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CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Version en español disponible en línea en [CTGrown.gov](https://www.ctgown.gov).

In This Report

March 3, 2023; Vol. F, No. 8

[Farm Bill Roundtable](#)

[FMNP Goes Electronic](#)

[CT Ag In the News](#)

[Solid Ground Webinars](#)

[FSA Programs](#)

[Cannabis & Hemp Events](#)

[FSMA Produce Safety Course](#)

[Apply to Exhibit at Big E](#)

[Ag Market Pricing](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)



Congratulations to [Arethusa Farm Dairy](#) whose Europa Cheese has been named the “Best in Show” in the U.S. Championship Cheese Contest. The selection was made from over 2,200 entries, across 35 states, with a final score of 98.739. Europa is an aged, traditional style Gouda, made with milk from local Connecticut Dairy farms.



LEFT: Commissioner Hurlburt and Senator Chris Murphy with CLiCK staff. RIGHT: Agricultural producers, service providers, and elected officials gathered to discuss priorities for the Farm Bill.

2023 Farm Bill Priorities Discussion with Local Farmers from Across Connecticut

U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) on Friday relaunched his “Our Farm Bill” listening campaign by joining Connecticut Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt for a roundtable with local farmers to discuss their priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill sets national agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and forestry policy and must be reauthorized by Congress every five years. During the roundtable, more than two dozen farmers and stakeholders from across Connecticut shared their concerns about securing farmland for the next generation, balancing the need for solar farms with the need for crop farms, and ensuring nutritional benefits for children and families are included in the 2023 Farm Bill. Murphy, Hurlburt, and the roundtable participants also discussed ways to better support small farms, aquaculture, and first-generation farmers through U.S. Department of Agriculture programs.

“We have to modernize supports for agriculture, and get more support for small farms and beginning farms. We also have to protect money for nutritional benefits because there are a lot of families in Connecticut, not just in Hartford or New Haven, but in rural Connecticut that need those programs to keep food on the table. That's going to be the fight in this Farm Bill,” said Murphy.

“Once every five years we have the opportunity to address and revise farm policy through the reauthorized Farm Bill. Among our 5,500 farms in the state, which contribute \$4 billion to the state's economy, the average farm size is 69 acres. This means that Connecticut priorities will differ as small and mid-sized diversified farm businesses compared to those in the Midwest and West with substantially larger acreage growing commodity crops. Hearing directly from Connecticut farmers enables us to better understand how we can best support them and appreciate those who took the time to share their thoughts and concerns with us today,” said Hurlburt.

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and use that information to inform his advocacy on the 2023 Farm Bill, as he did in 2018.

2023 eFMNP Farmer Certification Meetings

Registration is now open for the 2023 eFMNP Farmer Certification Meetings

El registro es ahora abierto para los 2023 eFMNP agricultores Reuniones de Certificación

Sign up now!



Regístrate ahora!



FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM TRANSITIONS TO ELECTRONIC PLATFORM

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) is pleased to announce the transition of the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) from paper benefits to a mobile closed loop, EBT payment solution for the 2023 season. In September 2022, CT DoAg received \$250,000 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Benefit Delivery Modernization Grant to invest in technology that will streamline benefit delivery for participants and improve equitable access to locally grown fruits and vegetables. CT DoAg will utilize SoliSYSTEMS to administer and redeem FMNP benefits.

FARMER CERTIFICATION & TRAINING

All fruit, vegetable, and honey producers selling at Certified Connecticut Grown Farmers' Markets must be certified with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP).

The certification allows farms to accept the FMNP benefits for only Connecticut Grown fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh-cut herbs, and eggs for WIC participants and income-eligible seniors over the age of 60. Seniors may also use their benefits for honey. Attend one of the below farmer certification meetings to become certified, learn about the SoliSYSTEMS platform, grant funds available, and accepting SNAP to expand sales.

To ensure a smooth transition, ALL certified farmers, farmers' markets, and distribution partners will be required to attend an in-person training to participate in the program.

Following are the current certification dates for farmers, which will be held in person across the state. Dates for farmers' markets and distribution sites will be announced shortly.

