Announcements

Wednesday, July 16 from 1—3 pm—Dairy Discussion Group meeting—Building Management Skills: Labor Efficiency & Baleage - hosted by John Sheldon, 601 Sutton Rd., Cornwallville. A farm tour and discussion illustrating how to apply ProDairy management principles to common farm challenges. Contact Aaron Gabriel (518-380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu) or Sandy Buxton (518-380-1498, sab22@cornell.edu) for a head count & for questions.

Tuesday, July 22 from 1 pm—3 pm—Harvesting, Handling, and Storing Small Grains—at Gibson Farms (Ellers family), 3861 County Rte 21, Schodack Landing. Meeting the needs of local bakers and brewers requires careful management of small grains. Mike Ellers will show and explain machinery management for small grains. Aaron Gabriel will discuss pest management and safety. A baker, brewer, and distiller are being invited to explain the quality they need in small grains.

Thursday, July 24th, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.—UVM Annual Northwest Crops and Soils field day—"Feeding the Soils, the Plants, and the Community" Please join us on for this information filled field day, as well as a great BBQ lunch. Cost is $25 per person and there is no charge for farmers (but you still must register). Register online at www.uvm.edu/extension/fieldday. For a flyer go to: http://www.uvm.edu/extension/cropsoil/wp-content/uploads/2014-Field-Day-Flyer2.pdf
Weather Data—July 9, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Rain Past Week</th>
<th>This Month</th>
<th>Since April 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>GDD 86/50 Past Week</th>
<th>Since April 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>GDD 41 Past Week</th>
<th>Since April 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Granville</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>1165</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>1719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitehall</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>1261</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>1832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>1191</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>1740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easton</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>1241</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>1737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alb. Airport</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilderland</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>1241</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>1797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castleton</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>1265</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>1349</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redhook</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>1314</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>1910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**August 21st, 2014 Soil Health Field Day** with CCE at Kinderhook Creek Farm, Inc., 5168 South Stephentown Road, Stephentown, NY from 4:30-8:30 pm. The meeting is FREE, but please RSVP by August 18th, 2014. For more information or to RSVP please contact Marcie Vohnoutka at (518) 272-4210 or mmp74@cornell.edu.

Soil is the backbone of every farm and needs to be managed for maximum production. Are you using the most current techniques for the best results? Experience: Dinner on the farm; Demonstration cover crop plots; A farmer panel; Soil health demonstrations; Equipment demonstrations.

Our speakers include: Olga Vargas, NRCS Soil Scientist; Paul Salon, NRCS Plant Materials Specialist; Frank Gibbs, Certified Professional Soil Scientist and Certified Crop Advisor

1.5 DEC Credits and 4 CCA Credits Available.

**Tuesday August 19, 12:30 – 3:30—Walking Tour: Drying Red Clover – New BMR Sorghum – Winter Forage**—Sponsored by Cornell University & Cornell Cooperative Extension. At the Cornell Research Farm, 128 State Farm Road, Valatie, Columbia County. Questions to Steve Hadcock, (518-828-3346, seh11@cornell.edu). No Pre-registration required. Will be held rain or shine (hopefully shine).

FYI

**Crops & Soils…Aaron Gabriel**

**Corn:** Corn that eluded severe weather is looking good. Hail has damaged crops in some areas. As long as the growing point is not damaged, corn will regrow. Slice plants lengthwise to find the growing point.

![Hail damaged corn in northern Washington County](image)

This second picture of corn shows why early season weed control is so important. Around the border of this field, (to the right of the picture) a drive chain jumped sprockets on the corn planter and planted 56,000 seeds/acre. This dense corn is taller than the corn planted at 30,000 seeds/acre. At this early stage, corn detects competition (from weeds or other corn plants) and will grow tall and spindly, with less yield. Some of the yield potential is set during early corn development. Corn needs to be weed free at V3.

![Early season weed control](image)

Some of these corn roots (right) are not healthy. Not only is this one root brown on the outside, but you can see the core has a little yellow to it. This is the second field I have seen this year with unhealthy roots—brown roots. You can see a white healthy root in the background of this picture. Healthy roots are the foundation to a healthy plant.
Alfalfa: There are reports of potato leafhopper in alfalfa. Monitor fields so that you catch any problems before you see the yellow leaves. **Blist**er **beetles** can be harvested with hay (mostly alfalfa). They are quite toxic to horses and other livestock, pets, and humans as well. I found this beetle (right) in soybeans. They are attracted to flowers, and are most prevent in flowering alfalfa from July through the summer. Crushing the beetles (with hay machinery or wheels) will leave the toxin in the hay. If the hay is mowed and the beetles not injured, they will crawl away. Prevention is the best remedy, so scouting fields before harvest to avoid infested areas is a good control measure.

Soybeans: Today I found potato leafhopper in soybeans that had volunteer alfalfa in it. The soybean plants had damage from the PLH. A field across the road, which had no alfalfa, had no PLH (that I could find).

Pasture: *Are your cows swimming* in a pond in the pasture? If so, they may be grazing too much tall fescue. Native tall fescue has alkaloid chemicals that disrupts the water balance in animals which can cause edema in the hooves (called fescue foot), difficulty cooling off. Too much fescue can also cause abortions. Fescue is a clump grass and has a characteristic look. It is often a strong clump that shines a little. This is because the bottom of the leaves are shiny (the top surface is ribbed). The only real solution is to replant to a good grass species for grazing.
NYCAMH Dairy Farm Safety Program - Assisting farmers with OSHA compliance

Services Included:

- Dairy Farm Walk-through Review with Farm Management – what to expect if you are inspected.
- Farm Safety Program Consultation – provides information and materials that will help you prepare your farm for an OSHA inspection.
- On-Farm Safety Trainings – English and Spanish trainings on topics that are important for OSHA inspections.

NYCAMH Farm Safety Experts and Trainers will be available in your region this spring – call the Dairy Safety Hotline for more information: 1-800-343-7527.

Detailed Consultation on the Dairy Dozen – Areas of common hazardous activities on dairy farms:

- Manure Storage Facilities and Collection Structures
- Dairy Bull and Cow Behavior
- Electrical Systems
- Skid-Steer Loader Operation
- Tractor Operation
- Guarding of Power Take-Offs (PTOs)
- Guarding of other Power Transmission and Functional Components
- Hazardous Energy Control (Lock-out)
- Hazard Communication (Chemical Safety)
- Confined Spaces
- Horizontal Bunker Silos
- Noise

Need to know more?

Go to www.NYCAMH.org
Or call 1-800-343-7527
Is your farm ready for the OSHA LEP?

OSHA’s Local Emphasis Program will be starting this July, focusing on large New York Dairy farms that have over 10 employees. Is your farm ready?

Do you feel like you are in compliance if OSHA comes on your farm?

LET NYCAMH HELP YOU.

With NYCAMH’s LEP Program, we can help farmers keep employees safe, meet OSHA Standards and reduce potential fines.

NYCAMH’s farm safety specialists will do a consultation and help you with the 12 focus areas known as the Dairy Dozen. Employee safety trainings are also provided in English or Spanish.

CALL NYCAMH TODAY AT 1-800-343-7527
or email dairysafetyinfo@bassett.org
www.NYCAMH.org