

FEBRUARY 2025 AG REPORT

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 132 Soil/Hay Tests: 6

Technical Assistance was provided on invasive species management, soil testing, ag assessment, ag districts, ag zoning, farmland preservation, farm funding, farm food safety, starting a farm, livestock production, vegetable production, access to wholesale markets, connections to farmers markets, business planning, poultry, recordkeeping, field crops, land access, starting a food business, value added products and marketing.

- 61 Hours of Technical Assistance.
- 6 farmers connected directly to grant funding.
- 16 One-on-One Meetings with Farmers

PAST WORKSHOPS

Invasive Species of Sullivan County (2/12): 30 people attended the webinar. Topics covered included: identification, habitat, management and prevention of invasive species that are present in Sullivan County.

Community Supported Ag Panel (CSA) (2/29), 14 people attended this webinar, with speakers from the 607 CSA, Tributary Farm and HV CSA Coalition: Folks learned about different styles of CSAs, from large multi-farm CSAs to farm-led CSAs, the farm's CSA model, followed by a Q & A.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS for February/March

- **3/11 from 6:30 - 7:30pm:** Raising Laying Hens for Eggs: Is it all it's cracked up to be?
- **3/14 from 5:00 - 7:00pm:** Farmer Mixer at Winterton Farms/Two Farm Brewing
- **3/18 from 6:30 - 8:00pm:** Avian Disease and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – the latest updates and what it means for poultry health
- **3/20** Seed Starting – Growing an Herb Garden
- **3/24 from 6:00 - 7:30pm:** Backyard Cut Flower Workshop
- **3/25 from 6-7:30pm:** Land Access Webinar for Farmers and Landowners.

FARM FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM:

Our Farm Food Safety project is moving along. We recently had very successful workshops that helped farmers get their certification, and opened up sales and funding opportunities, such as selling to farm to school programs, wholesale distributors and the NYS Grown & Certified program. We held the Produce Safety Alliance Growers Trainings in February at 2 locations: Pennsylvania training location: 2/20 in Honesdale, PA (2-day): 2/26 & 2/27 at CCE Building, where 25 attendees received their certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials.

Upcoming Farm Food Safety Workshops:

- Washing & Packing (On-Farm Workshop)
- Writing a Farm Food Safety Plan
- Worker Hygiene and Safety

Total Farmers Served to date: 125

Total FSMA Plans written to date: 35

Total Workshops To Date: 8

Total Farmers who became NYS Grown & Certified: 6



AVIAN DISEASE AND HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA - THE LATEST UPDATES AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR POULTRY HEALTH

The CCE Livestock Program Work Team Presents:

Join Dr. Jarra Jagne of Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine and Dr. Chad Wall of NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets for an evening of learning about avian disease, including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). We'll cover:

Updates on the HPAI Outbreak
Symptoms of HPAI
Common Small Flock Diseases
HPAI Disease Look-Alikes
Keeping Your Birds Safe



Tuesday, March 18, 2025

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom virtual webinar

For program questions, contact Amy Barkley at amb544@cornell.edu or (716) 640-0844

Register for this free webinar here:
<https://tinyurl.com/HPAI2025>



CCE is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EO, Protected Veterans, and individuals with disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

RAISING LAYING HENS FOR EGGS: IS IT ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE?

Tuesday, March 11th, 2025
6:30pm - 7:30pm via Zoom

Join us to learn about:

Local Regulations for Chicken Ownership
Expectations for Your Flock
Raising Layers from Peep to Egg
Costs of Owning Your Own Flock
Best Practices and Regulations for Selling Eggs
Q and A

Register for free here:

<https://tinyurl.com/GettingStartedLayingHens>

For program questions, contact Amy Barkley at amb544@cornell.edu or (716) 640-0844



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CCE LIVESTOCK PROGRAM WORK TEAM:

The Cornell Cooperative Extension Livestock Program Work Team is comprised of educators working to build a collaborative network of experts and resources to foster the success of livestock farms across NYS. Michelle Proscia, the CCE Sullivan Ag Program Manager actively participates in this work team, developing regional and statewide resources and programs.

In response to the Avian Disease and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, the team has developed webinars to help educate the public on the latest updates and poultry health, along with a production based webinar on raising laying hens. We are also in the processing of developing an in person poultry workshop on raising laying hens for eggs.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION:

Number of Municipal 239 Reviews: 1 (and more in the process of being reviewed)
Ag Assessment Technical Assistance: 2
Ag District Technical Assistance: 4

2025 Ag District 30 Day Window: The 30 day window to apply to be included in Ag District #1 or #4 is from April 1st - April 30th. Applications will be made available at the end of March.

County-Wide Farmland Preservation Project: As next steps, CCE and County Planning are meeting with the Orange County Land Trust to develop a timeline and workplan for implementing the project. CCE will report out on the status each month in our monthly report. We also have 1 position posted for the County Ag Board for a farmer, whose terms expired.