

AGRiVIEW



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Upcoming Workshop Will Teach Farmers How to Manage Conflict

By Alison Kosakowski, VAAFM

Conflict is a part of life. But it doesn't have to hold you, and your farm business, back. If you are interested in learning tips and techniques for dealing with interpersonal conflict, consider signing up for the upcoming Conflict Management Workshop, which will be held December 4th at the Doubletree Hotel on Williston Road in Burlington. This course will teach farmers how to understand different personality types, and work together more effectively. It is specifically designed to address common challenges farm owners and managers face.

"Producers have a great deal of expertise dealing with crops and animals," according to organizer Louise Waterman, who works at the Agency



of Agriculture. "But few have had formal human resources training. This course will help farmers become more effective managers, by teaching them how to identify and work with different personality types."

This training will support different situations including managing others,

working with family members in your business, development of leadership skills, organizing tasks, creation/management of teams, conflict resolution, motivation, coaching and change management which in turn will improve organizational productivity.

The workshop will be presented by the American Farm Bureau, and will employ the Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator, and the Thomas-Kilmann Conflict Mode Instrument. Both tools are well-respected and regularly utilized in the human resources field. "Every generation has its own style of communicating. This workshop will provide techniques for finding common ground and understanding, across generations," says Waterman.

"Working with family in a family business isn't always easy," she says. "Intergenerational farms participating in this workshop will come away with a better understanding of themselves and skills to better communicate with other family members, both in and outside the family business."

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Promoting Agritourism

This time of year, across the state, apple orchards and pumpkin patches are jam-packed with families and tourists, eager to experience authentic agriculture. But it's not just an autumn phenomenon. Across the state, all year long, more farms are finding ways to include the public in authentic agricultural and culinary experiences. Over the past decade, the "agritourism" sector has grown.

Perhaps it is a renewed desire for life's simple pleasures, amidst the technological intrusions which, these days, are so hard to escape. Perhaps it is the current national interest in food and farming. Whatever the reason, there's no denying that "agritourism" presents a huge opportunity for Vermont.

That is why I am so pleased to announce that the Agency of Agriculture has received a grant

of \$88,500 from the USDA to support Agricultural and Culinary Tourism in Vermont. In partnership with the Department of Tourism and Marketing, UVM Extension, Shelburne Farms, and the Vermont Ag and Culinary Tourism Council, the Agency will be ramping up efforts to promote agritourism in our state.

As Secretary of Agriculture, I could not be more proud of the farmers and food producers in our

state. Across the country, there is a renewed interest in food and farming. Vermont has an outstanding story to tell. As we look to the future, I believe Ag and Culinary Tourism will continue to grow, to the benefit of the Vermont farming community.

Charles Ross



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Secretary of Agriculture

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Conflict Workshop

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Ag service providers are welcome to attend the workshop if they are accompanied by a producer. The cost to attend is just \$40, thanks to support from the Vermont Farm Bureau, Farm Credit Northeast, and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.

The deadline to RSVP is November 11. To RSVP for the workshop, contact Louise Waterman at 802-828-6900 or Louise.

Waterman@state.vt.us



Vermont Agricultural Producers and AG Industry Service Providers*
Your personality type can effect how you manage conflicts

Join us for a Conflict Management and Personality Type Indicator Workshop

Meyers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator (MBTI)
+ Thomas-Kilmann Conflict Mode Instrument (TKI) Workshop

When: Dec. 4, 2013 9am-3:30pm

Location: Double Tree Hotel Williston Road in Burlington

Cost: \$40.00 Rate includes one day workshop + individual and group follow-up as well as seminar material.

RSVP: by Nov. 11, 2013 to Louise Waterman VT Agency of Agriculture 802-828-6900 or Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us

Develop your greatest asset - yourself and your people

*Space is limited on a first come first serve basis. Ag Industry Service Providers must bring an Ag producer. Please make payment to VT Agency of Agriculture. Mail to Louise Waterman, 16 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901. This training is offered in collaboration with Farm Credit Northeast AgEnhancement, VT Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau and VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Barn Fires – Don't Give Them a Chance

By Geroge Cook, UVM
Extension

While we don't hear of barn fires often, they do happen, and when they do, there is usually heavy damage to not only the barn, but attached buildings, livestock, tools and equipment stored in or near the barn along with personal loss and livelihood. Fall is a time of transition from outdoor work to more indoor activities for most. Be sure that your barns and other out-buildings are properly prepared for colder weather, and perhaps some source of supplemental heat.



Simple steps can help you prevent tragic losses in the event of a fire. Heating equipment needs to be maintained and properly installed to provide the warmth you want, without increasing the fire risks that may come along with the unit. Old stoves may have cracks which can throw sparks, be sure to go over that old piece and determine if is still safe to fire up. Maintain safe space around it with no combustibles within at least 3 feet. Do you have a fire board under the stove and in front the door so that hot

embers can not fall directly on the floor? Also, is there a fire board behind it or to the side to protect the walls?

Stovepipes and chimneys are another common source of problems. Old, unmaintained stovepipes are prone to small pinholes, gaps, loose joints, even see-through thinness. Get rid of them and put up new, complete with sheet metal screws to connect each joint securely. When was that chimney cleaned last? Is it sound, free of crumbling bricks, with a safe liner? If you are unsure of any of these questions, it would be wise to contact a certified chimney sweep or mason and have it inspected. And...do it now before the heating season really hits us.

Many barn and out building fires start as a result of blowing embers

from an outside source. These can be from burning brush piles, leaves, or other refuse often too near the buildings. Watch the weather and wind direction...never burn upwind of buildings. Who'd do that you say...too many building fires that I've responded to over the years have been started just that way. Clean up leaves, lumber, trash from around the perimeter of every building; it is a direct pathway for fire to enter a building. Check your town's burning regulations. Most outdoor fires need a permit, especially if the ground is bare, with no snow cover. Also, NO treated material can legally be burned, only natural wood!

