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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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October 8, 2021; Vol. D, No. 40

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Congratulations to KNOX Parks Foundation, one of four Connecticut

Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program. This project will expand growing space by repairing and upgrading four greenhouses for year-round use and implement urban farming solutions to maximize the crop yield of smaller spaces.

Learn more [here](#).

Shop for your Thanksgiving table



CT Grown Campaign Update

Since our launch of the next generation of CT Grown in March 2021, it has been a whirlwind seven months of messaging across many forms of media, additional photo/video shoots and direct consumer messaging via emails. We're planning on ending 2021 strong and we'd like to really "bring it home" in the final 90 days of the year. For our earned media (articles), emails, and social media features we are planning on focusing on:

- CT Grown Gifts
- Seasonal products
- CSAs as a gift that is a way of life

To that end, please help us... help market you. Please complete this brief form

DEADLINE: Please reply by October 15. The URL links you share will be featured in emails/earned media reaching up to 500,000 consumers.

Farmer Engagement Workshop Recordings

If you were unable to join us for the virtual farmer engagement workshops held in August, both the recordings and chats are now available [here](#). We encourage you to carve out an hour and watch for helpful tools and resources to bring your own farm marketing to the next level.

As one farmer attendee shared recently:

"Our mum crop is 100% sold out... How incredible! I wanted to let you know that the marketing workshop... gave me a lot of confidence. I learned that it's ok to start early to build anticipation, that it's ok to post often during peak time, and that it's ok to be myself as I create my ads. I don't have to be concerned about putting my own spin on the posts. I also learned to respond to all comments (which I enjoyed!). One thing I found was well received was to ask those reading a post to share the information with someone who might not know. That resulted in that particular post being shared over 50 times. I needed all of this marketing advice & practice. My top goal is to create a PYO daffodil destination, and these marketing tools can only help me do that."



CT FARM WINE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO HOST GROWER EDUCATION MEETING

The CT Farm Wine Development Council, administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, will be hosting a virtual grower meeting on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The meeting is available at no cost to growers and eligible attendees will earn 2 pesticide recertification

Guest speaker will be Dr. Wayne Wilcox, Professor Emeritus of Cornell University. He led Cornell's grape pathology program for 25 years until his retirement in 2018. His research and extension efforts focused on the applied biology and practical, integrated management of Eastern vineyards' major fungal diseases, utilizing both viticultural and fungicidal tools. Since retiring from the university, he has continued to run fungicide trials and to interact with the industry through programs such as this.

Please RSVP with your name, business and email by Friday, October 22 to Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov. An email with instructions to join via WebEx will be sent in advance of the meeting.

COVID-19 PRODUCER RESOURCES

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.

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>.

REGISTER FOR ON-FARM MOBILE VACCINATION SITE

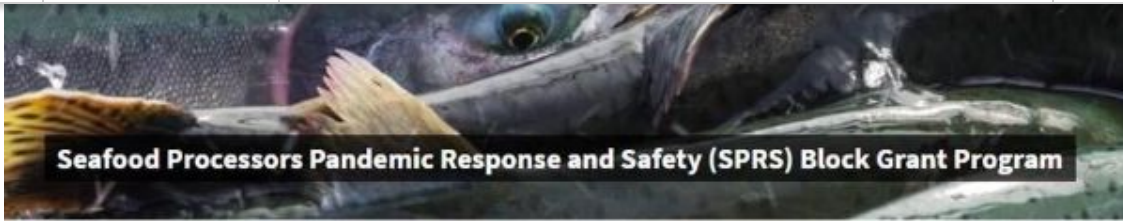
Farms interested in hosting a mobile vaccination clinic for farm employees are encouraged to fill out the [DPH vans intake form](#).

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Outlook for CT apple orchards is favorable this fall](#), Fox 61, 9/30

[Where can you pick or buy pumpkins in Eastern Connecticut?](#), Norwich Bulletin, 10/4

[New Opportunities opens hydroponic farm in Torrington](#), Register Citizen, 10/5
[10 fall Instagram spots in Connecticut for the perfect pic](#), CT Insider, 10/6



SEAFOOD PROCESSORS PANDEMIC RESPONSE & SAFETY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM WEBINAR

On September 23, USDA released a Request for Applications for the Seafood Processors Pandemic Response and Safety (SPRS) Block Grant Program. The application period will remain open until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 22, 2021, through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). USDA AMS Grants Division will hold a webinar on Thursday, October 14 at 3:00 p.m. for eligible states and territories. The goal of this webinar is to provide an overview of the grant program and application process.

USDA is accepting one SPRS application from each eligible state and territory. Agencies within a state or territory must coordinate and determine which agency is best suited to apply for and manage the grant. For more information, please visit: [Seafood Processors Pandemic Response and Safety \(SPRS\) Block Grant Program | Agricultural Marketing Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/ams/grants/seafood-processors-pandemic-response-and-safety-block-grant-program).

FARM RISK MANAGEMENT VIDEO SERIES

Streamlined Stories of Farming Success

Farm success is dependent on many factors, including business plans. Our experts provide your agricultural operation with tools and resources to minimize risk, increase profitability, and define success in your terms.

