

[View this email in your browser](#)



# CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

*Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture*

---

## In This Issue

---

August 6, 2021; Vol. D, No. 31

---

[CT Grown Farmer Workshops](#)

---

[USDA Disaster Declaration Request](#)

---

[COVID-19 Guidance](#)

---

[CT Grown Tents Available](#)

---

[Prevent Mosquito-Borne Illnesses](#)

---

[Urban Farmer Training](#)

---

[Ag Market Pricing](#)

---

[Advertisements](#)

---

[Upcoming Events](#)

---



Commissioner Hurlburt visited [H2O Farms CT](#) earlier this week to celebrate their work growing leafy greens in a state-of-the-art

such as water, energy, labor and land.



**CT Grown + You**  
A way of life meets a way of marketing

**August 10 9 - 10 am • August 11 6 - 7 pm**

**ZOOM WORKSHOP FOR PRODUCERS**

## CT Grown Farmer Engagement Workshops

*Strength in Numbers - 10,000,000+ Impressions to Date*

Since the launch of the next generation of CT Grown (announced by Governor Lamont in March, brought to the consumer market by May) the Department of Agriculture's "a way of life" messaging has achieved more than 10,000,000 impressions among Connecticut residents and visitors.

In addition to an aggressive, multi-media campaign, for the first time, there is a CT Grown brand presence on CTVisit.com. The agency is actively part of the agritourism messaging underway from the Department of Tourism for the state.

The brand campaign message, encouraging consumers to support Connecticut

More than 300,000 consumers have been reached by email alone, driving 4,000 visits in one day to a searchable farm locator map done in partnership with CT NOFA. Wrapped around all of this has been digital ads, social media content, and free earned media.

Our collection of provider/farm images for use in campaign advertising and to share with partners like CTVisit.com and local/national media continues to grow as we add to the collection of photos and videos.

At this first milestone of the total impression goal, and on the threshold of the Fall harvest season, the Department is holding two farmer engagement webinars to increase the reach through the strong farm network.

The CT Grown brand management partners, Miranda Creative, will be co-hosting with the agency, to present engaging content that will not only review outreach steps to date, but will guide farm partners on best practices to ride this wave of increased consumer awareness. We want to help you make the most of the Fall and Holiday season.

Join us to learn about tagging/hashtagging CT Grown branding; how to contribute content to ctgrown.org; review the steps to add/edit your listing on the provider map; plus, get tips on best practices for your own brand on social media — from effective social media advertising to retargeting in digital media effectively.

We encourage you to take advantage of live training to have the opportunity to ask these media professionals questions for your specific needs. These webinars (and future programs) are all part of the next generation CT Grown effort and a benefit the agency is pleased to offer. We hope to see you there!

August 10 at 9:00 a.m., Register Today - [LINK](#)

August 11 at 6:00 p.m., Register Today - [LINK](#)

*\*Producers - if you have photos that you would like to submit to be used in the campaign (photo credit will be given), please [click here](#) to upload.*

---



### **GOVERNOR LAMONT SUBMITS REQUEST FOR AGRICULTURAL DISASTER DECLARATION FOR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM TROPICAL STORM ELSA**

Governor Ned Lamont announced that he has submitted an agricultural disaster declaration request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the State of Connecticut as a result of damage sustained to farmers from the impact of Tropical Storm Elsa in early July.

The request follows several weeks of assessments that are required before an application can be submitted. During the assessment phase, Governor Lamont directed Connecticut Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt and senior members of his administration to tour agricultural facilities and farms throughout the state to see firsthand the damages and crop loss that occurred.

If approved, the declaration will make farmers in all eight Connecticut counties eligible for certain federal disaster assistance programs, such as emergency loans, to cover production losses they experienced as a result of the storm.

View the full release and disaster request [here](#).

---

### **COVID-19 PRODUCER RESOURCES**

As Connecticut's coronavirus response efforts continue to roll out, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) announces that all COVID-19 guidance documents specific to agriculture have been rescinded. This falls in

**Agriculture businesses, non-profits, and other organizations should follow the sector rules that apply to them. Private business owners can implement or continue to require social distancing and other measures as deemed necessary.**

Find the most current sector rules guidance at [www.ct.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus).

The Department of Agriculture has archived information from various sources related to COVID-19, which can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Commissioner/Commissioner/COVID-19-Resources-for-Farmers>.

