

From this project it appears that forage consumption does not provide adequate nutrition to reduce supplemental grain intake. As noted earlier this may have been impacted by forage quality that was lower than normal due to extremely wet weather conditions.

Meat samples were not tested for nutritional value as it relates to human consumption. This step may add support due to the value of grass-fed meat products thereby assisting farmer in marketing of their grass-fed poultry. This may allow for increased price

per pound off setting additional cost associated with labor and land resources needed in pasture pen or free range feeding systems.

The time required in care and feeding varied more between individual farms than between housing system. Management experience, facility lay out and distance form storage area all has an impact on labor required. As anticipated pasture and free range systems required more time than confinement raised birds.

Collaborating Farmers

Pasture Pen Raiser

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Wild Geese Farm
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Free Range Raiser

Gloria/Anthony Iacono
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Confinement Housing Raisers

Kim Shaklee & Janice Brown
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Raymond & Beth Dennis
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585-466-7191

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This project was funding in part through a Northeast SARE Farmer/Grower Grant. Funding for the work reported in this fact sheet was provided by the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. Fact sheet prepared and printed through Cornell University Cooperative Extension Allegany/Cattaraugus County New York.