

Conference call held on Friday, September 16, 2011

Main topics of concern that came out of meeting:

- H2 portray where and how much milk is available in real-time?
- H2 brand WNY products?
- HM we develop agricultural tourism similar to what has been done in the Finger Lakes?
- IWWM we assist the dairy industry in the volatility of the market?
- IWWM we market NY milk vs. large (say Wisconsin) milk producers?
- H2 get small farmers to create niche markets (say artisan cheese)?
- H2 get small farmers to transform from one commodity to another?
- H2 sell Maple Syrup in NYS?
- H2 educate mid-size farms?
- H2 connect farmers and consumers?
- H2 provide research for hi-tech producers to become more efficient?
- H2 educate farmers on sustainable practices?
- HM growers diversify into more commodities?
- H2 get banks to participate in the agriculture industry?
- IWWM the agriculture industry attract outside investors?
- H2 get banks to participate in agricultural risk?
- HM an agricultural equity fund (with or without state funds) be started?
- H2 reach and engage angel investors for agriculture sector?
- H2 develop a "template" business plan for agriculture to approach banks?