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Governor Shumlin Kicks Off the 2014 Maple Season

By Alison Kosakowski, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets

Gov. Peter Shumlin kicked off Vermont's 2014 maple sugar season on April 3rd, officially tapping a maple tree at the Trapp Family Lodge sugarhouse.

Although the final numbers are not yet in, the Vermont maple industry is hoping for another strong season, despite the late start and unusual weather. The 2013 season was a record-breaker for Vermont sugar makers, setting expectations high for the current year's crop.

The value of the maple industry to Vermont is enormous, and hard to measure, according to the Governor, who noted the industry helps keep our forests in production, and also has a positive impact on tourism.

From left: Parker Riehle, Ski Vermont, Johannes von Trapp, Kristina von Trapp Frame, Gov. Peter Shumlin, Lynne von Trapp, Sec. Chuck Ross, Agency of Agriculture, Food, & Markets, Matt Gordon, Executive Director, Vermont Maple Sugar Makers

Alison Kosakowski

The Trapp Family Lodge, where sugaring has been taking place since the late 1800s and the roughly 300 gallons produced each year are sold in the gift shop or online, is illustrative of the link between Vermont's maple industry and its strong tourism focus, he said.

"Trapps draws visitors to ski, swim, hike, mountain bike, sample our locally brewed beers, go bird-watching, and take home a few containers of Vermont maple syrup," Gov. Shumlin said.

Trapp Family Lodge sugars the old-fashioned way, with sap collected in buckets, and a team of draft horses pulling the sled to the large wood-fired evaporator.

But, as the Governor noted, new innovations have helped Vermont stay on the forefront of production. Among those:

- Smaller taps that are better for tree health without sacrificing production.
- Reverse osmosis, which allows water to be extracted from sap, resulting in higher sugar

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The View from 116 State Street

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of visiting the Trapp Family Lodge with the Governor to honor Vermont's maple industry. While the most tangible way of measuring Vermont agriculture is by counting dollars and cents, the value of the industry expands far beyond the sales figures. Maple, for instance, is a key part of Vermont's brand. When we export maple products across the nation, and internationally, we are sharing Vermont's heritage, and building upon our reputation for quality and authenticity. The maple industry preserves our working landscape, and helps fuel our tourism economy. It creates jobs and opportunities for the next generation of Vermonters. The numbers are not yet in, but it is safe to say that this season, and every season, Vermont maple is priceless.

Charles R Ross Jr.

2014 Maple Season

continued from page 1

concentrations and less boiling time. It also saves fuel.

- Check valve spouts, which were developed by Dr. Tim Perkins of the UVM Proctor Maple Research Center, allowing less contamination of the taphole and increased production of sap.

Gov. Shumlin said these innovations— as well as future technology currently in development — will ensure Vermont's maple industry remains a leader in production techniques and quality, and will help provide resilience to an industry which is particularly susceptible to weather patterns and climate change.

Vermont leads the U.S. in maple production, making about 35 percent of the U.S. maple syrup annually 20 years ago and now averaging more than 40 percent. The number of taps has also climbed, from 2.1 million in 2000 to nearly 4 million in 2013. The average annual production has increased from 422,000 gallons (5-year average, 1999-2003) to 1 million gallons (5-year average, 2009-2013). And the average yield per tap is up approximately 33 percent due to investments in new equipment and technologies (vacuum pumps, ROs, pre-heaters, etc.).

"The maple industry is an integral part of Vermont's economy, and is an essential element of our thriving working landscape," said Chuck Ross, Secretary of Agriculture. "Sugarmakers are not only helping promote and preserve Vermont's heritage, they are helping ensure our state's working landscape endures for future generations of Vermonters to enjoy."

"We could not be more proud to lead the nation in syrup production!" Ross added.

Alison Kosakowski

The view from inside the sugarhouse at Trapp Family Lodge

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Editors Note

Spring is finally here, and if you are like me, your green thumb has been itching for months. It's time to get into the garden, and get dirty. Despite the short growing season of Zone 4, Vermont is still a gardener's paradise, in large part due to the many resources at our finger tips. First on my list of growing resources: The University of Vermont. Each year, I start my seeds in the UVM greenhouse, which offers space for rent to the public. I look to UVM researchers, particularly Dr. Leonard Perry (regularly featured in Agriview) for information about growing in this tricky climate. I've learned from the fearless women behind the Women's Agricultural Network (WAGN). And I connect with other growers using the Veg & Berry Listserve, moderated by UVM's own Vern Grubinger.

While we may not have the some of the advantages milder climates enjoy, Vermont growers are privy to an abundance of farm and garden resources, thanks to our land grant university.

And yes, social media can help you with spring planting, too! Follow these tweeters @ UVMExtension @UVMFoodFeed @UVMExtAgEng @WAGNVT for helpful resources from the talented team at the University of Vermont.

— Alison Kosakowski
Follow VAAFM on Twitter
@VTAgencyof Ag
and follow me @VTFarmGirl

Reduce Your Farm Energy Bills With These Efficiency Tips

By JJ Vandette, BEP
Strategic Planning Manager ,
Efficiency Vermont

Spring is finally on its way and though we are leaving the slow season behind, it's still not too late to think about energy efficiency on your farm. In fact, spring is the best time to start thinking about energy efficiency because summer is when farmers typically use the most electricity. Whether you're tuning up the furnace to get the seedlings started in the greenhouse or you're dusting off the ventilation fans in advance of the first warm day in the freestall, using the right equipment – and taking care to maintain it properly – is critical to your operations, and your energy bills.

Here are some tips from Efficiency Vermont for farmers and agricultural producers to reduce their energy bills this spring, and throughout the year:

- When adhering to the lighting requirements for the voluntary Sugar House Certification Program, be sure to install efficient lighting such as an LED bulb (that is shatterproof) or a vapor proof T5 or high-performance T8 fixture
- If your sap vacuum pump is running 24 hours per day this sugaring season, consider installing a variable frequency drive in time for next season
- Air infiltration is important to manage in the greenhouse, so be sure to have your louvers working properly and that holes in glass or tears in plastic covering are repaired
- Manage the air infiltration in your walk-in cooler by installing weatherstripping around the door
- Consider upgrading to an ENERGY STAR® certified chest freezer for meat or other products stored on-site
- Upgrade the lighting in your walk-in cooler by installing a screw-based LED—they love the cold and release less heat than incandescent bulbs, helping ensure your products stay cold and don't spoil
- Check and reset thermostats for ventilation fans in dairy barns—a few degrees can make a big difference on your energy bill
- The longevity and efficiency of your ventilation fans can be improved by removing dust and dirt from fan blades and ensuring the belts have proper tension
- Unplug heat lamps, stock tank heaters, and engine block heaters once the last cold days of early spring have passed
- For any compressor you have, be sure that heat can easily be rejected to the outside and that any associated louvers are working well
- Your yard lighting can be upgraded to LEDs and be sure these are on a photocell or timer so they are not left running when they aren't needed

Efficiency Vermont is your resource for energy savings. We have incentives and rebates available for a number of energy efficient technologies on the farm. Whether you are expanding your walk-in cooler space or are simply looking to upgrade your old lighting, Efficiency Vermont is here to help. Call or email us at info@efficiencyvermont.com or 888-921-5990 to talk about your operation, and we will give you the information and support you need to lower your costs and meet your energy goals.

Stay tuned for the next energy efficiency article in May's *Agriview*. We'll discuss more seasonal energy efficiency opportunities as summer gets into full swing!

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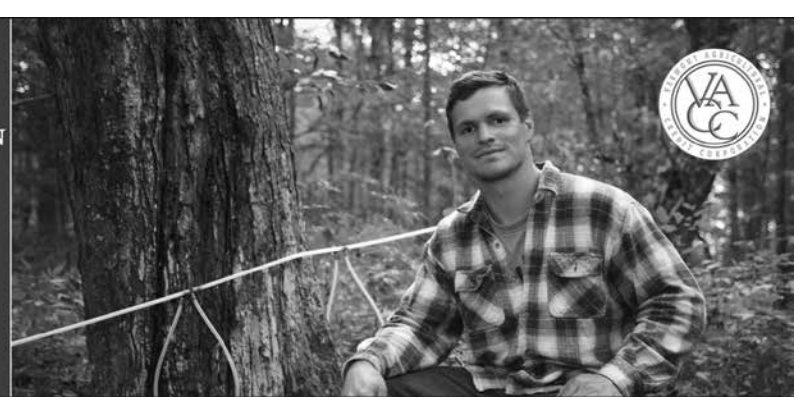

NOFA Vermont Announces CSA Open Farm Day

By Erin Buckwalter
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA Vermont)

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont announces the first CSA Open Farm Day. On Sunday, May 4, 2014 from 1:00–4:00 pm, farms across Vermont will open their greenhouses, barns, and fields to community members. This day is an opportunity for everyone to get to know a local farmer, and falls just before the beginning of most farms' CSA programs. CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture, and is a form of direct farm-to-consumer sales in which the customer typically subscribes in the spring for a weekly share of the season's produce.

Over 40 farms will participate in this year's CSA Open Farm Day. Farm activities may include tours, demonstrations, product tasting, scavenger hunts, and more. Everyone is welcome to this community event.

Learn more and find a participating farm near you at www.nofavt.org/CSA-day. The 2014 CSA Open Farm Day is made possible in part by a Vermont Specialty Crop Block Grant.

About NOFA Vermont: NOFA Vermont is member-based organization working to grow local farms, healthy food, and strong communities in Vermont. Our members are farmers, gardeners, educators and food lovers of all sorts – anyone who wants to help us create a future full of local food and local farms. Our programs include farmer and gardener technical assistance, farm to school support, organic certification, advocacy, an online apprentice and farm worker directory, an annual Winter Conference, and programs that work to ensure access to fresh, local food to all Vermonters, regardless of income.

Farm Succession Planning: Transferring a Farm from One Generation or Owner to Another

By Rachel Carter, Vermont Farm to Plate

Farm transfers can be stressful, filled with details, and get emotional. However, waiting to figure out a farm succession plan until there is a crisis not only makes the process far more challenging, but could result in situations where the farmland is removed from agricultural use. It is important to Vermont farmers that farming traditions and family land are passed through generations. Vermont is also leading the country in food system planning and the statewide Farm to Plate program is working to increase the amount of local food produced and consumed—farms play a vital role in growing the farm and food economy and increasing local food access for all Vermonters. All of these are key reasons to begin working on a farm transfer plan at least five years before the start of a transition out of farming.