Another cause of building fires is old, worn, frayed wiring and outdated

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Farm Fire Pre-Plan Data Sheet

*One copy on site, one copy to Fire Department
Develop jointly: farm & Fire Dept. - Update Annually*

Farm Name: _____

Date: _____

E911 Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Show location of key points on map on back of this form.

Children: _____ # People with Disabilities: _____

Buildings, Type, Size (LxWxH) _____

UTILITIES

Electric Service: _____ AmpsLocation: _____

Electric Company: _____ Telephone: _____

Gas/Propane - Location: _____

Gas/Propane Company: _____ Telephone: _____

STORED FEED (x)# Barns# Silos/ TypeLocations & Sizes (LxWxH)

Hay _____ Concrete _____

Haylage _____ Steel _____

Corn Silage _____ Sealed Storage _____

Grain _____ Bunker, Trench _____

ANIMALS (Type) _____ Location _____

Mature _____

Young _____

Bulls _____

Dogs _____

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS on Farm MSDS Files Location: _____

Type, Amount: _____ Location: _____

Manure Pit _____

Fertilizers _____

Crop Chemicals _____

Cleaning Chemicals _____

Fuels _____

Other, Acet. Torches _____

FARM WATER SUPPLY: Source & Location

FIRE WATER SUPPLY: Source, Capacity, Location

WATER ACCESSIBILITY Problems? Winter?

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS: How many? Location?

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

*Draw map of farm on back side of form. Identify all buildings, utilities,
water, HazMat, access roads. Attach photos.*

*Contact: George Cook, UVM Extension
29 Sunset Dr., STE 2, Morrisville, VT 05661, 802-888-4972*

Vermont Edges Out Competition At Regional 4-H Horse Event

By Wendy Sorrell, UVM

For the second year in a row, Vermont took first place in 4-H horse judging and quiz bowl competition at Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Mass. In addition, four of the seven finalists for the Fitting and Showmanship Championship award were from Vermont.

The 4-H horse events, with competitors from all six New England states, took place Sept. 18-22. The University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H delegation included 13 4-H'ers and six teen leaders, who were selected to provide assistance at the horse show.

The winning Vermont 4-H horse Judging Team was comprised of Allison Bachmann, Ira; Karli Knapp, Townshend; Jennifer Dickinson, Colchester; and Mariah Harding, Barre. Allison placed first; Jennifer, fourth, Karli, sixth and Mariah, eighth, for high individual scores in competition.

Other 4-H'ers placing in the top 10 in individual competition included Emma Pearson, North Hero (ninth) and Kate Patenaude, Derby Line (tenth). Allison, Jennifer and Mariah also competed on the Vermont 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl Team along with Summer Colley, Colchester.

Teen leaders competed in their own horse judging competition with Amanda

Ferguson, Springfield, taking third; Kaelyn Jenny, Essex Junction, fourth; Miranda Wright, St. Johnsbury, sixth and Kyle Scott, Milton, ninth.

In the General Knowledge contest (written test) in the Delegate Division Vermont youths placing in the top 10 overall included Jennifer Dickinson, Colchester (second); Alexis Walker, Essex Junction (third); Allison Bachmann, Ira (fourth); Brooke Mobbs, Colchester (fifth); Emma Pearson, North Hero (seventh) and Mariah Harding, Barre (tenth). In the General Knowledge for teen leaders competition, Kaelyn Jenny, Essex Junction, took first; Kyle Scott, Milton, came in fifth; Samantha Turgeon, St. Johnsbury, sixth and Summer Colley, Colchester, ninth.

In the fitting and showmanship classes exhibitors were evaluated on their poise and handling and presentation of their horse as well as its body condition, grooming and overall appearance. Holly Weglarz, Hartland; Allison Bachmann, Ira; Kaelyn Jenny, Essex Junction and Brooke Mobbs, Colchester, were among the seven finalists with Holly winning the championship.

Vermont teen leaders also did well in their fitting and showmanship classes with Kaelyn Jenny, Essex Junction, finishing first and Amanda Ferguson, Springfield, second.

Other notable wins at the regional horse show included Allison Bachmann, Ira, first, and Alexis Walker, Essex Junction, second, in their respective English Equitation classes. Other Vermont 4-H'ers placing first in classes included Kennedy Mitowski, Rutland (Western Handiness); Katelyn Patenaude, Derby Line (Western Pleasure);

Holly Weglarz, Hartland (Western Trail) and Allison Bachmann, Ira (Command).

This was the third year in a row that Allison has won the Command class.

In addition, for the second straight year Allison received the Mac McDonald Award, given in memory of a staunch supporter of the 4-H horse show to the exhibitor with the highest

combined scores from the fitting and showmanship, general knowledge and judging contests.

To learn more about the UVM Extension 4-H Horse Program, contact Wendy Sorrell, UVM Extension 4-H livestock educator, at (802) 656-5418 or toll-free at (800) 571-0668, ext. 2 (Vermont calls only).



Vermont 4-H horse delegates had a strong showing at the regional horse show at Eastern States Exposition, Sept. 18-22, in West Springfield, Mass. The delegation included:

Top row (left to right): Jennifer Dickinson, Colchester; Holly Weglarz, Hartland.

Middle row (left to right): Mary Fay, 4-H Horse Middle Manager, Westford; Samantha Turgeon, St. Johnsbury; Kyle Scott, Milton; Summer Colley, Colchester; Brooke Mobbs, Colchester; Kate Patenaude, Derby Line; Kennedy Mitowski, Rutland; Amanda Ferguson, Springfield; Bethany Demuyneck, Underhill; Lisa Russin, chaperone, Underhill; Karli Knapp, Townshend.

