

August 1, 2022

Volume 3 Issue 16

Big Bids Push First Annual Market Auction in Saratoga County Past \$6K



On the final Sunday of the Saratoga County Fair the Saratoga County 4-H held their very first Market Auction. It was a complete success! Seven bidders contended for five lambs and two chickens for a total of \$6,216, with the majority of the animals donated back and resold to benefit the 4-H program.

Colin Anderson, Wyatt Short, and Carter Short brought their lamb projects, each of which averaged 100 lbs. Two twelve-pound meat birds were sold by Nathaniel McDevitt. The 4-H Market Auction is a unique program and for the first time, Saratoga County 4-H initiated an opportunity for its members. From January to July 2022, these youth learned all aspects of the market process, including animal nutrition, evaluation and selection, welfare, marketing, and processing. They should each be very proud of the hard work and dedication they invested in their projects and the monumental success of the event!

Saratoga County 4-H also extends gratitude to the buyers, Joe Anderson, Leo Wood, Andrei Wrench, Emily Vincent, Cody Kilcoyne, Jadon Flinton, and Brianna Hughes, as well as the sponsors Capital Tractor, Cambridge Valley Livestock, Farm Family Insurance, and Argyle Structures.

There will be a Market Auction in 2023 and details will be released soon. The goal is to bring at least ten 4-H members into next year's event. 4-H is the Youth Outreach component of Cornell Cooperative Extension that connects youth 5 -19 years of age to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society.

4-H Market Auction—The 4-H youth who participate in market animal project sell their animals. The proceeds of each first sale go to the individual 4-H members. Those animals that are donated back are resold to benefit the 4-H program.



Enrolling your child in 4-H is easy and yearly membership is only \$5. To learn more visit [Cornell Cooperative Extension \(ccesaratoga.org\)](https://ccesaratoga.org)

For questions or information on how to get your child involved in next year's 4-H Market Auction, contact Rylie Lear at rjl287@cornell.edu.



**SARATOGA COUNTY
4-H MARKET AUCTION**



“Foaling to Finishline”



Friday, August 19

Cost: \$10, includes transportation

Join CCE Equine for a tour of the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, and the Goshen Historic Track in Goshen, NY. The Historic Track is a half-mile harness racing track in Goshen, NY. It was opened in 1838 and has been in operation ever since; the oldest continuously operated horseracing track in North America.

--- SPACE IS LIMITED, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE ---

Schedule

- 7:15 AM** - Meet at 4-H Training Center, 556 Middleline Road, Ballston Spa (car may be *left there for the day*)
- 9:30 AM** - Arrive at Harness Museum
- 10:00 AM** - Guided Museum Tour
- 12:00 PM** - Lunch (We will be ordering pizza, water and soda, but you are welcome to bring a bagged lunch. We will be eating at the museum which has no food concessions.)
- 1:00 PM** - Tour at Goshen Harness Track
- 3:00 PM** - Load onto bus and head home
- 5:00 PM** - Arrive at 4-H Training Center

Schedule may adjust for unforeseen circumstance

To sign up, Scan the QR Code or email Nicolina at nvf@cornell.edu



Saratoga County HORSE FARM TOUR

The annual Saratoga County Horse Farm Tour will take place on Sunday, August 21st from 10AM—2PM at participating farms. This is a FREE drive-it-yourself event offered to the community, with a mission of promoting the equine industry and providing the public an opportunity to experience life on a horse farm. Horse lovers and families will delight in meeting different breeds of horses and get a behind-the-scenes look at the horses that reside here in Saratoga County.

Participating farms include:

Cross Timbers Ranch, 122 Barney Road, Middle Grove
Other farms TBD

The Saratoga County Horse Farm Tour is brought to you by the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, CCE Equine, and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County



CCE
EQUINE

For updates check <https://www.facebook.com/cceequine/> or [Cornell Cooperative Extension \(ccesaratoga.org\)](http://Cornell Cooperative Extension (ccesaratoga.org))



CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

CCE Saratoga offers car seat education and correct installation by our Nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Instructor.

Please call the office at 518-885-8995 x 228 to schedule an appointment. CCE also offers several other fitting station locations with certified technicians throughout Saratoga County for your convenience. (All fitting stations require an appointment, so please call in advance to schedule.)

For more information visit [Cornell Cooperative Extension | Child Passenger Safety \(ccesaratoga.org\)](http://Cornell Cooperative Extension | Child Passenger Safety (ccesaratoga.org))

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP ONLINE

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County will host an informal support group via Zoom for people with diabetes or prediabetes. The program meets the first Friday of each month. The next online event is **Friday, August 5 at NOON.**

To register for this meeting or if you have questions? Contact Diane Whitten at dwhitten@cornell.edu or (518) 885-8995.

There is no fee for the support group. Topics will vary and may be based on the interest of the group.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 PM at the Extension Office.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. To inquire about attending, please email wlm8@cornell.edu.



