



WHAT IS TC ARG?

Tioga County Agricultural Resource Group (ARG) is a group of farmers, agencies, educators, businesses and community members working together to contribute to a thriving rural community by creating and promoting agricultural vitality in Tioga County. Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month from 10:00-11:30am at the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District office (183 Corporate Drive Owego, NY) and are open to the public. For more information, you can contact Danielle Singer singerd@tiogacountyny.gov (607) 972-8009



Looking Ahead

October

- 10th - TC Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- 19th - CCE Tioga Annual Meeting
- 23rd - ARG Meeting- Janice Degni - State of Ag in Tioga County

November

- Reminder - ARG Meeting Cancelled

December

- 4th - ARG Meeting - 10:30am
- 7th - Owego FFA Ag Trivia fundraiser

ARG Agency Spotlight

Tioga County Soil & Water

Our mission is to assist individual landowners, groups, and units of government with natural resource concerns. This may take the form of technical advice, technical assistance, or finding a solution through another entity. Check out our [website](#) to learn about our programs for agriculture, forestry, streams, water quality and more.



ARG Member Spotlight

Miranda Palmer
Waverly CSD



How long have you been in your role at Waverly? Describe your role in 3 words.

- I've been in my role at Waverly for two years now. Before that, I taught at Newark Valley for three years, and prior to my teaching career, I worked with the TCSWCD for five years. While it's difficult to sum up my role in just three words, I'd say *educator, advocator, mentor* best captures what I do.

What do you like most about ARG so far?

- ARG plays a vital role in uniting the agriculture community within the county, ensuring we work together toward shared goals that help sustain and strengthen the industry for future generations of county residents.

What is your favorite pizza topping?

- Extra Cheese



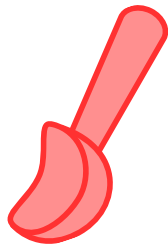
ARG NEWS

Summer is the busiest time for ARG - we held **Sundaes at the Farm**, hosted children's activities each day of the **Tioga County Fair**, debriefed from both big events and heard from Farm Bureau about their organization. The 2024 Sundaes at the Farm event was an utter success!

We **served 938 sundaes** to attendees and **over 90 families participated** in the farm scavenger hunt! We thank **Frisbie Bros. Dairy Farm** for hosting us and all the volunteers and sponsors that made this event happen! We were at the Tioga County Fair each day alongside Tioga County Farm Bureau to put on free educational and fun children's activities. The **Tioga County Ag Society (Fair Board)** did an amazing job putting on the fair this year, even with the rainy weather! CCE Tioga 4-H and FFA chapters had great youth shows, creative projects on display and interesting activities throughout the week!

Commonly Used Acronyms

- CCE - Cornell Cooperative Extension
- FSA - Farm Service Agency
- NRCS - Natural Resource Conservation Services
- SCD&FC - South Central Dairy & Field Crops Team
- TCARG - Tioga County Ag Resource Group
- TCFB - Tioga County Farm Bureau
- TCSWCD - Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District
- USC - Upper Susquehanna Coalition
- USDA - United States Department of Agriculture



The Scoop

SOUTH CENTRAL DAIRY & FIELD CROPS TEAM

CORNELL COW CONVOS

This monthly podcast series led by PRO-DAIRY and CCE Dairy Specialists features current, new and emerging topics of interest to the dairy industry right now. New episodes are released on the last Thursday of the month. Our first few episodes include discussions on preventative healthcare for cows, the trend of beef on dairy, what to look forward to in the new year for dairy, and socially grouping or pair-housing calves. This series also features specially selected interviews with dairy farmers and industry experts and invites suggestions from our listeners for future topics.