Visit s.uconn.edu/farms to view these short video clips!

This material is based upon work supported by USDANIFA under Award number 2018-70203-26588

UCONN BEEF CATTLE TO BE SOLD AT MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

UConn beef cattle will be sold at the Middlesex Livestock Auction (488 Cherry Hill Road, Middlefield, CT 06455) on Monday, October 25, 2021. Sale animals are available for public viewing at the Cattle Resource Unit on Horsebarn Hill Road in Storrs, CT, Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. All animals will receive a rabies vaccine prior to the sale date. Final weights will be posted before the sale date.

Livestock Units at Mary_Margaret.Cole@uconn.edu with any questions. Please visit <http://animalscience.uconn.edu/join.php> to join the email list if you would like to receive a digital copy of the animal sale list.

The Current List of Animals UConn will bring to Middlesex is posted at s.uconn.edu/beefauction.



CT DAIRY FARMER PROMOTION GRANTS DEADLINE EXTENDED

Connecticut Milk Promotion Board and New England Dairy are offering a competitive dairy promotion grant program to Connecticut dairy farm families and employees. Due to the weather challenges and harvest season, the deadline for the CT Dairy Farmer Promotion grant has been extended until October 15. Funding for this project was paid for by the Connecticut Milk Promotion Board.

Funded projects will be eligible for grant funds of up to \$5,000 annually to improve public perception of dairy farming and/or increase consumption of local dairy products. The total grant funding available is \$20,000. Grants are available for projects that will be completed before May 13, 2022.

Submit your proposal by clicking on this [link](#). Deadline for submission is October 15.

APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS FOR PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO SMALL PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND FARMERS MARKETS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

The USDA announced Wednesday a [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) for the new Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant program and encourages eligible entities to apply now for funds. Applications must be submitted electronically through the grant portal at <https://usda-prs.grantsolutions.gov/usda> by **11:59 pm Eastern Time, Monday, November**

Appropriations Act of 2021.

The PRS Grant program will assist small businesses in certain commodity areas, including specialty crop producers, shellfish farming, finfish farming, aquaculture, and apiculture; specialty crop, meat, and other processors; distributors; and farmers markets. Small businesses and nonprofits in these industries can apply for a grant to cover COVID-related expenses such as workplace safety measures (e.g., personal protective equipment (PPE), retrofitting facilities for worker and consumer safety, shifting to online sales platforms, transportation, worker housing, and medical costs. The minimum funding request is \$1,500 and the maximum funding request is \$20,000.

The RFA and the PRS Grant Portal provide more details about eligibility for the grant. Eligible entities are required to obtain a free DUNS Number from Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) before applying for this program. USDA has created a custom PRS DUNS number portal at <https://support.dnb.com/?CUST=PandemicResponse>.

Application resources, including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), tip sheets in English and Spanish on applying for a DUNS Number, videos on “How to Apply” and more, are available on the [PRS Grant Portal](#). [Stakeholder Toolkit here](#).

For more information, you can also reach out to the PRS help desk, Monday-Friday, 9 am - 9 pm at 301-238-5550 or usda.ams.prs@grantsolutions.gov.

FINAL REMINDER: CFAP DEADLINE 10/12/2021

The final deadline for filing a new or modified application under the [Coronavirus Food Assistance Program - Phase 2](#) (CFAP 2) with the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) is **October 12, 2021**. The purpose of CFAP 2 is to provide financial assistance to producers who faced and continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Most crops are covered as well as dairy, livestock, poultry and eggs.

For producers of fruits, vegetables, aquaculture, honey, maple sap, Christmas trees and tobacco (referred to as “sales commodities”), CFAP 2 payments were originally based upon 2019 calendar year sales of eligible crops. USDA announced an amendment to the CFAP 2 payment calculation for producers of “sales commodities” to substitute 2018 sales for 2019 sales. Producers who already received a CFAP 2 payment are encouraged to take a look at their 2018 sales and contact their USDA FSA Office to modify their CFAP 2 application if using the 2018 sales would result in a higher payment. If a producer hasn’t filed a CFAP 2 application for “sales commodities”, those producers now have the option of using either 2018 or 2019 sales. Payments for “sales commodities” producers who began farming in 2020 and had no

dairy, livestock, poultry, eggs and silage and grain corn.

Producers are encouraged to immediately contact the [FSA Office](#) that serves their farming operation with questions they may have along with procedures to file a new or modified application and related paperwork. Producers should call their FSA Office before visiting the FSA Office since FSA may have restrictions in place for in-person office visits. Sales records are not required at the time of signup but producers may have to provide evidence of total sales if the application is selected for a later spot-check. As of 10/4/21, 1,589 applicants have received \$31,549,621 in CFAP assistance. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Detailed information also can be found [here](#).

USDA INTRODUCES NEW INSURANCE POLICY FOR FARMERS WHO SELL LOCALLY

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is rolling out a new insurance option specifically for agricultural producers with small farms who sell locally. The new Micro Farm policy simplifies record keeping and covers post-production costs like washing and value-added products.

