

[View this email in your browser](#)



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.

In This Report

[January 13, 2023; Vol. F, No. 2](#)

[Young Farmer Nominations](#)

[Farm Succession School](#)

[CT Ag In the News](#)

[Climate Smart Farming Grant](#)

[SLF Quarantine Statewide](#)

[Vegetable Production Course](#)

[Shellfish Farming Training Course](#)

[Respond to Ag Census](#)

[Ag Market Pricing](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)



Did you celebrate National Milk Day on January 11? Thought to be when home delivery of milk in glass bottles began this is now a great time to remind consumers that home delivery of local milk is an option here in Connecticut. Next Friday, January 20 is National Cheese Lover's Day - life is better with cheddar!

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION COUNCIL

2023 Outstanding Young Farmer Nominations Requested



Connecticut Seeks Outstanding Young Farmer Nominations

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) is seeking nominations for the 2023 Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer. Awarded annually during Ag Day at the Capitol, the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer Award recognizes the winner's progress in their agricultural career, their soil and water conservation practices, and their contributions to the well-being of the community, the state, and the nation.

Nomination applications must be submitted electronically via email to erin.pirro@farmcrediteast.com by Friday, February 24, 2023. Self-nominations are allowed. [Details and application here.](#)

The purpose of the Outstanding Young Farmers Program is to bring about a greater interest in the farmer to foster better urban-rural relations through the understanding of the farmers' endeavors, to develop a further appreciation for their contributions and achievements, and to inform the agribusiness community of the growing urban awareness of farmers' importance and impact on America's economy. The Connecticut OYF Program is modeled directly on the National OYF Program.

CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Century Farm and Ag Journalism awards. [Nomination forms are available online.](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)



FARM SUCCESSION SCHOOL

Most farmers want their land to stay in agriculture, but very few have plans in place that articulate how the land, equipment, business, and other assets will be divided among the next generation or unrelated operator. Succession planning can present challenges, and each situation is unique. Land For Good has helped hundreds of farmers find innovative solutions that keep their farms in farming, whether they have an identified successor or not.

The Farm Succession School hosted by Land For Good, in partnership with Connecticut Department of Agriculture and UConn Extension, is a three-session winter course with curriculum designed to help senior farmers think through the many aspects of succession planning, clarify vision and goals, get next steps on paper, and review necessary documents to provide for a smooth transition. Sessions include ample time to share and learn from other farmers facing similar questions. Farmers do not need to have an identified successor to participate in this course. The Farm Succession School will take place at the Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Route 30, Vernon, meeting **January 24, February 28, and March 28**. [Learn more and register](#).

Additional support opportunities are available. A free live webinar series for transitioning farmers and junior generation farmers will offer the basics of succession planning, like how to get started, where to find advisors and resources, ask questions, and get help. All generations, including family and non-family members, who may play a role in the farm's future are encouraged to attend. This online four-part series meets weekly, **beginning January 18**. [Learn more and register](#).

Land For Good also offers one-on-one advising to help farmers start, continue, or complete their farm succession and address the financial, legal, and business challenges involved in transferring a farm to a next generation family member or unrelated successor. Costs vary depending on farmer needs and available funding, with always a sliding scale option. [Learn more](#) or call 603-357-1600 to initiate a no-cost informational session.

"This work is supported by the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Grant, grant no.: 2021-70035-3555, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture."

[Learn More](#)



CT GROWN MARKETING TOOLS: LIST YOUR CSA

Does your farm offer a CSA (Community-Supported Agriculture) program?

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

[Spotted Lanternfly reemerges in Connecticut](#), WTIC Radio Hartford, 1/9
[Beekeeping, kombucha and more: CT teacher reopens home farm to adults looking to learn agriculture](#), The Hour, 1/9
[The cost of eggs has skyrocketed in CT and worldwide. Here's why](#), Stamford

[conditions have finally improved](#), New Haven Register, 1/6
[Premier dairy co-op joins the Enfield community](#), The Reminder, 1/5



APPLICATION PERIOD CLOSING SOON- CLIMATE SMART FARMING: AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY GRANT

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.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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

- Project duration: 3-5 years

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

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.](#)

[View the Climate Smart FAQs](#)



CT NOFA's 41st Winter Conference
Wesleyan University - Middletown, CT

March 6-11, 2023
*virtual workshops
all week*

March 11, 2023
*in-person gathering
and celebration*

CT NOFA PRESENTS 41ST WINTER CONFERENCE

CT NOFA is proud to present their 41st Winter Conference, to be held the second week of March, kicking off on Monday, March 6, 2023 with a week of live virtual workshops and concluding on March 11 with an in-person gathering and celebration at Wesleyan University.

