



MARCH / APRIL 2023

# EXTENSION CONNECTION

EDITION 31

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Allegany County

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### WHAT IS MARCH KNOWN FOR?

Though February is the shortest month of the year, it often feels the longest! As we enter into March, we can start looking forward to Spring, and hope for warmer temperatures to come. However, due to the transition from winter into spring, and unstable weather systems, many storms impact western New York during March.

What else is March known for? Well, we will “Spring Ahead” on March 12, starting daylight savings time; many celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on March 17; and on March 20 we will experience the vernal equinox, marking the beginning of spring.

March’s full moon, is called the Worm Moon (Tuesday, March 7). There are many theories for this name, but the one I like is because of warming soil temperatures, the earthworms are more easily found by the robins who have returned to get the best nesting sites.

Lastly, on March 11 we can celebrate International Fanny Pack Day, a much under-appreciated holiday! So, pick your favorite March ‘event’, pack your fanny pack and watch the full moon. Don’t pack away your mittens just yet... we still a way to go!

**Laura K. Hunsberger**  
Executive Director



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CCE-ALLEGANY

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**Jonathan Hilsher**  
**Brian Perkins**





# HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

## 4-H YOUTH SPEAKING OUT

BY KRISTA HUMBERT  
4-H ISSUE LEADER

Saturday, February 4th Allegany County held a Public Presentation event at Belfast Central School. Belfast School generously allows us to use of their welcoming campus multiple times a year and we are very appreciative! 42 members, including 8 Cloverbuds (members between 5-7 years of age) presented to 6 volunteer judges on a myriad of self-selected topics.

Despite the stigma surrounding public speaking, former members frequently report on the value of this skill in their everyday lives. As always, the 4-H program evaluates members using the Danish system of judging. In this system members are not judged in comparison to other

participants, but against a defined standard. This system is an integral component of our "Make the Best Better" motto.

Based off evaluations, Jim Eshelman, Grace Higby, Ben Eshelman, all from Mighty Makers 4-H Club, and Morgan Holcomb, from Friendship Everlasting 4-H Club have been selected to advance to the Western District 4-H Public Presentation event. This is a qualifying event for NYS 4-H State Presentations with final hopes of an opportunity to represent NYS on a national level!

Members that were unable to participate in this event are given a make-up opportunity.

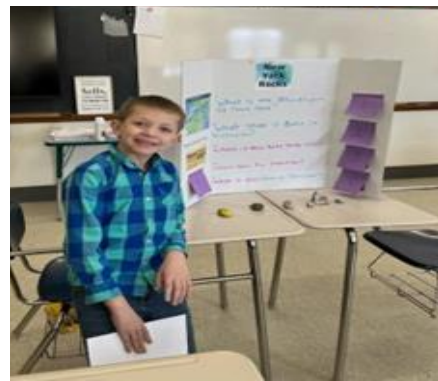
Our programs are successful because of our amazing volunteers and our tremendous community support! If you are interested in supporting our youth, please reach out to the 4-H Office today!



Violet Snyder - Mighty Makers 4-H Club  
Presentation topic: Rottweilers



Aiden Meyers - Furry Friends 4-H Club  
Presentation topic: The Rise of the Automobile



Braden Peck - Cuba Gold Diggers 4-H Club  
Presentation topic: Rocks of New York State

THE

# CLOVER CONNECTION



STAY IN TOUCH WITH 4-H

## NYS 4-H LIVESTOCK SUMMIT

BY KRISTA HUMBERT  
4-H ISSUE LEADER

Allegany County 4-H have 10 members attending the NYS 4-H Livestock Summit. We are thrilled that so many of our members have found time in their busy schedules to make this commitment!

This event consists of 8 virtual speaker sessions all based on a variety of livestock topics. All sessions are being held via Zoom throughout January, February, and March. This event is open to all New York & New England States 4-H members between the ages of 8-18. The Allegany 4-H Livestock Committee is covering the cost for this educational opportunity.

