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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
Version en español disponible en línea en CTGrown.gov.

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It's an A-MAZE-ING time of year! Connecticut farmers have gotten creative in an attempt to help visitors get lost. Are you ready for the challenge? From corn to sunflowers, mazes are fun with family or friends.

Visit CTGrown.org to learn more about this activity and where you can find it.

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The Big E Kicks Off Today!

Visit CT Grown Exhibitors in the Connecticut Building

Connecticut's agricultural businesses are returning to the Connecticut Building at The Big E. As the largest fair in the Northeast offering entertainment, exhibitors, fair food, and rides, this is also an opportunity for Connecticut farmers and agricultural organizations to showcase their products to a vast audience of fairgoers and potential customers.

This year's fair starts today, September 16, and runs through Sunday, October 2, 2022, at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA. In 2021 The Big E attracted 1,498,774 visitors. Connecticut residents account for roughly 50% of attendees according to Big E statistics.

One of the most popular attractions at the Big E is the Avenue of States, which includes all six New England States (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont). This year, The Big E's Connecticut Day is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21. To celebrate Connecticut Day, the CT Department of Agriculture will be offering CT Grown apples and promoting the agency's CT Grown brand, trivia, and offering giveaway items.

In addition, a rotation of agricultural exhibitors throughout the fair will provide visibility to a number of organizations and businesses including:

Twin Pines Farm and Union Bee Company - September 16-18

Guardians Farm – September 19-20

CT Agricultural Experiment Station – September 19

CT Farm Bureau Association – September 20

CT Department of Agriculture & CT Apple Marketing Board – September 21

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	<p> CT Milk Promotion Board – September 22 Kilam & Basselle Farmstead - September 22-25 Bridgeport Aquaculture School – September 23 2nd Co Governor's Horse Guard – September 25 UConn Extension – September 28 Sweet Little Details – September 29-30 Sweet Wind Farm – September 27-28 Soapium – September October 1-2 Newgate Farms - September 29-October 2 </p> <p>The Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council will also be present with a total of 18 wines from nine participating wineries, including Bishop's Orchards & Winery, Hopkins Vineyard, Jonathan Edwards Winery, Jones Family Farms Winery, Lost Acres Vineyard, Maugle Sierra Vineyard, Preston Ridge Vineyard, Staehly Farm Winery, and Taylor Brooke Winery. Back by popular demand will be frozen wine, known as 'froze'.</p> <p>The Harvest New England Association will again be coordinating Harvest New England Day at The Big E on Friday, September 30. Harvest New England Day will include the Passport to New England Agriculture program where fairgoers can visit each state building along the Avenue of States, plus the New England Grange Building, to answer a trivia question and receive a stamp. Once their Passport card is full it can be redeemed at the Vermont building to receive a Harvest New England tote bag. For more information visit The Big E or follow the CT Building-Big E Facebook page for daily updates.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture still has limited dates available to exhibit in the Connecticut Building and is seeking exhibitors for Saturday, September 24, 2022, and Tuesday, September 27th. To learn about current opportunities to exhibit, please contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or Erin Windham at Erin.Windham@ct.gov.</p> <p>To learn about opportunities to exhibit in 2023, please contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov.</p>	

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FOOD SYSTEM CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS APPLICATION OPENS

The Connecticut Food Policy Council is pleased to announce a new grant opportunity for Connecticut organizations and groups involved in food system policy or creating innovative, localized, programming in their respective communities to increase food access and address food insecurity.

Grant Purpose:

- Increase the use of, awareness of, and access to healthy food.
- Support stakeholders in collaborative work to address local food system issues.
- Support the creation or continuation of local food policy councils, anti-hunger coalitions, and similar working groups or networks focused on food systems, food access, and/or community food security.

