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CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Presentado por el Departamento de Agricultura de Connecticut
Versión en español disponible en línea en CTGrown.gov.

En este informe

16 de diciembre de 2022; vol. E, n°
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Cold Weather Hazards



El invierno comienza oficialmente la próxima semana y con él unos meses más de frío, nieve, hielo y viento. Ahora es el momento de asegurarse de que sus mascotas y ganado estén listos para resistir los elementos de una manera segura y saludable.

Obtenga más información aquí:
<https://www.avma.org/.../petcare/cold-weather-animal-safety>



La familia Gallup está un paso más cerca de preservar el legado agrícola

Granja lechera de decimotercera generación protege 123 acres en Voluntown

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg), in cooperation with Connecticut Farmland Trust (CFT) and USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), is pleased to announce the third phase of a multi-year project to permanently protect Gallup Homestead Farm in Voluntown has been completed.

Gallup Homestead Farm is owned by Byron Gallup, a thirteenth-generation dairy farmer. With no heirs and a strong desire to protect the family farming legacy, he applied to CT DoAg's Farmland Preservation Program with the goal of protecting the land for future farmers outside of the family name.

"It has been an honor working with Byron Gallup to preserve his family's farm and I've learned his deep personal devotion to conservation in the process," said Kathleen Doherty, Connecticut Farmland Trust's Conservation Manager. She added, "Keeping the family farm as farmland was also his father's dream. Preserving this 123-acre parcel is a key part of realizing the vision of ensuring farming is a viable option for future generations of farmers."

The farm encompasses approximately 500 acres in total, which has been divided into a multi-phase project with separate easements to allow for more

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October 2021 protecting a combined total of 296 acres. This third easement, Gallup Homestead Farm IV, protects an additional 123-acres.

“Connecticut has a rich agricultural history and through the forward-thinking actions of farmland owners such as the Gallup Family, it will remain that way,” said Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “Our working farmlands are critical to sustaining our local food supply. Through collaboration with the landowners and support of our partners, these smaller tracts of farmland will be more accessible to new and beginning farmers when the time comes to transfer or sell the property.”

Gallup Homestead Farm is also surrounded by the 26,000-acre Pachaug State Forest and a 150-acre protected farm. This creates a cluster of farmlands critical to keeping agriculture sustainable in Connecticut. To protect the land, the CT DoAg approached CFT to assist in the purchase of the farm’s development rights. CFT and the State jointly secured an Agricultural Conservation Easement Program grant from the USDA-NRCS.

“NRCS has made a commitment to protecting Connecticut’s working lands,” said Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist Thomas L. Morgart. “Partnering with state and local officials – in this case the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the Connecticut Farmland Trust – to place conservation easements on valuable farmland ensures the parcel will never be subject to development. Almost 72 of the 123 acres being conserved on Gallup Farm are prime and locally important farmland. This means they are high yielding soils that are key to meeting short- and long-term needs to feed and clothe a hungry world,” he said.

Through the NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), agricultural land easements protect the long-term viability of the nation’s food supply by preventing the conversion of productive working lands to non-agricultural uses. Land protected by these types of easements provide additional public benefits including environmental quality, historic preservation, wildlife habitat, and protection of open space.

This marks the sixth farm, and 456 acres protected this calendar year by CT DoAg. Since the inception of the program in 1979 the state has protected 405 farms and 47,802 acres. For more information on Connecticut’s Farmland Preservation Program, visit [our website](#) for program overview, frequently asked questions, and contact information.

CT DOAG ISSUES LICENSE RENEWAL REMINDER

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture reminds credential holders that those listed below expire on December 31, 2022. All licenses and registrations

bottom of the page, select “Renewal”, then select a license to renew. Payment can be made by credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover), and also by online check.

Food Safety licenses: Bulk Milk Tankers, Fruit and Vegetable Growers

Animal Control licenses: Animal Control Officers, Animal Importers, Animal Shelters, Commercial Kennels, Grooming Facilities, Pet Shops and Training Facilities

Animal Health licenses: Cervidae Herds, Swine Growers

Agricultural Commodities licenses: Commercial Animal Feed Manufacturers, Commercial Feed (Product) Registration



CT GROWN MARKETING TOOLS: LIST YOUR CSA

In the upcoming months the Connecticut Grown campaign will be promoting CSA's and we want to be sure your farm is included. The Department of Agriculture maintains a list of Connecticut CSAs [here](#). To add your farm to this list, or to update the information on this page, please submit your information [here](#).

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Where to find reindeer \(and goats dressed like them\) during the holiday season in CT](#), Stamford Advocate, 12/14

[Why are Christmas trees more expensive in CT and the U.S. this year?](#) SF Gate, 12/13

["Connecticut's Countryside" branding initiative links four small towns](#), The Daily Campus, 12/9

[Christmas tree farms affected by weather extremes, from drought to downpours](#), WTIC Hartford, 12/7

[Community Steps Up to Help Beloved Family Farm in Watertown](#), NBC CT, 12/7

**ONLINE COURSE OFFERING:
SOIL HEALTH & CLIMATE ADAPTATION
FOR CT GROWERS**

Deadline to enroll is Jan 3rd!

This online course includes:

- How to analyze soils
- Understanding soil health
- Assessing farmland
- Implementing conservation practices
- Climate adaptation and mitigation strategies

When: Online, asynchronous, 10 module course running from Jan 11-Apr 1
 Cost: \$60 (\$30 reimbursed upon completion by April 1st)

About the trainer: Kip Kolesinskas is a former USDA-NRCS State Soil Scientist and current Solid Ground Professional in Soil, Conservation, and Land Use

SIGN UP AT [S.UCONN.EDU/SOILCLASS](https://s.uconn.edu/soilclass)

SOLID GROUND
A Program of UCONN

The project is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2020-70019-32333

University of Connecticut is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution. Employment and program inquiries.

