



# Cornell University Cooperative Extension

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**The “Ag Report” is  
prepared by Aaron  
Gabriel**

## **Capital Area Ag Report June 6, 2013**

**“A nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself.”  
- Franklin D. Roosevelt**

### **Announcements**

**Tuesday, June 11, 1 pm—3 pm— Greene Co. Pasture Meeting**—at Matt Boehlke farm, 27 Dugway Ln, Hannacroix. Discussion of forage sampling; managing pastures in June; what to do in wet or dry weather. Focus is dairy, but will cover over livestock. Please call so I can get a head count, Aaron Gabriel, 518-380-1496, [adg12@cornell.edu](mailto:adg12@cornell.edu).

### **Soybean Integrated Pest Management Field Meeting Series**

**Thursday, June 20, 1—3pm**, at Gibson Farm, (Ellers family), 3903 Stuyvesant. IPM and seedling pests.

**July at Lon-nan Farms, at a Claverack field. Time TBA.** Mid-season IPM.

**August at Langdonhurst Farms, 1601 Route 7A, Copake. Time TBA.** Late-season IPM.

**September at Stone House Farm, 3169 Route 9, Hudson. Time TBA.** Pre-harvest IPM.

Lead by Ken Wise, CCE IPM Specialist & Aaron Gabriel, Senior Extension Educator. **2 pesticide re-cert credits.** No charge, but please call for a head count, Aaron Gabriel, 518-380-1496, [adg12@cornell.edu](mailto:adg12@cornell.edu).

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### Weather Data—June 6, 2013

Location	Rain			GDD 86/50		GDD 41		GDD 48	
	Past Week	This Month	Since April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Past Week	Since April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Past Week	Since April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Past Week	Since April 1 <sup>st</sup>
Granville	1.5	1.2	9.3	133	552	190	761	267	881
Whitehall	0.7	0.6	6.9	151	615	219	930	339	1427
Argyle	1.9	1.4	6.9	145	606	209	830	295	1111
Jackson									
Easton	2.8	2.3	10.5	137	545	196	778	268	922
Alb. Airport	1.2	0.0	9.3	153	587	507	1188	788	1737
Guilderland	0.7	0.3	2.1	139	568	200	828	323	1105
Castleton	0.6	0.6	6.0	148	587	210	900	338	1283
Hudson	1.4	0.2	5.2	152	615	223	769	387	999
Redhook	1.1	0.4	4.7	150	622	216	900	366	1232

Roughly 700 GDD (base 41) for alfalfa to reach 40% neutral detergent fiber, the target for dairy quality feed.

Growing Degree Days for peak (50%) Occurrence of **Alfalfa Weevil growth stages:**

Stage or Event	Accumulated growing degree days (48F base temperature)
Eggs hatch	280
Instar 1	315
Instar 2	395
Instar 3	470
Instar 4	550
Cocooning	600
Pupa	725
Adult Emergence	815

Growing Degree Days (86/50) for corn growth stages:

Emergence – 100 to 120 GDD

Leaf development 65 GDD each

Silking to silage harvest (68% moisture) - 800 GDD

Silking to black layer (full maturity) – 1200 – 1400 GDD

**Monday, June 24, 10:30 am—2:30 pm—Re-inventing the Hudson Valley Breadbasket: Local specialty grains for emerging markets.** Cornell Field Day Event. Wheat & barley variety trials. Dr. Mark Sorrels, Cornell. Discussion panel with bakers & brewers. See attached flyer. Register by June 20. Meeting location will be given with registration confirmation.

### Aaron's Comments

It has been another interesting spring. Corn was planted early, and now alfalfa is being harvested where it is dry enough. More rain is on it way. From drought to flood, all in one month. As I say, "Rain, manure, and money, all have a distribution problem."

**Corn:** I recieved a report of cutworm in Albany county. Seedlings in the two leaf stage are being cut. **A cell phone photo was sent to me, so that I could positively confirm the cutworm damage. If you have a field problem, SEND ME A DIGITAL PHOTO.**

Some corn has had too much rain and is looking a bit whimpy.

