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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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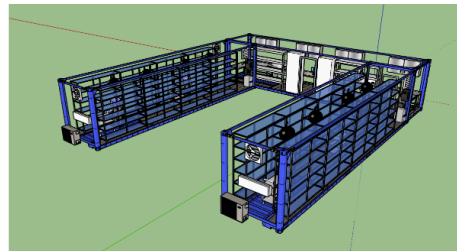
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Lt. Governor Bysiewicz held a virtual news conference on Friday, February 5 with Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt and Mayor Joe Ganim to announce a Farm Viability Grant awarded to the City of Bridgeport to establish a shipping container urban farm (pictured).

The creation of the shipping container urban farm using the \$49,999 grant will allow for year-round access to micro greens and leafy vegetables for Bridgeport residents.

Watch the recording [here](#).

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



Farmer Certification Meetings for Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is hosting virtual certification meetings for producers to participate in the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) at Certified Connecticut Grown Farmers' Markets during the 2021-2023 seasons.

All fruit, vegetable, cut herb, and honey producers selling at Certified Connecticut Grown Farmers' Markets must attend a certification meeting to meet eligibility requirements to participate in the FMNP program.

The certification allows farms to accept the FMNP checks as payment for fresh fruits, vegetables, cut herbs, and honey from Women, Infants and Children (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 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to expand your sales.

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

- 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.

About FMNP

WIC FMNP is a congressionally authorized program administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and jointly funded by the State of Connecticut and the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (USDA FNS).

The program provides a \$15 check booklet consisting of five (5) \$3 checks to participants of Women, Infants and Children (WIC) who are identified as "nutritionally at risk," to buy fresh fruits, vegetables, and cut herbs at FMNP authorized locations. WIC FMNP check booklets are distributed to local WIC agencies

statewide by the agency through a partnership with the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) is a supplemental food program for individuals over the age of 60 or those who are disabled living in housing where congregate nutrition services are provided and meet income eligibility. Participants must be enrolled in another program with proper means testing (ex: Renter Rebate) to verify income. Each eligible participant receives one (1) \$18 check booklet annually containing six (6) three dollar (\$3) checks. SFMNP checks can be redeemed at FMNP authorized locations throughout Connecticut for fruits, vegetables, fresh cut herbs, and honey.



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

CONNECTICUT SEEKS OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER NOMINATIONS

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) is seeking nominations for the 2021 Outstanding Young Farmer. Awarded annually during 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.

Nomination applications must be submitted electronically via email by February 26, 2021. Self-nominations are allowed. Details and application [here](#).

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Ag Day at the Capitol celebration will take place virtually on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. Details on the program will be posted at www.ctaginfocouncil.org. CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Century Farm and Ag Journalism awards.

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

[Environmental Priorities — Solar Energy and Land Conservation — Compete in the Legislature, 1/29, CT Examiner](#)

[CT Sea Grant leads project designed to spur the seaweed industry, 1/31, Greenwich Times](#)

[Federal grant could help to quadruple US seaweed aquaculture volumes, 2/2, The Fish Site](#)

[OP-ED | Buying Wine Where Food Is Purchased Is Worth It, 2/4, CT News Junkie](#)

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL & FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH INNOVATIVE AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Cohosted by USDA's Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) and Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Mission Area

REGISTER

WEDNESDAY
February 17, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

If you have any questions, please contact:
Alex Cordova at alex.cordova@usda.gov (OPPE)
Jessica Carlton at jessica.carlton@usda.gov (FPAC)

USDA FORUM ON BUILDING RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

You're invited to USDA's forum *Building Resilience in Agricultural & Food Systems through Innovative and Strategic Partnerships* on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. EST. Presenters include leaders from USDA, ag industry and

community organizations followed by open Q&A discussion. This forum discussion will highlight how innovative and strategic partnerships between federal, state, local and private partners support the building of resilience in agricultural and food systems, with a focus on food systems and disaster recovery. Held in conjunction with USDA's Ag Outlook Forum, this Microsoft Teams Live Event is hosted by USDA's Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) and Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Mission Area. The event takes place in conjunction with the Agricultural Outlook Forum, the USDA's largest annual gathering, bringing together more than 1,500 sector leaders to connect and discuss current and key emerging issues in agriculture.

