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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 22, 2021; Vol. D, No. 42

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Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt celebrated National Apple Day on October 21 with a visit to Blue Hills Orchard in Wallingford with Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz. Eric Henry, fourth generation owner of Blue Hills showed us how innovative technology to grade the size and color of apples is ensuring customers receive the very best.



First Hemp Acreage & Production Survey to Be Conducted

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will mail its first Hemp Acreage and Production Survey to 20,500 producers across the nation, beginning Oct. 18. The hemp survey will collect information on the total planted and harvested area, yield, production, and value of hemp in the United States.

“This inaugural hemp survey will establish a necessary benchmark and provide critically-needed data for the hemp industry,” said NASS Acting Administrator Kevin Barnes. “The information collected can help inform producers’ decisions about growing, harvesting, and selling hemp as well as the type of hemp they decide to produce. The resulting data will also foster greater understanding of the hemp production landscape across regulatory agencies, producers, state and Tribal governments, processors, and other key industry entities.”

All information reported by individuals will be kept confidential, as required by federal law. NASS will publish the survey results Feb. 17, 2022, on the NASS website and in the NASS Quick Stats searchable database.

For more information about the Hemp Acreage and Production Survey, click [here](#).



PROMOTE YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS ON CT GROWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Did you know you can add events to our community calendar? It's a quick and easy way to get your events in front of the Connecticut Grown audience. Your events will be featured on the CT Grown events calendar, in email newsletters, and more! Let us market you.

To add your events to our calendar, fill out this form to receive a username, password, and instructions!

[Fill Out the Form](#)

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

[Connecticut Corn Mazes to Get Lost in this Weekend, 10/17](#), Hartford Courant

Post

[Far-Out Fun Things to do in Connecticut this Weekend: Giant Kaleidoscope, Flashlight Maze, Chili Cook-off, 10/19, Mommy Poppins](#)

[Local Farmer's Markets Bring Their CT-Grown Produce to You, 10/20, Journal Inquirer](#)

[Two North Windham Teachers Win \\$27K to Help with Urban Farming Initiative, 10/21, WTNH](#)



Connecticut Sheep Needs Assessment Survey

Do you own sheep in Connecticut?

Fill out this survey from University of Connecticut's Departments of Extension and Animal Science to help us design and develop useful resources and programs for Connecticut sheep producers.

Questions? Email
amy.safran@uconn.edu or
joe.emenheiser@uconn.edu

s.uconn.edu/sheepsurvey

UConn | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,
HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

EXTENSION & ANIMAL SCIENCE



UConn SHEEP SURVEY

Do you own sheep in Connecticut? Participate in this survey from UConn Extension and the UConn Department of Animal Science to help them design and develop useful resources and programs for Connecticut sheep producers.

[Take the Survey](#)



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 November 1, 2021 at which time we will provide a payment link to reserve and confirm your space.

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



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 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.

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

PUBLIC INPUT REQUESTED
COMMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 1

Learn more at usda.gov/topics/climate-solutions



USDA SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON NEW CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

USDA is committed to partnering with farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and communities to develop climate solutions that strengthen rural America. The Department is currently accepting public comment on a new climate partnership initiative to create market opportunities for commodities produced using climate-smart practices.

USDA will support a set of pilot projects that provide incentives to implement climate-smart conservation practices on working lands and to quantify and monitor the carbon and greenhouse gas benefits associated with those practices. Stakeholders interested in providing comments may do so on or before 11:59 p.m. EST on November 1, 2021, via the Federal Register, Docket ID: USDA-2021-0010.

Click [here](#) for more information, or to submit comments.



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 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](#).

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,

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](#).



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

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.

Contracts available up to \$150,000. Question and comment period: October 1 - October 29, 2021. Deadline to submit proposals: November 29, 2021. Details [here](#).

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](#).

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's basic application was supported by USDA/NIFA under Award number 2018-70307-26588

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.

Please contact Mary Margaret Cole, Executive Program Director, UConn 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.

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

The USDA Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant program 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),

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.



MEATWORKS
THE LIVESTOCK
INSTITUTE
OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

THE LIVESTOCK INSTITUTE'S WINTER LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE

The Livestock Institute of Southern New England will host a virtual event on Wednesday, November 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This one-day event will address the marketing and profitability of locally raised proteins by small and mid-size farms in Southern New England. Experts on pricing, sourcing, online marketing, institutional sales and retail sales will offer insights and experiences working with livestock farms.

More details and registration instructions [here](#).

Workshop Schedule:

9:00 a.m. - Cian Dalzell, The Carrot Project - Finding your Costs of Production

animal.

11:00 a.m. - Matt Leroux, Cornell - Profitable Meat Marketing and the New Cornell Pricing Calculator. You are raising and selling local meat, but are you making a profit? Learn to use the new and improved Cornell Meat Price Calculator to develop prices that deliver a profit in every channel. We'll demo the new tool and discuss our approach to setting meat cut prices for each sales channel you use.