Bottom row (left to right): Mariah Harding, Barre; Allison Bachmann, Ira; Alexis Walker, Essex Junction; Kira Clokey, Jericho; Kaelyn Jenny, Essex Junction; Miranda Wright, St. Johnsbury; Emma Pearson, North Hero; Jolene Fontaine, Barn Manager, Jericho, and David Gringeri, West Haven. (photo courtesy of UVM Extension 4-H)

Windham Foundation and The Vermont Council On Rural Development Announce Findings From Recent Vermont Forest Economy Conference In Grafton

By Melissa Gullotti,
The Windham Foundation

30-page report examines issues, calls for new focus and attention to recognizing forest products as equal importance to Vermont's working landscape and economic vitality as local food systems.

The Windham Foundation of Grafton, Vermont, in collaboration with the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD), has completed its most recent *Grafton Conference Report* focusing on Vermont's Forest Economy. The conference, entitled "Vermont's Forest Economy: Advancing Creativity and Entrepreneurship in Value-Added Forest Products," was attended by 32 representatives of the state's forest products and government sectors who convened to brainstorm issues and ideas on how to invigorate a Vermont forest economy that has seen more than 40% decline in the past decade.

Created in 1984 by the Windham Foundation, Grafton Conferences are two-day informal sessions held at the Grafton Inn that address public policy issues affecting Vermonters. They are free-flowing, non-partisan "think tanks" that offer a forum to debate issues that may lead to unique Vermont solutions. Reports are subsequently created and distributed throughout the state to key influencers with the goal of fostering new ideas and

implementing procedures that benefit the Vermont.

The Vermont Forest Economy is the 35th Grafton Conference and included state officials, foresters, loggers, furniture makers, pellet and syrup producers, and representatives of various trade associations.

"Grafton Conferences are noted for encouraging important conversations with sector leaders holding a wide range of perspectives," said Windham Foundation board of trustees chair Elizabeth Bankowski. "This conference was about the urgent need to recognize and support the recreational, tourism and economic resources our forests provide. There is much we can do. We hope the conference will result in new collaborations and actions to strengthen Vermont's commitment to its forests."

The future of the Vermont working landscape is founded in the Vermont forest products economy. While Vermont has heavily invested in the future of food systems and hubs to the Agricultural Viability Program, of equal importance to Vermont is the Forest Products industry. Competition in an uneven global field has meant the loss of approximately 40% of the mills and production capacity in Vermont's forest products economy in the past decade. Notably, nearly half of the wood harvested in Vermont is milled and processed outside the state.

"The working forest in Vermont is no accident; it is the result of innumerable

economic decisions made by generations of rural families as they make a living from the land," explained Paul Costello, VCRD Executive Director. "Their stewardship contributes so much to us all, recreation, beauty, clean air and water and a creative variety of wood products. But their role, and their importance in providing an economic foundation to our working landscape, has been underappreciated. It's wonderful to see the forest products economy celebrated, and to see forward thinking about how it is innovating to support the ecology and prosperity of Vermont into the future."

The Grafton Conference Report highlights ideas for improvement including: brand building initiatives such as "local wood, local good" to bring awareness and added value to Vermont wood products, public education and communication about our forests, including a curriculum for school children, tools to enhance networking across this sec-

tor, better information and support for the management of small forest lots, building new markets and infrastructure inside the state for increased state-made products and job creation; and, strengthening ties to preserving Vermont's landscape through existing agricultural programs. Interested parties are encouraged to download the report in its entirety online at www.Windham-Foundation.org.

"The Grafton Conference provided an important opportunity to network and brainstorm with people from so many sectors of the forest products industry, as well as key leaders from state government," said Carolyn Partridge, Vermont State Representative for Windham County, who chairs the House Committee on Agriculture and Forest Products and led the effort to extend the name of the Agriculture Committee to Agriculture and Forest Products: "This kind of collaboration is critical as we continue to seek ways to

sustainably use our forestry resources, create jobs and promote economic development, which will benefit all Vermonters."

The Windham Foundation is an operating foundation engaged in philanthropic, charitable and educational activities. Its mission is to promote Vermont's rural communities through its philanthropic and educational programs and its subsidiaries whose operations contribute to these endeavors, including The Retreat Farm, Grafton Village Cheese and the Grafton Inn. Learn more at www.Windham-Foundation.org.

The Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of the locally-defined progress of Vermont's rural communities. VCRD is uniquely positioned to sponsor and coordinate collaborative efforts concerned with policy questions of rural import. Learn more at www.vtrural.org.

Barn Fires

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electrical systems. As we grow and expand our business, so do we keep adding to the electrical load. When was the last time you had a certified electrician in to evaluate your electrical demand and service entrance panel? Do you have the capacity that your farm has grown to need? Overloaded

circuits are a real danger. Those old two wire outlets need to go. Any barn or out building is usually prone to moisture problems. All wiring needs to be properly grounded and Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) outlets or circuits need to be installed.

These are but a few of the reasons why we each need to be vigilant in preventing barn and out building fires,

whether we're on a farm or around our home.

Here's a parting question...do you have the number of animals which are typically housed in each building posted by the entrance? This would be very helpful to responding emergency crews. This information should be part of your Pre-plan developed with your fire department.

Agency of Agriculture Announces 2013 Farm to School Grants

\$75,000 Available for Vermont Schools

By Johanna Herron, Vermont Agency of Agriculture

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture has announced \$75,000 of available funding for Vermont schools interested in Farm to School programming. Any school, consortium of schools, or school district interested in Farm to School programming is encouraged to apply for this for this funding.

The state of Vermont has appropriated nearly \$700,000 over the past six years to support Farm to School programming in Vermont schools. Since its creation, the Vermont Farm to School grant program has awarded 62 schools throughout the state with funds to support the integration local foods in school cafeterias, classrooms and communities.