Join us as we learn, grow, innovate, and think critically about what we want our food system to look like in the future. Registration is open on a sliding scale — this model allows us to practice economic solidarity, providing mutual support for the cost of our programs. In this way, we make our education more accessible and help cover costs of operation. Choose the pricing tier that fits with your income and access to wealth, and help us create a more just, inclusive, and equitable conference.

Conference registration includes invitations to all live virtual workshop sessions and our in-person celebratory gathering on March 11, as well as exclusive access to all workshop recordings for 3 months after the event. [Visit our website to register for the event and to explore our growing list of presenters, workshops, and more.](#)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) PRODUCER TRAINING

The Hartford/Tolland Farm Service Agency office will be conducting free in-person NAP producer training on **Tuesday, January 17, 2023**, at the FSA State office (344 Merrow Rd, Tolland, CT) from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

As NAP is one of our more complicated programs, we would like to have the opportunity to give any interested producer the ability to know more about how the program is implemented.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP [here](#) and feel free to reach out to the Hartford/Tolland FSA office at any time if you have questions on the training.

[RSVP Here](#)

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



Healing By Growing Farms Presents
"United in Healing"

**1st Northeast
 Disability and Agriculture
 All Day Conference**

Saturday, February 4, 2023
From 9am - 3pm at
Harkness Park, Waterford, CT

*A stipend will be provided to
 farmers and community
 participants who attend the full conference.*

REGISTER NOW

<https://forms.gle/jCui5va7KLwBFz526>

CAES ANNOUNCES RENEWAL OF THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY QUARANTINE FOR CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) in cooperation with USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) continued to detect expanding populations of the spotted lanternfly (SLF) in Connecticut through 2022. The Director of CAES hereby announces the renewal of the Order of Quarantine for SLF that was established 1 July 2021, effective January 1, 2023. More information about SLF, the quarantine order and state quarantine requirements can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/CAPS/CAPS/Spotted-Lanternfly---SLF>.

In 2020 through 2022, multiple adult SLF populations were detected in Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, New Haven, and New London Counties. The distribution of this insect continues to expand, posing a threat to the agriculture and forests of Connecticut, hence the renewal and expansion of the quarantine noted in the original order. Early detection is important, and the public is urged to report potential sightings of this invasive pest when they become active again in 2023. Currently, the insect is overwintering in egg masses. If you

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

State of Connecticut should enter into a compliance agreement to help mitigate movement of this pest, to prevent the spread of the insect and to protect our trading partners.

Native to China, India, and Vietnam, the spotted lanternfly is an invasive sap-feeding planthopper that was discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014. SLF infestations have been reported in Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and West Virginia. The nymphal stage of this insect is currently active with adults appearing late summer. In the fall, adults about 1 inch long can often be found congregating on tree-of-heaven (Ailanthus), willows and other trees. They will lay egg masses on trees and almost any nearby surface like rocks, decks, houses, outdoor equipment, and furniture, etc. Nymphs of SLF will hatch from the eggs in the spring (late April-June). This insect attacks many hosts and has the potential to severely impact Connecticut's farm crops, particularly apples, grapes, and hops, and several tree species. The secretion of excess sap called honeydew can also be a nuisance for residential infestations.

Additional information is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Forestry/Forest-Protection/Spotted-Lanternfly> and <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly>.

REGISTER TODAY FOR FARM TO SCHOOL PRODUCER TRAINING

An organized partnership between Put Local on Your Tray, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, UConn Extension, and Connecticut Farm To School Collaborative is excited to offer "**Bringing the Farm to the School**" a producer training [for CT Farmers](#) to navigate the opportunities and challenges of selling into public K-12 schools!

[Learn more HERE!](#)

Did you know that **Districts across the state are poised to receive federal dollars** that can only be spent specifically on fresh and minimally processed

This free, day-long workshop will bring together farmers and public-school food service directors to learn, connect and share best practices, success stories and frustrations.