12:00 p.m. - Institutional Sales (Panel Discussion) - UMass Amherst Dining, Farm Fresh Rhode Island, Chef Chris Cronin



REGISTER NOW FOR NORTHEAST GREENHOUSE CONFERENCE & EXPO

The dates for the Northeast Greenhouse Conference (November 3 & 4) are fast approaching. If you haven't yet registered online, here are some reasons to attend:

- Opportunity to choose from over 40 educational sessions from nationally known speakers.
- Opportunity to attend exhibit hall featuring up to 80 vendors.
- Opportunity to obtain 9 pesticide recertification credits: 4 on the first day and 5 on the second day of the conference.
- Opportunity to purchase a printed copy of the New England Greenhouse Floriculture Guide at a reduced price of \$30 during online registration (\$ 5 savings plus no postage). Pick up at the check in for the conference.
- Opportunity to attend a welcome reception on "What's in Store for 2022" panel discussion regarding current supply chain issues.
- Opportunity to network with friends and colleagues.
- New information has been added to our website to address COVID-19 Care and Safety Guidelines.

For more information on the conference, or to register, click [here](#).



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](#).

The Carrot Project is looking for an Outreach Coordinator to support socially disadvantaged farmers (BIPOC, women, and new and beginning farmers) in Southern New England. You will work closely with the Client Services Specialist (CSS) and lead outreach efforts to support socially disadvantaged farmers in understanding and accessing The Carrot Project and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs, coordinate with project partners, and develop new and support existing relationships with organizations working with farmers. Working from your home office, this is a full-time, well-benefitted position, funded at least until September 30, 2022. 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
Break-Even 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 interpretation	Virtually 4-5:30 p.m. Oct. 20, Oct. 27, & Nov. 3 via WebEx Reliable internet connection recommended
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s.uconn.edu/farmrisk

UConn COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, PLANT & ENVIRONMENTAL REVISION
This material is provided in partnership by USDA Risk Management Agency under award number 58WDC107001-1-19
Sponsored by the Carrot Project

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Risk Management Agency

USDA UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SAVE THE DATE

USDA Equity Commission
Questions & Answers Session with Dr. Dewayne L. Goldman
Senior Advisor for Racial Equity

Please join us for one of the sessions below:

Monday October 25, 2021 9:00-9:45am EDT Register	Monday October 25, 2021 3:00-3:45pm EDT Register
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For more information regarding this event, please contact: [Keetra Nichols at keetra.nichols@ndia.gov](mailto:Keetra.Nichols@ndia.gov)

USDA U.S. equal opportunity: www.usda.gov/eo-12812 www.usda.gov



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 Organization (over 1,000) would like to invite you to our - Farm to Home - meeting about bringing a Chapter of the Farmer Veterans Coalition to Connecticut.

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

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



A FULL DAY OF HANDS ON WORKSHOPS ON URBAN GROWING & MORE!

9-3P SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

SNEAK PEEK:
 OH SHOTO GHANIAN STORYTELLING & COOKING, SOLID GROUND URBAN FARMING WORKSHOPS FEAT. "I GOT NEXT" URBAN FARMER COALITION, SEED SWAPS, GRUB FROM ZAVDREYS, GARDENING WITH KIDS & MORE!

STAY IN THE KNOW & SUBSCRIBE:

Logos for Solid Ground and Common Ground are at the bottom.



take survey! 

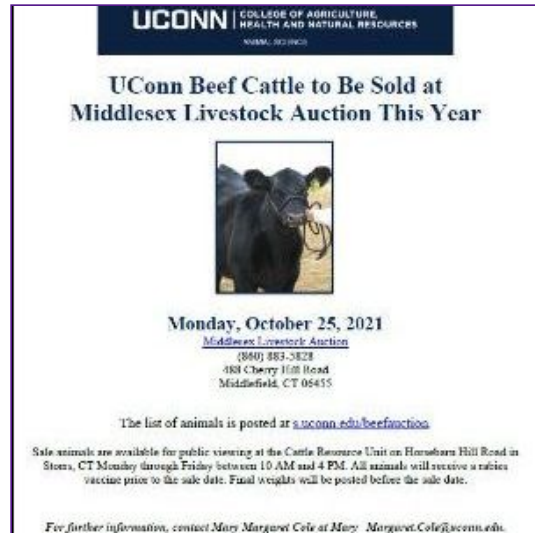
Pie & Coffee talks*
 for hobby farmers, homesteaders and horsekeepers

BENEFIT THE SENEXET GRANGES! **Contact mara.robles@senexet.net**

- THURS, SEPT. 30 - MANURE & NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT FOR SMALL FARMS
- WED, OCT. 13 - FOREST MANAGEMENT
- WED, OCT. 27 - GRAZING ANIMALS 101
- TUES, NOV. 16 - SOIL HEALTH FOR SMALL FARMS


All presentations 6:30 - 7:45 pm online zoom AND limited in-person with refreshments at Senexet Grange in Woodstock following CDC & state COVID-19 guidance at time of talk.

**Sponsored by Woodstock Agricultural Commission, Senexet Grange #40 and Eastern CT Conservation District*



UConn COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 WWW.UCONN.EDU

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



Monday, October 25, 2021
 Middlesex Livestock Auction
 (860) 883-3828
 883 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 Hornbarn 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.



NESAWB'S ANNUAL
IT TAKES A REGION CONFERENCE
 NOVEMBER 8TH - 11TH, 2021
 VIRTUAL EVENT

Logos for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter are at the bottom.

-  Facebook
-  Instagram
-  Pinterest
-  Website

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