



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



Phone: 860-713-2501
Fax: 860-713-2514

Grow Connecticut Farms

A project of the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development

May 2012

The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development (GCAD) has begun gathering information and ideas from agriculture producers and stakeholders to create a strategic plan, ***Grow Connecticut Farms: Developing, Diversifying & Promoting Agriculture***.

During the remainder of 2012, the planning process will involve in-depth interviews with key stakeholders, data collection and research, listening sessions, and focus groups. GCAD members will be engaged in all aspects of the planning process, from helping to frame research questions and identify key stakeholders, to evaluating findings and drafting goals and objectives. A state summit will be held to share draft recommendations before finalizing.

A five-member team of GCAD leaders, Department of Agriculture staff, and University of Connecticut Extension will coordinate the work of *Grow Connecticut Farms*:

- Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, Connecticut Department of Agriculture
- Linda Piotrowicz, Connecticut Department of Agriculture
- Henry Talmage, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association
- Dean Gregory J. Weidemann, University of Connecticut
- Jiff Martin, University of Connecticut Extension

About the GCAD: Chaired by Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, the 15-member GCAD meets quarterly to discuss issues related to demand, education, research, production, investment, and infrastructure in the agriculture sector. The charge of the GCAD, as amended by Public Act No. 11-189, is to make recommendations to the Department of Agriculture regarding (1) ways to increase the percentage of consumer dollars spent on Connecticut Grown fresh produce and farm products; and (2) the development, diversification, and promotion of agricultural products, programs, and enterprises in this state.

For information about the GCAD, including membership, meeting minutes, and working groups, go to www.CTGrown.gov/GovernorsCouncil or contact Linda Piotrowicz, linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov or 860-713-2558.