SOLID GROUND PRESENTS: A NEW ONLINE SOIL COURSE

Kip Kolesinskas!

This 10-module online course is for growers looking to learn more about analyzing their soils, understanding soil health, assessing farmland, implementing conservation practices on the farm, and adaptation and mitigation strategies that can be used in the face of a changing climate. The course will run from 01/11/23 until 4/01/23.

The course was created by Kip Kolesinskas, a former USDA NRCS Soil Scientist and current UConn Solid Ground Professional Soil, Conservation, and Land Use Consultant.

The course will begin with a live online event on January 11th hosted by Kip, after that you may work through the course at your own pace. Kip will host another live online event on March 29th to wrap up the course, you will have until April 1st to complete the modules. The fee for this course is \$60, if you have 8 of the 10 modules completed by 04/01/23, you are eligible to be reimbursed half of the course fee (\$30).

Deadline to enroll is January 3, 2023.

[Sign up here!](#)

TRANSITION GRANT IN ACTION: STEADFAST FARMS BRINGS POULTRY PROCESSING ON THE FARM



Steadfast Farms, LLC began producing high-quality game birds in 2017, after purchasing property in the hills of Bethlehem. The Farm has consistently grown in customer base and revenue year after year, balancing historic traditions with modern practices to meet customer demand throughout New England for farm-raised game birds including pheasant, quail, and squab.

The next step for Steadfast Farms was to not only produce, but also process and package game bird meat as an alternative option to mainstream poultry for the general public and restaurants. Construction of a poultry processing facility would provide customers locally raised meats and establish a USDA compliant processing facility within the state of Connecticut, which Connecticut is in short supply of.

building, building out the interior walls, doors, windows, electrical and plumbing installations, outfitting the processing and packaging space with all necessary equipment, and completing a space designated for breeding and brooding year-round.



The “Grow Out” room was designated to house flocks for egg production in a temperature and lighting-controlled environment to stimulate breeding conditions year-round. The chicks would be moved into brooders and grow out pens for a period of 8 weeks. At that point, the birds would be moved to the processing room.

By coordinating game bird meat production and processing, the growing cycle of mature birds is shortened to 8 weeks rather than the previous 16-24 weeks, allowing for more production in the growing season. The meat birds will be grown in vertical brooding units, allowing for larger quantities of birds to be produced on less acreage. It is estimated that the facility at peak production would be able to produce 20,000 game birds for meat within an 8-week period.



Jared McCool, operating partner of Steadfast Farms, says, “The new facility provided the ability to produce more dollars per acre. The efficient space requirements and processes that this project created for Steadfast Farms, LLC will meet the demands of the market today, and allow us to scale with the increasing demand expected over the next three years. This positions Steadfast Farms, LLC to have a positive impact on the Connecticut Food industry, Connecticut Grown Initiative, other local farmers, and increase sustainable farming year-round.”



Are you a producer or agricultural cooperative looking to expand, transition, diversify, or innovate your operation? The 2023 Farm Transition Grant informational guidance and application are now available. **Applications will be accepted through January 11, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.**

agricultural producers and agricultural cooperatives. The Farm Transition Grant is provided through the State of Connecticut Farm Transition Grant Program, established in 2005 through Public Act 05-228, An Act Concerning Farmland Preservation, Land Protection, Affordable Housing, and Historic Preservation.

[Click here for more information on the FTG.](#)





STATE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ADOPTION OF OVER 90 GOATS

Attorney General William Tong announced the state has secured permanent custody of more than 90 neglected and injured goats seized from Redding resident Nancy Burton in March 2021.

The goats will be available for adoption through an application process facilitated by the Department of Agriculture. Parties interested in adopting any of the goats should contact AGR.adoptions@ct.gov for more information.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, with the assistance of the Town of Redding and the Redding Police Department, executed a search and seizure warrant last year for the goats located at 147 Cross Highway in Redding. Sixty-five goats seized from the home were evaluated and treated by a veterinarian. The goats have since been in temporary custody of the Department of Agriculture at the "Second Chance" Large Animal Rehabilitation Facility at the York Correctional Facility in Niantic. Many of the goats were pregnant at the time the state took custody and have since given birth. There are now over 90 goats available for adoption.

Removal of the animals is a last resort after attempting to work with the owner to voluntarily improve the standard of care. Resources and support are available for animal owners facing hardship. Livestock and domestic animal owners are urged to reach out to the Department of Agriculture for assistance at 860-713-2500.

[Full press release available here.](#)



**Grant Reviewer
Interest Form**

**Are you interested in participating on
a review panel to evaluate DOAG
grant applications? If so, [click here](#) to
sign up!**



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 Development Council

APPLICATION PERIOD: JANUARY 17 – FEBRUARY 28, 2023

The Women's Business Development Council's Equity Match Grant Program is designed to help Connecticut women-owned businesses grow! Grants between \$2,500 and \$10,000 will be awarded for clearly defined projects that will have a measurable impact on the business, its growth and profitability. The grant funds cannot be used towards operating expenses, payroll, or real estate improvements. Applicants are required to provide a minimum 25% match.

