



## Lamont-Bysiewicz Transition Policy Committee Reporting Template

**Committee Name: Agriculture**

**Co-Chairs: Kevin Sullivan and Bonnie Burr**

**1. How do you propose the Lamont Administration should prioritize the policy goals in this area, and on what timeframe?** Connecticut agriculture has tremendous opportunity to significantly grow and expand its impact on the state economy, providing local jobs, and keeping working lands active. A stand-alone Department of Agriculture will be key to this. Extensive work done in 2011-2012 strategically identified priorities necessary to comprehensively develop agriculture in CT. *The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development (GCAD) was a direct result of PA11-189. Hundreds of surveys and interviews conducted in 2012 illustrated what was needed to create a more robust agricultural economic engine. All the issues raised then, remain priorities today. (See exhibit 1)*

The Department of Agriculture (DoAG) should embrace its role in creating conditions for all residents to have access to CT-Grown food and plants. *An independent DoAG which has financial capacity and/or the flexibility to work with all agricultural partners and businesses to extend their reach is a top priority.* Our state is seeing an expanding number and diversity of small farmers growing their business here who are committed to growing food and plants for their communities. Larger farms want to access CT's buying power and are also looking at coming to our state. With transfer of the Regional Market in Hartford away from DoAG, any comprehensive assessment needs to show how to incorporate ag product marketing into integrated economic development plans. *Another priority should be to create a mechanism to identify where and how to collect excess farm products for use by regional and local food banks. Great significance must be placed on maintaining the Community Investment Act* <https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?q=320938> These funds have been instrumental in creating economic opportunities and must be left intact to continue enhancing agriculture and not used to shore up other programs. (see exhibit 2 for CT Grown action items)

The highest priorities for such a margin tight, regulated business like agriculture is reducing costly business related inputs including labor, energy, transportation, land access, environmental and food safety. Regulatory challenges exist in all of the aforementioned areas. The pervasive "bureaucracy within the bureaucracy" mentality allows divisions within a department to build regulations layer by layer without regard for what other regulations are in their own department or other agencies. Another urgent point needs to be increasing efficiencies and streamlining regulatory processes to be a "business facing" state versus regulatory only.

When we see growth in individual agricultural businesses, one of the primary reasons for success is the state's proximity to 25 million consumers in the New York/Boston corridor that are thriving economically and have a strong demand for locally grown agricultural products. However, these markets can source their agricultural products regionally and nationally so it's imperative CT agricultural businesses remain competitive. Agriculture is a very labor intensive business. If CT's minimum wage is not in line with other states in the northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, CT agricultural businesses will be at a competitive disadvantage. As of this writing in 2018, in the northeast region including 12 states, only NY (at \$10.40) and MA (at \$11.00) have higher minimum wages

than CT (at \$10.10). CT is already at the high end of the regional minimum wage scale. *Policy must reflect that the agriculture community will suffer with a minimum wage increase.* (See exhibit 3 for regulatory environment)

There are issues with educating children, aspiring teens, beginning farmers, as well as existing producers. Increasing agricultural literacy will engage children at a young age and help them explore careers in agriculture via high school agri-science. Disparate funding mechanisms in all forms of school choice have put agri-science at a severe disadvantage. While college degree programs exist at UConn and some community colleges, farmers and those interested in sustainable agriculture with plants and animals are looking for short term offerings such as certificate based learning opportunities as well as online courses. Poor funding has hampered development of these educational courses. *Investment must be made in the cost of agricultural education.* (See exhibit 4)

**2. Which goals are achievable in the first 100 days of the Administration?**

1. Reviewing the GCAD surveys and interviews to identify how to bring committees and industry leaders back together and charge them to assign financial implementation costs then take action on all areas versus just advising the DoAG.
2. Inventory all state owned lands to see which have land that can be accessed for production agriculture.
3. Identify and create a listing of all educational programs offered which address interests in agriculture and create a central location for listing these activities so programs are not replicated.
4. Marketing *CT Grown* needs a fresh, invigorated jump start so people understand what buying locally from your neighbor can mean to growing communities.

