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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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Commissioner Hurlburt visited [Grower Direct Farms](#) on Thursday, Jan. 28 to see tomatoes ripening under the glass greenhouse enclosure. Aptly named Winter Harvest, this is the result of a project funded through USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant dollars awarded by the agency to CT Greenhouse Growers Association. They have been picking more than 2,000 lbs. of tomatoes each week to deliver to grocery stores and farm stands.

COVID-19 VACCINE RESOURCES (information on Connecticut's phased rollout)



Serving the Community

More than 500,000 Food Boxes Distributed Since the Start of COVID-19 Pandemic

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic Governor Lamont tasked Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt with identifying weaknesses in emergency feeding and addressing a long-term response of the food supply chain in Connecticut. As market disruptions impacted Connecticut producers the trickledown effect meant that the state's most vulnerable residents were in great danger of going without food on their tables.

"Food insecurity has increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic and food pantries were overwhelmed with the number of people needing to be served on a regular basis," said Commissioner Hurlburt. "By increasing access to aggregation and facilitating food distribution we have been able to meet some of these challenges head on in collaboration with partners, but there is still much work to be done."

Challenges quickly became apparent as food pantries began serving greater numbers than ever before. Procurement and storage of food was of paramount concern. During the first two rounds and an extension of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farmers to Families Food Box program, Connecticut producer Cecarelli's Harrison Hill Farm in Northford and Willimantic Food Co-op in Willimantic were awarded a contract to work with established connections, which moved more than 29,000 boxes filled with Connecticut Grown vegetables and fruits.

Changes from within the USDA contracting process saw a new vendor unfamiliar with Connecticut and no existing relationships with the vast pantry network selected for Round 3 in September 2020. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) collaborated with DEMHS, the five regional coordinators, and EndHunger CT! to develop a strategic approach to distribution. With a limited timeframe in which to connect the dots, DoAg assisted to develop relationship capable of handling the large volume of food, more than ten times the previous rounds combined.

The creation of a website, [CTPantryResources.com](https://mailchi.mp/ct.gov/ctagreportjan292021-4730530?e=[UNIQID]), provided a streamlined navigation tool for pantries to request food boxes and distribute to those in need. Establishing this framework has been invaluable as each subsequent award round

has brought in a new vendor to distribute food boxes in Connecticut.

In addition to working with the pantries to coordinate receipt of the food boxes, DoAg has also assisted in the procurement of refrigerated storage. Utilizing connections within our own industry, shellfish harvesters generously donated the use of equipment and staff to be onsite at distribution events. The Connecticut Milk Promotion Board, funded by the state's dairy farm families, awarded grants to local food pantries to provide refrigerated coolers and an initial stocking of dairy products, including milk, yogurt, and cheese to clients. Others within the agriculture community also stepped up to donate product directly from their farms and the UConn Extension Litchfield County 4-H program, Operation Community Impact, moving large quantities of milk and dairy products to food pantries.

As the number of testing events increased throughout the state, Commissioner Hurlburt saw the need to ensure those with limited resources had access to food during quarantine while awaiting test results. Through partnerships with The Salvation Army to procure the food boxes and distribute at testing sites and Connecticut National Guard who has also assisted with distribution and storage of food boxes at a state facility, this program has provided more than 3,900 food boxes at testing sites located in 12 municipalities throughout the state.

In addition to all the behind the scenes work, DoAg staff have provided boots on the ground at various locations throughout the state from Rentschler Field in Hartford to Walnut Hill in Danbury and South Windsor to Enfield to assist the other volunteers in moving food to those in need.

The recent announcement on the merger of the state's two largest food banks, CT Food Bank and Foodshare, is an example of how much stronger we are when working together.

"While there is still much to be done to address food insecurity in the state, we are grateful to all of the partners who have stepped up to help," said Commissioner Hurlburt. "It takes a community to serve the community and we look forward to the opportunities to provide Connecticut Grown food products to those in need."



**Connecticut
Ag Day at the Capitol**
Tuesday, March 23, 2021: National Ag Day
VIRTUAL CELEBRATION
Outstanding Young Farmer - Century Farm
& Ag Journalism Award Winners
Details: www.ctaginfocouncil.org

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL GOES VIRTUAL IN 2021

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) announces that Ag Day at the Capitol will be going virtual. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and

restrictions on gathering sizes, we invite agricultural non-profits, agricultural producer associations, agricultural cooperatives, federal and state agricultural agencies, and Connecticut municipalities to join us for a virtual celebration on National Ag Day, Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

CAIC will recognize the 2020 and 2021 Outstanding Young Farmer winners, the 2020 Century Farm recipient, and 2021 Ag Journalism Award winners. Legislative engagement is in the works and there will be opportunity for your entity to interact with them.

