

# Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor  
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
February 7, 2018



Ice cream made with Hindinger strawberries sold at the annual strawberry festival at Hindinger Farm.



Shepard Brook Carpentry makes improvements at Hindinger Farm funded through a Farm Transition Grant.



Musical entertainment at the 2017 Hindinger Farm strawberry festival.

## FARM TRANSITION GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Mark Hood, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is seeking applications for its 2018 Farm Transition Grant program. Applications are due Wednesday, February 14, 2018.

Farm Transition Grants are awarded to farmers and agricultural cooperatives for activities such as diversifying existing farm operations, and transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales.

Awards are made as reimbursements of up to \$49,999, and must be matched by the recipient, who has one year to complete the approved project.

With a focus on expanding and diversifying agriculture, priority will be given to the following project types:

- On-farm improvements to comply with the Produce Safety Rule of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)
- Meeting food safety requirements for advanced positioning in the marketplace
- Strengthening infrastructure to meet changing climate conditions
- Processing Connecticut Grown products to increase year-round market availability and farm viability
- Diversification of existing farm operations into new and emerging crops and/or product lines

Since 2006, Farm Transition Grants have been an important tool for many Connecticut farm families to invest in agricultural buildings, equipment, fencing, promotional projects, energy efficiency improvements, and a wide variety of other projects.

One example of a successful Farm Transition Grant project is the on-farm food-safety improvements at Hindinger

Farm in Hamden. The farm was awarded a \$7,750 Farm Transition Grant to update their packing house and cooler to comply with the new federal FSMA guidelines. The grant was supplemented with an \$8,703 match from Hindinger Farm for the \$16,453 project.

Hindinger Farm was one of 21 farms to be awarded a Farm Transition Grant in 2016. The purpose of the program is to strengthen the economic viability of Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives. The \$588,306 awarded that year leveraged \$1,236,824 in matching funds as part of the competitive matching grant program.

Hindinger Farm hired Shepard Brook Carpentry, located in Hamden, CT, to implement the project. Project activities included putting up sheet rock, building shelving and packing benches, and installing insulation in the packing room. Shepard Brook did all the ceiling installation in the coolers, which included removal of existing water decayed framing. A new ceiling was put up with moisture-resistant sheathing and paintable surface.

An electrician was hired to change all the wiring, fix all the switches, and put up LED lighting flush to the ceiling in the packing room. During the renovation a new electrical panel was installed to be compliant with building codes. Elizabeth Hindinger did all the painting and the finish surfaces. The result of these improvements is a very clean and easy-to-sanitize packing room that is safer now with the wiring up to code and framing more solid.

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said the Hindinger Farm improvements are an example of how Farm Transition Grants can help farmers “take the next step” in improving and modernizing their operations.

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

Table with 3 columns: Category (XTRA LARGE, LARGE, MEDIUM), Price, and another Price column.

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

Table with 3 columns: Category (XTRA LARGE, LARGE, MEDIUM, SMALL), Price, and another Price column.

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

Large table with 3 columns: Category (SLAUGHTER COWS, STEERS, HOLSTEINS, HEIFERS, CALVES, LAMBS, EWES, KIDS, BUCKS/BILLIES), Price, and another Price column.

USDA WHOLESALE CUTFLOWERS

February 6. \$/pack as noted

Table with 3 columns: Flower types (ALSTROEMERIA, AMARYLLIS, etc.), Price, and another Price column.

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

Table with 3 columns: Category (ALFALFA SPROUTS, APPLE, BEAN SPROUTS, etc.), Price, and another Price column.

GREENHOUSE CROPS

Price Range. Per unit.

Table with 3 columns: Crop types (CUKES, CUKE, EGGPLANT, etc.), Price, and another Price column.

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - February 5, 2018

Table with 3 columns: Category (Bob Calves, Farm Calves, etc.), Price, and another Price column.

Auction will be held February 12 and 19.

DAIRY REPLACEMENT COWS

New Holland, PA, February 5. By the head.

Table with 3 columns: Category (FRESH COWS, SHORT BRED COWS, etc.), Price, and another Price column.

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

Table with 3 columns: Category (52-56, 48-52, Sows, Boars), Price, and another Price column.



Continued from Page 1

“One of our priorities continues to be offering grants that will assist with hardening of farms’ infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events and to help growers comply with the requirements of new federal Food Safety Modernization Act regulations,” Reviczky said. “Connecticut’s agricultural economy is making many significant advances in the right direction, and these grants will help keep that momentum going.”

Elizabeth Hindinger said the on-farm food-safety improvements project will not only enable the farm to comply with the new FSMA regulations, it will also enhance the safety of their food and customers.

“Thanks to the Department of Agriculture for providing us with a Farm Transition Grant. We are able to look to the future and remain sustainable,” said Elizabeth Hindinger. “This grant has enabled us to complete a project that would not have been possible without the grant.”

Hindinger Farm has been growing fresh produce in Hamden since 1893 when William and Rose Hindinger started the farm on a 60-acre parcel of land in Hamden.

Today the Hindinger family continues to farm about 120 acres in Hamden, where its seasonal store offers fresh produce and other items through its gift shop. The farm also operates a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program that provides consumers with a weekly share of fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, and farm-fresh products. In 1996, the fourth-generation farm received the Century Farm award from the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council.

Farm Transition Grant awards are funded through the Community Investment Act (CIA). Established through P.A. 05-228 and codified in C.G.S. Sec. 4-66aa – Sec. 4-66cc, CIA supports statewide initiatives in agricultural viability and sustainability, farmland preservation, open space protection, historic preservation, and affordable housing. It also supports municipal capital improvement projects and costs associated with collecting fees. CIA funds are generated through a fee for filing documents on municipal land records and are held separately from the state’s General Fund.