- Episode 1: Welcome to Cornell Cow Convos!
- Episode 2: Preventative Health Care for Dairy Cows
- Episode 3: Trends in the Beef x Dairy Industry
- Episode 4: Looking into the New Year, Key Management Strategies
- Episode 5: The research behind pair housing calves
- Episode 6: Pair Housing Calves from a Farmer's Perspective
- Episode 7: Healthy Herds - Disease Diagnosis, Treatment, and Recording
- Episode 9: Winter Forages and First Cutting
- Episode 10: Automated Health Monitoring Systems
- Episode 11: Impact of Heat Stress in Cows
- Episode 12: Impact of Heat Stress in Calves
- Episode 13: Corn Silage Harvest Considerations for 2024
- Episode 14: My Cow\$ Toll - Individual Cow and Herd Level Profitability with Dr. Julio Giordano
- Episode 15: Robotic Rotary Management with Keti Keberle of Oakfield Corners Dairy



**Cornell
CALs**
College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Dairy Feeder School

10:00am to 3:00pm
Registration at 9:30am

- ◆ One day on-farm training for dairy farm feeders
- ◆ Offered in English and Spanish at each site
- ◆ Stations with hands-on activities/demos

Who Should Attend:

- ◆ Currently feeding dairy cows and want to learn more about the how and why of feeding activities
- ◆ Interested in becoming a cow feeder and want to increase knowledge of cow feeding
- ◆ Interested in learning more about how to improve the feeding process on farm

Topics Covered During Feeder School:

- ◆ Economics and importance of feeding and feed management
- ◆ Dry matter and feeder math basics: how to measure DM and refusals, and adjust ration
- ◆ Feed consistency and TMR audits
- ◆ Troubleshooting mixer wagons
- ◆ Bunk silo management, map out bunk, packing density and preservation, and feed out
- ◆ Safety

Registration: \$50.00 per person (includes lunch)

For more information: Kathy Barrett, Cornell PRO-DAIRY
kfb3@cornell.edu; 607-229-4357

This event is sponsored in part by:



**PROGRESSIVE DAIRY
SOLUTIONS**

A NUTRITION & MANAGEMENT CONSULTING FIRM



LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION

SPECIFIC FOR YOUR SUCCESS



2024 Dates and Locations:

South Central New York

October 31 | Twin Birch Dairy, 1872 Benson Rd, Skaneateles, NY 13152

November 12 | Walnut Ridge Dairy, 100 Brown Hill Rd, Lansing, NY 14882

Register: <https://scnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/events.php>

Central New York

October 29 | Insight Dairy, 682 Newville Rd, Little Falls, NY 13365

October 30 | Barber Brothers Dairy, 1028 NY-32 Schuylerville, NY 12871

Register: <https://cnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2452>

Northwest New York

November 13 | Reyncrest Farm 9666 Alleghany Rd, Corfu, NY 14036

November 14 | DeBoover Family Farms, 1382 County Rd 23, Phelps, NY 14532

Register: <https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/events.php>



Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the site registrar 10 days prior to the event.



FARM BUREAU



Save the Date

“Supporting today’s agricultural needs and creating member opportunities for tomorrow through advocacy and education.”

WHEN: OCTOBER 10TH

WHAT: TIOGA COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING- PULLED PORK DINNER WITH DOOR PRIZES

COST: \$30 - NON-MEMBERS, \$20 - MEMBERS

WHERE: OWEGO VFW

WHEN: 6:30PM

HOW: RSVP BY OCTOBER 6: MARRELL OR CUB
FLYWESTPRIMS@AOL.COM OR 607-319-6166

Not a Member?
Join Today!



nyfb.org
1.800.342.4143



Cornell Cooperative Extension | Tioga County

RAISING SHEEP ON PASTURE

WITH ULF KINTZEL OF WHITE CLOVER SHEEP FARM

CCE Tioga

Buzz

There are many happenings on the hill in October! We have several program events and our annual meeting coming up at our Hilltop Community Farm location, as well as some regular programming around the county.

Learn about grass fed sheep from experienced shepherd, Ulf Kintzel. He will be discussing how he runs his sheep farm, what he has as pasture, how he runs his rotational system, stockpiling, and what kind of sheep are suitable to be grass-fed.