Eligibility

Businesses must:

- be at least 51% woman-owned
- have been established for at least two years
- have a record of annual sales/revenue in the last twelve months greater than \$25,000 and less than \$2,000,000
- be headquartered in CT, registered in the state of CT and owned by a CT resident
- be owned by a woman at least 18 years old
- be in good standing with the CT Department of Revenue Services (DRS)
- have an established business checking account
- utilize a formal, digital bookkeeping/financial system (e.g., QuickBooks)
- be a for-profit business

The following businesses are not eligible:

Child care businesses (see <https://ctwbdc.org/childcare-business/funding> for info on funding opportunities for child care businesses); businesses or individuals that have previously received an EMC or WBDC municipal grant; medical marijuana dispensaries and alcohol distributors; adult businesses such as strip clubs, vape retailers, tobacco shops and smoking lounges; businesses having to do with gambling; gun stores and ranges; cash advance, check cashing, or pawn shops; bail bonds; collection agencies or services and auction or bankruptcy or fire or "lost our lease" or "going out of business" or similar; current WBDC vendors or contractors (former vendors are eligible a year after working with WBDC)

Match Requirement

Applicants are required to provide a minimum 25% match, unless their business is located in an economically distressed community, as defined by CT DECD.

For example, if the business receives a \$10,000 grant, the business must have invested \$2,500 in their business over the past 12 months OR be able to invest an incremental \$2,500 of their own funds in the purchase they are seeking to fund.

Information Sessions

For more information on the application process, register for a live or pre-recorded information session at ctwbdc.org/class-listings

| ENGLISH | SPANISH |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Thurs, 1/19 12:00 – 1:00 PM | |
| Wed, 1/25 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Wed, 1/18 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM |
| Mon, 1/30 5:30 – 6:30 PM | Wed, 2/1 10:00 – 11:00 AM |
| Thurs, 2/9 12:00 – 1:00 PM | Thurs, 2/16 5:30 – 6:30 PM |
| Wed, 2/15 5:30 – 6:30 PM | |
| Tues, 2/21 10:00 – 11:00 AM | |

What Previous Recipients are Saying

"The grant has been inspirational for me. I feel very motivated to show my worth and prove to myself that I can achieve the goals I have set. Having the equipment I needed to create a new line of products by using a more effective production process has challenged me to get focused and committed to the goal I had set. That motivation is priceless."

"It's been a year since I received my equity match grant and sometimes I pinch myself at where we've come in that time. I'm so proud to have a studio space I can call my own and bring our clients and employees into. Anytime I see our employees using the equipment we acquired with the grant funds, I recall how vital those items were to get us up and running."

Stamford • New Haven • New London | ctwbdc.org | info@ctwbdc.org | 203-353-1750



Learn more at ctwbdc.org/equity-match-grant-program/



FOUNDATIONS OF SHELLFISH FARMING TRAINING COURSE 2023

Foundations of Shellfish Farming is a training course for new and prospective farmers and those who simply seek to learn more about aquaculture practices and techniques. Topics that will be covered include: how to establish and operate a shellfish business; leasing and permitting requirements; considerations for gear, vessels, and facilities, shellfish biology, aquaculture techniques and best practices, and risks involved in farming shellfish. Although the course will concentrate on Long Island Sound waters within the jurisdiction of Connecticut, the topics and practices covered are applicable in the Northeast United States and potentially beyond.

When: Tuesdays, 5:30pm - 7:30pm, weekly from January 24 to April 11

Location: UConn Avery Point Campus, Groton, CT, Lowell P. Weicker Jr. Building, Room 312

Cost: \$300

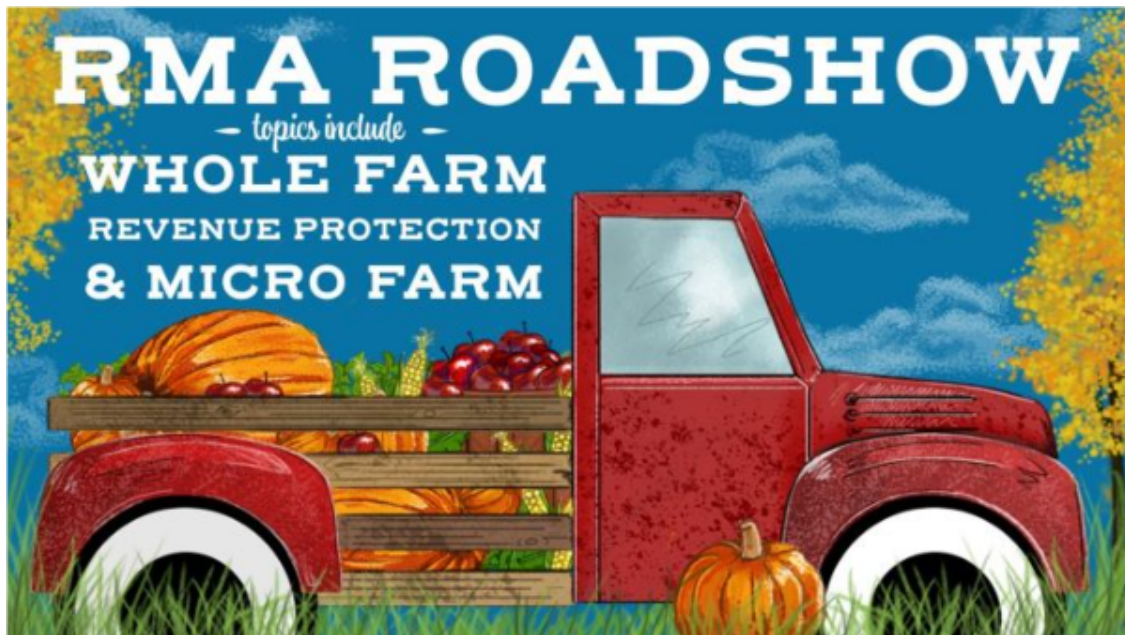
Registration: <http://s.uconn.edu/shellfish>

Outline: <http://s.uconn.edu/course-schedule>

Instructors: Michael Gilman and Tessa L. Getchis

Sponsors: Connecticut Sea Grant, UConn Extension, and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

**This course meets the Connecticut Department of Agriculture eligibility requirement for the submission of a Joint Agency Application for Marine Aquaculture.*



WORKSHOPS ON CROP INSURANCE FOR SPECIALTY CROP, ORGANIC PRODUCERS

USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) is offering workshops for agricultural producers to learn about the latest updates and improvements to the Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) and the Micro Farm insurance options. These workshops are especially important to specialty crop, organic, urban, and direct-market producers. The Roadshows will include RMA Administrator Marcia Bunker and other team members to highlight and answer questions about these insurance options.