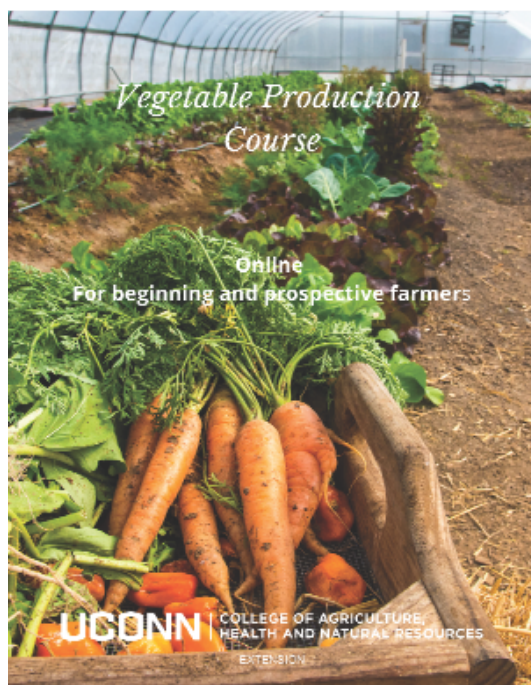
[Register HERE](#)

Who is this for?

- Fruit, vegetable, meat and added value dairy producers
- Farm businesses of all sizes and growing practices
- Growers looking to expand their market
- producers who think the farm to school market is not for them because there are too many barriers.

The barriers are not as high as you may think! [Here is the registration link again!](#)

For service providers and supports interested in participating please email shannon.raider@uconn.edu.



VEGETABLE PRODUCTION CERTIFICATE COURSE

UConn Extension is offering a Vegetable Production Certificate Course, beginning on January 30, 2023. It is a fully online course for new and beginning farmers who have 0-3 years of vegetable growing experience or no formal training in agriculture. Full details are at s.uconn.edu/vegetable.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

planning, planning and preparing for vegetable farm, warm and cool-season vegetable production techniques, season extension, identification of biotic and abiotic issues, and marketing. The price of the course is \$149.

[Learn more and register here.](#)



2023 NORTHEAST GRAZING AND LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE

The New England Grazing Network, Maine Grass Farmers Network, Granite State Grazers, The Livestock Institute, Vermont Grass Farmers Association, University of Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and Cornell Cooperative Extension Capital Area Ag & Hort Program present a region wide virtual grazing conference from **January 20-21, 2023**.

The conference is the largest of its kind in New England, gathering over 300 participants from the northeast for two days of networking and educational workshops. This conference brings together new and experienced farmers alike as well as service providers, and non-farmers seeking to learn more ways to align with and support well managed **pasture-based livestock production** across our region.

Our 2023 Keynote speaker will be **Dr. Allen Williams**, who will lead a discussion on adaptive grazing. Additional programming will prioritize peer-to-peer farmer networking and practical implementation of managed grazing practices.

Friday:

- Keynote - Dr. Allen Williams
- Meat End Product Quality moderated by Dr. Joe Emenheiser

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

moderated by Dr. Glenda Pereira and Mary Ellen Franklin

- Grazing Across the Northeast: A Regional Approach (Introducing NEGN Partners) moderated by Alex Gulachenski

Saturday:

- Coffee Chat with Troy Bishopp and Brian Maloney
- Principles of Grazing - 101 - Taught by Daimon Meeh
- 50 Shades of Graze - Shade Management moderated by Steve Gabriel
- Forage Biodiversity moderated by Dr. Heather Darby
- Calving and Lambing on Pasture moderated by Jennie Kapszukiewicz

[Register Here!](#)



NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR THE TRI-STATE SARE PROJECT

The Tri-State (CT, MA, RI) SARE Professional Development Program is planning activities for the next three years – through 2026. The project will focus on training agricultural service providers as well as farmers in CT, MA, and RI on sustainable livestock production practices. Specific content areas will be determined based on the feedback and needs of those who participate in this survey and attend the workshops. Although voluntary, I would appreciate your completing this 5-minute anonymous needs assessment by **Thursday**,

Take the Survey

UPCOMING COURSES FROM CORNELL SMALL FARMS PROGRAM

Access to Capital

Mondays: January 9 – February 13, 2023

It can be very difficult to navigate the process of getting grants or loans, especially if you did not come to farming with a background in finance. This new course will cover the various aspects of seeking funding for a farm enterprise.

Cómo Iniciar su Negocio Agrícola

Jueves: 12 de Enero hasta el 16 de Febrero del 2023

Con este nuevo curso usted podrá aprender en su propio idioma y con la Comunidad Latina sobre cómo iniciar un negocio agrícola. aprender de las experiencias de mujeres y hombres Latinos que ya tiene su negocio agrícola establecido en diferentes Estados y que aman hacer agricultura, encontrando en esta el estilo de vida que responde a sus valores, metas, habilidad y recursos.

Exploring Markets and Profits

Thursdays: January 12 – February 16, 2023

Have an idea for a farm enterprise but not sure if it's feasible? This course will help you explore the potential markets and profitability of your ideas, picking up where [BF 101: Starting at Square One](#) (*not a prerequisite*) left off.