**3. Which goals will require legislation to move forward? Which items can be advanced through the actions of the Administration alone? What is the fiscal impact of these legislative or executive actions?** Many of the items in the GCAD can be moved forward with commitment from the administration. There is a fiscal impact that will need to be budgeted for, but those numbers are not available and need to be determined.

**4. Are there specific challenges you can identify with regard to achieving the Lamont Administration's goals, and how would you suggest to address those?** Given the broad and inclusive nature of strategizing for the GCAD, issues should be cross walked to see what is common between GCAD and the Lamont policies.

**5. How will implementation of policy in this area create jobs and spur economic growth?** Aggressively reinvigorating the GCAD and utilizing business forward collaborations can turn ag's economic challenges around. In 2010 the USDA Economic Research Service listed CT as having \$211,061,000 in net farm income and in 2017 those numbers dropped to \$84,773,000. Other facts and income data please are found in exhibit 5. You can also follow the USDA /ERS web site and hover/click over CT and then compare rankings by selecting the years you choose to view [https://public.tableau.com/views/Gettoknowyourstate2/State-leveldashboard?amp&:display\\_count=no&:embed=y&:embed=y&:toolbar=no&:toolbar=n&:showVizHome=no](https://public.tableau.com/views/Gettoknowyourstate2/State-leveldashboard?amp&:display_count=no&:embed=y&:embed=y&:toolbar=no&:toolbar=n&:showVizHome=no)

**6. Are there opportunities for cost savings for CT state government in the context of implementing this policy?** There could be many opportunities to explore cost savings if there is a deep dive to see where there are overlapping regulations so multiple agencies are not doing the same thing. For example, redundancy of state inspectors going to farms who may have a commercial kitchen which sells farm processed goods off the farm. Three departments; DOAG, DCP and DPH (which handles food protection oversight of local health departments) will inspect at the farm. Three inspectors going to the farm at three different times, taking valuable time away from the business. Creating efficiencies and streamlining regulations needs to occur as soon as possible.

**7. What examples of success from other states, countries, or the private sector in this policy area should the Administration study?** In Connecticut, food and plant production, including cannabis and hemp, can greatly expand the farm economy if we can extend the growing season, create more space for ag production and be environmentally sustainable. Greenhouse production does all that. *National Geographic* highlighted the Netherlands in an article which illustrates what can be done in a small area like Connecticut with dedicated

support from the Department of Agriculture. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2017/09/holland-agriculture-sustainable-farming/>

**8. Are there any other issues/considerations you would like to highlight with regard to this policy area?**

All areas of agriculture should be focused on, not just one sector of farming because when all segments are more successful, that lifts everyone. Efficiencies play out with agricultural services and farm supplies and inputs can be lowered. The industry cannot divide itself and should work more collaboratively.

## ***Exhibits***

### **Exhibit 1**

#### **Governor's Council on Agriculture Development**

<https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3595&q=423842>

#### **GCAD Working Group Minutes - 2014**

<https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3595&Q=536954&PM=1>

#### **Retaining a stand-alone Department of Agriculture**

Connecticut agriculture has a tremendous opportunity to grow significantly, expanding its impact on our economy, providing local jobs, and keeping working lands active. A strengthened stand-alone Department of Agriculture (DoAG) can reinforce this opportunity and foster growth in the state's net farm income. Increasing the profitability and marketing of CT Grown products in our state is imperative.

First, there should be no changes to the programs that currently support the agricultural community, including keeping PA 490 a strong and supported program to keep land affordable and available. The Community Investment Act must remain fully funded and disbursed as the original legislation intended. Key in the CIA are the dairy supports that have been instrumental in keeping dairy farms in place. Milk pricing is a very complicated process that is driven by the federal government. A robust farmland preservation program that ensures land is available for future generations must also see growth.

A strong DoAG would enthusiastically collaborate across state agencies, with businesses and community partners, to work together to help Connecticut residents connect to local food and agriculture through promotional campaigns, consumer awareness efforts, marketing, and educational events. We aim to mobilize our allies, enthusiasts and innovators in helping to market agriculture's contribution to our vibrant quality of life in Connecticut; all while improving food security in our communities. Currently, CT consumers spend approximately 5% of their grocery bill on CT Grown products, which means that through these activities, the state can increase that number; thereby increasing consumer access to locally grown produce and increase farm revenues and the viability of agriculture.