### **COVID-19 Long-Term Recovery Resource Page**

The State of Connecticut has rolled out a Recovery Grant Funding Resources Page. This page compiles all known federal, state and philanthropic COVID-19 recovery grant opportunities in one place and includes a link to information on how to apply, as well as the deadline for the grant. An additional non-funding resources landing page will be rolling out shortly.

Link to page: <https://business.ct.gov/CT-Recovers/Grants-and-Funding-Opportunities-for-Connecticut-Recovery>.

### **REGISTER FOR ON-FARM MOBILE VACCINATION SITE**

Farms interested in hosting a mobile vaccination clinic for farm employees are encouraged to fill out the [DPH vans intake form](#).

---

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

[Connecticut farmers are finding there's no easy way to deal with climate extremes](#), 8/1, CT Mirror

[Infestations Of Spotted Lanternflies Continue Through Connecticut](#), 8/2, Patch.com

[Family business is blossoming in Plainfield](#), 8/2, The Day

[Help Connecticut Farmers: Buy Local, It's National Farmer's Market Week](#), 8/2, i95rock.com

[Preston farmer receives grant](#), 8/2, The Day

[Gov. Lamont submits request for agricultural disaster declaration for damage to farms from Tropical Storm Elsa](#), 8/5, WTNH

---



## Now Available: CT Grown Tents

10' x 10' King Canopy Tents

Order online at:  
[www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com](http://www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com)

Pickup only

# REDUCE THE RISK



- ✓ Vaccinate horses
- ✓ Apply mosquito repellent
- ✓ Remove standing water



### STATE REPORTS POSITIVE MOSQUITOES FOR WEST NILE VIRUS IN FIVE MORE CONNECTICUT TOWNS

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) has identified West Nile virus (WNV) infected mosquitoes in five new towns: Darien, Greenwich, New Haven, Stamford, and Waterford. The mosquitoes were trapped from July



“We are beginning to see an expansion of West Nile virus activity in Connecticut” said Dr. Philip Armstrong, Medical Entomologist at the CAES. “We anticipate further build-up of West Nile virus in mosquitoes with increased risk of human infection from now through September.”

No human or horse cases have been reported with WNV-associated illnesses acquired in Connecticut this season. One hundred sixty-six human cases of West Nile virus, including four fatalities, have been reported in Connecticut residents since 2000.

For information on WNV and EEE, what can be done to prevent getting bitten by mosquitoes, the latest mosquito test results and human infections, visit the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program web site at <https://portal.ct.gov/mosquito>.

The poster features a background image of a greenhouse with various plants growing in raised beds. The text is overlaid on this image. The title 'URBAN FARMERS TRAININGS' is in large white letters, with 'HARTFORD' in large red letters below it. The dates 'AUGUST 21ST AND AUGUST 28TH' and the location 'AT KENEY PARK SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT & KNOX INC' are in white. The time '9:00AM TO 4:00PM' is also in white. A registration link and deadline are provided. A list of topics is on the left, and a list of presenters is on the right. At the bottom left, there is information about lunch and contact details. At the bottom right, the 'SOLID GROUND' logo is displayed with the text 'A Program of UConn Extension' below it.

**URBAN FARMERS TRAININGS**  
**HARTFORD**  
AUGUST 21ST AND AUGUST 28TH  
AT KENEY PARK SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT & KNOX INC  
9:00AM TO 4:00PM  
REGISTER AT [S.UCONN.EDU/URBANFARMERHARTFORD](https://portal.ct.gov/mosquito) BY AUG 14!

**COVERING THE TOPICS OF:**

- COMMUNITY FARMING
- SOIL & PLANT HEALTH
- SEED SAVING & PLANT GENETICS
- REGENERATIVE SOIL AMENDMENTS
- METHODS OF INDOOR SOIL-LESS GROWING
- MICRO-GREEN GROWING

**PRESENTED BY**

- LAUREN LITTLE EDUTAINMENT
- SAMAD GARDEN INITIATIVE
- MICRO2LIFE
- DERRICK BEDWARD

(farm to table lunch included)  
Send questions to:  
[lgotnextfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:lgotnextfarmers@gmail.com)

Sponsored by:  
**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program of UConn Extension

## VALLEY LAB 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The CT Agricultural Experiment Station's Valley Laboratory will be celebrating its 100-year anniversary on September 2, 2021. The day long celebration to recognize this historic milestone will include tobacco and Christmas tree grower meetings in the morning, followed by nursery/landscape and arborist/forestry and hops in the afternoon. Meetings have been approved for pesticide credits for growers.

