Southern Tier Stocker Initiative Short Course – Speaker Bios

Karen Hoffman
Resource Conservationist – Animal Science
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Karen attended Cornell University and received a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science in 1988. Her area of interest within her major was dairy cattle management and nutrition. She then attended Penn State University where she received her Master’s of Science in Animal Science in 1991. Her thesis project investigated various grain feeding strategies to high producing dairy cows on a rotational grazing system.

Karen worked for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chenango County, NY as a dairy management educator for 6 years. She now serves as Resource Conservationist - Animal Science for the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service, where she has been for 20+ years. Karen provides advice on grazing and feeding management to dairy and livestock farmers to help them keep their costs of production low. She also troubleshoots nutrition and management problems when needed, as well as provides educational presentations on grazing and feeding.

Karen is a co-author of the publications “Prescribed Grazing and Feeding Management for Lactating Dairy Cows” and NOFA-NY’s “Transitioning to Organic Dairy Self-Assessment Workbook” and “The Organic Dairy Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide for the Transition and Beyond”. She occasionally writes for Graze magazine addressing feeding questions, and participates in grazing research projects with Universities and USDA-Agricultural Research Service.

Karen also has a small, grass-based farm in Chenango County where her family raises polled Dorset sheep, heritage breed turkeys, laying hens, and beef steers.