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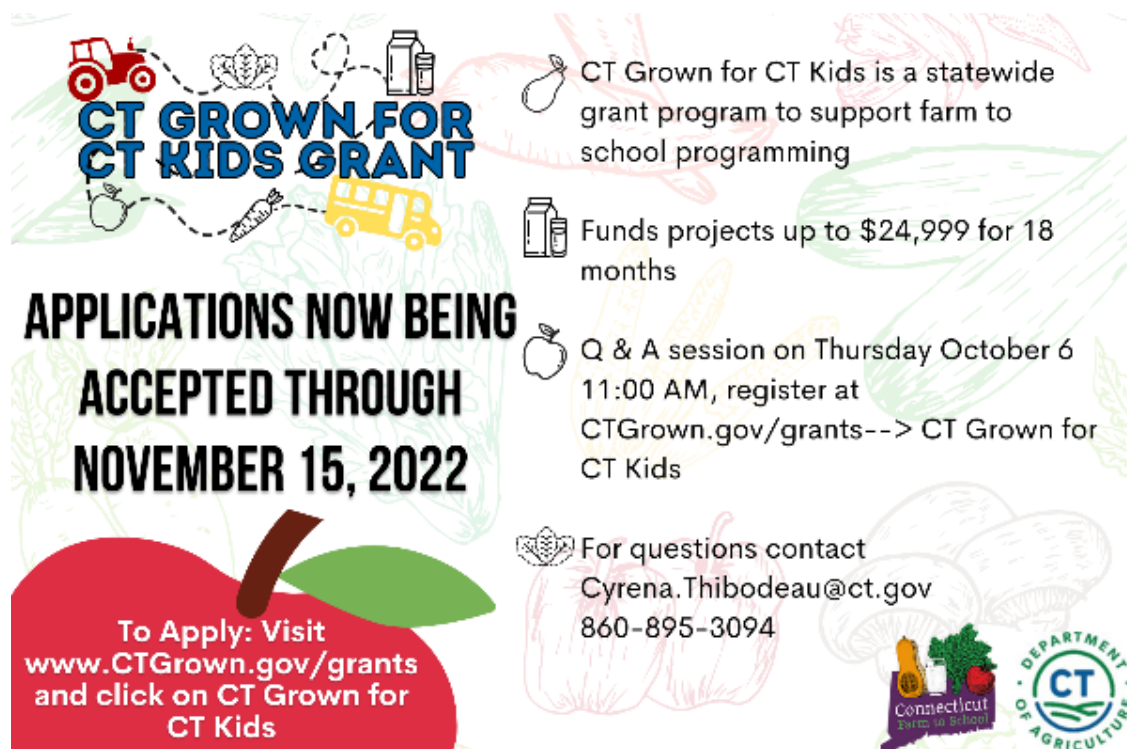
sell, and eat culturally preferred healthy foods.

Eligible Applicants:

- Local Food Policy Councils and/or food working groups
- Agricultural producers, singularly or jointly, provided such producers are owners or tenants of existing agribusiness within the State of Connecticut
- Food pantries
- Farmers' markets
- Community Gardens, including municipalities or organizations operating a community garden
- Food retailers, such as grocery stores, corner stores, convenience stores, farmers' markets, mobile food markets, or retail food outlets operated by an emergency food program or food hub

An informational webinar and **Q&A session** will be held on **Tuesday, October 11, 2022, from 11am-Noon**. Please register for the webinar [HERE](#) or by going to www.CTGrown.gov/grants and selecting Food System Capacity Building Grant (FSCB). The session will be recorded and posted on the FSCB Grant webpage.

[Click here to read more about the Food System Capacity Building Grants.](#)



CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS GRANT

CT Grown for CT Kids is a statewide grant program to support farm to school programming

Funds projects up to \$24,999 for 18 months

Q & A session on Thursday October 6 11:00 AM, register at CTGrown.gov/grants--> CT Grown for CT Kids

For questions contact Cyrena.Thibodeau@ct.gov 860-895-3094

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH NOVEMBER 15, 2022

To Apply: Visit www.CTGrown.gov/grants and click on CT Grown for CT Kids

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS GRANT APPLICATION OPENS

Subscribe	Past Issues	The Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant Program, provides funds to	Translate ▼
		<p>Connecticut local or regional boards of education, regional educational service centers, cooperative arrangements pursuant to section <u>10-158a of the general statutes</u>, child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes, as such terms are described in section <u>19a-77 of the general statutes</u>, or any organization or entity administering or assisting in the development of a farm-to-school program.</p> <p>Grant Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and further farm-to-school initiatives • Increase the availability of local foods in child nutrition programs • Allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections • Sustain relationships with local farmers and producers • Enrich the educational experience of students • Improve the health of children in the state • Enhance the state's economy <p>If you are interested in applying for this grant, a virtual Q&A session will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2022, from 11am-Noon. To register, please visit www.CTGrown.gov/Grants and click on CT Grown for CT Kids.</p> <p><u>Click here to read more about the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program.</u></p> <hr/> <p>CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS</p> <p><u>Where can you pick your own apples in Connecticut? Here's several orchards to try.</u>, Hartford Courant, 9/13</p> <p><u>Connecticut agency confirms instance of rabbit disease in Hartford County.</u>, Hartford Courant, 9/12</p> <p><u>CT's Four Town Fair, a nearly 200-year-old tradition, returns to Somers this week</u>, CT Insider, 9/12</p> <p><u>Lamont seeks new disaster declaration by US agriculture officials as Connecticut drought designation persists</u>, Hartford Courant, 9/12</p> <p><u>Farmers weigh in on the drought affecting livestock at Hebron Fair</u>, WTNH, 9/9</p> <hr/> <p>CONNECTICUT DROUGHT MONITOR</p>	