"Even if it's later than it should be, now is still the time. You never know what will come up to make it more complicated," says Mike Ghia, Vermont field director at Land For Good, a New England wide organization working to connect farmers and land. "Don't think you have all the time you need, because then something unexpected happens and you're planning last minute. This can be so overwhelming that folks just stop planning, which affects the future of the farm" he adds.

Land For Good suggests farm transfer planning should include an action plan, a timeline, and the necessary legal documents; and recommends working with Vermont's Farm Viability Program, which helps farmers develop Farm Transfer Plans over a two year period by matching succession planning experience with farmers.

Land For Good suggests the following areas to consider and the Farm Viability Program works with farmers to hone in on each of these farm succession planning areas:

- **Assets:** How will the farmland, buildings, animals, and equipment be transferred or conveyed?
- **Family Goals and Communication:** How will you include all family members in communication about the breadth of issues as well as to set forth personal, family, and business goals?
- **Management:** What tasks, responsibilities, and income will be transferred?
- **Business Plan:** What are the operational, personnel, marketing, finance, and business structure strategies?
- **Estate Plan:** How will the estate provide for beneficiaries?
- **Land Use:** What will be the options for agriculture, forestry, recreation, conservation, and development?
- **Retirement:** How will the plan address the residence, income, and health care costs for the person(s) retiring?

UVM Extension also offers a workshop and video series for farmers looking for more initial information.

Resources:

Land For Good: www.landforgood.org

Farm Viability Program: http://www.vhcb.org/Farm-Forest-Viability/, 802-828-3370

UVM Extension Farm Transfer Program: http://www.uvm.edu/farmtransfer/, 802-656-2109

2014 Vermont Ag Hall of Fame Nominations Due May 31

By Jackie Folsom, Vermont Ag Hall of Fame Committee Chair

The Vermont Agriculture Hall of Fame is looking for nominations in 2014 to honor folks in our state who have contributed to the success of our industry.

In August of 2013, we inducted six deserving Vermonters into the Hall: Robert Davis, Thomas Magnant, Sam Cutting III, Darby Bradley, John Deere and Elizabeth Carr. These people were instrumental in their own way, serving dairy, maple, conservation, innovation and education to make agriculture a vital and vibrant part of our economy.

They join over fifty other Vermonters who have been honored in the past eleven years.

This year, we will unveil their black and white photographs and add them to the Hall of Fame wall at Champlain Valley Exposition during the fair. We will also reveal the names of the 2014 class.

The criteria for being considered for the Hall include:

1. A lifelong commitment and involvement in agriculture
2. A commitment that doesn't necessarily derive from a financial benefit
3. Integrity and/or character that strengthens and upholds the positive image of agriculture and rural life
4. Demonstrated leadership in moving agricultural and rural communities forward
5. Rising above adversity to promote agriculture, and
6. Inspiring and sharing their enthusiasm and experience with the next generation to promote a positive image of our industry.

It's very easy to nominate a deserving Vermonter for the honor – simply go to the Champlain Valley Exposition website (www.cvexpo.org) and follow the links to the nomination form. There are only four categories (farmer, education, government and non-governmental) and the form should be postmarked by May 31. It's pretty simple and an additional two or three paragraph narrative about the nominee is all that's required. The committee reviews all nomination forms every mid-summer and no nomination is ever discarded.

Please consider nominating a deserving Vermonter for the Agriculture Hall of Fame!

If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Folsom, chair of the Committee, at crkdbrks@aol.com.

Thanks so much and we look forward to hearing from you!

Meet Catamount Farm Manager Laura Williams

By Erica Houskeeper, University of Vermont, Sr. Communications Coordinator

When it comes to farming, Laura Williams says the key to success is to focus on what you love.

Whether your passion is working the land, collaborating with other farmers, or interacting with customers, Williams says there isn't just one way to prosper as a farmer.

"Farming is such a broad field, that there are many ways to be a successful farmer. Instead of squeezing into one mold, find out what your skills are, what you're drawn to, and do that," Williams says.

Williams is the farm manager of Catamount Education Farm, a new endeavor at the University of Vermont that will give students the opportunity to learn about sustainable farm practices, contribute to the local food system, and help support research needs of the university.

Located on 13 acres at the UVM Horticulture Research and Education Center in South Burlington, the farm will continue to be home to the UVM Farmer Training Program for post-traditional students, as well as offer summer farming programs such as the Sustainable Farm Practicum for undergraduate students and the Introduction to Sustainable Vegetable Farming for high school students.

Becoming a Farmer

Williams, who studied at the University of California at Santa Cruz's Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, says she became interested in farming during her freshmen year in college after realizing she wanted to spend her life working outdoors.

"My motivation was simply to be outdoors," she says. "I went backpacking all through California and Oregon while at UC Santa Cruz, and I wanted to figure out how to stay outside."

A California native, Williams relocated to Vermont in 2006 to start Bread and Roses Farm in Westford. She later joined UVM's Farmer Training Program in 2011 and was named manager of Catamount Farm in January.

As farm manager, Williams will be interacting with all of the students enrolled in farm courses, doing hands-on instruction as well as formal teaching. She will be on the farm daily between April and October, and spend the winter months planning for the following growing season.

The Catamount Farm Experience

What can students expect to learn at Catamount Farm? For one, students will learn to drive a tractor. They'll also be educated on how to grow, pick, and market vegetables from the farm. Students will grow everything from radish, arugula, apples, tomatoes, potatoes, flowers, and winter squash.

Produce grown at Catamount Farm will be sold to select outlets within the UVM community, including University Dining Services, and be available at the UVM farm stand and through a CSA.

"Students will also learn how to think like a farmer," Williams says. "We will explore the 'why' behind everything. So they can take what they learn here and apply it to their own land or on other farms."

Students will be integral to carrying out all activities of the farm, providing them with real and diverse sustainable farm management skills. The expanded farm also allows UVM to reach a wide range of students, who now have the opportunity to study sustainable farming while producing food for the UVM community.

"We'll teach best practices for Catamount Farm because every farm is different – from the location to soil conditions to elevation. We want students to think critically about what we're doing, feel empowered, and create systems on their own land," she says. "There's more than one right way to do things, and it's OK to make mistakes here."

Williams says working with students and seeing their skills transform is the most rewarding part of her job.

"We expose students to sustainable farming, and one of our goals is to get them to think differently about what they want to do. Many students come in thinking they want to do veggies and end up wanting to do livestock instead," she says, adding, "I love the energy the students bring to the farm. They are thrilled to be learning new skills, to be working with their hands, and to be growing food. Their enthusiasm is contagious and makes me excited to come to work every day."

For more information about Catamount Educational Farm, visit learn.uvm.edu/catamountfarm.

This piece was originally published on the UVM BrainWaves blog.

Lilacs: A Fragrant, Hardy, Attractive Performer for Vermont Landscapes

Dr. Leonard Perry
Extension Professor
University of Vermont

Lilacs are ubiquitous in New England in the spring, great in landscapes as well as cut in vases. They are an historic plant, found around many old homes and even surviving around old foundations after the home is fallen down. They are easy to grow, require little care, have a famous fragrance, and come in variations of red, pink, white, and purple. Even though blooms only last a couple weeks, with a diversity of different plants from the various species you can have blooms over a six-week period.

The two main requirements for lilacs to succeed are a well-drained soil and full sun. They will tolerate some shade, just won't be a dense nor bloom as well. Once established, they will even tolerate dry soils and drought.

After planting you may want to water with some liquid fertilizer, or use fertilizer stakes you can buy as such. Once established, fertilize lightly each year if at all. In good loamy soils, or with some compost placed around plants, they may need no fertilizer. If fertilizing, do so right after bloom. Too early and flowers may abort with just leaves coming out. Too late and plants may not harden properly for fall. Around the fourth of July is about as late as you should fertilize, or for that matter prune.

You should plant lilacs where you can appreciate their informal upright natural shape. If you want neatly rounded shrubs, look for other plants with this habit. A couple of dense and rounded exceptions are the single purple Paliban Korean lilac (Syringa meyeri) that gets 4 to 5 feet tall and a bit wider, and the single violet 'Miss Kim' (S. patula) that is similar. If you need to prune branches that are obstacles, or crossing and rubbing on each other, right after bloom is best.

When it comes to pruning, experts have a couple of opinions you can choose from. Some (such as myself) only prune branches as needed, eventually removing about a third of old branches each year. This allows the plant energy to go into the new branches. Eventually most lilacs will get tall (maybe 8 to 15 feet), with most the flowers at the top. This makes them hard to see close up, but fine from home windows, the street, or a distance. Plus, with some pruning of lower branches you can appreciate the attractive stem architecture.

Others like to prune about a third of new growth off each year, but do so pruning back to sideshoots, not shearing as a hedge. This keeps plants and their flowers lower, but sacrifices the natural shape and effect of the stems.

Make sure when planting you allow plenty of room for the mature height (and width) of a lilac, otherwise

you may need to "basal prune" all stems back near the ground, and then wait a couple years for new shoots to come up and start getting a few feet tall.

Lilacs are often seen near building foundations, especially good near corners. They make great specimens in lawns and borders, and planted in a line make a good seasonal hedge.

The main problem you may see with lilacs if your site has late morning dew and little air circulation, is the white powdery mildew disease on leaves. It is more an aesthetic issue, not causing enough harm to plants to really warrant treating with sprays. In some really wet springs some branches may all of a sudden wilt, with black tips. This is a blight which should only come once, with new buds emerging from stems in a few weeks. Occasionally a lilac may get small rounded brown bumps, or scales, which can be treated with a spray or infected branches cut off.

Most lilacs gardeners are familiar with are the common lilacs (S. vulgaris) and their cultivars (cultivated varieties) that bloom in mid to late May in the north. Some that bloom just a bit earlier are the hyacinthiflora hybrids, first bred by the famous Lemoine nursery in France in 1876. Examples of these are the single purple 'Pocahontas', the single white 'Mount Baker', the single blue 'Blanche Sweet', or the single magenta 'Asessippi'.

As you see, lilacs come in more than the color "lilac" and white. Lilac specialists have grouped the over two dozen species and hundreds of cultivars into 7 flower colors: white, violet, blue, lilac, pink, magenta, purple. For each of these there are singles and doubles. In addition there is the single yellow 'Primrose', and the bicolor 'Sensation'. The latter arose as a mutant in a Dutch greenhouse (from the lavender 'Hugo de Vries' that was being forced to flower at Christmas) in 1938, and has purple petals each in white.