DoAG should be charged with more authority to regulate farm activities, including processing and marketing of CT Grown products. The legislature recently assigned DoAG with the oversight of the Food Modernization and Safety Act, and this was the first of a number of steps that should be taken to empower the DoAG to have more regulatory oversight and enforcement; including the processing of honey and maple syrup, farmers markets, the opportunity to grow and sustain a hemp industry, and other value-added production that would increase the bottom line for farms and encourage new farmers to join the industry.

Helping entrepreneurial farm businesses compete with out of state food and plant producers, importers and manufacturers needs to be an important function of the Lamont administration. An office of economic development should also be created within DoAG. This would provide a vital navigation service to help farmers navigate the different permits and agencies necessary for their operation and provide guidance on available support programs available to their operation. These changes would foster an entrepreneurial agency that would be better able to respond and support an industry that would continue to grow and drive a sustainable economic contributor to our state. The DoAG can help by deepening its commitment to strategies increasing demand and expanding the consumer base to be more broad and diverse.

## **Exhibit 2**

### **Expanding Farm to School/Institution market enhancement, food hubs and food insecurity**

The Department of Agriculture should embrace its role in creating conditions for all residents to have access to CT-Grown food and plants. This priority is a win-win, helping entrepreneurial farm businesses compete with larger scale out of state food and plant producers, importers and manufacturers. Our state is seeing an expanding number and diversity of farmers excited to grow their business here in Connecticut who are deeply committed to growing food and plants for their communities as well as for exporting out of state! Our state government can help by ensuring and deepening its commitment to strategies that increase demand and expand the customer base to become more broad and diverse.

*This priority includes the following actions:*

1. Enthusiastically collaborate across state agencies, with businesses and community partners, working together to help Connecticut residents connect to local food and agriculture through promotional campaigns, consumer awareness efforts, marketing, and educational events. Policies should reflect mobilizing our allies, enthusiasts and innovators in helping to market agriculture's contribution to our vibrant quality of life in Connecticut.
2. Strategically work with Dept. of Social Services to take advantage of Farm Bill resources, and coordinate with community partners ready to help boost incentives for low income residents to purchase CT Grown products at certified mobile markets, farmer's markets, CSA's, and farm stands. (Nutritional incentives include the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program, CT Fresh Match, and Fruit & Vegetable Prescription (Rx) Programs) In order to strengthen the landscape of direct retail, we will expand the number of certified mobile markets, support the creation of a state farmer's market association, and work with partners to deliver new technical assistance in business planning and farm financials for direct retail operators.
3. In close coordination with the Dept. of Education and UConn Extension's Put Local On Your Tray Program, the administration must expand Farm to School (including Farm to Early Child Care) in Connecticut. By increasing enrollment in free school meal programs, we create more opportunities for farm to school programming, keep federal funds here in our state, and strengthen school meal program finances so they have more resources to purchase and process local foods. This priority includes incentivizing School Food Administrators to purchase and serve CT Grown products in the cafeteria by offering a higher per meal reimbursement, helping farmers to meet new demand from school buyers, building the capacity of school kitchens through technical assistance and professional development, engaging students with hands on learning activities such as school gardens and farm visits, and harnessing the enthusiasm from Connecticut's next generation of consumers to help families and communities move toward eating fresh, sustainable, local food.
4. Logically work with the CT Dept. of Economic and Community Development and private partners to support food hub development that helps small farm aggregators team up with food retailers and distributors to bring local food into larger scale wholesale channels (e.g. grocery stores, co-ops, colleges, hospitals, schools, co-

ops, restaurants, processors). We will find routes and partnerships to increase access to capital, offer technical assistance, and build the capacity of farmers to develop improved, consistent distribution channels to meet this growing demand from larger buyers. Buyers and farmers will each receive targeted technical assistance to ensure both understand the needs and capabilities of one another.

5. Support meet-up events and trade shows that help producers meet institutional buyers and develop new sales channels.

6. Regularly engage educators, community partners, municipal planners, and agriculture service providers to increase awareness of the benefits of local agriculture, the role it has played and continues to play in shaping our communities.