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U.S. Drought Monitor

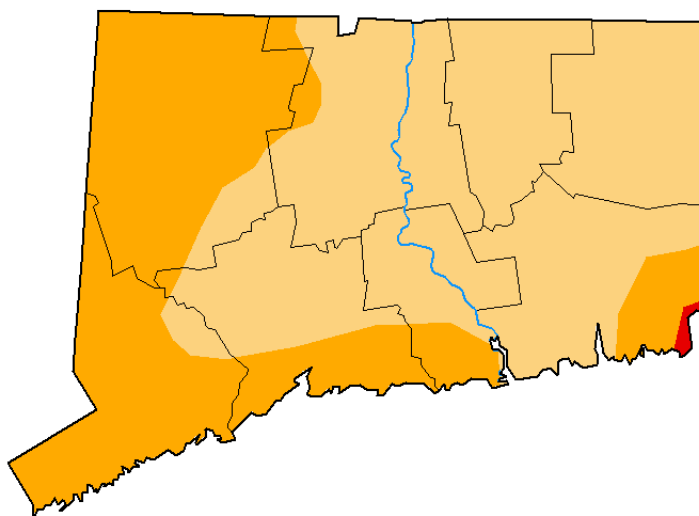
September 13, 2022

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Connecticut

(Increased Thursday, Sep. 15, 2022)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

**Intensity:**

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

CT Drought Monitor

DROUGHT DISASTER RELIEF

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack has designated New London and Windham counties as primary natural disaster areas due to the recent drought. Additionally, Hartford, Middlesex, and Tolland counties have been designated as contiguous counties under the declaration.

The designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment of the operator.

Farmers interested in applying for assistance must [contact their local Farm Service Agency office.](#)

A new State Impacts tool is live now on the U.S. Drought Monitor
site: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/StateImpacts.aspx>

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events documented in media that meet our definition of a drought impact: a loss or change at a specific place and time due to drought. We are still doing that (“we” mainly being Denise Gutzmer, impacts tracker extraordinaire). At one point in the evolution of the Drought Impact Reporter, we experimented with including drought impacts documented in different ways, but as we worked with users, we realized it was better to keep different types of information separate.

The [Drought Impacts Toolkit](#) includes the Drought Impact Reporter, CMOR, Drought Tweets, the Media Drought Index, the Visual Drought Atlas, the Drought Impacts Multi-tool (which provides for CoCoRaHS), and more, with thanks to NDMC’s Ian Ratcliffe for data wrangling, maps, timelines, and dashboards. Find them all on the [Tools](#) page.



DoAG Grants FY 2023

CTGrown.gov/grants



Program Name	Anticipated Application Period	Eligible Applicants	Contact
<i>Organic Cost Share Program</i>	August–Early October 2022	A producer or handler (or both) of agricultural products who is obtaining certification under the National Organic Program.	Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov (860) 993-5275
<i>CT Grown for CT Kids Grant</i>	September–November 2022	CT local and regional BOE, regional education centers, childcare centers, group/family childcare homes or organization/entity assisting in development of a farm-to-school program and partnering with a CT public school	Cyrena.Thibodeau@ct.gov (860) 895-3094
<i>Farmland Restoration Grant</i>	October–December 2022	Owners and tenants/lessees/permittees, with owner(s) approval, of CT farmland	Lance.Shannon@ct.gov (860) 713-2531 Simon.Levesque@ct.gov (860) 713-2574
<i>Farm Transition Grant</i>	November 2022–January 2023	CT farmers and agriculture cooperatives	Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov (860) 993-5275
<i>Specialty Crop Block Grant</i>	January–March 2023	Universities or colleges, municipalities, ag non profits, State agencies, and councils of gov'ts	Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov (860) 573-0323
<i>Dairy Grants on behalf of CT Milk Promotion Board</i>	February–April 2023	CT dairy farmers who pay into check-off dollars	Allison.Hughes@ct.gov (860) 500-8918
<i>Farm Viability Grant</i>	February–April 2023	Ag non profits, single or groups of municipalities, regional councils of gov'ts	Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov (860) 993-5275

UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARMERS AND NON-PROFITS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has compiled upcoming grant opportunities offered by the agency in a streamlined format to allow potential applicants advance notice and time to prepare their grant application. For more information, visit CTGrown.gov/grants or contact the individual listed.