Goat Production

Wednesdays: January 11 - February 15, 2023

This new course will guide beginning farmers through the production and marketing of goats for dairy, meat, and fiber. Goats can function as a profitable stand-alone enterprise or can be integrated into your existing farm structure to provide a variety of products and make use of marginal lands that would otherwise go unused.

Holistic Financial Planning

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

If you've been struggling to make your farm operation profitable without driving yourself into the ground, this financial planning course is for you. You will learn how to make financial decisions toward farm and family values and goals.

Indoor Specialty Mushroom Production

Tuesdays: January 10 – February 14, 2023

Mushrooms are an emerging niche crop and can easily be grown. This course trains new and experienced farmers in the background, techniques, marketing and economics of farm-scale indoor commercial production.

Introduction to Beekeeping

Tuesdays: January 10 – February 28, 2023

Whether you are currently keeping honeybees or are considering them for your farm, a basic knowledge of bee biology, diseases, pests, and setting up your colony are essential for success. This 8-week course will give you real-world experiences paired with academic concepts.

Season Extension with High Tunnels

Tuesdays: January 10 – February 14, 2023

Adding weeks to your growing season can mean attaining a premium for having products available well before (or long after) other local growers. This course will introduce you to unheated plastic-covered "high tunnels," covering cost, management and more.

Sheep Production

Thursdays: January 12 – February 16, 2023

Have sheep or thinking about getting a flock? Producers of all experience levels will find something for them in this lively, wide-ranging course. There is no one right way to raise sheep — this course covers many of these different options.

Vegetable Production II

Wednesdays: January 11 – February 15, 2022

This course continues where [BF 120: Vegetable Production I](#) (*not a prerequisite*) ends, covering vegetable production from transplanting to harvest, including: in-season fertility, integrated pest management, weed control, harvesting, and marketing.

NRCS EXTENDS APPLICATION PERIOD FOR FY2023 CSP FUNDING

Thomas L. Morgart, Connecticut State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced that due to the amount of interest and some newly-included climate smart activities for the agency's Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), he is **extending the application period from December 16, 2022, to February 17, 2023.**

CSP is perfect for agricultural producers who want to continue to farm and forest landowners wanting to manage their forestland but want to use less resources and have less of an effect on the land. Implementing climate smart agriculture and forest activities under CSP will assist producers in their work to address the climate crisis and build more resilient operations through enhancements that may deliver measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and/or increase carbon sequestration. Many CSP activities offer co-benefits and ancillary benefits that help operations build climate change resilience while addressing other natural resource concerns such as soil health, water quality, pollinator and wildlife habitat, and air quality.

Through CSP, NRCS helps private landowners build their business while implementing conservation practices that help ensure the sustainability of their entire operation. Agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities such as cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – all while maintaining active agricultural or forestry production on their land. CSP also encourages the adoption of cutting-edge technologies and new management techniques such as precision agriculture applications, on-site carbon storage and planting for high carbon sequestration rates, and new soil amendments to improve water quality.

The program helps producers better evaluate conservation options and benefits to their operations, as well as to our natural resources. Methods and software for evaluating applications help producers see why they are – or are not – meeting stewardship thresholds and allow them to pick practices that work for their objectives. These tools also enable them to see potential payment scenarios for conservation early in the process.

While applications for CSP are accepted year-round, to be considered for FY2023 funds they must be received by February 17, 2023.

Interested? Find out if you're qualified for CSP by contacting your **local USDA service center** or visiting the **How to Get Assistance** portion of the website.

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼



CTGrown.org

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!**



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.*



2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE UNDERWAY IN NEW ENGLAND

Last week, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) mailed the 2022 Census of Agriculture paper questionnaires to all known agriculture producers across the nation and Puerto Rico. Last month, producers in the states received their survey codes with an invitation to respond online. Any New England producer who did not respond online now has the option to complete the ag census at agcounts.usda.gov or by mail. Producers who have already responded to the 2022 Census of Agriculture online do not need to respond again. **The deadline for response is Feb. 6, 2023.**

“The census is a critical tool that gives farmers a voice to influence decisions that will shape the future of their community, industry, and operation,” said Angie Considine, acting state statistician of USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, New England Field Office. “Your answers to the census impact farm programs and rural services that support your community. When you receive your form, don’t miss the opportunity to be counted. Every operation small and large makes a difference.”

The Census of Agriculture remains the nation’s only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county, and U.S. territory. 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. The data inform decisions about policy, programs, rural development, research, and more. The Census of Agriculture is the producer’s voice in the future of American agriculture.