In-Person Events

- **Tuesday, January 10 at 10 a.m. ET**– Vernon, Connecticut
 - Tolland Agricultural Center, Tolland County UConn Extension, 24 Hyde Ave, Vernon, Connecticut
 - Hosted by: Valdosta Regional Office

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USDA Invites Ag Producers to Respond Online to the 2022 Census of Agriculture

On November 22, 2022, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) mailed survey codes to all known agriculture producers across the 50 states with an invitation to respond online to the 2022 Census of Agriculture at agcounts.usda.gov. The ag census is the nation's only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county, and territory. By completing the survey, producers across the nation can tell their story and help generate impactful opportunities that better serve them and future generations of producers.

The 2022 Census of Agriculture will be mailed in phases, with paper questionnaires following in December. Producers need only respond once, whether securely online or by mail. The online option offers timesaving features ideal for busy producers. **All responses are due Feb. 6, 2023.** Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, which produced and sold, or normally would have sold, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products in 2022, are included in the ag census.

Collected in service to American agriculture since 1840 and now conducted every five years by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census of Agriculture is a complete picture of American agriculture today. It highlights land use and ownership, producer characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, among other topics.

Between ag census years, NASS considers revisions to the questionnaire to document changes and emerging trends in the industry. Changes to the 2022 questionnaire include new questions about the use of precision agriculture, hemp production, hair sheep and updates to internet access questions.

Responding to the Census of Agriculture is required by law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113. The same law requires NASS to keep all information confidential, to use the data only for statistical purposes, and only

early 2024.

To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit nass.usda.gov/AgCensus. On the website, producers and other data users can access frequently asked questions, past ag census data, special study information, and more. For highlights of these and the latest information, follow USDA NASS on twitter @usda_nass.

**SEEKING ROOTS FOR SCHOOLS
+ SCHOOLS FOR ROOTS!**

*Our Rooting for Winter campaign is here!
where local farms and districts connect to
bring seasonal delicious carrots, potatoes,
turnips and more to the cafeteria!*

**Are you a farm with Roots for sale?
Let us know and we can connect you
to a district looking to buy!**

Connect at s.uconn.edu/R4W

[Click here for more information.](#)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CT

**Climate Smart Farming:
Agriculture and Forestry
Grant Available**

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) announces the Climate Smart Farming: Agriculture and Forestry Grant Guidance is now available with up to \$7 million available in funding for projects which support climate smart farming practices. Funding is provided through Public Act 22-118 Sec 12(b)(70) which provides \$7 million for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. **Applications are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2023.**

The Climate Smart Farming: Agriculture and Forestry Grant can fund projects in a variety of areas including, but not limited to:

1. Providing technical assistance.
2. Distributing a grant to producers.
3. Coordinating training programs.
4. Coordinating projects that pilot or demonstrate water and land-based conservation practices.
5. Creating tools that help reduce barriers to accessing assistance for climate smart farming.
6. Establishing equipment-sharing programs.
7. Other activities that will increase the number of farmers who are implementing climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices.

Any agribusiness or entity, including nonprofit organization, soil and water conservation district, colleges and universities, municipality or for-profit organization in the State of Connecticut are eligible to apply.

All agricultural commodities can participate including aquaculture, agriculture and forestry. In addition, all production types will be supported including conventional/organic, indoor/outdoor, soil/water, and urban/rural.

CT DoAg plans to issue awards in varying amounts for program implementation from May 1, 2023, through May 1, 2028.

There will be four application funding tiers:

Tier 1: \$100,000 to \$249,999

- Project duration: Up to 18 months

Tier 2: \$250,000 to \$499,999

- Project duration: 18 months up to 2 years

Tier 3: \$500,000 to \$999,999

- Project duration: 2-3 years

Tier 4: \$1,000,000 and up

There is **no match requirement** for this grant.

An informational webinar will be held on **Monday, December 19, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.** to assist interested applicants in learning about eligible projects, the submission process, and tips for writing an application. Registration is required to attend this workshop. Please pre-register for the event here. Registered attendees will be provided the webinar information 24 hours prior to the start.

Questions regarding the Climate Smart Farming: Agriculture & Forestry Grant can be directed to Alison Grabarz at Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov. More information on application requirements, submission process, and accompanying forms can be found online at <http://www.CTgrown.gov/grants>.

[Click here for more information on the Climate Smart Farming Grant.](#)

DEFEND YOUR LIVELIHOOD! STOP AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

USDA has created a one-stop African swine fever resource, called Protect Our Pigs, to help producers like you keep the deadly disease off your farm or facility by providing:



- Easy-to-understand biosecurity tips
- Downloadable fact sheets to educate your workers on the threat
- Helpful videos to alert visitors on expectations before coming to your site
- Attention-getting posters to hang at your site
- Ready-made graphics on protecting your country's swine and food supply to share on your social channels
- Timely USDA disease email alerts sent to your inbox

Join other commercial producers, veterinarians, small farmers, and pet pig owners who are banding together to protect our pigs from African swine fever.

