

# Cornell Cooperative Extension | Delaware County

## Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference

Thursday, January 9, 2020 • SUNY DELHI • Farrell Hall

### Workshop Schedule

Registration starting 9:30 am

#### EARLY-BIRD SESSIONS & TRADE SHOW

10:00 am

##### Dairy Farm Adaptability in the Region

*Larry Hulle, WAC Ag Program Manager*

*Nate Townsend, WAC Whole Farm Planning Coordinator*

Local Farmers will discuss how they are adapting to changes in the dairy industry and making the most of opportunities to better position their farm for the future. Panel includes: SRJF Inc. (*Frank & Marc Albano*), Del-Rose Farm (*Barb & Seth Hanselman*), Valley Hill Dairy LLC (*Dave and Laurie Grant*).

##### Introduction to WAC's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

*Josh Gorman, WAC Acquisition Coordinator*

Conservation Easements are one tool available in the NYC Watershed to help keep farmland open and working for future generations. This workshop will focus on the basics of the WAC Agricultural Easement Program: eligibility requirements, acquisition steps, and the timeline for landowners to consider an offer.

##### Introduction to Small Scale Swine Production

*Jason Detzel, Senior Livestock Educator CCE Ulster County*

An introduction to production and marketing of pigs raised in a pasture setting. Pigs can function as a stand alone enterprise or can be integrated into your existing farm structure to make use of marginal lands. Pigs are also ideal for turning agricultural wastes such as spent grain, whey, or seconds into a valuable product, and they can improve the land where they are kept.



DAIRY



GRAZING



LIVESTOCK



VEGETABLES

11:00 am



##### Effective Ventilation for Dairy Cows and Calves

*Dan McFarland, Agricultural Engineer, Penn State University*

Proper ventilation for dairy barns is critical to animal productivity and health. This session will be a review of critical ventilation system concepts and design principles for dairy housing for calves and cows, for natural and mechanical ventilation systems in both free stalls, tie stalls, and positive pressure calf housing systems.



##### Mob or Rotational Grazing: An Offer You Can't Refuse?

*Eric Billman, Ph.D., Research Animal Scientist, USDA-ARS*

Mob grazing has garnered substantial interest in recent years. However, little is known about its efficacy in the Northeast. This talk will focus on the findings of a collaborative USDA-ARS/Penn State project that compared mob grazing with rotational grazing in central Pennsylvania, and provide valuable insight on the pros and cons of each system as they relate to forage yield, diversity, and quality.



##### Can Livestock Self-Select Nourishing Diets and Self-Medicate?

*Dr. Fred Provenza, Professor emeritus, Utah State University*

Dr. Provenza will share research that shows that domesticated livestock possess nutritional wisdom and can successfully select diets that meet needs for energy, protein, and minerals. In addition, evidence will be presented that livestock can self-medicate through biochemically mediated flavor-feedback associations.



##### Looking to Diversify Your Product Offerings? Say "I Do" to Cut Flowers.

*Rebecca Sadlowski, ROOTED*

*Flower Farm*

ROOTED is a specialty cut flower farm run by Rebecca and her family. This once vegetable farm now provides a variety of high-quality flowers for its CSA, designers, specialty stores, and is the leader in floral farm-to-table events in Western Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley. Rebecca will discuss how she diversified and expanded her farm, and will touch on various sales

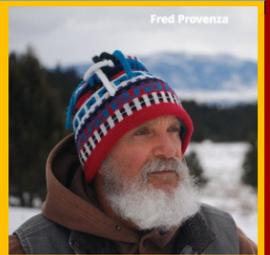
#### NOON LOCAL FOOD LUNCHEON & TRADE SHOW NOON

##### Let Feed and Food be Our Medicine

The health of soil, plants, animals, people, and the planet is linked with plant phytochemical diversity. Dr. Provenza will show how livestock health is enhanced when they forage on phytochemically rich landscapes, but reduced when they forage on low-diversity pastures or eat high-grain rations in feedlots. This concept will be further explored in the context of our human diet. In summary, Dr. Provenza will explain how palates link soil and plants with livestock and human health.

*Dr. Fred Provenza,*

*Professor emeritus, Utah State University*



1:40 pm



##### Heat Stress Abatement Techniques for Dairy Cattle

*Dan McFarland, Agricultural Engineer, Penn State University*

New research is showing **dramatic and long lasting negative impacts of heat stress** in dairy cattle, which may be even greater where temperatures fluctuate like here in the NE. This session will discuss some of these heat stress impacts on cows and calves in-utero and ways to manage heat stress in tie stall and free stall housing systems to avoid these negative consequences.



##### Pasture Management: The Balancing Act

*Titus Martin, ACES Grazing Specialist, USDA NRCS Chambersburg PA*

Titus will be providing a thorough overview of pasture management including understanding the seasonal patterns of grass growth, the importance of rest periods, the role of legumes and explaining how to balance the supply and demand of forages during and after the grazing season.



##### Winter Livestock Feeding and Grouping Strategies

*Rich Toebe, CCE Delaware County Joe Evans, Sheep Farmer, Andes NY*

Winter time feeding is the single most expensive cost on all types of livestock farms. Rich will explain strategies to manage these costs including: creating a feed inventory, allocating feeds based on nutritional needs, strategies to limit waste in storage and feeding, and grouping of livestock. Joe will share how this happens on their farm.



##### Tarping for Weed Control

*Crystal Stewart Courtens, Vegetable Specialist, ENY Horticulture Team*

Is using tarps, or impermeable plastic membranes, a good way to control weeds in my vegetable farm or home garden? Extension vegetable specialist Crystal Stewart Courtens will share the latest research on the use of tarps to reduce tillage, kill weeds, and retain nutrients. She will also share stories from growers using tarps, and talk about sourcing, moving, and disposing of tarps. Group discussion to follow.

2:40 pm



##### Big Changes to New York Farm Employment Laws

*Richard Stup, Ph.D., Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development*

Dr. Richard Stup is the Agricultural Workforce Specialist with Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He leads educational programs in human resource management and conducts applied research into labor challenges facing the agricultural industry. His focus is on leadership development and regulatory compliance at the farm level.



##### Livestock Fly IPM

*Ken Wise, NYS Extension IPM Specialist- Livestock and Field Crops*

Fly pests decrease milk production and weight gain, transmit disease causing agents, and more. We will discuss correct identification of the most important fly pests and techniques to determine when fly populations can cause economic injury. Learn the options for controlling fly pests, use of effective fly catching traps, and what you should know about making insecticide use decisions.



##### Transgenerational Linkages to Landscapes

*Dr. Fred Provenza, Professor emeritus, Utah State University*

The "genetics" of our livestock are essentially 'genes that are expressed in the environments where they live.' Dr. Provenza will show how experiences in utero and early in life have life-long influences on their behavior and their ability to use particular foods and habitats. Furthermore, this concept can help farmers better manage food and habitat selection behaviors of their livestock.



##### Pests to Watch for in 2020

*Teresa Rusinek, Vegetable Specialist ENY Horticulture Team*

Extension vegetable specialist Teresa Rusinek will share her observations of frequently encountered pests and how growers are managing them. Information from Extension field research trials on Allium leafminer and wireworm management will be covered as well. Group discussion will follow.