Topics include, "Talk 'em How You See 'em: the basics of giving oral livestock judging

reasons" by Kate Preston, Ag in the Classroom Educator and Katerina Weingarten, Owner of Mosaic Mountain Media. "The Perfect Fit: Tails & Legs" by Kendra Van Order of KVO Chi Angus. "Artificial Insemination: Back to Basics" by Lindsey Crisanti, 4-H Lead Educator. "Woolly Decisions: How to Evaluate Wool" by Siri Swanson, Owner of Yankee Rock Farm & Yankee Clippers Shearing. "Here Little Piggy: evaluating and selecting your hog prospect" by Nick Kron of Credence Farm Show Pigs "Meat Judging" by Betsy Jensen, Meat Laboratory Manager: "Teaching the Brace for Sheep & Goats" and "Preparations for Safe Trailering."

Advanced sessions are being offered, based on members interest and abilities. Each session will have a giveaway and all participants in attendance will be automatically entered into it for the chance to win a prize from one of our awesome sponsors!



JOIN 4-H TODAY!  
CONTACT TRICIA 585-268-7644 EXT 16 or PJH34@CORNELL.EDU

# THE CLOVER CONNECTION

STAY IN TOUCH WITH 4-H

## 4-H KEEPING YOU IN STITCHES

BY TRICIA HEARY  
4-H PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The 4-H program's focus is learning by doing. We provide opportunities for kids to try something new or different and explore different ideas.

We have started a monthly get-together for kids to learn how to sew. We meet in person on the third Monday of the month at the 4-H office. We keep our projects simple as our ages range from 6 to 15. Sewing is a fun way to make something unique and a great skill to know that you can always use.

Our latest project was making placemat totes with boxed ears for the corner of the tote bags,

so they sit flatter. We also recycled nylon straps from various bags to complete our projects. Every project turned out amazing, and the kids had fun making them. Our next project for March will be making pillows.



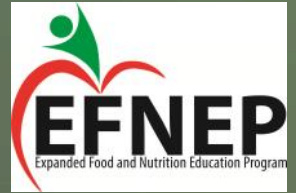
If anyone is interested in volunteering for our sewing classes, we can always use more help. Please get in touch with Tricia at 585-268-7644 ext.16 or [pjh34@cornell.edu](mailto:pjh34@cornell.edu) for more information on how to help.



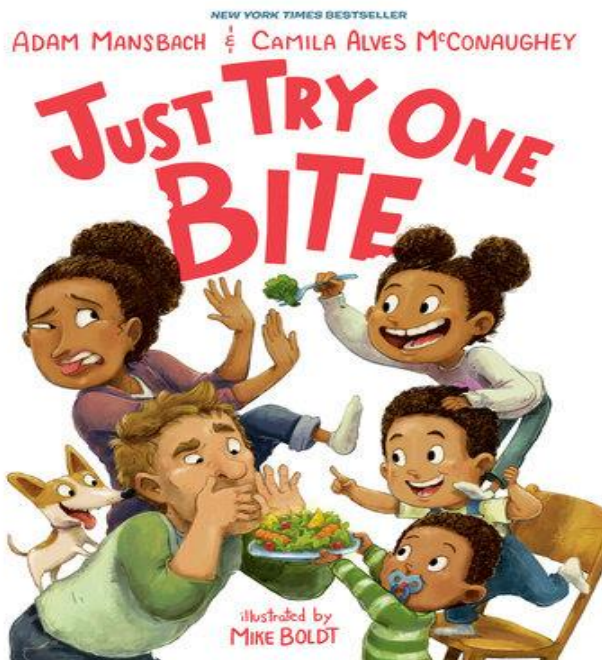
Lillian, Jackson, Morgan and Hunter modeling their tote bag creations .



# THE EFNEP NEWSLETTER



NUTRITION EDUCATION



## KIDS KORNER

With your child, read “Just Try One Bite” by Adam Mansbach and Camila Alves McConaughey. How is this story similar or different to what happens in your house when trying new foods?

## WORKSHOP SERIES

The **EFNEP** program provides nutrition education to low income families and children in counties throughout New York State.

A series of 8 classes is offered to adults in a variety of settings.

Workshop series include:

- **Family Nutrition Education**
- **Finding A Balance - Diabetes**
- **Healthy Cents**
- **Breastfeeding**

If you or your organization are interested in scheduling classes, please call your local nutrition educator.