[Click here to Stay Informed.](#)

USDA is committed to supporting robust regional food economies across the food chain through the programs noted below.

| LAND CONSERVATION | PRODUCTION | PROCESSING | AGGREGATION/DISTRIBUTION | MARKETS/CONSUMERS |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (NRCS) Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Project Cooperative Agreements (NRCS) Conservation Reserve Program (FSA) Conservation Stewardship Program (NRCS) Conservation Innovation Grants (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (NRCS) Solid Waste Management Grants (RD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Quality Incentives Program (NRCS) Farm Microloans (FSA) Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSA) Grass Fed Small and Very Small Producer Program (AMS) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program and Other Disaster Assistance Programs (FSA) Organic Cost Share (FSA) Rural Energy for America Program (RD) Urban Agriculture and Innovation Grants (NRCS) Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (RMA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Innovation Center (RD) Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans (RD) Community Facilities Loans and Grants (RD) Local Food Promotion Program (AMS) Regional Food Systems Partnership Grants (AMS) Rural Business Development Grants (RD) Urban Agriculture and Innovation Grants (NRCS) Value Added Producer Grants (RD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans (RD) Community Facilities Loans and Grants (RD) Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSA) Local Food Promotion Program (AMS) Regional Food Systems Partnership Grants (AMS) Rural Business Development Grants (RD) Specialty Crop Block Grants (AMS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Food Projects Competitive Grants (NIFA) Farm to School Grant Program (FNS) Farmers Market Promotion Program (AMS) Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (formerly FINI) (NIFA) Regional Food Systems Partnership Grants (AMS) Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FNS) Specialty Crop Block Grants (AMS) Urban Agriculture and Innovation Grants (NRCS) WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FNS) |

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (NIFA) Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (NIFA) Community Prosperity Funding Opportunity (OPPE) Conservation Technical Assistance (NRCS) Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans (AGVETS) (NIFA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension Risk Management (NIFA) Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (AMS) Food Safety Outreach Program (NIFA) Organic Research & Extension Initiative (NIFA) Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program (2501 Program) (OPPE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Cooperative Development Grants (RD) Small Business Innovation Research (NIFA) Socially Disadvantaged Group Grant (RD) Specialty Crop Block Grants (AMS) Specialty Crop Research Initiative (NIFA) Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NIFA) |
|---|---|--|

www.ams.usda.gov/localfood • Updated February 2021 • USDA is an equal opportunity employer, provider, and lender.

THE CARROT PROJECT PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR USDA'S NEWEST CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM



This material is based upon work supported by USDA NIFA under Award Number 2021-20027-14691.


 National Institute of Food and Agriculture
 U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Exploring
USDA Micro Farm Insurance**

Learn about insurance options for small, diversified farms.
Build your toolkit for financial resilience.

- In-person and virtual workshops throughout December
- Self-guided, online tools
- Free, individual consultations


 Learn more and register in the provided link.

Small-scale, diversified farmers – have you heard the news? There’s a new insurance program available from USDA called Micro Farm insurance, available specifically for farmers making up to \$350,000 annually. If you’ve thought federal crop insurance didn’t apply to you before, well, things are starting to change!

How it Works: Micro Farm insurance prepares your farm for the unexpected by protecting your total farm revenue from losses in income. For example, if you’re insured for \$100,000 and you only make

\$30,000 during the year, you could receive a claim payment of \$70,000 to recover the difference. Coverage is based on your historic revenue over the past three years along with your estimated revenue for the coverage year.

Unlike other crop insurance programs that cover only single commodities, this insurance covers everything under one policy. This includes income from post-

How The Carrot Project can help: With disruptive weather events getting increasingly common and intense, The Carrot Project – a non-profit supporting producers in MA, CT, and RI – is encouraging farmers to consider every tool available to help reduce risk and keep your farm running year after year. In partnership with local organizations, we have a number of free support services available to help you determine if Micro Farm insurance can work for you, including:

- In-person and virtual workshops throughout December
- Self-guided, online tools
- Free, individual consultations

Check out The Carrot Project's resources on USDA Micro Farm insurance and register for workshops here:

<https://thecarrotproject.salsalabs.org/microfarmworkshop20222023>

If you have any questions or would like individualized support, reach out to Amanda Chang, Outreach Coordinator at The Carrot Project, at achang@thecarrotproject.org or 617-674-2371 x 10.

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2021-70027-34693.



**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY
FARM GRANTS**

**Funding for farmers seeking or holding
humane certification, and to improve
pasture-based systems for their animals.**

APPLY ONLINE BY JANUARY 10, 2023
foodanimalconcernstrust.org/grants

FACT

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) is now accepting applications for our next round of **Fund-a-Farmer Grants!** The deadline for livestock and poultry farmers to apply is **January 10, 2023**. Grants will be awarded in March 2023. ([Learn more & apply online](#))

FACT awards competitive grants of up to \$3,000 to working, independent farmers located in the 50 United States and five major U.S. territories who raise beef cattle, bison, broiler chickens, dairy cows, ducks, geese, goats, laying hens, pigs, sheep and/or turkeys. **This year, FACT will fund the following types of projects:**

► **Farms that wish to improve and expand pasture for animals.** These grants for farms to transition to pasture-based systems, expand animals' access to well-managed pasture, and improve the quality of pasture for animals.

► **Farms seeking one of three animal welfare certifications:** Certified Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World, Certified Humane, or Global Animal Partnership Animal Welfare Certified (steps 4 to 5+). These grants will be made for on-farm projects that help improve animal welfare.

► **Farms that already hold one of the welfare certifications** above to build capacity or maintain certification. These grants can be for on-farm production-related projects, or for other projects related to the marketing, sales, and distribution of welfare-certified products.

Before beginning your application, we encourage you to review the complete list of [grant guidelines](#) and other resources, including several example applications and tip sheets. If you have questions, please email us at grants@foodanimalconcerns.org. We are happy to assist you and look forward to receiving your application!

