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## **PRO-DAIRY Agriservice Awards George Mueller, Jerry Bertoldo and Peggy Murray are Recognized**

NYS Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball and Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY Specialists presented the PRO-DAIRY Agriservice Awards to George Mueller, Willow Bend Farm, Clifton Springs; Gerald R. Bertoldo, DVM, Batavia; and Peggy Murray, Copenhagen during the Dairy Day Recognition and Awards breakfast on August 30 at the NYS Fair. These awards are given in appreciation and recognition of outstanding contributions to NYS agriculture through support of PRO-DAIRY.

"This year's recipients are recognized for their close involvement with PRO-DAIRY programs over time, and in particular, for the many collaborative partnerships they have developed with PRO-DAIRY," Tom Overton, PRO-DAIRY Director said.

George Mueller, Willow Bend Farm, has been exceptionally involved in dairy industry leadership at the local, regional and statewide levels in New York. He is a tremendous example of leadership to the industry, including his approaches to business management and his development of young people at all stages of their careers.

The New York dairy industry is also recognized for its high caliber allied industry professionals and supporters. Two retiring Cornell Cooperative Extension Associates are recognized for leadership in their counties as well as their contributions to the dairy industry statewide.

Dr. Gerald R. Bertoldo has provided leadership to a number of initiatives, both within herd health management, and to larger efforts, such as development of the Calf Congress. His innovation to develop programs for the Hispanic workforce, farm owners and managers, has greatly benefitted the New York dairy industry. His collaborative approach with fellow Cornell Cooperative Extension educators is a model to follow.

Peggy Murray has made exceptional contributions to farmers in Lewis County and across the North Country through her dedicated work on business management, including integral use of the Cornell Dairy Farm Business Summary and Analysis Program, collaboration with PRO-DAIRY specialists on educational programs, development of the Academy for Dairy Executives Program, and work at all levels of the dairy industry.

PRO-DAIRY's mission is to facilitate New York State economic development by increasing the profitability and competitiveness of its dairy industry. PRO-DAIRY specialists have made a positive impact on the technical knowledge, management skills and economic strength of New York State's dairy industry since 1988. Visit PRO-DAIRY online at <http://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/>.

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