidly absorbed by roots, shoots, and leaves depending on application timing, and is translocated upward in plants. It provides rapid burndown and has residual activity on a variety of broadleaf weeds including velvetleaf, redroot/smooth pigweed, common ragweed, common lambsquarters, wild buckwheat, wild mustard, and numerous others. Kixor does not control grasses. Kixor will be marketed alone as **Sharpen** for field corn and soybeans. Premix products powered by Kixor include **Verdict**, a mixture of Kixor and Outlook, for field corn and soybeans; and **OpTill**, a mixture of Kixor and Pursuit, for soybeans only. These premix products, Verdict and OpTill, provide residual control of many weedy grasses as well as the broadleaf weeds controlled by Kixor. Because of their burndown activity, these products can only be applied preplant (PP) or preemergence (PRE) before corn or soybeans emerge. Severe crop injury will occur if they are applied after crop emergence. They are positioned in the marketplace for burndown and/or residual control or suppression of labeled weeds in planned sequential (two-pass) control programs for corn or soybeans. When used for no-tillage burndown, the preferred adjuvants for these products are methylated seed oil (MSO) plus ammonium sulfate

(AMS) or urea ammonium nitrate (UAN).

Preemergence Corn Trials

Corn trials in NY State the past three seasons have focused on PRE residual activity of Verdict alone and of Sharpen plus Prowl H2O tank-mix combinations. The main PRE comparison has been between Verdict (Kixor and Outlook) and Lumax (Callisto, Dual, and AAtrex). One experiment was conducted on a sandy gravelly loam soil with 2.4% organic matter near Valatie in 2008. Corn was planted and PRE herbicides applied May 15 and 16, respectively. Rainfall during the week after treatment (WAT) was 0.81 inch, with 0.41 inch recorded on May 18. Common ragweed and giant foxtail were the dominant weeds along with some velvetleaf and common lambsquarters. Verdict at 13 fl oz/A and Lumax at 2.5 qt/A each provided good to excellent control of all three broadleaf species 4 WAT. Common ragweed control with Verdict was slightly better (99%) than with Lumax (93%), and giant foxtail was similar with these products 16 WAT (Table 1). When applied alone, 2 fl oz/A of Sharpen controlled more than 95% of velvetleaf, ragweed, and lambsquarters 4 WAT. By 16 WAT, ragweed control with Sharpen was still 100% but there was no foxtail control (Table 1). A tank-mix of 2 fl oz/A of Sharpen plus 3 pt/A of Prowl H2O controlled 98 and 88% of the ragweed and foxtail 16 WAT respectively. This was similar to control with the tank-mix of 1 qt/A of AAtrex plus 3 pt/A of Prowl H2O (Table 1). Grain yields for Verdict and Lumax were similar with an average of 143 bu/A. The lack of foxtail control with Sharpen alone resulted in a yield of only 64 bu/A while the tank-mix of Sharpen plus Prowl H2O yielded 141 bu/A which was similar to the yield with the AAtrex plus Prowl H2O combination. The untreated check yielded 44 bu/A.

Unfortunately, suggested Sharpen and Verdict rates used in 2008 and 2009 corn trials at Aurora were significantly higher than those that are now labeled. As a result, only Aurora results from 2010