Wyatt Swatling awarded Fred Sanders Award

Saratoga County 4-H Member Wyatt Swatling was awarded the Fred Sanders Award at this year's Saratoga County Fair. Wyatt met certain criteria and participated in the 4-H Dairy Program throughout the whole year. He joins his brother and sisters who are past recipients of this award.

ABOUT FRED SANDERS AND THE AWARD

Fred Sanders grew up showing cattle at the Saratoga County Fair. His individual successes propelled him to showing at several fairs and included trips to the New York State Fair where he had his share of memorable times. In a tribute to his 60 years of showing cattle and his passion to see youngsters involved in showing at the fair, a continuing "Fred Sanders Award" is awarded each year at the County Fair's Animal Show Exhibition.

Fred had a passion for showing and enjoyed watching the local 4-H'ers showing their cattle at the fair. This year, in Fred's honor, Wyatt Swatling's name will appear on a wall plaque in the Saratoga County Fair Office; he was presented with a \$250 cash award along with an individual plaque in the show ring.



L to R: 4-H Livestock Educator Rylie Lear, Fred Sanders Award Winner Wyatt Swatling, and 4-H Issue Leader Greg Stevens



ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT 1959

L to R: Steve Perzer of Schuylerville National Bank presenting 10-12 year 4-H memberships to Dave Arnold, Wayne Arnold, and Fred Sanders.



STATE FAIR 1960

L to R: Fred Sanders and Bob Beck in dairy barn at State Fair.

4-H'ers are 2.3 times
more likely to be physically active, are nearly
two times more likely
to plan to go to **college**, and are
3.4 times more likely
to contribute to their **communities** when
compared with youth who do not
participate in 4-H.

Get your child involved in 4-H by enrolling for the Fall.
Contact Leland at glb76@Cornell.edu

Webinar to discuss small tick causing big problems for cattle

The free virtual event will be held Aug. 23-24 from noon to 3:45 pm each day

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is hosting a two-day webinar symposium to address concerns regarding the Asian Longhorned Tick and the pest's possible impact on the U.S. cattle industry. The free virtual event will be held Aug. 23-24 from noon to 3:45pm (Eastern) each day.

"Our goal is to inform and educate cattle producers across the country about this potential threat," said Dr. Kathy Simmons, NCBA's chief veterinarian.

The two-day webinar is designed to provide cattle producers, state animal health officials, veterinarians, and other key stakeholders with current information from industry experts about how to identify and manage the tick. Veterinarians from currently affected states and USDA officials will discuss disease implications as well as possible treatment options and prevention of ticks on animals and in pastures.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture is pleased to work with producers, industry stakeholders, and animal health experts to identify ways to mitigate the spread of invasive species and the diseases they carry," said Dr. Mark Lyons, assistant director of the Ruminant Health Center at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS), Veterinary Services Strategy and Policy Unit. "We thank the National Cattlemen's Beef Association for their partnership in organizing this event and we look forward to a constructive conversation on reducing the threat posed by the Asian Longhorned Tick."

The Asian Longhorned Tick is an invasive exotic pest first found in the United States in 2017. Since then, it has spread to 17 states ranging from the South all the way up through the East Coast. The tick is extremely mobile, spreading to new locations by attaching to people, birds, pets and wild animals, however, it can survive



(U.S. Department of Agriculture, Flickr/Creative Commons)

for up to a year in the environment without attaching to a host. Because it is smaller than a sesame seed, it is also difficult to detect.

The tick is extremely aggressive and can cause stress and severe blood loss in cattle. The tick also carries diseases such as bovine *Theileriosis*, a disease that causes anemia, failure to grow (ill-thrift), persistent infection, reproductive problems, and in some cases, death. There is currently no approved treatment against *Theileria orientalis*, leaving cattle at risk.

"This tick species is of great concern, but producers can protect their herd through frequent inspection and by reporting sightings to their veterinarian or local animal health official," said Dr. Simmons. "The first step is knowing what to look for, and I encourage producers to participate in this important webinar to receive the most current information."

For more information, and to register, visit www.ncba.org.

—National Cattlemen's Beef Association

ATTENTION!....

loggers, forest owners and other forest-related professionals

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County is proud to announce the following 3 workshops:

- The Game of Logging Level 1—Wednesday, August 3
- The Game of Logging Level 2—Thursday, August 4
- The Game of Logging Level 3—Friday, August 5

All three workshops will go from 7:30 AM—5:00 PM and will be held at Butler Pond Road in Queensbury.

Please bring a lunch, chainsaw, and safety equipment (hard hat/shield, hearing protection, chaps, steel toe boots). Rain or Shine. Due to a generous grant from International Paper cost per



For more information or to register, please contact Dan Carusone by email at djc69@cornell.edu or by phone at (518) 623-3291.

Beef Quality Assurance Training

Beef Quality Assurance is a nationwide certification program to help ensure a safe, wholesome and quality beef product for consumers. Topics covered include cattle nutrition, handling and vaccine products.