Vermont is a nationally recognized leader in Farm

to School curriculum, connecting students to agriculture via the “3 C’s” – classroom, cafeteria, and community. Vermont’s model has been replicated in other states, and has been referenced by the USDA for best practices in Farm to School programming.

“Farm to School programs throughout our state are teaching our students to eat healthy and make connections with their local farmers, while also opening new markets for Vermont farmers,” says Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Chuck Ross.

“This is a great opportunity to try out a new marketing effort, build or pilot new relationships, and teach kids about Vermont agriculture.”

The program encourages schools and school districts to serve food to Vermont students that are as fresh and nutritious as possible. “These Farm to School Grants give schools what they need to focus on developing sound and sustainable Farm to School programs. By connecting the classrooms, the cafeteria, and the community it is possible to change school food culture” Said

Abbie Nelson, Director of Vermont FEED (Food Education Every Day).

This grant program is made possible by collaboration between the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Agency of Education, Department of Health, VT FEED (Food Education Every Day) and the Vermont Farm to School Network.

For more information about Vermont’s Farm to School program, as well as grant application forms, go to the Agency of Agriculture’s website, http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/funding_opportunities/vaafm_funding/farm_to_school/apply, or contact Johanna Herron at the Vermont Agency of Agriculture at (802) 505-0590 or johanna.herron@state.vt.us.

Report Damage Promptly for Crop Insurance and Non- Insured Crop Assistance (NAP)

By Pam Smith, UVM Extension

Monitor your crops for insurable damage throughout the growing and harvesting season. If you find damage, notify your crop insurance agent within 72 hours of discovery, 15 days before harvesting begins and within 15 days after harvesting is completed on each affected insurance unit, but not later than Oct. 20 for silage corn insured with a tonnage guarantee, Dec. 10 for corn insured as grain and soybeans. If you have grain quality problems contact your agent while evidence of damage is still in the field. Promptly report damage to NAP crops to FSA.

- Direct marketed crops must have a yield appraisal before they are harvested.
- Do not destroy evidence that is needed to support your claim without clear direction, in writing, from the insurance adjuster.

Whenever there is damage due to insects and/or disease it is critical to show:

- that it was uncontrollable;
- that preventative measures were taken; and
- the measures and timing of the action taken since crop damage was found.

In 2013, Vermont producers purchased \$40 million dollars of crop insurance and protected over 77,000 acres. For more information contact UVM Extension at 802-349-2966.

RSVP for Regional Farmers Market Roundtables

By Erin Buckwalter, NOFA

NOFA-VT and the Vermont Farmers Market Association are hosting a series of six regional farmers’ market roundtables.

These roundtables will be three-hour networking opportunities for market managers, board members and organizers in each region where we’ll be able to dive deeply into critical challenges for markets across the state. We encourage you to attend your region’s roundtable to build relationships with other markets in your area and learn from your peers. Based on market feedback, we’ve selected the following dates and times for the roundtables.

East Central

Thursday October 24,
9am-noon
Location TBA - Norwich
RSVP by October 22

Northwest

Monday October 28, 1-4pm
Location TBA - Burlington Area
RSVP by October 24

West Central

Tuesday November 5,
9am-noon
Location TBA - Rutland
RSVP by November 1

Northeast

Monday November 11,
1-4pm
Location TBA - St. Johnsbury Area
RSVP by November 7

Southwest

Wednesday November 20,
9-Noon
Location TBA - Bennington/
Manchester Area
RSVP by November 18

Southeast

Wednesday December 4,
9am-noon
Location TBA - Brattleboro
RSVP by December 2

Please RSVP to
erin@nofavt.org.

We will be sending out more information in the coming weeks. Markets that are members of the Vermont Farmers Market Association (VTFMA) will be able to attend for free. There will be a \$10 fee for markets not members of the VTFMA.

Food + Co-ops: Farm Viability—Strong Networks & Thriving Farms

By Eric DeLuca, Food Systems Leader & Innovator

As you may have heard, 97% of Vermonters value the working landscape. But what's the difference between the working landscape and a pretty view? One simple answer is: farm viability.

The state of Vermont is widely recognized for the strength of its community-based food system. One of the core assets in this system is the Farm Viability Program of the VT Housing & Conservation Board. VHCB recently hosted a national conference focused on farm viability, to share the love. As VHCB Executive Director Gus Seelig noted, "The National Farm Viability Conference was a great success, drawing 200 practitioners from 18 states working to improve rural economy and reinvent a better food system for farmers and consumers." Vermont Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Ross added: "The conference underscored the importance of technical assistance to the success of our farming enterprises and the entrepreneurs who run the operations."

The thing that made this event powerful was the same factor that makes the VT Farm Viability Program so effective: networks. Just as VHCB partners with an array of technical assistance providers to help farms better plan their businesses, this conference convened a broad range of stakeholders dedi-

cated to a sustainable local/regional food system. This is how VHCB framed its design and intention: "The National Farm Viability Conference is geared towards professionals in farm and food business planning, financial planning, agricultural financing, farmland conservation, agricultural market development, and food hub management. The conference is an opportunity to network, develop new knowledge and skills, and visit farms and value-added processing facilities."

But what did the conference mean to those who were there—both Vermonters and leaders from elsewhere in the US? And what does it say about the opportunity the VT Farm Viability Program provides to Vermont farmers and food system businesses?

Cross-Pollination

"The ability to engage with other folks working through similar issues in their regions, and discuss potential solutions and innovations, was incredibly stimulating. These sort of gatherings, I believe, are going to be essential in our Food Systems work development, so that we might learn from one another, and share resources." That was the perspective of Ben Filippo, Food Systems Coordinator at the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association. Ben traveled to Vermont from North Carolina for the conference. He has studied and developed diverse food hubs in the South.



Enid Wonnacott and colleagues at the 2008 National Farm Viability Conference.