The other large group are the late lilacs, mainly the Preston hybrids originally bred by a Canadian breeder by that name. These may not have the wonderful fragrance of the common lilacs, but bloom a week or 10 days later and tend to be larger in all respects– leaves, flowers, and wider plants. A few of my Preston favorites are the deep pink 'Miss Canada' and 'Donald Wyman', and the white 'Agnes Smith'.

I often get asked what is my favorite lilac. It is hard to answer as so many, in fact most including the common species, are beautiful. The one that stands out for me and many though is 'Krasavitsa Moskvy', or as many know it Beauty of Moscow. It was selected by a famous Russian breeder in 1947 from an offshoot of 'Belle de Nancy'– one of the French Lemoine hybrids. The pink buds open into creamy white flowers tinged with pink, a silvery opal color.

Dr. Leonard Perry is the Greenhouse and Nursery Extension Specialist for the University of Vermont, where he provides information and programming to the industry of Vermont, region, and North America. As a Professor, Dr. Perry researches all aspects of perennial production and overwintering. Students know him from his courses at UVM on Garden Plants and Indoor Flowers, with the Herbaceous Garden Plants course now available to anyone totally online. For more articles, visit his website at http://perrysperennials.wordpress.com/

A Primer on Vermont Honey Bees

By Steve Parise, Agricultural Production Specialist, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

As you travel Vermont's country roads and enjoy the scenic beauty of the many lush pastures that carpet the countryside, keep in mind that many of these fields that feed Vermont's dairy herds also provide a significant portion of the "honey bee pasture" that is vital to the state's beekeeping industry.

There are approximately 300 varieties of honey found in the United States, each specific to a species of plant. In Vermont, there are 15 main plant species that provide the majority of the honey produced in the state. Some plants are found state-wide, while others are found in specific geographic locations. In addition, some may bloom for a long period of time (weeks - clovers), or for just a few days (black locust).

The main plant species are (in approximate order of blooming throughout the year) dandelion, apples, honeysuckle, black locust, brambles (raspberry & blackberry), sumac, clovers (several species), vetch, trefoil, basswood, alfalfa, milkweed, goldenrod, knotweed and aster. These plant species produce a sweet fluid called nectar that is gathered by honey bees (and other pollinators) as a carbohydrate food source.

Through evaporation and the addition of enzymes, the bees "ripen" the nectar into a thick fluid (honey) that is stored by the bees in wax combs to use as a food source throughout the year. Since bees will often fly 2 miles from the hive to collect nectar, most of Vermont's honeys are a blend of several nectars from different species of plants. In any given year, depending upon location, weather, soil and plant conditions, any one plant species or group of plants may provide a larger percentage of the honey harvested by a beekeeper.

The flavor, color, and aroma of honey depends upon which plants the bees gathered the nectar from. Some honeys are very mild in flavor while others are strong flavored. In general, the lightest colored honeys, such as clover and alfalfa, are the mildest in taste. The darker honeys, such as goldenrod and knotweed, have a much stronger taste. Since most Vermont beekeepers harvest all their honey at one time in the late summer, it is often a blend of the entire season's worth of honey gathered by their bees, and is often in the middle of the color/flavor range.

Vermont's beekeepers sell their honey in a variety of forms. The most common is the liquid form, as a pourable, easy to measure fluid, for use in cooking or put onto fruit, bread, cereal or ice cream. Creamed or crystallized honey takes advantage of the fact that honey is a supersaturated solution and will naturally crystallize in time. Creamed honey can be used like maple cream, spooned into coffee or tea, or spread onto warm dinner rolls. Comb honey is honey in its most "natural" form, just as the bees produced it. All the flavors and aroma of the honey are sealed into each cell of the honey comb by a very thin layer of beeswax. Comb honey can be eaten like a piece of fine candy or spread onto toast or crackers.

Stop and visit at many of the farm stands around Vermont and pick up some of Vermont's best sweetener!

Steve Parise is well-known for the expertise and assistance he provides to Vermont beekeepers.

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Jin Hao Zhang of Swanton, VT to buy, sell, process, package and transport dairy products in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by: May 15, 2014.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Tanner Abbott of Highgate, VT to buy, sell, process, package and transport dairy products in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by May 15, 2014.

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Bedbugs (Don't Have To Be) On The Farm

By Erin Shea, UVM Extension & Dan Baker, UVM Dept. of Community Development & Applied Economics

Farmers across Vermont who offer housing for their employees have reported an increase in bedbug infestations.

Housing units which experience regular employee turnover are particularly susceptible to bedbug infestations. If your farm offers labor housing, pay attention: it's time to add bedbugs to your list of pests requiring management. Fortunately, bedbugs are one thing farmers can control, and being proactive can keep costs down and help retain valuable workers.

Compared to other pests, such as ticks, bedbugs pose less potential health risks to humans. They are not known to transmit disease and are visible to the human eye. However, their bites can cause extreme discomfort and poor quality of life.

Once established, bedbugs cost time and money to remove, averaging $1,500 or more in extermination fees and taking hours of time for residents and farm managers to mitigate. The good news is that bedbugs can be controlled. Avoiding infestations in the first place is the best practice.

Preventing bedbug infestation requires vigilance from both employers and farmworkers. Prevention is best implemented at the time new workers arrive on the farm. A cheap and effective approach to kill all bedbug life stages is a standard clothes dryer. Before new workers unpack, place all clothing items in a dryer on the highest temperature setting for 30 minutes. This can be a challenge for things like bedding, boots and suitcases. Employers may consider purchasing a designated 'heat box' sold for this exact purpose (approx. $350). For farms that experience frequent labor turnover, purchasing a heat box is a good investment given the high costs of cleaning entire buildings.

Think of it as another form of biosecurity for your farm – it is worth your effort to clean up existing housing and imperative to prevent new infestations. Make sure your housing units are not currently infested and if they are, call a professional specializing in bedbugs to eliminate the infestation.

Bedbugs are a community problem. They require a proactive approach to maintain healthy homes for all Vermonters.

For more information about managing bedbugs, contact erin.shea@uvm.edu.

U.S. Department Of Agriculture Accepts Applications For Conservation Innovation Grants

By Mary Jacobson, VT USDA-NRCS

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Vermont (VT), an agency under the United States Department of Agriculture, is announcing availability of Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. NRCS anticipates that the amount available for support of the Vermont State CIG competition in Fiscal Year 2014 will be approximately $212,000.

Funds will be awarded through a statewide competitive grants process. Only projects with a direct nexus to the state of Vermont will be considered. Applications must be received in the NRCS Vermont State Office by 4 p.m. on Friday, May 9, 2014.

The three categories of natural resources concerns or technology needs in the State CIG 2014 competition are water quality and soil health, forestry and wildlife, and energy. Applications are requested from eligible governmental or non-governmental organizations, individuals or legal entities for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration.

"These grants are critical for developing and demonstrating out-of-the-box ideas for conservation on America's private lands and strengthening rural communities," NRCS State Conservationist Vicky M. Drew said. "They inspire creative problem-solving that boosts the production of our farmers and ultimately improves our water, air and soil."

At least 50 percent of the total cost of CIG projects must come from non-federal matching funds, including cash and in-kind contributions provided by the grant recipient.

For more on this grant opportunity, visit http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/vt/programs/financial/cig/. To apply electronically, visit http://www.grants.gov or contact a local NRCS office.

Food Systems Summit Comes to UVM in June

By Alison Nihart, UVM Food Systems

The University of Vermont Food Systems Summit is an annual event drawing scholars, farmers, food systems leaders, students, and the public together to discuss the pressing food systems issues facing our world. The 2014 Summit is organized around the following themes: the impact of our geopolitical context on our food system, the biophysical constraints we face for food production globally, and the implications of behavior and culture for our food system.

The summit will include keynote addresses from food systems leaders, including Rosamond Naylor, director of the Center on Food Security and the Environment at Stanford University, and Eric Holt-Giménez, executive director of Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy. The summit will also feature panel discussions with scholars and practitioners on local level responses to globalization in the food system.

As Vermont's Land Grant university, UVM values its relationships with food producers throughout the state, and for events like this, famers and others working the Vermont food system bring valuable voices to the table. Unlike traditional academic workshops, the UVM Food Systems Summit is designed to optimize engagement between scholars and nonacademic participants. The summit is open to everyone, and all sessions include time for Q&A and engaged dialogue with the audience. A Taste of Vermont reception at the end of the summit will provide participants with an opportunity to enjoy samples of local food and drink.

Please join us June 17-18 for this one-of-a-kind event at the UVM campus in Burlington. For more information and to register for the summit, visit www.uvm.edu/foodsystemssummit or call 802-656-3831. Farmers receive a discounted registration rate. We hope to see you there!

Frost Seeding

A Cheap Alternative to Improve Hay and Pasture Land

By Heather Darby, Extension Associate Professor, University of Vermont Extension

Agritourism is an opportunity for a working farm to generate additional income by offering educational or leiwell as both a recreational and educational experience for visitors.

Frost seeding is a popular option to improve forage yield and quality. The principle of frost seeding is to broadcast forage seed in the early spring when the ground freezes at night and thaws during the day. The main advantage to frost seeding is the ability to establish desirable species into an undisturbed sod at a low cost per acre. A 60 – 70% frost seeding establishment rate has been reported by many farmers. You can increase the success of frost seeding establishment by following these key steps.

Remove vegetation before seeding

Seed to soil contact is critical to the success of frost seeding. The best candidate for frost seeding is the "run out" field. If you walk across a field and see bare soil these areas are ideal for frost seeding. Closely grazing or mowing pastures in the fall will also help expose the soil. Generally, fields with a thick thatch layer will not frost seed well because the seed will not have contact with the soil.

Seed in the early spring

The optimum is to seed early in the spring after the snow is gone but while the ground is still frozen. The repeated freezing and thawing will cause some of the seed to fall into soil cracks and germinate. Frost seeding can be done over a thin layer of snow. However be aware that rapid snow melt can cause the seed to be washed off the pasture. Frost seeding can also be done in December once growth has stopped for the year and before snowfall. This time works well in areas that receive good snow cover and do not experience prolonged winter thaws. Frost seeding does not work on sandy soils where there is no swelling and shrinking associated with the freeze-thaw cycle.

Frost seeding is often done with seeders mounted on ATVs, or a tractor mounted or hand held broadcast seeder. When frost seeding with a broadcast seeder, make sure to first determine the effective seeding width to avoid possible overlap of seed. Although not always necessary a disk or cattle can help incorporate the seed into the soil. A no-till drill can be used but this will increase the number of trips across the field.

