As the traditional outdoor growing season comes to a close, some Connecticut farmers take advantage of season extension research and techniques to continue growing and harvesting their crops into the winter months.

Bryan O’Hara of Tobacco Road Farm in Lebanon, CT, is one farmer who has embraced season extension to bring customers fresh Connecticut Grown vegetables throughout the winter months.

“The combination of high demand in the off-season and the warmer winter weather has many growers pushing the limits of various vegetable varieties,” said Bryan. “With the increase in vegetable production comes the interest in extending the seasons of growth and harvest for many vegetable crops.”

Rob Durgy of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) has established a Produce Overwintering Program at CAES’ Griswold Research Center in Griswold, CT, to advance our knowledge of season extension in Connecticut. The study is being funded through a $31,620 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg).

This research will provide farmers with information about varieties and growing techniques that will increase the volume and diversity of Connecticut Grown produce farmers can grow year-round for a steady stream of income.

“The demand for fresh local produce has increased greatly over the past decade,” said Rob who is also the farm manager at the Griswold Research Center. “Farmers need innovative approaches to help meet this growing demand.

The Produce Overwintering Program will develop novel approaches and identify vegetable varieties best suited for twelve month production.”

The first vegetables tested are broccoli and cabbage, which typically do not overwinter successfully in Connecticut. Future research will focus on other crops including beets, carrots, leeks, lettuce, radish, and Swiss chard. Several varieties of each vegetable are planted in high and low tunnels.

Low tunnel beds are about three feet wide with covers suspended with thick wipe hoops about eighteen inches off the ground. The cover is taken off mid-spring to allow full growth of the crop. Different types of covers are used at different times of year to promote growth and for insulation. The Produce Overwintering Program is using 6-mil greenhouse plastic, 1-mil perforated plastic, heavy weight winter row cover, and mid-weight row cover.

A high tunnel is a greenhouse frame with plastic cover but with no utilities and an open floor so vegetable seedlings can be planted directly into the ground. The protective cover is two layers of 6-mil greenhouse plastic inflated with air. The high tunnel has non-motorized roll-up sides and louvered vents on the end to dissipate heat. Row covers are used mid-winter for extra cold protection.

The experiment will evaluate both high tunnel versus low tunnel production success and production viability of five varieties of broccoli and cabbage. Varieties will be statistically analyzed based on yield weight, size and marketability.

“Information on varieties abilities to survive in various temperature and exposures as well as flowering cycles is particularly needed,” said Bryan who uses season extension techniques like growing vegetables in low tunnels to provide a year-round supply of produce for his customers and income for the farm.

(continued on Page 3)
(continued from Page 1)

According to Rob’s research, one of the key elements to season extension is creating a small microclimate close to the ground to grow crops that would normally not grow at that time of year.

“If it’s 30-degrees out, it’s 60-degrees under cover,” said Bryan who grows three acres of spinach, arugula, and other leafy greens under double-layers of plastic in the winter and early spring.

“A bed of spinach planted in winter is ready for harvest in the spring at Tobacco Road Farm in Lebanon, CT.

“We are in constant production one season to another - doesn’t matter if it’s winter or fall,” said Bryan. “As soon as a crop is done it’s turned in and we plant another one, so we’re getting three to four crops a year out of a piece of land. It’s very intensive and we’re getting very high yields.”

The ability to grow and harvest fresh Connecticut Grown vegetables during the winter allows farmers to continue selling vegetables during the off season.

During the winter months Tobacco Road Farm sells produce at the Storrs Winter Farmers Market, at the Willimantic Food Co-op, and through the CT Farm Fresh Express distribution facility in East Haddam. Some Connecticut farms- like Gresczyk Farms in New Hartford, Sub Edge Farm in Avon/ Farmington, and Provider Farm in Salem- offer winter season Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs.

The popularity of winter season CSA programs continues to grow in Connecticut. People who are interested in eating locally grown food year round are finding farmers that use season extension techniques to source Connecticut Grown vegetables during the cold months. For a listing of Connecticut farms that offer CSA programs go to https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Marketing/Marketing/CSA-Listing.