Please reserve the day on your calendar and stay tuned for further details on activities and how you can be involved at no cost.

Outstanding Young Farmer Nominations

Do you know an Outstanding Young Farmer? Awarded annually at Ag Day at the Capitol, the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer Award recognizes the winner's progress in their agricultural career, their soil and water conservation practices, and their contributions to the well-being of the community, the state, and the nation. Connecticut is nationally recognized in the Outstanding Farmers of America Program, with a leading number of national finalists. Help us keep growing an excellent tradition by nominating a worthy candidate today. Applications must be submitted electronically via email by February 26, 2021. Download the nomination form [here](#).

CAIC is also accepting [nominations](#) for the Century Farm and Ag Journalism awards.

For more information, contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or click [here](#).

COVID-19 VACCINATION APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR CONNECTICUT AG EMPLOYEES

Connecticut agricultural businesses with at-risk employees may now begin the process of applying to the Connecticut Department of Public Health for COVID vaccines for their employees.

The state is rolling out vaccines in phases targeting most at-risk residents in priority order. Phase 1a, the first phase of the vaccine roll-out, targets health care workers, long-term care facility residents and medical first responders.

Phase 1b targets individuals 75 and older, individuals between 65 and 74, residents living in congregate settings and frontline essential workers including agricultural workers. [Open this link](#) to read more about Connecticut's phased COVID vaccination program.

State officials caution that applications for ag worker vaccines will be processed and

scheduled later in Phase 1b and as vaccine supply is available.

Criteria

- Farm workers eligible for the vaccine must be at-risk for exposure to COVID-19 because of their work-related duties. The exposure risk includes on-site work that is in proximity of 6 feet or less to the public or to coworkers.
- Applicants must have an employer coordinator who can identify the individuals in their workforce who are eligible for Phase 1b.
- The employer coordinator should have a complete roster of individuals with their first name, last name, and email address.
- Only Connecticut addresses for organization will be accepted by the system.
- Applicants must agree to provide accurate and truthful information.

Application and Vaccine Process

- Upon receipt of the application, the Connecticut Immunization Program will review the farm's submission.
- If approved the Connecticut Immunization Program will contact your employer coordinator by email to register the farm. This process could take up to 3 weeks as Phase 1b will include large numbers of eligible residents.
- Once registered, the employer coordinator will upload the roster of eligible individuals.
- The individuals on the roster will then receive an email from the state inviting them to schedule a vaccination appointment once the supply has become available.

[Open this link](#) to apply for COVID vaccines for your at-risk farm employees.

COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers

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>

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

ALERT: Rollback to Phase 2.1 effective November 6, 2020
Find all updated guidance documents [here](#).

[Equine Guidance](#)

[Equine Competition Guidance](#)
[Farmers' Markets](#)
[Farm Stores/Stands and CSAs](#)
[Food Safety](#)
[Pick-Your-Own/Cut-Your-Own](#)

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Homemade hops are turned into in-demand brews at Hop Culture Farms in Colchester, 1/19, CT Magazine](#)
[From canvassing to farming, students reflect on fall gap semesters, 1/20, Duke Chronicle](#)
[CTLN+ Episode 20: CT Agriculture, 1/22, CT Latino News](#)
[Getting Cheesy with Dairy Scientist Dennis D'Amico, 1/27, The Daily Campus](#)
[Connecticut Farmers Adjust To Changing Market Amid Pandemic, 1/28, CT News Junkie](#)

NEW ENGLAND FARMERS' MARKET MANAGERS SEMINAR February 22 and 23

Harvest New England Association is pleased to announce the New England Farmers' Market Managers Seminar. Five virtual workshops, focused on issues related to managing farmers' markets, will be held over two days on February 22 and 23. The seminar will precede the [Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show](#) to be held February 24 and 25. [Registration](#) is now open! There is no cost to attend.

Seminar topics will include discussion on market planning and promotion, community engagement and partnerships, conflict resolution, creating welcoming and inclusive markets, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and SNAP incentive programs. The seminar will kick-off with a workshop entitled, ***So Long 2020! It's a New Year, a New Day, a New Marketplace in 2021***, which will look at how farmers' market managers can navigate the upcoming season given the uncertainties related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Workshops will include presentations and discussion with farmers market managers from across the New England region. The complete agenda, including workshop descriptions and speakers can be found [here](#) or at www.harvestnewengland.org.