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL MEDIATION PROGRAM

Subscribe	Past Issues	The last few years have been tough on you, your family and your way of life.	Translate ▼
		<p>The COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather and drought conditions, rising fuel costs and overall economic uncertainty are all challenges you've had to face every day. During these trying times, it is more important than ever to ensure that Connecticut farmers and producers continue to thrive and be able to safely provide fresh foods to the communities that rely on them.</p> <p>The Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program (CTAMP) stands ready to assist you. Here's how we can help:</p> <p>CTAMP can provide online or telephone mediation services at little or no cost for the following types of issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural loans and loan-servicing, including Farm Service Agency and Rural Development loans • Adverse Decisions from USDA Agencies • Compliance Issues with USDA Farm and Conservation Programs • Farm Credit/Debt Issues • Wetlands Determinations/Environmental Issues/Pesticide Use • Lease Issues (including land leases and equipment leases) • Crop Insurance • Conflicting Agricultural Practices • Organic Certification Disputes • Family Farm Transitions and Succession • Farm Labor Disputes • Any dispute involving a producer or USDA agency • Parties may initiate mediation as prevention, prior to an adverse decision • Other issues as the CT Department of Agriculture considers appropriate for better serving the agricultural community and persons eligible for mediation <p>In addition, CTAMP may be able to offer credit counseling to covered persons prior to the initiation of any mediation involving USDA or unrelated to any ongoing dispute or mediation in which USDA is a party. Finally, CTAMP will be offering online conflict resolution workshops to help people develop their skills to better manage conflicts and negotiate successful resolutions.</p> <p>To learn more or request services, contact CTAMP Toll-Free at 1-800-870-2577 or at CTAMP@Quinnipiac.edu. You can also visit our website at www.CTAgMediation.org</p> <hr/>	

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FREE!

VEGETABLE TWILIGHT MEETING

**When:** Wednesday, September 21 @ 5:00 pm**Event type:** In-person**Where:** Cold Spring Brook Farm

979 Deming Rd, Berlin, CT 06037

RSVP required for head count for pizza
& refreshments**Please email** shuresh.ghimire@uconn.edu
to RSVP

Eric Peterson and Steve Bengtson at Cold Spring Brook Farm will host us for a twilight meeting on high tunnel fertility management and biodegradable plastic mulch.

Dr. Rebecca Brown, professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Entomology at the University of Rhode Island, will join us to talk about optimization of fertility and cultivar selection for high tunnels, with particular emphasis on management of heat stress. Field culture methods can be used to grow tomatoes in high tunnels, but often fail to maximize the potential of high value tunnel space.

Dr. Josef Görres, Associate Professor and soil scientist at the University of Vermont will join us to talk about modeling effort to understand the cycling, mineralization, and movement of nitrogen and phosphorus in high tunnel soils. Dr. will Görres will evaluate a couple of scenarios with the model. Cold Spring Brook Farm is one of five participating farms where we have been tracking nutrient dynamics in high tunnel soil for three years now.

Dr. Shuresh Ghimire, Extension Vegetable Specialist at UConn Extension, will provide an update on the use of biodegradable plastic mulch for vegetable production and will showcase a demonstration plot of biodegradable plastic mulch at the farm where tomatoes are being grown.