will be discussed here. The soil at Aurora is a silt loam with about 3% organic matter. Corn was planted and PRE herbicides applied May 20 and 25, respectively. Rainfall during the first WAT was only 0.24 inch, but 2.11 inches was recorded during the second WAT. Common ragweed and giant foxtail were the dominant weeds. Ratings made 3 WAT showed 85 and 98% ragweed control with 13 fl oz/A of Verdict alone or in combination with 1 pt/A of AAtrex respectively. The PRE standard of 2.5 qt/A of Lumax plus 1 pt/A of AAtrex had 96% ragweed control 3 WAT. By 10 WAT, ragweed and foxtail control had declined to 58 and 60% with Verdict alone (Table 2). When Verdict was applied with 1 pt/A of AAtrex, ragweed control was 95% 10 WAT. This was similar to ragweed control with 2.5 qt/A of Lumax plus 1 pt/A of AAtrex (90%). Foxtail control with 13 fl oz/A of Verdict alone dropped from 98 to 60% between 3 and 10 WAT, but foxtail control with the Verdict plus 1 pt/A of AAtrex or with Lumax plus 1 pt/A of AAtrex averaged 89% 10 WAT (Table 2). With only 0.24 inch of rain the first WAT, performance of Prowl H2O with Sharpen or with AAtrex was not acceptable. The addition of 1 pt/A of AAtrex to the Prowl H2O plus Sharpen mixture controlled 96% of the ragweed 10 WAT but only 48% of the foxtail (Table 2). The lack of foxtail control was likely due to inadequate rainfall activation of Prowl H2O. Grain corn yields with Verdict plus AAtrex and with Lumax plus AAtrex treatments were both 176 bu/A (Table 2). Although late season weed control with Verdict alone was poor, good to excellent early season control resulted in a yield (173 bu/A) similar to the standard Lumax plus AAtrex treatment. The Prowl H2O tank mix treatments with Sharpen or AAtrex yielded less than the Verdict plus AAtrex and Lumax plus AAtrex treatments.

Summary

These results demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of Verdict and Sharpen in providing PRE residual control of some annual weeds in corn. While the residual activity of Verdict, the pre-mix of Kixor and Outlook, compared favorably with Lumax in these trials, growers are reminded that

(Continued on page 6)

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labeled rates of Verdict and Sharpen are intended for use in planned sequential weed control programs where PP or PRE Verdict or Sharpen applications would be followed by a postemergence (POST) application of glyphosate or other POST herbicides for full

-season weed control. This kind of program would be most attractive in zone/ no-tillage systems where growers could take advantage of the burndown capability of Kixor plus its residual activity through early to mid-season before making the sequential POST

application. Rotational crop planting intervals for Sharpen and Verdict are quite favorable. Fall seeded small grains may be planted 3 to 4 months after applying these herbicides, and there are no rotational crop restrictions the spring following their use the previous year.

(Continued from page 3)

withdrawal and withholding times must be extended.

At this time, many interested regulatory agencies and consumer groups are looking over the shoulder of dairy and livestock producers, plus large animal veterinarians, and questioning how and why pharmaceuticals are being used in farm animals. While on-farm food safety has been steadily improving, the risk of antibiotic residues is small, and the emergence of antibiotic resistance related to animal ag is low, we are not at zero and there is still room for improvement. Dairy

producers have for many years taken pride in the quality of their products. For obvious reasons most of the emphasis has been placed on milk quality and safety. The dairy industry has a great track record here. In the case of cull cattle and bob veal calves, dairy producers need to realize that they are also responsible for the residues found in these meat animals. In most cases, dairy producers simply do/did not appreciate nor always attend to details regarding the meat animals leaving their farms. For many producers these animals are considered a by-product of the dairy. However, market (cull) cattle and bob veal calves contribute much more to the meat supply than most

dairy producers realize.

With greater emphasis on careful antibiotic use, modest improvements in protocols and records, and attention to detail on withdrawal times, the dairy industry should be able to make progress in reducing their proportion of antibiotic residues. At this time, many producers in the other meat industries consider the dairy industry as the major culprit in the antibiotic residue problem. Proactive dairy producers should be part of the solution and help ensure all products that leave their farm are safe, free of residues, and of high quality.