USDA TEMPORARILY SUSPENDS DEBT COLLECTIONS, FORECLOSURES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ON FARM LOANS

Due to the national public health emergency caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the temporary suspension of past-due debt collections and foreclosures for distressed borrowers under the Farm Storage Facility Loan and the Direct Farm Loan programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). USDA will temporarily suspend non-judicial foreclosures, debt offsets or wage garnishments, and referring foreclosures to the Department of Justice; and USDA will work with the U.S. Attorney's Office to stop judicial foreclosures and evictions on accounts that were

previously referred to the Department of Justice. Additionally, USDA has extended deadlines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially distressed and delinquent borrowers. In addition, for the Guaranteed Loan program, flexibilities have been made available to lenders to assist in servicing their customers.

For the full press release and more information, click [here](#).

VIRTUAL SEA SUMMIT **February 4, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

UMass Dartmouth and Farm to Institution New England welcome you to attend the virtual 2021 [New England Sea Summit](#) on February 4, 2021, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. ET. The Summit is focused on leveraging institutions to support local seafood producers, kelp and underutilized species. Join for one day of programming which includes presentations from regional seafood experts, an engaging panel and stakeholder dialogue. Speakers will share how a team of colleges and supply chain partners tackled procurement issues through a 2018 New England Food Vision Prize from the Henry P. Kendall Foundation. Speakers will also share how they worked to bring underutilized species into community and university dining programs, even with the added challenges presented by a global pandemic. [Register Here](#)

NOMINATIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR LIPINSKI RURAL INITIATIVES AWARD

Last fall, Farm Credit East announced the opening of nominations for its newly created Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award. In honor of former CEO Bill Lipinski, the Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award aims to recognize innovative and transformational efforts to revitalize Northeast rural communities. The nomination deadline for this inaugural award has been extended to February 15, 2021.

The Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award will reward programs, projects, individuals, businesses, organizations and/or institutions that create jobs in rural areas of the Northeast; contribute to the quality of life in rural communities; or enhance rural infrastructure, such as community facilities and broadband, necessary for strong rural economies.

In the program's first year, Farm Credit East has designated \$25,000 and the association's strategic partner CoBank has agreed to match those funds, making \$50,000 available to distribute to innovative initiatives. Nominations must be received by February 15, 2021. Visit FarmCreditEast.com/Rural to learn more or to submit a nomination.

→ Are you a landowner looking for someone to use your land?

→ Are you a farmer looking for land to buy or lease?

FARM LAND MIXER

Save the Date
Tuesday February 16
6:30-8:30

Join farmers, landowners, and service providers as we talk about opportunities to lease and own farmland in Connecticut.

Sign up at:
bit.ly/farmmixersignup

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CONNECTICUT FARMLAND TRUST
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SOLID GROUND
 A Program of UConn Extension

Land For Good

2021- 2023
FMNP Farmer Certification Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 CT.gov/ag

2021-2023 FMNP FARMER CERTIFICATION MEETINGS

All fruit, vegetable, and honey producers selling at Certified Connecticut Grown Farmers’ Markets must be certified with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture’s Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). To be certified, producers must attend a certification meeting.

The certification allows farms to accept the FMNP checks for fresh fruits, vegetables, and honey from WIC clients and income-eligible seniors over the age of 60. Join us to get your certification, learn more about available grant funding for your farm, and

accepting SNAP to expand your sales.

Below is the current list of meeting dates which will all be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

- ~~Thursday, February 4, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.~~ CANCELLED
- Tuesday, February 9, 2021, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, February 17, 2021, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Monday, February 22, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Thursday, February 25, 2021, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Registration is now open at <http://bit.ly/3qK3cjV>.

Questions can be directed to Erin Windham at Erin.Windham@ct.gov or 860-519-6083 or Haley Rowland at 860-895-3095.

Additional meetings may be added. Please check the agency website at www.CTGrown.gov throughout February and March for updates.

SUSPENDED: USDA OFFERS ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN PRODUCERS THROUGH CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

In accordance with the White House memo, [Regulatory Freeze Pending Review](#), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has suspended the processing and payments under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program - Additional Assistance and has halted implementation until further notice. FSA local offices will continue to accept applications during the evaluation period.