FIRST NORTHEAST DISABILITY AND AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

The Northeast Disability and Agriculture Conference is a first-time regional event designed to educate and empower the agricultural community. Through workshops and presentations, farmer attendees will learn how to better advocate for themselves, and service provider attendees will learn how to identify potential distress risks within the community. Together attendees will learn how to build a network sharing skills and resources to improve accessibility and reduce industry incidents of suicide.

The conference team is excited to offer a hybrid experience; in-person and limited virtual participation, on **February 4, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** at **Harkness Memorial State Park** (275 Great Neck Road, Waterford, CT). The daylong event includes a Keynote speaker, breakout sessions, group discussion, resources, and meals.

stipend will be given to the first 50 farmers who identify as having a disability, have registered in advance, and attend the full conference.

Sign up here to reserve your spot today! [2023 Northeast Disability & Agriculture Conference](#)

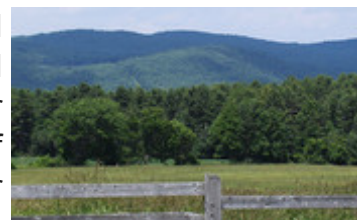
The event is coordinated by Healing By Growing Farms, a social impact farm community that fosters a holistic healing approach reconnecting predominantly brain injury and trauma survivors to themselves, nature, and the environment while healing through farming. To learn more about our organization please visit us at www.healingbygrowing.com.

Their aim for the conference is to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of farmers, agricultural service providers and the community. They would GREATLY appreciate your feedback to help them design conference content, better identify gaps in disability awareness and needed services for participants by participating in **THEIR SURVEY**.

For questions, please contact: healingbygrowingconferenceteam@gmail.com.

PROTECT YOUR AGRICULTURAL LAND WITH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Are you a farmer with a deep connection to your land or interest in protecting the future of the nation's food supply? Maybe you're an agricultural landowner or eligible entity interested in protecting the integrity of your property? Why not consider safeguarding your land with a conservation easement through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). **NRCS accepts applications year round; however, applications for FY2023 funding are being accepted from now until January 31, 2023.**



The [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) (ACEP) protects the agricultural viability and related conservation values of eligible land by limiting nonagricultural uses which negatively affect agricultural uses and conservation values, protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring or conserving eligible grazing land, and protecting and restoring and enhancing wetlands on eligible land. Under the **Agricultural Land Easements** (ALE) component funds are provided to eligible entities that use ACEP funding to purchase permanent agricultural land easements that not only protect the future of the nation's food supply, but also support environmental quality, wildlife habitat, and historic preservation and protection of open spaces. Landowner applicants who are interested must apply through an eligible entity – such as a land trust, municipality, or the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. NRCS will prioritize applications that protect agricultural uses and

Land eligible for agricultural easements includes cropland, grassland, and pastureland; non-industrial private forest land may be enrolled when associated with active agricultural land. Native American Tribes, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations that have farmland or grassland protection programs are eligible to partner with NRCS to purchase conservation easements.

Enrolling agricultural land helps secure the future of the nation's food supply, prevents it from being developed or going to a non-agricultural use, and provides public benefits including environmental quality, historic preservation, wildlife habitat, and protection of open space.

Applications must be submitted by January 31, 2023, to:

Carol Grasis
Assistant State Conservationist for Programs
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
344 Merrow Road, Suite A
Tolland, CT 06084-3917

Not sure how to begin? Visit our [website](#) where you will find information on benefits, how to apply, all the forms you will need, and more.

To speak to someone about filling out eligibility forms with the Farm Service Agency (FSA), or to obtain an application, contact your [local USDA Service Center](#): Danielson – (860) 779-0557; Hamden – (203) 287-8038; Norwich – (860) 887-3604; Torrington – (860) 626-8852; Windsor – (860) 688-7725; Connecticut State Office, Tolland – (860) 871-4028.



FALL DAIRY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY NE-DBIC

New England Dairy Business Innovation Center is preparing to release guidance on grants for this fall. Below is a list of funding opportunities coming this fall.

Grants for Dairy Processors

- **Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant (January):** This grant will be split into multiple funding tiers to accommodate processors of all scales. Projects will focused on acquiring specialized equipment needed

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released in January.

- **Dairy Processor Innovation Grant (January):** Projects funded through this program will support long term business investments that increase dairy processor business consumer appeal and marketability of value-added dairy products. Project areas can address sourcing, product development, transportation/distribution, marketing/supply chain, operations, employee welfare, consumer experience, utilization of materials or systems that reduce carbon footprint, and beyond. Grant opportunity released in January.

For more information visit their site below.

NEW DAIRY FARM INNOVATION & ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT GRANT LAUNCHES

Between the economy, climate change, changing consumer preferences, and generational transitions, dairy farmers juggle many challenges – but they're also in a unique position to positively address those challenges through business innovation.

At the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center, we're excited to announce the new Dairy Farm Innovation & Alternative Management Grant to support farmers and producers in implementing community- and climate-forward practices.

Open to licensed dairy farmers, producer associations, and technical assistance providers in all Northeast states, this grant will fund projects that lead to improved ecological and economic outcomes, as well as benefit the broader dairy community.

Projects may include:

- Utilization of new technologies to improve animal health, enhance labor efficiencies, reduce energy costs, and/or increase utilization of the farm's land base
- Adoption of non-standard animal management practices
- Milk handling and non-traditional approaches to consolidating milk
- Farm transfer, ownership, and/or training
- Water, waste, and manure management improvements
- Conversion or pilot testing of electric-powered equipment to replace fossil fuel powered equipment
- Technological advancements associated with improved production practices, soil management, nutrient management, financial analysis, greenhouse gas emissions, and crop production
- Or other activities that improve management strategies and/or implement innovative practices

Awards will range from \$15,000 - \$75,000 with a 25% match commitment.