### **Exhibit 3**

#### **Regulatory challenges**

Farm profitability and growth across the board is dropping. Due to federal pricing policy, dairy producers are economically challenged monthly to cover costs such as payroll, fuel, and feed. Wineries, aquaculture and agritourism are segments of the farm economy which have shown incremental progress. All functions of agriculture (plant, animal, forestry) and aquaculture (shellfish, fin fish, sea vegetable) must be focused on offering economic opportunities for diverse producers (existing, beginning and aspiring) as well as diverse consumers. There must be more collaborative relationships with other agencies such as DEEP, DOT, DECD and UConn to assist farmers in reducing input costs, streamlining regulations, growing markets and educating our citizens.

#### **Labor**

One of the primary reasons for the success of Connecticut's agriculture businesses is due to the state's proximity to large population centers (such as New York and Boston) that are thriving economically and have a strong demand for CT grown agricultural products. However, these markets can source their agricultural products regionally and even nationally so it is imperative that Connecticut agricultural businesses remain competitive. Agriculture is a labor intensive business. To the extent that Connecticut's minimum wage is not in line with other states in the northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, Connecticut agriculture businesses will be at a competitive disadvantage. As of this writing in 2018, in the region that includes 12 states (CT, ME, NY, NJ, MA, VT, NH, MD, PA, DE, RI and OH), only NY (at \$10.40) and MA (at \$11.00) have higher minimum wages than CT (at \$10.10). So CT is already at the high end of the regional minimum wage scale. The agriculture community will suffer with a minimum wage increase.

There are also limited growers and agriculture businesses that use federal farm labor programs such as the H2A guest worker program. This exception should specify that if the CT minimum wage is higher than the established AEWR (Adverse Established Wage Rate), those businesses that bring in H2A guest workers are allowed to pay them the AEWR (Adverse Established Wage Rate).

Minimum wage data source: <https://www.laborlawcenter.com/state-minimum-wage-rates/>

Other labor citations

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Blog/todays-harvest/2018-pulse-of-ag>

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-labor.aspx#laborcostshare>

#### **Land access**

Farmland protection and preservation has been very helpful in maintaining a food and fiber producing land resource base, consisting mainly of prime and important farmland soils. These protected working lands help to ensure local availability of farm products and allow agriculture to remain an important part of the state's

economy. Our state and nation's farm population is aging. The ratio of farmers over the age of 65 to under the age of 35 is 6:1. Many farmers do not have an identified successor that is under the age of 45. As farmland transitions, we need to make sure it is available for the next generation.

The Farmland Preservation Program should be expanded to include affordability provisions or the Option to Purchase at Agricultural Value (OPAV) so that land ownership is accessible to a working farmer. Conservation easements and deed restrictions should require that the land remain in active agricultural production. The preservation program should specifically include farms that are under 50 acres in size and allow for flexibility in deed restrictions to accommodate current trends in agriculture. Resources for addressing additional issues related to farmland preservation of all types can be found here <http://workinglandsalliance.org/resources/>

Planning is also a key component to farmland access, The CT Chapter of the American Planning association (CCAPA) "Start With Planning" initiative suggests the following:

- 1) For the State to take a strong leadership position in creating and maintaining a common data set of property. This would include establishing a single set of digital mapping (GIS) data standards, a common definition of conservation lands, and developing a town-by-town baseline of property. This could be done through UConn Extension-CLEAR/CTeco <http://www.cteco.uconn.edu/> working with Councils of Government;
- 2) Maintain and increase current funding levels for agriculture support, conservation preservation, and farmland protection. A increased focus should be on leveraging partnerships and multiple funding streams (state, federal, local, land trust) that are enabled through better shared property information; and
- 3) Establish an Office of State Planning, either as a strong, stand-alone cabinet department, or perhaps preferably, through the Executive Office of the Governor. This Office would be a high-level coordinating entity ensuring that State policy and State funds consider the multiple competing factors (transportation vs. conservation vs. housing vs. economic development) in decision-making.