These sentiments were echoed by a Vermont-based farm viability service provider, Mark Cannella—Extension Faculty at University of Vermont (UVM), who said: "It becomes clear to me that keeping pace with new developments requires me to continually stretch myself into new skills and new relationships." A longtime partner of the VT Farm Viability Program is the Intervale Center. Intervale Center Executive Director Travis Marcotte saw a deeper level of value in the event, "For me, this conference is really a tribute to our commitment to working landscapes and our belief that by working together we can help farm and forest businesses thrive."

In addition to geographic diversity, the conference brought together people playing diverse roles within the food system. For example, Dan Pullman noted, "As an investor in New England Food System solutions, I greatly value the strong col-

laborative dialogue between investors and with food system businesses. The Farm Viability Conference creates an intimate forum for investors and food system entrepreneurs to interact closely—this long-term relationship building is vital to sustaining a coordinated and financially sound growth strategy." Another regional investor and program developer reinforced this perception: "By bringing together a diverse group of farm and food lenders, investors, consultants,

entrepreneurs, non-profit leaders, and other stakeholders for two days, VHCB was able to facilitate the collaborative thinking and action that moves the needle of regional food system change forward," said Alex Linkow—Program Director of the Fair Food Fund.

The conference attracted not only service providers and food system investors, but also enterprises that do business with farmers on a daily basis, like wholesale distributor Black River Produce. As Communications Director Jean Hamilton pointed out, getting market signals moving effectively within a values-based supply chain can help local/regional food systems get to the next level. "Due to our market relationships and volume of business, we at Black River Produce collect a lot of market information that can be valuable to farmers and producers. We are eager to share this information broadly and effectively. Participating

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Vermont Farm Viability Program client Bread & Butter Farm.

Johanna Herron Hired to Lead Agency of Ag's Farm to School Efforts

By Abbey Willard, VAAFM

Johanna Herron has recently joined the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Market's Development Division to engage in the farm to school program, specialty crop grants, and workplace CSA initiatives. Her expertise, knowledge, and innovative perspective are a welcome addition to the Agency's team. Johanna worked as the Alaska Farm to School Program Coordinator for

the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture. She spent three years designing, planning, and carrying out the state program with partners all over the state and nation. The program had many components such as a grant program, contests, resource development, and school/farmer tours. She has worked extensively with fish to school efforts, farm food safety, and agriculture literacy. Johanna also served as the Alaska state lead for the National Farm to School Network contributing to



Johanna Herron

the national dialogue about farm to school efforts. She also served on the Alaska Food Policy Council, Alaska School Nutrition Association Board, and was a co-chair for the School Programs workgroup for the Food Policy Council. She brings a strong network base, knowledge of state government, and a desire to learn about our state's community-based agriculture system.

Johanna Herron was raised in Colorado and Minnesota before moving to Alaska in June of 2000. She met her husband of 13 years in Alaska and has two wonderful children; Jethro (age 7) and Jazlyn (age 4.75). She completed her BS in Biological Anthropology at UAF in 2004 and recently wrapped up her MS in Community Nutrition at UAF. Johanna's master's thesis work looked at the feasibility of farm to school in Alaska and using farm to school programs as a childhood obesity prevention strategy. She designed, administered, and analyzed

a state-wide survey of school food service professionals to assess their interest in, barriers of, and future needs for incorporating local foods into the school meal programs. She has a strong appreciation for accountability and evaluation efforts. Prior to her work with the state of Alaska Johanna worked for the Center for Alaska Native Health Research in the Epidemiology Biostatistics

Core. Johanna has been a long-time admirer of Vermont farm to school and local food efforts and is thrilled to join the Agency of Agriculture and looks forward to contributing and learning from all the partner organizations. Please feel welcome to call or email Johanna to introduce yourself or set up a time to meet; Johanna.herron@state.vt.us, 802-505-0490.



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Vermont Receives USDA Grant to Boost Agricultural and Culinary Tourism

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the Vermont Agency of Agriculture (VAAFAM) as the recipient of an \$88,500 matching grant under the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP), one of the largest awards for the highly competitive 2013 program.

VAAFAM, in collaboration with Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing (VDTM), University of Vermont Extension, Shelburne Farms, and Vermont Agricultural and Culinary Tourism Council (VT-ACT), will utilize this funding to amplify the economic impacts and mitigate risks of agricultural and culinary tourism for Vermont farms. The grant will fund capacity development and risk management for producers offering on-farm experiences, with attention to research and evaluation of economic impacts and farm profitability from engaging in agritourism activity. VAAFAM and VDTM will utilize grant funds to implement coordinated marketing campaigns to drive visitors to farm and food businesses offer-

ing authentic agricultural and culinary experiences. Additionally, the grant will fund leadership and network development for VT-ACT to ensure the sharing of best practices and reinforce strong statewide agricultural organizations.

"Agritourism is an important strategy for promoting agricultural diversification and farm viability," Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Ross said. "Vermont is a leader in community-based agriculture, and this represents yet another way that we are promoting agricultural literacy among visitors and Vermonters alike."

In 2013, FSMIP Projects total funding is \$1,234,690 with average grant allotments of \$68,594. Overall, 18 FSMIP projects will be represented across 15 states.

"The joint efforts between the Agency of Agriculture, statewide agricultural organizations and VDTM have reaped a significant award for the future of Vermont agritourism," Megan Smith, Commissioner of VDTM said. "Especially when compared to the grants received by larger states, this funding is yet another testament that

Vermont is a leader in this field."

VAAFAM facilitates, supports and encourages the growth and viability of agriculture in Vermont while protecting the working landscape, human health, animal health, plant health, consumers and the environment. Visit www.VermontAgriculture.com VDTM works to promote

Vermont's travel, recreation, cultural and historic attractions, as well as the state's goods and services, in coordination with public and private sector partners and to market to a global audience in a manner consistent with the values and traditions of the state for the economic benefit of all Vermonters. Find industry information at www.vermontpartners.com

and traveler information at www.vermontvacation.com.

