



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Katherine Brosnan, Director of Industry Relations & Consumer Promotions
New York Beef Council
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Because we're in this together!

It has never been more important for all those caring for cattle to be certified and participate in the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program. There are no excuses that hold water when it comes to answering consumers questions whether our product is safe and our animals are well cared for. When discussions of the safety and wholesomeness of beef arise (and they do every day), it is reassuring to those observing the debate that beef and dairy producers are adopting management practices outlined in the BQA program. It could be described as an insurance policy for the industry that demonstrates the commitment of producers to a quality, safe, and humanely raised product. As critics of our industry and livelihood continue to become more vocal, we need to respond with a strong BQA program embraced by our industry farmers, workers, and veterinarians.

The four steps to BQA certification are:

1. Attend a BQA classroom training or complete the self-study online program and successfully pass the course test.
2. Attend a chute-side training.
3. Agree to follow the BQA Guidelines and sign the BQA Contract.
4. Establish a Veterinary/Client Patient Relationship and complete the VCPR Validation form requiring the signature of the operation's Veterinarian.

Upcoming In-person BQA Trainings

May 5th- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Classroom Lecture- New Beginnings Fellowship Church, 4377 Rte. 78, Gainesville, NY

Chute-side Training- Wilmar Farm, Bill & Marie Kuipers, 3532 Mote Rd, Gainesville, NY

Cost- \$15.00 per person/ \$25.00 per farm

For more information/register: call Nancy Glazier, 585.315.7746, nig3@cornell.edu

May 12th- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Training Location: Lucky 13 All Natural Red Angus Beef, Erin Hull, 790 Markham Hollow Rd Tully, NY 13159

Cost- \$15.00 per person/ \$25.00 per farm

For more information/ register: call Katherine Brosnan, 315.339.6922, kbrosnan@nybeef.org

June 2nd- 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Training Location: Tullyfergus Angus, Robert Groom, 8974 Lyons Marengo Rd. Lyons, NY 14489

Cost- \$5.00 per person.

For more information/register: call Nancy Glazier, 585.315.7746, nig3@cornell.edu

June 23rd- Time TBA

Training Location: Suffolk County Farm and Education Center, 350 Yaphank Ave, Yaphank, NY 11980

Cost- \$15.00 per person/ \$25.00 per farm

For more information/register: call Karen Kazel, 631.852.4604, kk237@cornell.edu

To get started with the program or to learn more about your current certification status contact Katherine Brosnan at the New York Beef Council at 315-339-6922 or email kbrosnan@nybeef.org. A list of upcoming trainings and recertification opportunities is available at www.nybeef.org under Farmer's Fencepost. Interested in hosting a training in your area or on your farm? Contact Mike Baker, Beef Cattle Extension Specialist at 607-255-5923 or email mjb28@cornell.edu. The robust New York BQA program is made possible through the support of our sponsors Agrilabs, Kent Feeds, Merck Animal Health, Priefert Rodeo & Ranch Equipment, Powder River, Multimin, and Zoetis.

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