USDA Announces Crop Insurance Deadline for New York Spring Crops - March 15

New York farmers are reminded that the final date to apply for crop insurance on most insurable spring-planted crops for this year is March 15, 2011, according to the Raleigh Regional Office, USDA Risk Management Agency. Current policyholders also have until March 15 to make any changes to their existing contracts. Crop insurance provides protection against losses due to natural perils such as drought, hail, wind, and excessive moisture. The March 15 sales closing date applies to Spring Barley, Cabbage, Corn, Dry Beans, Forage Seeding, Fresh Market Beans, Fresh Market Sweet Corn, Grain Sorghum, Green Peas, Oats, Potatoes, Processing Beans, Processing Sweet Corn, Processing

Tomatoes, and Soybeans. Beginning with the 2011 crop year, the Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) and Indexed Income Protection (IIP) plans of insurance have been discontinued. Additionally, Actual Production History (APH) coverage is no longer available for Barley, Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybeans. Instead, a producer may choose to insure these crops utilizing one of the following three choices: (1) Yield Protection – replaces APH, (2) Revenue Protection – replaces CRC, and (3) Revenue Protection with the Harvest Price Exclusion – replaces IIP. Producers are strongly urged to contact a local crop insurance agent as soon as possible for premium

quotes and more details. For a list of crop insurance agents in your area, contact the local USDA Farm Service Agency office or log on to the Risk Management Agency web site at: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>. Quick links for the 2011 Commodity Insurance Facts Sheets:

Corn	Fresh Market Beans
Forage Seeding	Grain Sorghum
Cabbage	Dry Beans
Green Peas	Potatoes
Processing Beans	Processing Sweet Corn
	Corn
Processing Tomatoes	Small Grains
Soybeans	Fresh Market Sweet Corn

RE M I N D E R: March 1 is the date by which all property tax exemption applications, including the agricultural assessment, must be filed with the assessor in most towns in *New York State*. Contact your assessor and the Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District at 315 824-9849 x 3.

SEE: <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/agsservices/agdistricts.html> and <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/assessor/valuation/agriculture/>

Upcoming Events

March 3-5 - Professional Farmers Market Manager Training Program 'Cutting through the Red Tape' at the Holiday Inn, Kingston NY. Our featured guest speakers will be Joe Fitzgerald, Kingston Farmers Market Manager, & James M. Sottile, Mayor of Kingston. Together they will discuss the interdependent and mutually beneficial relationship between a city and its farmers market. They will illustrate how the market fits into the personality of its community & the importance of working together for the mutual benefit all. Their discussion will include significant operational components of a successful market, such as: security, traffic control, municipal assistance, and cleanup. For more info, visit www.nyfarmersmarket.com/ or call the Farmers Market Federation of NY at 315-637-4690.

March 5 - Planting, Cultivating & Marketing Juneberries (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) in the Great Lakes Region. 9:00am - 2:00pm. Jordan Hall, NYS Agricultural Experiment Station, 630 West North Street, Geneva, NY. This new seminar is an introduction to small-scale juneberry production. Juneberries (aka. saskatoons) are a cold-hardy fruit grown widely in central Canada and have already demonstrated marketing promise in the Northeast. Michigan State University Extension juneberry/Saskatoon specialist Stephan Fouch will present details about orchard establishment, variety selection, pest management, and insights gained from coordinating more than 40 acres of plantings on small farms in Northern Michigan. We will also review marketing data, nutritional information, and acquisition of plant material in the Great Lakes region. Seminar Fee is \$40 which includes educational materials, morning refreshments and a full lunch. Pre-registration required by February 28, 2011. To register you can call CCE of Ontario County at 585-394-3977 x427 or e-mail Nancy Anderson nea8@cornell.edu.

March 15 - 14th Annual Northwest PA Grazing Conference, 9am to 3:30 pm – Tri-County Church, DuBois, PA – Keynote speaker will be Dr. Temple Grandin, Colorado State University speaking on improving cattle handling practices & animal welfare issues. Additional speakers will discuss renovation of pastures, extending the grazing season, equine pasture management & horse health, and mob grazing. Registration by March 1st and the cost will be \$50 – there is limited seating so register early. For more information call Headwaters RC&D Council at 814-375-1372 ext. 4.

March 19 - Low Input Lambing & Kidding, 11 – 1pm. CCE-Oneida offices, Oriskany, NY. Call 315-736-3394 for more information.