Tuesday, March 28, 2023, from 9 AM to 12 PM

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**Tuesday, March 28, 2023, from 2 PM to 5 PM**

Litchfield County Extension Center, 843 University Drive, Torrington, CT, 06790

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, from 9 AM to 12 PM

Middlesex County Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT, 06438

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, from 2 PM to 5 PM

New London County Extension Center, 562 New London Turnpike, Norwich, CT, 06360-6599

Thursday, March 30, 2023, from 9 AM to 12 PM

Windham County Extension Center, 139 Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn, CT, 06234-1729

Thursday, March 30, 2023, from 2 PM to 5 PM - TENTATIVE

Tolland County Extension Center- 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, CT, 06066

Friday, March 31, 2023, from 9 AM to 12 PM

Connecticut Ag Experiment Station, Jones Auditorium, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06511

Registration is now open at <https://bit.ly/eFMNP>. Registration must be received at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Please note that you will receive meeting information the day before the meeting.

Questions can be directed to Erin Windham at Erin.Windham@ct.gov or 860-519-6083 or Ally Hughes at Allison.Hughes@ct.gov or 860-500-8918.

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Sugarhouses in Connecticut celebrating 'Maple Weekend'](#), New Haven Register, 3/2

[Organic Farm In Farmington/Avon Receives Special State Grant](#), Patch, 2/28

[Home grown team works to recruit more minority farmers](#), Fox 61, 2/27

[State Grant Making Mountain Dairy Cows A Little More Comfy](#), Patch, 2/27

[New Canaan Farmers Market To Introduce New Winter Pickup Program](#), Patch, 2/26

[Ridgefield Farm Awarded \\$50K From State For 'Innovation'](#), Patch, 2/23

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Getting to the Root
A Series featuring short videos & farmer panels
exploring the entrepreneurial spirit of new CT farmers

Hear how these farmers identified a need, applied a unique approach and continue to innovate in their agricultural enterprises.

Ethnic and Specialty Crops

Thursday March 9th, 2023
12:00 -1:30pm on Zoom

Video Premier
featuring
 Juliet Muhenga, Mahara Farm

Farmer Panelists:
 Tanika Welcott-Thompson,
 Natty Roots Gardens,
 Ulioma Onuma, Ulah Farms

TOON REGISTER HERE

Added-Value Farm Products

Saturday March 11th, 2023
9:45 -11:00am at Wesleyan University

Video Premier
featuring
 Richard Myers and Shawn Joseph
 Park City Harvest

Farmer Panelists:
 John McGee, Sugar Sea Kelo Cooperative
 Kelly Calkins, KD Crop Farms

REGISTER HERE

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES
These programs are made possible through the support of USDA, National Organic Program, and the National Organic Marketing Program.
SOLID GROUND
 A Program Of UConn Extension

Ethnic and Specialty Crops

Thursday, March 9, 2023, 12:00-1:30pm. Virtual event via Zoom.

[Register here.](#)

Added-Value Farm Products

Saturday, March 11, 2023, 9:45-11:00am. In person at Wesleyan University.

Presented at CT NOFA's 2023 Winter Conference.

[Register here.](#)

CT FSA PROGRAM ENROLLMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program

Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) enrollment opened Jan. 23, 2023 and runs through June 2, 2023.

PARP will assist eligible producers of agricultural commodities who experienced revenue decreases in calendar year 2020 compared to 2018 or 2019 due to the

a revenue loss after factoring in other payments.

Who is Eligible?

PARP provides financial assistance for producers who suffered at least a 15% decrease in allowable gross revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to 2018 or 2019. PARP helps address gaps in previous pandemic assistance, which was targeted at price loss or lack of market access, rather than overall revenue losses. Producers must meet additional FSA eligibility requirements including but not limited to AGI limitations.

For more information: <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus/pandemic-assistance/parp>



Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two enrollment opened Jan. 23, 2023 and runs through June 2, 2023.

ERP Phase 2 is a tax year-based certification program that provides assistance for producers who suffered a loss in revenue due to necessary expenses associated with losses of eligible crops (excluding crops intended for grazing), due in whole or in part, to a qualifying disaster event that occurred in the 2020 or 2021 calendar year.

Who is Eligible?

ERP Phase Two covers losses to crops, trees, bushes and vines due to a qualifying natural disaster event in calendar years 2020 and 2021. Eligible crops include all crops for which federal crop insurance or NAP coverage was available except for crops intended for grazing. Qualifying natural disaster events include wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture, qualifying drought, and related conditions. Producers must meet additional FSA eligibility requirements including but not limited to AGI limitations.

For more information: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-relief/index>

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Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program

Farm Service Agency will accept On-Farm Food Safety Expenses for Specialty Crop Growers (FSCSC) applications for calendar year 2023 from February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024.

Enrollment for calendar year 2022 closed January 31, 2023.