Please register to attend by either calling CCE Tioga at 607-659-5694 or scanning the QR Code

Saturday, October 12, 9AM - 12PM
CCE Tioga Hilltop Community Farm
343 Cass Hill Road
Candor, NY 13743



CCE Annual Meeting

OCTOBER 19

Where: Hilltop Community Farm
343 Cass Hill Rd Candor NY 13743
Time: 3pm - Cookies, Coffee, Conversation, and Farm Tour
5:00pm - Board Meeting CCE Tioga
RSVP: Tioga@cornell.edu or call 607-659-5694

Cornell Cooperative Extension Tioga County

Hilltop Community Farm
343 Cass Hill Road
Candor, NY 13743
t. 607-659-5694
e. tioga@cornell.edu
tioga.cce.cornell.edu

Saturday, Oct. 19th

2024 Annual Meeting– Cookies, Coffee & CCE Tioga Tour

3pm at CCE Tioga Hilltop Community Farm – 343 Cass Hill Rd. Candor, NY

Tioga County NY Residents Invited to Attend

Join us for Cookies, Coffee & Conversation!

Program highlights from 2024, financial reporting and election of Board members.

Meet new staff members & Tour our CCE Tioga Hilltop Community Farm

RSVP to Tioga@Cornell.edu or Call 607-659-5694

Board Meeting Schedule – Q4 2024

- October 19th – 5pm at CCE Tioga Hilltop Community Farm
- November – no meeting
- December 9th – 6pm at Tioga SWCD Office

Committee Meeting Schedule – Q4 2024

- October 26th – 10am Facilities Committee at CCE Tioga

Location Addresses:

Tioga Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Office – 183 Corporate Drive
Owego, NY 13732

CCE Tioga (Hilltop Community Farm) – 343 Cass Hill Road Candor, NY 13743



Hilltop Community Farm at CCE Tioga
Agriculture Development & Outreach

Cornell Cooperative Extension
South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Smart Energy Choices



WIOA

SNAP-Ed
New York



Tioga State Bank TELLER

Tioga State Bank and WBNG are partnering again for the 8th annual No Shave November/Cure the Blue Hybrid 5K. Join us in the fight against prostate cancer IN PERSON on Nov. 2nd at Highland Park or run the race VIRTUALLY from anywhere, at any time. The first 100 runners who register will receive a complimentary race t-shirt and swag bag. For more info or to register:

<https://trst.in/nrpwNY>



We held a grand opening celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony on August 29th at our new Johnson City office at 716 Harry L Drive!



CCE

buy local guide



[Buy Local Food NY](https://buylocalfoodny.org) is an online platform dedicated to connecting consumers with local farms and food businesses in New York State. The site features a comprehensive directory where users can search for nearby farms, farmers' markets, farm-to-table restaurants, and more. By promoting local food systems, the platform aims to support sustainable agriculture, boost the local economy, and provide consumers with fresh, high-quality products. Additionally, it offers resources and information to educate the community about the benefits of buying locally sourced food.

CCE's Buy Local guide -

<https://buylocalfoodny.org/home> something about finding local fresh produce and other products here etc. See what's in season etc.

Northeast Cover Crops Council Short Webinar Series

This short webinar series features various topics related to cover cropping. The series will take place Wednesdays weekly from September 11 through October 23 from 12:00 - 12:30 pm via Zoom. Register for one or all! Includes time for Q&A. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.



From Goldenrod TO GREEN

By Troy Bishopp

Candor, NY --- “Green is a process, not a status. We need to think of ‘green’ as a verb, not an adjective.” ~ Daniel Goleman.

Michael Troyer and his family saw the green opportunity as a verb last year, high atop the sheep farm in Tioga County among the waving Goldenrod and Lordstown and Mardin soils. Armed with determination, knowledge and 200 sheep, the retired dairy land is getting an emerald makeover.

The Troyers were gracious enough to share their experiences and observations at a recent pasture walk organized by Tioga County SWCD and Cornell Cooperative Extension and the South-Central New York Dairy and Field Crops team. Joining the 25 farmers in sheep-centric topics were newly hired NYS Small Ruminant Extension Specialist and “Pro-Livestock” team member Jessica Waltemyer and legendary small ruminant expert, Dr. Tatiana Stanton.

