



Empire Farm Days: August 6-8, 2019
Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY
877-697-7837, www.empirefarmdays.com



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Photos: <http://empirefarmdays.com/mediashow-photo-gallery/>

2019 Empire Farm Days: An Agricultural and Rural Living Showcase for All

Seneca Falls, N.Y. The 2019 edition of Empire Farm Days set for August 6-8 is all set to deliver new demonstrations, seminars, speakers, activities, and information for production farmers and rural living enthusiasts. Rodman Lott and Son Farms at 2973 State Route 414 in Seneca Falls, N.Y. has hosted the event since 1988.

New field demonstrations include an aerial crop spraying system in the air that can fly up to five units with one controller. On the ground, Man@Machine will demonstrate Treffler's full-size tined harrow for precision weed control along with the Tiny Treffler, only 80cm wide, on hand. Treffler Maschinenbau's history dates back to a 17th century forge in Echsheim, Germany.

Dry spreaders have been added to the manure handling demos with injectors, all stages of haying and tillage and GPS tractors.

Compact tractors are joining the show's test driving opportunities with large applicators, CATs and JCB equipment. RAM Truck, the Official Truck of Empire Farm Days, will be on-site with its latest models for every agricultural need. RAM and Kubota are the official sponsors of the show. The show drawing prize for 2019 is a new Kubota RTV 500.

Caterpillar's first-ever "In the Trenches Tour" will debut at Empire Farm Days with a tractor trailer exhibit of two Next Generation CAT Mini Excavators. The trailer includes a 4D theater experience, and a hands-on experience with the new mini machines.

Among the new products vendors will have throughout the showgrounds are a cold press oil machine, cover crop seeder for rolling harrow, diesel-powered emergency stand-by generators, lubricants, new tread design tires, self-propelled alley vac, single forage merger, sand separator for smaller dairies, an enhanced calf feeder, a new brand of cheese, and more.

The NY Beef Center has a new location under a hoop house. At the neighboring open air location, industry reps will put live cattle through four different brands of chute systems at 10 am daily. At noon each day, New York State Department of Transportation personnel will demonstrate what to expect with a truck and livestock trailer inspection.

The 2019 cover crop demonstration plots feature new mixes planted by King's AgriSeeds and Seedway. Hemp has been planted as part of the new Hemp Center programming at the show.

New Hemp Center

On Tuesday and Thursday, Cornell University Horticulture Professor Larry Smart will present a Cornell Hemp Research Update on Grain, Fiber and CBD Production in NYS. Dr. Smart leads the Cornell Hemp Research Team and will discuss hemp trials in place since 2017. Immediately following, Chris Becker, a research scientist with BAAR Scientific, will offer a Harvesting Hemp program and field demo tour.

On Wednesday, the new Hemp Center programming that begins at 9:30 am, includes an Albany Update on state efforts to grow the NY hemp industry by New York State Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, Chair of the NYS Assembly Agriculture Committee. She and NYS Senator Jen Metzger recently passed NY hemp extracts legislation.

On Wednesday, Jeff Kostuik, Director of Operations Central Canada, U.S. & International for Hemp Genetics International based in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, will share his expertise on hemp nutrition and agronomy from nearly 20 years' experience. He chairs the Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance Research Committee.

Main Street Farms owner Allan Gandelman will share "A Grower's Experience: Growing Hemp for CBD" as part of Wednesday's 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Hemp Day program. Hemp Harvest Works of Giltner, Nebraska, will make a harvesting presentation and lead the crop demonstration tour that day.

Shorter and More Dairy Profit Seminars

The Dairy Profit Center at Empire Farm Days is offering more and shorter educational sessions from 10 am to 3 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday's agenda includes: Facilities: Research, Renovations, and Low-Cost Solutions for Tie-Stalls, Managing NY Robotic Milking Systems: What We've Learned; Corn Silage Harvest Strategy: One Chance to Get It Right; Calf Housing Ventilation: What's the Latest, and the keynote on Adapting to an Evolving Northeast Dairy Industry by Cornell University PRO-DAIRY Director Tom Overton.

Wednesday's Dairy Profit Seminars will cover: Where are Milk Prices Headed and What Can You Do About It, Where are We Headed? Milk Prices and the Future of the Dairy Industry, Keys to Making Your Dairy Farm Business Work, What Drives Your Milk Price, and a panel discussion with all speakers.

On Thursday, the Dairy Profit Center hosts the 20th anniversary celebration of the Cornell PRO-DAIRY Junior DAIRY LEADER program with 31 students graduating in the Class of 2019.