**Weeds seem to be the pressing issue with corn.** If you use a totally post-emergent herbicide program, be sure to spray by the time the weeds are **3 inches high or less.** Corn detects a different quality of light being reflected from weeds nearby and then adapts by growing tall and spindly. It does not need water or nutrient competition only to reduce yield. Some fields have variable weed pressure—none in some areas, and

thick weeds in others. Apply post-emergent herbicides with a soil residual herbicide to control the next flush of weeds. Save yourself a trip. Sometimes you can use a reduced rate of the soil residual herbicide with these late applications, since you only need control for June primarily. Identify your weeds before you select your herbicides. Crabgrass is controlled by only a couple of herbicides post-emergent (Callisto, Impact, Laudis, glyphosate). Nutsedge is controlled by only a couple of post-emergent herbicides (Permit, Basagran—with crop oil concentrate, Yukon—which has Permit in it).

Herbicides applied early in the season may have dissipated by the time we got all this rain. So, check your fields and look to see if weeds are healthy or dying. Then decide on a course of action.

Some corn plants have emerged late after being stuck underground from the cold and dry soils earlier in May. That is the reason for this delayed and unfurled plant in the photo below.

*Delayed emergence & unfurling from cold dry soil in May.*



**Alfalfa:** Harvest is progressing. Ken Wise has a good synopsis of alfalfa diseases in the

May 31 NYS IPM Report. (I emailed this earlier today.)

If you apply manure (or fertilizer) after harvest, be sure to get on the field within a day or two of harvest so that new growth is not damaged.

If alfalfa weevil were a problem before harvest, check regrowth for AW feeding. If 50% of regrowing tips have feeding damage and the larvae are still medium size, then an insecticide may be needed.

**Grasses:** Hopefully your pure grass stands for haylage are harvested. For dry hay, set your tedders and rakes properly so that they do not pick up dirt and get it onto the hay. (This is important for haylage as well. Too much soil will increase clostridial fermentation—a bad thing.)

Apply 25—50 lbs of nitrogen or manure to grass fields to boost second cutting.

Second cutting is when diseases seem to hit orchardgrass. A healthy soil is our best defense.

**Pastures:** At the grazing meeting yesterday, we discussed the practice of mowing and windrowing un-eaten pasture for the animals to eat or pick through. It is one way to get more pasture utilization. However, they may be getting lower quality forage, so production may drop.

This is a good time to clip paddocks to remove the seed stems. Then you will have vegetative growth for the rest of the year. Harvest paddocks that have gone by in maturity.

If you are short on pasture, then be sure to give paddocks an adequate rest. Supplement with other forage. Fertilizer will increase pasture production (25 lbs N and P & K as recommended by a soil test).

Prevent parasites from building up by grazing the regrowth from hay fields that had first cutting harvested. Let the pasture have a rest and let the parasites get a good dose of heat and sun to die off.

As the summer heats up, energy in pasture may decrease. It is useful to take a sample of the pasture the livestock are eating, freeze it for 12 hours or more, then send for a forage analysis. Supplement the herd as needed to match the pasture quality.

**Soybeans:** Check fields for early season issues (and success). Identify weeds. If lambsquarters are 3 inches or taller in RR beans when you spray, use 1 1/2 times the rate of glyphosate or add another herbicide for the lambsquarters (ie. Harmony, Unity) for a one-pass program.

Soil temperatures have been up and down. Soybeans need 60° F soil temperatures at planting and for a couple of days to emerge properly.

**Winter Forages: The results are in!** And, I am not seeing a big difference between the forage quality of winter rye and winter triticale, both harvested at Feekes stage 9 (see the attached table). The triticale was harvested 4 to 5 days after the rye to get the same maturity plant. Trials at Virginia Tech show triticale clearly yielding more than rye. I did not see that in these fields (all planted later than optimum for triticale).

**The next test is the cows.** I will keep in contact with the farmers to see how the cows like these two winter forages.

At this point, I think the decision of using rye or triticale for winter forage will depend on the soil drainage and planting date planned for the particular field.

**Forage Quality Comparison of Winter Rye and Winter Triticale Sampled from the same fields, May 2013.**  
(hand harvested, fresh forage, DairyOne Forage NIR Prime Analysis) – Aaron Gabriel, CAAHP, Cornell Cooperative Extension

	Field 1	Field 1	Field 2	Field 2	Field 3	Field 3	Field 4	Field 4	Rye	Triticale
	W. Rye	Triticale	W. Rye	Triticale	W. Rye	Triticale	W. Rye	Triticale	AVE	AVE
%DM	20.5	17.9	20.3	23.4	19.2	15.4	15.5	13.3	18.9	17.5
%Crud Prot	12.2	12.7	12.8	10.8	13.3	17.8	12.3	17.2	12.7	14.6
%avail Prot	11.8	12.5	12.4	10.5	12.9	17.5	12	16.6	12.3	14.3
% adj CP	12.2	12.7	12.8	10.8	13.3	17.8	12.3	17.2	12.7	14.6
Sol Prot, %CP	47	49	55	48	48	53	51	58	50.3	52.0
Degrad Prot %CP	78	74	79	76	78	83	75	79	77.5	78.0
%ADF	28.8	30.4	27.3	27	29.6	24.8	31.5	32.3	29.3	28.6
%NDF	54.2	56.5	52	49.8	55.7	50.5	56.7	54.6	54.7	52.9
% Lignin	3.4	2.3	3.1	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.7	3.0	2.6
%NFC	28.2	23.5	28	33.3	24.8	22.1	23.4	17	26.1	24.0
%WSC	24	20.6	25.7	27.6	22.1	23.7	20.8	14.5	23.2	21.6
% sugars	20	16.8	19.5	20.9	17.6	19.8	17.5	9.2	18.7	16.7
% Ash	5.97	8.02	7.66	5.79	6.65	9.29	7.65	9.68	7.0	8.2
TDN	70	70	69	74	70	70	71	70	70	71
NEL (Mcal/lb)	0.67	0.65	0.67	0.73	0.66	0.69	0.66	0.67	0.7	0.7
Rel Feed Value	114	107	121	127	110	128	106	109	113	118
%Ca	0.25	0.19	0.27	0.27	0.22	0.34	0.23	0.29	0.24	0.27
%P	0.24	0.27	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.32	0.3	0.34	0.27	0.30
%Mg	0.16	0.18	0.12	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.16	0.16
%K	2.08	2.85	2.68	2.34	2.32	3.87	2.97	2.93	2.51	3.00
% ISTD 24hr	84	84	87	87	83	91	84	84	84.5	86.5
% NDFD 24 hr	70	72	75	75	69	82	71	71	71.3	75.0
%lysine	0.29	0.38	0.3	0.32	0.31	0.53	0.29	0.51	0.30	0.44
%Methionine	0.14	0.19	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.27	0.14	0.26	0.15	0.21





**Cornell University**  
Cooperative Extension  
Ulster County

For More Information:  
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**Cornell Field Day Event!**  
**Monday, June 24, 2013**  
**10:30 am to 2:30 pm**  
**Migliorelli Farm, Red Hook, NY**

**Re-inventing the Hudson Valley Breadbasket:**  
***Local specialty small grains for emerging markets***



*Featuring...*

- Tour of Cornell's Hudson Valley regional wheat and barley variety trials.
  - Dr. Mark Sorrels will discuss Cornell's initiative to develop regionally-adapted small grains varieties for local and specialty markets
  - A discussion of small grains production considerations for the humid northeast
- A discussion panel and Q & A with representatives of emerging markets for:
  - Artisan baked goods
  - Craft brewing
  - Micro-distilleries
  - NYC-metro Greenmarkets
- An explanation of the the NYS Farm Brewery Law, and Q & A session

Registration: \$25, if registered by 6/20, \$30 afterwards. Registration fee includes lunch.

Please register by 6/22. The registration form is available on-line at <http://www.cceulster.org/printable%20registration%20forms.html>

For registration information contact Carrie Anne at 845-340-3990 x311.

For more information about the program, contact Justin O'Dea, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County

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