

June , 2017

Dear Agri-business Career Trip Participant:

We are pleased that you will be joining us on October 19-20, 2017 for the 41st Annual New York State 4-H A.B.C. trip. Registration is between 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 19 at SUNY Cobleskill, Champlin Hall (upstairs). **Lunch is included on Thursday**, and we will be starting the program right at 10:30 a.m. so plan to arrive on time.

You should bring the following:

1. If you have not already given an emergency medical treatment form to your 4-H Educator to forward to us, please be sure to complete it and bring it with you.
2. On Friday, lunch will be included.
3. Clothing appropriate for late September. Don't forget comfortable walking shoes, a raincoat, and swimsuit.
4. ***If you have a digital camera, bring it with you...it will be useful for the activities we have planned. Please don't forget to bring any cables to transfer pictures to a computer and your instruction manual as well.***

Please give your family the information below in case they have to get in touch with you:

Thursday afternoon:	On the road, Cobleskill College
Thursday evening:	The Roadway Inn and Suites, Cobleskill 518-234-4321
Friday:	Cobleskill College

We look forward to seeing you on October 19th. .

Sincerely,

Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

Participant Expectations

As a participant you are representing the Cooperative Extension Program of your County.

You are expected to participate fully in all parts of the program.

The program planned will be a full schedule. It will be necessary to be on time and to stay with the groups during tours.

Be sure to report in with your chaperone on a regular basis. Report any problems, accident or illness to your chaperone. Respect and adhere to directions of chaperone, even if it is not the one you came with.

Boys and girls are not permitted in each others' hotel rooms.

Alcohol, illegal drugs, and smoking are not permitted.

Music and television played in hotel rooms should be kept at a level so as not to disturb other hotel guests. Talking and activities in the hall should also be at levels not disturbing to other hotel guests.

Everyone is expected to adhere to the scheduled curfew.

Any damage to hotel property will be the responsibility of the individual.

No participants will leave the hotel without a chaperone assigned by their county. However, all participants should follow reasonable direction or request made by any chaperone for the event.

Use of common sense, courtesy and respect is expected of all participants.

Get the most of the experience by participating fully and asking questions throughout the program.

CHAPERONE EXPECTATIONS

Chaperones are expected to participate fully in the program.

Chaperones are ultimately responsible for participants assigned to them by their county. However, it is appropriate to offer guidance and discipline to any participants in the program in the absence of their chaperone.

Chaperones should make sure their participants are in their room and quiet before retiring for the evening. Chaperones should also observe announced curfew. Chaperones are responsible for seeing that their participants are up and ready on time in the morning.

Chaperones should report any problems to the chairman of the event.

2017 ABC Conference Agenda

Thursday, October 19

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Registration/Mixer activity
10:15 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.	Welcome, orientation and 2 year vs. 4 year college panel
11:30a.m.-12:00 noon	Buffet Lunch
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	First Mini -Tour
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Second Mini –Tour
3:45-5:00 p.m.	“ACI Lab”(Agriculture Career Investigation) Curtis Mott Lounge
	Chaperone Meeting during ACI Lab
5:30 p.m.	Banquet at SUNY Cobleskill
6:00 p.m.	ACI Group Presentations
9:30 p.m.	Swimming, Rock-n-Bowl

Friday, October 20

8:00 a.m.	Check out of Hotel
8:30- 9:15 a.m.	Breakfast and campus Welcome in Champlin
9:15 a.m.-11:00	Campus Tours
11:00 a.m.-12 noon	First Workshop
12:15-1:015p.m.	Second Workshop
1:15 p.m.	Fill out Evaluations and Lunch in Champlin



New York 4-H Career Program for Agriculture

Study Sessions

Environmental and Energy Technologies

Government policies, including those related to energy, water and waste management, have the potential for dramatically changing the way Americans produce, deliver, purchase and consume these resources. The shift toward a “green energy” economy in which an emphasis is placed on conservation and renewable energy production, is expected to create thousands of jobs in New York State. The shift toward sustainable energy practices will have a significant impact on agriculture as well, promoting greater accountability in management of water and waste. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of environmental science and protection technicians to facilitate and monitor these changes is expected to grow by more than 29 percent over the next 10 years. The focus of federal and state governments is apparent from the number of regulatory laws and focus of grant dollars toward renewable energy, water and waste management. It is of paramount relevance that the state and country train and educate the next generation of workers in sustainable practices in the management of energy, water and waste.

