

USDA Farm Service Agency is Encouraging Producers to Document Losses Caused by Extreme Weather Conditions

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers various safety-net programs to help producers recover from eligible losses including the Livestock Indemnity Program (for livestock deaths), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (for deaths, grazing, losses, etc.), Emergency Forest Restoration Program (tree losses, debris removal, etc.) and the Tree Assistance Program (for losses of vines, bushes or trees – excluding maple). However, be aware that timely notification of losses is required to be eligible – this is usually within 72 hours of when a loss occurs or becomes apparent. In the event of a disaster declaration, the more thorough the documentation of the losses sustained, the easier it should be to receive disaster relief.

Suggested documentation producers may want to gather include:

- Photographs – take pictures of your crops and any animal losses that may occur. Document when the photo was taken; the photo should demonstrate the severity of the loss.
- Notify the county office of any physical loss – some examples include barn collapse, damage to your land caused by flooding and any loss of livestock caused by weather. Please note this is not an exhaustive list, call with any physical losses.
- Livestock Loss – please document the number lost, cause of death along with something showing proof of death.
- Feed loss that was produced by you or purchased ruined as a result of weather. Document the type of feed, quantity and dollar value, receipts and pictures.

For more information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov or call the FSA Service Center in Lowville at 315-376-7021.

Attention Farmers! Where Can I Take my Sharps Containers When They are Full

Agriculture sharps can be found on almost every farm. Sharps are used to draw milk samples, help assess animal health and even to administer needed medications. Help dispose of them properly by sealing them in an approved, hard plastic, puncture-proof container or a sharps container. Want a free sharps container? Get on the list by calling Blake Place at 315-377-7300.



Disposal locations:

Lewis County General Hospital
Environmental Services Department
7785 N State, St.
Lowville, NY 13367
Seven days a week, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
315-376-5200

Lewis County Transfer Lowville Station
Solid Waste Department
7952 State Rt. 26
Lowville, NY 13367
Mon.-Fri.: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat.: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Lewis County Transfer Croghan Station
Solid Waste Department
10319 State Rt. 812
Croghan, NY 13327
Tues.: 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Rome Memorial Hospital
Building Services Department
1500 N James St.,
Rome. NY 13340
Sun.-Sat.: 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
315-338-7241

News from Albany

The 2018-2019 state budget includes dozens of essential programs that support research, promotion and marketing that will allow farmers to adjust to new challenges and expand market opportunities including:

- ✓ Increase in funding for NY FarmNet — this organization is seeing a 50% increase in calls from farmers who are coping with the stresses of a down economy.
- ✓ Additional funding for honeybee research, hops and barley programs and support of the growing craft beverage industry.
- ✓ Full support of the Environmental Protection Fund.
- ✓ \$10 million to increase the school lunch reimbursement rate — expanding opportunities for farmers and putting more locally sourced fresh food onto students’ lunch plates.
- ✓ \$5 million to improve infrastructure at county fairs.

To learn more about the state budget and priority legislation still pending, please visit NYFB.org.

Fostering a Love of Agriculture at an Early Age

In its 14th year, Agricultural Literacy Week (March 19-23) introduced elementary students to the vast opportunities and diversity that New York agriculture encompasses. Countless volunteers in classrooms across the state spent time reading Pat Brisson’s “Before We Eat”, a captivating glimpse into what it takes



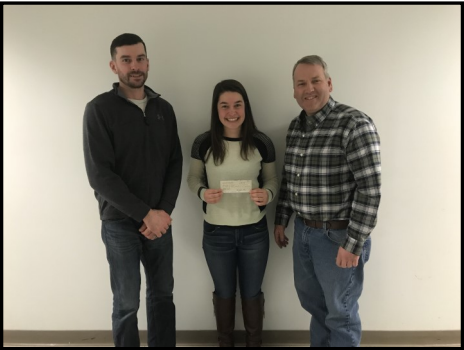
FFA students spent time with South Lewis 2nd graders during Agricultural Literacy Week.

to bring us the food we eat in order to nourish our bodies and spirits. Students were taken on a journey from farm to table to understand different aspects of agriculture and the many possible careers involved. After they read the book, the kids took part in hands-on activities that kept them engaged and learning. The opportunity to foster awareness, understanding and appreciation for local farmers has proven to be an invaluable and welcome resource. **Thank you** to all the volunteers that took time out to read.

Thomas Awarded New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship

Congratulations Danielle Thomas, 2018 New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship winner for Lewis County. She was chosen by New York Farm Bureau’s Promotion and Education Committee among many applicants vying for the scholarship. Thomas received a \$100 check from the county Farm Bureau for her accomplishment. In her senior year at Lowville Academy, Danielle has immersed herself in agriculture through curriculum, FFA, 4-H, the Lewis County Dairy Princess program and her work on a local dairy farm. Her farm experience has been the catalyst to pursue a career in the agricultural industry. She is on the path to obtaining a degree in animal science.

LCFB Board members Gary Millick (left) and Barry Widrick present Danielle with a check on behalf of the county Farm Bureau for her academic achievement.



159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Lewis County
Farm Bureau News

Lewis County Farm Bureau News

April 2018



President’s Report



I am pleased to report that we completed another successful advocacy trip to Albany last month. We met with elected officials from across the state to give them an honest assessment of the challenges facing our

county’s farmers. We talked about the need for funding and legislation that will keep us on the right path, while sharing personal stories that truly make a difference. We have built strong relationships and raised awareness with New York City legislators who are far removed from our rural communities. While we did achieve victories, there is still pending legislation on both the state and national level that needs our attention. NYFB.org is a great resource to keep you up-to-date while providing tools to enable you to become an advocate right from your home.

Thank you for your continued support of our organization.

Jen Karelus

NY FarmNet • 1-800-547-3276

Services are available to all farms in New York, large and small, with a diversity of commodities including dairy, crops, livestock, maple, fruit, vegetables, honey, nursery and more.

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ABOUT OUR WORKERS’
COMPENSATION PROGRAM!



1.800.342.4143
NYFB.org

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*Lewis County Farm Bureau meets on the second
Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the
Cornell Cooperative Extension Offices of Lewis
County, 5274 Outer Stowe Street, Lowville, N.Y.*

This issue of the Lewis County Farm Bureau newsletter
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