

Empire Farm Days: August 8-10, 2017
Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY
Show Manager Melanie Wickham
877-697-7837
mwickham@empirefarmdays.com



Bullet Style Press Release: June 2017

Link to this release, paragraph style version of this release, and find photos at www.empirefarmdays.com/newsroom

Come See for Yourself! Expanded Field Demos, Test Drive Applicators & More at 2017 Empire Farm Days

Seneca Falls, NY. Lift the hood. Kick the tires. Sit in the cab. Test drive tractors, trucks, applicators, UTV, or construction equipment. Come See for Yourself! Is the theme of the August 8-10, 2017 Empire Farm Days event at Rodman Lott and Son Farms, 2973 State Route 414, Seneca Falls, NY. This show is the largest outdoor agricultural trade event in the northeastern U.S.

Here's a quick look at what's new at the 2017 show:

Expanded, Irrigation-Fed Field Demonstrations include:

- Hard hose reel system Irrigation-fed crops
 - More pieces of equipment to see and test drive
 - Renewed focus on 'big iron' operating in real-time field conditions.
-
- Field demos from 10:30 am on with support from Morrisville State College and 15 equipment manufacturers: CNY Farm Supply/ROC, Cummings & Bricker/McHale, Dion-Ag Inc., H & S Manufacturing, John Deere, Marloo Equipment/SIP, Meyer Manufacturing, New Holland, Norwood/KwikTill, Oxbo International, Pequea Machine Inc., Poettinger US Inc, Rangeline Group/K-Line, Tigerco Distributing/Reese, and Unverferth Manufacturing.

- 10 am to 2 pm daily: Test drive large applicators with Java Farm Supply/Ag Chem Rogator, John Deere, Monroe Tractor/Case IH, Chandler, Miller and Vector
- 10 am to 2 pm daily: Ride and Drive Ford Trucks, Honda, Milton Cat, RAM Trucks, and Yanmar tractors and UTVs.
- 10:30 am daily Cover Crops Field Demonstration Tour with King's AgriSeeds and Seedway: Cool and warm season cover crop specie /mixes; best seeding methods, timing, and purposes discussion.

Soil Health Center Seminars: Guest presenters, farmer panels new each day

- USDA NRCS Northeast Regional Soil Health Specialist Jim Hoorman from Findlay, OH, opens the Tuesday programs on fertilizer, manure and nutrient management in cover cropping and reduced tillage systems.
- Hoorman leads Wednesday's schedule addressing prevention, reduction and mitigation strategies for compaction problems.
- Thursday programs focus on utilizing soil health practices in vegetable cropping systems beginning at 9:30 am with Cornell University Horticulture Professor Dr. Thomas Bjorkman.
- Wednesday, 2 pm: "The Living Soil" Keynote Presentation/Demonstration with Conservation Biologist Dr. Carmen Greenwood of SUNY Cobleskill. Learn how live soil-dwelling invertebrates, such as soil mites, serve in vital ecosystem roles, provide conservation benefits and act as indicators of soil health.
- Daily: USDA NRCS intro to Conservation Client Gateway (1:30 pm presentation; one-on-one all day), Web Soil Survey, cell phone Soil Web App.

Dairy Profit Seminars: Robotics, Automatic Milking Systems, 7 Pound Club

- . The daily 10:30 am Dairy Profit Seminars are made possible by a collaboration by Cornell's PRO-DAIRY Program, the Northeast Dairy Producers Association, and Dairy Business and Holstein World magazine.
- . The Tuesday, August 8 presentation is on Robotics and Maximizing Milk Per Box: Grouping and Feeding Strategies with Dr. Douglas F. Waterman, Director of Technology Application: Dairy for Trouw Nutrition Agresearch.
- . The Wednesday, August 9 presentation is on Transitioning to Automatic Milking Systems with farmer panelists, Bruce Dehm of Dehm Associates, LLC, and Cornell Senior Extension Associate Jason Karszes.
- . The Thursday, August 10 presentation is Is Your Farm a Member of the 7 Pound Club? Leading dairy producers into the next frontier of maximizing pounds of components produced while maintaining profitability with representatives of Albano Farms, Thornapple Farm, and Hanehan Family Dairy; Bruce Dehm of Dehm Associates; and Dr. Cargill Feed and Nutrition Senior Dairy Specialist Jay Giesy.

New Products: Apple Grinder, Rock Picker, Forage Mergers and More

Among the new products in 2017: forage mergers, disc blades, manure spreaders, an on-farm mastitis detection system, a patented metal roofing system, a PTO-driven firewood processor from Finland, an expanded reach skidsteer; mower combination, cover crop seeder, rock picker, mineral feeder, bale grapples, apple grinder, and precision fertilizer application monitoring system.

Expanded Beef Programs:

- Designing cattle handling systems with Runnings.