Did your specialty crop operation recently incur on-farm food safety program expenses related to obtaining or renewing a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 or 2023? You may be eligible for financial assistance through USDA's Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program (FSCSC).

For more information: <https://www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance/food-safety>



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Sign-ups open Feb. 27, 2023 and run through Apr. 7, 2023.

In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in CRP agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Contracts for land enrolled in CRP are from 10 to 15 years in length. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Additionally, General CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to help increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

Continuous CRP

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most environmentally sensitive land. Offers are automatically accepted provided the producer and land meet the eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap. The Climate-Smart Practice Incentive is also available in the Continuous signup.

For more information: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/>



ctnofa
winter
CONFERENCE
2023

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

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.](#)



STILL TIME TO RESPOND TO THE 2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Farmers and ranchers still have time to be counted in the 2022 Census of Agriculture, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Although the deadline for submitting the ag census has just passed, NASS will continue to accept completed census questionnaires through the spring to ensure all farmers and ranchers take advantage of the opportunity to be represented in the widely used data.

NASS will continue to follow up with producers through the spring with mailings, phone calls, and personal visits. Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to complete their ag census either online at agcounts.usda.gov or by mail as soon as possible.

Federal law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113 mandates that everyone who received the 2022 Census of Agriculture questionnaire complete and return it, even if they are not currently farming. The same law requires NASS to keep all submissions confidential, use the information for statistical purposes only, and publish aggregate data to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation.

NASS will release the results of the ag census in 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 at [@usda_nass](https://twitter.com/usda_nass).



UConn Cannabis Symposium

The University of Connecticut has been a leader nationally in developing the first series of courses offered at a U.S. academic institution on cannabis production. Join us on **March 16-17** as expert speakers cover topics related to cannabis such as: plant production, biochemistry and genetics, clinical impacts, law and policy, and the future of the industry. The UConn Cannabis Symposium will be a premiere event for students, scientists, educators, and members of the cannabis industry to network and share information in the emerging cannabis field. This is an event that you will not want to miss!

[Register Here](#)

ADDITIONAL HEMP AND CANNABIS EVENTS

Univ. of Maine: Hemp online course

1 hr sessions in the evening online with the instructor, then 2 hrs on your own.

Every Tuesday for 5 weeks, starting March 7, 14, 21, 28, & Apr 4

Course is taught by John Jemison, University of ME agronomy professor/extension
jemison@maine.edu

Connecticut Cannabis Expo- Xpocanna: March 25-26 at Mohegan Sun

<https://xpocann.com/event/connecticut-cannabis-expo/>

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Date/Time of Event:

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Instructors

- Indu Upadhyaya, Ph.D., Food Safety Specialist, UConn Cooperative Extension
- Diane Hirsch, MPH, Food Safety Specialist, UConn
- Jacqueline Kowalski, Urban Agriculture Specialist, UConn Cooperative Extension

Course Summary:

The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training Course has been designed to provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices knowledge that includes emphasis on co-management of food safety and environmental management goals, while outlining the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in § 112.22(c) that requires 'At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.' This course will be taught remotely on a Zoom platform as per the remote delivery guidelines established by PSA.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

In order to obtain a certificate that provides evidence of compliance with the training requirements of the rule, you must be present for the entire two-day course. Please make sure you have a **computer/laptop (no phones or tablets allowed)** with built-in video or external webcam and microphone with sufficient internet connectivity for the entire duration of the course. There will be 15-minute breaks and lunch break during the course.

- **No more than 2 people from the same operation should register for the course.**
- **If you are joining in the same physical room as someone else, you must utilize headphones to minimize background noise and feedback.**

Registration Types and Their Associated Fees:

Course registration fee (includes all course materials and certificate): **\$50**

The preferred method of registration/payment is by paying with a credit card. Please include both a work and cell/home phone number and regularly used email address in case of emergency or cancellation.

Please provide the correct shipping address for shipping of manuals to reach you before the course. This is a requirement.

To register: Go to <https://s.uconn.edu/fsmapproducesafety>.

Registration is first come, first served, so please register early. You must pre-register. Space is limited. Registration materials must be received by **February 24th**.

Cancellation Policy:

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If you have further questions regarding the course, please contact indu.upadhyaya@uconn.edu



NORTHEAST

DAIRY BUSINESS
INNOVATION CENTER



NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER MARCH UPDATES

NE-DBIC is offering an informational webinar on the **Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant on Wednesday, March 15 at 11:00 am.**

This will be a chance for producers to learn more about the expansion grant program and ask questions directly to the NE-DBIC team.

