AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Approximately 7,000 people attended the CNY Farm Progress Show in September, stopping at the CCE booth for information on our programs.

Staff helped organize the “Family Day at the Farm” and the “Mohawk Valley Garlic and Herb Festival.” Both events were geared toward educating the public on agricultural ventures.

The CNYDFC had a very busy summer consulting with area farmers on the flooding and excess rainfall. Farmers had questions on loss of nitrogen and not being able to spray fields for weed control. Due to these conditions, many were not able to get into their fields to plant corn or hay, causing concern to not having enough feed and looking for feed alternatives.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Thirty-seven Herkimer County 4-H members participated in the 65th Annual Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock Show in Cooperstown.

Forty-eight 4-H members from eight 4-H clubs entered 175 exhibits and Sixty-five Herkimer County 4-H Members exhibited animals in this year’s Herkimer County Fair. Seventy-two non-animal exhibits were chosen to be entered at the NYS Fair.

Twenty youth with their chickens invaded the CCE office for a multi-county poultry clinic to learn about chickens and how to prepare them for showing. The NYS Veterinarian Pullorum tested birds going to the Herkimer County Fair.

Herkimer County 4-Hers were very popular with their "Make-N-Takes" at the Herkimer County Fair, treating fairgoers with tasting samples!

Herkimer County 4-H members earned a blue ribbon at the NYS 4-H Robotics Challenge at the NYS Fair. This was the first year for participation in this event.

Fifteen Herkimer County 4-H Youth participated in a variety of agricultural contests at the NYS Fair. Youth participated in dairy, horse, dairy goat and livestock judging, dairy challenge and dairy, sheep, dairy goat and poultry shows. The horse judging team placed first in the junior division contest.

HUMAN ECOTOLOGY PROGRAM

Kristen Sportello, BOCES Regional Program for Excellence Summer Intern along with staff from Creating Healthy Places and Eat Smart NY programs shared recipes and tasting samples at nine farmers markets this summer reaching over 1400 people.

The Norway General Store in Newport is the latest convenience store to promote the "Vegetable of the Month" display, as part of the "Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work, and Play" grant through Herkimer County HealthNet working with CCE.

"Think Your Drink" programs were presented by staff at 5 summer youth programs in Little Falls, Montgomery Street Playground and Remington Elementary Playground in Ilion, Kuyahoora Valley Town Park in Poland and Town of Ohio Playground reaching 108 youth and staff.