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The application period will be open December 1, 2022 – February 2, 2023.

[Read the RFA to prepare for your grant proposal](#)

[Visit NE-DBIC](#)

Ag Market Pricing

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

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

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)
Prices provided on October 27, 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

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)

Rain Flo irrigation pump. Four inch discharge. New condition. Please call 860-841-3082.

Dried Sawdust / Different Grades, \$20 per yard. You pick up or delivered with additional charge. 860-642-7084. Blue Slope Sawdust.

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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.

Walk behind Gravely tractor with sickle mower. \$400. Very good, workable condition. 860-875-8056.

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

Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

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

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.

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

Wanted

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

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

Employment Opportunities

New London Community Meal Center is seeking a **Local Food Access Coordinator** (LFAC) to perform all aspects of purchasing for the LFPA project and for managing the inventory, distribution and control of those items for all distribution locations. The Coordinator must work with organizational representatives to identify the products to be purchased, identify the most appropriate source for the products, confirm all aspects of pricing, confirm all deliveries, maintain an inventory control database and work with the NLCMC bookkeeper on invoicing. In addition, the Coordinator will work with the Food

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healthy food access for low income consumers. Within this framework, the Coordinator will work towards long term systemic change, through a food justice lens, with partners including , FRESH New London, the HIC, and other area organizations. The position is “housed” at the NLCMC with shared supervision by the NLCMC and community partners. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

The **Southern New England Farmers of Color Collaborative** (SNEFCC) is reaching out with exciting news that we are hiring three positions! This is an exciting opportunity to join our team and work closely with farmers of color in the region. All team members will contribute to the completion of deliverables associated with grant-funded projects. SNEFCC commits to hiring each of these positions for up to 20 to 24 months.

Position openings:

- Project Manager
- Project Coordinator 1
- Project Coordinator 2

Applicants are invited to submit a resume and cover letter expressing their interest in the position(s) below. Email your application package to Karen Spiller at kspiller4@gmail.com by **December 16, 5:00 p.m.** In the subject line of your email please use: APPLICATION TO SNEFCC - [FIRST & LAST NAME]

The State of Connecticut, Department of Agriculture (DAG) Bureau of Aquaculture is currently recruiting for one (1) Environmental Protection Fisheries Biologist 1 position.

The Bureau of Aquaculture, with laboratory facilities in Milford, is tasked with overseeing marine and inland aquaculture related production activities.

About this Role:

- Performs bacteriological analyses of seawater and shellfish. Prepares reagents; utilizes universal laboratory precautions; utilizes computers related to laboratory instrumentation, quality assurance data and test reports; maintains records and prepares reports; performs related duties as required.
- Knowledge of current principles and practices of equipment and instruments used in modern laboratories; knowledge of applicable analytical techniques; knowledge of quality assurance and quality control policies and procedures; knowledge of universal laboratory precautions; knowledge of basic laboratory hazards and safety; oral and written communication skills; interpersonal skills; ability to perform standard microbiological functions; ability to utilize computer software

LEADERS OF COLOR IN CONSERVATION TRAINING PROJECT

WE ARE HIRING:

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Info:

- 10-12 hrs/week
- \$25/hour
- Mostly Remote Work with some travel
- Excellent organization and communication skills
- Comfortable with events, photography, and digital platforms

Now accepting applications

Photo of Lauren Little of Lauren Little Edutainment



UCONN UCONN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES in Partnership with **E&G** EDUCATION & GROWTH

PROYECTO DE ENTRENAMIENTO DE LIDERES DE COLOR EN CONSERVACIÓN

ESTAMOS CONTRATANDO:

COORDINADOR DEL PROYECTO

Info:

- 10-12 hrs/semanal
- \$25/por hora
- principalmente trabajo remoto y ocasionalmente viajes
- excelente habilidades de organización y comunicación
- Comode organizando eventos, tomando fotografía y manejando plataformas digitales

Estamos aceptando aplicaciones

Foto de Lauren Little de Lauren Little Edutainment



UCONN UCONN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES en colaboración con **E&G** EDUCACIÓN Y CRECIMIENTO

Próximos eventos

(haga clic en la imagen de abajo para obtener información)

HEALING BY GROWING FARMS

SAVE THE DATE

Northeast Disability and Agriculture Conference

February 4, 2023*
9am - 3pm
Harkness Park
Waterford, CT

Our first Northeast conference invites farmers, service providers and community supporters to engage in active dialogue around disability, mental health, and suicide. Interactive workshops will build connections and equip participants with skills and resources to promote advocacy, equity, access, and a just agricultural system.

A post conference stipend will be given to the first 50 farmers who identify as having a disability, have registered in advance, and attend the full conference.

*Snow date: February 11, 2023




Scan to register
<https://forms.gle/3GPT8uRTT05GubR>

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GROWING FARMS

GUARDE LA FECHA

Conferencia Noreste sobre Discapacidad y Agricultura





Febrero 4, 2023*
9am - 3pm
Harkness Park
Waterford, CT

Nuestra primera conferencia del noreste invita agricultores, proveedores de servicios y comunidades de apoyo a participar en un diálogo activo sobre la discapacidad, la salud mental y el suicidio. Los talleres interactivos construirán conexiones y equiparán a los participantes con habilidades y recursos para promover abogacía, la equidad, el acceso y un sistema agrícola justo.

Se dará un estipendio después de la conferencia a los primeros (50) agricultores que se identifiquen como discapacitados, se hayan registrado con anticipación y asistan a la conferencia completa.