- [Register for the webinar here](#)
- [Learn more about the Dairy Processor Expansion grant here](#)

The Central New York Grazing Conference is on March 25

Dairy farmers can learn about adaptive grazing management, innovative farming techniques, and what practices other successful grazers are implementing on their farms at the Central New York Grazing Conference.

This conference is hosted in partnership with NE-DBIC, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and PASA Sustainable Agriculture. You can [register through Cornell Extension](#).



NORTHEAST GREENHOUSE CONFERENCE AND EXPO

Save these dates for the Northeast's premier horticultural event on **November 8 and 9, 2023 in Manchester, New Hampshire!** Don't miss this great opportunity to learn, share and connect with other industry professionals!

Please note the new location at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Downtown Manchester, NH. The hotel is located among the shops and restaurants of Elm Street in the downtown area.

Educational sessions focusing on advanced biocontrol, disease management, business and marketing, greenhouse vegetables, and perennial production, and sessions in the Spanish language will be offered. Come visit vendors at the trade show with three dedicated hours each day of the program.

The biennial Northeast Greenhouse Conference & Expo is co-sponsored by New England Floriculture, Inc. - a group of grower representatives from the Northeast, augmented by University and Cooperative Extension staff in each state who specialize in greenhouse crops and management.

Exhibit space and sponsorship opportunities are available! Visit the website for more information (<https://www.negreenhouse.org/sponsor.html>) or contact Cindy Sherwood at (802) 448-9063 or sales@delaneymeetingevent.com.

USDA ANNOUNCES GRANTS FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making available up to \$7.5 million for grants through its Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP). The competitive grants will support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects through two categories, Planning Projects and Implementation Projects. USDA will accept applications on Grants.gov until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 27, 2023.

Planning Projects

Planning Projects initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for

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awarded funds to conduct a feasibility study and develop a business plan to establish a cooperative for small-scale agricultural producers serving low food access markets in Harris County, Texas.

Implementation Projects

Implementation Projects accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor and other agricultural practices that serve farmers and communities. Projects may improve local food access, include collaboration with partner organizations, and support infrastructure needs, emerging technologies, and educational endeavors. For example, the Moka Urban Agriculture Initiative used 2022 awarded funds for a project to increase local food access and provide culturally relevant options that create economic opportunities for urban farmers. The project will help to reduce food insecurity, improve health and establish outdoor spaces for food production in Missouri.

Webinar

A pre-recorded webinar on Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants | USDA provides an overview of the grants' purpose, project types, eligibility and basic requirements for submitting an application.

More Information

OUAIP was established through the 2018 Farm Bill. It is led by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and works in partnership with numerous USDA agencies that support urban agriculture and innovative production. The grants are part of a broad USDA investment in urban agriculture. Other efforts include:

- Creating and managing a [Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#) to advise the Secretary on the development of policies and outreach relating to urban agriculture.
- Reopening the [People's Garden Initiative](#). People's Gardens across the country grow fresh, healthy food and support resilient, local food systems; teach people how to garden using sustainable practices; and nurture habitat for pollinators and wildlife and greenspace for neighbors.
- Providing [cooperative agreements](#) that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.
- Providing technical and financial assistance through conservation programs offered by [NRCS](#).
- Organizing 17 Farm Service Agency urban county committees.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and



AGRICULTURE BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATIONS INVITED To APPLY TO EXHIBIT IN THE CT BUILDING AT BIG E

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting vendor applications for the agriculture booth spaces in the Connecticut Building at The Big E, September 15-October 1, 2023, with the purpose of providing Connecticut farms, small agricultural businesses, and agricultural non-profit organizations the opportunity to market and promote their products and/or service.

This is a unique opportunity for agricultural businesses, non-profits, and other entities with an agricultural mission to showcase the diversity of Connecticut agriculture to over one million attendees who come through the Connecticut Building. Connecticut Day will take place on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, and Harvest New England Day will be held on Friday, September 29, 2023.

Interested applicants are encouraged to review the exhibitor guidelines, and submit a completed application by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 24, 2023**. Licensed Connecticut farm wineries interested in having their wines available by the glass will be receiving a separate application to participate.

[Guidelines and Application here.](#)

For more information, please contact Rebecca Eddy at Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov, or 860-573-0323.



Farm Succession School

For senior farmers and farm partners in **Connecticut**, like Chris, who are looking toward retirement and farm transition.

