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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 15, 2021; Vol. D, No. 41

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Farmers: Today is the last day to submit your information to be included in the fall/winter CT Grown campaign. Our earned media (articles), emails, and social media features will be focused on CT Grown gifts, seasonal products, and CSAs as a gift.

Please complete this brief form available [here](#).



## 288-Acre Meadowood Property Protected

The Trust for Public Land and the Town of Simsbury announced the protection of the historic and culturally significant property, known locally as Meadowood. The 288-acre property, once a thriving tobacco farm, looks about the same as it did more than 75 years ago. This landscape – and the experiences here - offers important connections to Civil Rights history in Connecticut.

During both World Wars, while much of their workforce was away fighting, tobacco growers in Connecticut recruited thousands of seasonal laborers from around the country and the world to keep their farms running. A partnership with Atlanta's Morehouse College sent students north to work in these fields and earn money for tuition. One of those students was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who described in letters home during those summers the liberating experience of his time in Connecticut. It was a pivotal time for him and he later traced his calling as a minister "to the summer of 1944 when I felt an inescapable urge to serve society."

Following a grassroots citizen petition process and special town meeting that put the question of the Meadowood purchase on a referendum ballot back in May, Simsbury residents authorized \$2.5 million for the purchase of the 288-acre Meadowood property for open space. The vote passed by a resounding 87 percent. Additional funding for protecting the land comes from the State of Connecticut through the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Department of Agriculture, and State Historic Preservation Office, the US Fish and Wildlife Service through the Highlands Conservation Act, the George Dudley Seymour Trust, and many generous individuals, foundations and funders.

preserved as working farmland. The Town of Simsbury has 24 acres set aside for future municipal needs and 2 acres are designated for historic preservation, including interpretive elements that share the special history of the land.

“The permanent protection of this historic site, including prime and important farmland soils, is a testament to collaboration among partners at the local, state, and federal level,” said Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “Together we will ensure that a cornerstone of Connecticut’s agricultural and cultural legacy remains intact.”

Now that the property is protected, Meadowood could be included in the Connecticut Freedom Trail, a network of sites that celebrate the accomplishments of the state's African American community and promote heritage tourism.

Read the full release [here](#).

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### **GROWN CONNECTED BRAND LAUNCHED FOR NORTHEAST CT FARMERS**

UConn Extension revealed the Grown ConNECTed logo earlier this week at Woodstock Orchards. This new brand campaign for Northeastern Connecticut strives to foster connections between farmers and consumers in this unique area.

Read more [here](#).

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

**Agriculture businesses, non-profits, and other organizations should follow the sector rules that apply to them. Private business owners can**

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>.

### **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](#).

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

[CT Businesses Get Ready for Busy Fall Weekend](#), NBC CT, 10/8

[6 \(more\) cute Connecticut Towns to Visit this Fall](#), CT Insider, 10/12

[Sale of Simsbury parcel containing former tobacco field worked by MLK finalized](#), Hartford Courant, 10/11

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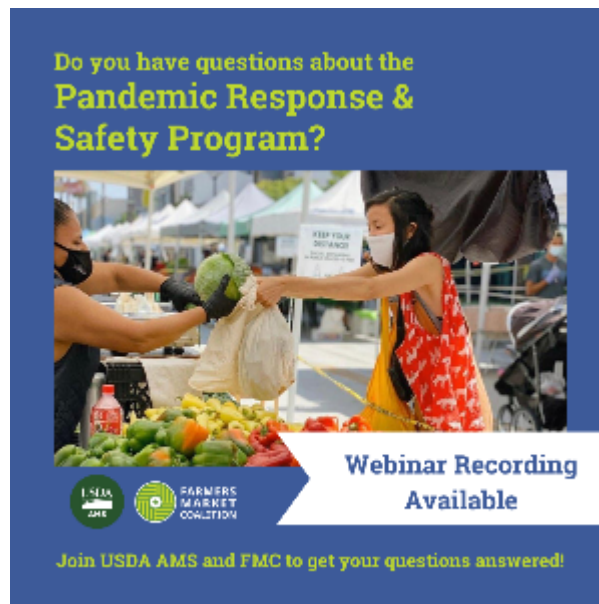
### **CT FARM WINE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO HOST GROWER EDUCATION MEETING**

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 hours.

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

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](mailto:Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov). An email with instructions to join via WebEx will be sent in advance of the meeting.