Michael led the group through a field he wintered on and pointed out how quickly the animal impact and hay feeding has improved the native seedbank of grasses and legumes. He then took farmers out to his 50-acre fallow field conversion project. One could see how the “weeds, also known as diverse forage” were relished by the flock and the understory of preferable forage was making a dramatic comeback with little more than daily fence moves and residual management.

The improving landscape led to a spirited discussion as Michael described his grazing management style and the 40(ish) day recovery periods. Waltemyer, who also grazes 250 acres, chimed in on how grazing sheep no lower than 4 inches offers protection from a potential parasite load. “Parasites loathe sun and heat so they generally live lower in the canopy which is why grazing low is not advised”, said Jessica. “We’d like to see 60-day recovery times for small ruminant pastures but realize it depends on many factors”, she said.



Michael set up a demonstration plot of different grazing heights (2", 4", 8") so guests could see the leaf growth from photosynthesis over a ten-day period. Upon measuring with a grazing stick, it was determined that the forage growth rate was a ½" per day. The valuable infrared heat gun was used to show how short grazing (115 degrees soil temp.) differed from improved canopy cover at 80 degrees and how it affects the microbe activity in the soil. It was also reiterated that "grass grows more grass". Michael was also excited to show how the forage responded to an unplanned mob grazing of the flock for 6 hours which flipped the paddock from weeds to grass in 40 days.

He led everyone to the sheep who were allocated their 1.2 acre daily grazing allotment using portable electric netting, solar fence charger and a 250 gallon water wagon. "Using all portable infrastructure allows for maximum flexibility," said Troyer. Guests were greeted by the family's Anatolian-Akbash guard dog who moves with the flock inside the fence. "That vocalization is a key deterrent to predators (or visitors)," said Waltemyer. "Marking their territory, walking around the perimeter and possibly physical engagement are formidable obstacles in repelling unwanted advances from predators."

After the pasture walk, guests connected in conversation over homemade snacks and drinks. An optional barn tour was also offered to learn the logistics of lambing and to see the Troyer's animal handling system. To learn more about this meeting or to connect with service providers in the Tioga County Area; reach out to Danielle Singer at Tioga Co. SWCD (607) 972-2365



SWCD

Conservation Corner

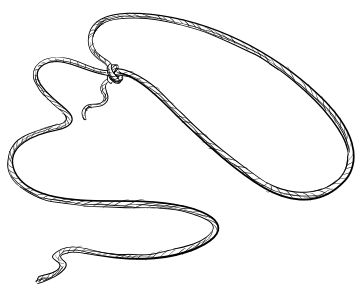


The fall planting season is underway! There is still time to sign up to volunteer to help with planting trees throughout the county or join us at our community tree planting event on Oct. 5th at Hickories Park. We have several tree planting programs to reforest streams and fallow fields for little to no cost, contact us if you are interested in seeing if your property would qualify for free trees and shrubs.



Farmers are planting cover crops throughout September and October, watch for those beautiful green fields this fall. Cover crops are grown to cover the soil through the winter months to reduce erosion, increase water infiltration, retain nutrients and keep soil microbes alive on living roots - all which improve the overall soil health and quality for the next cropping season. Farmers can contact us for inquiries about funding opportunities.

We have a pilot program opportunity open for farms interested in very basic nutrient management (manure or fertilizer). Farms would attend a 2-3 hour workshop to develop their plan and record keeping documents. They will receive \$50.00 and access to soil/manure sampling.



FSA Round Up

Contact Colleen or Faith for more information at 109a Chemung Street Waverly, NY 14892
Phone: (607) 565-2106 x2
Email: colleen.mezzano@usda.gov ;
faith.pipher@usda.gov

- Please report any changes to your farming operation, to include additional land, shares and direct deposit information
- Sign up for Text Message updates: Text nytioga to FSANOW (372669) and sign up today!

