

[View this email in your browser](#)



CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

In This Issue

May 8, 2020; Vol. C, No. 15

[CT Grown Mother's Day Ideas](#)

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Pre-Order Price Cards](#)

[Connecticut Grown Map](#)

[SNAP Terminals](#)

[Ag Market Pricing](#)

[Advertisements](#)



Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt, Andrew, Billy, and Shaun Collins of Fair Weather Growers, Rep. Wood and Senator Lesser promoted the benefits of supporting Connecticut's farms by buying local this Mother's Day.



[Celebrate Mother's Day with Connecticut Grown Ideas](#)

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to visit Fair Weather Growers in Rocky Hill, CT, where the farm store was filled inside and out with an array of colorful hanging baskets, flats of annuals and perennials, and much more. The purpose of the visit was to highlight all of the local options available from Connecticut farmers as we recognize mothers this Sunday.

If you are like me and left your shopping until the last minute or need a bit of help on what to buy, our team compiled a top five list of ideas of how you can celebrate this Mother's Day. While it may not be the traditional celebration, there is still the opportunity to support our local farms, and create new memories. Whether it's a bottle of award-winning farm wine, a decadent dessert made with Connecticut milk and eggs, or a home cooked brunch featuring #CTGrown meats, shellfish, and produce, you can make it a day mom is sure to remember and feel appreciated. And, if you want to give the gift that keeps on giving, we recommend a gift certificate to a farm store or CSA program.

As I strolled through the farm market, it was hard not to smile as I saw families enjoying a moment in the sunshine, debating which plants to buy, and even enjoying a cup of ice cream. It was a reminder that as difficult the COVID-19 situation is, there is still much to be grateful for if we take the time to see it. Best wishes and thank you to all the mother's on your day.

Bryan P. Hurlburt
Commissioner of Agriculture

COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers

**THIS FARM PRODUCT IS CONNECTICUT GROWN &
PRODUCED BY:**

(Farm Name) in

(City/Town), CT.



Reference: Connecticut General Statutes §22-38 (c)

Pre-Order Now Available

Connecticut Grown point of purchase (POP) cards for producers to identify product grown and produced in Connecticut are now available to reserve online. Cards have been redesigned to be two-sided with increased space for displaying product names and prices.

Cards are expected to be available the week of May 18 to start shipping and are available at no cost to producers.

Reserve yours now at www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com.

COVID-19 CONSUMER RESOURCES

Connecticut Grown Farm Map: online, interactive listing of open farm stands, farm stores and farmers' markets to access Connecticut Grown produce, dairy, meat, shellfish, greenhouse and nursery stock.

COVID-19 PRODUCER RESOURCES

Find the latest guidance on best practices, resources and updates related to COVID-19 visit: <https://portal.ct.gov/doag-covid>

Farm Stand, Farm Store, CSA Guidance available [here](#).

Food Safety Guidance available [here](#).

List your farm, farmers' market or farm stand on CTGrownMap.com by clicking [here](#).

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Farming in a Pandemic](#), WLA, 5/1

[Coronavirus to push more CT farmers online](#), CT Insider, 5/2

[Connecticut farmers, markets change operations amid pandemic](#), Meriden Record-Journal, 5/4

[Connecticut seeks solution as some food aid groups try to outbid others](#), The Westerly Sun, 5/4

[In a time of need there's too much milk](#), The Day, 5/4

[Operation Community Impact: 4-H Helps Distribute Milk Statewide](#), ThePatch.com, 5/4

[Meat Builds Connection to Local Farms](#), CT News Junkie, 5/5

[State Agencies Working to Help Families Suffering Food Insecurities](#), NBC Connecticut, 5/5

[Local Farmers Plan for Pick Your Own](#), WTNH News 8, 5/5

[Country fairs cancel due to coronavirus](#), WFSB Channel 3, 5/6

[Farms, grocers respond to concerns over potential meat shortage](#), WFSB Channel 3, 5/6

[Local farm stands open with safety precautions amid pandemic](#), WTNH News 8, 5/7

[Local farms changing the way they serve their communities](#), WFSB Channel 3, 5/7



LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SECTOR

The consumer demand for locally-produced food is creating jobs and opportunity throughout rural America for farms, businesses and entrepreneurs that store, process, market and distribute food locally and regionally. Farm and business opportunities continue to increase as the market share of local and regional foods grows. Across USDA, there are resources, loans and grants to help farmers, ranchers and food businesses find new opportunities in this expanding agricultural sector. [Click here](#) to connect with the many programs, research, and educational materials that can help you meet this demand.

FREE SNAP TERMINALS FOR FARMERS AND FARMERS' MARKETS

The Connecticut Departments of Agriculture and Social Services has partnered to provide free, wireless Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program (SNAP) Point of Sale (POS) terminals to farmers' market and direct marketing farmers. Terminals are currently available and expenses will be covered through September 2021.

Interested applicants should email a complete Letter of Intent/Request Form to Crystal Morris-Crenshaw, Crystal.Morris@ct.gov.

A deadline for submitting materials has not been identified however, the program will be closed once funds are exhausted.

Please be aware:

1. A Letter of Interest cannot be submitted unless you are already approved by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to accept SNAP. This approval is through the issuance of an FNS number provided by the

2. Additional paperwork will be necessary after submitting the initial Letter of Intent before a SNAP terminal is provided. Phase two of this process will be conducted through the Connecticut Department of Social Services.

Additional information can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/ADaRC/ADaRC/SNAP-POS-Terminal-Grant>. Questions not addressed in the [FAQ's](#) can be directed to Jaime.Smith@ct.gov.

FARM VIABILITY GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 21

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is excited to announce a second round of funding available through the Farm Viability Grant. Grant guidelines and applications for this spring cycle of funding can be found [online](#). Applications are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 21.

The Farm Viability Grant provides matching funds to Connecticut municipalities, groups of municipalities, regional councils of governments, and/or agricultural non-profit organizations for projects that foster agricultural viability. Examples of projects include establishing new marketing outlets for farmers, enhancing the awareness of CT Grown, increasing access to farmland and farmland preservation, and improving food security in urban and rural areas.

The maximum award is \$49,999. Applicants must provide a 40% match through cash or in-kind services.

New for this spring cycle of funding, applicants can request up to 25% of the grant award cover the cost of salary and fringe for staff who are directly related to the execution of the project.

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, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

Diamondina & Donnie 800-834-8049 or www.bridon.com - R. Canagnot electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290

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

21-R. Hanging baskets - wholesale flowering annuals. Potted Proven Winners, geraniums, deck pots, mixed baskets and more! Dzen Brothers Farm 860-648-1355.

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



FOLLOW on FACEBOOK



JOIN on PINTEREST



VISIT our WEBSITE

Copyright © 2020 Connecticut Department of Agriculture, All rights reserved.

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).