THE

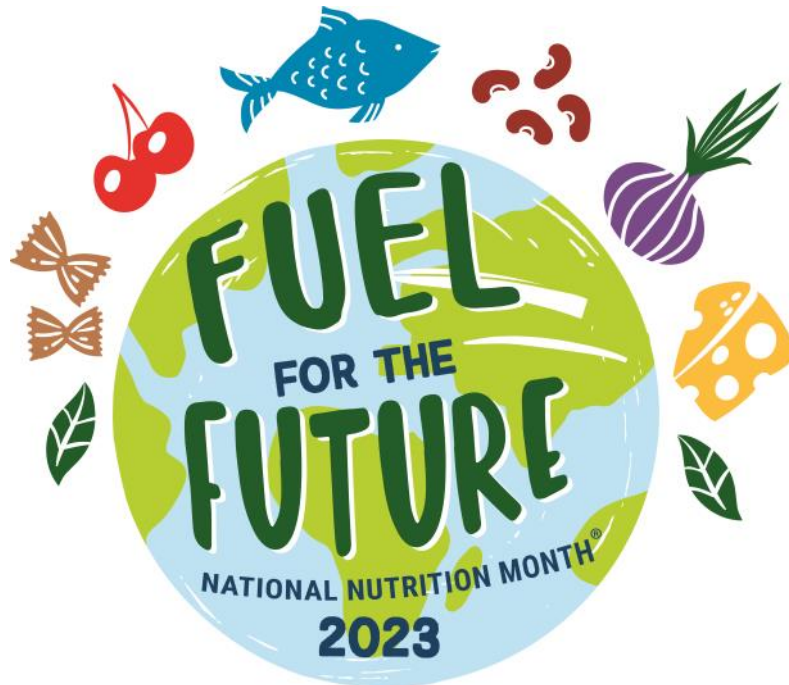
EFNEP

NEWSLETTER



NUTRITION EDUCATION

**LET'S CELEBRATE NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH®!**



1. As a family, each week this month, try one new fruit or vegetable.
2. Make a plan to eat together more often.
3. Get your entire family involved in preparing meals, setting the table and cleaning up.
4. Cut back on salt by flavoring your food with no salt added herb and spice blends, and by using a squirt of lemon or lime juice to bring out the flavor.
5. Include all family members when planning meals for the week. Ask each family member to suggest one meal they would like to have and ask them to help plan the meal.
6. As a family, take a walk, go to the playground or the park after dinner.
7. When grocery shopping, look for foods with less packaging.
8. Try a meatless meal once a week—focus on recipes using beans like kidney, cannellini, garbanzo, black and great northern beans.
9. Turn off the TV and put away phones, computers and tablets during meal times.
10. Interested in growing your food? Now is the time to plan your garden. Need some help getting started? Contact the Master Gardeners at your local Cornell Cooperative Extension.

# **BROWN RICE WITH CORN & BEANS**



## **BROWN RICE WITH CORN & BEANS**

### **INGREDIENTS**

1 cup low-sodium broth  
1 package (1.25 ounce) taco seasoning or 1/4 teaspoon each of chili powder, garlic powder, ground cumin, and oregano  
1 cup instant brown rice  
1/3 cup salsa  
1/2 cup corn (frozen or canned, drained and rinsed)  
1/2 cup black beans (cooked or canned, drained and rinsed)

### **DIRECTIONS**

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Bring the vegetable broth and seasonings to boil in a medium saucepan.
3. Add the rice, salsa, corn and beans. Turn heat to low, cover the saucepan and let cook undisturbed for 10 minutes.
4. Gently stir before serving.
5. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

### **NUTRITION FACTS**

Facts for 1/2 cup: 110 calories, .5g total fat, 0g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 480mg sodium, 22g total carbohydrates, 3g dietary fiber, 1g total sugars, 0g added sugars, 3g protein, 0mcg Vitamin D, 7mg calcium, 0mg iron, 103mg potassium, 15mcg Vitamin A, 3mg Vitamin C, 4% calories from fat.





## CREAMY POTATO & LEEK SOUP

### INGREDIENTS

3 leeks (about 3 cups diced)  
3 potatoes (about 3 cups diced)  
2 Tablespoons margarine or butter  
4 1/2 cups low-sodium chicken broth  
1/4 cup 1% milk  
2 garlic cloves minced or 1/2 teaspoon of garlic powder  
1/2 teaspoon pepper

### NUTRITION FACTS

Serving size: 3/4 cup  
Calories 150, Total Fat 5g, Saturated Fat 3g, Sodium 55mg, Total Carbohydrate 21g, Dietary Fiber 2g, Total Sugars 2g, Added Sugar included 0g, Protein 5g.