Select species that can germinate when cold

Frost seeding works best with legumes and grasses that germinate fast and at cool temperatures. Recommended species and seeding rates are shown in the following table. Red and white clovers are the most effective in establishment.

Recommended Species and Seeding Rates for Frost Seeding

	Seeding rate (lb/acre)
Red clover	2 - 4
White clover	2 - 4
Birdsfoot trefoil	4
Perennial ryegrass	2 – 3
Orchardgrass	2 – 4
Smooth Bromegrass	8 – 10
Timothy	*Not recommended*
Reed Canarygrass	*Not recommended*

Birdsfoot trefoil is less successful due to slow establishment. Alfalfa does not frost seed well because its germination is variable at cool temperatures. There are several benefits to adding legumes to the pastures including higher quality forage as well as nitrogen to support grass growth. Although legumes are the most successful for this system, some grasses can be successfully frost seeded. Of the grasses, perennial ryegrass and orchardgrass frost seed with the greatest success (20-30% establishment), bromegrass with intermediate success while reed canary and timothy have the least success. Typically, ryegrasses will not over winter in most areas of Vermont. Therefore, in most cases, ryegrasses should be seeded with the intent of filling single season forage needs. Ryegrass and orchardgrass will contribute to forage yields in the seeding year while bromegrass will need a full season before plants become productive. Since grass seed is light it will not throw as far as the heavier legume seeds when broadcasted. If seeded as a mixture, this difference in seed weight will result in alternating strips of grass and legume plants. Therefore seeding the species separately will result in a more even distribution of grasses and legumes. To spread the risk of frost seeding it is generally better to seed at the lower rates and repeat in successive years than to seed at higher rates in any one-year. Many people will frost seed 25% of their acreage each year so that they are spreading their risk over different years.

Frost seeding can be an effective and inexpensive method to improve the quality and quantity of forage. The important key steps to success include good seed to soil contact, seeding early, proper species selection, and remove competition from seedlings. Periodic frost seeding will help maintain high quality forages. For more information, contact: heather.darby@uvm.edu.

Farmers: Share The Road Safely With Motorists.

Every year, nationwide, about 200 crashes between farm implements and motor vehicles happen on our public roads – ***it's preventable!*** Follow these tips to share the road safely with motorists:

- Plan travel to avoid high traffic times, busy roads, bad weather and times before daylight or after dark
- Be more obvious to motorists by using visible reflective SMV emblems and lights for any implement operated on public highways.
- Watch out for passing vehicles when making left turns, especially into fields
- Always use hand or turn signals to indicate plans to turn
- Install wide mirrors so you can see traffic that is following you
- Use reflective marking tape and reflectors on equipment edges
- Turn on farm equipment lights
- If road and shoulder conditions are safe, pull over temporarily to allow traffic to pass
- Minimize equipment width and haul equipment when practical
- Have an escort precede or follow you when practical
- Be aware of drowsiness from long hours of work

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS

Compiled by Vern Grubinger, University of Vermont Extension
(802) 257-7967 ext. 303, or vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu
www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry

Reports From The Field

(Montpelier) The spinach is finally harvestable one month later than normal from the passive solar houses. The house with the symphylans has them returning in two beds out of five so far. We check daily. Now for the weird news: the spinach looks like a 16-year-old going through a growth spurt. Leaves are nice and thick, taste is great, good dark green color but I get the impression they are trying to make up for losing the month of March. They do not completely unfurl and look a bit crumbled. I have checked them for mites, etc. Nothing there. Seedling house is up and running but we are way behind any other year. Snow is going away but I have 2 inches of mud on top of frozen solid ground. Plenty of demand for my spinach since it appears everyone else's completely failed based on the number of calls I am getting. On the up side I am excited to have some really good people hired and looking forward to spending the season with them. Value-added is saving the farm this year with greenhouse troubles we have had.

(Craftsbury) Waiting for the annual mud to dust in 4 days April event. So far we're still solidly in the mud. Sun is much appreciated and glad we won't remember starting two weeks late come November.

(Fairfield) First garlic emerging through deep straw mulch in raised garden beds. Direct seeded spinach sprouting in unheated high tunnel. First blooming Johnny Jump Ups.

(Burlington) We're hoping to get through next week without epic flooding. The slow melt has been great so far, but with a slug of rain on the way and lots of snow in the mountains, we are eyeing the river with suspicion. If we scoot through without much water, we'll be planting out late in the week. We've been favorably impressed with our winter planted Salanova lettuces and how they are looking now. Given the winter we had, they did nicely and will make next years' list of winter crops. Cover crops are greening up and vetch survival looks good.

(Monkton) Just checked strawberries and they came through great, even the ever-bearers. The raspberries and blueberries look good too. I really thought the open winter would cause a lot of winter injury.

(Fairfax) Raking strawberries and digging parsnips. Overwintered spinach looks great. Oh the blind optimism of spring!

(Charlotte) We are getting ready to plant about 300 new blueberry and raspberry bushes, and we are busy getting the farm ready for the upcoming season.

(Westminster West) Started shipping bedding plants and herbs two weeks ago. Sales are soft compared to last year; not surprised given the weather. All plants are growing great, just running out of room due to being backed up sales wise. We finished building two new houses last week, jack hammering thru the frozen ground to get the ground pipes in. I won't be doing that again! They're done and our really busy season is starting to gather steam. Need to roll up the acre of remay from the garlic fields real soon before the deer and wind damage it. I can't tell yet how the garlic did this winter as the freeze just came out of the soil last week. Drainage ditches dug last fall seem to be helping with wet spots and it is fun watching the water rush thru the ditch! Planning for some substantial growth this year with major investments in both infrastructure and capital equipment. Farming has become a very capital intensive business with marginal ROI, but it's what I love doing and people seem to enjoy what we grow so what the heck, I'm too old to learn a new career.

(Williston) The snow has finally melted off the fields now but it is still wet. Hard to tell if there was any winter kill in my perennials yet but hoping for the best. I peeked under the mulch in the shallots and the green tops are starting. Winter cover crop is looking good and hope it does its job with all the rain coming our way. Harvested some kale and spinach out of the hoop house yesterday for a local market which they were glad to have. I planted some radish seeds a couple of weeks ago in hoop house to see if I could get a crop off before early May and they are coming along nicely. Looking forward to a dry spring this year so I can use my Rain Flo bed former earlier this year.

(Hinesburg) Hoop house greens harvest finally in full swing. Harvesting claytonia, spinach, and lettuce. Seems like a full month later than last year. Fall-planted onions (Bridger and Walla Walla) did well again under low tunnels with one layer remay and one layer plastic. Lettuce in low tunnels that did great last year was completely cleaned up by voles this year. Over wintering kale in low tunnels did not seem worthwhile again. It starts going to seed at just about as soon as it starts growing again. Just noticed flea beetles on hoop house brassicas. I guess taking the remay off even for occasional watering is too often.

(Brookfield) We have grown Augustus potato the last two years and have decided we like the way it keeps. It is a heavy producer, a little yellow meat like Yukon Gold but larger and can be used for anything. We are digging parsnips and carrots as the ground just thawed out enough to dig. We have made about 100 gallons of syrup and feel we will make more.

(Rochester) The snow pack was not at all compacted and has melted fast in the warm weather and rain. We have plunged into pruning blueberries and are expecting less time before bud break than usual. Not in mid-season form yet but relishing getting going at last!

UMass Extension Vegetable And Berry Newsletters

There are many excellent Extension newsletters that provide timely pest management and cultural practice information. Here are just two that I recommend you consider subscribing to; they are full of useful information and since Massachusetts is just to our south and a bit warmer, their reports often provide advance warning about emerging pests.

UMass Vegetable Notes: http://extension.umass.edu/vegetable/subscribe-vegetable-notes.

UMass Berry Notes: http://extension.umass.edu/fruitadvisor/publications/berry-notes

Deciding When To Remove Strawberry Mulch

(adapted from Bob Tritten, Michigan State University, via NY Berry Notes)

With our unusually late spring this year, it is hard to determine the best timing of straw removal. Look for the beginning of leaf growth under the mulch; inspect fields several times a week during the annual spring 'green up' period. Randomly pick a half dozen spots in your earliest variety and earliest site and gently pull the straw off of a section of row a few feet long. If you see new leaves (they may be a yellow color) that are beginning to emerge from the crown of the plant, the strawberries are ready to begin growth for the season and the straw needs to be removed soon. You can then recover these short sections of row. Concentrating on the earlier fruiting strawberries will help to pinpoint timing of straw removal. Move into the later varieties in the patch to do this sampling. Avoid looking only at the ends of rows; these berries are always earlier than the rest of the planting.

The condition of your soil also is a factor in determining when to remove the straw mulch. If you are on heavy soil and your soil has not dried yet, either

continued on page 15

MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Prices

April 8, 2014

Wholesale prices paid per dozen for Vermont Grade A brown eggs delivered to retail stores.

Vermont Egg Prices:

Jumbo $2.50
X-Large $1.95
Large $1.89
Medium $1.53

Market is steady and supply is good.

You can find more reports online at http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm This is the web source for *USDA Market News*

Northampton, MA • April 15, 2014

All prices are per hundredweight on the hoof unless otherwise indicated.

Source: Northampton Cooperative Auction Association, Inc., www.northamptonlivestockauction.homestead.com

Calves:		Low	High	
Good & Choice:	61-75 lbs	40.00	80.00	cwt
	76-95 lbs	50.00	61.00	cwt
	96-105 lbs	40.00	70.00	cwt
	106 lbs and up	30.00	60.00	cwt
Farm Calves		120.00	310.00	cwt
Starter Calves		76.00		cwt
Feeder Calves		77.00		cwt
Vealers		none		cwt
Bulls		none		cwt
Heifers		74.00	85.50	cwt
Replacement Cows		none		each
Steers		73.00	81.00	cwt

Cows:	Low	High	
Canners		74.00	cwt
Cutters	75.00	94.00	cwt
Utility	97.50	112.00	cwt
Sows	68.50	76.50	cwt
Hogs	85.00	95.00	cwt
Boars	7.00	8.50	cwt
Shoats	none		cwt
Feeder Pigs	none		each
Lambs	100.00	330.00	cwt
Sheep	10.00	100.00	cwt
Goats	5.00	210.00	each
Rabbits	2.00	27.50	each
Hay	none		bale

Addison County Commission Sales • Middlebury, VT • April 14, 2014

Cattle: 106
Calves: 176

Slaughter Cows			
Breakers 75 - 80% lean	92.00	100.00	cwt
Boners 80 - 85% lean	80.00	95.50	cwt
Lean 85 - 90% lean	70.00	89.00	cwt

Feeder Calves				
Holstein Bulls	92-125 lbs.	75.00	280.00	cwt
	80-90 lbs.	75.00	215.00	cwt
Vealers (good & choice)				
	70-120 lbs.	30.00	75.00	cwt

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising in Agriview

Classified Ads: ***Free to subscribers only.*** Limited to two ads per issue, ads will run for two issues. ***Must include subscriber number with ad request*** (number appears at the top of the mailing label)

Deadline For Ads: 10 days prior to the publication date.

