Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) is a dynamic educational system by which research at Cornell University is translated and placed into the hands of New York State citizens in order to enhance their lives and well-being.

Highly committed campus faculty and extension associates, agriculture teams, and local educators in a variety of fields, working together with community partners, are uniquely positioned to help apply Cornell's world class research to meaningful programming.

CCE programs are available in every county and the five boroughs of New York City, engaging NYS citizens, providing educational experiences and helping them ask the right questions.

A Unique Partnership

Cornell Cooperative Extension has a unique partnership with Cornell University; other land-grant institutions; federal, state and county governments; and the Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Our Purpose is Education

Cornell Cooperative Extension produces positive community change through education. Our objective is to help people put knowledge to work through the extension of timely, research-based information from Cornell’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Human Ecology. Our educational programs support decision makers, children, families, business owners, and homeowners from all walks of life throughout their life span.
Volunteers Are The Heart Of Cornell Cooperative Extension

Volunteer leadership is a vital force of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Fulton and Montgomery County. The loyalty and hard work of volunteers greatly expands available programming. Members of the Board of Directors are elected by the enrollees and are responsible for determining our local mission, setting program direction, ensuring adequate resources, and enhancing Cornell Cooperative Extension’s public standing.

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4-H provides experiences where young people learn by doing. Kids complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and citizenship, in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4-H through in-school programs, school and community clubs, 4-H camps, and special interest programs.

4-H empowers young people with the skill to lead for a lifetime. It’s a research-based experience that includes a mentor, a hands-on project, and a meaningful leadership opportunity. Based on their interests and guided by adult mentors, youth develop their own pathway in 4-H. Youth select from a broad menu of local 4-H programs.

4-H programs focus on three main ideas relevant to today’s youth: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (4-H STEM), Healthy Living, and Citizenship. Be it statewide activities, fairs, events, workshops, school programs or clubs – 4-H enriches the education of young people – making them yearn to learn more, give back to their communities and become responsible, caring, capable adults.

- Over 200 youth participated in 4-H Clubs
- Nearly 200 volunteers gave their time to provide leadership and instruction
National Safe Tractor & Machinery Operation Program & ATV Safety Workshop educates participants about:

- Risks of farm related activities
- How to act safely in different farm work settings
- Identifying & correcting farm hazards to prevent injuries and illnesses
- How to obtain safety information about equipment that they may be operating

Youth 14 and 15 years old are required to have a Tractor & Machinery Operation Certificate when employed on farms & other agribusinesses that require operating equipment.

Participating youth will receive a NSTMOP certificate once they pass the written & tractor operation tests.

Youth younger than 14 and working on the family farm or older than 15 are not required to take this course but are welcome and encouraged to participate. Youth can also participate in the ATV safety portion of this workshop.
The 4-H Shooting Sports Program is for young people interested in learning safe shooting skills, the conservation of natural resources, and leadership development.

Safety is always a primary concern of this program and youth undergo a safety education component prior to handling any firearms. Disciplines include archery, rifle, shotgun, and muzzle loader along with other natural resource and outdoor components.

Build a Wood Duck Nesting Box

Outdoor News held a youth Wood Duck Challenge and our FM Shooting Sports Program participated! In April, 4-H youth built their own wood duck nesting box. Materials were provided and Shooting Sports Instructors assisted youth in assembling the nesting boxes. Once the boxes were built, they were taken to a designated wetland area and installed. This was a fantastic opportunity for youth to not only have a positive impact on their natural environment, but to be involved in a different aspect of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.
## 2016 4-H Youth Development Calendar

### January
- 1-New Year’s Day Office Closed
- 9- County Horse Bowl Contest @ Fonda Fair
- 18- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Office Closed
- 19- 4-H Volunteer Team Meeting, Schenectady
- 23 - Dairy Judging & Quiz Bowl Meeting
- 25- Veg Marketing Interest Meeting in Schenectady

### April
- 2- Regional Small Animal School
- 9 – Cornell Vet School Open House
- 9—Regional Sewing Fashion Revue
- 13-24- TSC Paper Clover Campaign
- 16—Jr. Iron Chef Competition, Cobleskill
- 23 - Regional Horse Hippology & Comm.
- 26-28- Washington County Tractor Safety
- 29- May 1 – STARR Conference, Syracuse

### May
- 1 - Archery (8-12 yr olds)
- 7 – Animal Crackers (Dairy & Goat)
- 10 - YD Committee Meeting
- 14- 4-H Horse Riding Eval 8-10am
- 14—Dairy Workshop, Johnstown
- 15 - Archery (13 yrs and older)
- 15-17- Capital Days, Albany
- 24- 4-H Volunteer Team Meeting