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HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES
EXTENSION

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**APPLY NOW FOR CONSERVATION INNOVATION
GRANTS ON-FARM TRIALS**

Subscribe	USDA will invest \$25 million this year for the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials program.	Translate ▼
	<p>Through CIG, partners work to address our nation's water quality, water quantity, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while improving agricultural operations. The On-Farm Trials component of CIG supports widespread adoption and evaluation of innovative conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. This year's funding priorities are climate-smart agricultural solutions, irrigation water management, nutrient management and soil health.</p> <p>"Through science and innovation, we can develop solutions to tackle the climate crisis, conserve and protect our water, enhance soil health, and create economic opportunities for producers," said Terry Cosby, Chief of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). "Through On-Farm Trials, partners can work directly with farmers and ranchers to test and adopt new strategies on agricultural lands, accelerating the development and application of conservation that works for producers and the land."</p> <p>Applications for On-Farm Trials are being accepted now through September 22, 2022. Private entities whose primary business is related to agriculture, nongovernmental organizations with experience working with agricultural producers, and non-federal government agencies are eligible to apply. For more information and to apply, click here.</p> <hr/>	

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PUBLIC ACT 490

PA 490 Live Webinar

**Connecticut's Current-Use Tax Law for Farmland,
Forest Land and Open Space Land**

Information on applying for, maintaining and transferring PA 490 land

Wednesday September 28th, 2022

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Open this [link to register](#)

Registration fees: CFBA Standard members - Free

CFBA Limited members - \$20.00

Non-CFBA members - \$40.00

Registration fee includes hard copy of 2020 PA 490 Guide

Join or upgrade to CFBA Standard membership and registration is free

1 CEU CT Certified Forest Practitioners - CT DEEP

For more than 40 years Connecticut Farm Bureau Association has been the trusted source for guidance and information on Public Act 490.



Questions or to join or upgrade CFBA membership call
860-768-1100 or email roxannl@cfba.org

BEGINNING FARMER LOAN OPPORTUNITY

Accessing capital to begin, extend, or support an agriculture operation can be challenging--especially to new producers. Farm Service Agency's "Beginning Farmer" direct and guaranteed loan programs provide an opportunity for qualified applicants to secure loans from funding set aside for producers who meet the following conditions:

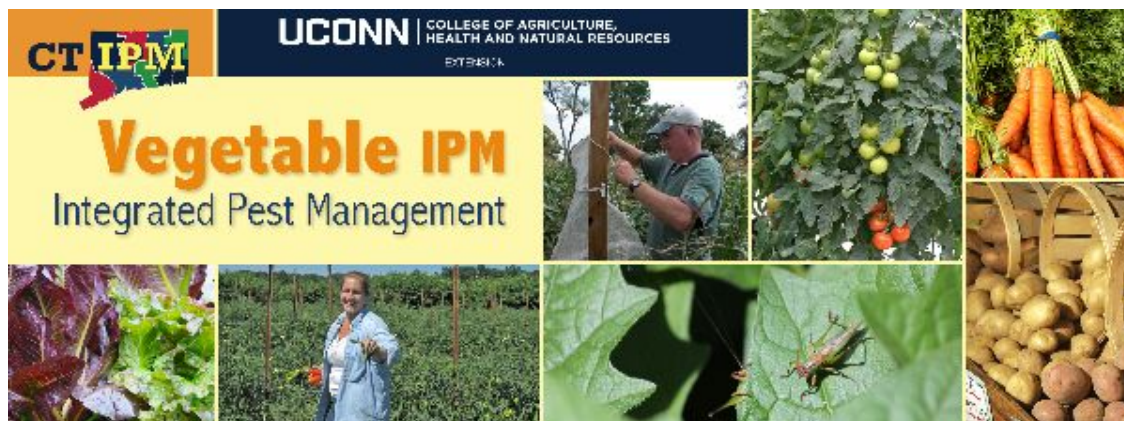
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- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training, and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm

For more information, contact the New London County USDA Service Center at (860) 887-9941 or visit fsa.usda.gov.



SEEKING FARMERS TO TRIAL KIWIBERRY

The University of New Hampshire Kiwiberry Research and Breeding Program is now 10 years old, and we have nearly 20 advanced breeding lines ready for multi-locational testing. We're looking for 25 farmers across the northeast who are interested in participating in a grant-funded project that will support participatory evaluation of these potential new varieties, starting Spring 2023.

If you are a current or aspiring kiwiberry producer, have an interest in new varieties, wish to receive more technical training, and have room for at least 12 vines, please complete [this short questionnaire](#)* by Friday, September 23. If you would like to learn more about kiwiberry and its culture, a production guide developed by our program is available online at: <http://www.noreastkiwiberries.com/>

[Answer the Questionnaire](#)

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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OPENS THEIR URBAN GREEN AND COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT

The Department's Urban Green and Community Gardens Grant Program provides funding assistance to develop or enhance urban open spaces for public enjoyment and/or environmental education. Promotion of open space in an urban setting may include, but may not be limited to, the development of a community garden or reclaiming and enhancing existing open space for the public's use. Grants are awarded to projects that demonstrate the highest ability to benefit urban communities in close proximity to population centers. **The deadline to apply is September 30, 2022.**

To learn more about the grant, eligibility requirements, and how to apply follow the link below.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

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THIS FARM GROWS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS!