1 Virtual Online Classroom Training

4 Chute-side Trainings

Pre-Registration is required

\$10/per person or \$20/per Farm

Please register by following the link below:

[Beef Quality Assurance - Central New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops - Cornell University - Cornell Cooperative Extension](#)

For program questions, contact Ashley McFarland at am2876@cornell.edu

ONLINE CLASSROOM TRAINING

Monday, August 8 | 6:00 PM (Zoom Virtual Training)



CHUTE-SIDE TRAININGS

Herkimer County: Tuesday, August 9 | 6:00 PM Porco Farm – 770 Snells Bush Road, Little Falls, 13365

Otsego County: Wednesday, August 10 | 6:00 PM Dream Weaver Farm, 650 Co Rd 27, Richfield Springs 13439

Saratoga County: Thursday, August 11 | 9:00 AM Donnan Farm, 2287 Donnan Road, Galway 12074

Madison County: Thursday, August 11 | 6:00 PM Devine Roots, 4015 Ryan Road, Morrisville

Rabies Clinics

Held at the 4-H Training Center, 556 Middleline Rd., Ballston Spa

Questions? Call the Animal Shelter at (518) 885-4113

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, August 23

Tuesday, October 18

Times:

- Cats 5:30-6:30 PM Must be in carrier
- Ferrets 5:30-6:30 PM Must be in cage or carrier
- Dogs 6:30-7:30 PM Must be on a leash

Times are strictly enforced for the safety of all animals.

Cost: FREE, however donations are accepted

All vaccination certificates are written for one year. If a previous signed certificate is produced, a three year certificate will be written.

RABIES CLINIC



MICROSOFT MONDAY:

Adding Photos in Word Documents

Monday, August 8, 2PM—4PM

Have you ever been frustrated when adding a photo to a Word document?

In this virtual training session Zoom, Delia Hubbard—Digital Literacy Educator and Microsoft Office Master, will demonstrate how to quickly add eye-catching photos and graphics to your documents, and use powerful tools to make them look great!

Participants will learn to:

- Insert photos, clipart and other illustrations into your Word document
- Format the photo to match other document elements with Picture Styles
- Add borders, shadows, glow, and other special effects
- Crop images into shapes and dimension ratios
- Wrap document text so it flows visually around the image
- Create easy to understand figure elements
- Add captions to your images

Participants should have basic skill levels with Microsoft Word.

There is a \$25 registration fee per person for this training.

To register, call 518-272-4210

Fire Prevention Measures for Equine Facilities

Simple measures can be taken to help reduce fire risk at equine facilities. These measures help prevent fires, reduce losses, and prepare farm managers for response.

Fire is a serious threat at equine facilities. Many equine facilities use highly combustible items, such as hay and gasoline, in daily operations, which increases the risk of starting a fire. Combine that with horses (flighty prey animals sensitive to their surroundings) that can be severely injured by fire, and fire safety becomes a high priority for facility management. Most barn fires are preventable, and thoughtful management can help reduce the risk of incidence. Additionally, preparation can help decrease losses in the unfortunate event of a fire igniting. This fact sheet provides some easy steps that you can incorporate at your facility to prepare for and prevent fires.

Preventing Fires

Fire requires three things to begin: a fuel source, an ignition source, and oxygen. We cannot control the oxygen in the air, but we can reduce fuel and ignition sources by managing our horse facilities with fire safety in mind. Many things present on a horse farm can lead to fire, such as heaters, hay, and cobwebs. Reducing the chance of fire requires forethought about what is around your facility that might serve as fuel or an ignition source. Here are a few items to think about and ways to reduce fuel and ignition sources.

Do not allow smoking at your equine facility.

Make sure signs are posted throughout the facility and that the rule is enforced. Ensure all boarders, students, family members, and visitors know about this rule and will comply.

Hay is extremely flammable, and bales should be monitored for moisture and heat.

When hay is baled too wet, excessive microbial respiration results in heat buildup and makes combustion possible during the first six weeks of storage. A hay moisture tester can tell you the moisture level of your hay. Knowing moisture level is particularly important if you purchased hay soon after it was baled. Ideally, hay moisture should be less than 15 percent for horses. Hay is best kept in a well-ventilated, dry storage area where it is lifted off the ground by pallets. Monitor heat accumulation in your hay. Multiple tools are available for temperature monitoring, including probes and thermometers. Internal temperatures of 150°F to 170°F are dangerous and could quickly lead to combustion. If you detect this temperature, leave the hay where it is, move a safe distance away, and call 9-1-1 immediately.

Store your hay in a separate building away from where horses are housed, ideally downwind of the barn.

This can help reduce the chance of injury to horses if the hay were to catch fire. Also, storing the hay in a separate building



Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service on flickr.com, licensed under CC 2.0

or shed can help contain a fire to one area if the hay ignites. If you can, keep stall bedding materials, which are also flammable, away from horse housing.

Keep the facilities clean!