Display Ads: Information available upon request

Classified advertisements must be sent:

- *By mail:* (see address on page 2)
- *By e-mail:* (to Agr-agriview@state.vt.us)
- *By fax:* (802) 828-2361
- *Online at:* http://www.vermontagriculture.com/Agriview/agriviewclassified.html
- **We do not accept ads over the phone.**

Only items of an agricultural nature will be listed. The only real estate which will be listed are tracts of Vermont land two to five acres or more which are being used or can be used for agricultural purposes. All Feed, Hay and Forage ads must have county, town, and phone number, ***and must be renewed each month.***

The Secretary reserves the right to make a final decision on the eligibility of items listed. The editor reserves the right to censor and edit ads. **The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets assumes no responsibility for transactions resulting through advertising in *Agriview*. Advertisers are cautioned that it is *against the law* to misrepresent any product or service offered in a public notice or an advertisement carried in any publication delivered by the U.S. Mail.**

Ads must be limited to 40 words or less.

Bees & Honey

5-Frame nucleus colonies. Honeybees with our own Northern Survivor stock queens. Order now for April-May pick-up. $140 each/no frame exchange. Also order Spring Queens. Singing Cedars Apiary at 77 Singing Cedars Rd. Orwell, Vt. 05760. (802)948-2057 or order on-line at www.vtbees.com (5/14)

Bees Packages Bees; this year I will have Russian Bees late in April. Tentative – Italians early in May, and as always Italians packages & queens late in May, as always assistance with installation will be available. 802-244-7534. (5/14)

BEES AND QUEENS: Honeybees from our own Northern Survivor Stock queens. Five-frame nucs at $140 each/$20 deposit. NO FRAME EXCHANGE. Our queens are hybrids bred for the best traits and strength and gentleness. Order spring nucs or queens now by mail (include phone #) or on-line. Singing Cedars Apiary, 77 Singing Cedars Rd., Orwell, Vt. 05760 (802)948-2057. www.vtbees.com (5/14)

Like to have this run in the next issue -5frame nucleus colonies ready in may, $148 each. Put down $40 deposit pay the rest when you pick it up ,no frame exchange. Vtbees.Com online or call Singing Cedars Apiaries at 802 -948-2057. Queens available the end of may $28 each (5/14)

Cattle

9 year old PB Belted Galloway (Settled, 4/2014) with 8 month mismarked heifer by her side. Excellent mother. $1500.00. Newbury, NH 603-763-9422. (5/14)

Jersey cow for sale, five years old, bred AI to Exc, bull preg tested, due 1/28 would make a fine family cow; very gentle disposition asking $600. Also have yearling Jersey heifer sired by Stone $350 contact 802-875-3159. (5/14)

Nice, healthy 10 month Belted Galloway Heifer. Ready to go. $550.00. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (5/14)

Certified Organic Cows Wanted: Looking for high producing Jerseys or Holsteins with low SCC counts. Must be CERTIFIED. Prefer early to middle lactation. Also bred/springing heifers or dry cows soon to calve. 802-782-8833. (5/14)

Good looking two year old Highland Bull. Gentle with offspring. $500.00 Call or email for info: 1(802)446-2118 skhalford@vermontel.net (5/14)

3 Angus Bulls for sale. Can be registered. Born Nov-12. Greensboro. 533-9804 or 533-2208 (5/14)

American Milking Devon registered Heifer for sale. 11 month old - $1000. Raised naturally. Sired by the Meadow Brook Napolean bloodline. Please contact Liza or Derric at 802-247-

CLASSIFIEDS

9309 or email: lsm20@comcast.net (5/14)

Belted Galloway Steer. 930+ lbs. Gentle, halter broke. Ready to go. $1300.00. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (5/14)

2 purebred Dexter Heifers for sale; 6 months old; Just weaned, 4 23 month old Dexter steers. $600 each Call 802-247-6076 evenings or leave a message (5/14)

Jersey Heifer Sire Plus 3 yr old Due Feb $1500, 5 Beef Animal – 2 cows; 2 Heifers and 1 cross steer 5 for $5500 contact 802-229-4628 (5/14)

5 Reg Angus Heifers 10 months old, will keep until turning out time. These heifers are in a warm barn about 900 lbs each, excellent breeding and condition, must see, call after 7:30am 802-746-8979. (5/14)

6 certified organic heifers – one Holstein - two Jerseys and three crossbreeds. Due in March through June. 802-254-6982 (5/14)

2 year old Jersey Holstein heifer due 4-1-14 $900. 802-276-3385 (5/14)

Beef feeders all sizes all natural good condition your choice. 802-483-2210 (5/14)

30 yearlings to choose from, weighing between 200 and 400 lbs. 10 Holstein heifers,10 cross bred heifers and 10 steers 802-524-9453 (6/14)

Purebred polled Hereford yearling heifer, also open two year old heifers. Lull Brook Farm 802-436-2068 (7/14)

Small beef herd for sale: 4 head Whiteface/Jersey Cross Heifers, 2 years old. 3 polled bred to polled red Angus/ Beefalo due mid May to early June – one open. Grass & hay fed only. Prefer to sell as one lot. Asking $4500. Call 802-249-0390 (7/14)

Belted Galloway Steer. 1100+lbs grass fed. Gentle, halter broke. Ready to go $1.4/lb Newbury, NH 603-763-9422 (7/14)

Belted Galloway mature bred cow. Due late April/early May. Excellent mother. Grass Fed. $1300.00. Newbury, NH (603) 763-9422. (7/14)

2 year old Dexter steer. Fed organic hay, minerals (salt, kelp, Coleby blend). Handled daily since calf. Halters, leads, can be walked by collar with no effort. Friendly, likes people- even strangers. First to the fence. $800. 274-7826 hart@vtlink.net for pics. W.Danville. (7/14)

Largest Stoltzfus Dealer in the Country

HAY WAGONS/CARRIERS

Limited time only – Order Now — Pay Later!

Ask Before You Buy That You Are Getting Stoltzfus Quality Bodies & Gears!

All Steel Wagons w/P.T. Floors

Complete Hay Wagons		Body Only
18' w/ 8 Ton Gear	$3650.	$2450.
20' w/ 8 Ton Gear	$3800.	$2600.

Also available in steel mesh floor or oak deck

Buy 2 or more complete wagons and receive a FREE TIRE & RIM SPARE!

Add New 11L x 15 Floatation Tires $75/wheel

Complete Round Bale Carriers		Body Only
20' w/ 8 Ton Gear	$3200.	$2000.
25' w/12 Ton Gear	$4200.	$2150.
30' w/14 Ton Gear	$4600.	$2400.

All Gears have Widetrack, Extendable tongues, & Spring Kits

Quick Attach HD Bale Grabbers $1600.
— Sched. 80 Pipe & 2 1/2" Cylinder—
Also available with all other QA's

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Heavy Duty Amish Made
18' Hyd. Raise & Tilt 4 Star Tedder $6300. Complete 16' Elevator $ 1225.
Elevator Transport Carriages $1100.

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BLISS FARM ENTERPRISES
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802-875-2031 • www.blissfarm.com • Chester, VT

Employment

Herdsperson for Registered Holsteins. Need assistant who enjoys top notch cows, maintains positive nvironment, milking duties, herd health. References required. Our cows are our livelihood. Come work with us to make the best better. Robeth Holsteins, Rochester, 802-767-3926; starbuckdave@yahoo.com (5/14)

Small family business in the lower southeast corner of Vermont is looking for a "Jack of All Trades". We do snowplowing, lawnmowing, landscaping, excavation, as well as maple sugaring, haying, field mowing and other Ag services. Applicant should have knowledge of tractor operations and an interest in excavation equipment. Must be able to do equipment maintenance. A great opportunity for growth with our family business. Send resume or letter of interest to gfcserv@svcable.net (5/14)

We are looking for a reliable, dependable Herdsman to join us at our Dairy farm located in Rutland County, VT. References required, salary based on experience and knowledge necessary to complete required tasks. If interested call 802-235-2246. (5/14)

We are looking for reliable, dependable Herdsman to join us at our Dairy Farm located in Rutland County. References required. Salary based on experience and knowledge necessary to complete required tasks. If interested 802-235-2246. (5/14)

Farm assistant needed for organic livestock operation in Danville VT. Duties include: Handling angus beef cattle, replacement dairy heifers, sheep and plus. Operating all types of haying equipment, extensive pasture management and high tensile fence construction, barn chores in three different types of barns, winter logging work if so inclined. Ideal candidate would be willing to co- manage or sub contract additional future ventures to add to our retail farm store. Position could be year round off grid housing provided, more substantial rental housing available in the area. Contact Vince Foy at 802-748-8461 or debuince@danvillevt.net. References required. (6/14)

Equipment

24 Victoria Grain Bin like new, 10 Grain bin good shape, John Deere Harrow excellent shape, 24 hay elevator, 36 hay elevator, 72 hay elevator, contact 802-624-0306 cell or 802-895-4683. (5/14)

2 pickup Fuel Tanks, 110 gallon with pump filter, meter, hose & shut off nozzle, asking $1000 OBO. 75 gallon Aluminum with no pump asking $300 OBO contact 802-373-3024 Al. (5/14)

1947 2N tractor good tires, good tin, needs paint job will run $1800. 1939 Farmall H Tractor, needs rear tires, good tin $900 contact 603-256-3202. (5/14)

John Deere transport harrows all re done; hay elevator all different lengths; 24 grain bin excellent shape; 6 to 7 tin brock grain bin good shape, call 802-895-4683 or 624-0306. (5/14)

Rears miniblast 50 gal stainless steel air blast sprayer excellent conditions perfect for controlling 5WD in berries $3000. Rears nifty fifty 50gal weed sprayer w/dual spray valve excellent condition $1500 contact 860-633-2789. (5/14)

Takeuchi TB45 mini excavator w/3 buckets, rubber tracks are in excellent condition $8500 contact 860-633-2789. (5/14)