Three-day winter course:
February 7, February 28, March 28



DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE



FARM SUCCESSION SCHOOL - STILL TIME TO REGISTER

As you know, the biggest hurdle in farm succession planning is getting the plan done. The **Farm Succession School** is for senior farmers and farm partners in Connecticut, like Chris, who are looking toward retirement and farm transition.

This **three-day winter course** is for senior farmers who are ready to do the work and dig into creating a farm succession plan.

This curriculum is designed to help 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. There is also homework and assistance available between sessions. Farmers do not need to have an identified successor to participate in this course.

Farm Succession School meets at the Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Route 30, Vernon, CT.

Tuesdays from 9:30am - 3:30pm

March 28, 2023

[Learn more and register](#)

Additional Support Opportunities

Online Training - Join a free **live webinar series** for transitioning farmers and

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help. All generations, including family and non-family members, who may play a role in the farm's future are encouraged to attend. Farmers from across New England are welcome. Four-part series meets virtually, January – February. [There's still time to register!](#)

One-on-One Advising - Our field agents offer **one-on-one advising** to help New England farmers start, continue or complete their farm succession plan. We've helped hundreds of farmers and partners find innovative solutions that keep their farms in farming, provide a meaningful legacy and address the financial, legal and business challenges involved in transferring a farm to a next generation family member or unrelated successor. Low or no-cost assistance is available. Costs vary depending on your needs and available funding, with always a sliding scale option. Complete this [Farm Succession Form](#) or call us at 603-357-1600 to initiate a no-cost informational session.

Connecticut Farm Succession School is in partnership with UConn Extension and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 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.

Funding for the free live webinar series provided by the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board through the VT Viability Program, and the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network Grant administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture in partnership with UConn Extension.

[Learn More](#)



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Are you a New England farmer or forestland owner improving soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat on your working land? Apply for the 2023 New England Leopold Conservation Award®.

[Sand County Foundation](#) and national sponsor [American Farmland Trust](#) present the Leopold Conservation Award to private landowners in 25 states for extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation. In [New England](#) the \$10,000 award is presented with, [New England Forestry Foundation](#) and [Wildlands Woodlands Farmlands & Communities](#).

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the award recognizes landowners who inspire others with their dedication to soil health, water quality and wildlife habitat on private, working land. In his influential 1949 book, *[A Sand County Almanac](#)*, Leopold called for an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage.

Nominations may be submitted on behalf of a landowner in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Landowners may also nominate themselves. The application can be found at www.sandcountyfoundation.org/ApplyLCA.

The application deadline date is July 18, 2023. Email applications to award@sandcountyfoundation.org. Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel of agricultural and forestry conservation leaders.

Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on February 20, 2023

[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

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For Sale

2017 Eliminator Model 224 Seed & Grain Cleaner, includes extra screens. Additional screens are available from manufacturer for any grain or seed imaginable. Asking \$5,400 obo. Call or text Dan Dzen (860) 548-6763 (3/3/2023)

Bushel wooden apple boxes; in good-excellent condition \$250 for a quantity of 25 boxes. Call or text:860-908-3899. (3/3/2023)

4500' plus and 3.5' wide Fruit-Zone Roll Premium Grade Bird Netting made of black colored polypropylene with a 3/4 inch mesh (approximately 2.3#MSF), also called "side netting". Can be cross-cut or parted into narrower widths for fruit zone netting / side netting. Was a 5000' roll and we used about 220'. Asking \$150 please. Located in Colchester, CT. Rosemary or Tim: 508/873-6781 (3/10/2023)

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)

HONEYBEES - 5-FRAME NUCS, DEEPS only Available 1st week May JONES' APIARIES LLC PH 860-677-9391 (5/5/23)

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

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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

Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc. (CT RC&D) is seeking an **Agricultural Programs Coordinator**, part time, 15 hours/week. Responsible for overseeing and coordinating agricultural programs and initiatives aimed at improving agricultural production and sustainability. For more information, visit their [website](#). To Apply: Email cover letter, detailing degree, experience, professional qualifications, and resume to employment@ctrctd.org by 4:00 pm on Friday, March 17, 2023.

Do you have a passion for agricultural and public health? Are you a student who is currently applying to or enrolled in a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program? If so, an internship with the **United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** may be right for you!