Clean up any loose hay on the ground and regularly wipe down stalls and rafters to remove dust and cobwebs (which collect dust and other flammable particles). These can all fuel the fire and encourage its spread throughout the building, so reduce as much buildup as possible. Electrical fires can also be started from accumulated dust, chaff, bird nests, insect colonies, and webs .

Check sockets, lights, heaters, and other electrical items around the barn regularly.

Make sure they are working properly, free of dust and cobwebs, and not near or lying against anything that could be flammable, such as stall bedding or winter blankets. You may want to hire an electrician to ensure everything is functioning properly and up to code.

Do not use portable heaters or dangling heat lamps in your equine facility.

If you must use a portable heater—for example, in a tack room—make sure you follow the manufacturer's instructions, never leave it unattended, clean off dust regularly, and place it far from any flammable items. Only use heaters that automatically turn off if tipped over. Units with automatic shutoff timers are also recommended.

[Continue reading article.](#)

TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



Alive At 25 is a national curriculum used to educate young drivers of potential dangers and hazards they may encounter on our roadways. This class help participants to:

1. Recognize that people from 15-24 are more likely than anyone else to be injured or killed in a crash.
2. Recognize and understand the consequences of making poor judgments or taking unnecessary risks in a vehicle.
3. Be able to identify actions they can take to keep control whether they are a driver or passenger in a vehicle.
4. Commit to making better driving choices and help their friends make better driving choices also.
5. The goal is to prevent traffic crashes, violations and reduce injuries and fatalities.

This program can be offered in several ways; currently CCE offers the class monthly to “court ordered offenders,” in Saratoga County. CCE is able to provide this program to schools or organizations as part of a driving curriculum, in order to obtain a high school parking pass or as part of a health class. Please contact our teen driver safety instructor, Cindy Dort at 518-885-8995 x 2228 for more information.

Upcoming Court Mandated Classes:

- Monday, August 8 @5:30PM—FULL
- Monday, September 12 @5:30PM
- Thursday, October 13 @ 5:30PM
- Monday, November 14 @5:30PM
- Monday, December 12 @5:30PM

Participants must call 518-885-8995 to register OR Email LEP77@cornell.edu

The classes are held at CCE of Saratoga County, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. The program begins at 5:30 PM SHARP; please arrived by 5:15PM to sign in with registration, and be seated before the program begins. There is a \$40 fee for attendance. Please pay CASH at the door. No personal checks will be accepted.

Fee

\$40 Cash only at the door

Register

lep77@cornell.edu Please email with First and Last Name, DOB, Phone, and Court that sentenced you

Distracted Driving Classes

Distracted Driving is a national concern with cell phones and other electronic devices in every car today. The simple phone call, text message, reading the paper, shaving, putting on make-up, may seem like nothing but it could mean everything to your safety and those around you. New York has mandated any driver found to be using, talking, texting, plugging in an electronic device will receive 5 points on their license. CCE has developed a curriculum to educate drivers on the dangers of distracted driving. Currently CCE offers this class monthly to “court ordered offender’s,” in Saratoga County. This class allows the ADA that is prosecuting the case to reduce the 5 point violation to 3 points upon completion of this class. This class allows participants to learn that Distracted Driving is: visual, cognitive and manual.

CCE offers this class in several ways: Court mandated, in high school health classes, driving classes, agencies that have drivers or drivers that use company cars. If you are interested in this class, please call our safety educator Cindy Dort at 518-885-8995 x 228 to schedule a class or time.

DATES OFFERED for Court Order Offenders

- Thursday, August 11 @6:30PM
- Monday, October 17 @6:30PM
- Wednesday, November 16 @6:30PM
- Thursday, December 15 @6:30PM

PARTICIPANTS MUST CALL 518-885-8995 TO REGISTER OR EMAIL LEP77@CORNELL.EDU

Fee

\$25 Cash to be paid at the door

Register

lep77@cornell.edu (forward First Name, Last Name, DOB, Phone Number, Court that sentenced you)



ADIRONDACK HARVEST

2022 SUMMER FARMERS' MARKET GUIDE

MONDAY

Clifton Park 2-5
Granville* 2-5

TUESDAY

Canton* 9-2
Cape Vincent* 10-4
Gansevoort 3-6
Johnstown* 3-6
Lyons Falls* 11-4
Whitehall* 1-4

WEDNESDAY

Akwesasne 11-2
Chestertown 10-2
Hammond* 3-6
Lake George 10-3
Lake Placid* 10-1
Malone* 12-4:30
Saratoga 3-6
Watertown* 7-3
Wilmington* 9-1

THURSDAY

Ballston Spa* 3-6
Boonville* 12-5
Clayton* 10-4
Fort Edward-
Canal St. Mkt* 4-7
Gouverneur* 9-2
Lewis County-
Gen Hospital* 11-3
Long Lake 10-2
North Creek 2-6
Ogdensburg 9-?
Saratoga* 10-2
Speculator* 2-5
Tupper Lake* 11-6
Willsboro* 9-1