The PDF of their Conservation Paper, but more information can be found at <http://www.ccapa.org/legislative/start-with-planning/>

The Working Lands Alliance is a group of organizations with a focus on protecting farmland. Their resources can be found here <http://workinglandsalliance.org/resources/>

#### **Exhibit 4**

#### **Agri-science High School, Higher Education, Workforce Development and Agricultural Literacy**

The potential to increase the number of career-ready graduates to enter the workforce in Connecticut's agricultural industry should be a priority. The solution to this dilemma is to increase the state funding for secondary agri-science programs to the same level of funding as vocational technology and develop a comprehensive post-secondary degree and/or certificate program that responds to current trends in agriculture. There must be equity in state funding for Connecticut's agri-science programs. Agri-science schools only get \$3,911 per student, magnet schools get \$7,900, Charter Schools get \$11,000 and the state's Vocational Technical schools are presently funded at \$12,686 per student. Of these four school choice programs, Agri-science and Vo-Tech are the only two school choice models that are career-based, applied learning models having a direct impact on the economy and job growth.

#### **Reasons to Increase Agriscience Program Funding**

1. Agriscience programs are currently funded at a level (currently only \$3,911 per student) that is less than one third of all other school choice models (Charter, Magnet and Vo-Tech)

2. Help feed the economy with job growth. Connecticut agriculture is a 4 billion dollar industry with over 21,000 jobs and significant social and environmental benefits. (according to Economic Impacts of Connecticut's Agricultural Industry, released by UCONN in September 2017)
3. Connecticut's 19 regional agri-science programs are time-tested models of success and were created by the state to prepare high school students to pursue agricultural careers either directly after high school or after further education in college. The first one was created in 1920 in Woodbury, CT.
4. The agri-science programs are the only school choice program held accountable by law for the past 24 years to conduct a five year graduate survey to prove relevance and accountability of the program's purpose (24 years of graduate success data are available since the law was passed in 1993).
  - Nation-wide average of 2008 high school graduates who went to college, only 52% finished with a degree after six years of college.
  - For Connecticut's 2008 agri-science program graduates who went to college, 96% finished with a degree in FIVE years and are employed.
  - Last year's graduate survey of the class of 2011 graduates reported that 75% of those graduates came back and are employed in Connecticut!
5. Fill to capacity the 200 million dollar state investment of building the 19 regional agri-science centers
6. Honor the State Board of Education's 5 Year Comprehensive Plan for Equity and Excellence regarding school choice funding. (Page 11: "Ensure that equitable access, equitable funding and accountability measures are achieved among all Connecticut's school choice programs.")
7. Provide every sending town in Connecticut with tuition relief. Instead of paying \$6,823 for each student choosing to attend a regional agri-science program, they will now pay ZERO as they do for their students who choose to attend regional vo-tech programs.

Coupled with the need for agricultural education in secondary schools is the need for further workforce development in post-secondary education, primarily in the state's community college system. With a high demand for an educated labor force, a well-developed theoretical and applied program of learning is needed to help move the agricultural industry forward and keep our local communities vibrant.

Since 1993, Connecticut's 19 agri-science programs have conducted a 5 year graduate survey every year. Year after year, the results have proven the value, effectiveness and success of these programs producing graduates who go on to enter the workforce, either directly upon graduation, or after completing further training at a two or four year college. The numbers speak for themselves: For example, regarding the national average of all 2008 high school graduates in the country who went to college, only 52% finished with a degree after 6 years of college. However, for Connecticut's agri-science graduates in the same year who went to college, 96% of these students earned a degree in only five years and are all employed, with a majority employed in some aspect of the agricultural industry. The 24 years of graduate data provides an excellent opportunity to document the past successes of the programs and to gain valuable feedback from graduates on how best to expand and update the programs for future students and careers.

When the agri-science programs were regionalized in the late 50's, the intent of these programs was to educate high school students during the day and then hold agricultural education classes in the evenings for out of school youth and adults. Several of the centers created robust and extensive adult education offerings to help people working in agriculture to stay current with new ideas to increase profitability, obtain training for industry certification programs and continue their education through a large variety of courses offered in these evening programs. With increased funding, all agri-science programs can continue to operate as regional centers for agricultural education for more high school students and develop and enhance a full adult education program for out of school youth and adults as well.

### **Aspiring, young, and beginner farmers**

This subset of people has challenges that should be reiterated.

