

To Register: call Kim at (607) 865-7090, email kmh19@cornell.edu, visit www.ccedelaware.org or scan code below

EARLY BIRD 10:00

Innovative Ag Technology

Connor Young,
Watershed Agricultural Council



Learn about WAC's new competitive grant program supporting innovative farm equipment and precision technology that improves air and water quality while strengthening farm operations and generating practical lessons for other farmers. Hear application details, funding categories, and upcoming opportunities for participating farms.

Swipe, Sell, Succeed - Panel

Ryan Nethery, Upland Farm
Dawn Perry, D&D Farm

Learn how a Point-of-Sale (POS) system can streamline your farm's direct-to-consumer sales. This workshop covers why farms benefit from POS tools, the types of data these systems collect, and how that information can strengthen both financial records and marketing decisions. Hear directly from local farmers using a variety of POS platforms during our panel discussion and Q&A.

Beyond the Bacon: Starting Your Small-Scale Pork Operation

Adam McFarland, Top Notch Livestock



Adam will discuss the basics of feeder pig selection and requirements to get a finished hog with quality meat including housing requirements, feed & nutrition, health, harvest timing, etc. He will cover breeding gilt and boar selection and knowledge needed to start your own breeding herd.

What is a Local Food System and Am I a Part of It?

Cheryl Bilinski, CCE - Harvest NY



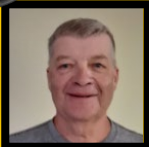
A Local Food System is more than just a feel-good buzzword. Cheryl will help us understand what a Local Food System means and how all farms and consumers fit in the picture and benefit from a thriving Catskill's Local Food System.

LUNCH 12:00

11:00 am

Farm Financial Fitness: Essential Tax Updates & Planning Tools

Andy Gilbert, NY Farm Net



Ever wonder if you are getting the most out of your accounting and tax planning methods? In this session, Andy will discuss key attributes to successful record keeping and tax planning. Accounting systems on dairies can get complex, yet with proper planning, documentation and tax preparation, many different deductions and credits can be earned.

1:40 pm

Strategies to Maximize Forages in Your Feed Program

Don Burkard, Dairy NExT Nutrition Consulting



Forages should make up the greatest portion of dairy cattle diets and the quality of forages fed as well as specific feed management practices can greatly influence milk production on dairies. As a 20+ year dairy nutrition consultant, Don Burkard will present how to monitor and improve the quality and quantity of our forage. Don will also lay out key management practices that can be applied to your crop plans this year to allow your diets to be successful every day.

2:40 pm

Empowering Cows with Automated Health Monitoring

Julio Giordano, Cornell University



The evolving landscape of dairy farming, technology and innovation are transforming how farmers manage herd health, reproduction, and productivity. Dr. Giordano will share practical applications of many available automated health monitoring systems, such as collars, boluses and AI technologies. You will learn how these technologies are revolutionizing cattle care by offering real-time insights into individual cow well-being and providing data, reducing labor demands, and improving animal welfare.

DAIRY

Animal Behavior and Handling Systems

Dirk Schubert, Hession Hill Farm



Livestock handling should be safe and easy for both the animal and the farmer. Dirk will explain the science behind animal behavior. He will then connect these concepts to handling system design, layout, and connection to the rest of the farm including training animals to the system. Examples will include cattle and small ruminants.

Selecting Replacement Females for Your Herd or Flock

Ashley McFarland, CCE CNY Dairy, Livestock Team



Selection of female replacement animals is a critical management skill that enhances the productivity and profitability of the farm. Ashley will cover what makes a good replacement female, how to know how many you need, age and weight benchmarks for ideal growth rates and breeding targets, and nutrition and feed management strategies.

Is Creep Feeding Right for You?

Ric Coombe, Thunderview Farm, John Verhoeven, JJF Farm, Ashley McFarland, CCE CNY Dairy, Livestock Team

This session will start out with a short overview of what creep feeding entails. Hear a panel of three farmers explain the why and how of creep feeding on their operations, including creep feeding of beef calves, lambs, and piglets. The second half of the hour will be an opportunity for you to ask your questions of the panelists.

LIVESTOCK

Improving Pasture Quality and Productivity

Sarah Flack, Sarah Flack Consulting



Sarah will dig into common pasture problems and ways to create higher yielding pastures with better nutritional quality. She will cover the full "Graziers Tool Box" of pasture improvement options including varied stock density, grazing heights and residuals; improving soil health and fertility; no-till and frost seeding, full renovation and more.

Grazing from the Livestock Perspective

Sarah Flack, Sarah Flack Consulting



What does it take to finish a lamb or steer on pasture or meet the nutritional needs of livestock producing a lot of milk? Sarah will discuss design and management of grazing systems to achieve meeting high nutrition demands from pasture including increasing pasture intake; changing supplemental feed; managing plant variety, maturity, height and residuals; and new technologies.

Grazing Equipment: A Hands-on Experience

Dan Vredenburg, Ben Hepler, Watershed Agricultural Council, Dan Flaherty, Natural Resources Conservation Service

After a short introduction of grazing equipment, you will have the opportunity to go to three stations to put your hands on grazing equipment. Hard fencing (energizers, insulators, tools); Temporary fencing (posts, reels, wires); and Watering systems (troughs, floats, fittings, pipe). Come with your questions and leave with answers.

GRAZING

Incorporating Beneficial Insects into Your Pest Management Program

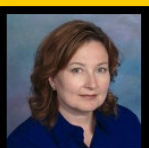
Betsy Lamb, Cornell IPM



While cultural and chemical methods of pest management may seem to get all the attention, incorporating beneficial insects into your high tunnel or field production shouldn't be ignored. Learn to identify the beneficials that are already at work there and how you can get more work out of them! Betsy will discuss both adding commercially available beneficials and encouraging the native ones that are present as ways to add biological control.

Troubleshooting in Vegetable Transplant Production

Teresa Rusinek, CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program



This session covers some of the common issues that impact the quality of vegetable transplants. Teresa will discuss water quality, media, fertility, pests and management.

Tips for Getting the Most Out of OMRI-listed Pesticide Applications

Ethan Grundberg, CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program



Most growers don't enjoy spraying pesticides. However, investing in the proper equipment and taking the time to ensure the most efficacious pesticide applications are both critical for growers who are interested in spraying less on the farm. Grundberg will cover topics such as nozzle selection, OMRI-listed adjuvant use, evaluating spray coverage, and sprayer calibration.

VEGETABLES

Marketing Great Flowers, Selling to Florists

Jess Beretz, Farmhouse Floral Design



Have you considered selling wholesale to florists? Or how to make your flowers last longer? You have the growing part down, and now are ready for the next step? Jess will discuss how to properly harvest and market your flowers to your desired audience. Jess will share her experience as both a grower and a florist, focusing on what florists really want to buy. Jess has over a decade of experience in the wedding industry as well as a lifetime of flower production knowledge.

Soil Health & Nutrient Management

Jinjing Yin, CCE Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program



This presentation will cover the concept of soil health, different ways of improving soil health, how to interpret soil test results and nutrient management for cut flower production.

Lavender 101

Monica Cutillo-Cody, Owner of Farmstead 1868



Learn about all things lavender! The history, uses, benefits, and different varieties. Interested in picking a location to grow your own? What's the difference between varieties? What do you do with the lavender once you have it in your garden or on your farm? Join Monica for a discussion about it all!

FLOWERS

Scan code to register and pay online



CATSKILL REGIONAL
AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

January 9, 2026

DAIRY

LIVESTOCK

GRAZING

VEGETABLES

FLOWERS

19 Workshops for All Types of Farms

- DAIRY:**
Farm Financial Fitness: Essential Tax Updates & Planning Tools - Strategies to Maximize Forages in Your Feed Program - Empowering Cows with Automated Health Monitoring

LIVESTOCK:
Animal Behavior and Handling Systems - Selecting Replacement Females for Your Herd or Flock - Is Creep Feeding Right for Your Operation?

EARLY BIRD:
Innovative Ag Technology Grant - Swipe, Sell, Succeed: POS Essentials for Farm Stands - Beyond the Bacon: Starting Your Small-Scale Pork Operation
- VEGETABLES:**
Troubleshooting in Vegetable Transplant Production - Incorporating Beneficial Insects into Your Pest Management Program - Tips for Getting the Most Out of OMRI-listed Pesticide Applications

GRAZING:
Improving Pasture Quality and Productivity - Grazing from the Livestock Perspective - Grazing Equipment: A Hands-on Experience

FLOWERS:
Marketing Great Flowers, Selling to Florists - Soil Health - Lavender 101


Lunch:
What is a Local Food System and Am I a Part of It?


Brought to you by:


Cornell Cooperative Extension
Delaware County

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Kim Holden at 607-510-7050 by January 5, 2026, to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.

The Watershed Agricultural Council is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. The Watershed Agricultural Council is funded by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Forest Service, U.S.D.A. and other sources.












FRIDAY JANUARY 9, 2026

SUNY Delhi

CATSKILL
REGIONAL
AGRICULTURE
CONFERENCE

DAIRY
LIVESTOCK • GRAZING
VEGETABLES • FLOWERS

SPONSORED BY:
THE WATERSHED AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL
AND
CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
OF DELAWARE COUNTY



Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference

SUNY Delhi • January 9, 2026 • 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration deadline: Monday, January 5, 2026

Online Registration (recommended)
scan QR code or go to www.cce-delaware.org, email kimh19@cornell.edu
or Call Kim at (607) 865-7090, or clip this page and mail

Please make checks payable to:
CCE of Delaware County
Return to: Kim Holden, 44 West Street, Suite 1, Walton, NY 13856

Fee: \$30

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Number attending: _____ x \$30 Total \$ _____

So that we can ensure we are meeting the needs of all our constituents, we appreciate the following information:

Gender: (Check one) _____ Male _____ Female _____ Choose not to disclose

Race: (Check one) _____ White _____ Black _____ Choose not to disclose
_____ Native American _____ Asian _____ Pacific Islander _____ Other


Ethnicity:(Check one) _____ Non-Hispanic _____ Choose not to disclose

For more information, call Kim (607) 510-7050

Email kimh19@cornell.edu or visit www.cce-delaware.org

Campus Map & Directions:
www.delhi.edu/admission/visit-delhi/directions/

Scan code to register and pay online



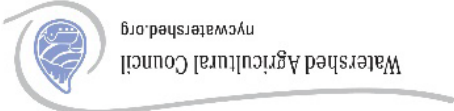


23rd Annual
CATSKILL REGIONAL
AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

January 9, 2026

SUNY Delhi

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Delaware County, in partnership with the Watershed Agricultural Council, will be hosting the 23rd Annual Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference on Friday, January 9, 2026, beginning at 10:00 AM in Farrell Hall at the SUNY Delhi campus. Come and join farmers from around the region for this premier agricultural event. Our top-notch speakers will be presenting timely information about Dairy, Livestock, Vegetable, and Flower Production as well as Grazing Management with a focus on effective practices for farmers in the Catskill Region.

Registration will begin at 9:30 am with Early Bird sessions at 10:00 am. Dairy, Livestock, Grazing, Vegetable and Flower Production tracts start at 11:00, 1:40 and 2:40. At noon attendees will enjoy a delicious local food lunch while learning about Local Food Systems.



I understand that this is a public event and that the event sponsors (Cornell Cooperative Extension and Watershed Agricultural Council) will be taking pictures and recordings workshops. By my registration and attendance, I acknowledge my participation and hereby authorize the sponsors to use photographs, video recordings of my image and audio recordings of my voice, which I have voluntarily allowed to be taken by representatives of the sponsors. Furthermore, I hereby consent that such photographs and recordings shall be the property of the sponsors and that they shall have the right to, duplicate, reproduce and make other uses of such photographs and recordings as they may desire free and clear of any claim whatever on my part. I fully understand the comprehensive nature of this release and voluntarily consent to it.