### DIRECTIONS

1. Remove root and green tops from leeks. Slice in half lengthwise and rinse well under running water. Slice crosswise into 1/4 inch slices.
2. Scrub potatoes under running water with a clean vegetable brush; cut into small cubes.
3. Melt margarine or butter in a 2-quart saucepan over medium heat.
4. Add garlic and chopped leeks. Cook until softened.
5. Add potatoes and enough broth to cover. Cover pan and simmer until potatoes are soft. Mash with a potato masher or fork until potatoes are fairly smooth.
6. Add remaining broth, milk and pepper. Simmer for about 5 minutes.
7. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

# THE SNAP EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



## NUTRITION PROMOTION



## MARCH IS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH®



This year's theme for National Nutrition Month is Personalize Your Plate, which promotes creating nutritious meals to meet individuals' cultural and personal food preferences.

Here are some health tips that offer you some good diet decisions:

### **Eat Breakfast**

Start your day with a healthy breakfast that includes lean protein, whole grains, fruits, and vegetables. Try making a breakfast burrito with scrambled eggs, low-fat cheese, salsa, and a whole wheat tortilla or a parfait with low-fat plain yogurt, fruit, and whole grain cereal.

### **Make Half Your Plate Fruits and Vegetables**

Fruits and veggies add color, flavor, and texture plus vitamins, minerals, and dietary fiber to your plate. Eating 2 cups of fruit and 2 ½ cups of vegetables is your daily goal. Experiment with different types, including fresh, frozen, and canned.

### **Watch Portion Sizes**

Use half your plate for fruits and vegetables and the other half for grains and lean protein foods. Complete the meal with a serving of fat-free or low-fat milk or yogurt. Measuring cups may also help you compare your portions to the recommended serving size.

### **Be Active**

Regular physical activity has many health benefits. Start by doing what exercise you can. Children and teens should get 60 or more minutes of physical activity per day, and adults at least two hours and 30 minutes per week. You don't have to hit the gym – take a walk after dinner or put on music and dance at home.

### **Get Cooking**

Preparing foods at home can be healthy, rewarding, and cost-effective. Master some kitchen basics, like dicing onions or cooking dried beans.

### **Order Out without Ditching Goals**

You can eat out and still stick to your healthy eating plan. The key is to plan ahead, ask questions, and choose foods carefully. Compare nutrition information, if available, and look for healthier options that are grilled, baked, broiled, or steamed.

### **Explore New Foods and Flavors**

Add more nutrition and eating pleasure by expanding your range of food choices. When shopping, make a point of selecting a fruit, vegetable, or whole grain that's new to you or your family.



# AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

## CCE ALLEGANY COUNTY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

BY LYNN BLIVEN

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES ISSUE LEADER

In order to safely and effectively control insect pests or plant diseases you first need to be able to accurately identify what you have. While many broad-spectrum herbicides or pesticides may be labeled for a long list of plant issues, if not applied at the correct stage or in the correct amount you will be throwing money away and creating a negative impact on the environment. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the best approach to balancing protection of your plants in an environmentally friendly way. Many of your questions can be answered at our local Cooperative Extension office in Belmont. If you are unsure what insect or plant you have, we can assist with Insect/Plant Identification; fee is \$10.00 per sample.

If we are unable to address pest and disease questions locally, samples can be submitted to the Cornell University Lab. Diagnostic fees range from \$40-\$80 and include shipping cost. Services are available for vegetables, trees, annual and perennial plants, mushrooms, and turf.

We also provide soil pH test for lawns, gardens, pastures, or crop fields; fee is \$3.00 per sample. If you are looking for a more detailed soil analysis, we will assist you in completing and submitting samples to Dairy One for \$20.00 per sample. If you are unsure how to collect a soil sample, please contact our office. Samples that are not properly collected or handled will impact the accuracy of the test. Once you receive your test results from Dairy One, we can assist you in interpretation and application needs for soil amendments.

We can also assist with nutrient analysis of hay, forage, and grains, and water testing for livestock and vegetable producers. Please contact Lynn Bliven at 585-268-7644 ext. 18 or email [lao3@cornell.edu](mailto:lao3@cornell.edu) to arrange for timely diagnostic services.



