

The following news release and event summary are being sent on behalf of the North American Intercollegiate Challenge. For more information, visit www.dairychallenge.org.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Students Participate in Eighth Annual Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge

BATAVIA, N.Y. – More than 110 students from 12 northeast colleges and two Canadian universities participated in the eighth annual Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge in Batavia, N.Y., held October 28-30, 2010. Host coordinator, Dorothea Fitzsimmons, and colleagues from the Alfred State College welcomed students from Cornell University, Delaware Valley College, Morrisville State College, Penn State University, The Ohio State University – ATI, SUNY Cobleskill, University of Maine, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire, University of Vermont, Vermont Technical College, University of Guelph from Ontario, Canada and McGill University from Quebec, Canada.

The Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge is an innovative three-day event designed by a team of industry and university professionals to offer students an opportunity to utilize classroom lessons in a real world application. Working in mixed-university teams of four or five students, contestants assessed all aspects of a working dairy farm, including facilities, nutrition, financials, reproduction, animal health and much more. Students collaborated on a 20-minute team presentation that detailed their observations and suggestions to a panel of judges and participating farm families. Teams were ranked as platinum, gold or silver based on how well their evaluations matched the judges' evaluations of the dairy operation.

The objective of this evaluation process is to create a real-life situation that stresses the importance of teamwork and professionalism. Contest superintendent Jenny Mills of Elanco Animal Health explained, "The dairy industry requires employees that can work well with all types of personalities. Not only does the Dairy Challenge teach technical knowledge, it excels in helping students to develop people skills."

Farms evaluated at the 2010 competition included Reyncrest Farms in Corfu, N.Y., Friendly Acres in Attica, N.Y. and Hy-Hope Farms in Stafford, N.Y. All teams also participated in educational workshops at Lamb Farms in Oakfield, NY and attended an industry career fair. Team-building and fun activities were held throughout the weekend, including a casino night where students received prizes that were donated by sponsors.

The event concluded on Saturday, October 30 with dinner and an awards ceremony. Judges congratulated participants on their outstanding job and shared their recommendations for each farm. Teams, which were named after top sponsors of the Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge, were ranked as follows:

Platinum – Holtz-Nelson Dairy Consultants, LLC, Northeast Dairy Producers Association, Adisseo and Northeast Ag and Feed Alliance - Golf

Gold – Blue Seal Richer Feeds, Northeast Area – Dairy Farmers of America, Farm Credit System Foundation, Northeast Ag and Feed Alliance, Nutrition Physiology Co., Inc., Prince Agriproducts, AgChoice Farm Credit, Elanco Animal Health and Woody Hill Farms

Silver – Cargill, Inc., Dairy One, Farm Credit Northeast Ag Enhancement Program, Genex Cooperative, Inc., Northeast Agriculture Education Foundation, Invervet Schering-Plough Animal Health, Land O'Lakes, Novus, Angelwood Holsteins, Renaissance Nutrition and Zinpro Corporation

Morrisville State College will host the 2011 Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge in Watertown, N.Y. For more information about next year's contest, please contact Dr. Steve Mooney or Beth Keene of Morrisville State College at mooneycs@morrisville.edu or keenebe@morrisville.edu You may also contact industry chair Cathy Wickswat of Cargill Animal Nutrition at cathy_wickswat@cargill.com.

To become a sponsor, contact Jan Bitter of Farm Credit East at 800-392-3276 or jan.bitter@farmcrediteast.com. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Contributing sponsor listings are available on the Website.

The Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge is under the guidance and support of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge (NAIDC) which was established in April 2002 as a management contest to incorporate evaluation of all aspects of a specific dairy business. For more information, visit www.dairychallenge.org.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: The following high-resolution, digital photos are available for print. Please email lbehnke@wdexpo.com to request them.

Photo caption 1: Participants, judges and planning committee members of the 2010 Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge.

Photo caption 2: Students evaluate heifer facilities at Friendly Acres, one of three host farms at the eighth annual Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge.

Photo caption 3: Participants work in mixed-university teams to evaluate the farms and present their findings.

Photo caption 4: A Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge participant quickly writes to capture relevant information to include in her team's presentation.

2010 Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge - Full Results by Team

Platinum

Holtz-Nelson Dairy Consultants, LLC

| | | |
|---------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Kelsie | Brennan | Alfred State College |
| Cole | Brantner | Delaware Valley College |
| Rebecca | Fultz | Pennsylvania State University |
| Laura | Burbank | Vermont Technical College |

Northeast Dairy Producers Association

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Kolby | McIntyre | Pennsylvania State University |
| Laura | Mahoney | University of Massachusetts |
| Corey | Kayhart | Cornell University |
| Stephanie | Pierce | Morrisville State College |
| Dallas | Carabeau | University of Vermont |

Adisseo

| | | |
|---------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Jason | McNamara | Cornell University |
| Chelsey | Wesneski | Alfred State College |
| Cortni | Muir | University of New Hampshire |
| Natalie | Niehls | Pennsylvania State University |

Northeast Ag and Feed Alliance - Golf

| | | |
|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Rebekah | Wheaton | University of Maine |
| Laura | Hanehan | Morrisville State College |
| Melody | Youngs | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Peter | Yoder | Pennsylvania State University |