### June
- 1- Last Day for 4-H Member Enrollments for 2015-2016 to participate at the Fonda Fair and Animal Certificates and Non-Ownership Forms Due!
- 3-5 - “Gone to the Dogs” Camp, Jefferson
- 21- 4-H Horse Riding Evaluations 6-8pm
- 28 – 30- 4-H Career Explorations, Cornell University

### August
- 1-4-H Animal Entries for Fonda Fair Due
- 1– NYS Fair 4-H Animal Entries Due
- 15- Sign-ups for 4-H Activities, Teen Leader at Fonda Fair Due
- 14-19 4-H Horse Camp, Fonda Fairgrounds
- 20- Bi-County Horse Show
- 27- Judging of Non-Animal 4-H Exhibits at Fonda Fair

### September
- Aug 30—Sept 5 - Fonda Fair
- 5- Labor Day, CCEFM Office Closed
- 5- Fonda Fair Ends; Early Evening Pick-up of Non-Animal 4-H Exhibits from Fonda Fair
- 6- Pick-up Non-Animal 4-H Exhibits from Fonda Fair
- 13- 4-H Volunteer Team Meeting
- 29-30—ABC Conference, SUNY Cobleskill

### October
- TBA - NATIONAL 4-H WEEK
- 15- 4-H Member Record Books Due to 4-H Office at CCEFM
- 15- 4-H Club Financial Statement, Treasurer’s Book, Audit Report, Goal Sheet & Member Project Completion Sheet Due to 4-H Office at CCEFM

### November
- 4- 4-H Member & Volunteer Recognition Potluck Supper and Awards Program
- 8- Election Day: 4-H Polling Project
- 11- Veterans’ Day, CCEFM Office Closed
- 24- Thanksgiving Day, CCEFM Office

### December
- 1– 4-H Re-Enrollments Due!
- 2– Officer Training
- 4 - 4-H Holiday Workshop
CENTRAL NEW YORK DAIRY & FIELD CROPS PROGRAM

The Central New York Dairy and Field Crops team provides educational programming, trainings, field days, trials and demonstrations that help dairy farmers meet their goals while facing industry challenges.

DAIRY ACCELERATION PROGRAM

Regional Dairy Specialist David Balbian helps producers, and business and environmental planners apply to the Dairy Acceleration Program, designed to enhance the profitability of New York dairy farms while maintaining a commitment to environmentally responsible dairy farming.

CORN SILAGE PRE-HARVEST MEETINGS

A series of clinics offered by Balbian educated growers about the right maturity stage for harvest and about adequate processing for corn silage. Adding value to home grown silage helps dairy farms improve performance of their herds while lowering dependence on purchased feed.

NEW YORK FARM VIABILITY INSTITUTE: INCOME OVER FEED PROJECT

Focused on dairy farm profitability, Balbian works with groups of producers to develop a series of standard benchmarks to indicate feeding performance on individual farms. The benchmarks allow for more useful and productive discussions among participants.

MALTING BARLEY VARIETY TRIALS

The demand for malting barley has increased with farm brewery legislation. Regional Field Crops Specialist Kevin Ganoe partnered with the Cornell Small Grains Project to conduct a two-year test of malting barley varieties.

FIRST CUTTING FORAGE QUALITY MONITORING

For the past 13 years, Ganoe has monitored the quality of first cutting hay crop to give producers a better idea of when they should begin harvest.
EASTERN NY COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

The Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture (ENYCH) program serves a large multi-county area in the Champlain Valley, Capital/Mohawk Region and Hudson Valley. The team’s specialists have many decades of experience and work together with Cornell faculty and Extension educators statewide to address the issues impacting the area’s vegetable, tree fruit, small fruit and grape producers.

Through educational programming and on-farm trials, the ENYCH team arms growers and agribusiness professionals with the knowledge to profitably produce and market safe and healthful horticultural crops, contributing to the farm viability and the region’s economic well-being. The team focuses on food safety, variety evaluation, market development, pest management and cultural practices. ENYCH activities include:

* Facilitating demonstrations of modern apple tree pruning techniques
* Researching high tunnel best practices and communicating them to growers
* Conducting fruit and vegetable trials that provide growers with information on variety performance and marketability
* Working with Cornell Integrated Pest Management specialists to conduct annual monitoring
* Supporting the $4 million garlic industry in NYS through efforts of a specialist who works on cultural and pest management issues specific to this crop
* Conducting farm to fork events, hosting traveling vegetable schools
* Promoting soil health and cover cropping techniques to improve productivity and protect environment
* Assisting new growers become established and profitable in Eastern New York