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut’s first independent NATIONALWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal’s Power Fence 860-491-2290

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci Zyskowski today at 203-444-6553

66-R. Beautiful winter squash, Acorum, Butternut, Kabocha, by the box or bin East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pickup

68-R. Christmas greens, wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Great for fund raisers. 203-457-1344

70-R. Tractor, Mower, and Snow plow to be sold as a unit. Tractor is a 1958 Massey Ferguson model 65 with splitter valve conversion and dual hydraulic remotes. TIres 15.5x28. Loaded with rim guard and complete with tire chains. Tractor has 4 cyl Continental gasoline engine approximately 50 horse power. 8 1/2 ft western snow plow with hydraulic angel unit. Mower is John Deere model 5 sickle bar unit concerted to 3 P.H. All units in very good condition. $5,500 firm. Call 860-423-6748

75-R. 1,000+ hemp plants for sale to licensed growers. 4” pots (cherry blossom). Call 203-623-2694

77-R. Heifers, crossbred beef, Hereford/Angus, April calves, $450 each. 2 available. Call 860-537-1974

78-R. B&W Farm photos by Jack McConnell, now 50% off. Open Studio Nov 9&10, 16&17 from 11am to 5pm at 182 Broad Street, Wethersfield; or by appt 860-563-6154. See photos at JackMcConnellPhotography.com and click on Collections-CT Farm Project.

79-R. Pollination services for small scale farms. Call Hilltop Apiaries for information at 860-408-9039

WANTED

6-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned


MISCELLANEOUS

65-R. Connecticut Greenhouse Co. Installation, maintenance and fabrication of greenhouses, cold frames and NRCS high tunnels. 12’ to 30’ wide by any length. Designed and manufactured in CT, a farmer owned and operated business. Maintenance parts, supplies and custom plastic. www.ctgreenhouse.com or call Toby 203-654-1595

80-R. Burlington, CT. Free 20+ pine logs 18”x4’ Perfect for outdoor furnace, dry a year. Call 860-673-1025 or 203-509-4361

AG JOB CONNECTION

## NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA
Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XTRA LARGE</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARGE</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td></td>
<td>.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS
Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XTRA LARGE</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARGE</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMALL</td>
<td></td>
<td>.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK
Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

### SLAUGHTER STEERS
Choice 2-3
110.00 114.00

### SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing
breakers 75-80% lean
49.00 55.00
boners 80-85% lean
48.00 54.50
lean 88-90% lean
40.00 46.00

### SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Wooled & Shorn
Choice and Prime 2-3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-146</td>
<td>160.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choice 1-2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70-75</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-99</td>
<td>170.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-134</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1
30-49 lbs
110.00 125.00
50-59 lbs
140.00 165.00
60-69 lbs
165.00 180.00
70-79 lbs
170.00 200.00

### SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1
100-149 lbs
175.00 215.00
150-199 lbs
205.00 250.00

### SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1
100-149 lbs
225.00 250.00
150-199 lbs
265.00 325.00

## DAIRY CATTLE
New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

### FRESH/MILKING COWS
SUPREME
1400.00 2200.00
APPROVED
1000.00 1400.00
MEDIUM
600.00 950.00

### BRED COWS
APPROVED
1000.00 1250.00

### SPRINGER COWS
APPROVED
900.00 1350.00

### BRED HEIFERS
APPROVED
600.00 800.00
MEDIUM
350.00 475.00

### SPRINGER HEIFERS
APPROVED
850.00 1250.00
MEDIUM
700.00 825.00

### OPEN HEIFERS
APPROVED
175.00 500.00

## NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT
Price per ton, small squares. November 11, 2019

### ALFALFA/GRASS
SUPREME
490.00 490.00
PREMIUM
375.00 420.00
FAIR
250.00 250.00

### GRASS HAYS
PREMIUM
400.00 410.00
GOOD
290.00 385.00
FAIR
195.00 260.00

## WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

### SHEPPED IN
Price Range. Per unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, Fuji, NY, XCFY, 64S</td>
<td>31.00</td>
<td>31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, Fuji, NY, FCY, 125S</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, GNRR GLD,NY,XCFY,64S</td>
<td>32.00</td>
<td>32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, GNRR GLD,NY,XCFY,80S</td>
<td>32.00</td>
<td>32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, PAULA REd, XCFY, 100S</td>
<td>26.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEETS, RED, NJ, 12S, BNCH</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANBERRIES, 24-12 OZ BAGS</td>
<td>27.00</td>
<td>29.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUMPKIN, PIE, 1/2 BU</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADISHES, RED, BNCH 24S</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, M</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQUASH, BNP, 1/9 BU, M</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQUASH, SPAGHHETTI,1-1/9, M</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Middlefield, CT - November 11, 2019

### LOW   | HIGH
Bob Calves:
45-60 lbs. | n/a   | n/a
61-75 lbs. | n/a   | n/a
76-90 lbs. | 8.00  | 10.00
91-105 lbs. | 12.50 | 15.00
106 lbs. & up | 25.00 | 30.00
Farm Calves | n/a   | n/a
Starter Calves | n/a | n/a
Veal Calves | 75.00 | 110.00
Feeder Heifers | 65.00 | 110.00
Beef Heifers | 55.00 | 67.00
Feeder Steers | 75.00 | 105.00
Beef Steers | 59.00 | 81.00
Feeder Bulls | 60.00 | 75.00
Beef Bulls | 63.00 | 70.00
Replacement Cows | n/a | n/a
Replacement Heifers | n/a | n/a
Boars | 1@ | 12.50
Sows | 22.50 | 30.00
Butcher Hogs | 30.00 | 80.00
Feeder Pigs each | 15.00 | 20.00
Sheep each | 30.00 | 40.00
Lambs each | 85.00 | 200.00
Geats each | 95.00 | 275.00
Kid Goats each | 60.00 | 175.00
Canners up to | 49.50 |
Cutters | 50.00 | 53.00
Utility Grade Cows | 54.00 | 57.00
Rabbits each | 10.00 | 35.00
Chickens each | 5.00 | 25.00
Ducks each | 3.00 | 15.00

## NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION
Per cwt.

### SLAUGHTER HOGS
BARRROWS AND GILTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US 1-222-285 lbs</td>
<td>64.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 1-208-293 lbs</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 2-3-208-293 lbs</td>
<td>45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWS</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 1-2</td>
<td>612-668 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC
Price Range. Per unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Price($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, Fuji, WA, XCFY, 80S</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE, GalA, TRAY PK, 100S</td>
<td>38.00</td>
<td>38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROCCOLI, 20 LB CRTN</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT</td>
<td>23.00</td>
<td>23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT</td>
<td>31.00</td>
<td>31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARROTS, CA, 25 LB LOOSE</td>
<td>23.00</td>
<td>23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KALE, BNC, 12S, CRT</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MESCUN MIX, CA, 3 LB CRTN</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSHROOMS, WHITE, 12-8OZ</td>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONION, GREEN, CRTN, 48S</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEARLS, BARTLETT, 4/5 BU</td>
<td>36.00</td>
<td>36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEARLS, BOSC,4/5 BU</td>
<td>36.00</td>
<td>36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWEET POTATOES, 40 LBS</td>
<td>37.00</td>
<td>43.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOMATOES, GRAPE, 12-1 PT</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>14.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW ENGLAND VEGETABLE & FRUIT CONFERENCE
Registration is now open for the 2019 New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference. This conference will take place in Manchester, NH on December 10-12, 2019.

The New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference and Trade Show includes more than 25 educational sessions over 3 days, covering major vegetable, berry and tree fruit crops as well as various special topics. A Farmer to Farmer meeting after each morning and afternoon session will bring speakers and farmers together for informal, in-depth discussion on certain issues. Go to https://newenglandvfc.org/registration to register online. For assistance with registration call 207-933-2100 or email mark.hutton@maine.edu. For more information about the conference go to https://newenglandvfc.org.

NHLT-NHF SEEKING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The New Haven Land Trust-New Haven Farms (NHLT-NHF) is seeking applications for Executive Director of this newly merged organization. The mission of NHLT-NHF is to partner with people to care for our urban landscape so all people discover, access, and enjoy the lands and waters that provide food, health, and life. This is a tremendous opportunity for an innovative nonprofit leader to grow an organization that is working at the intersection of urban agriculture, public health, food access, participatory community development, environmental education and stewardship, and youth development. For the complete position profile and application guidelines please visit https://careers.tsne.icims.com/jobs/1476/executive-director/job.

CONNECTIONT AG WELLNESS SUMMIT
UConn Extension is hosting the Connecticut Ag Wellness Summit on December 5, 2019 at Maneely’s Conference Center 65 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT. This event is a follow up to UConn Extension’s Farmer Stress Support Training that was held for Connecticut Ag Service Providers in May 2019.

This free event is for farmers, producers, and ag service providers, including veterinarians in Connecticut. Space is limited. Please RSVP to mackenzie.white@uconn.edu or 860-875-3331 by November 26, 2019. For more information go to http://s.uconn.edu/farmstress.

SARE PROGRAM SEEKING APPLICATIONS
The Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program is seeking applications for 2020 Farmer Grant projects. Applications are due December 3, 2019. Funded projects will be announced and may begin in late February 2020.

Farmer Grants provide research funds for commercial farms to explore new ideas in almost any aspect of production, marketing and other topics that influence successful farming in the 12 Northeast states and the District of Columbia. Reviewers look for innovation, potential for improved sustainability and results that will be useful to other farmers.

Application materials, including detailed instructions and supporting documents, are posted on the Northeast SARE website at northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant. Questions about the grant program should be directed to Carol Delaney, grant program coordinator, at carol.delaney@uvm.edu.

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: $3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact Crystal.Morris@ct.gov or call 860-713-2533.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103.

Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.