Gold

Blue Seal Richer Feeds

| | | |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Sarah | Wickard | Pennsylvania State University |
| Jared | Birch | Vermont Technical College |
| Ashley | Severy | Cornell University |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Jessica | Herrington | Morrisville State College |
| <i>Northeast Area - Dairy Farmers of America</i> | | |
| Madison | Lowell | University of New Hampshire |
| Brenton | Tetreault | Morrisville State College |
| John | Calogero | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Stephanie | Morris | Vermont Technical College |
| Benjamin | Chamberlain | Cornell University |
| <i>Farm Credit System Foundation</i> | | |
| Elliott | Miller | University of Guelph |
| Regina | Perry | Morrisville State College |
| Jessakka | Schermerhorn | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Samuel | Fessenden | Cornell University |
| Ethan | Dodd | Vermont Technical College |
| <i>Northeast Ag and Feed Alliance</i> | | |
| Harrison | Todd | University of Guelph |
| Bridget | O' Donnell | University of New Hampshire |
| Bron | Nelson | University of Vermont |
| Dylan | Barber | Alfred State College |
| Nicholas | Gilbert | Cornell University |
| <i>Nutrition Physiology Co., Inc</i> | | |
| Sarah | Fadden | University of Massachusetts |
| Ashley | Boepple | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Chris | Hoefele | Delaware Valley College |
| Stephanie | Booth | McGill University |
| Trevor | Beaudry | University of New Hampshire |
| <i>Prince Agriproducts</i> | | |
| Nicholas | Manning | University of Vermont |
| Sean | Harper | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Josie | Rine | The Ohio State University-ATI |
| Stephanie | Kauffman | Delaware Valley College |
| Zach | Meyers | Pennsylvania State University |
| <i>AgChoice Farm Credit</i> | | |
| Rick | Brisson | Vermont Technical College |
| Jennifer | Dubina | SUNY Cobleskill |
| David | Johnson | Morrisville State College |
| Jamison | Reed | Cornell University |
| Elizabeth | Schouten | University of Guelph |
| <i>Elanco Animal Health</i> | | |
| Ryan | MacKay | University of Massachusetts |
| Elizabeth | Trombley | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Valerie | Lathron | Alfred State College |
| Allison | Lawton | Cornell University |
| Matt | Groen | University of Guelph |
| <i>Woody Hill Farms</i> | | |
| Benjamin | Cashell | Pennsylvania State University |
| Daniel | Lyness | Delaware Valley College |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Arthur | Stoller | The Ohio State University- ATI |
| Abby | Scholten | Vermont Technical College |
| Silver | | |
| <i>Cargill, Inc.</i> | | |
| Brittany | Sweeney | University of Vermont |
| Phoebe | Andos | Vermont Technical College |
| Jen | Masters | Morrisville State College |
| Barbara | Heins | University of New Hampshire |
| Matthew | Bull | Cornell University |
| <i>Dairy-One</i> | | |
| Zachary | Calhoun | Morrisville State College |
| Megan | Diefendorf | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Abigail | Styron | The Ohio State University- ATI |
| John | Franklin | University of Vermont |
| Jennifer | Simpson | Cornell University |
| <i>Farm Credit Northeast Ag Enhancement Program</i> | | |
| Nate | Randlett | Vermont Technical College |
| Marc Andre | Dubois | McGill University |
| Staci | Wilson | Pennsylvania State University |
| Edsel | Brown | University of Maine |
| Heather | Frost | Morrisville State College |
| <i>Genex Cooperative, Inc.</i> | | |
| Devon | Dekoschak | Vermont Technical College |
| Ben | Crooke | Pennsylvania State University |
| Michael | Telaak | Morrisville State College |
| Laura | Somerville | University of Guelph |
| Amanda | Smith | Cornell University |
| <i>Northeast Agriculture Education Foundation</i> | | |
| Nicole | Guindon | University of New Hampshire |
| Cassie | Bromley | Vermont Technical College |
| Andrew | Cole | SUNY Cobleskill |
| Tori | Baker | Cornell University |
| Travis | Whitcomb | Delaware Valley College |
| <i>Intervet Schering-Plough Animal Health</i> | | |
| Ryan | Carabeau | University of Vermont |
| Andrew | Miller | Vermont Technical College |
| Allyson | Jones-Brimmer | Cornell University |
| Kayla | Aragona | University of New Hampshire |
| Mary | Collins | SUNY Cobleskill |
| <i>Land O'Lakes</i> | | |
| Emily | Kent | University of New Hampshire |
| Nicolas | Poirier | McGill University |
| Melissa | Boess | Pennsylvania State University |
| Tori | Fanion | Delaware Valley College |
| Stephen | Gould | Alfred State College |

Novus

Nicole

Nick

Cathleen

TaraLee

Laraya

Antaya

Daigle

Leggiere

Fulmer

Foresman

University of New Hampshire

Vermont Technical College

SUNY Cobleskill

Delaware Valley College

Pennsylvania State University

Angelwood Holsteins - Corwin & Debby Holtz

Megan

Matthew

Aaron

Kasey

Ashley

Smith

Grab

Stepnoski

Schrier

Beaudoin

Delaware Valley College

SUNY Cobleskill

Pennsylvania State University

Morrisville State College

University of Vermont

Renaissance Nutrition

Kerri

Nick

Cameron

Shelby

McKenna

Janssens

Clark

Moran

Cornell University

University of Guelph

University of Vermont

Vermont Technical College

Zinpro Corporation

Manfred

Erin

Mary

Kendra

Cassie

Marschewski

Grant

Wilheim

Sims

Osgood

Delaware Valley College

University of Maine

The Ohio State University- ATI

University of Massachusetts

University of Vermont