

Market Types

All Certified Connecticut Farmers' Markets must have two or more farmers selling Connecticut-grown fresh produce per Section 22-6r of the Connecticut General Statutes (see Chapter 4). This is not to be confused with farm stands, roadside markets, or flea markets.

There are two different types of certified farmers' markets:

Producer Only and **Exempt**

Producer only is a market where farmers/vendors can only bring what they produce.

Exempt markets are markets where farmers/vendors do not produce all commodities and/or supply does not meet demand. Therefore certain products are deemed exempt products and any and all vendors at that market may purchase these products from another Connecticut farmer and resell them at the market.

For example, if there is a shortage of berry producers available to participate in farmers' markets, an application can be filled out and, if accepted, the farmers will be permitted to purchase Connecticut Grown berries to be sold at the market.

At these markets, the farmers/vendors must be in agreement, fill out an Exempt Application, and return it to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture prior to the start of the market. Anything purchased and brought to the market must be Connecticut Grown.

Farmers/vendors may also be required to provide the Department of Agriculture with valid receipts of all exempt produce being sold if a place of origin is ever in question.

Connecticut Department of Agriculture reserves the right to perform growing area verifications on all farmers that submit a signed crop plan clearly stating all the crops that they grow. Verifications are initially done when a farmer first begins to participate in a farmers' markets. If complaints are received, crop verifications may be performed by a Department of Agriculture representative.

Please note advertising of non-Connecticut Grown products for sale as Connecticut Grown products carries a fine up of up to \$1000 per commodity.

Non-Farming Vendors:

Many non-farming vendors have found success at Connecticut Farmers' Markets. The amount and types of non-farming vendors is a market decision. Some markets discourage the participation of any non-farming vendors while others will only allow a small number. Any products sold by non-farming vendors should originate from

Connecticut. CT Farmers' Markets were developed to promote and sustain Connecticut farmers. They are expected to remain farmers' markets and not to be confused with flea markets that also sell fruits and vegetables. The CT Department of Agriculture reserves the right to discontinue ties with any flea market that misrepresents itself as a farmers' market.

For further information contact the Connecticut Department of Agriculture:

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