Do you have questions about the **Pandemic Response & Safety Program?**

Webinar Recording Available

Join USDA AMS and FMC to get your questions answered!

Logos for USDA AMS and Farmers Market Coalition are visible at the bottom left of the graphic.

## USDA AGRICULTURE MARKETING SERVICES PANDEMIC RESPONSE & SAFETY GRANT INFO SESSION

The USDA is now accepting applications for the [Pandemic Response and Safety \(PRS\) Grant Program](#) through November 22. Have questions about the PRS Grant Program? The Farmer's Market Coalition partnered with USDA in their latest webinar to answer your questions.

[Watch the recording.](#) This webinar ran live on October 13, 2021.



## SEAFOOD PROCESSORS PANDEMIC RESPONSE & SAFETY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM WEBINAR

On September 29, 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-sprs-block-grant-program).

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**NORTHEAST****DAIRY BUSINESS  
INNOVATION CENTER**

### **DAIRY BUSINESS VIABILITY & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT**

This grant will fund dairy processors, producer associations, supply chain businesses, and technical assistance providers in order to enhance dairy farmer and processor business operations and strengthen market opportunities. Projects funded through this program will coordinate technical assistance to benefit multiple dairy producers and processors with the goal of increasing consumption, sales, jobs, and diverse markets for regionally produced dairy products. Technical assistance services could include enhancing business plans, facility operations, marketing, distribution, processing, and product offerings.

Grants available of \$10,000 - \$100,000. RFA now available. Application period: October 26 - December 7, 2021. Details [here](#).

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## DAIRY FOOD SAFETY & CERTIFICATION GRANT

This grant will provide dairy farmers, processors, and/or producer associations with funds needed to take actionable steps to improve the safety of dairy products. Projects funded through this program will support increased production safety standards with the goal of accessing new markets. Projects that increase marketability of dairy products will be prioritized. Activities covered by this grant include accessing technical assistance, audits, food safety plan development, training, testing fees, and certain infrastructure upgrades.

Grants available of \$10,000 - \$40,000. RFA now available.. Application period: October 26, 2021 - February 3, 2022. Details [here](#).



## GRAZING TRANSITION, HOMEGROWN FORAGE ENHANCEMENT, & ALTERNATIVE FARM MANAGEMENT COHORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Service providers across the Northeast are invited to submit proposals for contracts to offer localized cohort-based technical assistance for dairy farmers considering transitioning their farm to a grass-based production model, improving forage management, or other innovative on-farm practices.

[here.](#)



## **BE WELL FARMING WINTER RETREATS APPLICATIONS DUE BY OCTOBER 25**

The Be Well Farming Project invites you to join us this December for a farmer-centered retreat experience where we'll consider how we cultivate wellbeing for ourselves and for those we work alongside on the farm. The Be Well Farming Retreat Experience for Farmers will be held both virtually and in person in December 2021.

Retreat Programming will consist of a series of full-group and small-group conversations, space for personal reflection, communal meals, and physical activities like nature walks, yoga and meditation. The retreat will be facilitated by the Be Well Farming team and is intended for commercial farmers and farm employees who have at least three years of experience managing or working on a crew on all types of operations in the Northeast. A limited number of spaces for agricultural service providers are available.

### Virtual and In-Person Retreat Details

The retreats will be held both in an online format and in-person. In-person attendees are required to submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination as part of the registration process. In the event that the in-person retreat is not possible, both sessions will be offered online.

Please complete [the application form](#). It may take around 15 minutes to complete. Deadline to apply is October 25, 2021. Applications will be reviewed and decisions on acceptance to the retreat series will be communicated by



If you have further questions about the retreat or the Be Well Farming Project, please send them to [daniel.macphee@tufts.edu](mailto:daniel.macphee@tufts.edu).

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### **USDA INVESTS \$4.7 MILLION TO PROVIDE OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS & RANCHERS**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced an investment of \$4.7 million to establish partnerships with organizations to provide outreach and technical assistance to historically underserved farmers and ranchers. The partnerships will support participation in Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs, including those that are part of USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative.

Details [here](#).

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### **WEBINAR ON METHANE DIGESTERS FOR DAIRY FARMS**

If you are a dairy producer thinking about adding a methane digester to your operation, join Farm Credit East for an overview of digester economics, policy considerations, incentives and operational factors.