** Accepts SNAP, P-EBT
or FMNP benefits*

FRIDAY

Alexandria Bay 9-3
Bolton Landing 9-2
Broadalbin* 3-6
Canton 9-2
Carthage* 1-6
Elizabethtown* 9-1
Fort Edward 10-1
Chaumont* 12-6
Old Forge* 1-5
Rouses Point* 3-7
Tupper Lake* 11-6
Warrensburg* 3-6
Watertown* 12-4

SATURDAY

Akwesasne 11-2
Argyle 9-12
Ballston Spa* 9-1
Glens Falls* 8-12
Gloversville* 8:30-12:30
Harrisville* 9-4
Indian Lake 10-2
Lowville* 8-2
Northville* 10-2
Ogdensburg 9-?
Plattsburgh* 9-2
Potsdam* 9-2
Remsen* 10-1
Salem* 10-1
Saranac Lake* 9-1
Saratoga 9-1
Ticonderoga* 10-1
Tupper Lake 11-6
Watertown* 9-2

SUNDAY

Cambridge* 10-1
Keene Valley* 9:30-2
Massena* 10-2
Peru 11-3 (once a month)
Saratoga* 10-2



FIND MORE INFO AND LOCATIONS AT ADIRONDACKHARVEST.COM



Novelty Cooking

Can't believe it can be done!

Are you hungry?...Are the kids bored?

Summer is half way through, which means school is right around the corner. This is just about the time when the kids are saying, "I'm bored!" Way not kill two birds with one stone (figuratively speaking) and spend quality time with your kids to satisfy your hunger and their boredom. Below are some fun recipes that you will be amazed that they actually work.

BACON AND EGGS IN A PAPER BAG!

- 2 eggs
 - 2-4 pieces of bacon, cut in half
 - 1 lunch paper bag
 - 1 long stick (to use as a handle)
 - Salt and pepper
1. Grease the inside of the paper bag with a piece of uncooked bacon. Thoroughly coat the bottom and sides of the bag with bacon strips (fat).
 2. Line your bacon on the bottom of the bag. Overlap the bacon pieces to ensure the entire bottom of the paper bag is covered.
 3. Gently crack two eggs into the bag, over the bacon, and sprinkle with salt and pepper.
 4. Fold the top of the lunch bag over a couple of time.
 5. Using a knife or a sharp stick, gently poke a hole through the folded bag. Slide the stick through the hole so you can use it as a handle.
 6. Carefully lift the paper bag off the table and gently place it directly on the bed of coals.
 7. The grease from the bacon is SUPPOSE to protect the bag from going up in flames. If the bag seems fine, let it cook for about 15-20 minutes or until the egg is cooked to your preference.

Notes

If your paper bags start catching fire, quickly lift the bags off the coals, using the stick handle. Blow vigorously on the bag to put out the flame.

If you don't want to chance your breakfast being burnt to a crisp, use the stick handle and hover the paper bag a couple inches over the hot coals or place bag on cooking grate above coals. Cook until the eggs are done to your liking.

Click on [video](#) below to view demonstration.



FISH IN WET NEWSPAPERS

- Fish filets
 - Vegetable oil
 - Lemon pepper seasoning
 - Paper lunch bag
 - Newspaper
1. Soak newspaper in water until saturated
 2. Coat fish with a thin layer of oil
 3. Place on an opened paper bag and season
 4. Wrap fish in paper bag
 5. Wrap bag with several layers of wet newspaper
 6. Place directly on hot coals, turning once or twice
 7. Cooking time depends on size of fish and temperatures of coal. Allow about 20 minutes.



MEATLOAF IN AN ONION

- Enough ground beef to fill onion, about 1/4 pound
 - Large onion
 - Foil wrap and toothpicks
 - Diced celery, cyan pepper, or chili powder, seasoning to taste
1. Cut off the top third of the onion; do not peel. Remove all but outer 2 layers, about 1/4 inch, set aside for another recipe or add a little to the ground beef.
 2. Mix ground beef and seasonings.
 3. Stuff into lower section of onion.
 4. Replace top of onion, secure with toothpicks.
 5. Wrap in heavy-duty foil and place in coals.



Cooking time depends on thickness of onion peel—allow 15-30 minutes. Meatloaf may be eaten right out of peel, or it can be eaten entirely.

Note: Onions may also be used as a "container" for cooking a variety of other vegetables and meats.

Are you fertilizing your houseplants during the summer?

FERTILIZING HOUSEPLANTS

By Dawn Pettinelli, Manager, Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory

Through the process of photosynthesis, plants manufacture the sugars and carbohydrates needed for their growth and development. They require at least 16 elements to carry on this process. Plants obtain carbon, oxygen and hydrogen from air and water. Outdoor plants would obtain the other nutrients required for growth from the soil. Houseplants rely on us to supply these nutrients through the application of fertilizers. Underfertilized houseplants often exhibit symptoms of slow growth, weak stems, pale leaves and reduced flowering.