***Fecha si nevaa: Febrero 11, 2023**



| | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
|  | DEC 3RD | POWER TOOLS & CARPENTRY BASICS ROCKVILLE AGRICULTURE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Get familiar with the power tools & carpentry skills that you'll need on your farm. Learn to use an impact driver, drill, skill saw, table saw, & more. You'll work with your new skills to complete a project to take home. |
|  | DEC 10TH | BCS/WALK BEHIND TRACTOR NONNEWING HIGH-SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Interested in scaling up and incorporating a walk behind tractor into your farming operation? Come learn the about the many ways BCS walk behind tractors. We'll cover how it can be used on the farm, safe operation, and practice attaching different implements. |
|  | JAN 7TH | SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; 2-STROKE NONNEWING HIGH-SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Take apart a small engine that you find yourself using on the farm on a regular basis, and then learn how to put it back together again, all the while finding out how it works and how to address common problems. |
|  | JAN 28TH | SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; 4-STROKE NONNEWING HIGH-SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Get hands on experience working on 4 stroke engines, walk behind tillers, log splitters, and more. Maintenance and trouble shooting skills to put right to work on your own farm equipment. |
|  | FEB 11TH | BASIC WELDING FOR BEGINNERS ROCKVILLE AGRICULTURE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Intro to the basics of welding. Learn the proper personal protective equipment, required and safety protocols to know before getting started. Instructor will go over the fundamentals of MIG and stick welding, teaching you techniques to get welds done safely and efficiently. |
|  | FEB 25TH | ADVANCED WELDING USING METAL INERT GAS METHODS ROCKVILLE AGRICULTURE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT - 9AM-3PM Did you attend our welding workshop in the past? Are you a novice welder? This workshop is perfect for you as we go deeper into welding a single metal inert gas and coke on bigger welding tasks that you might encounter on your farm. |

COST PER WORKSHOP \$25. Lunch included | SPACES ARE LIMITED REGISTER TODAY!
***If the cost is prohibitive, you may request a stipend for fuel usage and/or travel, by emailing: caes@uconn.edu

ROCKVILLE AGRICULTURE HIGH SCHOOL, WINDSOR, CT 06095




UConn Extension's 2023 Vegetable & Small Fruit Growers' Conference

Wednesday, January 4, 2023
Sheraton Hartford South Hotel
100 Capital Blvd., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Trade Show: 8:00-8:55, 10:00-10:45, 12:00-1:00
8:55-9:30 Registration, breakfast, socialize, visit trade show
Morning Moderator - Mary Conklin, Fruit Extension Specialist, Emeritus, UConn
8:55 Welcome: Indrajeet Chaubey, Dean of CAHR, UConn
9:00 Nutrition management in sweet corn George Hamilton, Emeritus Professor, UNH
9:30 Vegetable benefits and disease control of nanotechnology Wade Elmer, CAES
10:00 Announcements
10:15 Break (trade show/coffee & tea)
10:45 Plug strawberries VS bare root strawberries - pros and cons of both Tim Nourse, Nourse Farms
11:15 Small scale bean thrashing project with UConn engineering students Susan Mitchell, Coverleigh Farm
11:35 Trap crop: UConn research update Ana Legrand, UConn
11:50 New opportunities to sell to K-12 schools and early care providers. Jiff Martin, UConn
12:00-1:00 Lunch break/trade show
Afternoon Moderator - Shresh Ghimire, Vegetable Extension Specialist, UConn
1:00 Winter Growing in low tunnels. Robert Durgy, CAES
1:30 Drone imaging to monitor potato leafhopper damage in the field. Chand Witharana, UConn
1:45 Strawberries and nitrogen fertigation. Trevor Hardy and Zoe Sapp, Brookdale Fruit Farm
2:15 Ozone microbubbles for produce safety Abhinav Upadhyay, UConn
2:30 No-till and soil health growers' panel. Jamie Jones, Jones Family Farm, Bryan O'Hara, Tobacco Road Farm, others TBD
3:30 Pesticide recertification credits and socialize: 4 CEU approved

REGISTRATION:
Regular: Early Bird (prior to 12/29) \$50.00 (+\$1.00 processing fee)
After 12/29 \$70.00 same day registration will be available, cash or check only.
<https://s.uconn.edu/ctv/2023registration>
Student: Early Bird (prior to 12/29) \$30.00
After 12/29: \$50.00, same day registration will be available, cash or check only. You MUST present your school or student ID when you check in the day of the event.
<https://s.uconn.edu/ctv/2023studentregistration>
Contact tolland@uconn.edu 860 875 3331 if you have any questions.



UConn Extension VEGETABLE & SMALL FRUIT GROWERS CONFERENCE TRADE SHOW





WHEN & WHERE
January 4, 2023
Located at Sheraton Hotel
100 Capital Blvd., Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Set up is from 7:00-7:45, trade show is from 8:00-8:55am, 10:30-11:00am and 12:00-1:00pm.

WHAT?
The annual UConn Extension Vegetable and Fruit Growers' Conference will take place on Wednesday, January 4, 2023. Roughly 225-250 people attended this conference in past years. We have 30-35 tables available for a trade show held during the conference for \$150.00 per table. Tables will be first come, first serve basis, and have sold out in the past.

SIGN UP! REGISTER TODAY!
Register Online at: <https://s.uconn.edu/ctv/2023tradeshow>
Conference agenda is available at: uconn.edu/ctv/cashewtable

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!
860-875-3331
tolland@uconn.edu
<https://ijm.cahrn.uconn.edu/>



-  Facebook
-  Instagram
-  Pinterest
-  Sitio web

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Puede [actualizar sus preferencias](#) o [darse de baja](#) de esta lista .