## PRO-DAIRY NEEDS YOUR FEEDBACK



Dairy Environmental Systems has covered manure storage and flare systems survey. Your feedback is requested! PRO-DAIRY Dairy Environmental Systems is collecting farmer feedback on the potential benefits and drawbacks of covered manure storage and flare systems to assess perceptions and factors affecting the potential applicability of these systems on dairy farms.

**Complete the short survey today!**

Angela George, Dairy Environmental Specialist  
[ag2292@cornell.edu](mailto:ag2292@cornell.edu)

## USDA'S NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

NASS has extended data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture through the spring to ensure all farmers and ranchers take advantage of the opportunity to be represented in the widely used data. Census data inform decisions about policy, farm and conservation programs, infrastructure, rural development, and more. If you received the 2022 Census of Agriculture and has not yet responded know it is not too late to be counted.

# AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

## 2023 MASTER FOREST OWNER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SHARED FROM PETER SMALLIDGE

NYS EXTENSION FORESTER & ARNOT FOREST DIRECTOR

Have you ever thought about using your knowledge and skill to help your neighbor woodland owners? Join the hundreds of woodland owners who have served their neighbors since 1993.

As a woodland owner you have a unique perspective and status that allows you to serve as a peer-to-peer counselor to help other woodland owners in your area. Your existing skills are enhanced by educational resources available through Cornell Cooperative Extension and Cornell's ForestConnect program. Learn how to merge your skills with existing resources so you can be a volunteer that helps other woodland owners more thoroughly enjoy and manage their property. You are invited to the annual training for Cornell's Master Forest Owner (MFO) volunteers. MFO volunteers work through Cornell Cooperative Extension to visit woodland owners in their county and direct them towards resources that help them manage their woodlands. This training is open for new volunteers and previously trained volunteers seeking a refresher.

### NY Master Forest Owner Program



Applicants selected to participate will join in 7 weekly online sessions via Zoom, and subsequently meet in person in May-June for a one-day field session at one of multiple locations within the state. Online sessions are 6:30 – 7:30PM Wednesdays March 21 through May 2. These sessions include 2 orientation sessions and 5 technical content sessions which provide participants increased knowledge about: woodland ecology and health, wildlife and habitat, interfering vegetation management, silviculture, and agroforestry. Participants should plan to allocate 3-4 hours per week to learn the technical content via guided online learning and spend an hour per week in a live interactive discussion session.

All woodland owners in NY are welcome.

- The fee is \$35 per person and \$50 per couple which includes the full training and supplies and resources provided at the field session.
- Owners interested in becoming a volunteer should start the online application process at:
- [https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3jZyjaz1loluktk](https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3jZyjaz1loluktk)
- This must be completed by March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Questions about the MFO program?

[www.CornellMFO.info](http://www.CornellMFO.info)

Program Director Peter Smallidge  
pjs23@cornell.edu or 607-592-3640





# HORTICULTURE & MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

GROWING TOGETHER

## GETTING READY FOR SPRING 2023: CHECKLIST FOR GARDENERS

BY CRISTIAN ACOSTA  
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATOR

After long, cold months, spring is coming! This is the perfect time to begin planning and sharpening our tools. To start the growing season successfully, let's head to our garden (or the place where we're starting one) to clean out, prepare the soil, garden beds, pots, etc., I'd like to share with you essential tasks that you can do to start this 2023 gardening season:



### INSPECTING YOUR GARDEN

Get your boots on! It's time to take your gardening journal, a pen and go to the garden! Before starting, we need to check first what was going on out there while you were indoors.

What to look for:

- If plants were damaged by the snow or ice, you will have to decide which plants can be saved or which are better to remove.
- Things that need to be cleaned: beds, pots, fences, walls, fallen branches or debris blown

by the wind, etc.

- New visitors? Check for the presence of new wildlife in your garden: moles, skunks, squirrels, chipmunks, deer, etc.

### HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN LOOK?

Something you also need to check is the texture or hardscaping in the garden - does it look beautiful or old and abandoned?

Fix the beds, walls, pots, or anything that is not in good condition, but fixable. Replace what is not possible to fix or recycle. Removing damaged or broken things is going to open more space for new tools, plants, etc., making your garden more organized and attractive.

Want to design a beautiful garden for this year, not sure how to do it? no worries! You can find thousands of ideas in magazines or pictures online. This will give you budget friendly ideas and inspiration for balance in shapes, colors and textures. You don't need a lot of money to create your custom look.

