Friday, February 21, 2020

The Taste FLXpo Premier Local Food & Farmer's Market presented by Finger Lakes Farm Country, returns for its third year in 2020 with improvements to enhance the guest experience.

This year Taste FLXpo includes educational workshops, and the new Taste FLXpo café featuring menu items made with locally produced fresh ingredients of which your admission includes tickets for food samples from the café, and a farmer’s market where guests can purchase locally sourced products.

Taste FLXpo will feature 50 local farmers, and producers inside the Corning Community College Commons Building. During the event, attendees can purchase local goods and more café tickets for food just like an everyday Farm Market.

This event helps the public see how much locally sourced and made food is in the area, and exposes agricultural businesses to new customers.

Admission is $10/person online and at the door and includes admission to Taste FLXpo, tasting tickets for the café, and a Taste FLXpo shopping bag. Children 13 and under are free admission. Tickets are limited so get yours today before they sell out.

Tickets can be purchased at this website: https://flxfarmcountry.ticketleap.com/2020taste-flxpo/
Crop Insurance Planting Date Change for Dry Beans in New York State

Julie Kikkert and Margie Lund, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program; from VegEdge, 1/6/2020

As a result of a request and supporting data submitted by Cornell Cooperative Extension and the NYS Dry Bean Industry to the USDA, Risk Management Agency we are pleased to report the following Crop Insurance Program Change: The crop insurance final plant date for Cranberry and Light Red Kidney dry beans types have changed for the 2020 crop year from June 30 to July 10.

The planting date for dark red kidney beans and black turtle soup will remain as June 30th. Results of years of variety trials by Cornell University Emeritus Professor, Donald Halseth, documented the case that light red kidney and cranberry beans are a full 10 to 15 days earlier in maturity than dark red kidney and black turtle soup beans typically grown in New York. In the 2014 Cornell Dry Bean Variety Fact Sheet, the final summary report of decades of dry bean trials in grower fields and research plots, Dr. Halseth reported that California Early Light Red Kidney (CELRK or CalEarly) beans (industry standard) had an average maturity of 87 days in 125 trials where it was tested. In comparison, the black bean standard variety Midnight averaged 101 days to maturity (64 trials) and the Dark Red Kidney variety Montcalm averaged 98 days (54 trials). More recent dry bean variety trial results conducted by Jim Ballerstein at Cornell AgriTech can be accessed at http://www.vegetables.cornell.edu/crops/procesing-vegetable-research-and-extension-program/

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County presents: Industrial Hemp Producers Conference
Thursday February 6th, 9am-3pm
840 Upper Front St, Binghamton

Did you grow industrial hemp in 2019, or are you interested in perhaps adding it to the enterprises on your farm or rural land? Join Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County on February 6th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for an Industrial Hemp Producers Conference.

We have attracted the premier speakers in all areas of hemp, including legal, production, regulations, marketing, evaluation of cultivars and more! We’ll be kicking it off with opening remarks by NYS Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, the chair of the NYS Assembly Agriculture Committee. Our other speakers include: Scott Kurkoski, Levene, Gouldin and Thompson, LLP; Christopher Logue, NY Ag and Markets; Kaelan Castetter, CEO, CSG Hemp; Dr. Larry Smart, Cornell University; Jen Starr, Cornell University; and Erik Carbone, Tricolla Farms.
The cost of conference is $30 per person and includes lunch. A scholarship for veterans is available. To register: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/2020hempgrowersconf_203.

For more information or to set up a business booth please contact Brian Aukema at bja14@cornell.edu or 607-584-9967.

Save the Date!
Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Time TBD

Steuben County Crop Symposium
DEC pesticide credit recertification workshop
Civil Defense Center in Bath, NY
DEC credits pending

The USDA National Scrapie Eradication Program Needs Our Help!

The USDA is currently seeking producers to let them sample mature sheep, 14 months of age to 6 years of age, for scrapie disease at slaughter or when an animal is found dead, euthanized, or slaughtered on the farm. The sampling involves taking the obex (brain stem) and a lymph node from the head. The USDA needs to increase the number of samples to maintain a minimum number so New York State remains in "consistent status". If New York State does not reach this minimum there will be severe consequences for our state. As an incentive to producers, the USDA is offering free scrapie tags to producers who have at least one eligible sheep sample. If you can provide such sampling opportunities, please contact Jennifer Marks: Jennifer Marks, Animal Health Technician, New York, Phone: 518-275-3247 Email: Email Jennifer, 500 New Karner Road, Albany, NY 12205

Cornell Dairy Pricing Survey

Calling all U.S. Dairy Farmers! Interested in how milk handlers pay you for quality and volume? Have a point of view on equitable hauling cost structures? Have preferences for selling to a farmer-owned cooperative or independent milk handler? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then we want to hear from you. Your input will importantly inform how milk handlers consider these issues in alignment with dairy farmer preferences! Deadline February 15. This informative survey will take less than 15 minutes. Want to read about the results? Just include your email on the survey. Plus you have a chance to win one of five $100 VISA gift cards!

For more information, contact Todd M. Schmit (tms1@cornell.edu) or Roberta M. Severson (rmh27@cornell.edu), Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics & Management, Cornell University. https://tinyurl.com/dairypricesurvey
Emerging Risk Notice
November 2019

Streptococcus equi subspecies zooepidemicus

Key Points

- Starting on September 28, 2019 a high mortality event occurred in a cull sow slaughter plant in Tennessee. A chiller malfunction caused the hold of 22 loads of cull sows. On September 30, 2019, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) reported over 40 percent of the 2,222 sows in holding pens, dead or euthanized when condemned on ante-mortem inspection. Samples from the affected sows in Tennessee showed Streptococcus equi subspecies zooepidemicus (S. zooepidemicus).

- Preliminary information suggests that similar events may have occurred at other locations in the United States. This includes a continuous-flow swine aggregating and buying station in Ohio epidemiologically linked to the event in Tennessee. Reports from knowledgeable individuals describe both feeder swine and cull sows as being affected.

- The finding of high mortality rates in cull swine at holding facilities is unusual. The cause of this and similar recent events identified in the United States are under investigation to understand if S. zooepidemicus is the single cause or if the deaths are due to multiple factors.

- The Canada West Swine Health Intelligence Network (CWSHIN) 2019 Second Quarter Swine Disease Report described detections of S. zooepidemicus in sows and gilts that occurred in Manitoba in the beginning of May 2019. In April 2019 and May 2019, Canada noted other similar swine die-offs. Although the Canadian Network watched for additional high mortality events linked to S. zooepidemicus, they had not noted any previous trends in swine.

- China has reported significant detections of S. zooepidemicus in swine. The reports emphasize large economic losses to the swine industry affecting sows and replacement gilts and has become a threat to human health.1-4

Figure 1: S. zooepidemicus colonies on a blood agar plate

- S. zooepidemicus is a zoonotic organism. Although rare, it can cause severe illness in humans exposed to infected horses or other infected species. This includes exposure through consumption of associated unpasteurized milk products.

Concerns for U.S. Animal Health

- There is a need to investigate and understand the exposure and the epidemiology of S. zooepidemicus in swine to avoid potential negative economic impacts to the swine industry.

- Identification of effective measures are needed to prevent negative impacts due to S. zooepidemicus infection in swine. Further investigation of this pathogen is required to determine the role, if any, of S. zooepidemicus in high mortality events in swine.

- Current recommended controls to decrease the impact of S. zooepidemicus infection in swine include reducing transportation-related stressors. These include trauma, extreme temperatures, inclement weather, malnutrition, and extended holding times prior to slaughter.
Epidemiology

- *S. zooepidemicus* is an emerging zoonosis. It is a ubiquitous opportunistic commensal organism in the respiratory and reproductive tracts of horses. Although rare, there are reports of infection in other species, including: humans, cattle, sheep, pigs, camels, alpacas, foxes, birds, rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, cats, and monkeys, often with severe disease. Many of these infections are associated with exposure to infected horses.\(^5\)\(^6\)

- In the recent swine mortality events in the United States, the clinical picture observed in swine included: lethargy, weakness, high fever, swift spread among pigs from highly varied sources within the affected premises, and rapidly escalating mortality levels approaching 30 to 50 percent. There were also reports of: bacterial septicemia, inflammation, and necrosis of submandibular lymph nodes. Noted pathology included: fibrinosuppurative peritonitis, hepatitis and vasculitis, fibrinous pleuritis and polyserositis in thoracic and abdominal cavities, and suppurative lymphadenitis and cutaneous hyperemia. Aerobic cultures from liver and lung samples were positive for *S. zooepidemicus*.\(^7\)\(^8\)

- Studies from China suggest severity of disease in swine is possibly related to a particular strain of *S. zooepidemicus*.\(^7\)\(^8\) Studies using genetic analysis suggest it is an invasive and virulent strain.\(^9\)\(^10\)

- An intracellular phase may be one way *S. zooepidemicus* survives in the host, and could in part explain recurrent/persistent infection.\(^9\)

- Human infection with *S. zooepidemicus* is rare but is often related to contact with infected horses. Human infection is also linked to contact with other infected animals including: dogs, monkeys, domestic ruminants, pigs, and with ingestion of unpasteurized dairy products.

- Human infection is of particular concern for immunocompromised individuals, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, treatment with steroids, or who have an immunosuppressive condition, such as diabetes.

- In reported human cases, the organism causes severe and potentially fatal disease, including: bacteremia, endocarditis, arthritis, glomerulonephritis, necrotizing myositis, and meningitis.\(^10\)\(^-\)\(^15\)

Transmission

- Transmission routes to humans, pigs and other animals include direct exposure to infective respiratory droplets, uterine exudates, and consumption of unpasteurized milk and cheese from animals with mastitis due to infection with *S. zooepidemicus*.\(^5\)\(^-\)\(^6\)\(^10\)\(^-\)\(^16\)\(^19\)\(^-\)\(^20\)

Diagnostic Testing in Swine

- The USDA-APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories performs testing with Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization-Time of Flight Mass Spectrometer (MALDI-TOF), which produces a spectrum that is matched to a database to identify the organism. Results are supplemented by biochemical tests.

- Whole genome sequencing is used to compare strains and assist with identifying the possible source of the infection. The organism identified from the Tennessee mortality event shared the same genotype and is remarkably similar to the published strain causing mortality events in China and the detection in Manitoba in May 2019. Samples to collect include: fixed and fresh tissues, including lymph nodes, lung, liver, kidney, spleen, and fresh tonsils.

- *S. zooepidemicus* was isolated from multiple organs collected from the affected swine in Tennessee with high growth from kidney and spleen and lower growth from the lung.

Treatment

- *S. zooepidemicus* bacteria are largely susceptible to β-lactam antibiotics, like penicillins, amoxicillin, ampicillin, and cephalosporins. Susceptibility to tetracyclines, macrolides, clindamycin, and fluoroquinolones is variable.\(^18\)\(^-\)\(^20\)

- Common cleaning and disinfecting procedures can inactivate this bacterium. Quaternary ammonium compounds, phenol-based agents, or oxidizing agents are all effective against *S. zooepidemicus*.\(^22\) Because this bacterium has the potential to form biofilms, appropriate mechanical cleaning with disinfection should be incorporated into any cleaning procedure.\(^21\)
Prevention in Swine

- Decrease stress related to transport. Stress is a common factor noted in the recent investigations related to the swine deaths at holding facilities in Ohio, Tennessee, and Canada. Additionally, stress was also observed in a recent report of S. zooepidemicus in dogs in Georgia.
- Avoid holding animals in pens overnight to several days. Proper cleaning and disinfection of pens and equipment before introducing new animals decreases the risk of pathogen transmission.
- Avoid commingling groups of transported swine, as direct contact occurs along with other stress factors.
- Minimize or mitigate conditions for swine that present risks for trauma, including exposure to extreme temperatures, overcrowding, inclement weather, malnutrition, inadequate water supply, or loud noises.
- Early identification of S. zooepidemicus can facilitate appropriate medical intervention and timely epidemiologic surveillance, preventing the spread of a potentially life-threatening pathogen.
- There is currently no commercial vaccine available for S. zooepidemicus for any species, though autogenous vaccines may have limited use.

Prepared by: Sherilyn Wainwright, DVM, MPH
USDA APHIS VS CEAH Risk Identification Team

For further information contact: Dana Cole, DVM, PhD
USDA APHIS VS CEAH
E-mail: Dana.J.Cole@usda.gov

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

References

Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Planning
Including a Disease Scenario Demonstration with Audience Participation

The focus of the New York Pork Producers’ Annual Meeting will be how to prepare for an on-farm crisis. The meeting will take place at the Quality Inn, 2468 NYS 414, Waterloo, NY on Saturday March 21, 2020. Registration will begin at 7:45 am with the program starting promptly at 8:30. Our featured speakers will be Cindy Cunningham –Vice President of Communications and Dr. Patrick Webb – Director of Swine Health Programs, both from the National Pork Board. The morning session will include a disease scenario demonstration with audience participation.

The afternoon will include Q & A session, Checkoff update as well as a NPPC update. The afternoon will conclude with the annual member meeting and board meeting.

Cost of the meeting will be $10.00 per person, lunch included. To guarantee your spot please send your registration from, below or can be found on the website (www.newyorkpork.org) and payment to New York Pork Producers. Registration deadline is March 13; there has been much interest in this training, it is suggested to register early! This meeting will include producers, state agency personnel, veterinarians plus others.

So far, the US has been fortunate to have strong biosecurity procedures at our borders to keep African Swine Fever at bay. The NY swine industry would be devastated if an outbreak occurred. Come and learn how to help protect your farm.

This one-day meeting will also feature a trade show and a silent auction. The silent auction always includes interesting, useful and fun items. A spirit of friendly competition reigns as participants enjoy bidding against each other. Donations for the silent auction are open to everyone and are greatly appreciated!

Registration Form – One registration per person

Name:__________________________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
Phone: (____)____________________ Email:________________________

Make checks payable to: New York Pork Producers

Mail: 5146 Transit Rd Depew, NY 14043

Upon receiving registration a receipt will be emailed.
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(NA) Not available.

1 5-State total represents a weighted (hay purchases) average price for the five largest milk producing States (based on the pounds of milk produced during the previous month).

2 For October 2019, includes California, Idaho, New York, Texas, and Wisconsin. For November 2019, includes California, Idaho, New York, Texas, and Wisconsin.

Agricultural Prices (December 2019)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
ANNIE’S PROJECT: Empowering Women in Agriculture
Risk Management for Farm Women
Tuesdays, March 3 – April 14
6 sessions (April 14th held for a snow day)
10:00am – 2:00pm
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County
Steuben County Annex Building, 20 East Morris St. Bath, NY 14810

The mission of Annie’s Project is to empower farm women to be better business partners through networks and by managing and organizing critical information.

Annie’s Project is designed especially for women farmers, partners on the farm, agribusinesses, or those working within the food system to help develop management and decision-making skills for their farms. Sessions include brief presentations from local professionals, discussions focused on the participant’s questions, and hands-on training.

This program is for women who have been involved with farming or part of farming for three to five years, and want to develop their understanding, interpretation, and opportunities in sustainable agriculture. However, this series is still applicable for those looking to get into farming, or with only a few years’ experience. Annie’s Project gives farm women the opportunity to learn from local agricultural professionals and importantly, network and share their farming experiences with other women in similar situations.

Annie’s Project provides education in 5 Risk Categories, including Financial, Human Resources, Legal, Market, and Production.

At the end of the 6-week program, participants will:

- Understand personality types to communicate better with business partners
- Balance family living expenses together with other costs of doing ag business
- Interpret balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow projections to make business decisions
- Review labor laws, requirements, and their implications
- Understand how assets are titled and learn about estate planning tools
- Consider available marketing opportunities relevant to your production
- Review USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) deadlines and implications
- Review Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) deadlines and implications

The cost is $75 for the series and includes meals, all course materials including copies of all presentations and worksheets, professional advice from guest facilitators and trainers, and support from a variety of community partners.

Please register by Tuesday, February 25, 2020 on our website at www.putknowledgetowork.org or call the office at 607-664-2300.

Questions? Contact Ariel Kirk, Agriculture Educator at adk39@cornell.edu or 607-664-2574.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer.

This project has been generously supported by the Fund for Women of the Southern Tier, Inc.
Agricultural News

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

PRO DAIRY

A partnership between Cornell University
and the CCE Associations in these five counties:
 Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

An educational newsletter to keep producers informed of changing market factors affecting the dairy industry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk Component Prices</th>
<th>Milk Class Prices</th>
<th>Statistical Uniform Price &amp; PPD</th>
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<td>Nov 19</td>
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November Utilization (Northeast): Class I = 33.8% Class II = 23.8% Class III = 27.8% Class IV = 17.6%

Cheese: Cheese markets, particularly barrel prices, are bound to be in damage control for the rest of 2019. After nearing historic peaks this fall, prices this week have been in a bearish descent. That said, pricing corrections were expected from most national cheese contacts, and producers have been waiting for some downward pressure to entice buyers. Reason being: End users have limited purchasing to a near-term/necessity basis due to the aforementioned high prices. Another positive note, for some cheese industry actors, is that barrel prices have declined and put blocks back in the driver’s seat, which they say aligns with market balance. Cheese production is steady to higher. There is plenty of holiday season milk available.

Dry Products: Low/medium heat nonfat dry milk (NDM) spot prices are steady to higher. Trading activities are steady to a bit slower, but the market tone is experiencing bullishness. High heat NDM prices are mostly higher. Inventories are reported as tight, yet interest is steady to slow this week. Dry buttermilk prices are steady to higher currently. In some areas, spot trades were slightly more active. Market conditions are fairly stable. Dry whole milk prices are unchanged on the price range. Trading was slower this close to the end-of-year holidays. Whey powder prices are mixed throughout the regions.

Fluid Milk: Farm milk output is variant, in some cases from one farm to the next. The 30,000 foot view would suggest it is increasing week-to-week, but lower year-to-year on a number of farms nationwide. All that said, there is plentiful milk in most processing facilities in the country. Bottlers have cut orders, in some cases, in the midst of the fall/winter holiday season. Cheese producers continue to report Class to sub-$2 discounts on spot milk loads. Cream supplies are not as variant as raw milk, as they are generally abundant from coast to coast.

Butter: With more butter in storage, butter contacts expect that to translate into more retail promotions and interest. Buyers may be enticed by the sub $2 butter market prices, as its their first time to see that since 2016. Current stores are higher year-over-year, and current production is only adding to stocks. Cream is available nationwide.

<table>
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<th>Friday CME Cash Prices</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
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<td>Butter</td>
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<td>Cheese (40# Blocks)</td>
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Annual milk production forecasts for 2019 and 2020 are unchanged from last month’s forecasts. For 2019, the Class III price forecast has been lowered due to a weaker cheese price, but the Class IV price is unchanged as a lower butter price is offset by a higher nonfat dry milk (NDM) price. For 2020, Class III and IV price forecasts are raised as all major dairy product price forecasts have been raised except for butter. The all-milk price forecast for 2019 is unchanged at $18.60 per hundredweight (cwt), but the all-milk price forecast for 2020 has been raised to $19.40 per cwt, $0.55 higher than last month’s forecast.

The 2019/20 corn price forecast is unchanged from last month at $3.85 per bushel. The soybean meal forecast for 2019/20 is $310 per short ton, $15 lower than last month’s forecast. The October alfalfa hay price was $179 per short ton, $2 lower than September but $3 higher than October 2018. The 5-State weighted-average price for premium alfalfa hay in October was $205 per short ton, $1 higher than the September price.

A faster pace of cattle slaughter boosts beef production in fourth-quarter 2019. However, 2020 production was reduced on a slightly slower pace of fed and non-fed cattle slaughter in first-half 2020. Fed cattle prices were raised for fourth-quarter 2019 on recent price data and price strength carried into 2020. Beef imports for 2019 and 2020 were raised from last month on reported trade data and expectations that processing grade beef will remain strong. Fourth-quarter beef exports for 2019 were lowered to reflect weaker demand; 2020 exports were unchanged.

Based on recent data for milk cow numbers, the 2019 fourth-quarter forecast for milk cows is 9.325 million head, 10,000 higher than last month’s forecast. The fourth-quarter forecast for yield per cow is unchanged at 5,805 pounds. The annual forecast for average size of the milking herd is 9.330 million head, 5,000 higher than last month’s forecast. The 2019 forecast for yield per cow is 23,435 pounds. The annual milk production forecast for 2019 rounds to 218.6 billion pounds, unchanged from last month’s forecast.

The 2019 annual forecast for exports on a milk-fat basis is unchanged from last month at 9.0 billion pounds. Based on recent data, forecasts for the cheese and butter prices for the fourth quarter of 2019 have been lowered to $2.070 per pound (-1.0 cent) and $2.070 per pound (-3.5 cents), respectively. With a lower cheese price forecast more than offsetting the higher whey price forecast, the fourth quarter Class III milk price forecast has been lowered to $19.55 per hundredweight (cwt). With the higher NDM price forecast offsetting the lower butter price forecast, the fourth-quarter Class IV milk price forecast is unchanged at $16.50 per cwt. The all-milk price forecast for the fourth quarter has been lowered to $20.45 per cwt, $0.05 lower than last month’s forecast.

With higher expected demand for cheese, the 2020 cheese price forecast has been raised to $1.865 per pound (+0.5 cents). With recent weakness in butter prices expected to extend into next year, the butter price forecast for 2020 has been lowered to $2.020 per pound (-4.0 cents). With the higher expected prices for all major dairy product prices except for butter, the Class III price has been raised to $17.65 per cwt (+$0.15) and the Class IV price has been raised to $16.95 per cwt (+$1.00). The all-milk forecast for 2020 has been raised to $19.40 per cwt, $0.55 higher than last month’s forecast.
COMING EVENTS

February 6, 2020-Industrial Hemp Producers Conference, Binghamton, NY. See article in this issue for more information.

February 21, 2020-Taste FLXpo, Corning Community College Commons, Corning, NY. See front page of this issue for more information.

March 3-April 14, 2020-Annie’s Project: Empowering Women in Agriculture, Bath, NY. See article in this issue for more details.

March 11, 2020-Steuben County Crop Symposium, Bath, NY. Time TBD. DEC credits pending.


FOR LEASE/RENT

6+ acres for lease for organic cultivation. Must have ag exemption. Call 607 483-8758 between 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM, M – F.

Available For Rent: Steuben County SWCD has an Esch 10’ No-Till Drill for rent. Rates are $12-$25/acre based on number of acres planted. Delivery/pickup available. Please call (607)776-7398 ext.3 for more information.

Seeking conservation minded individual with interests in permaculture to rent 3-4 acre, gentle grade, southern exposure field for agricultural production in Steuben County, NY. Acceptable practices include organic vegetable production, small scale poultry, and organic greenhouse or high tunnel production. Other considerations will be determined by owner. Improved, uncultivated ground will require proper preparation for success. Currently no housing available on the property, but can be discussed with owner in the future. Contact CCE Steuben at 607-664-2574 for further information.

Attention Cattle Farmers: I have pasture/farmland for rent, 40-50 acres, reasonable rate. Located in Steuben County on State Rt. 63. Contact Marian Crawford at 585-728-5303.