Since 1976, USDA's Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program has partnered with states across the country to support 943 projects that exemplify marketing innovation. Visit www.ams.usda.gov/FSMIP for a complete list of this year's projects.

Farm Viability

continued from page 7

in the Farm Viability Conference allowed us to share this info directly with front-line service providers. We also benefited from hearing their expert perspectives on challenges and opportunities that businesses like ours pose to the viability of small and mid-sized producers."

A Program That Pays Off for Farmers

Against a national backdrop of decreasing numbers of farms and farmers, UVM Dean of Extension Doug Lantagne notes, "Farm Viability has made an immense positive impact on farm businesses across the state. I value UVM Extension's role, in partnership with VHCB and other contractors, that has helped our agricultural businesses thrive, not just survive the last several years."

So what is the VT Farm Viability Program and how can you—as a producer—get involved?

Grounded in the straightforward mission of enhanc-

ing the economic viability of Vermont farmers, the program progresses logically from business planning to technical assistance in implementing business plans. It then provides opportunities to receive grants for capital expenses related to plan implementation.

NOFA-VT is a service delivery partner in the VT Farm Viability Program. Caitlin Jenness is one of the staff people involved in the program. Caitlin has a good sense of how the program works and why now is a good time to consider applying. "The season is still fresh in people's minds. Finances, production data, and process information will be at hand. The Farm Viability Program is a two-year process, so during the off-season you set up the focus, and then you have a season to work with a consultant and learn. Then you can rework your plan and keep it a working document. You can assess gaps from the first year, and track new strategies through the second year to see if they're paying off."

With regular quarterly

deadlines, the next deadline to apply to the Vermont Farm Viability Program is November 30, 2013. In addition to farmers, the program works with food enterprises and forestry enterprises. For more information: <http://www.vhcb.org/viability.html#enroll>

Eric DeLuca serves on the Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Board and previously served on the Vermont Agriculture Innovation Center Board, which together have driven over \$4M of investment in the Vermont working lands economy since 2010. Eric managed the International Year of Cooperatives for the US through the National Cooperative Business Association. He is currently partnering with UVM Continuing & Distance Education, the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, NOFA-VT and other VT food system leaders to create the first higher ed certificate program focused on food hub management in the country.



VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



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Reports From The Field

(Westfield) This is the first time I have ever picked beans on the 8th of October; our first killing frost hit the next night. My first year in Vermont, 22 years ago, the killing frost was September 5. We are finishing harvest of the roots crops which are plentiful and in good condition. The greenhouses are seeded or transplanted for the winter; all that's left is to clean the fields and take a break! Overall the season was challenging with diseases, bugs, and too much early rain, but it ended up well and we had a good harvest. It sure is good to work with this nice, sunny, fall weather. Spring is now a distant memory.

(Royalton) We have still not had a frost. We're picking purple, yellow and Italian flat bush beans; the delicata and spaghetti squash are still flowering. Tomatoes in the field are done flowering, but the cherry tomatoes in the hoop house are still producing flowers and fruits. Harvesting fall beets with beautiful greens, Gilfeather turnips, head lettuces and spinach. Fall broccoli and cauliflower are heading up. The artichokes

are producing well still. The furlough has made it possible for us to spend the extra time usually off the farm setting up our new 30 by 70 foot hoop house. Given the growing season this year, it seems like the only way we're going to regulate growing conditions will be with the help of these great additions. With these mild fall temps, I can't wait to see what the weed seed population is going to be like next year!

(Grand Isle) We have been pleased with Salanova as a baby lettuce. The high cost seems to be offset by the time saved in the labor of picking. We are enjoying the delay in the first hard killing frost. The fall bok choy and broccoli are as pretty as a picture, with no signs of problems.

We are tackling the long list of pre winter projects: draining pumps, folding up shade cloths, pulling gladiola bulbs, getting winter squash in bins, picking up irrigation pipe before the weeds claim it, to name a few!

(Williston) Harvest is slowing down in the field. Will plant garlic/shallots this week and hope the weather will become more seasonable. We have not had a frost for couple of weeks. I do enjoy doing fall clean up with this balmy weather. Things in the hoop house are looking great: kale, chard, scallions, cilantro and parsley. I had a bit of trouble with spinach and getting seeder to work correctly but went back and seeded by hand; will try transplanting some to fill in the gaps. Enjoying the slower pace, the foliage, and peace and quiet from the lack of F-16's. At least there is one plus from the government shut down!

(N. Ferrisburgh) Still picking fall raspberries

around the SWD with good response from customers, when advised to discard soft fruit in picking row. Seems like the only good defense is getting ripe fruit off before larvae hatches. Cooler weather is showing a lot less pressure from SWD. I know other growers have closed their fields or cut down plants: no income instead of some income. SWD has probably accounted for 20% less income but some income is better than none. Sprayed twice when fly population exploded. We also have quite a few sugar pie pumpkins left if anyone needs some. Was pleased with our production numbers and size since we planted so late with all the rain. More than half cover cropped with winter rye and hoping to harvest straw next June for small baled mulch.

(Brunswick) Great season, after the June-July soakings. Early peas a disaster, then August peas the best! Latest pea sales here, ever. Hoophouse tomatoes outstanding, all varieties. Still selling; peppers also. Sweet corn sales just ending, Columbus Day weekend! Some late planting gambles almost into July paid off. We've been the sole seller of sweet corn for the last three weeks in the 'upper of the upper' Conn. Valley. Never had to irrigate sweet corn until one brief week in late August, first time pump was started all season. In 30 years of growing first-ever tomato hornworms appeared in August in fair numbers. Very few CPBs this year; used Bt only sparingly. We are eliminating Blue Gold potatoes in the mix for next season; flavor not up to standards here, skins seem to pucker after washing for presentation on farm stand. We are closing after Columbus Day, except for some phone orders from

long term customers. Last winter rye seeding goes in now. No winter tunnel growing ventures here, time for woods work.