TYPES OF FERTILIZERS

Houseplant fertilizers come in a number of formulations. Some are wettable powders or concentrated liquids that are diluted with water then applied to the potted plant. Time release fertilizers are available as coated pellets or as spikes. A few are sold premixed and applied directly to the potting soil.

The label on a fertilizer container states the guaranteed analysis or grade. These are the three numbers listed on the package (e.g., 8-7-6). They refer to the percentage of nitrogen, available phosphorus and water soluble potassium contained in fertilizer. Plants require large amounts of these three nutrients, and they are often referred to as primary nutrients or macronutrients. Nitrogen promotes green, leafy growth. Phosphorus encourages flowering and root growth, and potassium is necessary for stem strength and stress tolerance. Secondary nutrients that are required in slightly lesser quantities include calcium, magnesium and sulfur. Ground limestone is sometimes added to potting mixes to supply calcium and magnesium.

The fertilizer label will also state from what sources (chemical and/or organic) these nutrients are derived. If synthetic or chemical fertilizers contain trace elements, these too will be listed on the label. Trace elements or micronutrients are needed by plants in very small amounts and include iron, boron, zinc, copper, molybdenum, chlorine and manganese. It is usually safe to assume that organically derived fertilizers, because of their nature, contain some or all of the necessary micronutrients. Potting mixes that have a mineral soil component may also supply sufficient amounts of micronutrients. If you are not using an organic houseplant fertilizer, consider purchasing a chemical fertilizer that does include micronutrients since they are typically not present in soilless potting mixes.

CHOOSING A FERTILIZER

Which is the best houseplant fertilizer for you to use? This will depend on the types of plants being grown, cultural conditions and your schedule. In general, foliage houseplants thrive on fertilizers high in nitrogen while flowering plants respond best to those with higher phosphorous analysis. There are plenty of specialty houseplant fertilizers out there but do examine their labels. Often the difference is more in the packaging than in the amounts proportions of nutrients supplied.

Purchase a water-soluble powder or liquid concentrate if plants are



to be fertilized on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis. If there will be long intervals between fertilizer applications, select time release formulations in either pelleted or spike forms.

These can be applied at intervals from 2 to 9 months and will provide houseplants with a steady supply of nutrients.

Frequently, houseplant lovers amass quite a collection of different plant species. Sometimes plants have specific fertility requirement, but usually an all-purpose, balanced fertilizer could be applied to all plants. For example, a fertilizer could be applied to all plants. For example, a fertilizer where the three numbers on the package are equivalent or just about equal, such as 20-20-20 or a 10-8-7, will be adequate.

WHEN TO FERTILIZE

Houseplants respond to fertilizer during periods of active growth. This is usually from March until October. Reduced light and temperatures throughout the winter months often render a plant inactive. It is generally recommended that plant not be fertilized at this time. The labels on most water-soluble fertilizers recommend monthly application. Since these nutrients are easily leached from the potting mix, your plants may benefit from more frequent dilute applications. If one teaspoon per quart of water is recommended for monthly feedings, you could feed bimonthly using one one-half a teaspoon per quart. This gives the plant a steady, continuous supply of nutrients. This type of regime is often recommended for flowering plants like African violets.

When fertilizing houseplants, always follow the directions on the label. More is not better, and excess nutrients can harm roots and leaves. Always apply fertilizer to an already moist potting soil to avoid root damage.

OVERFERTILIZATION

Browning roots and leaf tips, wilting, poorly shaped leaves and a white crust on pot rims may indicate overfertilization. Excess nutrients in the potting soil will desiccate or burn tender roots. High concentrations of nutrient salts also prevent the plant from taking up water so wilting is observed.

Often, leaching the potted plant with copious amounts of water will reduce excessive fertilizer salt levels. Be sure water can drain freely. Another solution would be to repot the plant, gently removing as much of the old potting mixture as possible, and replacing it with fresh medium.

Keep houseplants healthy and thriving by practicing good watering practices, meeting their light and temperature requirements and providing adequate nutrition through a regular fertilization program.

HOMESTEADING & SELF-SUFFICIENCY



CCE Saratoga educators have created an [educational webpage](#) where people can learn all aspects of becoming self-sufficient and what it means to have a homestead. The informational platform brings together agriculture (Livestock & Animal Husbandry, Food Preservation & Preparation, Hunting & Gathering, and Planting & Growing recourses).

If you missed the 8-week video series for Homesteading and Self-sufficiency [you can find it here.](#)



FOOD PRESERVATION CLASS—HANDS-ON WORKSHOP Canning Tomatoes, and Salsa

Wednesday, August 31, 6PM –9PM

CCE Auditorium, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa

Fee: \$15 per person

To Register: Call (518) 885-8995

Presenter: Diane Whitten

Learn how to can whole and diced tomatoes, plus make salsa. This class will cover the basics of canning in a boiling water bath or steam canner, including equipment needed .