### HOW GOOD IS YOUR SOIL?

Have you tested your soil? The best time to do it is in the Fall, because that will give you enough time to amend your soil if it's necessary. You can also test your soil in the Spring, so you know if the soil amends from last year are working. Soil test results can tell you how good your soil is for the plants that you are planning to grow there this year.

How to test it? if you have never tested your soil before, you can take a sample and bring it to your nearest extension office. Your local county extension office can assist with a test or provide the information where you can take your sample.

How to take this sample? Check this article and download the guide to take soil samples in your

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

# HORTICULTURE & MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

## GROWING TOGETHER

garden: <https://allegany.cce.cornell.edu/gardening/soil-health>



### THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR THE SEASON

The right tools are going to make your gardening season much easier! This is the time to think about tools and ask yourself a few questions:

- What tools do I need for the plants that I'm growing this year?
- Are my current tools in good shape?
- Do I need to do some maintenance to remove rust and sharpen my tools?
- What about my irrigating system? Am I going to water my plants with a hose, watering can, or an automatic system?

Check the tools that can make your gardening activities easier in every stage of the planting process from seed (or seedling) to the harvest and post-harvest while making your decisions about tools/equipment.

### START YOUR SEEDS FOR THE SEASON

Take advantage of your indoor conditions and start your seeds at home. Before starting this process we recommend doing a seed germination test. This is a simple test to check how good your seeds are.

There is nothing more frustrating for a gardener than planting seeds, watering, taking care of them and after days or weeks not having anything growing. Avoid this process and do the

seed germination test. It's simple. Put a sample of your seeds in a plastic zip top bag with a wet paper towel, putting it in a shaded place while waiting a couple days to check how many of these seeds are germinated. To learn how to do it step by step go to our Seed germination test article here: <https://allegany.cce.cornell.edu/gardening/plant-propagation-seed-germination-test>

Once you know how many seeds you need to start your garden, sow your seeds indoors and you'll have seedlings ready to take to the garden when the weather gets warmer.

### KEEP LEARNING

Do you have enough experience and knowledge to do it by yourself? If the answer is no, or maybe, no worries! In this fascinating world of gardening, we never stop learning new things from nature. You can do it too!

Read about the plants that you are growing. Each plant has unique facts; nutritional and environmental requirements, agronomical behaviors, interactions with animals and other plants, etc. Lose yourself in the thousands of articles, books, classes, and information about your plants.

Be prepared for this season, get the materials, seeds, potting mix, tools, and everything you need to start your 2023 garden. If you would like to keep learning about gardening, stay tuned for the classes, events, and activities that Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County have prepared for you. These are offered online and in-person.

If you have questions or a problem with your garden, feel free to contact us in person, email or phone, we're happy to help.



# EVENTS

## Fundamentals of Ventilation in Barns for Small Ruminants and Other Livestock

Join Cornell Cooperative Extension's Livestock Program Work Team - FREE webinar

**March 22, 2023, at 7:00 pm for a FREE webinar on this topic.**

Ventilation in barns is essential for the well-being of livestock, particularly small ruminants. This free webinar shares how to plan for and update ventilation systems in barns, particularly old dairy barns, to work for you!

When starting out raising livestock, the easiest and least expensive housing is the housing already on the property. For many, this means the use of facilities previously used to house dairy cows. Many of these older buildings are not well ventilated and need upgrades to make them suitable places for keeping sheep, goats, cattle, hogs, and poultry while limiting respiratory disease pressure.

Tim Terry, the Farm Strategic Planning Specialist with Cornell University CALS – Pro-Dairy, will discuss the ins and outs of retrofitting older dairy facilities for proper ventilation. Tim has many years of experience helping farms correct the deficiencies in these barns to make them functional and safe. He will discuss effective ventilation principles as well as the pros and cons of the basic types of ventilation systems: natural, mechanical, positive pressure, tunnel, and cross.

This meeting is free for all and will be held over Zoom. Registration is required and will provide you access to the program recording.

To register, please visit: [https://bit.ly/Barn\\_Ventilation](https://bit.ly/Barn_Ventilation)

## Growing Your Medicinal Garden Workshop

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

In this workshop you will learn:

- What medicinal plants are in NYS for you to use.
- How to grow medicinal herbs at home?
- How to use medicinal herbs in your daily life.
- More tips and recommendation and... fun activities!