OCT. 3RD-7TH

CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS WEEK

& National Farm to School Month

This is the BEST time of year to gain access to the growing school market! Districts will be celebrating and looking to purchase CT Grown fruits, vegetables and dairy and learning with students how local food and local agriculture enrich their community.

Farms can engage by:

- Open your farm to a school field trip!
- Selling your product!
- Visit a classroom, cafeteria or school garden to near you...

Visit www.ctfarmtoschool.org
click on "For Farmers"
to learn how to work with a district near you

If you have any questions, please contact Cyrena Thibodeau
at Cyrena.Thibodeau@ct.gov, or 860-895-3094.

[Learn More](#)

NEW GUIDE AVAILABLE FOR UNDERSERVED FARMERS, RANCHERS

A new multi-agency guide for USDA assistance for underserved farmers and ranchers is now available. If you are a farmer or rancher and are a minority, woman, veteran, beginning, or limited resource producer, you can use this booklet to learn about assistance and targeted opportunities available to you.

This includes programs offered through the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Risk Management Agency. The guide is also available in Spanish, Hmong, Korean, Vietnamese, Thai and Chinese on farmers.gov/translations.

[Download the Guide](#)

UConn

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

EXTENSION

LET'S TALK GMOs ONLINE COURSE FROM UCONN

UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources is offering an online course, *Let's Talk GMOs: Creating Consistent Communication Messages*. Participants are introduced to the basics of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). They will learn how to create consistent communication messages and manage dialogue processes about GMOs with various audiences. The asynchronous course is available on-demand; it has eight online modules with instructors from UConn. The fee is \$49.

Most people have an emotional reaction to GMOs. They either love them or hate them. The majority already have an opinion about GMOs when the topic comes up. Participants will be comfortable sharing science-based information with their audiences after completing this course. Our role is to provide unbiased information that helps our audience form their own opinion and share their information about GMOs in a non-confrontational manner.

Participants in the course will learn more about the science of GMOs and how to talk about GMOs in small group sessions where those in the dialogue have differing opinions of GMOs. The course instructors and their modules are:

- **Robert Bird**, a professor of business law in the Department of Marketing, presents the module on how misinformation spreads.
- **Bonnie Burr**, the department head of Extension, presents the modules on public policy and GMOs, and difficult conversations.
- **Stacey Stearns**, a program specialist with UConn Extension presents, the module on communication messages you can use and is the course facilitator.
- **Cindy Tian**, a biotechnology professor in the Department of Animal Science, presents modules on the history of GMOs and dialogue management.

There are brief introductory and course wrap-up modules in addition to the six core modules. The first three modules take approximately one hour each. Participants should expect to spend two hours on the last three modules.

Let's Talk GMOs: Creating Consistent Communication Messages is an initiative of the GMO Working Group in UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and

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application of GMOs with research-based consideration of the risks and benefits. Visit <https://gmo.uconn.edu/> for additional resources from the team or email Stacey.Stearns@uconn.edu for more information.

[Register](#)

DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

2022 ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

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

Through this grant program, Connecticut certified organic growers and processors can be reimbursed for 50%, up to \$500, for the costs 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. **Applications will be accepted through October 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.**

The amount reimbursed will be 50%, up to \$500, of certification costs paid between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022.

To apply, please visit the link below for required materials and detailed instructions. Completed applications are to be submitted electronically by October 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

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ONLINE ARTISAN DAIRY FOOD SAFETY PLAN COACHING WORKSHOP

UConn is currently offering a new Artisan Dairy Food Safety Plan Coaching workshop program.

The online, self-paced Virtual Artisan Dairy Food Safety Plan Coaching Workshop is intended for small to mid-sized cheese, ice cream, yogurt, and other dairy food producers who are preparing to create, or are already developing, a Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) compliant, preventive control (PC)-based, food safety plan for their facility. The goal of this online program is to combine self-paced food safety plan educational material with direct, real-time connections to dairy food safety coaches for artisan dairy producers wherever they may be in the country. Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) lead trainers review key food safety plan topics in each self-paced module. Each month, there are two "office hour" Q&A sessions that provide participants with the opportunity to ask questions about the module topics or about their own specific food safety plan questions with food safety experts. This way artisan producers can work through their plan at their pace throughout and have more readily available expert support throughout the process.