1. Affordable and accessible farmland - Utilizing the existing Farmland Preservation Program and expanding it to include affordability provisions or Option to Purchase at Agricultural Value (OPAV) for working

farmers is needed to provide land access. Smaller sized parcels, suitable to diversified community-focused farms, are attractive to those just beginning their farm businesses.

Urban and peri-urban farm properties should also be considered for protection.

2. Support for all farmers, particularly people of color, Native Americans, veterans, women, and LBGTQ.
3. Educational opportunities
  - a. Trainings and workshops by UConn Extension
  - b. Degree programs at UConn, including new faculty to expand current offerings
  - c. Certificate and/or degree programs at community colleges geared toward theoretical and applied skills needed for the industry.
  - d. Agriscience programs funded at levels comparable to vocational technology. Coursework designed to reflect current trends in New England agriculture.
  - e. Opportunity to develop workforce skills without incurring high student loan debt.
4. Access to affordable healthcare. In one of the most dangerous professions, this is paramount to self-employed farmers.
5. Access to small-business development services. Food and farm business need support, specifically in operations, finance management, marketing and sales.

Development of initiatives geared toward new-entry farmers serves to maintain and/or grow our agricultural community. As farmers retire and businesses consolidate, there will be land that needs a long-term steward. When farmers own the land they farm, they can invest in the growth of their business. The industry needs new farmers to succeed and investment is needed in these farmers, through the avenues discussed above. As businesses are developed, grow, and succeed, it encourages other aspiring farmers to choose Connecticut as a place to begin a business, which supports the growth of the industry and challenges us all to provide a robust marketplace and community for agriculture.

The Federal Farm Bill of 2014 provided limited opportunities for beginning farmers, but its not enough. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/agricultural-act-of-2014-highlights-and-implications/beginning-farmers-and-ranchers/>

## Exhibit 5

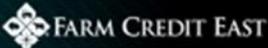
### Additional resources on the ag economy

#### Economic Impacts of CT Agricultural Industry – 2015

[http://zwickcenter.uconn.edu/news\\_59\\_1295854761.pdf](http://zwickcenter.uconn.edu/news_59_1295854761.pdf)

#### Farming in the Northeast

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Reports/11-myths-about-northeast-farming-busted-by-the-2012-census-of-agriculture>



### What Percent of Connecticut Farms Produce 80% of Sales?

- Answer: Less than 5%
- The largest 264 farms (4.4%) produced 85% of ALL CT sales.
- The largest 24 (0.4%) farms produced 46% of CT sales.
- Losing 1 of CTs largest farms reduces total sales by 2%

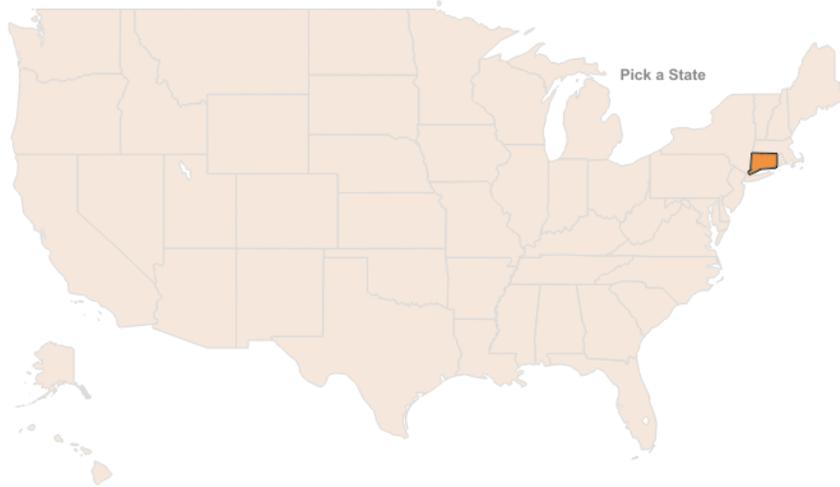
CT Farm Bureau November 14, 2014



## **80% of Connecticut Farms Are Responsible for What % of Production?**

- Answer: Less than 4%
- 4,143 of CT's 5,977 farms produce 3.9% of total sales.
- 50% of CT's farms produce less than 1% of total sales.

