GrowNYC's FARMroots provides aspiring and established farmers with business technical assistance and training designed to ensure the long-term viability of farms and farmland.

Making Workers Compensation Claims for Lyme Disease

by Jack Hornickel

After that chilly spring, with no shortage of nor'easters, farmers are welcoming the lush arrival of summer. But along with the warmth comes that old rural foe: deer ticks.

Ticks are best known for carrying the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease, although they also transmit at least 11 other viruses and pathogens, such as Anaplasmosis, Ehrlichiosis, Babesiosis, and Powassan virus. The CDC recently reported that tick-borne illnesses have tripled in the last 15 years, and they now estimate that 300,000 people are infected with Lyme disease each year. As a result, the issue of Lyme has vaulted into the national dialogue, with congressional efforts to increase research and reporting, as well as university forums examining the increased risk of the disease.

(Foto: James Gathany / CDC)

Farmers and their employees are exposed to ticks on a daily basis. Because the risk is inherent to the operation of a farm business, Lyme disease is an eligible illness for workers compensation claims. FARMroots offers the following tips to addressing the increased prevalence of Lyme, and how it relates to the workers compensation insurance policies of regional farms click here for more information.

NY Announces Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)

Funding for Seasonal High Tunnels

The New York Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing a special program sign-up for technical and financial assistance for agricultural producers in Clinton, Dutchess, Essex, Franklin, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Ulster, and Westchester Counties, to implement seasonal
high tunnel systems. This special program offers financial assistance for installation of high tunnels on cropland identified to have a resource concern associated with degraded plant condition. The application deadline for this AMA funding is 12:00 PM EST June 15, 2018.

If you are interested in applying for an NRCS conservation program, please visit their website or contact Joseph Heller or Kathleen Capella.  

Resources

In the podcast of the month, Dave Chapman talks with Farm to Table Talk about traditional organic values, practices and a sustainable future.

Books/Readings

Finding Land to Farm: Six ways to secure farmland by ATTRA

Applying for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Funding by the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project

A Leg Up: Building Blocks for a Locally-Focused Meat Processing Facility Business Plan prepared by: The Kitchen Table Consultant

Webinars

Financial Planning and Funding Options for Successful Grazing June 13th 7:00-8:30 PM CDT

Creating a Whole Farm or Grazing Plan: Who/What/When/Why/How June 19th 7:00-8:30 PM CDT

Farm Finances: Organizing and Understanding your numbers. Webinar slides and worksheet can be downloaded

Events/Workshops

Enterprises Budgeting, June 9th 10:00-3:00 PM at Project Farmhouse New York, NY

Irrigation Essentials, June 6th 3:00-5:00 PM at Neighborhood Foods Farm, Philadelphia, PA

Rotational Grazing Workshop, June 16th 9:30AM at Chaseholm Farm, Pine Plains NY

Grants

Vilcek Prizes 2019 for Creative Promise in Culinary Arts. Deadline: June 11th 2018. Eligible professions include: Chefs and food prepares, beverage professionals and food writers.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program, from the USDA Natural Conservation Service. Deadline: June 15th 2018

GrowNYC

By shopping at your neighborhood Greenmarket farmers market, you are directly supporting small family farms and ensuring continued access to fresh local food for all New Yorkers.

Farmroots is a program of GrowNYC, a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

Learn more about GrowNYC's community gardens, recycling and
hands-on education programs and make a donation to support small family farms here.