



Cornell University Cooperative Extension

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*The Ag Report is pro-
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***The NYS IPM
Weekly field Crops
Pest Report is at***

*[http://blogs.cornell.edu/
ipmwr/#](http://blogs.cornell.edu/ipmwr/#)*

Capital Area Ag Report June 5, 2014

Announcements

Wednesday, June 11, 6:30 pm—On-Farm Hay Management Meeting—Conditioning Hay With A Macerator & Using Hay Preservatives— at (Don) Skott Farm & Equipment, intersection of Quaker and Grove Side Rd (Co Rte 109). Demonstration of the Macerator 6610 (made by AgLand Industries, Inc) which super conditions hay with its roller mill system to speed up drying time by one day with the proper weather. Also see and discuss propionate hay preservative applicator and use. RSVP appreciated and for questions contact Aaron, 518-380-1496 (call or text), adg12@cornell.edu. RAIN OR SHINE.

A Reconn300 will also be at the hay conditioning meeting on June 11th. We will trial each one if conditions allow.

FYI

**Eastern New York State Wool Pool – June 12-14
Paying a premium for longwools**

GREENWICH –The fourth annual Southern Adirondack Fiber Producers Cooperative wool pool will be held June 12-14 at the Washington County Fairgrounds on State Rte 29 in Greenwich, New York. The pool hours will be 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day.

A large national wool buyer is offering sheep farmers from throughout New York and neighboring states current market prices for their fiber. Five classes of wool will be accepted:

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Weather Data

It has been a very busy week, so I will not be able to include the weather table. The forecast for next week is for rain for Tuesday and beyond. Small grains are at the critical stage of flowering. This is when head blight pathogens infect the plants. Apply appropriate fungicides. See Gary Bergstrom's comments in this newsletter.

1. Clean white wool at least 2-1/2" in length;
2. White offsorts including short and dirty fiber, and head and belly wool;
3. White longwool and other coarse white wool;
4. Natural color wool; and
5. Natural color longwool and other coarse natural color wool.

The buyer was very pleased with the quality of the last pool's longwools. As such, the buyer is offering longwool farmers a premium this year to encourage them to bring in more of their fleece.

Farms with lots of 1,000 lbs or more are encouraged to call ahead; and to deliver their fiber to the Fairgrounds on Thurs. or Fri. The pool is only accepting fiber from 2012, 2013, and 2014 shearings. All sellers are asked to contribute some time to the pool when they are dropping off their fiber. Help needed includes unloading vehicles, sorting, weighing, taking empty bags and scraps home, and filling the baler.

For more information, contact Mary Jeanne Packer on 518 692 2700 or email mjpacker@battenkillfibers.com.

A list of dairy processing plants in New York can be found at <http://www.dairyfoods.com/dairyplantsusa> . However the search tool does not work well you search for cheese plants.

A Dairy Modernization position in western NY has been posted. The job description is at: https://cornellu.taleo.net/careersection/jobdetail.ftl?job=24115&sns_id=addthis-service-code.

Organic Feed Mill Facility Manager A great opportunity to integrally serve the diverse Northeast organic farming community, managing daily feed mill operations. This job will be filled by the middle of June. For more information and duties/qualifications, please contact Mary-Howell Martens, Lakeview Organic Grain, Box 361, 119 Hamilton Pl, Penn Yan, NY 14527, 315-531-1038. www.lakevieworganicgrain.com. mh@lakevieworganicgrain.com

Crops & Soils...Aaron Gabriel

Just a very short Ag Report this week. Please refer to the NYS IPM Weekly Pest Report (link on the first page) for an update on pests throughout the state.

Barley and Wheat: Fusarium head blight commentary, June 4, 2014:

Much of the winter wheat and barley in New York State has initiated flowering in the last few days and the remainder of fields are likely to flower over the next week. So the next week remains critical for farmers making fungicide spray decisions for suppression of Fusarium head blight (FHB) and protection of flag leaves from foliar diseases. The triazole products Caramba and Prosaro are the most effective fungicides for suppression of FHB and deoxynivalenol (DON) toxin contamination when applied at wheat flowering (emergence of anthers on heads) or at full head emergence in barley (anthers begin to appear on barley before heads emerge from the boot). A flowering application of triazole fungicide should be based on Fusarium head blight (FHB) risk as well as the risks of powdery mildew, rust, and fungal leaf blotches in the upper canopy based on scouting of individual fields. There is an application window of approximately 5-6 days from the beginning of flowering in which reasonable FHB suppression can be expected. Fungicide products containing strobilurins should not be applied to headed wheat or barley as they may result in increased levels of DON in grain. So far the risk of FHB epidemics forecast by the model has remained low through the early flowering period. And the forecast for precipitation remains low for the next few days. But I urge growers to check the Fusarium Risk Assessment Tool (<http://www.wheatcab.psu.edu/>) and your local weather forecast frequently as your crop approaches flowering. We will consider the risk of FHB infection of spring wheat and barley in New York in a few more weeks.

-- Gary Bergstrom, Extension Plant Pathologist, Cornell University

Grasses: I noticed that on some reed canarygrass (and a blade or two of quackgrass), the emerging leaf was all brown, and some seed heads were damaged. If you pull out the emerging leaf, you will see that it is eaten at the base by a tiny (1 mm long) yellow maggot or larva. I have not had time to identify this insect, but it is probably a midge or some other species of fly. If you see this on any grasses, please let me know. I want to know how wide-spread it is. This is the first time I have seen this on grass.



Corn: Now that most of the corn has been planted, have you gone back to inspect emergence? Or did you just “plant into the sunset and never look back”. This week I came across a field that had severe damage from grubs and wireworms. It was sod last year. So you would expect these insects to be a problem. The stand was reduced to 23,000 plants/acre, and the grubs and wireworms will continue to eat the corn roots, causing more yield loss. **Seed applied insecticides and genetic traits will not stop grubs and wireworms.** You need a planter box insecticide or T-band of granular insecticide. **You can sample for these soil insects.** Any time of the year, when the soil is warm, take a shovel (an agronomist’s



best diagnostic instrument), and dig up 5 to 10 spots through out the field. There is no “action threshold”, but if you are finding a grub or two in several of the samples, then you should plan on a control measure for the next corn crop.

I also counted plant populations in 3 fields, counting all the plants in about 1/10 of an acre. In all the area (plus just looking around the field), I saw only two sets of doubles (two plants right next to each other). That is very good planter performance. How did your planter perform this year??

I did not expect it, but I saw a few aphids and thrips on corn from one field. Slug damage is out there. I have no info on the level at which these pests are actually doing damage. If it starts looking “ugly”, then I would be concerned.

Birds are active in some locations.

These geese are just waiting for the corn to emerge.



Crows pull up the seedling and eat the seed. On the right, the leaves got broken off when it was pulled. Then the bird pulled up the stub and got the seed.



Here the remnants of a seed (the seed coat) is all that remains from a bird pulling up a plant and having lunch.