The Valley Laboratory in Windsor was established by the Board of Control in 1921 to investigate cigar wrapper tobacco production and disease control. While research on the culture of shade and broadleaf tobacco continues today, scientists now seek practical methods for controlling plant diseases, insect pests and weeds in a variety of crops including fruits, vegetables, ornamental trees and shrubs. In forests, entomologists are exploring biological control of introduced insect pests including hemlock woolly adelgid. Diagnostic services are provided to commercial growers and homeowners to identify plants, plant pathogens and diseases and insect pests of plants and human health concern as well as provide knowledge of the current management tools that are available and appropriate. Soil nutrient and pH testing is also conducted to allow successful plant growth on farms and landscapes while protecting environmental resources.

For more information, click [here](#).



## Connecticut Farm-to-Chef Week Join Us: Aug. 29-Sept. 4, 2021



**TASTE THE FLAVOR OF CONNECTICUT GROWN,  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY FARMERS AND CHEFS  
THROUGHOUT THE STATE!**



**2021 CT FARM-TO-CHEF WEEK REGISTRATION OPEN**



Week happening August 29 through September 4. Thanks to generous support from Highland Park Market, registration fees are waived for a limited time. Dining venues are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible.

This annual statewide event open to all restaurants and foodservice businesses in Connecticut invites participating venues to create a unique Farm-to-Chef menu showcasing Connecticut Grown ingredients and beverages. This promotion is an initiative of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farm-to-Chef Program, which connects farmers and producers of Connecticut Grown products with chefs and other culinary professionals.

To register your restaurant(s) or dining venues, [fill out this 2021 Farm-to-Chef Week Registration form](#).

To sponsor this year's Farm-to-Chef week, [fill out this 2021 Farm-to-Chef Week Sponsorship form](#).

Read some [frequently asked questions](#) about Farm-to-Chef.

For any questions please contact Cyrena Thibodeau at [cyrena.thibodeau@ct.gov](mailto:cyrena.thibodeau@ct.gov) or 860-895-3094. Additional information and a full list of participating venues and menus will be posted on [CTFarmtoChef.com](http://CTFarmtoChef.com).



### **PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE FOR TIMBER HARVESTERS AND HAULERS**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing up to \$200 million to provide relief to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses that have experienced losses due to COVID-19 as part of USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative. Loggers and truckers can apply for assistance through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) July 22 through Oct. 15, 2021. The

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, authorized this critical assistance for the timber industry. Timber harvesting and hauling businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2020, compared to the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2019, are encouraged to apply.

To be eligible for payments, individuals or legal entities must be a timber harvesting or timber hauling business where 50% or more of its gross revenue is derived from one or more of the following:

- Cutting timber.
- Transporting timber.
- Processing of wood on-site on the forest land (chipping, grinding, converting to biochar, cutting to smaller lengths, etc.).

Payments will be based on the applicant's gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 1, 2019, minus gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 1, 2020, multiplied by 80%. FSA will issue an initial payment equal to the lesser of the calculated payment amount or \$2,000 as applications are approved. A second payment will be made after the signup period has ended based upon remaining PATHH funds.

The maximum amount that a person or legal entity may receive directly is \$125,000.

Loggers and truckers can apply for PATHH beginning on July 22 by completing form FSA-1118, Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers Program application, and certifying to their gross revenue for 2019 and 2020 on the application. Additional documentation may be required. Visit [farmers.gov/pathh](https://farmers.gov/pathh) for more information on how to apply.

---

### PANDEMIC LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

On July 13, 2021 USDA announced the Pandemic Livestock Indemnity Program (PLIP). PLIP provides financial assistance to support producers of eligible swine, chickens, and turkeys depopulated from March 1, 2020, through December 26, 2020. To be eligible, depopulation of poultry or livestock must have been due to insufficient processing access resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Livestock and poultry also must have been physically located in the United States or a territory of the United States at the time of depopulation.

USDA's Farm Service Agency will accept applications July 20 through September 17, 2021. Visit [farmers.gov/plip](https://farmers.gov/plip) to learn more about additional eligibility requirements and how to apply.