Additional information and application materials for the Farm Transition Grant are available at [www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov)/grants.

### IT’S NOT TOO LATE



**2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE**  
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

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Respond Online. [www.agcounts.usda.gov](http://www.agcounts.usda.gov)  
For assistance completing the census,  
call toll-free (888) 424-7828.  
[www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)

It’s not too late to be counted in the 2017 Census of Agriculture. USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service conducts the Census of Agriculture every five years. The information you provide supports critical work, including DoAg programming and local, state, regional, and national educational efforts emphasizing the importance of Connecticut agriculture.

Respond online at [www.agcounts.usda.gov](http://www.agcounts.usda.gov).

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### FOR SALE

1-R. 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](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal’s Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

10-R Greenhouse furnaces, 300,000-400,000 BTU’s. Price range from \$1,500 to \$3,000. Call Alex 203-223-4853.

12-R. Certified organic hay 4X5 net wrap July cut grass hay stored outside. \$40.00. July cut grass baleage 4X4 \$40.00. Falls Village, CT. 860-248-0362.

14-R. Modine Effinity 93 propane greenhouse heater Model PTC215. 199,950 BTU/Hr. Output and hanger kit. New, in box. \$1,500.00. 203-457-1304.

15-R. Hay for sale. Timothy/orchard grass mix, \$5.00 for first cut, \$6.00 for second cut. Call 860-536-2588. Bulk discounts available.

16-R. Farm stand for rent May and June. 30x30 building with attached greenhouse. Established customer base for annuals, bedding plants and perennials. Contact Alex Arisco @ 203-217-0549.

17-R. Registered, mature Belted Galloway bull. Excellent genetics, black and white. \$1,400.00. John Deere 1240 4 row plate corn planter. 30” rows. \$650.00. 48” X 50” round bale bedding straw. Net wrap under cover. 860-355-1264.

18. Smart Net System (poles, wire, netting). 860-707-6372.

19. 350 mature blueberry bushes (4 varieties). Last pruning and production 2017. 860-7070-6372.

### WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. [RyanM01@comcast.net](mailto:RyanM01@comcast.net) or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

### MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

### AG JOB CONNECTION

20-R. Salaried Manager for a Hop Farm. Connecticut’s two largest hop farms seek a full-time, salaried farm manager. Salary, housing, vacation. If interested in learning about the qualifications, please send an email to [info@ct-hops.com](mailto:info@ct-hops.com).



### FMNP FARMER RECERTIFICATION MEETINGS

All fruit, vegetable, and honey producers currently certified with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) must attend a recertification meeting to maintain their certification. The certification allows farms to accept the FMNP checks for fresh fruits, vegetables, and honey from WIC clients and income eligible seniors over the age of 60. Below is the list of meeting dates and locations.

- Tuesday, February 13, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. CT Ag Experiment Station, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor.
- Wednesday, February 21, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. New London County Extension Center, 562 New London Turnpike, Norwich.
- Monday, March 12, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. CT Ag Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven. Consumer Protection will be offering scale certifications before and during this March 12 FMNP meeting. Farmers are encouraged to bring their scales to receive the required annual inspection. Additional information regarding scale certifications can be found in the Farmers' Market Reference Guide on CTGrown.gov.
- SNOW DATE for any meeting cancelled: Tuesday, March 20, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. CT Ag Experiment Station, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor.

Please RSVP no later than 24 hours in advance of the meeting to Mark Hood at 860-713-2503 or Mark.Hood@ct.gov. Should a meeting be cancelled due to weather, attendees who RSVP will be contacted. Questions can be directed to Jaime Smith at 860-713-2503 or Jaime.Smith@ct.gov.

### SIGN UP FOR AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Ag Day at the Capitol will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration is now available online: <http://ctaginfocouncil.org/index.html>. Registration and payment is due by Thursday, March 1, 2018.



Commissioner Steven Reviczky at the NASDA 2018 Winter Policy Conference viewing the signing of a coordination agreement between USDA's Secretary Sonny Perdue and FDA's Commissioner Scott Gottlieb

### UPCOMING CONNECTICUT FARM BUREAU EVENTS

- Creating a Business Entity for Your Farm: Exploring Choices and Options. Thursday Feb. 22, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Fields Memorial School, 8 Bozrah St. Ext., Bozrah, CT (snow date Feb. 27, 2018).
- Maintaining and Transferring PA 490 Farmland, Forest Land and Open Space Land. Tuesday March 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Memorial Hall. Main St., Bethlehem, CT.

These events are free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required. Contact the CT Farm Bureau at 860-768-1100 for additional information or visit: [www.cfba.org](http://www.cfba.org).

### TOLLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU EQUINE NUTRITION & LIABILITY PROGRAM MARCH 30, 2018

The Tolland Country Farm Bureau will hold a program on equine nutrition and liability issues on Friday, March 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Pleasant View Farm, 452 South Road, Somers, CT. The program will feature Nichole Rambo, Ph.D., an Equine Nutritionist with Tribute Equine Nutrition. Additional information on equine liability issues will be presented by a liability representative from Nationwide Insurance.

The program, including refreshments, is free for CT Farm Bureau members or \$15 for non-members. For more information please contact [tollandcountyfarmbureau@gmail.com](mailto:tollandcountyfarmbureau@gmail.com) or call 860-742-5725.

**Advertising Rates:** Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact [Jane.Murdock@ct.gov](mailto:Jane.Murdock@ct.gov) or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Blvd. Suite 701, Hartford CT 06103.

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