This webinar is free to attend, and will take place on Wednesday, October 20, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

gas, eligibility for credits, and how a digester might affect your dairy operation. Following the main presentation, there will be a panel discussion including Mr. Sousa, as well as credit and consulting staff from Farm Credit East and CoBank. The webinar will close with audience questions.

Visit [FarmCreditEast.com/Webinars](http://FarmCreditEast.com/Webinars) to register for this free webinar, or contact Chris Laughton at (800) 562-2235 or [Christopher.Laughton@farmcrediteast.com](mailto:Christopher.Laughton@farmcrediteast.com) for more information.

## 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](http://s.uconn.edu/farms) to view these short video clips!

This material's basic support was supported by USDA/NIFA under Award number 2018-70307-28588

## 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.

Please contact Mary Margaret Cole, Executive Program Director, UConn Livestock Units at [Mary\\_Margaret.Cole@uconn.edu](mailto: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](http://s.uconn.edu/beefauction).

**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**

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 22, 2021**. Approximately \$650 million in funding is available for the PRS grants, which are funded by the Pandemic Assistance provided in the Consolidated 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](mailto:usda.ams.prs@grantsolutions.gov).



The advertisement features a green background. On the left, there is a white graphic of a canopy tent with four legs. The top of the tent has a logo that says "CONNECTICUT GROWN" with a small graphic of a plant and the tagline "A legacy of life". Below the tent, the website "CTGrown.org" is written in green. To the right of the tent, the text "Now Available: CT Grown Tents" is written in white, followed by "10' x 10' King Canopy Tents" in white. Below that, "Order online at:" is written in white, followed by the website "www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com" in white. At the bottom, "Pickup only" is written in white.

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

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

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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.

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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](mailto:Griffinfarm@aol.com); [www.griffinfarmtools.com](http://www.griffinfarmtools.com)

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

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56-R. Piglets for Sale: \$100, [FlamigFarm.com](http://FlamigFarm.com), West Simsbury, 860-658-5070.

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

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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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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 will be commensurate with experience working with Extension. The anticipated start date is January 2022. The successful candidate shall create an active 4-H youth development program with a focus on STEM, food, and agricultural literacy. For more information and to apply online, please click [here](#).

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

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**Upcoming Events**  
*(click on image below for info)*



**CONNECTICUT FARMER VETERANS STAKEHOLDER MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER .09.2021**  
**12-1PM**

Are you a federal, state, local, non-profit organization or business that would like to support CT Farmer Veterans? The CT Farmer Veterans Chapter Open a 1/2 Day (Nov. 10:00) would like to invite you to an informative meeting about organizing a Chapter of the Farmer Veterans Coalition to Connecticut.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING?  
 REGISTER AT: [CTRCD.ORG/AGRICULTURE/FARMUP/](https://ctrcd.org/agriculture/farmup/)

Logos for Connecticut Department of Agriculture and FarmUP are at the bottom.

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](https://s.uconn.edu/register-rma)

**Choose how you would prefer to attend:**

<b>In-Person 10-11:30 a.m.</b> Oct. 28, Nov. 4, & Nov. 11 Middlesex County Extension Center with simultaneous Spanish translation	<b>Virtually 4-5:30 p.m.</b> Oct. 20, Oct. 27, & Nov. 3 via WebEx Reliable internet connection recommended
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[s.uconn.edu/farmrisk](https://s.uconn.edu/farmrisk)

**UCONN** COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION

This material is funded in partnership by USDA Risk Management Agency, under award number RMA21COT001-598

**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency

Co-sponsored by the Carrot Project



**Save Our Schools 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](mailto:saveourschools4ourkids@gmail.com) or call 860-796-2842 & ask for Yvonne


**GOD BLESS YOU! All Donations Are tax-deductible**

**MISSION OUTTA POVERTY**

POSTER MAKER

**UCONN** COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES ANIMAL SCIENCES

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



**Monday, October 25, 2021**  
 Middlesex Livestock Auction  
 (860) 863-3823  
 488 Cherry Hill Road  
 Middlefield, CT 06455

The list of animals is posted at [s.uconn.edu/beefauction](https://s.uconn.edu/beefauction)

Sale animals are available for public viewing at the Cattle Resource Unit on Housatonic Hill Road in Stearns, 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](mailto:Mary_Margaret.Cole@uconn.edu).



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Pinterest



Website

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