The workshop has a \$10 fee to cover the materials for this workshop.

How to pay?

Bring the fee in cash the day of the event, or check payable to CCE Allegany County.

Presented by Cristian Acosta, Ag Educator, CCE Allegany County

**Location:** Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County. 5435 County Road 48 Belmont, NY. 14813

**Register**

<https://forms.gle/2Bic8iD3DaAbTNmS7>

**Tools for farm succession planning**

**FREE Virtual Webinar Series for farms interested in planning for the future!**

**Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 8pm**

- 3/8 - Building a Strong Management Team
- 3/15 - Assessing Your Business
- 3/22 - Tax Management in Succession Planning

Visit [tinyurl.com/cceMarch](https://tinyurl.com/cceMarch) to register!

[more info](#)

## Start Your 2023 Food Garden

FREE Webinar (Registration is required)

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Join to our online class and learn how to grow a healthy and productive garden this year, in this class you'll learn:

- How to plan your garden
- Seeds or seedlings?
- Seed germination test
- Planting times for Allegany County

Presented by Cristian Acosta, Agriculture Educator CCE Allegany County

**Register:**

<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/0rdeGgaTlaEtJCHfh5iclW2N0XF7624>



# EVENTS

Open to all interested beef and dairy producers.

**Saturday, March 18, 2023**

**Registration & Welcome 1 PM - Lunch 1:30 PM**

**Alfred State College Farm 1254 State Route 244 Alfred, NY 14802 Hosted by Region 4 Beef Producers & Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County.**

**Business meeting** - election of officers, brief discussion on program ideas for 2023/2024.



**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jerry Rusch, DVM** will be presenting the **Relationship between Vaccinations and Nutrition**. Dr. Rusch was raised on a grain and livestock farm in Southern Indiana. In 1991 he received his DVM from Purdue University and then spent two years in dairy practice in Eastern Pennsylvania. In 1993 Jerry and his wife, Dr. Karen, purchased Spring Mill Veterinary Service, a mixed animal practice in Mitchell, Indiana where he continues to practice. He works with his beef cattle clients on their vaccination programs and is involved with the Indiana Beef Evaluation and Economics Feeding Program (IBEEF), a retained ownership program through Purdue University. Jerry is currently president and general manager of the Springville Feeder Auction, which is a local farmer owner feeder calf marketing cooperative. He is also a member of AABP and the Society for Theriogenology. Jerry joined Multimin USA in March 2018.

**Tour of Alfred State College Livestock Facilities - Virginia Chamberlain, Alfred State Farm Manager** -Opportunity to see the new facilities and learn about the expansion of livestock educational events and courses offered at the college.

This program will serve as a BQA Recertification workshop. If you are Level 2 BQA Certified, you will need to provide an updated Veterinarian Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR) form, if needed please request a form when you pre-register.

The cost of the program is \$15 per person for adults, \$5 for youth 10 and under. Buffet lunch - deli platter with ham, turkey and beef with pasta salad, drinks and dessert.

**Pre-reservations for the meeting requested by March 1<sup>st</sup>** to assist with lunch planning. Please contact Barb Benjamin, NYBPA Region 4 Chair at 585-610-6536 or [lightenliz62@yahoo.com](mailto:lightenliz62@yahoo.com) or Lynn Bliven at [lao3@cornell.edu](mailto:lao3@cornell.edu). Payment will be accepted at the door. We will have door prizes and 50/50 raffles.

Membership in the beef producer association is not required to attend. New memberships and renewals will be accepted at the meeting, drawing will be held for 1 free membership or renewal.

NYBPA is a member driven organization, there will be an opportunity at this meeting to discuss and plan future events to be held in the region while networking with other beef producers. Please invite others to attend!

## **Commercial Flower Growers Meeting** (Belfast, NY)

**Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:45-7pm**

We will cover examples of problems and have hands on demonstration on what to look for to avoid setbacks when arranging and growing flower baskets for market. In addition, topics such as fertilizer programs and what nutrients do in the plants at different stages of development will be discussed. The program is free to attend however pre-registration is requested by April 3 to plan for materials.

Contact Lynn Bliven for more details or to preregister at [lao3@cornell.edu](mailto:lao3@cornell.edu) or 585-268-7644 ext. 18.