- Animal ID and pre-conditioning practices.
- Tuesday/Wednesday programs on feeder calf grading and evaluating with NY livestock graders and market news reporter, and how to use blood sampling to check for pregnancy as early as 28 days.
- One-Day-Only Programs with NY Beef Council: Wednesday: Livestock Animal Well Being; Thursday: Beef Quality Assurance Training and Recertification: must pre-register: 315-339-6922.
- Daily 11am: Live Cattle Handling with Cornell Beef Extension Specialist Dr. Mike Baker and representatives of Hi Hog, Priefert and Powder River cattle systems.

Ag Education: Virtual Reality Welders, FFA, DAIRY LEADERS, Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship

- Try virtual reality welders aboard American Welding Society Careers in Welding trailer from Miami, FL.
- NYS FFA students compete in NYS welding and tractor driving safety contests on Thursday.
- 2017 Cornell PRO-DAIRY Junior DAIRY LEADERS class graduates Wednesday, 1:30 pm.
- Colleges highlighting agricultural degree programs at Empire Farm Days include Alfred State College, Cornell University, Morrisville State College, SUNY Canton and SUNY Cobleskill.
- Information on national Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship program and info on grass-fed milk emerging markets. in Cornell Marketplace Building.

New Craft Beverage Center

- New center to meet needs of emerging micro beverage industry in New York State. According to New York State Department of Agriculture, the state has seen an increase from 10 farm distilleries in 2010 to 114 today, along with 163 farm breweries and 34 farm cideries.
- See bottling equipment , hammermills for grain processing, a new apple grinder that converts to milling malted grains, and high-tech filtration, separation and purification systems; talk with manufacturers
- Tuesday, 9-1, all day Wednesday: Try wine and cider “sniff test” with Cornell University Viticulture and Enology Extension specialists to identify issues and how to avoid them. Learn about Cornell Wine Lab testing and analysis services to help all types of beverage makers.
- Tuesday 1-5, all day Thursday: Talk with Brewmaster Jon Paul Partee and co-owner Craig Partee of Fleur De Lis Brew Works and Hop Yards of Seneca Falls, NY, about hops production and their French style of artisan beer making. Their beer garden has been part of the Partee family farming legacy for three generations.

Farm Safety Showcase for Farmers and Firefighters

- Grain Bin Simulator from National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, Peosta, IA, will offer demos and educate show visitors about the 4 most common ways to become entrapped in a grain bin, the equipment every grain bin operator should have on site, and how to protect yourself form grain dust and mold.
- Special Tuesday evening hands-on safety training session will be available by registration for firefighters. Contact is Jim Carrabba at NYCAMH, 800-343-7572x2216, jcarrabba@nycamh.com

- The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health tent will be offering blood pressure, hearing, vision and skin cancer screenings on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- The winner of the new Fastest PTO Shield Installation contest at the NYCAMH booth will receive a free Bare-Co PTO Shield.

For the Horse Crowd

- The rugged horses of the American West and the refinement of dressage riding will be featured in the Equine Round Pen showcases daily at 11 am and 2 pm.
- America's Mustangs: From Wild to Mild will be featured on Tuesday, August 9 and Wednesday, August 10 with celebrated horse trainers and 2017 Extreme Mustang Makeover regional winners Jack and Emma Minter of Rose Hill Ranch, Naples, NY.
- On Thursday, August 10, Lucretia Galbraith, raised in a family of Standardbred racing royalty and a lifelong horsewoman, will demonstrate the skills that make her a five-time Western NY Dressage Association Professional Rider of the Year and a United States Dressage Association Bronze Medalist.

Farm Family Fun and Learning

- "Why I Farm," pumpkin production, and the Chicken Chat large board game are all new attractions at the NY Farm Bureau Family Education Center.
- The Dancing Digger will perform 'hydraulic handstands' to music daily.
- The New York State Grange has added quilting presentations to programming at 11:05 am and 2:05 pm. Dalmatian Sparks and handler Tibbie Dell lead off at 9:30 am with You CAN Teach an Old Dog New Tricks.
- Did you know that in addition to making tractors International Harvester made refrigerators? See tractors, implements and other farm and household items made by agricultural manufacturers at the Old Iron exhibits.

Get in the Farm Pond in 2017

Those 10 and older can try a standup paddleboard or kayak with Morgan Marine in the farm pond. Participants must attend a preceding water safety program by New York Sea Grant, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and New York State Parks Marine Services Bureau.

Empire Farm Days show hours are 9 am-5 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 am-4 pm Thursday. Admission is \$10 per vehicle. For Daily Schedules and more information, visit the website at www.empirefarmdays.com, see Empire Farm Days on Facebook, or call - 877-697-7837.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

- Empire Farm Days Manager Melanie Wickham, 877-697-7837, mwickham@empirefarmdays.com
- EFD Publicist Kara Lynn Dunn, 315-465-7578, karalynn@gisco.net