We are now accepting applications for the [Saul T. Wilson Jr. Internship program](#). Through this program, you will gain valuable, real-world experience in promoting and protecting the nation's agricultural animal health. For example, on any given day, you might work in a pasture collecting statistical information, spend time in a laboratory analyzing data, or conduct routine tests alongside seasoned veterinarians, among many other tasks.

Selected Saul T. Wilson, Jr. interns receive tuition assistance from USDA—up to \$7,500 per year for undergraduate studies and \$15,000 per year for graduate studies. After you successfully complete the program and have your DVM degree, you may be eligible for a permanent position as a Veterinary Medical Officer. Learn about the many benefits of working with us at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/careers>.

will assist with one of CFT's core programs, CT FarmLink. This is a full-time position with generous benefits and room for growth. Candidates of diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. [Learn more here.](#)

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.](#)

Upcoming Events (click on image below for info)

Leaders of Color in Conservation CT (LOCC)

PARTICIPANT APPLICATION OPEN!

Project Overview:

- Learn conservation planning and standard of practice on small farms
- In-person and virtual lessons
- Field Days
- Learn from conservation specialists
- Summer field practicum
- Participation and travel stipends
- April 4th-September 1st

Application Deadline:
March 3rd

MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH FEDERAL FUNDING
USDA-NRCS AWARD NR221106XXXXG002

UConn In Partnership with: 




SOLID GROUND

A Program Of UConn Extension

AGROECOCLOGY SERIES

IPM IN HIGH TUNNELS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2023 @ 12:00-1:30PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM
PRESENTER: DR. ANA LEGRAND
UConn DEPARTMENT OF PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Ana will explore using beneficial insects and other biocontrol agents for insect pest management in high tunnels. This presentation will review arthropod predators and insect parasitoids available for growers to purchase and release against key pests in high tunnels. She will also address the benefits and limitations of these biocontrol agents plus discuss other tools such as microbial pesticides.

ECOLOGICAL GROWING

THURSDAY MARCH 23, 2023 @ 6:30-8:00PM
CT AG EXPERIMENT STATION, WINDSOR, CT
PRESENTER: NIGEL PALMER
AUTHOR: THE REDUCEDATIVE GROWERS GUIDE TO GARDEN AMENDMENTS

Nigel will begin by introducing concepts of mineral and biological soil characteristics required to grow healthy crops. Exploring both short and long term strategies for improving plant health, and benefits of having healthy plants. He'll focus on short term plans, finding out the trace minerals needed and applying them in correct proportions that influence the phases of plant development using foliar sprays. Hands-on demo making mineral amendments and foliar feeding with time for Q&A.

NO-TILL FIELD DAY

SUNDAY MAY 7, 2023 @ 100-4:00PM
TOBACCO ROAD FARM, LEBANON, CT
PRESENTER: BRYAN O'HARA
AUTHOR: NO-TILL INTENSIVE VEGETABLE CULTURE

Bryan will share a wealth of knowledge on his no-till practices with a focus on long term strategies for fertilization and overall soil health. He will demonstrate his customized and mechanized pieces of equipment for both dry amendments and foliar fertilizers. These specialized tools can be absolute game changers for saving on labor and maximizing efficiencies on your farm.

Best practices and suggestions for no-till vegetable production in Connecticut Agriculture, UConn Department of Agriculture, UConn Extension number: 2022-70017-32723.
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USDA UCONN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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URBAN AG CONSERVATION TOUR

APRIL 29TH 1-3PM AT RESERVOIR COMMUNITY FARM

SPANISH TRANSLATION PROVIDED

LEARN ABOUT FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HIGH TUNNELS, RAISED BEDS, IRRIGATION SYSTEMS, AND OTHER CONSERVATION PRACTICES!

USE THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER, AND SIGN UP FOR TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT!



Get your soil tested for heavy metals on site!



1469 RESERVOIR AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT REGISTER: [TINYURL.COM/URBANAGTOUR](https://tinyurl.com/urbanagtour) 203-612-4107 INFO@GOOVI.ORG

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TOUR DE CONSERVACIÓN AGRÍCOLA URBANA

29 DE ABRIL 1-3PM EN RESERVOIR COMMUNITY FARM

TRADUCCIÓN AL ESPAÑOL DISPONIBLE

Conozca las oportunidades en financiación federal para proyectos de túneles altos, camas elevadas, sistemas de riego, y para otras prácticas de conservación!

USE ESTE CÓDIGO QR PARA REGISTRARSE E INSCRIBASE PARA EL TRANSPORTE AL EVENTO



Obtenga un análisis de metales pesados para su suelo!



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