### **Ag Market Pricing**

Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT  
*Prices last provided on August 2, 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

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

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)

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

46-R. Lynn Blackmer, local Nationwide Farm Insurance Agent. AFIS certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT & RI. Any type/size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may qualify for discounts. Cell: 860-377-8947. [lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com](mailto:lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com) Appointments available any time.

47-R. Kuhn GMC 600 II HD, 3 point hitch disc mower, 7'10" working width, ready to mow. \$5,500. Durham, 860-638-9689.

50-R. The SIG Insurance Agencies offer a wide range of carriers, can save you up to 23% on your farm insurance and provide better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call us for all your insurance needs with locations in CT, RI, NY and NH. Contact our AG department at 866-346-3744, option 4.

54-R. Transplanters, vacuum seeders, fertilizer applicators, garlic and potato planters and harvesters. High quality Italian-made precision equipment for the vegetable, tobacco, hemp, fruit, and floral markets. Call or email us today for

55-R. 250 Bales clean golden yellow rye straw, cut 6/1, large bales. 203-506-6318.

## Wanted

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

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

## Upcoming Events

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



**statewide**  
**2021 TOUR DES FARMS**  
JUNE 1- SEPT. 30

8 regional routes  
70+ farm CT stops!

Ride to support farmers & food security!

Get your passport: Prizes, cue sheets, bike bib!

Tag!  
@CTRCDFarm  
#2021TDF  
#BikeCTFarms

TOURDES FARMS.ORG



Connecticut  
Farmer  
Veteran  
Meeting

**AUGUST.09.2021  
7PM**

Meeting to discuss the formation of a Committee to bring a chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition here to Connecticut.

MORE INFORMATION AT:  
[CTRCDFARMUP.ORG](http://CTRCDFARMUP.ORG)



**COVER CROP CHALLENGE:**  
**"LET IT GROW"**

**JOIN US**

IS YOUR FARM IN NORTHWEST CT?  
DO YOU WANT TO CHALLENGE THE TYPICAL USE OF COVER CROPS?

FOR CONSERVATION, SOIL HEALTH, AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT, AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL BENEFITS HAVE FARMERS TOGETHER TO HELP FARMS REALIZE A FULL POTENTIAL FOR COVER CROPS. AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION AND LEFT FARMS LOCATED IN THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, A COVER CROP CHALLENGE WILL BE HELD. COVER CROPS WILL BE HEALTHY AND THE COVER CROP CHALLENGE THERE WILL BE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPOTS AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

WHETHER YOU ARE NEW TO COVER CROPS OR EXPERIENCED, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOUR COVER CROPS AND PARTICIPATING IN THE CHALLENGE, JOIN US FOR AN ENTIRE DAY OF DEMONSTRATION AND THE BENEFITS OF GROWING COVER CROPS TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED SOIL HEALTH, A STABLE CYCLING, NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT, SOIL BIOLOGY AND SOIL MOISTURE. LEARN MORE DURING THE DAY-TO-DATE DEMONSTRATION ABOUT THE COVER CROP CHALLENGE, THERE WILL BE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPOTS AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

DATE: AUGUST 11, 2021 / 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
LOCATION: ZOOM ONLINE  
REGISTER AT: [CTRCDFARMUP.ORG/AGRICULTURE/COVERCROPS](http://CTRCDFARMUP.ORG/AGRICULTURE/COVERCROPS)



**FARM ENERGY WEBINAR**

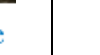
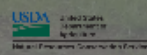
SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 | 7 PM **FREE!**  
*Virtual* STATEWIDE WEBINAR VIA ZOOM

HOSTED BY CT RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT'S CT FARM ENERGY PROGRAM

Are you a farm or rural small business who would like to reduce your energy consumption and costs?

Guest speakers will cover energy efficiency and renewable energy program options along with State & Federal incentives including: Energy CT, USDA REAP, ZREC, Metering, Tax Incentives, and C-PACE. Learn about the CT Farm Energy Geothermal Pilot and the CT Farm Energy Audit Program. The webinar will include a Q&A.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/CTFarmEnergy>  
Questions? Call 860.345.3977 or email [amanda@ctfarmenergy.org](mailto:amanda@ctfarmenergy.org)





**Subscribe**

**Past Issues**

**Translate ▼**

---

*Copyright © 2021 Connecticut Department of Agriculture, All rights reserved.*

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