The Environmental and Energy Technologies program at SUNY Cobleskill provides students a diverse and balanced blend of scientific, technological, and applied practice and research learning experiences. The first two years of study focus on development of students’ analytical and critical thinking skills in science, mathematics and technology. This preparation provides a foundation for study during the third and fourth years focused on specific technologies in one of three program concentrations: Water Resources Management, Waste Management Technologies, and Renewable Energy Technologies. This will prepare students for career entry or for transfer to graduate programs in water, waste, or energy-related specializations.

Agricultural Business Management & Food Systems

Agricultural Business Management and Food Systems programs at SUNY Cobleskill are designed to expose students to all of the components of agricultural and food marketing channels in the U.S. and around the globe. Courses in these programs are focused on management of farm businesses, farm input suppliers, marketing and sales, food processing, food product development and agricultural economics. Food-oriented businesses make up a large portion of the U.S. economy and represent excellent employment opportunities for graduates both here and abroad. The challenge of producing, marketing and distributing food in ways that ensure food security as global populations grow and ensuring farm/food business viability is a primary focal point of these programs.

Floriculture, Nursery Management and Landscape Development and Soils/Crops/Turf/Recreation & Sports Area Management

The trees, shrubs, flowers, and landscapes of our nation are the working tools of the professional florist, greenhouse grower, nurseryman, landscape contractor and groundsman. Daily involvement with ornamental plants in careers that enrich the lives of all those served is a reward of employment in the field of ornamental horticulture. Career opportunities include floral design, greenhouse production and management, wholesale florist sales, production and sale of nursery crops, garden center sales, design, installation or maintenance of private and commercial landscapes.

The crop production and soil science program emphasizes the science and practices of increasing both the quantity and quality of food and forage crops through soil management procedures. It includes soil testing information, a study of the role of various chemical elements in plant nutrition, the recognition of hunger signs in crops and correction of soil deficiencies by proper use of lime and fertilizer. Integrated pest management is stressed by the study of modern techniques of insect disease and weed control. Career opportunities include crop farm operator/manager, pest control specialist, conservation aide, orchard operator or manager, farm products sales, soil technician and/or field research assistant. Recreation and Sports Area Management prepares students to manage, maintain and preserve public and private recreational facilities, including parks, ski areas, campsites, nature centers and athletic complexes. Turfgrass Management trains students to be golf course superintendents, lawn care specialists and athletic field managers. On-campus facilities include three golf greens, turf plots comprised of a variety of grass species, small sod farm, five athletic fields and turfgrass equipment workshop. A local golf course is also used for instruction.

Fisheries & Wildlife Technology

In order to meet the environmental challenge of today, it is necessary to organize a force of environmental technicians trained in the application of sophisticated modern approaches to natural resource management, ecology, wildlife law enforcement, and laboratory techniques for fish and wildlife. Opportunities include both field and laboratory work. It also includes professional conservationists who maintain our fish and wildlife population.

Agricultural Engineering Technology

The Agricultural Engineering Technology programs offer the opportunity for students to develop the practical skills involved in operating, servicing and selling mechanized agricultural, light industrial and turf equipment. The Diesel Technology offering is also housed in these training facilities. The ever-increasing mechanization of farm and industry generates a demand for technical specialists who have a working knowledge of today's modern labor-saving equipment. Well-equipped agricultural engineering technology laboratories provide the setting for developing technological skills and abilities. Here, students gain experience in modern technology by working with: computers, diesel and gasoline engines, transmissions and final drives, hydraulics, air conditioning, farm structures equipment, welding, farm machinery and electricity. The College farm provides a practical laboratory for the study and operation of agricultural and light industrial machinery.

Students study and analyze the features of today's equipment in order to select that type which will provide optimum performance for a given task. The fundamentals of managing a dealership are also subjects for study and observation. Graduates sell, service and install agricultural and light industrial equipment for dealerships and manufacturers. Future farm owners, managers and employees are shown effective methods for operation, adjustment, maintenance and repair of the farm equipment they will own and use. Courses offered in the department emphasize safety and various methods and techniques for conserving energy.