Herb B.'s Monthly Advice for AUGUST



Back in June, I was still ordering seed, fertilizer, and fence posts. There isn't a week that goes by that I am not spending money at one of the Ag stores in the area. It got me thinking about just how much we (the farm and personal agriculture folks) spend on growing food.

It seems to be more important this year as we hear about food shortages, better health with quality food and how dependent we are on other countries for it. Homesteading is a pastime for sure, but deep down I have always known it gave me freedom. We are not "off the grid" living hand to mouth. We also have been blessed with good water and just as important good ground.

For the past 40 years there have been cover crops, manure added, azomite, soil test adjustments and care to try and keep the productive ground just that. I heard a farmer at a

conference state that God gardens with animals in the mix. If you study soils (check out "soul of the soil" by Grace Gershuny and Joe Smillie) will find lots of critters working to make good soil you can barely see. Some you can't without a microscope, (which I highly recommend).

The economics of farming can be very personal. I figured out my wife and I made 85 cents an hour back in the 90's. I have smartened up since then and mechanized the time eating tasks. Now I am sure we are at least up to minimum wage. Remember this is June, I just picked and ate right there some strawberries. They were good. Full of sunshine sweet and juicy. Factoring that as pay means we are very rich indeed.

- Herb



In-person Hunter Education Classes OFFERED THIS SUMMER THROUGH FALL

In-person hunter education classes are being offered throughout New York State this summer and early fall.

All new hunters planning to go hunting this fall season are reminded that they must first complete a mandatory education course before they can purchase a hunting license. DEC works closely with thousands of dedicated volunteer instructors statewide to provide these in-person training courses, free of charge.

All in-person hunter education courses require students to complete homework prior to attending the classroom and field session. Proof of the completed homework is required to attend the course.

DEC's online registration system makes it easy to view a list of all available in-person or online courses. Students can register from any device—smartphone, tablet, or computer—24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To locate a nearby hunter education course visit DEC's website: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/92267.html>



HEY ANGLERS - Help Trout and Salmon Beat the Heat This Summer!

Tomatoes, watermelons, and sweet corn thrive on hot summer days in New York—trout and salmon, not so much. Summer heat waves impose serious stress and can even cause death. Trout and salmon that are already heat-stressed may not recover after being caught and released.

Anglers can help these fish survive the summer heat by following a few simple tips listed below:

- **Avoid catch-and-release fishing for heat-stressed trout.**
Trout already weakened by heat stress are at risk of death no matter how carefully they are handled.
- **Don't disturb trout where they have gathered in unusually high number.**
It is likely that these fish are recovering from heat stress in a pocket of cold water.
- **Go to Plan B!**
Consider fishing waters less likely to get too warm or fishing for a more heat-tolerant species, like smallmouth bass.
- **Fish Early.**
Stream temperatures are at their coolest in the early morning.



DEC's "Next Step" Bowhunting and Crossbow Courses

Have you already completed a hunter education or bowhunter education certification course, and want more hands-on experience before the upcoming season? DEC's Hunter Education program is excited to announce pilot "Next Step" course!

Each four-hour Next Step course focuses on safety, techniques, and hands-on field instruction. There is no certification offered with these courses. Students will need their Hunter Education certificate number to register for a Next Step course. The minimum age is 12-years old.

As of July 29, there were still spots available in the following DEC's Next Step Bowhunting and Crossbow courses:

Note: All Next Step courses are free, but registration is required.

All courses are located at Saratoga Sand Plains Archery Range
Rte. 50, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
(Just North of Wilton Mall)

Women's Next Step Bowhunting

August 3 | 4:30 PM—8:30 PM

<https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/184809>

Women's Next Step Crossbow

August 4 | 4:30 PM—8:30 PM

<https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/184810>

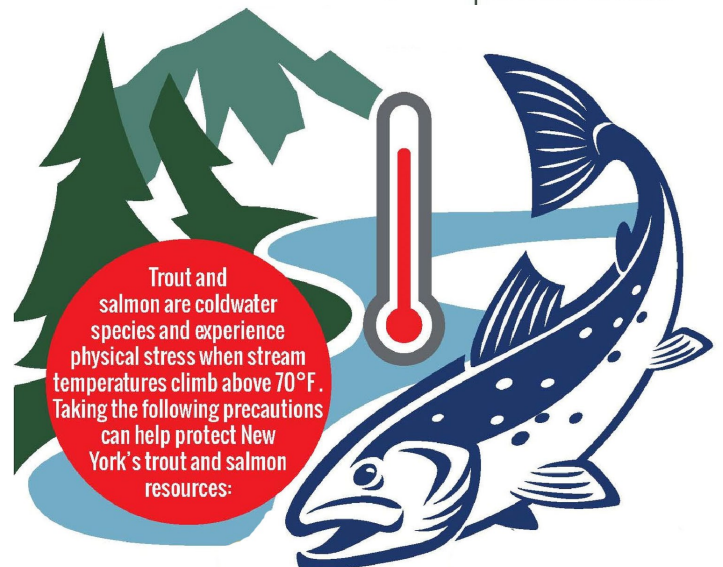
Next Step Bowhunting

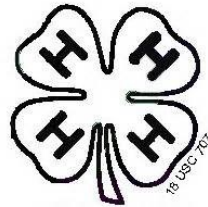
August 6 | 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

