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CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

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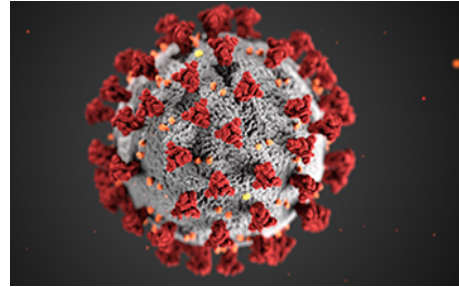
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COVID-19 resources for farmers are available at www.CTGrown.gov.

COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers in Connecticut

Earlier this week the Connecticut Department of Agriculture distributed a [press release](#) regarding farm stores and farmers' markets remaining open for business to provide consumers access to fresh, local foods.

The agency has also developed a page on our [website](#) with COVID-19 resources specific to production agriculture and aquaculture, food safety, labor and employer action, business services, and pets. Additional guidance pertaining to COVID-19 related to farmers' markets and on-farm markets as well as farms and on-farm deliveries is also available.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture recognizes that this is an unprecedented situation we are all facing. We have been actively reaching out to partner organizations and leaders within various sectors as well as fielding phone calls and emails. Producers are encouraged to continue relaying concerns and questions so that we can address them with state and federal

COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers

AGRICULTURE & AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

[CT Farms and On-Farm Deliveries Considerations for COVID-19](#)
[Farmers' Market and On-Farm Market Considerations for COVID-19](#)
[Consideration for Fruit and Vegetable Growers from UConn Extension](#)
[Animals and Coronavirus Disease 2019 from the CDC](#)
[COVID Fact Sheet for Dairy Herds \(Available in English and Spanish\)](#)
[AVMA Disaster Preparedness for Livestock & Large Animals](#)
[USDA's COVID-19 website](#)
[FSIS's COVID-19 website](#)

FOOD SAFETY

[FDA's Guidance on Food Safety and COVID 19](#)

FOOD INDUSTRY

Online ordering platforms for farmers

- Barn2Door <https://www.barn2door.com/>
- Cropolis <https://cropolis.co/>
- Farmigo <https://www.farmigo.com/>
- Food4aAll <https://www.food4all.com/sell-food-online-csa-software/>
- Harvie <https://www.harvie.farm/>
- Local Food Marketplace <https://home.localfoodmarketplace.com/>
- Local Line <https://site.localline.ca/>
- Shopify <https://www.shopify.com/>

[Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers \(CDC\)](#)

[COVID-19 Resources for the Food Industry \(The Acheson Group\)](#)

[Coronavirus: Fresh Produce Industry Resources \(United Fresh Produce Association\)](#)

[Coronavirus Resources \(Food Marketing Institute\)](#)

[Preparedness Checklist; Coronavirus and Pandemic Preparedness for the Food Industry](#) (includes recommendations for supporting consumers, associates, human resources, retail stores, distribution centers/transportation, product suppliers, and interacting with the media).

LABOR AND EMPLOYER RESOURCES

[USDA H2A Labor and COVID-19](#)

[Farmer Stress Management](#)

Healthy Workplace Posters: English and Spanish

- [Don't Spread Germs \(English\)](#)
- [Don't Spread Germs \(Spanish\)](#)

- [Keeping Your Workplace Safe](#)
- [Additional Resources and Posters from the CDC](#)

BUSINESS SERVICES

[Extension to Connecticut Filing Deadline for Certain Annual State Business Tax Returns](#)

[CT Department of Economic and Community Development Business Assistance](#)

[SBA Disaster Relief Loan Fact Sheets in \[English\]\(#\) and \[Spanish\]\(#\)](#)

PETS

[CDC Guidance for People who Isolate in Home and Have Pets](#)

[AVMA Disaster Preparedness for Pets](#)

[USDA's Animal Care Emergency Programs](#)

MUNICIPAL POUNDS/ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

- All volunteers should be removed from all Municipal Pound operations.
 - Services such as voluntary pet surrenders, should be suspended until further notice.
 - No visitors should be allowed at the municipal pound until further notice
 - At this time, it is suggested ACO's continue to respond to emergency and high priority calls - but limit activities to avoid exposure for all ACO's
 - Utilize PPE at all appropriate times, frequently sanitize areas where municipal pound personnel congregate.
 - Practice preventative measures such as social distancing, refrain from shaking hands, wash hands frequently, use hand sanitizer, etc.
 - If PPE supplies are waning, contact your immediate supervisor or local EMD who can request supplies through The State of Connecticut WebEOC
 - Any employee showing signs or symptoms of illness should seek medical attention and refrain from coming to work.
-

COVID-19 RESOURCES: GENERAL INFORMATION

[Connecticut's COVID-19 website](#)

[CDC's COVID-19 website](#)

[FDA's COVID-19 website; FDA Statement: FDA steps to ensure quality of foreign products](#)

[DHS' COVID-19 website](#)

[State Department Travel Advisories](#)

Request for Specialty Crop Block Grant Applications

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is seeking applications for projects that enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, maple syrup, honey, horticulture, and nursery crops.

and must be completed by March 1, 2023. The maximum award is \$75,000. Eligible applicants include universities and colleges, municipalities, registered nonprofits, state agencies, and Council of Governments.