100 Ton Hydraulic Jack has low & high speed $400 contact 603-543-3616 (5/14)

Farm Tractor snow plow assembly, 7 ½' Meyers all angle plow with bracket ass. Bolts to your loader bucket, comes with bolts and hydraulic hose, good condition, $675, gooseneck hitch plate assembly, $100, trades or best offers always considered contact 802-236-4917. (5/14)

6 IQ Milker units with 6 one touch pulsators. 1,000 gal Meuler tank with washer. Surge pacemaker stainless steel wash tank. 2" pipeline for 48 cows. 2 Surge 75+ Alamo pumps. Call for pricing and info 608-574-4586. (5/14)

JF Chopper Model FCT 900, grass head, 2 row corn head.--1000 PTO Excellent Condition $15,000

Kuhn side discharge manure spreader, Model 8114 tandem axle. Excellent Condition only used 1 1/2 years. $15,000 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 Concord, VT (5/14)

Double-6 herringbone milking parlor wanted. Clay stall parts and milking system. Call 802-645-0865 (5/14)

JD 330 round baler $4,000; JD 7000 corn planter $1,500; JD 3970 chopper with grass and 2 row corn head $6,000; Lucknow 200 mixer wagon $2,000 Brattleboro, 802/579-8241 (5/14)

MX230 Case Tractor: 6200 hours, engine completely rebuilt, deluxe cab,3 ptos,4 remotes, extra weights,6 new Firestone tires 520-85R 46 rubber, excellent condition. asking $92,500- (retiring must sell) call 802-849-6195 (ask for Dick) (5/14)

24 hay elevator good shape; 5hp universal vacuum pump like new; 5 horsepower beaumatic vacuum pump contact 802-895-4683. (5/14)

Hay Rakes – MF four pinwheel on wheels; 4-spinner 3-point rake $150.00, 5 wheel Farmland $150 each. Diesel Engines, DT 466, DT 360, Isuzu 239 refer, Iveco 4 cylinder, contact 802-878-4025. (5/14)

JD 330 round baler, $4,000; Lucknow 200 mixer wagon, $2,000; JD 3970 chopper, 2 row corn head, 7 ft hay head, $6,000 or will trade for a baleage baler of equal value. Brattleboro 802/579-8241 (5/14)

Potato Harvester; 2012 Potato Digger, 3pth, 24" wide with padded roller chain. Works with all root crops. Heavy duty nose, and coulters for cutting vines. $5250 OBO.

CLASSIFIEDS

Contact Tim at 802-325-2054 (5/14)

New Holland 315 baler with model 70 kicker in excellent condition with new belts $6,500 and two Stoltzfus kicker wagons all steel with PT wood decks in excellent condition $3,200 each. Newbury 802-584-3769. (5/14)

Vicon RC361 Hay Bob combination rake and tedder. 11' 10" wide rake area and 9'10" ted area. Excellent condition always stored indoors. Complete with manuals and spare tines. $1800.00 or best offer. John Deere front loader fork lift attachment for 5000 Series tractors Excellent condition. $500.00. Call Mark, 802- 879-0391 Westford. (5/14)

Kuhn FC300- 10' Disc mocoflail- Fresh cutterbar! $6500; JD 1470- Disk mower- 11 ½' –Rolls $5800.

NH 408- Disk mower- 8' Rolls $5500; JD 3940 Chopper- 5' head- Field read $2200; Dion Forage wagon w/ roof- 16'…$1500. NI 212 manure spreader- new apron….$1350. Gehl 250 tandem manure spreader- $2200. Elkem 3801 Winch…$2100. AgriMetal sq.bale chopper/ mulcher- Honda motor..$975. Full line of other farm equipment available! www.youngsmilkywayfarm.com (5/14)

100 ton Hydraulic jack has low & high speed $400; 6 yd quick hitch John Deere Bucket like new condition $6500, contact 603-543-3616. (5/14)

Woods model PRD 8400 rear discharge mower 7' cut excellent condition 802-388-7878. (5/14)

250 ton corn silage for sale $60 located in WRJ VT contact Dan at 802-356-7668. (5/14)

Vicon RC361 Hay Bob combination rake and tedder. 11' 10" wide rake area and 9'10" ted area. Excellent condition always stored indoors. Complete with manuals and spare tines. $1800.00 or best offer. Call Mark, 802- 879-0391 Westford. (5/14)

IH 826 Diesel 4 New tires. Extra parts $7000.00. Kuhn 4 Star Tedder GF440 11.5 foot wide $1200.0. 2 Firestone 16.9.34 tires $200.00. H&S Steel Kicker Rack needs floor have wood $1700.00. Orwell 802-948-2627 (5/14)

1 stainless Steele double sink with legs $250.00 OBO. Call Mike Eagan 802-345-2284 (5/14)

Hiniker 22 ft field cultivator good shape $3000.00. Brillon 8 ft towbehind cultipacker $400. 802-265-4589 (5/14)

Massey Ferguson MF50 loader/ backhoe new rear tires $4500 or B.O. International Farmall 656 Tractor $3500 or B.O. Galvanized Stock tanks various sizes B.O. 802-263-9393 (5/14)

Behlen Country Electric Heated 2 Hole Cattle Drinker, brand new, still in its plastic wrapping. $300. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211. (5/14)

325 gal polyethylene storage tank: $175.00. 325 gal polyethylene pick up tank for 8ft body: $175.00. Kohler 6 HP gas engine new in 2006 used on season on vacuum pump. $175.00. Breyer Millennium chain lift out off ATCR bus $150 OBO 802-247-6430 (5/14)

2002 New Holland LS 160 Skid steer hand controls – mechanically tight good condition comes with toolbar asking $9500. 18 x38 tractor chains like new $500. Mark at 868-3154 or leave message (5/14)

Woods model PRO 8400 rear discharge push mower 7' cut excellent 802-388-7878 (5/14)

100 ton hydraulic jack has low & high speed $400. 6 yrd quick hitch – John Deere bucket like new condition $6500. 603-543-3616 (5/14)

Farm Tractor snow plow assembly 7.5' Meyers all angle plow with bracket ass. Bolts to your loader bucket. Comes with bolts and hydraulic hose, good condition, $675.00, gooseneck hitch plate assembly $100.00 trades or best offers always considered. 802-236-4917. (5/14)

Ford 2 row corn planter, 3pt - $750. Ford 4 row corn planter 3pt - $2750. Ford 461 tractor 27 HP 3pt as is - $2500. Farmall C w/f mower solid - $2750. IH 9 shank chisel plow 3 pt strong - $3250. Springtooth harrows 10 ft $575. 802-483-2870 (5/14)

Johne Deere 5055D, 2010 2wd, 55HP, 3 Cyl Turbo Diesel, CAT II, IND PTO, 1 remote, 550 hours. $14250.00. CASE/IH Jx60, 2008, 2nd, 55HP, CAT II, IND PTO, 1 Remote, 3 CYL Diesel, 12x12 mechanical shuttle, 31 original hours. Like new for the half the cost, $14250.00. 802-885-4669 (6/14)

Farn Trac 535 2008 (Ford 3230 Built in India) 3 CYLDiesel, 2 WD, PS, 1 remote, QA Loader with Bobcat Style coupler, paint still on bucket, 8x2 transmission, 38 HP, 160 Documented hours by elder gentleman $10250. 802-885-4669 (6/14)

JD #9 mower for sale in Putney Vermont - $300.00. Call 802-387-4882. (6/14)

6 ton Kastin running gear, $250 obo. 12.4 x 24 tire, good condition, $125 obo. Williamstown, 433-5870. (6/14)

GALLIGNANI ROUND BALER. Model 3200L, which is the wide pickup. Baled all my hay last summer. Well maintained. Makes good square cornered round bales. You will need at least 50hp. $7,500. 802-457-9349 or info@ThistleHillFarm.com (6/14)

TRACTOR FOR SALE: 1975 International 766 85 PTO HP 2 speed PTO 6040 hours $9500 OBO. Runs great--solid and reliable tractor with good maintenance history. information: Rob at 802-233-5465 or rrock142000@yahoo.com (6/14)

JD 3970 Chopper 2 row corn, 7 ft hay head, good condition, $6,000. JD330 round baler, $4,000. Lucknow Mixer wagon, $2,000. Brattleboro, 802-579-8241. (6/14)

Kubota BX 220 2003, 4x4 diesel, PS, bucket loader, 60 " mowing deck (under mount) turf tires-Nice tractor with only 500 hours use, all mowing! $9250. 802-885-4669 or 802-738-5247 (7/14)

Massey Ferguson 250, 3 cyl Perkins diesel engine, QA loader, PS, 2wd, always under cover, looks new with only 700 hours on meter! $8500 802-885-4669 or 802-738-5247 (7/14)

Ferguson TO30 4 cyl gas, 3 pt, pto, near new rear tires. Good paint, runs great! $2200 802-885-4669 or 802-738-5247 (7/14)

International No.56 silage blower short hopper auger feed. 892 NH chopper with both hay and 2 row corn heads. Leave message 802-372-4513 (7/14)

AC 4 row no till corn planter new condition $1200. MF TO35 – 35- 50 – IND 20 LDR. AC B W sliding saw rig bell saw M14 Saw mill much other equipment 220 years of PMS 802-372-4513 (7/14)

Three Dion forage wagons on heavy running gear with tandem axles, 3 beaters, roofs, and mounted spare tires. Always stored under cover and ready to work. $4500 each. Wakefield Farm in West Brookfield, VT. 802-728-5288 (7/14)

Gehl Forage Wagons: Model 1620 - Like new. Model 980 - Excellent. Both tandem axle, roof, always stored under cover. 802-685-2166. (7/14)

3 Universal pail milking machines, complete with vacuum pulsators, $25 each. 2 SS milk pails, $25 and $30. SS milk strainer $30. Sunbeam cattle clippers, $25. 802-595-9138 or leave message at 802-498-4784. (7/14)

AttachMatic wagon hitches. One of the best investments I have. 2 tractor receivers, 1 Harvestor receiver. 5 wagon hookups and 1 pickup receiver, all for $800. No longer cropping. These list for about $2,600. JD 3970 chopper, 2 row corn grass head, excellent shape. Make an offer. Contact 802-933-4159. (7/14)

CHISEL PLOW. Brillion Soil Builder cd-53 chisel disc. 5 shanks spaced 15", hi clearance, cushion gangs for discs. Low acres, reversible twisted shovels. Wants 75 hp and up, depending on soil type. $5000. Jon 802 247-6630. TRANSPORT DISC HARROW. White #271 11' tandem disc harrow in good shape. 7.5" spacing. $2750. Jon 802 247-6630. (7/14)