This event will be conducted virtually using Microsoft Teams Live Event. **[Click here to register!](#)** The link to the event will be provided upon registration. Please note that registration to this event does not register you for the USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum. For more information, please click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact OPPE's Alex Cordova at alex.cordova@usda.gov or FPAC's Jessica Carlton at Jessica.carlton@usda.gov.

WEBINAR: PFAS IN AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS

Join USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS) and the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Community (LPELC) for a webinar on PFAS and its potential effects on agricultural production on February 19, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. EST.

Even though we may not realize it, use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a part of our everyday lives. These "forever" chemicals make up a family of over 4,000 human made compounds which have many beneficial properties such as repelling water, resisting heat and reducing friction. Since these chemicals are so persistent in the environment, they tend to accumulate over time. They can be found virtually everywhere from drinking water to plants and animals. The first PFAS webinar focused on its impacts on water and provided an overview of a few of the treatment options. This session will address PFAS in biosolids, soils, and manures. Biosolids have been land applied for decades and manures for centuries. Both have provided valuable nutrients for crop production and organics to help build soil tilth. Discussion will be centered around the potential impacts PFAS can have on agricultural production. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

UPCOMING COURSES FROM THE FARMER'S OFFICE

Spring will be here soon before we know it! As we enter the last few weeks of winter, we are gearing up with all sorts of recordkeeping webinars and workshops to help you grow your business profitably. I hope you can join us! Feel free to reach out with questions.

- [QuickBooks Intensive](#) | 4-week course starts February 22, 2021* | With our QuickBooks Intensive course, you will learn how to create a bookkeeping system. In this 4-week course, I'll show you step-by-step how to make the most out of QB, get your specific business needs accounted for, and get the information you need to improve profits.

- [Easy Crop Budgets for Farm Profitability \(LIVE Webinar\)](#) | February 18, 2021 at 2PM ET | In this live webinar, we'll show you how to find all the data you need--from harvest yields to direct costs to labor expenses; QuickBooks to Excel--and how to put it all together so that you know what is profitable and what isn't.
- We just added a new course to the self-paced "The Farmer's Office – Online." [QuickBooks QuickTips](#) takes you deeper into how to enter in all the nuances of the different types of transactions and how to get them into QuickBooks. It builds Basic QuickBooks and Advanced QuickBooks modules. In this course, we go step-by-step through all of the different transactions in a live QuickBooks file .
- The Farmer's Office is approved by FSA for its borrower training requirement. Check [our website](#) for more details.

→ 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/farmlandmixersignup

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

American Farmland Trust

CONNECTICUT FARMLAND TRUST
 PRESERVING WORKING LANDS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

UCONN | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 EXTENSION

SOLID GROUND
 A Program of UConn Extension

Land For Good

FARMLAND MIXER

If you are a farmer in Connecticut looking for land to lease or buy, join the virtual Farmland Mixer on February 18, 2021 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for you to talk to landowners and get other resources from service providers about how to prepare to lease or buy land. To make sure this event has the most impact possible, we are limiting the amount of attendees, so be sure to sign up early. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/farmmixersignup>

Some attendees will be asked to give a three minute pitch for the day of the mixer. Keep in mind that pitch slots are limited, so some attendees will only be permitted to listen. Service providers will also be present on the day of the mixer to answer questions that come up in conversations between farmers and landowners, and to direct you towards resources for taking the next steps. If you have any questions about the event, feel free to reach out to Will O'Meara at will@landforgood.org.

WEBINAR SERIES: IMPROVING PASTURE MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Tri-State SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) Project is offering a webinar series on improving pasture management for sustainable livestock production, starting on Friday, February 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This project is a professional development opportunity for agricultural service providers and farmers provided by the Northeast SARE state programs in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Webinars are open to service providers and farmers. By attending all webinars, participants will have a sound understanding of how to develop a personalized grazing plan.

For more information, visit <http://meatsystems.uconn.edu/> or contact Rachel Bospuda, Project Director, at rachel.bospuda@uconn.edu. To register, click [here](#).

NEW ENGLAND FARMERS' MARKET MANAGERS SEMINAR

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](#).

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.

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](#).



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. 860-675-9252, 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

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders (SAFSF) seeks a full-time Communications Director to manage and execute all SAFSF internal and external communications in our core areas of work, in collaboration with the entire SAFSF staff. This is a newly created position that requires an individual who has experience working with a broad range of communications tools and channels and who can work effectively across a wide range of communications activities. The individual hired will also help clarify the role, the relationships, and the responsibilities of the position within the SAFSF staff as they learn on the job.

Read the full job description [here](#). All interested applicants must apply online

at tfaforms.com/4879050 no later than 11:59 pm PT on Monday, February 22, 2021. All SAFSF employees work remotely; candidates may live anywhere within the United States.

The State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut, Animal Care Services Department has an opening for a permanent, full-time Animal Care Technician position. The work schedule is Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. which may include holidays and rotating mandatory weekend overtime. The hourly salary is \$21.12 and offers a full benefits package including medical and dental insurance.

Application deadline is February 16, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. For more information, or to apply online, [click here](#).

UConn Extension is actively seeking to contract with an expert to coordinate and lead learning events over 3 years (2021-2024) for urban farmers in Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven. By deepening skills through knowledge sharing and immersive day-long events, our vision is to build a network of urban farmers and urban agriculture service providers within and between Connecticut's urban centers. This is an exciting opportunity for the right person who is passionate about the interconnected issues of food, health, land, equity, and justice, dependable, enjoys connecting and working with people with diverse backgrounds, and demonstrates an array of skills and knowledge related to both urban farming and event organization.

This is a grant-funded opportunity. UConn will contract an individual/entity for urban farming training services for one year, with opportunity for renewal in 2022 and 2023 based on performance. Proposals accepted until February 26, 2021. For more information, including the full RFP, please contact Jiff Martin at jiff.martin@uconn.edu.

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 EDUCATION CENTER, VERMONT 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](#)

FEB 6TH **BASIC ELECTRICAL FOR 12-VOLT SYSTEMS**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, VERMONT CT - 9AM-3PM
 Learn theory, math, and hands-on working skills and safety in 12-volt systems. Workshop covers: installation and hands-on practical educational situations (troubleshooting and troubleshooting electrical issues with equipment). [REGISTER HERE](#)

FEB 20TH **SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; 4-STROKE**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, VERMONT 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 fix your own farm equipment. [REGISTER HERE](#)

MAR 13TH **BASIC ELECTRICAL; AC 120 RESIDENTIAL WIRING**
 NEWVILLE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER, VERMONT CT - 9AM-3PM
 Gain hands-on and practical knowledge on electrical wiring, safety, and troubleshooting techniques for residential wiring. [REGISTER HERE](#)

COST PER WORKSHOP \$25 - lunch is included SPACES ARE LIMITED SO REGISTER TODAY!
 If the courts prohibit this, you may request a refund for this request and be funded by donating money to the program.

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 commercial fruit growers in some high quality educational opportunities now available in digital and because we are unable to hold face to face meetings due to COVID-19, the Connecticut Extension throughout the New England region joined forces in an effort to offer a winter series of online educational 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

- November 11 - Managing Stone Fruit: National Extension
 Presenter: Paul Finner, PhD
- January 12 - Handling and Marketing of Long-shape and Other Varieties of Stonefruit with Special
 Presenter: John A. Smith, Extension and Partnership Director, USDA
- January 18 - Training on Pruning Strategies for Tree-Bound Production
 Presenter: Bill Sturtevant, PhD
- January 25 - Blueberry Tree Pruning
 Presenter: Bill Sturtevant, PhD
- February 2, 3 & 4 - Commercial Winter Tree Fruit Pruning
 Presenter: Bill Sturtevant, PhD
- February 9 - Older Apple Trees: When to Prune
 Presenter: Bill Sturtevant, PhD
- February 16 - Invasive Insect Pests - Orchard-Wing Grasshopper, Brown Marmorated Stink Bug and Spotted Lanternfly
 Presenter: David P. Hanks, UConn
- March 2 - Managing a Tractor - When to Buy, What to Buy
 Presenter: Charles W. McGuff, UConn
- March 10 - Research Update on Early Season Market Hours
 Presenter: James W. Ward, UConn and Glen Burley, UConn Extension
- March 17 - Introduction to Orchard Soil Management
 Presenter: Dr. Robert M. Reardon, UConn Extension
- March 23 - Tree Row Volume Which is, why it matters and how to use it
 Presenter: Tony Brackley, UConn
- March 30 - Research for Extension and Orchard Application (NRA) on Impact Injuries 101
 Presenter: Dr. David Reardon, UConn

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

NFAFA 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, Farmer 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



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