## Get to know farms in Connecticut



## Farm facts

**Number of farms**  
6,000

**Acres of farmland**  
440,000

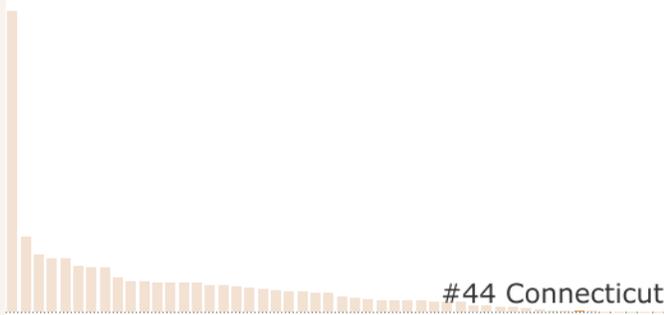
**Net farm income**  
\$84,773,000

**Government payments**  
\$4,994,000

**Federal insurance premiums**  
\$1,992,000

**Federal insurance indemnities**  
\$3,149,000

## Ranked by: Net farm income 2017



## Net farm income 2008-2017



## Top 5 cash receipts

|   |                              |               |
|---|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Miscellaneous crops          | \$330,817,000 |
| 2 | Dairy products, milk         | \$77,979,000  |
| 3 | All other animals & products | \$44,410,000  |
| 4 | Chicken eggs                 | \$20,360,000  |
| 5 | Apples                       | \$19,895,000  |

## Top 5 production expenses

|   |                      |               |
|---|----------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Hired labor          | \$159,496,000 |
| 2 | Miscellaneous*       | \$84,529,000  |
| 3 | Capital consumption* | \$63,163,000  |
| 4 | Feed                 | \$51,695,000  |
| 5 | Seed                 | \$45,376,000  |

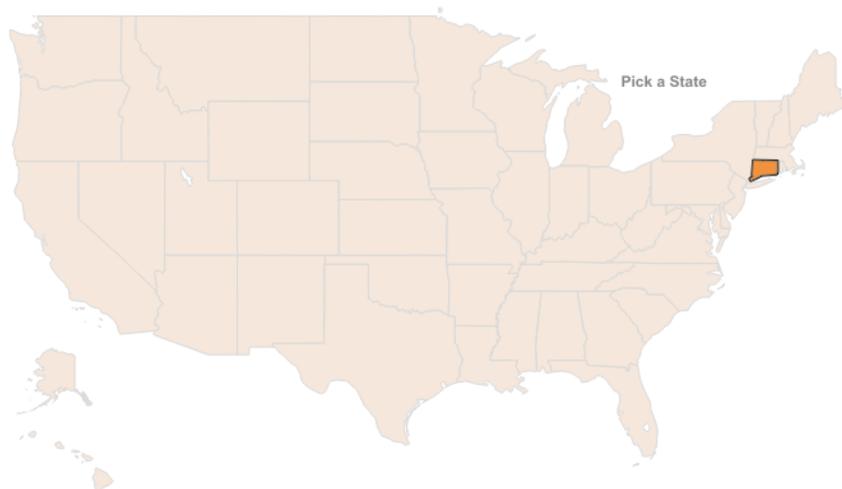
\*Includes expenses associated with operator's dwellings.

\*\*Includes landlord capital consumption.

Created by: The ERS Farm Income Team.

Source: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics.aspx> released November 30, 2018. Number of farms and acres of farmland come from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, June Area Survey (<https://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1259>).

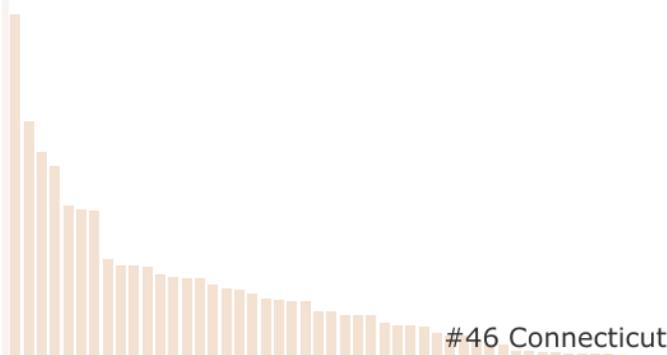
## Get to know farms in Connecticut



## Farm facts

|                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Number of farms</b>            | <b>Acres of farmland</b>             |
| 6,000                             | 440,000                              |
| <b>Net farm income</b>            | <b>Government payments</b>           |
| \$84,773,000                      | \$4,994,000                          |
| <b>Federal insurance premiums</b> | <b>Federal insurance indemnities</b> |
| \$1,992,000                       | \$3,149,000                          |

