Capital Area Ag Report
May 15, 2015

Announcements
Tuesday, June 23, 1 pm to 3 pm – “Alfalfa IPM and New Technology” – at the O.A. Borden Farm, 2841 Valley Falls Rd., Easton. A field meeting about RoundUp Ready Alfalfa, Hybrid Alfalfa, Low-lignin Alfalfa, Potato Leafhopper Resistant Alfalfa and how it affects integrated pest management. RSVP and Questions to Aaron Gabriel, Capital Area Agriculture & Horticulture Program, 518-380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu

Planting Depth will make a big difference this year, with it being dry. Plant into moisture. I dug up barley that was emerging from 2” deep. As long as the soil is not crusted over, plants can emerge from deeper than our usual planting depths.

Aaron’s Comments

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**Weed seedlings** are getting their roots down deep into moist soil. To control them with cultivation, it is important to cultivate before they are anchored in—the cotyledon stage; before the true leaves are expanded.

Controlling Bedstraw is a two year process. In year one, graze and/or mow it before any seeds develop. The picture at the right shows that bedstraw is now beginning to get flower buds. Since the seeds only survive for one year, preventing seed production for the first year is critical. Then next year, year two, apply Crossbow herbicide in the spring when the plants are actively growing. This will control the established plants, and there should be no seed left to germinate.

Even though it is short, some varieties of orchardgrass are heading out. **It is time to harvest the early grasses.** Bluegrass and meadow foxtail (found in pastures) are also heading out.
**It is time to harvest winter grains for forage.** The ideal stage is Feekes 9. As you can see in this picture, the flag leaf and it collar (the last leaf) have emerged from the whorl.

If we get enough rain to have continuous moisture from surface to subsoil, then it is okay to plant **small-seeded grasses and legumes (hay species)** this weekend. Then you should wait until early August to try again to seed hay crops.

**Soybeans** like to be planted in warm soil (60°F). Wait for a warm day and plant into moist soil. If you plant and it turns cold before emergence, it will really set back the whole field.

The **Brown Marmorated Stinkbug** is being caught in high numbers in the Hudson Valley in traps set out by the Cornell Eastern NY Horticulture Team. If feeds on stems and pods of soybeans, and is a pest of corn as well. Keep a look out for them this year.


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**NYS IPM**

**Weekly Field Crops Pest Report**

**Contents**

1. **View from the Field**
   1.1 Alfalfa Weevil and Cereal Leaf Beetle
   1.2 Cutworm and Armyworm
   1.3 Alfalfa Root Rot and Alfalfa Snout Beetle
   1.4 Barely Yellow Dwarf Virus

2. **Weather Outlook – May 14, 2015**

3. **How to Monitor Alfalfa Weevil in Alfalfa.**

4. **Root Diseases of Alfalfa and Clover**

5. **Degree Day Models for Field Crops Across New York**

6. **Clipboard Checklist**