Dairy Production

The livestock and its products are primary sources of agricultural wealth in America. The value of animals on New York State farms alone is approximately a quarter of a billion dollars. The dairy herds of the State produce annually over 5 million tons of milk. This makes New York third in the nation in value of dairy products.

Livestock Studies

The enlargement of marketing facilities in the northeast has greatly influenced the production of beef cattle, sheep, rabbits, poultry, and swine. Employment opportunities include owner/renter, manager/partner, herdsman of a farm enterprise, as well as the business and service aspects of DHIA supervisor, meat packing industry, and other areas of sale of products which service production agriculture.

Equine Studies & Thoroughbred Management

Nationally, the horse industry generates \$18 billion annually. New York State has a major equine industry and is ranked 3rd in the nation with respect to dollars generated. New York has both a significant pleasure horse and racing industry. Over \$2.5 billion are wagered at NY tracks annually. There are many career opportunities including working directly with horses at race tracks, riding stables and brood mare farms, as grooms, drivers, trainers, barn managers, riding instructors, veterinarians, and veterinary assistants. Other job opportunities include positions as sales people, store managers, insurance adjusters and writers.

Canine Behavior:

SUNY Cobleskill is one of only a few accredited colleges in the country that offer canine programs. The canine concentration under the Animal Science BT degree is designed for students interested in learning about training and managing dogs. ABC participants will be experience a series of demonstrations of various tracking/search skills.
Thank you-

2017 NYS 4-H Agri-Business Career Conference
Mini-Tour Description

TRACT 1

Schoharie Valley Farms: Once the largest carrot growing farm east of the Mississippi, Schoharie Valley Farms is now owned and managed by the Ball Family. See how diversification has helped make this farm a popular stop for local shoppers of fresh produce as well as major tourist attraction. How much does the farm store add to the operation and how did the farm survive during the rain of this past summer?

Speaking With the Vet: Learn about the experiences of a veterinarian. What does he or she enjoy, and what attracted them to their career? Interested in becoming veterinarian? Then this tract is for you.

TRACT 2

Sweet Tree Farm: This operation produces grass fed beef, natural pork, poultry, eggs and pure maple syrup. Hogs and laying hens are raised on pastures and NOFA-certified grains. Animal agriculture processing techniques will be discussed.

The Stables at Sunny Knolls Farm: An equestrian farm located on 160 acres of open rolling fields and offers Horse Boarding, Training, Trail Rides, Riding Lessons, Birthday Parties, and Apartment Rentals for college students. The Farm is a popular living choice for students who wish to bring their horse to college with them as it is close to campus and provides plenty of space to ride. Hay is grown on the farm and ample pasture is available for spring, summer and fall grazing.

TRACT 3

Milk Quality Lab- SUNY Cobleskill: The Quality Milk Production Services (QMPS) serves dairy producers in New York State and across the nation from four laboratories located in Canton, Cobleskill, Geneseo and Ithaca. QMPS has developed over the years from being primarily a diagnostic program to one with a comprehensive education focus designed to offer assistance to dairy producers for mastitis monitoring, prevention and surveillance.

Sharon Springs Farm Equipment: This White-Agco /Kubota dealership also features a farm hardware store and sells lawn and garden equipment. They keep a large inventory of new and used machinery of all kinds. Are you interested in ag machines? Look into ag sales and service and the skills needed on this tour.

TRACT 4

Beekman Farm: Beekman 1802 is a farm and retail business that has quickly earned worldwide acclaim for its premium “lifestyle” line of food, beverage and home goods items. Starting with a small line of goat milk soaps and cheeses in 2008, Beekman 1802 now offers hundreds of items through its retail shop located in Sharon Springs, online sales and through Target stores nationwide. It’s owners, Brent and Josh, were featured in their own Discovery/Plant Green channel reality show, “The Fabulous Beekman Boys” in 2009 and 2010 and, as a team, won ABC’s “Amazing Race” in 2012. This visit will include a tour of their farm, the largest Grade-A goat dairy in the county, and a stop by their retail shop in Sharon Springs.

Thistle Hill Weavers: A world-renowned weaving operation specializing in high-end and historic reproduction woven goods. Thistle Hill uses sheep and exotic fiber produced in New York State to weave textiles for some of the country’s most exclusive hotel, residential and museum clients (Mount Vernon, Monticello and Lincoln’s birthplace to name a few). Their work has also been featured in a number of films and television shows including the *Chronicles of Narnia* and HBO’s *John Adams* series. Rabbit Goody, the business’s owner, is an internationally-acclaimed textile historian and lecturer. This visit will include a tour of Thistle Hill’s incredible weaving factory.

(More on back)

TRACT 5

Hessian Hill Farm: A highly diversified family operation that produces sheep, hogs, cattle, chickens, horses and hay on its 350 acres. The Goblet family also produces a significant variety of floral and vegetable crops in their high tunnel operations and sells these items along with value-added bottled and packaged products through regional farmers' markets and at the farm during annual open house events. At Christmas time, Hessian Hill offers Christmas trees and a variety of agri-tourism events at the farm.

Wellington's Herbs and Spices: Includes a 45-acre farm with certified organic fields and specializes in the production, drying and blending of a large variety of herbs and spices. The business also produces vegetables in their high tunnels and fields for sale at regional farmers' markets and through their on-farm retail store, where customers can also buy the Wellington's famous prepared food, dessert and teas.

**2017 NEW YORK STATE 4-H AGRI-BUSINESS CAREER CONFERENCE
PRE-REGISTRATION IS DUE September 22, 2017**

County _____ Contact Educator _____

Phone number _____ Number of teens: Male _____ Female _____

Email _____

Please Supply the Following Information

Teen's/Chaperone's Name and Address	Male or Female

Yes _____ No _____ Our county can furnish transportation for Thursday, October 19th Our vehicle holds _____ passengers including the driver.

*Enclosed is a total of \$ _____ must accompany registration, which will not be processed until receipt of payment. (\$95 for each teen and \$80 per chaperone, non-refundable after September 29th)

Make checks payable to **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County**

Mail to: Bonnie Peck
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady
Schaffer Heights, Suite 301
107 Nott Terrace
Schenectady, N.Y. 12308

***Don't forget to include an Emergency Medical Treatment Consent form for each teen.**

New York State 4-H
2017 Agri-Business Career Conference
Mini-Tour and Workshop Pre-Registration- send attached to conference registration

Tract 1	Schoharie Valley Farms	Speaking with the Vet
Tract 2	Sweet Tree Farm	Knolls Equestrian
Tract 3	Milk Quality Lab	Sharon Springs Farm Equipment
Tract 4	Beekman 1802	Thistle Hill Weavers
Tract 5	Hessian Hill Farm	Wellingtons Herbs and Spices

Choose/rank three tracts:

First Choice _____
Second Choice _____
Third Choice _____

Rank the following Campus Study Sessions with 1 being your first choice and 8 being your last choice:

- ___ Agriculture Business and Food Systems
- ___ Environmental and Energy Technologies
- ___ Fisheries & Wildlife Technology
- ___ Agriculture Engineering Technology
- ___ Dairy Production
- ___ Livestock Studies
- ___ Equine Studies & Thoroughbred Management
- ___ Floriculture, Nursery Management and Landscape Development, Soils/Crops/Turf/Recreation & Sports Area Management

Name: _____ County: _____

This form should be filled out and returned to your County 4-H Office prior to THEIR Deadline, so that it can be sent with your counties' registration. If not, you will be placed in tracts/sessions of our choice rather than yours.

4-H Agri-Business Career Trip Scholarship Application

Five scholarships will be awarded by SUNY Cobleskill to cover the cost of the registration fee for the 4-H Agri-Business Career Trip. Preference will be given to first time attendees, especially those from counties who have not participated in this trip in the recent past.

Deadline for submission is September 22nd of the current year. Please submit application with registration materials. **Send a check for the registration, if you receive a scholarship, we will return your check un-cashed at the conference. If you do not attend, it will be cashed.**

Name: _____ County _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Years in 4-H _____

DOB: _____ Grade: _____

4-H Activities:

Other Activities (i.e. school, community, etc.):

Please attach a 300 word essay with application stating why you are interested in Agri-Business and attending this trip.