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July 1, 2020; Vol. C, No. 23

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Check out the new CPTV series, Harvesting Connecticut, funded in part by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Ag Viability Grant through Community Investment Act. Episodes premiere on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and encore the following Saturday at 1 p.m. on CPTV or watch online <a href="here">here</a>.

Featured farms include Elm Farm, Lapsley Orchard, Jonathan Edwards Winery, Holmberg Orchards & Winery and Stonington Vineyards.



# Connecticut Grown Food

This Fourth of July, celebrate Connecticut's independent businesses, including farmers, farm stands, and farmers' markets, with a Connecticut Grown cookout or picnic. As we acknowledge our freedom and independence as a nation, it's important to pause to recognize the efforts of our agricultural producers who work hard throughout the year to provide us with a stable food supply.

"Now more than ever, we are aware of how critically important a local food supply is for residents of our state," said Bryan P. Hurlburt, Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner. "Farmers are the backbone of our nation and your purchase of local meats, vegetables, fruits, dairy and shellfish, supports a local family business working to sustain our economy and way of life while providing a safe food."

Consumers have a wide variety of Connecticut Grown products to choose from including cherries, raspberries, and blueberries, plus tomatoes, lettuces, beets and the start of sweet corn. Connecticut's coastline is home to an abundance of seafood, including oysters and clams, perfect for those who prefer a clambake. If grilling is your specialty, a wide range of meats including beef, pork and chicken for steak, burgers, or wings are stocked and ready for you. Connecticut's dairy farmers have ice cream, yogurt and of course, milk, to enjoy on these hot summer days. Stop in at a Connecticut farm winery or brewery to enjoy a glass responsibly or buy a bottle to bring home.

For recipes to celebrate this holiday weekend, visit <a href="https://www.pinterest.com/GrowCTAg/">https://www.pinterest.com/GrowCTAg/</a> and find an open farm stand or market near you at <a href="https://www.ctgrownMap.com">www.ctgrownMap.com</a>. From all of us at the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, we wish you a happy and safe Fourth of July celebration.

**COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers** 



#### **FOURTH OF JULY PET SAFETY TIPS**

Fourth of July traditions can be great fun for people; but all of the festivities can be frightening and even dangerous for animals.

Whether or not you're planning your own Independence Day celebration, it's important to take precautions to keep your pets safe both during and after Fourth of July festivities.

Here are recommendations from American Veterinary Medical Association: <a href="https://www.avma.org/resou.../pet-owners/petcare/july-4-safety">https://www.avma.org/resou.../pet-owners/petcare/july-4-safety</a>

#### **COVID-19 CONSUMER RESOURCES**

<u>Connecticut Grown Farm Map</u>: 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: <a href="https://portal.ct.gov/doag-covid">https://portal.ct.gov/doag-covid</a>

List your farm, farmers' market or farm stand on CTGrownMap.com by clicking here.

**UPDATED:** COVID-19 Farmers' Market Guidance available <u>here.</u> **UPDATED:** COVID-19 Pick-Your-Own Guidance available <u>here.</u>

Events available here.

Has your agribusiness or farm adopted new ways of doing business to continue serving Connecticut residents through COVID-19? We want to highlight those who have modified their operations to protect their workforce and consumers, give back to their community, and continue pushing forward in a COVID-19 world.

Send photos/stories to <u>rebecca.eddy@ct.gov</u>. We look forward to sharing your story.

### **CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS**

Bethehem, Woodbury farm preserved by Connecticut Farmland Trust, The Record Citizen, 6/26

Fairfield farmers market returns to Sherman Green, CT Post, 6/28

<u>Jones Tree Farm's patriarch harvests for a post-Covid future</u>, The Record Citizen, 6/28

Arethusa Farms partners with western Connecticut farms to boost its premium dairy production, Hartford Courant, 6/29

Department of Agriculture: Support Local!, iHeart, 6/29

<u>Willimantic Farmers' Market implements COVID safety measures</u>, Hartford Courant, 6/29

<u>Two Leading Women Break Ground on Connecticut's First Dairy Digester, American Biogas Council</u>





#### VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE ECOTYPE PROJECT

Join <u>The Ecotype Project</u> of CT NOFA for a virtual tour of the EcoType Project at The Hickories and <u>Highstead</u> with our lead seed collector, Geordie Elkins and founder plot coordinator at <u>The Hickories</u>, Jean Linville.

Learn why we collect wild seed and how we grow ecotype plants to make them available to you! Come see the places that are fortifying our local lands with these vital native pollinator plants.

Register here.

# SURVEY TO DETERMINE IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON YOUR AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS

Agricultural Producers: You are invited to participate in a research study. UConn Extension has many educational programs for agricultural producers. You may or may not have participated in these in the past. We are surveying agricultural producers to determine the impacts of COVID-19 on your agricultural business and what educational programs you need from UConn Extension and our partners as a result of COVID-19. This study should take approximately five minutes of your time. Your participation will be anonymous. The full information sheet and link to the survey is available at: <a href="https://bit.ly/AgCOVID June">https://bit.ly/AgCOVID June</a>

# Ag Market Pricing

Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT

New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA

New England Shell Eggs

Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables -

Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction

**Boston** Summary

Pennsylvania Livestock Auction -Eighty Four, PA

Wholesale Ornamental Flowers -

Boston

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

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