<https://register-ed.com/events/view/185052>



Department of Environmental Conservation





4-H Dress Exhibit at the 1947 Saratoga County Fair



4-H Promotional Exhibit Fair

By Wendy McConkey, Records Management Officer

The County Fair is now behind us and another year of 4-H is soon to be wrapping up. The month of October is the start of a new 4-H year; another year for some youth and new enrollment for others. The following articles from September and November of 1947's Saratoga County's 4-H Club News highlight 4-H in the 1947 Saratoga County Fair and 4-H activities and new club/member enrollments.

November 1947

WITH THE CLUBS

At the October meeting of the Battlefield 4-H Club, Lyle Gailor, leader, explained how to estimate the size of dairy heifers by using a tape.—William Thomas, Secretary

The Malta Homemakers have recently completed Outdoor Cookery with a corn roast served with chicken and potatoes cooked out-of-doors.—Dorothy Rosenbrock, Secretary

Lester Kirk has joined the Snookkill Boys Club at Kings Station and Carl Herrington is a new member of the Malta Pioneers.—Roland Dumas, Secretary

The Jolly 4-H Club of King's Station made a day of the radio broadcast in which Mrs. White, leader, Marjorie Blodgett and Gayle Petteys of the Eager Beavers took part in Glens Falls. They visited the Glens Falls Library, then they all went to the WWSC studios to see the broadcast. In the afternoon the club attended the movies.—Alice Morehouse, Secretary

The Gansevoort Busy Bees, 4-H Champions and Riverview 4-H Clubs planned and carried out the program for the Schuylerville P.T.A. The girls gave a fashion show, modeling the dresses they had made. The 4-H Champions gave a skit followed by a duet by Gladys Peters and Marjorie Dyer.—Elaine Fitzgerald, Secretary

The Hustlers of Harmony held a hay ride October 10. About thirty members and friends rode to Galway and returned to Mason's where refreshments were served. George Palmateer provided the rig and drove for them. October 29th a Halloween party was held at the school house. The room was decorated with orange and black figures stenciled on the wall by one of the members. We had about 62 present. Games were played and refreshments served.—Maureen Foley, Secretary

The 4-H Champions held a Pot Luck Party October 17 after their business meeting. New officers were elected and installed. October 31 was a Halloween Party was held at Fitzgeralds.—Elaine Fitzgerald, Secretary

September 1947

OUTSTANDING AT THE FAIR

The Assistant Superintendents – John H. Peters, Dale Pettit, Ernest Melander, Gilbert Schermerhorn, Josephine Washburn, Marilyn Jennings, Virginia Deuell, Marjorie Dyer, Nancy Campbell, and Robert Laisdell did an outstanding job of taking care of entries, setting up the exhibits and assisting with the 4-H program at the Fair.

Club Exhibits – Leaders and 4-H Club members responsible for the club exhibits are to be congratulated. These exhibits were an important feature of the 4-H Club Exhibit. The Battlefield 4-H Club placed first in the Agricultural Club Class, with Bachelor 4-H Club second, and the Snookkill 4-H Club third.

In the class for Homemaking Clubs, Harmony Busy Bees 4-H Club placed first, Gansevoort Busy Bees 4-H Club second, Victory 4-H Club third, and Jolly Maids 4-H Club fourth.

4-H Champions Club was first in the class for Mixed Clubs, Coldbrook 4-H Club placed second, and Coons Crossing Bright Stars 4-H Club third.

The 4-H Club Council – They had a good business of selling milk and sandwiches. Proceeds made will be used to further their own program.

Livestock Exhibits – The 4-H Dairy exhibit was one of the best that the Saratoga County 4-h Clubs have ever had. There were 43 animals on exhibit. Reserve Champion Guernsey in the open class was owned by Carl Englehart, member of the Ballston Center Back Breakers 4-H Club, and Reserve Champion Holstein was owned by Lyle Gailor, member of the Battlefield 4-H Club.

Girls in the Dress Revue – The fifteen girls taking part in the dress revue in front of the Grandstand deserve a great deal of credit. Those taking part were: Elaine Fitzgerald, Anne Robbins, Marilyn Cowin, Elizabeth Vance, Eleanor Gailor, Mary Kay Haas, Anne DeGarmo, Mary Bahr, Joyce Peters, Gladys Peters, Jean Peters, Josephine Washburn, Joan Fenton, Mary Goodspeed, and Marjorie Dyer.

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Click the photos to be navigated to each of our Facebook accounts:



CCE Saratoga



4-H



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50 West High Street, Ballston Spa
(518) 885-8995
Saratoga@cornell.edu
www.ccesaratoga.org

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