(Burlington) Holy broccoli! Haven't seen anything this nice out of our fields in more than five years. Sent a big load to the Food Venture Center for processing to see if our winter CSA members like frozen broccoli. Appreciating our farmer network; though we lost our onion crop in July flooding, we've been able to trade crops we have in abundance to make up much of our deficit for our winter share. Fall crops coming in and looking good. Pre-storage quality looking really good on most crops, though more fruit rots on the butternut than I hoped. Our storage crops are much nicer when we add humidity to the walk-in.

(New Haven) We are still in summer mode this week: tomatoes, cukes, zukes, peppers, eggplant, green and wax beans still producing well. Sweet corn is doing well we are picking bicolor and silver queen. Fall crops and winter roots doing well and on target. It's been a challenging year but the warm fall has helped make it an OK one.

(Sudbury) We are beginning to close down on what should be our finest season. The early rains got us started early and our new irrigation system filled in nicely when it began to dry out. The beautiful fall weather has kept our crops growing well with beds still full of lettuce, beans, carrots, beets, eggplants, peppers, kale, squash and even cucumbers. We've begun to till some beds under and will begin planting garlic next week. Then we cover it with straw as well as our

carrots (planted in early August) which we will harvest later this fall and into winter. Diversifying our clients this year to include a farmers' market, CSA, local schools and restaurants has provided consistent demand that will continue well into November. We do not participate in winter markets; look forward to some time off and reviewing seed catalogs.

(Plainfield) The rutabagas, Napa, and late cabbage could use some rain as they try to finish up, but it is hard to complain too much about a mild, dry fall. Carmen peppers under row cover are still ripening beautiful reds. Not enough frost to even slightly damage our big chard planting. Kale is growing well, barely keeping up with demand. Very weak yield on winter squash, mostly sold already. Best fall raspberry crop, and still no frost in the forecast. Tearing cherry tomatoes and peppers out of the greenhouses, tilling in compost, and planting spinach plugs.

(Middle Granville NY) Season is wrapping up rather well. About two thirds of the way through fall harvesting. Carrots, leeks, radishes, and rutabaga left. Having more disease in the brassicas than normal although the plants are still putting up amazing heads; best cauliflower and broccoli ever. Winter radishes and turnips had serious aphids, to the point that the plants died because we covered with rowcover to keep root maggot off. We did spray Pyganic but didn't make a dent. Spinach and greens are gorgeous, took a bit of a hit to some seedings with the very heavy rain a month or so ago. Markets are down; our big market has 30 veggie growers and we are really feeling the

continued on page 15

MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Prices

August 12, 2013

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

Vermont Egg Prices:

Jumbo \$2.15
 X-Large \$1.63
 Large \$1.57
 Medium \$1.15

Demand is good and Market and Supply are 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 • October 8, 2013

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

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

Calves:	LOW	HIGH	Cows:	LOW	HIGH
Good & Choice: 61-75 lbs	35.00	50.00 cwt	Canners	25.00	71.00 cwt
76-95 lbs	40.00	53.00 cwt	Cutters	73.00	81.00 cwt
96-105 lbs	20.00	53.00 cwt	Utility	81.50	93.00 cwt
106 lbs and up	48.00	54.00 cwt	Sows	49.50	cwt
Farm Calves	60.00	130.00 cwt	Hogs	none	cwt
Starter Calves	49.00	cwt	Boars	none	cwt
Feeder Calves	none	cwt	Shoats	none	cwt
Vealers	none	cwt	Feeder Pigs	17.00	74.00 each
Bulls	89.00	cwt	Lambs	40.00	200.00 cwt
Replacement Heifers	none	cwt	Sheep	32.50	145.00 cwt
Replacement Cows	none	each	Goats	25.00	260.00 each
Steers	none	cwt	Rabbits	4.00	15.00 each
			Hay (11 lots)	2.60	4.30 bale

Addison County Commission Sales • Middlebury, VT • September 9, 2013

Cattle: 140	Feeder Calves
Calves: 246	Holstein Bulls 92-125 lbs. 45.00 137.50 cwt
Slaughter Cows	80-90 lbs. 45.00 75.00 cwt
Breakers 75 - 80% lean 78.00 88.00 cwt	Vealers (good & choice)
Boners 80 - 85% lean 68.00 82.00 cwt	70-120 lbs. 20.00 50.00 cwt
Lean 85 - 90% lean 55.00 73.00 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

Honey qt. \$19, pt. \$11, propolis 2 oz. tincture \$16, fresh frozen pollen \$28 qt., lindenap@gmail.com, Charles Andros, Linden Apiaries, 603-756-9056, ALSTEAD, NH. (11/13)

Cattle

Small beef herd. 4 cows 4 heifers and 2 bulls. One or all \$1.10 per lb. 802-728-3760. (10/13)

Two miniature black angus full blood bull calves. Both sired by Kryptonite, one grand sired Doc Holiday. Going to be excellent bulls. Call Bruce 802-748-9830. (10/13)

2 Belted Galloway Steers, 800+ and 500+ lbs. Friendly, gentle. Ready to go. \$1.50/lb. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (10/13)

2 holstein registered bulls, excellent pedigree with papers. 1 red hereford bull

1 jersey holstein cross due in December, would make a great homestead cow, makes a lot of milk Call 802-266-8647. (10/13)

Winco 25 KW PTO generator, trailer mounted, always stored inside. \$1500 802-297-2225 Rawsonville, VT (10/13)

Jersey Cows: 5-1st and 2nd calf animals to sell; fresh or freshening this fall; closed herd; on DHIA, low SCC, high components; \$600-\$1400 Fairfield; call Julie 933-4592 (10/13)

Three registered Brown Swiss heifers. Dates of birth are 09/30/11, 02/04/12, and 09/04/12. All are open. \$1,500 each or all 3 for \$4,000.00. Sudbury, VT. (802)623-7533 (10/13)

3 and a half year old black angus bull for sale. Excellent bull with good

temperament and great blood lines. Angus heifers for sale, born in April of this year. Call for info on either. (802) 265-3078 or (802) 558-8196. (10/13)

Black Angus cows with calves - \$1700 (Cabot) We have three cow/calf combinations for sale.

