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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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February 19, 2021; Vol. D, No. 7

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Celebrate National CSA Week from February 21-27 by signing up for a share of product (from produce and cut flowers to meat and dairy) from your local farm. Get to know your local farmer, support their business, and eat Connecticut Grown with a CSA. Find one at [CTGrownMap.com](http://CTGrownMap.com).



## State Secures Custody of Neglected Horses, Announces Adoption Process

Attorney General William Tong and Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt announced the state has secured custody of eight formerly malnourished and severely neglected horses seized from Laurel Ledge Farm in Oakdale. After extensive medical care and rehabilitation at the state's Second Chance Large Animal Rehabilitation Program in Niantic, Attorney General Tong and Commissioner Hurlburt announced the horses are available for public adoption.

The Office of the Attorney General, acting on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, moved for permanent custody of the neglected horses last month. Owner Michelle R. Wilson has since agreed to relinquish custody.

"We are fortunate that this story has a happy ending, but these horses should never have suffered in this way. State assistance is available through the Department of Agriculture, and animal owners in need should seek help immediately—long before legal action becomes necessary. I want to thank the expert caretakers at the Second Chance Large Animal Rehabilitation Program for truly giving these beautiful horses a second chance at a loving and happy life," **said Attorney General Tong.**

"Finding suitable homes for each of these horses is our highest priority," **said Agriculture Commissioner Hurlburt.** "They have already endured the unthinkable and deserve to be loved unconditionally."

The state first secured temporary custody of nine horses from Laurel Ledge Farm in September 2020. Eight of the nine horses recovered in state care at the Second Chance Large Animal Rehabilitation Program. One of the horses

continued to deteriorate following the seizure and had to be euthanized.

Horses Tristan, Regal, Avadon, Ember, Cabot, Sullivan, Sebastian, and Bailey are now available for public adoption, along with two other horses previously seized and in state custody in an unrelated case. To be considered, interested parties should fill out an application form, specifying which horse they are interested in. Potential adopters will be thoroughly vetted through a background check and site visit to verify adequate facilities. All adopters will be required to sign an agreement. For more information, click [here](#).

The state action was triggered by a complaint from Montville Animal Control reporting extremely underweight horses. State animal authorities unsuccessfully urged Wilson to consult with an equine veterinarian and to provide medical care. Equine veterinarians found all suffered from neglected dental care, and three were in obvious and significant dental pain. All nine horses lacked proper hoof care, including a severe bacterial infection in one. Three of the nine horses needed extreme and immediate hoof care. Eight of the nine horses had some degree of lameness, and two were severely lame and in obvious pain. Several were malnourished-- some severely so.

The Department of Agriculture recognizes the hardship experienced by many animal owners due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19, including job loss resulting in financial instability. Additionally, severe drought throughout much of the state in 2020 limited available grazing during the summer months and negatively impacted the production of feed, including hay. The agency has compiled a directory of hay resources, as well as COVID-19 resources, which are available at [www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov). Livestock and domestic animal owners are encouraged to reach out if additional assistance is needed.

Ms. Wilson has also been charged with nine counts of Cruelty to Animals. That separate criminal matter is pending in Norwich Superior Court.

Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Harding and Assistant Attorney General Matt Levine, Head of the Environment Department, assisted the Attorney General in this matter.

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**FREE WEBINAR**

**Defend the Flock: How Avian Influenza Affects Us All**

**Thurs., Feb. 25 / 2:30-3:30 pm ET**

**REGISTER HERE:**  
[bit.ly/BirdHealthWebinar](http://bit.ly/BirdHealthWebinar)

**USDA**  
United States Department of Agriculture

**DEFEND THE FLOCK**  
BIOSECURITY  
Let's keep our poultry healthy together

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock)

### FREE WEBINAR: HOW AVIAN INFLUENZA AFFECTS US ALL

On Thursday February 25, at 2:30 p.m. ET, USDA/APHIS will be hosting a free webinar titled, “Defend the Flock: How Avian Influenza Affects Us All.” All are encouraged to participate in the webinar to learn from USDA/APHIS vets and industry experts about the broad impact avian influenza can have on backyard flocks, commercial poultry, consumers, and allied industries.