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 publish in aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation. NASS will release the results of the ag census in 2024.



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER

January's a natural time to take stock of your business and goals. As you prepare for the year ahead, you might be asking questions like:

- *What areas of our business do we want to expand?*
- *Are there any practices we want to implement or build upon?*
- *How can we become more financially sustainable and environmentally sustainable?*

At NE-DBIC, our goal is to help dairy farms and processors innovate to become more sustainable and resilient – so when the unexpected happens (a pandemic and extended supply-chain issues, for instance), you're equipped to meet those challenges and continue milking, processing, and distributing your dairy products throughout your community and region.

Whether you're looking for funding to purchase specialized equipment, to implement an innovative practice, or to receive technical assistance, consider applying for an NE-DBIC grant this year.

Our open funding opportunities are:

[Dairy Food Safety & Certification Grant](#) – this supports food safety projects including specialized equipment purchase, supplies, food safety training, and certifications. Open now through January 19, 2023.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

February 2, 2023.

[Organic On-Farm Milk Storage & Handling Grant](#) – open to organic dairy farmers to purchase equipment and related costs to improve milk storage, handling, and energy efficiencies. Open now through February 9, 2023

Grants opening in January:

[Dairy Processing Research & Development Innovation Grant](#) – for long-term business investments that increase processor business consumer appeal and marketability of value-added products. Opens in January.

[Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant](#) – tiered grants for specialized equipment needed to increase processing capacity of regionally produced milk. Opens in January.

Upcoming funding opportunities:

From spring through fall, we'll be opening more grants for farmers, processors, and technical service providers. Those include the popular Dairy Farm Cohort Technical Assistance, Dairy Packaging Innovation, and another round of On-Farm Milk Storage & Handling.

For more information on each grant, view our [funding calendar](#).

Stay up to date and get notified about upcoming grants and events when you [sign up for our monthly email newsletter](#).

From our team to you and yours – may you have a happy and healthy New Year!

[Visit NE-DBIC](#)

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on January 9, 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](#)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[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. (1/27/23)

Slightly used, very clean, 4 gallon white plastic buckets and matching lids; HDPE, food-grade. Bucket \$3.75, Lid \$1.00. Email for photo/dimensions. Minimum 50 please. Pick up in Lyme, CT, or large quantity delivered. bill@fatstonefarm.com (3/17/23)

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.

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.

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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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 Justice Action to research and plan for sustaining this and other local food initiatives, with a particular focus on the overlapping goals of farm viability and 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

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▾

Spiller at kspiller4@gmail.com. In the subject line of your email please use: APPLICATION TO SNEFCC - [FIRST & LAST NAME]

Upcoming Events (click on image below for info)

2023 CT Farm Energy Workshops

FEBRUARY 1 | 3:30-5PM
AUDUBON CENTER, 218 DAY ROAD
POMFRET CENTER, CT 06259

FEBRUARY 9 | 3-4:00PM
(PART OF CLIMATE SMART AG MEETING)
UCONN EXTENSION CENTER,
843 UNIVERSITY DRIVE,
TORRINGTON, CT 06790

FEBRUARY 16 | 6-7:30PM
UCONN EXTENSION CENTER,
1066 SAVBROOK ROAD,
HADDAM, CT 06438

FREE REGISTRATION AT: WWW.CTFARMENERGY.ORG

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER & PROVIDER



Climate Smart Agriculture

3-4pm Farm Energy Programs
4pm Berkshire AG Ventures
4:15pm Break
4:30-5:30pm Soil Health-Lessons Learned from the Field
5:30pm Dinner & Networking

FEBRUARY 9, 2023
3 pm - 6 pm

UCONN EXTENSION CENTER
843 UNIVERSITY DRIVE,
TORRINGTON, CT 06790

Interested in making your farm more resilient? Concerned about climate change? Join us to learn about ways to enable your operation to be sustainable.

For more information & register visit:
<https://nwc.org/events/>

Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact info@nwc.org

DINNER PROVIDED

**BUILD YOUR NETWORK
GROW OUR FUTURE**

A CONFERENCE FOR CT FARMERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 10AM-4PM

AUERFARM, BLOOMFIELD, CT

CONFERENCE INCLUDES:

- FARM HACK CONTEST**
- WORKSHOPS:**
 - LAND ACCESS 101
 - WORKING WITH USDA
 - FINDING YOUR MARKET
 - BEING A FARMER ADVOCATE
- NETWORKING WITH SERVICE PROVIDERS**
- SEED SWAP**



[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)