Do you have highly erodible fields that were planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2012 and 2017? Would you like to convert that land to a wildlife habitat in exchange for a sizeable annual rental payment? You could even provide a pollinator habitat, a permanent water source for the wildlife or even a food plot. Our Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), CP-1 practice establishes a perfect habitat for wildlife while also helping to reduce erosion and help the environment. Payments are based on soil type and typically range from \$50 to \$100 an acre which is paid annually in October. Call the Tioga/Chemung FSA office at 607-565-2106 or email colleen.mezzano@usda.gov

Conservation Reserve Program

CP-12

WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT

Food Resource | Wildlife Habitat | Soil and Water Quality



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit. Land, Water and Wildlife Benefit.

Food plots established to enhance other CRP practices provide lifesaving resources of food and shelter when wildlife need it most. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with practices like this to achieve many farming and conservation goals. Whatever the conservation challenge – soil conservation, water quality protection or wildlife habitat enhancement – CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Wildlife Food Plots?

For many wildlife and songbird species that do not migrate during winter months, planting a warm or cool season forage mix or small grains on cropland can be the key element to survival. Often food grown for wildlife are field crops, but a number of other grains – such as rye, millet and buckwheat – are also good options. Food plots provide escape cover for wildlife and critical shelter during extreme weather. Forbs, grasses and legumes offer additional benefits, including improving soil health and sequestering carbon.

- Provides a food source and cover for many types of wildlife species, especially upland birds
- Reduces soil erosion
- Sequesters carbon

Financial Benefits

CP-12 participants are guaranteed:

- 10-15 years of annual rental payments
- Additional incentives may be available in your state under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2007 and 2012
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions

Practice Requirements

- May be in conjunction with the following practices only: CP-1, CP-2, CP-3, CP-3A, CP-4D and CP-25
- Existing CRP contracts may be revised to include a Wildlife Food Plot
- Wildlife Food Plots shall not exceed 5 acres
- Practice may be relocated each year
- Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled
- Practice will be maintained without cost-share payments

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for more than 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

Obligations

Participants will:

- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete seeding of the practice within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- In prime habitat, a 4% increase in CRP vegetation is associated with a 22% increase in pheasant counts
- CRP reduced nutrient losses in FY 2014 by an estimated 542 million pounds of nitrogen and 108 million pounds of phosphorus
- In 2014, CRP lowered greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 43 million metric tons of CO₂ - the same benefits as taking nearly 8 million cars off the road for a year

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

For More Information:

Contact your local USDA, Farm Service Agency:

<http://offices.usda.gov>

Conservation Reserve Program

CP-1

Establishment of Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes

Erosion Control | Water Quality Enhancement | Wildlife Habitat



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit. Land, Water and Wildlife Benefit.

Restoring grasses and legumes sharply reduces erosion, provides habitat for wildlife, and benefits the environment. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with practices like this to achieve many farming and conservation goals. Whatever the conservation challenge - soil conservation, water quality protection or wildlife habitat enhancement - CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Introduced Grasses and Legumes?

Establishing vegetative cover on cropland reduces the negative impact of wind and water, effectively mitigating erosion. In addition, establishing grass cover provides critical habitat to gamebird and other wildlife species, thus increasing populations. Offered in **general sign-up** (and under certain conditions as a **continuous sign-up**), CP-1:

- Prevents soil loss from wind and water erosion
- Creates habitat for grassland and game bird species
- Improves water quality by intercepting sediment and nutrients
- Sequesters carbon

Financial Benefits

CP-1 participants are guaranteed:

- 10 years of annual rental payments
- 10% Rental Rate Incentive if enrolled under a wellhead protection area
- Payments covering up to 90% of the eligible costs of establishing the practice
 - 50% from a Cost-Share Payment and
 - 40% from a Practice Incentive Payment (PIP) under certain continuous sign-up conditions
- Tioga/Chemung falls under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), meaning much higher annual rental payments.