#### Thursday, February 25, 2:30 p.m. ET

“Defend the Flock: How Avian Influenza Affects Us All”

Avian influenza is devastating for everyone involved and connected with poultry.

Hear from USDA and other experts about the impact and consequences at this free webinar.

Register today! <http://bit.ly/BirdHealthWebinar>

This webinar is one of the many resources that APHIS provides through the Defend the Flock program. The dedicated Resource Center has checklists and graphics based on the 14 NPIP principles available in multiples languages and accessible versions for individuals with disabilities. English and Spanish transcripts of this webinar will be posted there a few weeks after. Everything is free and available 24/7 at <http://bit.ly/DefendtheFlock-Resources>

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### COVID-19 Resources for Agricultural Producers

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#### 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

[New Ownership, Plans for a Farmstand, at Provider Farm, 2/12, CT Examiner](#)  
[Knowing where your food comes from: CSAs 'reintroduce agriculture to local communities', 2/16, CT Post](#)

[From your table to a Connecticut pig farm, recycling taken to a new level in Old Saybrook, 2/17, New Haven Register](#)

[Horses rescued from CT farm up for public adoption, 2/18, Register Citizen](#)



## MULTI-BUSINESS DAIRY AGRITOURISM GRANT

The first competitive grant round through the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) is going live! The Multi-Business Dairy Agritourism Grant will fund projects to dairy farmers, processors and producer associations throughout New England, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and



Pennsylvania.

Projects that support multiple farmers and processors will be eligible for grant funds of \$10,000 - \$25,000 for the development and marketing of geographically contiguous agritourism activities designed to raise awareness and consumption of regionally produced dairy products.

Applications are due by March 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. EST. [Click here](#) for more information.

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### **SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

Connecticut's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is now accepting applications for the 2021 program year. The goal of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in domestic and foreign markets. Specialty crops are defined as any fruit or vegetable, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops, including floriculture. Also included is honey, maple syrup, Christmas trees and processed foods/food products which are made of at least 50% specialty crops (excluding added water). An eligible plant must be intensively cultivated and used by people for food, medicinal purposes, and/or aesthetic gratification to be considered a specialty crop. The complete definition of specialty crops can be found on the USDA's [website](#).

Eligible applicants include commodity groups, agricultural organizations, colleges and universities, municipalities, state agencies, and agricultural nonprofits. The USDA requires that funds must benefit the industry as a whole and not a single organization, business, or commercial product. The USDA wants to see as many entities as possible benefit from these dollars during the three years in which the project can take place. As a result, individual farms or businesses are encouraged to apply and partner with other eligible applicants rather than apply themselves.

This is a reimbursement grant with awards up to \$75,000. For more information on the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program and a concept proposal application, please visit the website, [www.ctgrown.gov/grants](http://www.ctgrown.gov/grants) and click on Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, or contact Haley Rowland at 860-895-3095 or [haley.rowland@ct.gov](mailto:haley.rowland@ct.gov).

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# 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](http://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](http://www.ctaginfocouncil.org). CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Century Farm and Ag Journalism awards.



## FMNP FARMER CERTIFICATION MEETINGS

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 list of remaining meeting dates which will all be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

- 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](mailto: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](http://www.CTGrown.gov) throughout February and March for updates.

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### **REGISTER NOW FOR EIGHTH BIENNIAL HARVEST NEW ENGLAND ANGRICULTURAL MARKETING CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW**

Registration is now open for the 8<sup>th</sup> biennial Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show. The virtual program is set for two half days on February 24 and 25 and will be offered at no cost to attendees. Reserve your spot at the conference at [www.harvestnewengland.org](http://www.harvestnewengland.org).

This year's conference theme is ***Diversifying for Agri-Businesses: Strategies for Weathering the Storms***. Kicking off the educational workshops on Wednesday, February 24 at 8:45 am is best-selling author and seventh generation farmer, Forrest Pritchard from Berryville, Virginia. His presentation, entitled ***Lessons from 2020, Opportunities for 2021***, will examine what the past year taught us about business operation, marketing, and personal growth, and how farmers can use these lessons to make positive changes for 2021 and beyond.