There are NO prerequisites. PCQI certification is recommended but not required prior to enrollment.

Who Should Attend: Small to mid-sized cheese, ice cream, yogurt, and other dairy food producers just starting off, those taking the next step in their Food Safety Plan Development, and those looking for a review of their current plans.

Attendees are encouraged to enroll and complete the Food Safety for Artisan/Farmstead Cheesemakers prior to taking this workshop. The link, along with a code, to this online training, will be provided upon registration.

These workshops are made possible through the support of a USDA grant, obtained in collaboration with Cornell University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, and the Innovation Center for US Dairy.

[Register](#)

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GRANT DEADLINE

The USDA Rural Development REAP
(Renewable Energy for America Program) deadline is
approaching for energy efficiency and renewable
energy projects on Connecticut Farms.

10.31.2022



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural Development

More info at
ctfarmenergy.org
or 860.345.3977 ext 100



CONNECTICUT
FARM ENERGY PROGRAM

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**Now Available:
CT Grown Tents**

10' x 10' King Canopy Tents

Order online at:
www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com

Pickup only

GET READY FOR FARMERS' MARKET SEASON

CT Grown tents are in stock and available for pick up at Connecticut Regional Market, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT. Orders must be placed online in advance at www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com. Following order confirmation arrangements will be made to coordinate a pick up day and time.

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on September 5, 2022

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

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)
Prices provided on August 9, 2022

[Lancaster Farming Hay Market 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

[Advertisement space can now be purchased online! Click here to have your posting added!](#)

For Sale

Subscribe	Past Issues	1951 Ford 8N with Dearborn sickle bar mower, good condition, 1951 Ford 8N with trailer hitch, good condition, side-delivery rake, Rossi 2 star tedder,	Translate ▼
		<p>excellent condition. Art Talmadge, Ashford, CT, call or text 860-377-8927 (10/21/22)</p> <hr/> <p>Lynn Blackmer, local Nationwide Farm Insurance Agent. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type or size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may qualify for a discount. Cell: 860-377-8947. lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com. Evenings & weekends available. (1/27/22)</p> <hr/> <p>Rain Flo irrigation pump. Four inch discharge. New condition. Please call 860-841-3082.</p> <hr/> <p>Dried Sawdust / Different Grades, \$20 per yard. You pick up or delivered with additional charge. 860-642-7084. Blue Slope Sawdust.</p> <hr/> <p>Bush Hog Subsoiler Model HDSS1L single shank, 3 pt. Hitch, goes 23" deep. Like new condition. No rust. \$425 or best offer. 203-283-1459.</p> <hr/> <p>John Bean 200-gallon stainless-steel high-pressure sprayer on skids. 100 ft. hose on reel, premium J. Bean model 785-gun, mechanical agitation, Honda OHV motor. \$2,200 or best offer. 203-283-1459.</p> <hr/> <p>Walk behind Gravely tractor with sickle mower. \$400. Very good, workable condition. 860-875-8056.</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com</p> <hr/> <p>Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.</p> <hr/> <p>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.</p> <hr/> <p>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</p> <hr/> <p>Wanted</p>	

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42-R. [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.

Employment Opportunities

CitySeed is [hiring for three positions!](#)

1. [Director of Agricultural Programs \(full-time\)](#)
2. [Operations Manager \(part-time\)](#)
3. [Assistant Market Manager \(part-time\)](#)

Click the links above to learn more about the open positions.

The UConn Department of Extension is seeking applicants for a full-time (11-month) non-tenure-track faculty member at the Assistant/Associate Extension Educator rank to work with Pesticide Safety and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs. The candidate will work in areas complementary to pesticide safety and risk assessment, including but not restricted to traditional, organic, and genetically engineered pest controls, their ecological and evolutionary impacts, regulatory issues, human health, and socio-economic effects, or related topics. **Deadline to apply is October 20, 2022.** [Learn more here.](#)

Upcoming Events

(click on image below for info)



THIS FARM GROWS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS!

OCT. 3RD-7TH

CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS WEEK

& National Farm to School Month

This is the BEST time of year to gain access to the growing school market! Districts will be celebrating and looking to purchase CT Grown fruits, vegetables and dairy and learning with students how local food and local agriculture enrich their community.