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2012 and 2017
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions

Practice Requirements

- Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled
- Practice will be maintained without additional cost-share payments

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for more than 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

Obligations

Participants will:

- Not harvest or graze the practice area except under certain approved conditions
- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete seeding of the practice within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- In prime habitat, a 4% increase in CRP vegetation is associated with a 22% increase in pheasant counts
- CRP reduced nutrient losses in FY 2014 by an estimated 542 million pounds of nitrogen and 108 million pounds of phosphorus
- In 2014, CRP lowered greenhouse gasses by the equivalent of 43 million metric tons of CO₂ – the same benefits as taking nearly 8 million cars off the road for a year

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

For More Information:

Contact your local USDA, Farm Service Agency:

<http://offices.usda.gov>

Waverly FFA

chapter spotlight



Chapter Name: Waverly

Chapter Advisors: Miranda Palmer & Chandra Stanley

Officer Team: Simaab Tahir (President), Lily Root (Vice President), Kearstin Stout (Secretary), Gianna Zieunik (Treasurer), Adriana Purvis (Reporter), Aubrey Everson (Reported), Karson Brunk (Sentinel)

Classes Offered: 5th Grade Ag, 6th Grade Ag, 7th Grade Ag, 8th Grade Ag, Environmental Science (101 and 102 through TC3), Ag Mechanics, Veterinary Science, Career Exploration, and Farmers Market.



How does your chapter support agriculture?

We actively engage with local organizations that support agriculture, such as the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District. Additionally, we prioritize educating younger students about the importance of agriculture. Each year, we celebrate Agriculture Literacy Week by reading an informative book to elementary students, followed by a hands-on activity that teaches them about the origins of their food. This approach not only raises awareness but also cultivates a deeper appreciation for agriculture among young learners.



What's your favorite way to work with your community?

Our program is dedicated to enhancing the community through various initiatives, including cleaning our greenways, planting trees, and hosting a farmers' market designed to meet local needs. By engaging in these efforts, we not only improve our environment but also strengthen the bond between community members and local agriculture.

Tell us about something fun you're doing!

We're excited to host a face painting station at our homecoming football game! Additionally, we're inviting neighboring FFA chapters to join us for a Haunted Junkyard event, with all proceeds benefiting local animal shelters. These activities not only enhance our community spirit but also support important causes.



Cornell Rice Field Day

CCE Tioga has been collaborating on a project with the NY Rice Project. On Friday, October 18th, the Cornell Rice Field Day will take place both at the Homer C. Thompson Research Farm in Freeville AND at CCE Tioga's Hilltop Community Farm to explore the results of this years trials! The cost is \$45 per person (which includes breakfast, lunch and transportation between both locations). Each workshop attendee must complete a separate registration and payment form. If you would like to attend, please register by October 6th [HERE](#).



Tioga County 4-H Fair Results

4-H Beef Show
Market Grand Champion Cheyenne Moyers
Market Reserve Champion Cheyenne Moyers
Master Showman Cheyenne Moyers
Reserve Showman William Whittemore

4-H Swine Show
Market Grand Champion Kylie Estrella
Market Reserve Champion Ryan Huizinga
Master Showman Kylie Estrella
Reserve Showman Jason Jantz

4-H Horse Show
Novice Grand Champion Showman Eliza Rhodes,
Reserve is Justus Newton
Junior Grand Champion Showman Harper Hill
Reserve is Charlie Newton
Senior Grand Champion Showman Tracy Walsh
aReserve is Mahayla Walsh.



Tioga County 4-H Fair Results

4-H Sheep Show
Market Grand Champion Kate Guiles
Market Reserve Champion Katie Klossner
Master Showman Kyle Jantz
Reserve Showman Kate Guiles

4-H Goat Show
Market Grand Champion Mary Van Dusen
Market Reserve Champion Mary Van Dusen
Master Showman Jamison Thompson
Reserve Showman David Van Dusen III

4-H Rabbit Show
Master Showman Kylie Estrella

4-H Dairy Show
Master Showman Eden Cooper
Reserve Showman Cheyenne Moyers

4-H Poultry Show
Market Grand Champion Meat Birds Katie Klossner
Market Reserve Champion Meat Birds Logan Bensley
Market Grand Champion Turkey
Grace Guiles
Market Reserve Champion Turkey
Logan Bensley
Master Showman Poultry
Kate Guiles



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that participated in the **renewed Pork Chop BBQ at the Tioga County Fair!** The event raised over \$4,000 which was split between Tioga County 4-H and FFA youth programs. We hope to see you next year!



Watershed Wednesday

Join the Upper Susquehanna Coalition for mini-sessions with topics related to the Upper Susquehanna River watershed, conservation initiatives, and ongoing projects. The Watershed Wednesdays series will run from September 11th to November 20th, and videos will be posted on their



webpage after the session has ended. Session videos from previous years are also linked at the bottom of the page. Participate in the live webinars Wednesdays at 9:30am by clicking [HERE](#).

Conservation in Action

Women for the Land: Hands-On Learning Circle Registration

WHEN: Friday, October 18th, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Millbrook Dairy Farm, 440 Stevens Rd, Groton, NY, United States, 13068

Join us for our first Learning Circle in the Finger Lakes! We will be covering topics around conservation planning: how to identify resource concerns, funding opportunities, and the technical service providers who can lead you through the process. We will tour an exemplary multi-generational dairy and see many completed conservation projects around the farm. Technical service provider partners from the Soil & Water District will lead our discussion. Callan Space, farmer/owner of Millbrook Dairy, will lead our afternoon tour. This Learning Circle is hosted by American Farmland Trust as part of our women-owned Demonstration Farm Network program, which highlights leaders in conservation in the Great Lakes watershed.

Register [HERE](#)

Cover Crop Field Day

October 16, 2024 | 4:00-6:00 PM | FREE & DINNER
Leland Laboratory, 121 Tuber Dr, Ithaca, NY



Join us for an informative and engaging
Cover Crop Field Day at Cornell University, featuring:

- **Summer & fall cover crop species & mixtures demo**
We have expanded our demonstration to 60 cover crop plots.
Matt Ryan, Joseph Amsili, Ginny Moore, Cornell, Rod Porter & more
- **Cover crop breeding and opportunities for farmers to participate with on-farm evaluations**
Ginny Moore and Solveig Hanson, Cornell
- **Is the changing weather affecting planting dates and cover crop selection?**
Matt Ryan and Kristen Loria, Cornell
- **What's new with soil health at Cayuga and Tompkins Soil and Water Districts?**
Jason Cuddeback and Paul Gier

SPONSORS:



2024 CORNELL

Sheep & Goat Symposium

The 2024 Cornell Sheep & Goat Symposium is scheduled for Friday Nov 1st- Sunday Nov 3rd, on the Cornell University campus in Ithaca, NY. Goat and sheep raisers and industry stakeholders are welcome to register for the whole event or individual days.



Friday Nov 1st is devoted to advance sign-up workshops on

- 1) Secure Sheep and Wool Supply & Biosecurity planning - NYSAGM
- 2) Learning to do a field necropsy – Dr. Mary Smith DVM,
- 3) Demos and hands-on skills for new goat and sheep raisers – Betsy Hodge and Dr. Tatiana Stanton, and later in the evening,
- 4) Balancing Rations using Computer Software -Rich Toebe, Delaware CCE

Saturday is the primary day with multiple tracks available. The morning begins with Dr. Robert VanSaun, DVM, MS, PhD Penn State University, discussing **Practical Solutions to Increase Lamb and Kid Survival and the Importance of Quality Colostrum**. There will be presentations by state and university veterinarians, on poisonous plants, skin and fiber diseases, as well as Demos and hands-on skills for beginning goat and sheep raisers, including an intro to artificial insemination, and a panelist discussion with beginning shepherds from Delaware County, NY that participated in a season long study on pasture management. The afternoon includes a track focusing on dairy goats interpreting DHI and linear appraisal records to make breeding decisions, presentations on avian influenza, cache valley, and other high impact diseases, as well as a farmer panel on navigating the fiber to finished goods supply chain, and updates from the NYS Ag & Markets Dairy Products Specialist on how to start a sheep and goat dairy in NYS as well as new federal regulations affecting small ruminant farmers and federal and state programs that may benefit the small ruminant industry. Another in depth presentation from Dr. Robert VanSaun, DVM, Penn State University, on the **Role of forage quality in general nutrition and its impact on fiber and milk quality in sheep, goats and camelids**. There will be hands-on sessions geared towards youth and beginners on fiber fun and beginning goat milk candy making with Nellie's Knoll Creamery, as well as a demonstration workshop on making goat milk soaps. Additionally, NYS 4-H Livestock and Companion Animal Specialist, Brian Aukema, will have two afternoon sessions focused on Youth and 4-H leaders 1) The Scoop on Poop -Internal Parasites know how 2) Skillathon What? -expanding your livestock skillathon knowledge. Sunday features an advance sign-up sheep and goat parasite workshop with FAMACHA certification as well as the ADGA Pre-Judges Training Conference.

The registration is available online [HERE](#). Registration deadline is Friday Oct 25th. The program schedule, paper registrations, and additional information on parking etc. are available online at both the [Cornell Goat Program Website](#) and the [Cornell Sheep Program Website](#). Please contact Barbara Jones at 607-255-7712 with further registration questions.

TIOGA COUNTY'S NORTH TIOGA NYS AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT IS UP FOR 8-YEAR REVIEW!

The NYS Agricultural Districts Program's purpose is to protect active farmland. It is a voluntary program offered to agricultural landowners and is a "handshake" agreement between the farmland owner and NYS that land enrolled in the NYS Agricultural Districts Program will remain in agriculture for an eight-year period, which depends on each District's Anniversary Date. **Tioga County has within it three NYS Agricultural Districts:** *Spencer which encompasses the Towns of Spencer, Candor, Tioga and Barton; Owego-Nichols which encompasses the Towns of Owego and Nichols; and North Tioga which encompasses the Towns of Richford, Berkshire, Newark Valley and the Village of Newark Valley.*



Ag Land Owners in Newark Valley, Berkshire and Richford: watch for the upcoming opportunity to submit your property for review if you are NOT in the North Tioga Ag District and you want to be!

Certain protections are offered to landowners whose property is enrolled in the Program such as free legal assistance from NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets when there is a dispute or nuisance case with a non-agricultural neighbor and from local laws passed or considered by municipal governing boards that might restrict or otherwise negatively impact viable agriculture activities on farm operations and land enrolled in the Agricultural Districts Program. Financial benefits are limited to a reduction in back property taxes owed when enrolled land is converted to a non-agricultural use and exemption from municipal taxes associated with infrastructure expansion as when a municipal water or sewer line is expanded along the right-of-way of a row-crop field. Additionally, proposed developments near enrolled land, whether by a municipality, public authority or private entity, get an extra look for impacts to farm operations when going through local approvals such a site plan review or special use permits.

Tioga County Planning recently received a 300-day notice from NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the eight-year review of the North Tioga Agricultural District whose anniversary date is July 1, 2025. Several tasks and milestones will follow:

1. Advertising an initial comment period, notice to municipalities and landowners within the Agricultural District, data collection, creating a map of current and modified properties within the District and reporting on the state of agriculture within the District.
2. The County Legislature will hold a public hearing within the boundaries of that District.
3. The County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board makes a recommendation to the County Legislature on the proposed modification of the Agricultural District (based on applications submitted by landowners)
4. The County Legislature adopts the changes.
5. County Planning Department submits the modified property map and report to the Commissioner of NYS Agriculture & Markets who certifies the modified Agricultural District.

While an agricultural landowner can request to add land into any of Tioga County's three NYS Agricultural Districts during January each year, the only way a landowner can remove their land from the NYS Agricultural District is through a written request during a full eight-year review period.

If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Jardine, Tioga County Planning Director at jardinee@tiogacountyny.gov by email or by phone at 607-687-8257.