A conference call on how to write and submit an application for the program will be held for new applicants on April 1, 2020 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Please call: 866-917-9738 Passcode: 88236281#. RSVP's are not required.

More info and complete application guidelines and forms are available at www.CTGrown.gov/grants, or by contacting Jaime Smith at 860-573-1944 or jaime.smith@ct.gov.

Applications are due to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture by 4:00 p.m. on April 23, 2020.



Exhibit at the 2020 Big E

The Connecticut Building at the Big E offers a unique opportunity for agricultural businesses, non-profits, and other entities with an agricultural mission to showcase the diversity of Connecticut agriculture.

The 2020 Big E is scheduled to run from **September 18 - October 4, 2020.**

Online applications are available at <https://bit.ly/2wnPNXW> and are due by Friday, March 27, 2020.

Additional information is available at www.CTGrown.gov.

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA](#)

[Northeast Regional Eggs](#)

[New Holland, PA Hay Report](#)

[New England Shell Eggs](#)

[Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary](#)

[Wholesale Ornamental Flowers - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Livestock Auction - Waynesburg, PA](#)

Advertisements

For Sale

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers,

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. 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

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

7-R. Black angus heifers, 23 months old. 3 available. Each to calf in or around May. Asking \$1,400 each. Call 860-212-5463

14-R. Honeybees: 5-frame NUCS, DEEPS only available first week of May. Jones' Apiaries LLC 860-677-9391

15-R. Need Honey Bee Pollination? Call Heritage Apiaries, Canton, CT. 860-805-7191

16-R. 4x5 Round bales. 1st cutting dry bales, stored inside. 2nd cutting silage bales. Located in Woodbury. Delivery available. 203-266-4067.

17-R. Greenhouse plastic - 4 rolls 24' x 100' brand new. \$125/roll; Pumpkin Bins - 1 time use \$4 each. Call Joe 860-659-0294.

19. Round hay bales for sale. You pick up. \$40 each. 203-490-7958 (Mary).

Wanted

9-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.

18-R. Wanted to buy: Used one row potato digger. Call 475-237-8448.

Job Opportunities

20-R. HELP WANTED: USDA Farm Service Agency is looking for loss adjuster contractors to work in CT. Knowledge of field and specialty crops preferred, but will train individuals with ag experience. For more info, https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Connecticut/news-releases/2020/stnr_20200213_rel_03 or email clark.chapin@usda.gov. Application deadline is April 15, 2020.

Billings Forge on Thursdays from June through October. The Farmers Market is located on the grassy courtyard of a housing complex within Hartford's Frog Hollow neighborhood which brings local and healthy produce to community residents and creates a meeting space for the community and the surrounding workers from the State Capitol, insurance companies, and offices.

Job Duties: Attract, retain and manage an excellent and diverse mix of local vendors; Expand the customer base of the market using various PR strategies and creative, low-cost marketing; Oversee market site and market day activities, including local food events, cooking demonstrations, special events and market stage entertainment; Recruit, train, coordinate and acknowledge market employees and volunteers; Create and maintain effective administrative systems; Ensure sound financial management and sustainability of the market; Develop and maintain market policies and procedures; Maintain website / database; Measure success of market and communicate it to both our internal and external community

Email cover letter and resume to: Cary Wheaton, cary@forgacityworks.org.

Interested in Advertising? Click [here](#) for details on rates and submission.

Upcoming Events & Industry News

Produce Safety for Hydroponic Growers Survey

[Produce Safety for Hydroponics Operation](#)

Cornell's COVID-19 and Your Dairy Webinar

March 20, 2020 | 10-11 am EST

[Link to Join COVID-19 and Your Dairy](#) This webinar will be led by Richard Stup, PhD, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development and Rob Lynch, DVM, Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY. It will cover: why prevention of the coronavirus/COVID-19 is important, steps that employers should take to protect employees, animal health considerations, what to do if service providers are not available, disaster contingency plans, cross-training of employees who can fill other roles, business resources for employers, and pending federal and state legislation related to coronavirus and employees.

Nutrition's Role in Sustainable Livestock Production Practices

March 23, 2020 | 8:30 am-1pm pm EST

Grazing systems Introduction and overview to grazing systems, in-depth discussion of different types of grazing systems and multi-species grazing. Register for any or all of the workshops at <https://forms.gle/Q6MuG7xyyUH9y98x9> or email jean.king@uconn.edu **(THIS WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA WEBINAR FORMAT, PLEASE STILL SIGN UP TO BE SURE YOU RECEIVE THE CORRECT LINK)**

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