Farm & Farmland

Farm for Sale in South Hero. 169 acres, house, garage, and barn, includes 100 acres of cropland/pasture. Restricted by conservation easement and option to purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks buyers who will farm commercially. $460,000. Contact Jon Ramsay at (802) 533-7705 or jramsay@vlt.org. www.vlt.org/landon (5/14)

Farm and home with barn for sale with 30+ acres of the best farm land the State, on the Conn. River. Presently used as organic growing site. Near I 91 off exit 5 House has 3 bedroom has been completely renovated , 27 new windows etc. $499,000 Call owner Christian Blake 802-732-8888 (5/14)

Westminster VT Windham County 1.83 acres of choice land for home or business on paved Dead End Rd near High School on Cemetery Rd, Only lot on street, Private.$29,000 will consider lease Call owner Christian Blake 802-732-8888 (5/14)

Stamford, VT. Working Icelandic Sheep farm 50 acres pastures and wooded. Two streams running through it. Barn 48'x58' post and beam construction using 6"x8" beams with studio apartment. Attached three bay carriage shed built 2000. Field stone farm house using large Pella windows and doors, built 2004, wraparound porch w/large deck and pergola. Three bedrooms, 2 ½ bath w/whirlpool. Cathedral great room w/wood burning stove. Radiant heat. New 24 solar panel system. Field stone Dove Cote. Two ponds. Sheep herd, John Deere tractor and farm equipment, etc,

CLASSIFIEDS

Included. $690k. Bonnehagen Farm (802) 694-1602. Bonnehagenfarm@gmail.com. www.bonnehagenfarm.com. Facebook Bonnehagen Farm. (6/14)

Poultney – 86 Acres, 50 titlable, all flat. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home on full foundation. Attached 2 car garage. Barn/shop. Some pature land. Would be suitable for horses and/or beef cattle also good for organic. Can be seen by appt. 802-282-9993 or 82-282-8825. $290,000.(7/14)

General

Frigidaire Gallery Chest Freezer – Lightly used 24.9 cu. ft gallery chest freezer in excellent condition. Retail $779. $600 or Best Offer; Traulson Commercial Refrigerator – 46 cu. ft. Lightly used Traulson stainless steel 2 door refrigerator with full door standard hinge. $2100 or Best Offer. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211 (5/14)

Kuhn FC300- 10' Disc mocoflail- Fresh cutterbar $6500. JD 1470- Disk mower- 11 ½' –Rolls: $5800. NH 408-Disk mower- 8' Rolls…$5500. JD 3940 Chopper- 5' head: $2200. NI 212 spreader- new apron: $1350. Gehl 250 tandem spreader- $2200. AgriMetal sq.bale mulcher-Honda motor: $975. www.youngsmilkywayfarm.com Ken Young Springfield 802-885-4000 (5/14)

Johnson Wool Hunting jacket black & red checker chest 40-44 $20.00 802-674-5044 (5/14)

Going out of business moving sale. Farm/Sawmill/Logging/Lawn & Garden/Wood Working/ATVs 603-835-6816 (7/14)

Tree farm going out of business. Free 50 mail wreath boxes 24x24x5, 30 mail tree boxes 10x10x7' and 60 mail 10x10x5'. All brown, clean, dry. Must be picked up this month in Jay, VT. 802-988-4451. (7/14)

5' sharpened 2.00 6' sharpened 2.50 7' set post 3" -5" tip diameter 3.50 8' set post 4" - 6" tip diameter 4.50 10' set post 4" - 6" tip diameter 5.50 hand split cedar rails 10' & 12' lengths these rails are truly split by hand ! 802-748-2740 (7/14)

RAISED GARDEN BED KITS. Vermont cedar, naturally rot-resistant, assemble in minutes without tools. Nine sizes available, all are 8" deep and stackable. GardenRaisedBeds.com and (888) 488-2880 for information and to order. Quantity, school, and community garden discounts are available. (7/14)

Goats

Nigerian Dwarf Goats. Buck (proven, black, 7 years old), Doe (expecting in late March, good milker/mom, 4 years old) for sale. Would prefer they go together - $500 OBO for 2 adult goats and babies. Contact Jess in Southern VT at jessweitz72@gmail.com (5/14)

Kid goats from proven milkers in commercial goat dairy. Sires are Saanen, Alpine, and LaMancha. Available from May 25th 2014. To reserve and for prices call Lynn evenings 802-563-2999. (5/14)

Hay, Feed & Forage

Corn silage in WRJ, VT $65 TN delivery available contact Dan 802-356-7668. (5/14)

Certified Organic Hay Wanted: Looking for reasonably priced certified organic hay (round or large square bales). To be delivered to our farm in Georgia, Vermont. 802-782-8833. (5/14)

Certified organic hay square bales, never rained on, $4.25 per bale at barn can deliver 802-537-3167 (5/14)

200 tons of NOFA certified organic first cut haylage. $40 per ton. West Haven 802-265-4496 (5/14)

ORGANIC GRASS SILAGE First and second cut 2013 organic grass silage. Will deliver within a 50 mile radius. Call: 802-274-4934 – 802-274-4939 or 802-744-2444 and leave a message. (5/14)

Organic 4' x 5' 2013 dry unwrapped round bales $40 2013 organic square bales 1st cut $5, mulch bales $3 2012

8 x 200 2nd cut haylage $30/ton 802-334-2401 or 802-323-9793 (5/14)

Certified Organic Hay Wanted: Looking for reasonably priced certified organic hay (round or large square bales). To be delivered to our farm in Georgia, Vermont. 802-782-8833. (5/14)

1st cut hay. Excellent quality. Mixed grasses Large square bales. $4.00 per bale. Easy access.

Cash only. 802-879-4269 Westford (5/14)

First cut dry round bales (4x5) stored inside. $45.00 a bale delivery available. 1-802-457-1376 (5/14)

Processed Corn Silage, $60.00/ton loaded. Springfield 802-885-4000 (5/14)

1st cut $4.50 - 2nd cut $6.00 603-543-3616 (5/14)

Hay for sale round bales 802-355-2930 (5/14)

Advance orders for 2014 hay crop $2.00 a bale at field good size square bales. 802-759-2421. (6/14)

100 good dry round bales. 802-524-9453 (6/14)

4'x5' round bales of 1st cut,mixed grass hay,stored inside.$40 each.Help with trucking arrangements. Certified organic,too. Whitehall, NY. 518-499-0239 gsearles@verizon.net (6/14)

1st cut 4x4 wrapped haylage $30.00 each. Delivery available. 802-356-1402 (7/14)

4X4 Wrapped Round Bales for sale, 1st Cut, average 48-52% moisture, $40/Bale. Pomfret, 802-457-5834 (7/14)

Hay square bales first cut 40+ pounds four dollars a bale. John Deere 5200 tractor loader backhoe with 2200 hrs. good condition $20,900. Call Scott at 802-342-8541 (7/14)

Addison County

West Haven – 4x5 1st cut round bales, small 2nd cut square bales, contact Don Pettis at 802-265-4566. (5/14)

West Haven - 20 NOFA Certified Organic 4' x 5' second cut round bales. Stored inside under cover. $45 per bale. West Haven 802-265-4496 (5/14)

Large square bales, 1st & 2nd cut, under cover, never wet, SL Moore @ (802) 463-3875 or Alden @ (802) 989-0479. (7/14)

Hay for Sale, Large Square Bales. Late cut, 1st cut hay. Ok for beef or dry cows, etc. Also some year old processed, want to sell before 2014 hay season, will sacrifice at $35/bale. We'll load you at the farm in Addison. Please call (802) 463-3875 or (802) 989-0479. (7/14)

Bennington County

Manchester Center- Gorgeous green third cutting grass hay $5.50/bale FOB contact 802-362-1565. (5/14)

Caledonia County

We have fresh 2013 Certified Organic 4' x 4' Grass Silage Round Bales. First and Second cut available. Approximately 50% moisture content, fermented, net wrap bales with double wrap plastic. Excellent quality and quantity at this time. Contact us for further details and prices. Buffalo Mountain Farm. (802) 472-9360 or (802) 888-7881 (5/14)

Chittenden County

Milton- 1st cut 2013 Hay $3.00 per square bale. Mulch Hay $2.00 per square bale. All Hay stored under cover. Call 802-893-7883 (6/14)

Franklin County

Good Quality 1st & 2nd cut hay and organic. Straw large or small square bales, whole or pressed by bales at farm we load on direct delivery by trailer load, contact 802-849-6266. (5/14)

1st & 2nd cut hay and straw, organic. Large or small square bales, whole or processed bales at Farm we load on direct delivery by trailer load. 802-849-6266 (5/14)

Grand Isle County

Grand Isle – Hay 2nd cut; square bales @ $4/bale. Call 802-372-3110 (5/14)

Orange County

First cut hay for sale, square bales, organic, never wet, 3.50 per bale. Delivery available. Call Bonnie at home 802-685-2292 or work 802-685-4821. Chelsea, VT. (5/14)

Orleans County

North Troy – Certified Organic 1st and 2nd cut large dry round bales and 1st cut small square bales, 1st and 2nd cut large wrapped bales and 1-9x200 Ag Bag of 1st cut haylage. Conventional 1st and 2nd cut dry large round and small square bales, and 1-9x200 Ag Bag of 1st cut haylage, Delivery available contact 802-988-2959 or 802-274-2832. (5/14)

Rutland County

Processed corn silage for sale for details call Mike 802-345-2284 (5/14)

250 Square Bales of Real Nice 2nd & 3rd Cut Grass Hay. $4.50 a bale. 802-483-6597 - evenings or leave a message. (5/14)

Brandon -4x4 wrapped Haylage bales for sale; 1st cut. 802-247-6076 (5/14)

Tinmouth - 1st cut balage cut early July. 4x4round bales $35. 802-446-9137 evening or leave a message. (5/14)

Available around a dozen bags of Organic corn seed purchased from Lakeview Organic Grain in 2013. Selling for $75 a bag please contact (845) 270-4159. (5/14)

Windham County

Guilford – Good quality 1st cut hay, small squares, never rained on, from Fert. & wood ash fields, $4.50/bale, delivery possible, contact 802-254-5069. (5/14)

100+ 4'x5' Dry Round Bales 1st cutting, about 800 lbs. each. VOF certified. All offers

considered, any quantity you need. 802-368-7294/7192 or llcorse6@gmail.com (5/14)

Windsor County

Springfield - Processed Corn Silage: $60.00/ton loaded 802-885-4000 (5/14)

Counties outside of VT

Price reduced: Certified Organic & conventional 4'x5' round bales of mid-June,1st cut, mixed grass hay stored inside. $40 each by the tractor trailer load (38). Baleage too: $45 each. Help with trucking arrangements. Whitehall NY 518-499-0239 gsearles@verizon.net (5/14)

Horse Equipment

Collar pads, blankets, one brand new set, set of new bridles, no bits, set of D-Ring harnesses been used 3 or 4 times. Made by Gary Landall, paid $1500 asking $1200. A Pioneer forecart with pole, bench seat, used very little. Always undercover. Paid $1500 with shafts which I don't have asking $1100. A trans sled fits 12-14 people in good shape under cover all the time $800. A new Idea manure spreader small, have a book on it. Very good shape used behind tractor or horse and fore cart asking $1000. 802-295-2910 (6/14)

Front sled only – New runners, used to make trails with. Put 2 bales of hay on it. Could be used as the front sled of a sleigh. $200 802-295-2910 (7/14)

Hay wagon made into a ride wagon. Has lights. Holds 12-14 seated, others can stand around sides. Can still be used as a hay wagon. It has high sides, we took one off, cut other in half. It has been undercover. Asking $400. 802-295-2910 (7/14)

Poultry & Rabbits

Flemish Giant Rabbits! Babies ready for new homes end of February. Good for meat, fertilizer, and pets. 20-30 lb adults. $30 a piece. Contact Jess in Southern VT at jessweitz72@gmail.com (5/14)

Turkey poults ($10) and fertilized eggs ($8), Narragansett and Bourbon Red. Available now until July. Great foragers, raised on pasture ready in 28-32 weeks. Guilford, VT. Call Meghan at (802) 451-6548. (7/14)

Sheep

Kathadin Feeder Lambs for sale-ready to go mid June-2014-$150.00 each. Pricing is for lambs taken by mid-June. Price will go up if we keep longer. Katahdin meat is mild and flavorful. Lambs born March-2014: Taking orders now. Email: katahdins@millpond-farm.com or call: 802-928-4190. (6/14)

Fleeces, well skirted, from Romney and crossbred sheep. Visit Elihu Farm in Easton, NY, http://WashingtonCountyFiberTour.org. The Tour features 15 farms and a fiber mill throughout the County, April 26 & 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At our farm learn how to select sheep for wool quality, and see what local fiber artisans create from wool and other natural fibers. 518-753-7838, 518-744-3947. elihufarm@localnet.com (6/14)

Katahdin Lambs for Sale:Born beginning 3/14. Available Mid June-2014. Reg. &Unregistered Purebred Ewe & Ram Lambs, Feeder Lambs. Also selling Reg & Unregistered 4 yr old healthy & productive Purebred Katahdin Ewes. Taking Reservations Now. Call for pricing.. 802-928-4190. Website: http://www.millpond-farm.com. Linda and Jack McGuire. (6/14)

Sugaring Equipment

4 x 12 Leader all stainless steel pan never used priced to sell, contact 802-895-4683 (5/14)

Leader front syrup pan, 5'x7' stainless steel excellent condition $450, sap buckets king 16qt. covers and spouts $7 per set, contact 802-524-4345. (5/14)

Maple Syrup $40/gallon or $25/half gallon all grades, small amount of Fancy, also cooking syrup $25/gallon, $15/half gallon (C grade but good flavor) contact 802-728-5241 Randolph. (5/14)

Bucket Washer $150; Leader front pan 5x6 stainless steel $200; 18" smoke stack complete with cover $100, contact Doug 802-895-4005. (5/14)

Maple Syrup Bottling Unit LaPierre/Waterloo/Small Gravity Bottling Unit with Electric Heated Water Jacketed Tank-welded stainless steel. Two Stainless Steel filling nozzles; mechanical foot pedal; 32 gallons; 34" X 24". 2002-brand new, never used before. $4,200 Call Lynn at 802-356-1585 or e-mail lspencer@kua.org (5/14)

Galvanized Sap Buckets in good condition. Available without sorting: $3.00 each. Selection: $5.00 each. At least 200 available. Some covers and spouts also available. Brookfield, VT. Contact: lhstrees@myfairpoint.net or 802-276-3382. (5/14)

1-5 Barrel Gabu Gathering tank $300.00 Sap buckets covers .05 cents each Carleton Rogers 802-889-3422 (5/14)

Galvanized Sap Storage 50 barrel and 20 barrel B.O. 802-263-9393 (5/14)

Wanted

Chevrolet or GMC 1 ton dump truck with standard shift and rust free, prefer 1972 or older, contact 603-272-4903 Philip. (5/14)

Certified Organic Cows Wanted: Looking for high producing Jerseys or Holsteins with low SCC counts. Must be CERTIFIED. Prefer early to middle lactation. Also bred/springing heifers or dry cows soon to calve. 802-782-8833. (5/14)

Culti packer, 10 – 12 foot, field ready. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (5/14)

P.B..Angus Bull for breeding purposes. 16 to 18 months old by June 1st. Call (603) 938-5911. Schroeder Farm, William Schroeder - S.Newbury, NH (5/14)

1 or 2 processed round bales. We are considering buying a baler with knives and would like to first check out how processed bales will work in our system! Thanks, Paul 413 339 0033 (5/14)

Wanted in good condition Hay Rake 4 or 5 bar side delivery John Deere with front dolly wheel or a New Holland Hay Rake side delivery with front dolly wheels. Call Doug (802) 457-2681. (5/14)

300 feet of uses Jamesway cutter cleaner chain good condition, also 2 good uses tires 18.4x30 call after 7:30am 802-746-8979. (5/14)

Small wood processor and wood elevator contact 802-388-7878 (5/14)

Small wood processor and wood elevator 802-388-7878 (5/14)

Oliver 550 Farm trailer with front loader and bucket. And tree planter 3 pt oz pull. Any condition call 570-265-9714 (5/14)

Forage wagon roof or bows, or whole box. 802-878-4025 (5/14)

Dairy cattle, Beef cattle, Bulls, Steers, feeders sheep and goats strong market. 413-441-3085 (5/14)

Disc Plow. Call 802-759-2421 (6/14)

John Deere Model 24T baler for parts. Lull Brook Farm 802-436-2068 (7/14)

New or used blower table or tender for silage. We are switching from forage wagons to trucks. Wakefield Farm in West Brookfield. 802-728-5288 (7/14)

Vermont Vegetable and Berry News

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wait for a cold morning when there is a crust on the soil surface to reduce soil compaction or simply wait a few days for your soil to dry out more. Lastly, before you remove straw, check the weather forecast. If cold weather is predicted, you should consider delaying a few days.

The earlier you remove the straw mulch, the earlier fruit will mature, which may necessitate more frost protection. For early springs like 2012, growers may delay straw removal in order to delay flowering, and harvest. Then again, in late springs like we are experiencing this season, there is a danger of leaving straw on too long. A study conducted years ago in New England compared straw removal over a six week period. The highest yields came from plants that were uncovered earliest in spring; the later the straw was removed, the more yield was reduced.

I suggest that a light layer of straw, about an inch thick, be left on the plants. Leaves and flowers can grow up through this thin layer and it may help reduce disease problems later in the season and will also help prevent some weed seeds from germinating if bare soil is exposed to sunlight. Lastly, mulch removal just prior to a rain event helps the plants respond well and keeps the mulch in place.

Last Call - Crop Insurance Survey

Please complete this survey aimed at improving crop insurance programs for growers. The survey takes 5 minutes and you can enter for a raffle prize of a $50 VISA gift card. Questions? Jen Miller at jmille30@uvm.edu. The link is: https://survey.uvm.edu/index.php/257185/lang-en

Tunnel Building Workshop

Modular Cathedral Tunnel Building for Four-Season Vegetable Production Workshop w/Clara Coleman. New Haven VT. April 26, 10am - 1pm. http://nofavt.org/upcoming-events-calendar

Junior Iron Chef Competition Instills Healthy Habits

By Hannah Baird
Food Systems Intern

The Champlain Valley Expo in Essex Junction was on Saturday, March 22nd, as 270 middle and high school students showed off their culinary skills at the 7th annual Jr. Iron Chef competition! To empower Vermont students to develop healthy eating habits through the use of whole local foods, students all over the state competed against each other to have their dishes featured in the Vermont statehouse and on school menus across the state. Teams were evaluated on best taste and presentation, best team work, and incorporation of the most local ingredients. Recipes with at least five local ingredients were also eligible for the Lively Local Award.

A new rule, effective this year, stated that the teams needed to submit a Lively Local Form the day of the event that indicated the origins of their local ingredients. All of the food was tasted by a panel of three celebrity judges: Eric Warnstedt, chef / owner of Hen of the Wood; John Patrick from the Farm Between; and former Governor Madeleine Kunin.

Starting in September, the teams began developing recipes, learning basic cooking techniques, and exploring the local foods that Vermont has to offer. After settling on a recipe, the students practiced making their dishes an average of six times before participating in the Jr Iron Chef challenge.

This year agency staff also hosted a table at Jr Iron Chef that engaged children and parents in a 'carrot seed tape' activity, which demonstrates how easy and fun gardening can be. Similar activities can be tailored to students ranging from PK to 12th grade. Nearly 100 children of all ages participated in the activity and proudly showed their parents what they'd made.

The first Jr Iron Chef event took place on April 11, 2008, with a collaborative effort between two leaders in the Farm to School movement: the Burlington School Food Project (BSFP) and Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT FEED). Over the past six years, an incredible number of Vermont students have created original recipes that highlight local and seasonal ingredients and inspire school meal programs. Jr Iron Chef has spread across the nation since then!

Since the beginning, the Agency of Agriculture has been a proud silver spoon sponsor of Jr Iron Chef. The Agency views the event as the perfect opportunity to help students make connections between farms and food by challenging them to create culinary masterpieces using seasonally available ingredients. The event also raises awareness about the importance of knowing how to cook and the value of supporting community's and individual health by purchasing local food. The older children competing on the cooking teams also serve as role models for the younger ones in the crowd. Taking the time to compete in a cooking competition encourages the younger kids and teaches them that cooking is worthwhile. Surprisingly, most children have relatively little knowledge of how foods are grown and prepared, despite how easy it can be to develop cooking skills, especially at a young age. Teaching children to appreciate the value of fresh food with a cooking celebration will help children develop positive associations with food and help them make healthier decisions in the future.

Junior Iron Chefs, hard at work.

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