March 23 - Cornell Soils Workshop: Adaptive Nitrogen Management Training & Cornell Soil Health Test (CSHT) Report Interpretation One-day event, 135 Emerson Hall, Cornell Campus, Ithaca, NY. *Adaptive Nitrogen Management Training (8:30am – 12:30 pm) Catered Lunch (12:30 pm- 1:30 pm) – FREE Advanced Soil Health Management (1:30 pm – 4:30 pm)*

March 30-31 - A Systems Approach to Energy Transitions: Land, Economic and Community Transformations – CCE, Community and Energy Program Work Team, Cornell Marcellus Shale Team, Community and Regional Development Institute, and Penn State Cooperative Extension are sponsoring this conference for municipal officials, professional planners, extension educators, planning & zoning board members, community leaders and land managers grappling with how we will responsibly and sustainability meet the energy demands of the Northeast. **March 30** - Marcellus Shale: Economic and Development Implications **March 31** - Setting the stage, Comparisons/Contrasts: Natural Gas, Biomass, Wind, Planning for energy transitions, Policy, research and education considerations for managing transitions. Host hotel is the Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel. Overnight accommodations reference: "energy transitions" (\$109) or "government energy transitions" (\$77). To receive the discounted rates you must call the Hotel directly, 607-535-6116. For more information visit <http://cce.cornell.edu/EnergyClimateChange/NaturalGasDev/Pages/UpcomingEvents.aspx>

Beginning Farmer Online Courses Offered in March - The Northeast Beginning Farmer Project is offering more of its popular online courses, including one that will help you take your marketing to the next level. **Register now for: What Do I Need to Do to Start a Farm Business? (BF 103)** a 6-week course for new and aspiring farmers addressing the legal, regulatory, and tax implications of farming. If you've ever wondered 'at what point will I be recognized as a farm?' this course is for you. **Intermediate Marketing for Farmers: Developing a Marketing Plan (BF 201)** - is our first course that will take you beyond the basics of exploring marketing ideas to actually developing a formal marketing plan. Designed for people actively researching and planning farm start-up, or those who have a couple of years of farming already under their belts. Online courses require a basic comfort level with a computer and access to a DSL, cable modem, or satellite internet connection. All courses include real-time webinars as well as readings, discussion forums, and homework assignments on your own time. Courses cost \$150. Learn more at www.nybeginningfarmers.org/courses/index.php?page=allcourses

LEAD New York Program Accepting Applications for Class 14 - Due 3/1/11 - The Empire State Food and Agricultural Leadership Institute, also known as 'LEAD New York', is accepting applications for its newest cohort, class 14. Invitations have been sent out to an extensive prospect list, and LEAD is inviting anyone interested in the program to apply. LEAD New York is a two-year leadership development program for adult professionals in the food and agriculture industry, consisting of approximately 50 days of seminars, workshops, and field travel experiences in and out of New York State, including an out-of-country study trip. For more information please contact Larry Van De Valk, Director, LEAD NY Program, 12 Warren Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 (607) 255-7907, lv4@cornell.edu. Applications are currently available at www.leadny.org



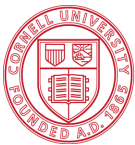
NY FarmNet was established in 1986 to provide farm families with a network of information, contacts and services that are uniquely suited to the financial and personal challenges of agricultural business management. This network covers every aspect of high-pressure decision making from partnerships and transfers to stress management, family communication, domestic concerns, and disaster response. FarmNet is a working resource to help build positive solutions for future success. Key program support is provided by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and NY Farm Viability Institute.

Contact Us

For urgent inquiries, please call: 1-800-547-FARM (3276)

Regular Business Hours: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Friday

There is a 24-hour, 7 day a week answering service is available. Most calls are returned by the next business day.



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Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Madison Manager

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The *Madison Manager* is edited by Kathe Evans and produced by Darlene Curtis. For more information contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County P.O. Box 1209, 100 Eaton St., Morrisville, NY 13408. phone: 315-684-3001 or fax: 315-684-9290, www.cce.cornell.edu/madison.

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