

From: cce-alleganynews-l@list.cornell.edu
To: [CCE-ALLEGANYNEWS-L](#)
Subject: Extension Connection - Allegany County
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(Posted by klb288@cornell.edu)

Greetings!

Here is Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County Extension Connection. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us 585-268-7644. Have a great day!

Click on any of these links for complete information

Wool Workshop

Please join us for a day of workshops and hands-on activities for shepherds, shearers, fiber artists, and interested community members -- learn how to produce quality fleece, process wool at-home, access markets for your wool, help your local shepherds, and strengthen our regional wool supply chain!

Wool Quality Improvement Program

The Wool Quality Improvement Program is a multi-state initiative designed to strengthen U.S. wool markets by supporting sheep producers with direct funding, technical assistance, and market-building resources. The Wool Quality Improvement Program supports producers in improving wool quality, strengthening supply chains, and increasing access to domestic and direct-to-consumer markets. By investing in on-farm infrastructure, conservation practices, and value-added processing, the program helps American wool compete more effectively in global and domestic markets while increasing producer income and resilience.

NYS Food and Fiber Processing Grant Program

The NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets announces that applications are now open for Food and Fiber Processing grants. This program is being administered by the Farm and Food Growth Fund. Applications are due by 5:00 PM on April 28, 2026.

Beginning Farmer Competitive Grants

Applications Open March 16 for Beginning Farmer Competitive Grants - New York Farm Viability Institute announces that the 2026 NYS Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant Program (BFCG) is launching on March 16, 2026. The BFCG is a competitive funding opportunity administered in partnership with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The program will provide \$1.7 million to support beginning farmers in building financially sustainable, independent, commercial agricultural enterprises throughout New York State. Grants are available to New York beginning farmers with 10 years or less of farm operation experience and who will materially and substantially participate in operating a farm in New York State. Applications are open March 16 – June 14, 2026. [Click here](#) for more information.

Untreated Seed Program

Per-Acre Payments to Reduce Neonicotinoid Seed Coatings. Birds need healthy habitats and plentiful food sources to migrate, raise chicks, and provide the ecosystem services we rely on. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) is looking to enroll growers across the country in our Untread Seed Program for the 2025-2026 Season.

-UPCOMING EVENTS-

Ready, Set, Bloom – March 7

Growing Edible Mushrooms at Home – March 10

NY Annie's Project: Social Media 201 – March 11

Happy Harvest Garden Club at Almond Library – March 12

Farm Disaster Preparation online Certificate Training – March 24 & 25

Kelly Torrey

Senior Administrative Assistant

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Allegany County
Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops

5435 County Road 48, Belmont, NY 14813 | klb288@cornell.edu | 585-268-7644 ext 10
allegany.cce.cornell.edu | swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu

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