Soil Health Center & Cover Crops Tours

The Soil Health Center keynote speakers for 2019 lead off with Cornell Soil and Crop Sciences Professor Harold van Es presenting Soil Health: History, Geography, and Opportunities in New York State on Tuesday. Tuesday's farmer panel includes John Kemmeren, Dave Magos, and Jay Swede on nutrient management in no-till systems.

On Wednesday, the keynote on Managing for Healthier Soils and Cleaner Water will be delivered by Pennsylvania No-Till Alliance President Jim Hershey. The farmer panelists on successes and challenges with planting green in NY and PA are Hershey, Donn Branton, and John Macauley.

Thursday's Soil Health programs focus on vegetable production. Cornell Small Farms Program Research and Extension Specialist Ryan Maher will talk about Integrating Cover Crops and Reduced Tillage in Vegetable Systems, followed by a panel discussion by farmers Josh Jurs and Andy Fellenz and Cornell University Horticulture Professor Thomas Bjorkman.

Following the daily Soil Health Center luncheon sponsored by King's AgriSeeds, representatives of King's AgriSeeds and Seedway will lead cover crop field demonstration tours at 1 pm.

Expanded DEC Pesticide Recertification Credit

All certified applicators will be able to earn DEC credit at the daily, 1 pm, free NYS Department of Environmental Conservation one-hour Pesticide Training at the show. One Core Credit will be available to those with a Pesticide Certification ID card who sign in on time and sign out on completion. Those not yet certified will learn how to qualify to make pesticide applications. Commercial applicators, landscapers, pest management professionals, foresters, and farmers are all welcome.

Spotted lanternfly will not be the only pest of discussion at the daily 11:30 am program by the Finger Lakes Institute and Finger Lakes PRISM. Patty Wakefield-Brown will be talking about several invasive species of concern to farmers and forest owners.

Teenage Trick Rider Joins Runnings Equine Round-Up

The Runnings Round-Up Equine programs at 11 am and 2 pm in 2019 will feature the first visit to Empire Farm Days by teenage trick rider Courtney Jean Schum on Wednesday. Courtney Jean has thrilled crowds at the International Plowing Match and Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and at rodeos in Canada and New York State. In 2017, she won an Ontario RAM Rodeo Tour Finals Champion Buckle. In January 2020, she will compete in the trick riding competition at the International Professional Rodeo Association Finals in Oklahoma.

On Tuesday, Jack and Emma Minter of Rose Hill Ranch, Naples, N.Y., will demonstrate their natural horsemanship skills and performance techniques for training America's wild Mustang horses and turning them into adoptable companion animals.

On Thursday, Begin Again Horse Rescue returns with its education program equines to inform visitors about the proper care of horses and how it helps horses of all breeds, mules, donkeys, drafts and miniature horses.

Farm Family Fun, Health and Safety

At the Farm Pond, visitors find family fun and safety education with on-water safety demonstrations and paddlesports try-outs. Life vests will be available; parents must sign permission for those younger than 18 to try a standup paddleboard, pedal-drive kayak, or water toy called a Corcl. Morgan Marine of Penn Yan is sponsoring the on-water try-outs. New York Sea Grant, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and New York State Marine Services Bureau present the on-water safety demonstrations at 10 am, 12 pm, and 2 pm on Tuesday-Wednesday, and Thursday at 10 am and 12 pm.

The Empire Farm Days show program for 2019 has added a series of Resource Tips and a feature on stress management with resources for help that make it a valuable take-home souvenir. Before you leave the show though, be sure to find the page with the

Register to Win opportunities for a new Kubota RTV 500, a daily ROPS kit, free chips, and a four-person boating safety course.

For social media coverage on the show, see Facebook and Instagram and follow all the happenings with postings by NYFarmGirls Evelyn, Claudia and Josephine @NYFARMGIRLS on Instagram. Stop by their booth in Dairy Tent A.

The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health will offer free health screenings for skin cancer, vision and hearing function on Tuesday and Wednesday; and blood pressure checks daily from 9 am to 12 pm and 1-3 pm. Their exhibit has personal protective equipment and power takeoff shields available for purchase.

If you would like to donate blood at the show, the Red Cross Bloodmobile will be on site on Wednesday, August 7. Organizers suggest calling ahead to 1-800-RED-CROSS or going online to redcrossblood.org to make an appointment time. Walk-ins are welcome, but using the Rapid Pass at redcrossblood.org/rapidpass will save you time at the show.

Admission to Empire Farm Days is free; parking is \$10 per vehicle. Daily schedules and more information are posted at www.empirefarmdays.com. You can also find information on Facebook and Instagram. For questions, contact the show at 877-697-7837.

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