Farms can engage by:

- 🍎 Open your farm to a school field trip! 🍌 Selling your product!
- 🍌 Visit a classroom, cafeteria or school garden to learn you...

Visit www.ctfarmtoschool.org
click on "For Farmers"
 to learn how to work with a district near you.

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HISTORY FARM

Advancing 4-H Youth
Careers in Food and
Agriculture via

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located on the beautiful 600 acre
TOPLANDS FARM
(home of Tops quality pasture raised meat and fresh eggs)
102 Painter Hill Road, Roxbury, CT 06783
OPEN SEASONALLY APRIL 1 - OCTOBER 31

CONTACT: NIKKI, 860-354-0649

\$5 PER CAR

7TH ANNUAL FALL TRACTOR SHOW AND FARM OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, OCT. 15, 2022 • 11 AM-4 PM

FEATURING:

- Over 250 restored tractors from 1899-1954
- Tractor Parade
- Gas Engines and Implements
- Working Displays
- Farm Animals, Draft Horses
- Country Life Artifacts
- Activities for Kids
- Wagon Rides
- Food and Food Vendors featuring Toplands Farm Meats
- Exhibitors of old tractors, cars, engines and trucks welcome
- Sawmill
- Rock Crusher & Baker Pan
- Meat Shop Open

Watch our website: toplandsfarm.com for updates and info
Like us on Facebook: Toplands Farm LLC

Biotechnology & STEM

Calling Youth Ages 14-18:

- Are you interested in learning biotechnology?
- Do you want to explore biotechnology as a career?

Join our new 4-H clubs focused on agriculture, food, biotechnology, and STEM careers. Youth ages 14-18 can:

- Join a cohort and help us build online games (participate in a design jam with New Mexico State University and provide game feedback)
- Visit agriculture, food, and biotechnology companies in the state (in-person field trips!)
- Explore careers in food, agriculture, biotechnology, and STEM

Learn more: s.uconn.edu/biotech

UConn 4-H

UConn 4-H is the youth development program of Extension in UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources. 4-H is a community of over six million young people across the U.S. who are learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), leadership, citizenship and life skills through their 4-H project work.



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FREE! **VEGETABLE TWILIGHT MEETING**



When: Wednesday, September 21 @ 5:00 pm
Event type: In-person
Where: Cold Spring Brook Farm
979 Deming Rd, Berlin, CT 06037

RSVP required for head count for pizza & refreshments
Please email shuresh.ghimire@uconn.edu to RSVP

Eric Peterson and Steve Bengtson at Cold Spring Brook Farm will host us for a twilight meeting on high tunnel fertility management and biodegradable plastic mulch.

Dr. Rebecca Brown, professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Entomology at the University of Rhode Island, will join us to talk about optimization of fertility and cultivar selection for high tunnels, with particular emphasis on management of heat stress. Field culture methods can be used to grow tomatoes in high tunnels, but often fail to maximize the potential of high value tunnel space.

Dr. Josef G6rres, Associate Professor and soil scientist at the University of Vermont will join us to talk about modeling effort to understand the cycling, mineralization, and movement of nitrogen and phosphorus in high tunnel soils. Dr. will G6rres will evaluate a couple of scenarios with the model. Cold Spring Brook Farm is one of five participating farms where we have been tracking nutrient dynamics in high tunnel soil for three years now.

Dr. Shuresh Ghimire, Extension Vegetable Specialist at UConn Extension, will provide an update on the use of biodegradable plastic mulch for vegetable production and will showcase a demonstration plot of biodegradable plastic mulch at the farm where tomatoes are being grown.

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**PUBLIC ACT
490**

PA 490 Live Webinar
**Connecticut's Current-Use Tax Law for Farmland,
Forest Land and Open Space Land**
Information on applying for, maintaining and transferring PA 490 land

Wednesday September 28th, 2022

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Open this [link to register](#)

Registration fees: CFBA Standard members - Free

CFBA Limited members - \$20.00

Non-CFBA members - \$40.00

Registration fee includes hard copy of 2020 PA 490 Guide

Join or upgrade to CFBA Standard membership and registration is free

1 CEU CT Certified Forest Practitioners - CT DEEP

For more than 40 years Connecticut Farm Bureau Association has been the trusted source for guidance and information on Public Act 490.



Questions or to join or upgrade CFBA membership call
860-768-1100 or email roxanne@cfba.org



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