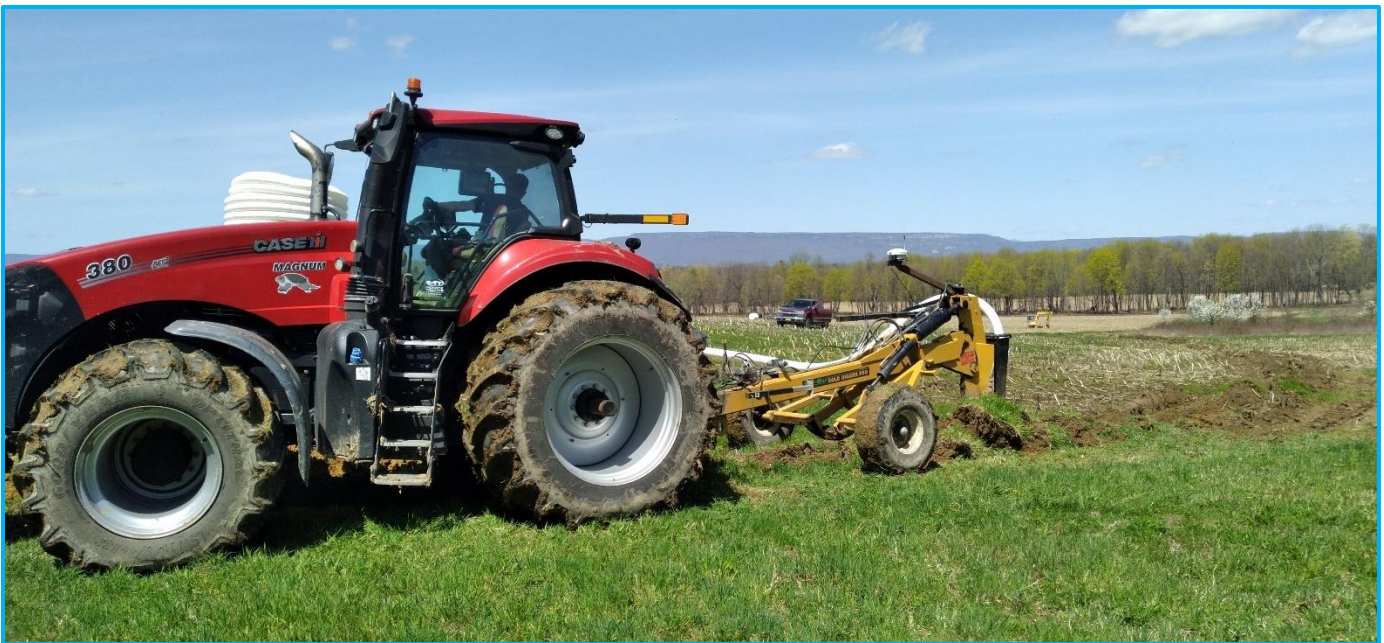


2025 Highlighted Project – Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District

Hoyt Farms, Montgomery, NY – Cropland Erosion Control



There is rich history in this land tract on the Ulster-Orange border. Formerly owned and operated by the famous Borden Milk Company, it is now farmed by Hoyt Farms. While containing productive soils, the fields were plagued by excess runoff from upslope areas and internal drainage issues characteristic of many tight-textured glacial till and outwash soils.



Working with Orange County SWCD, Hoyt Farms implemented an ambitious project to address erosion and runoff management. Over 9,000 feet of subsurface drainage and 2,500 feet of diversions and waterways were installed, allowing Hoyt Farms to realize the full potential of this cropland while reducing erosion and protecting water quality. Noteworthy of this project was the use of a drainage plow. While commonly used in stone-free organic or lake-laid soils, use of a drainage plow in glacial outwash or glacial till soils is much less common. The plow installed 7,700 feet of drainage tubing in one day – resulting in considerable savings in project expenses.