In the coming days, USDA and the Biden Administration intend to take additional steps to bring relief and support to all parts of food and agriculture during the coronavirus pandemic, including by ensuring producers have access to the capital, risk management tools, disaster assistance, and other federal resources.

Newly eligible producers can submit a new CFAP 2 application or producers who need to modify an existing one can do so between Jan. 19 and Feb. 26, 2021, by contacting their local USDA Service Center. New applicants can also obtain one-on-one support with applications by calling 877-508-8364. Learn more at farmers.gov/cfap.

BRASS CITY HARVEST REGIONAL FOOD HUB SEEKS PARTNERS

The Brass City Harvest Regional Food Hub located in Waterbury, CT, is working to deliver fresh, local food to Connecticut consumers – especially seniors, the disabled, and low-income families.

They are seeking to forge new partnerships with the region's farmers, orchards, as well as producers and processors of meat, poultry, and dairy, to ensure access to fresh, local foods to increase food security.

Produce partners must meet Produce Safety Rule requirements, including one responsible person on the farm having completed the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training available through University of Connecticut Extension.

Brass City Harvest can also offer light processing and value-added food production for Connecticut farmers. To complement those efforts, they are also seeking a culinary professional to make prepared meals available for delivery or pickup.

Interested parties should visit www.BrassCityHarvestWaterbury.com or contact Susan Pronovost, Executive Director, at 203-982-2272.

\$284 BILLION IN PPP FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) re-opened for small businesses and nonprofits impacted by the pandemic. This new round of federal funding includes \$284 billion in forgivable loans for new borrowers and certain existing PPP borrowers.

For additional information on terms, participating lenders, eligibility, and applications, check the [U.S. SBA PPP website](#).

NEW CT FARMERS WINTER WORKSHOP SERIES

Signups are open now for New CT Farmers' online [winter workshops](#) for 2021. In particular, please note that the second workshop, "[New Opportunities for Farm to School](#)" is on Monday, February 1. Description below:

Hear how new energy and partnerships are creating better pathways for gaining market access to school purchasing. This workshop will deconstruct the many barriers and perceived challenges to working with schools. Schools are the fastest growing components of farm to institution with many districts pursuing local relationships for menu items, taste tests and exploring new recipes.



DISTRIBUTION NETWORK CAPACITY STUDY FOR VALUE-ADDED DAIRY

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center seeks a contractor to conduct research of New England's distribution network capacity for value-added dairy products. This report shall include an in-depth discussion regarding New England's current distribution system, capacity, and geographic considerations to determine opportunities to get products to further and more robust markets.

View the RFP: [Distribution Network Capacity Study for New England Value-Added Dairy Products RFP](#)

Deadline to submit a proposal: February 15, 2021.

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center, one of three [USDA Dairy Business Innovation Centers](#) (DBIC) in the U.S, is managed by Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. The Northeast DBIC launched in February of 2020 and serves all New England states, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Click [here](#) to learn more and sign up for the Northeast DBIC newsletter.

Looking to save jobs? CT DOL Shared Work Program offers a solution. The Shared Work program is an **economic relief program** available to Connecticut employers who are experiencing business downturns. It is a great alternative to laying off employees. For more information, please visit us at SharedWorkCt.com and chat with our Virtual Assistant, Sherry.



Ag Market Pricing

Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT
Prices last provided on January 28, 2021

New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA

Northeast Regional Eggs

New Holland, PA Hay Report

New England Shell Eggs

USDA Mexico Canada Weekly Update (New!)

Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary

Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables - Boston

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.

24-R. Seven foot International 3-point hitch cultivator. \$300. 860-779-2107.

32-R. Modine Power-Vented propane heater, 240K BTU. Greenhouse/high tunnel heater. Brand new, still in box. \$1,600 Call 860-576-2277.

39-R. Honeybees: 5-frame NUCS, DEEPS only, available 1st week May. [Jones Apiaries LLC](#), 860-677-9391

40-R. Bobcat 853 skidsteer. 1994 with 7,500 hours. Comes with 5' power angle snowplow \$9,500. Backhoe attachment available \$3,500. 860-648-1355

41-R. Straw - small square bales, 45-50 lbs. 860-675-9250, please leave message.

43-R. 24' Aluminum Body with rail gate, 16' Aluminum beverage body, tractor tires and rims 15.5R38. 203-623-2694

Wanted

42-R. EZTRAIL kicker bale wagons, any condition. Cash paid. Call or text George, 860-918-5442.

Job Opportunities

Connecticut Farmland Trust is seeking a detail-oriented, self-motivated team player with a passion for farming to join its team as a FarmLink Associate. ctfarmlink.org connects people who own farmland with beginning farmers seeking land to lease or buy. The FarmLink Associate will assist with one of CFT's core programs, Connecticut FarmLink. The FarmLink Associate will be responsible for promoting the FarmLink program, performing direct outreach to farmers and landowners, administering the FarmLink website, and otherwise supporting the CT FarmLink program. Follow the link below to see the full job description. <http://ctfarmland.org/site/job-opportunities/>

This is a part-time, entry-level position with room for growth. Candidates of diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted until February 5, 2021 or until the position is filled. No phone inquiries, please.

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

Upcoming Events

(click the image to be redirected to the event website)

SOLID GROUND

AG MECHANICS TRAINING SERIES - 2021

JAN 30TH **POWER TOOL SAFETY & BASIC CARPENTRY**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER SCIENCE & BUSINESS, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM
 Gain hands-on practical knowledge on a variety of power tools and how to use them safely. Transferable carpentry skills that will help you on your farm projects.
[REGISTER HERE](#) [VIEW THE SCHEDULE](#)

FEB 6TH **BASIC ELECTRICAL FOR 12-VOLT SYSTEMS**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER SCIENCE & BUSINESS, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM
 Learn basic, both residential and automotive, 12-volt systems. Hands-on workshop covering installation and hands-on practical educational situations (troubleshooting and troubleshooting electrical issues with equipment). [REGISTER HERE](#) [VIEW THE SCHEDULE](#)

FEB 20TH **SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; 4-STROKE**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER SCIENCE & BUSINESS, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM
 Gain hands-on experience working on maintenance and repair for 4-stroke engines and small engines. Maintenance and troubleshooting skills you need to run your own farm equipment. [REGISTER HERE](#) [VIEW THE SCHEDULE](#)

MAR 13TH **BASIC ELECTRICAL; AC 120 RESIDENTIAL WIRING**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER SCIENCE & BUSINESS, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM
 Gain hands-on experience working on residential wiring. Hands-on workshop covering installation and troubleshooting techniques for residential wiring. [REGISTER HERE](#) [VIEW THE SCHEDULE](#)

COST PER WORKSHOP \$25 - Lunch is included. SPACES ARE LIMITED SO REGISTER TODAY!
 If the courts prohibit this, you may request a refund for the request and be refunded by mailing checks to the address below.

*COVID-19 PREVENTION: PLEASE GO TO REGISTER FOR ORDER NO. 2021, IN THE STATE GOVT WORKS ON COVID-19 PAGE. COURTESY OF THE COURTS. PLEASE FOLLOW ALL COVID-19 PREVENTION PROTOCOLS THROUGHOUT THE MEETING. WE WILL PROVIDE MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING. PLEASE BE MINDFUL TO BE SEATED AT AN APPROPRIATE DISTANCE. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL - YOU WILL RECEIVE A REFUND.

WEBINAR SERIES

LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS RESPONSE TO COVID-19

BUILDING BETTER BEYOND

MARKETING INNOVATIONS WHEN COMMUNITIES EAT AT HOME
 October 19 | 1 PM EST

FORMAL AND INFORMAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS
 February 15 | 1 PM EST

RETAINING & ENGAGING NEW LOCAL CUSTOMERS: TENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES
 November 16th | 1 PM EST

ONLINE PLATFORMS: PIVOTS AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE
 March 15 | 1 PM EST

EMERGENCY FOOD, CHARITY, AND THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM
 December 21 | 1 PM EST

INTEGRATING NATIONAL CONSUMER SURVEY RESULTS INTO FUTURE PLANNING
 April 19 | 1 PM EST

INNOVATIONS IN STATE POLICIES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SECTORS
 January 25 | 1 PM EST

NEXT STEPS TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM IN TIMES OF UNCERTAIN CONSUMER BEHAVIOR
 May 17 | 1 PM EST

<https://ifscovid.localfoodeconomics.com/>

New England Winter Fruit Meetings

14 Free Webinars for New England Fruit Growers!

Transfered to online for fruit growers. It's a high quality educational opportunity for you to learn in your own time and at your own pace. Due to COVID-19, our Extension Educators throughout the New England region joined forces to create an alternative to in-person winter series of local and regional programming for commercial fruit growers. Registration is required for each seminar and positive identification credit will be available. The 14 free webinars start at 9 a.m. and the remainder of the series will begin at noon and typically end at 1:30 p.m.

Partners

Webinar Schedule

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 11 - Managing Stone Fruit: Practical Session Presenter: Paul Finner, PhD • January 12 - Hardwood and Stone Fruit on Long Range and Other Varieties, CA Storage and Ripening Presenters: John & Sarah J. Gagnier and Pardeep Dhillon, PhD • January 18 - Training on Pruning Strategies for Hardwood Production Presenter: Bill Sauer, PhD • January 25 - Blueberry Tree Pruning Presenters: Bill Sauer, PhD • February 2, 3 & 4 - Commercial Winter Tree Fruit Pruning Presenters: Bill Sauer, PhD • February 9 - Older Apple Trees: When to Prune Presenters: Bill Sauer, PhD and Bill Partridge • February 16 - Insect-Resistant Pests Presenters: Ming Chen, PhD, Bill Sauer, PhD, and Pardeep Dhillon, PhD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2 - Managing a Tractor: When to Buy, What to Buy Presenter: Charles W. McGee, PhD • March 10 - Research Update on Early Season Stone Fruits Presenters: James W. Park, PhD and Glen Breda, PhD and PhD • March 17 - Research Update on Orchard Soil Management Presenters: Ken Mollen and Mike Hamilton, PhD and PhD • March 23 - Tree Row Volume Which is, why it matters and how to use it Presenter: Tony Brackley, PhD • March 30 - Research for Environment and Weather Application (NRA) on Project Ingleton 2011 Presenter: Bill Sauer, PhD
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Learn More & Register:
<https://uconn.edu/hub/news-events/new-england-winter-fruit-seminar-series>

AG SERVICE PROVIDER WORKSHOPS

WINTER 2021

register at: bit.ly/NCTFAworkshops

Presented by the New CT Farmer Alliance

- **AFFORDING FARMLAND**
w/ Land for Good
January 18, 4-5:30pm
- **NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM TO SCHOOL**
w/ Put Local on Your Tray
February 1, 4-5:30pm
- **FARM LOANS 101**
w/ Farm Credit East and the USDA's Farm Service Agency
February 15, 4-6pm
- **POLICY 101: BEING A FARMER ADVOCATE**
w/ Working Lands Alliance, CT Farm Bureau, and the CT Food & Ag Resiliency Coalition
February 21, 4-6pm
- **CHOOSING A BUSINESS STRUCTURE: ENTITY FORMATION FOR FARMERS**
w/ Legal Food Hub
March 1, 4-5pm
- **UConn Extension: SERVICES & SUPPORT FOR FARMERS**
w/ The UConn Soil Lab, Fruit Crops Specialist, and Solid Ground
March 8, 5-6:30pm

Questions? Reach out to newctfarmers@gmail.com

New England Dairy Nutrition Conference (Virtual)

Thursday March 11, 2021
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

FREE WEBINAR

RSVP for Zoom Link to: sue@mysta.mobi

NEFAA is partnering with UConn, U of Maine, UPR, UMaine, UNH, UVM and Cornell for a Virtual Dairy Seminar on Thursday, March 11. This event will provide top notch speakers on timely topics impacting dairy farm management.



Justice Denney, Ph.D.
University of Rhode Island



Richard Smith, Ph.D.
University of New Hampshire



Gailine Madenjian, Ph.D.
Cornell University

RSVP for Zoom Link to: sue@mysta.mobi

Co-Hosted By



Jeff Pineda, Ph.D.
The Ohio State University



Tom Overton, Ph.D.
Cornell University



Peter Erickson, Ph.D.
University of New Hampshire

AGENDA

10:00 am	Call to Order, Prayer agenda, meeting procedures
10:15 am	Label Management: What New England dairy farms need to know in 2021 Justice Denney, Ph.D. - University of Rhode Island
11:00 am	Cover Crops: Successful Management and Use Richard Smith, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire Gailine Madenjian, Ph.D. - Cornell University
12:00 noon	Sponsor Recognition & Break
12:45 pm	Factors in Consideration for Feedlot-to-Grassland Conversion of Cows Jeff Pineda, Ph.D. - The Ohio State University
1:30 pm	Feeding and Managing for Milk Composition Tom Overton, Ph.D. - Cornell University
2:15 pm	Celebrate: The Foundation of the Future Peter Erickson, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire
3:00 pm	Adjourn

Thank you SPONSORS

PHENIX FOODS & NUTRITION
Sue VanVoorburgh
Executive Assistant
sue@mysta.mobi

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- Instagram
- Pinterest
- Website

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