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) created this new policy based on research directed by the 2018 Farm Bill, and it includes feedback from producers who grow for their local communities. The policy will be available beginning with the 2022 crop year.

The Micro Farm policy is available to producers who have a farm operation that earns an average allowable revenue of \$100,000 or less, or for carryover insureds, an average allowable revenue of \$125,000 or less. The policy builds on other RMA efforts to better serve specialty and organic crop growers.

Learn more [here](#).



2021 ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE GRANT PROGRAM

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is applying for the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (NOCCSP) Grant from the USDA Farm Service Agency.

Through this grant, Connecticut certified organic growers and processors can be reimbursed for 50%, up to \$500, for the cost of receiving and maintaining USDA organic certification. A list of certified organic growers and processors is available through USDA's Organic INTEGRITY Database at <https://organic.ams.usda.gov/integrity>.

The program is administered on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. The amount reimbursed will be 50%, up to \$500, of the certification cost paid between October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021.

To apply, please visit the CT DoAg [website](#) for required materials. Completed applications are to be submitted electronically by October 15, 2021. Any questions, please contact Jaime.Smith@ct.gov.



Now Available:
CT Grown Tents
10' x 10' King Canopy Tents

Order online at:
www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com

Pickup only

ADD YOUR BUSINESS TO CT GROWN MAP

The Department of Agriculture, in coordination with CT NOFA, offers a variety of online listings on the [CT Grown Map](#) page. All agricultural businesses, farm stands, and farmers' markets are welcome to apply. There is no fee to participate and applications are accepted year round. To apply to be listed, visit the [CT Grown Map Google Form](#).

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on September 20, 2021

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA](#)

NEW! [CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)

[New Holland, PA Hay Report](#)

[Northeast Regional Eggs](#)

[USDA Mexico Canada Weekly Update](#)

[New England Shell Eggs](#)

[Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary](#)

[Wholesale Ornamental Flowers - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Livestock Auction - Eighty Four, PA](#)

Advertisements

For Sale

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers,

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.

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 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 details. Griffin Farm Equipment, LLC. 860-508-2426, Griffinfarm@aol.com; www.griffinfarmtools.com

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

56-R. Piglets for Sale: \$100, FlamigFarm.com, West Simsbury, 860-658-5070.

57-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fundraisers. We deliver. 203-457-1344.

Wanted

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

Job Opportunities

UConn Extension has a position open for a Food and Agricultural Literacy 4-H Educator: The Department of Extension is seeking applicants for a full-time (11-month), non-tenure track Assistant/Associate Extension Educator, primarily based at the Fairfield County Extension Office in Bethel, CT. Extension Educators are community-based faculty who make a difference in communities by connecting community needs with university resources. Position level/rank

youth development program with a focus on STEM, food, and agricultural literacy. For more information and to apply online, please click [here](#).

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

Upcoming Events
(click on image below for info)

UConn Extension is pleased to present

Fall 2021 Classes

Supporting agricultural businesses securing their futures by breaking down financial barriers, and building their path to sustainability.

Class I: Bookkeeping

- Charts of accounts
- Income statements
- Net Worth

Class II: Financial records for management

- Cash Flow
- Scenario Planning

Class III: Using financial records for management

- Breakeven Analysis & Sensitivity Analysis

→ Register online at s.uconn.edu/register-rma ←

Choose how you would prefer to attend:

In-Person 10-11:30 a.m.

Oct. 28, Nov. 4, & Nov. 11

Middlesex County

Extension Center

with simultaneous Spanish translation

Virtually 4-5:30 p.m.

Oct. 20, Oct. 27, & Nov. 3

via WebEx

Reliable internet connection

recommended

s.uconn.edu/farmrisk



This material is funded in partnership by USDA, Risk Management Agency, under award number RMA21CPT0011598



Co-sponsored by the Carrot Project

FOR OUR KIDS FOUNDATION

Connecticut Thanksgiving Extravaganza Tour

SEMINAR, FOOD GIVE AWAY, & MORE...

We NEED YOUR HELP! November 17 - 19, Save Our Schools For Our Kids Foundation (501c3) is giving Groceries to 5 Schools in the Bloomfield, Hartford, & New Haven for Thanksgiving. To address hunger, we please need vegetables. We're grateful for your help reaching 3k students & their Families. Email us @saveourschools4ourkids@gmail.com or call 860-796-2842 & ask for Yvonne

GOD BLESS YOU! All Donations Are tax-deductible

POSTER MAKER

UConn Beef Cattle to Be Sold at Middlesex Livestock Auction This Year



Monday, October 25, 2021

[Middlesex Livestock Auction](#)

(860) 883-3823
488 Cherry Hill Road
Middlefield, CT 06455

The list of animals is posted at uconn.edu/beefauction

Sale animals are available for public viewing at the Cattle Resource Unit on Horseshorn Hill Road in Storrs, CT Monday through Friday between 10 AM and 4 PM. All animals will receive a rabies vaccine prior to the sale date. Final weights will be posted before the sale date.

For further information, contact Mary Margaret Cole at Mary_Margaret.Cole@uconn.edu.



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