AUGUST 2026 AG REPORT

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Sullivan County

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 133 **Farm Visits: 4** **Soil Tests: 5**

Technical Assistance was provided on soil testing, climate resiliency, emergency and fire preparedness, livestock heat stress, business planning, ag assessment, rotational grazing, livestock disease, management of fungus and disease of vegetables, ag district, agri-tourism, direct marketing connections, value-added production, farmland protection, pest identification, pest management, invasive species identification, invasive species removal, crop selection, seed selection, tree health care & management. **53 total Hours of Technical Assistance.**

PAST WORKSHOPS

Garden Maintenance Workshop: Troubleshooting Mid-Season - (August 26): 10 registrants. Workshop was held at the CCE Sullivan teaching garden. We planted short and cool season crops, identified pests, discussed pest management & prevention, and fall gardening.

When Disease Strikes: Foreign Animal Disease - (August 25): 7 registrants. Participants learned about Highly pathogenic avian influenza (bird flu), the New World screwworm, a parasite spreading north and why "eyes on animals" matters. Foot-and-mouth disease, African swine fever, and other foreign threats are on the doorstep, emerging insect-borne diseases moving into new regions, and everyday biosecurity that protects your herd or flock

Farm Tour at Buck Brook Alpaca (In partnership with Sullivan County Visitor's Association) - (August 18): 8 Participants learned how Buck Brook uses farm tours and other agritourism activities, including farm stays, events, and the sale of fiber products and livestock, to generate income, educate the public, and strengthen community connections.

Farm Tour at Mother Earth Farmstead (In partnership with Sullivan County Visitor's Association) (August 24): 10 participants toured Mother Earth Farmstead and learned how agritourism supports farm viability and community engagement. They also explored the farm's production practices, marketing strategies, and initiatives that connect consumers with local food and agriculture.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS: REGISTER HERE: Cornell Cooperative Extension | Events

- **Planning for Climate Resiliency on Farms** *September 1, 2026* | 6:00 - 7:30pm | Webinar
- **Aquatic Invasive Species in NY** *September 16, 2026* | 5:30 - 6:30pm | Webinar
- **Managing Water, Soil and Slope (Farm Tour)** *September 20, 2026* | 3:00 - 5:00pm | Mastwood Farm
- **Poultry Processing Road Show** *September 22, 2026* | 5:00 - 8:00pm | CCE Sullivan

FARMLAND PRESERVATION:

Farmland Preservation Project: CCE Sullivan and the Orange County Land Trust assisted landowners with conservation easement and farmland protection program inquiries. 8 pre-applications and 4 additional inquiries were received in preparation for a future NYS Farmland Protection funding opportunity. Outreach also continued regarding the County's inclusion in the HV Community Preservation Act, which is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

Agricultural Districts: The Agricultural District 30-Day Review Period public hearing was held on August 6 for one parcel, an alpaca farm located in the Town of Mamakating. A resolution to include the parcel in Ag District #4 is scheduled for consideration at the Sept. Legislative Meeting. If approved, a report will be prepared and submitted to NYS Dept of Ag and Markets for certification and final inclusion in the district.

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Photos from the 2026 Sullivan County Youth Fair:













