



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/>

First Farm? Beef? Christmas Trees? Horses? Find Rural Living Resources and Test Drives at Empire Farm Days

Seneca Falls, N.Y. The place to be for anyone interested in starting a small farm, raising a few beef cattle, keeping horses or small livestock, or leasing land for farming is Empire Farm Days, the three-day agricultural and rural living showcase set for August 6-8, 2019 at Rodman Lott and Son Farms in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

Event visitors find 300 acres of seminars, exhibits, information, experts for question and answer, and demonstrations of all types and sizes of equipment, and live animal presentations.

New for 2019 will be the opportunity to test drive several brands of compact tractors, larger than a garden tractor and just right for small farm enterprises. Other Ride and Drive areas will feature trucks, ATVs and sport vehicles, and land-handling equipment with well-known brands.

Large field crop demonstrations offer a look at haying and tillage equipment at work. Got rocks? If you have land with rocks, rocks, and more rocks, come see daily demonstrations of a grinder that pulverizes that unwanted field stone.

The New York Beef Producers offer daily cattle handling demonstrations, Beef Quality Assurance training, and have added a new demonstration on what to expect from a New York State Department of Transportation truck and trailer inspection.

The Christmas Tree Farmers Association of New York will have producers on hand with information and live trees. Got woods you would like to cut for firewood, heating, or lumber? Come see working log handling equipment and talk with forestry processing, wood chipper, and wood stove vendors.

Live horse demonstrations in the Runnings Round-Up Pen at Empire Farm Days in 2019 include the opportunity to talk with equine rescue group Begin Again Horse Rescue (Thursday) and wild Mustang trainers Jack and Emma Minter (Wednesday) about adoption programs, plus enjoy a performance by teenage trick rider Courtney Jean Schum (Tuesday).

Empire Farm Days also have exhibits by maple producers, wine makers, faculty and staff with college programs offering agricultural degree programs and Extension education, and a dozen agricultural publications. Exhibitors also include land management representatives with information on insurance, and buying, renting, and leasing land.

New York Farm Bureau and at the New York Farm Bureau Foundation Family Education Center staff have membership information and teaching resources to share. The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets provides information on animal health, selling at farmers' markets, food safety certification, risk management, and much more. Conservation organizations offer information on how to attract pollinators and bluebirds, and how to discourage predator species.

Soil Health specialists and farmer panels will be presenting daily sessions on how to properly manage soil, reduce erosion, and use cover crops to enhance soil for field crop and vegetable production. Seminars will address pesticide handling and invasive species alerts.

If you're a youth thinking about a dairy industry career, visit Empire Farm Days for Dairy Profit Seminars on Tuesday and Wednesday, and learn about becoming a Junior DAIRY Leaders participant in a new Thursday showcase event celebrating this Cornell PRO-DAIRY youth program's 20th anniversary.

Free health screenings for skin cancer, vision and hearing function are offered at the show on Tuesday and Wednesday with the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health. NYCAMH staff will be doing blood pressure checks daily from 9 am to 12 pm and 1-3 pm, and will have personal protective equipment and power takeoff shields available for purchase.

Just for fun, stop by the farm pond at Empire Farm Days to try pedal-drive kayaks, standup paddleboards, and other water equipment. Life vests are provided; a parent must sign permission for those younger than 18; and a five-minute safety lesson will be presented prior to tryouts. Exhibitors also include with farm-theme toys, clothing, and home décor items.

The Empire Farm Days agricultural and rural living event is organized by the Empire State Potato Growers. The showgrounds at Rodman Lott and Son Farms are at 2973 State Route 414, Seneca Falls, N.Y. Show admission is free; parking is \$10/vehicle. Find more information online at www.empirefarmdays.com, Facebook and Instagram, or call 877-697-7837.

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