

For Grassroots and the NYFB Website
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Debbie Teeter joins the NYFB Promotion & Education State Committee

The District 4 seat on the NYFB State PE Committee has been filled by Debbie Teeter from Ithaca in Tompkins County. Debbie has been a New York Farm Bureau member for more than thirty years and not only is a member, but devotes a great deal of her time to the agricultural industry in many varied forms.

Debbie's husband, Alan, grew up working on the family farm, which was a dairy in his childhood. When they married, it was a livestock and field crop operation. In their late 20's they decided to take on the farm, and for the next ten years they ran a 75-member CSA – and had two children. By the last two years of the CSA they were farm owners, and responsibility for the entire farm conflicted with the needs of the CSA, so they had to change their focus. The Teeters now raise Herefords, which are sold as freezer trade, and grow grass hay on the rest of the farm.

Debbie and Alan have two children, Alexander, age 26 and Abigail, age 19. Debbie is employed as the Agricultural Program Manager at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County. Her immersion in agriculture is total, her commitment and dedication adds to her creativity and broad knowledge.

Debbie has held the office of Promotion & Education Chair as well as Secretary for the Tompkins County Farm Bureau Board. Other organization involvement includes Enfield Town board member, 2010-14; Town Planning Board member, 2005-10; Tompkins County Dairy Promotion Committee, 2006-present; Enfield Volunteer Fire Company, 2008-present, Treasurer since 2010 plus even more. Debbie received an AAS Degree from Tompkins Cortland Community College and her BA from Ithaca College.

When asked, "Why is Farm Bureau important to you?", she told us that "Farm Bureau is the only organization that is watching out for farmers in NYS; I know staff review every piece of proposed legislation to determine if it is good, bad, or indifferent for agriculture. The grassroots, bottom-up policy development structure keeps member concerns at the forefront. The agricultural education and awareness outreach, programs, and resources are excellent, and I know from the many, many times I've spoken with farmers agricultural awareness is a major concern. "

The State PE Committee will utilize Debbie's strong communication, organizational, planning, and management skills in the programs and projects planned. Welcome Debbie!

