Announcements

Stored Grain Evaluation Program—I am offering to sample your stored grain and test it for moisture, temperature, and insects, AT NO CHARGE for farmers in my six county region (Washington, Rensselaer, Albany, Schenectady, Columbia, & Greene). Call Aaron Gabriel, 518-380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu. See the flyer at the end of this issue or go to: http://blogs.cornell.edu/capitalareaagandhortprogram/category/field-crops/

October 19, 2018 at 2:30 pm, Manure Pit Death: A Preventable Tragedy, WEBINAR, go to https://learn.extension.org/events/3509

Thursday, November 1, 2018, 1 pm – 4 pm – 2018 Fall Roundup Grazier Meeting: Extending the Grazing Season for Livestock - At Diamond Hills Farm, 80 Angus Ln, Hudson, NY. CCE Educators Jason Detzel and Aaron Gabriel will discuss address how to reduce production costs by extending the grazing season for livestock into the winter. $10 pre-registration by October 30th to the Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program online at at https://tinyurl.com/FallRoundup, or send checks to: CCE Albany County, Fall Roundup/CAAHP Program, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186. Tove Ford, cce-caaahp@cornell.edu, 518-765-3518. Program questions to Aaron Gabriel, 518-380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu or Jason Detzel, 518-567-4506, jbd222@cornell.edu

Feeding livestock is a major production expense and maintaining livestock performance during the winter is a challenge. Often livestock have high nutritional requirements during the winter, for example, grass-finished beef, flushing ewes

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities
Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities
to get multiple births, or just to have livestock gain weight. There are several ways to extend the grazing season right into the winter, even in the Hudson Valley and further north. Come to this workshop to learn about the appropriate crops for winter grazing, how to grow them, how to take samples for forage quality testing and how to manage fences and livestock during the winter months. Bring your questions about winter livestock management to wind up the discussion. Dress for the weather. We will walk pastures and continue our discussion in an un-heated barn. There are no bathroom facilities available.

FYI

Websites with Grain Storage information on our blog at http://blogs.cornell.edu/capitalareaagandhortprogram/category/field-crops/

The latest “What’s Cropping Up?” articles (click on the titles):
Western Bean Cutworm in New York State
Growing GMO free corn: Insect management challenges revisited from the pre-GMO era
Extremely Low Weed Densities in Conventional Soybean and Relatively Low Weed Densities in Organic Soybean (especially in the Corn-Soybean-Wheat/Red Clover Rotation) in 2018

Composting – Animal Mortality (http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/composting-animal-mortality). This webinar provides viewers with an understanding of the principles of successful composting of animal mortality in routine and emergency situations. Mortality composting is a known strategy of the agricultural waste management system. The principles of proper mortality composting will be discussed. Discussions will also include the composting process, trouble shooting techniques, what is considered compost, how properly composting animal mortality impacts biosecurity.

USDA Redesigns Soil Tools Web Page
The Soil Tools Web page managed by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has been redesigned to serve as a one-stop source for new, leading-edge tools and technologies to help farmers, ranchers, and other land users understand, evaluate, and conserve soils. The Web page offers access to soil data and maps, soil databases, digital soil applications, climate data, descriptions of soils, ecological sites, statistical packages, and soil-property calculators. (from ATTRA News)

Fall Grass Management—Think Snow Mold
Last spring we had a lot of snow mold in our grass and winter grain fields. Fall is the time to help prevent this problem. Too much foliage and too much nitrogen in the fall will influence the susceptibility of grass and small grain to snow mold in the spring.
• Do not over apply nitrogen in the fall to prevent excessive growth and excessive succulence of the tissues. My gut feeling is that 25 lbs of N in the fall is a good limit.
• About 4” to 6” plant height going into the winter is good. Take a late harvest once growth has stopped if plants are 10” or more. Mow at a 4” to 5” cutting height.
Fall Alfalfa Management

There is a lot of alfalfa re-growth in the fields. If you do not take a late cutting, the alfalfa stems will only contribute a very small amount of fiber to first cutting next spring. If you do take a very late cutting, wait until the plants have stopped growing—a few days of <28°F. However, do not compact your fields and make ruts for a final cutting. Although very low in fiber, alfalfa at this time of year is also low in sugars / energy because the days are short.

Soybean Harvest

The weather has been difficult for harvest and crop quality. Beans will take on moisture even though the plants are dead. This can lead to split seeds and molds. Penn State Field Crop News has a good article on this: https://extension.psu.edu/managing-the-damage-understanding-soybean-harvest-quality?j=286172&sfmc_sub=25490375&l=159_HTML&u=5579781&mid=7234940&jb=7

Corn

**How dry is too dry to make corn silage?** “The book” says do not go below 58% moisture to get good fermentation. To improve the chances of a good fermentation with dry corn silage:

- Use a liquid inoculant—ask your dealer for one that might be specifically for dry corn silage
- Chop finer than normal
- Pack like a maniac
- Use an oxygen limiting cover on bunks

A lot of corn intended for silage may be harvested as high moisture corn or dry grain. Ears dried down quickly, and the fields were too muddy to harvest as silage. The longer a crop sits in the field, the more opportunity for quality to decline. Here is an article that summarizes ear rots. It was written in 2014, so ignore the comments about the growing season. https://ipm.missouri.edu/ipcm/2014/9/Ear-and-Kernel-Rots-of-Corn/

**Spotted Lanternfly**—a new invasive pest recently found in Albany and Yates Counties. Everyone has to do their part.

NYS Department of Ag and Markets has announced a quarantine on materials moving into NYS from areas with spotted lanternfly – which currently includes Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

Regulated materials (I highlighted those of particular interest to these lists):

- Any living life stage of the SLF.
- Brush, debris, bark, or yard waste.
- Landscaping, remodeling, or construction waste.
- Logs, stumps, or any tree parts.
- Firewood of any species.
- Packing materials, such as wood crates or boxes.
- All plants and plant parts, including but not limited to nursery stock, green lumber, fruit and produce and other material living, dead, cut, fallen (including stumps), roots, branches, mulch, and composted and uncomposted chips.
- Outdoor household articles, including, but not limited to, recreational vehicles, lawn tractors and mowers, mower decks, grills, grill and furniture covers, tarps, mobile homes, tile,
stone, deck boards, mobile fire pits, and any equipment associated with these items, and trucks or vehicles not stored indoors.

Any other article, commodity, item, or product that has or that is reasonably believed to be infested with or harboring SLF.

In order to bring any of the regulated materials into NYS, a certificate of inspection is required. These certificates are provided by the seller.

Information on permits from PA is at: https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly/quarantine/Pages/Do-I-Need-a-Permit.aspx

Ag and Markets is working with the other states on permit requirements.

For the entire article, go to: https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/AD/release.asp?ReleaseID=3821

More information on spotted lanternfly is at: https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/113303.html

Please keep an eye out for this pest!

**Grain Evaluation Program flyer on the next page**
Stored Grain Evaluation Program

Is Your Grain Properly Conditioned For Winter Storage???

What is its temperature?
Are there pockets of moisture?
Does it have insects or molds in it?

For the six county CAAHP region
Have your grain evaluated at NO CHARGE!
Samples of your stored grain taken.
Printed resources and a hand lens available for $15.

Protect Your Harvest
All stored grain must be at the proper moisture and temperature to maintain quality.

If you have a couple of totes or several grain bins, make an appointment now before a small issue ruins your entire harvest.

Contact Aaron Gabriel, 518-380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu