

New Hires by Cornell Cooperative Extension Expand Regional Agricultural Program Offerings

**Rick LeVitre,
Executive Director,
Cornell Cooperative Extension Franklin County**

North Country agricultural producers and industries associated with farming are set to have more help via the Cornell Cooperative Extension Northern New York Regional Agricultural Program (CCE NNYRAP) and the new, to the North Country, CCE Harvest New York Program, with new specialists recently hired. The specialists, listed below, are based in existing CCE county offices throughout the North Country (Essex, Clinton, Franklin, St Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis Counties) and will be collaborating with county CCE personnel, local agencies and organizations to present the latest research and findings to clientele. We are pleased to present the following new hires:



**Lindsey Pashow, Agriculture Business
Development and Marketing Specialist**

Lindsey received her Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing and Master's in Administration and Leadership from Plattsburgh State University. She worked at Plattsburgh State University for over 5 years as the Study Abroad Advisor. This position focused on marketing, finance, and recruitment for students studying abroad. During her employment she traveled to England, Australia, and Mexico.

Following PSU, she worked for at Champlain Valley Specialty where she was employed as the Human Resource Manager with a focus in human resources, employee training, and safety programs. This company provided processed apple slices throughout the east coast.

For the past three years, Lindsey has been an Extension Field Technician for Cornell Cooperative Extension's Eastern NY Hort Team. Some of the projects she worked on were the Cold Hardy Grape Trial located in Willsboro, NY and Elson Shield's beneficial nematode project to help eradicate the Alfalfa Snout Beetle and Black vine Weevil.

Adding to a well-rounded resume, Lindsey also owns Adirondack View Vineyard, is located in Keeseville, New York.

Lindsey is very excited to be joining the Harvest New York Team and looking forward to working closely with farmers across the region with her other team mates. Lindsey will be based in the Franklin CCE office at the Court House in Malone.

Anika Zuber, Dairy Processing Specialist

Anika grew up on a dairy farm and always intended on pursuing a career in the dairy industry. Throughout her education, she focused on internship opportunities concentrating on adding value to dairy products, from small to large scale manufacturing. After graduating from Cornell with a Food Science Degree, she became an Assistant Store Manager for Hannaford Supermarkets where she gained communication and management skills. Now, as a recent addition to Cornell's Harvest New York Team as a Dairy Processing Specialist, she will be working with a very high potential value addition region.

Roughly half of the New York State agricultural receipts come from dairy production, and about \$15 billion is generated from dairy production and manufacturing. For each extra \$1.00 in dairy industry output, \$0.42 is created in economic activity. New York leads the nation in production of yogurt, cottage cheese and sour cream, and takes 4th place in cheese production. Over 63 new value-added dairy processing facilities opened in the last 2 years state wide.

Anika's role, as a part of the CCE NNYRAP Team, is to assist in bringing the knowledge of regulatory agencies, suppliers, workforce development agencies and the Food Science Team at Cornell to manufacturers in Northern New York. The North Country is a high potential area for future growth and market development. Her role will be dedicated to economically developing the North Country through dairy manufacturing operations. She is based in CCE in Watertown, Jefferson County.

Lindsay Collings, Regional Dairy Specialist

Lindsay was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and received her BS in Animal Biology at the University of British Columbia (UBC). After graduation she worked as an intern at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and then as a research assistant at the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre in Agassiz, BC. Her main roles were to assist with research on dairy cows and calves and help manage visiting students.

In 2011, Lindsay completed her MS in Animal Science from the University of British Columbia Animal Welfare Program. Her thesis focused on dairy cattle welfare and feeding behavior. While completing her MS, she continued to gain experience working on-farm as well as conducting her own research.

For the last 4.5 years she has worked for the Novus C.O.W.S.[®] Program conducting on-farm cow comfort assessments, seminars on cow comfort, and providing producers with herdspecific feedback relative to regional benchmarks. In visiting hundreds of dairies across the country, she gained a unique perspective and understanding of cow comfort and the dairy industry in New York and across the United States. Lindsay has a passion for cow comfort and the dairy industry at a local and international level, and she is excited to work more closely with producers in Northern NY as a Regional Dairy Specialist, based out of Lowville at the Lewis County CCE office.