## Ranked by: Production expens.. 2017



## Production expenses

2008-2017



## Top 5 cash receipts

|   |                              |               |
|---|------------------------------|---------------|
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\*Includes expenses associated with operator's dwellings.

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## Agricultural Sector information

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Reports/northeast-agriculture-2018-insights-perspectives>

### **CT Dairy Industry**

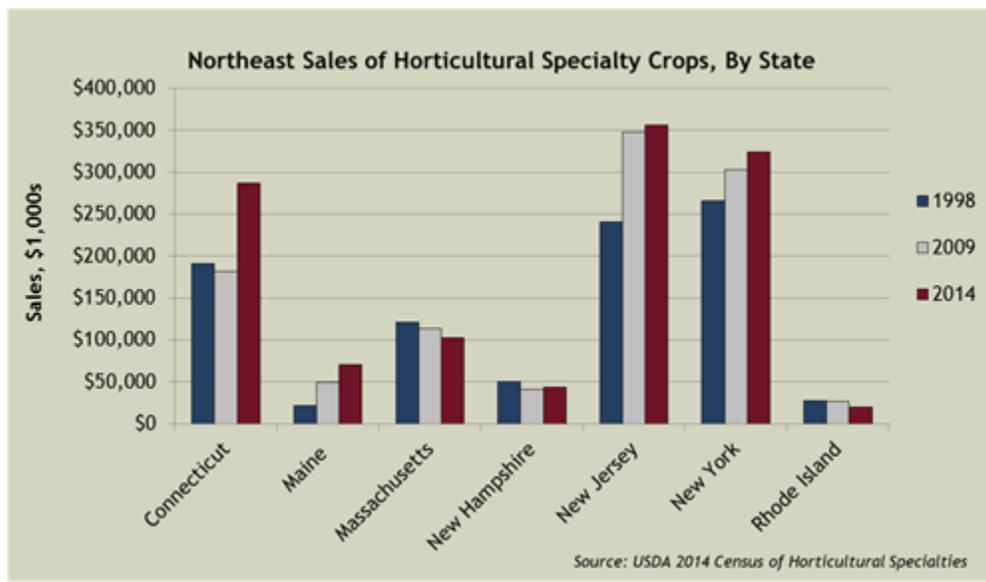
Cost of milk production July-Sept 2018

[http://zwickcenter.uconn.edu/outreach\\_reports\\_40\\_4133795996.pdf](http://zwickcenter.uconn.edu/outreach_reports_40_4133795996.pdf)

### **Controlled Environment Agriculture in the northeast – Greenhouse**

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/News/media-center/press-releases/20171101NovemberKEP/CEA>

### **CT Horticulture**



### **CT Fruit and Vegetable Production**

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Reports/top-vegetables-in-the-northeast>

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Reports/top-fruits-in-the-northeast>

# CONNECTICUT SHELLFISH BY THE NUMBERS



## HABITAT

**77,000**

total number of acres of shellfish beds

## HARVESTING

**\$30,000,000**

estimated value of commercial harvest



**4** harvested types (oysters, clams, mussels, bay scallops)



**7** minimum days shellfishing areas are closed following a significant rainfall event

**14** towns with recreational harvest areas open to public



**3** average number of growing seasons before an oyster can be harvested



**41** shellfish companies

## AMAZING OYSTERS

**100** million average number of eggs produced by a healthy oyster

**800** water quality sampling stations

**1%** of fertilized oyster eggs that survive to maturity

**30** number of gallons one oyster can filter in a day

**\$20** average cost for an annual recreational shellfishing permit for Connecticut resident

**70** calories in a quarter pound serving of clams

## SHELLFISH & CONSUMERS



Source: Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture