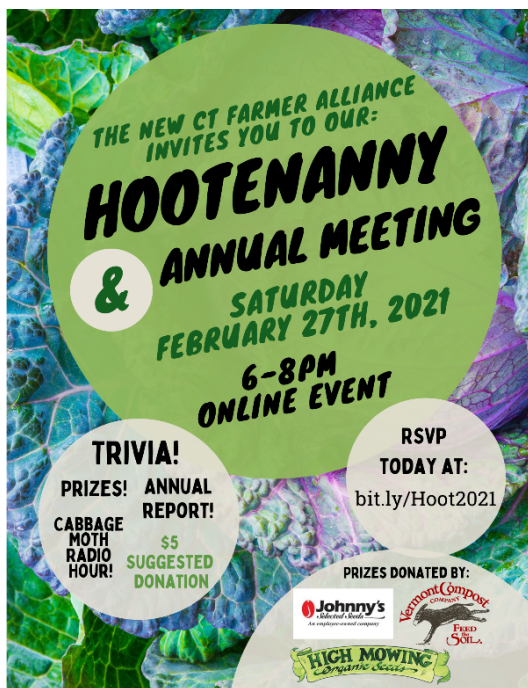
Additional workshops will follow on Wednesday and Thursday that will include farmers and experts from across the region. Program topics include:

- Sharing Experiences on Navigating Farm Businesses Through the Pandemic (*regional farmer panel*)
- Increasing Profits Through Season Extension and Diversification by Adding Value to Your Farm Products
- Diversification: Business Planning Tools to Achieve Your Goals
- Considerations for Diversifying Your Farm Operation (*regional farmer panel*)
- Effective Marketing Solutions – How to Make the Best of a Difficult Situation

Information about all of the workshops, schedule and speakers, can be found at [www.harvestnewengland.org](http://www.harvestnewengland.org).



Harvest New England is also hosting a New England Farmers' Market Managers Seminar to be held in conjunction with the conference on February 22 and 23. Topics include market challenges and successes of 2020, creating effective community partnerships, conflict resolution, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment, SNAP program participation. Complete program information can be found on [www.harvestnewengland.org](http://www.harvestnewengland.org).



## NEW CT FARMER ALLIANCE HOLDS HOOTENANNY AND ANNUAL MEETING

Looking to connect with other Connecticut farmers and hear about what the New Connecticut Farmer Alliance has been up to? Register now for NCTFA's annual Hootenanny.

This year's Hoot will feature trivia, prizes, the annual report, Cabbage moth radio hour, and more. Register at: <https://bit.ly/Hoot2021>.

## 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. The next webinar is on **Wednesday, March 10 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 Bispuda, Project Director, at [rachel.bispuda@uconn.edu](mailto:rachel.bispuda@uconn.edu). To register, click [here](#).

## 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](#).

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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](http://SharedWorkCt.com) and chat with our Virtual Assistant, Sherry.



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## 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](http://www.BrassCityHarvestWaterbury.com) or contact Susan Pronovost, Executive Director, at 203-982-2272.

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### **Ag Market Pricing**

Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT  
*Prices last provided on February 8, 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

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### **Advertisements**

#### **For Sale**

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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](http://www.bludon.com)

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2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

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3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. [Sonpal's Power Fence](#) 860-491-2290.

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

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

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

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

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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

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41-R. Straw - small square bales, 45-50 lbs. 860-675-9252, please leave message.

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

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### **Wanted**

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

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### **Job Opportunities**

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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](https://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.

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

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### **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**  
NOVEMBER NEW SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM  
 Gain hands-on practical knowledge on a variety of power tools and how to use them safely. Troubleshoot common problems that will easily adapt to your farm projects. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

**FEB 6TH** **BASIC ELECTRICAL FOR 12-VOLT SYSTEMS**  
NOVEMBER NEW SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM  
 Gain hands-on practical knowledge about electrical systems for 12-volt systems. Workshop covers the installation and hands-on practice on educational, recreational, and standard and troubleshooting electrical issues with equipment. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

**FEB 20TH** **SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; 4-STROKE**  
NOVEMBER NEW SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM  
 Gain hands-on experience working on a variety of small engines, be it for lawnmowers, generators, and other household and outdoor equipment. Gain insight into why you own farm equipment. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

**MAR 13TH** **BASIC ELECTRICAL; AC 120 RESIDENTIAL WIRING**  
NOVEMBER NEW SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 9AM-3PM  
 Gain hands-on practical knowledge about electrical wiring for a residential setting and troubleshooting as presented to a residential electrical voltage. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

COST PER WORKSHOP \$25. Lunch is included. SPACES ARE LIMITED SO REGISTER TODAY!  
 If the cost is prohibitive, you may request a refund for lost wages and/or travel by emailing [workshops@newctfarmeralliance.com](mailto:workshops@newctfarmeralliance.com).

REGISTER ONLINE HERE: <https://www.newctfarmeralliance.com/Workshops>.

COOPERATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS. PLEASE DON'T ATTEMPT TO REGISTER 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://fscovid.localfoodeconomics.com/>

## AG SERVICE PROVIDER WORKSHOPS

### WINTER 2021

register at: [bit.ly/NCTFAworkshops](http://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](mailto: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@nysta.mobi](mailto:sue@nysta.mobi)

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

**Co-Hosted By ....**

**AGENDA**

- 10:00 am Call to Order, Welcome, meeting procedure
- 10:15 am Labor Management: What New England dairy farms need to know in 2021  
Susan DeLong, Ph.D. - University of Rhode Island
- 11:00 am Cover Crops: Successful Management and Use  
Richard Smith, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire
- 12:00 noon Sponsor Recognition & Break
- 12:45 pm Factors to Consider for Profitable Grouping of Cows  
Dil Weber, Ph.D. - The Ohio State University
- 1:30 pm Feeding and Managing for Milk Components  
Tom Drouhan, Ph.D. - Cornell University
- 2:00 pm Colostrum: The Foundation of the Future  
John Rossiter, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire
- 3:00 pm Adjourn

**Speakers**

Susan DeLong, Ph.D. - University of Rhode Island

Richard Smith, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire

Tom Drouhan, Ph.D. - Cornell University

John Rossiter, Ph.D. - University of New Hampshire

**Thank you SPONSORS**

**CONTACT**

Sue DeLong  
Executive Assistant  
[sue@nysta.mobi](mailto:sue@nysta.mobi)



**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program Of UConn Pastures

**AGROECOLOGY SERIES**

**TO TILL OR NOT TO-TILL**

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23RD, 2021  
6-8PM ON ZOOM [REGISTER HERE](#)  
PRESENTER: ANDREW MEFFERD  
EDITOR, GROWING FOR MARKET MAGAZINE  
ONE DROP FARM CORNVILLE, ME  
DIP INTO THE 'WHYS' AS WELL AS THE 'HOWS' OF NO-TILL. EXPLAINS TECHNIQUES FOR OPERATIONS OF ALL SIZES, AND SKILLS TO GET STARTED OR EXPAND YOUR PRACTICE.

**ON-FARM COMPOSTING**

THURSDAY MARCH 11TH, 2021  
[REGISTER HERE](#) 6-8PM ON ZOOM  
PRESENTER: JAMES MCSWEENEY  
AUTHOR; COMMUNITY-SCALE COMPOSTING SYSTEMS  
ARLINGTON, MA  
ON-FARM COMPOSTING FOR BOTH SMALL TO MID-SIZE FARMS. EXPLAINS SYSTEMS AND SKILLS TO PUT RIGHT INTO PRACTICE AT YOUR OWN FARM.

**ECOLOGICAL GROWING**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
SATURDAY MARCH 27TH, 2021  
PRESENTER: WAYNE YOUNG  
HIGH HILL ORCHARD - MERIDEN, CT  
EXPLAINS HOW ECOLOGICAL GROWING CAN BE IMPLEMENTED TO SUPPORT REDUCED OR NO PESTICIDES USE. LEARN HOW BUILDING SOIL HEALTH LEVERAGES OTHER NATURAL SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO MANAGE PESTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES.

These trainings are supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2020-70019-30730.

USDA UCONN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES



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