They are purebred Angus, we use bulls sired by AI bulls. 'Old style' genes - short and broad. Cows could be used for beef but have been with a bull since August 7th. Grass/hay fed. Come to grain for moving. \$1700 per pair
 1. Cow born 6/8/10 - has her second calf with her, a bull, steered at about 10 days, born 5/24/13.
 2. Cow born 5/24/10 - has her second calf with her, a bull, steered at about 10 days, born 5/39/13.
 3. Cow born 6/5/11 - has first calf with her, a heifer, born 7/2/13. #1 and #3 are sisters. Call 802-426-

CLASSIFIEDS

- 3331 ask for Susan or David or email carp-farm@sover.net (10/13)
- Very nice Jersey heifer, bred AI, due December 1. \$850 or best offer. 802-483-2963. (10/13)
- 2008 F350 6 Speed Dully set up with flat bed goose neck hitch used daily \$10,000. 802-592-3356 (11/13)
- Certified Organic Adult Jersey Breeding Bull 4 Sale! - \$750 We have an eighteen month old Jersey bull for sale that is ready for breeding right now! He has been breeding our herd for about 5 months now, but now we have another bull of age that is ready to step in so we are selling the older one. he's a certified organic bull and really easy to work with (we have a tie stall herd and he goes into the barn w/ our cows twice each day). (11/13)
- Organic Dairy Milking Jersey Crossed Cows For Sale. We have approximately two dozen certified organic dairy cows for sale. Mostly Jersey crosses, and are currently milking (at various stages of lactation). Our farm is located on 1344 Ballard Road in Georgia, Vermont. Call 802-782-8833. (11/13)
- 25 Holsteins heifers from 3 nice herda, all sired and serviced. 5 due in December, 4 due in January, 12 due February, and 4 due in March. 802-483-2963. (11/13)
- Jersey cross heifers, one yearling and two 10 month old. Crosses are Friesian, Brown Swiss, and Holstein. From milking herd are dehorned, wormed, and pasture trained to electric fence, asking \$400 each or group price. Would also trade for good quality purebred dairy goat does, adults or kids. 413-687-7180 (11/13)
- Polled herefords; 3 cows 2 calves 2 steers ready for slaughter and 4 young steers. Call (802) 775-3361 (11/13)
- Classy big holstein heifer vet checked due early April. Weighs 1360 lbs. Grass raised. Bred to Hereford. \$1300. Guilford, Vt vttimber@sover.net 802 579-3834 (11/13)
- Jersey and Holsteins for sale, registered and organic. Bred heifers and young cows. Call 802 889 3704 or contact rob@howvale.com (11/13)
- 2 Angus bulls for sale. 16 Months old, all can be registered and from a very good herd. \$1,500 each. 533-9804 or 533-2208. (11/13)
- 8 Holstein Heifers for sale. Preg checked on 9/10/13 at 4 months bred. Vaccinated and ready to go. 533-2208 (11/13)
- Bred beef heifers, steer and family cow.. Two big Angus and one white face cross heifer bred to Hereford bull and preg checked by Vet. One Normandy fast growing steer 700 lbs. One friendly Jersey heifer family cow bred to Hereford and Vet checked for Spring. All come with shipping vaccination, Vet health certificates and preg check paperwork. Fair prices. Please email midwifemeghan@gmail.com for complete description, photos, and prices. or 802 451-6548 Guilford, VT. (11/13)
- Registered Dexter Cattle. 9 year old dun cow bred for March 2014 calf, halter broke, very gentle, tested A1/A2 milk \$1500.00. 15 month old black heifer, halter broke, great dairy character, tested A1/A2 milk, handled daily, \$1000.00. Black heifer calf, will be available in December, halter broke, beefy little girl, \$900.00.
- All animals are horned, tested chondro & PHA free, genotyping on file. Call 802-333-7025 or email StumpRow@myfairpoint.net (11/13)
- Big framed bred Holstein heifer. Vet checked bred, due in early April to a Hereford bull. Weighed on scales over 1300 lbs. Excellent condition and appearance. Vaccinated for shipping, Has health certificate Trucking possible. \$1250 firm. Email vttimber@sover.net or call 802 579-3834 for more information or photos. (11/13)
- 5 year old grade Black Angus bull. Excellent genetics from Ohlde Cattle Co in Kansas. Very thick frame 4 bull bred for grass-only production. Very prolific. \$2500, overwintering possible for a fee. Tunbridge, 889-3211. (11/13)
- Small herd of 8 Angus cows ranging in age from 3 to 10 years old and 8 calves born between June and July. \$1400.00 per pair or will sell cows separately for \$1.00 per lb. Not certified but could be. Fed hay and grass only. Herd is in good order. Call Dennis at Sunnybrook Farm 802-296-2491. (11/13)
- Employment**
Katahdin 2013 Ewe Lambs/ Could be bred this fall. 2013 Ram Lambs-Could be used for breeding this fall. Grade-200.00, Reg-250.00. Healthy, productive 3 yr old Katahdin ewes, Reg & Grade-200.00. 802-928-4190. (10/13)
- The Vermont Land Trust seeks long-term partnership with an organization or individual to manage or lease a 180-acre farm (approximately 100 tillable) in Jeffersonville, VT. House with 50-cow barn milking setup (funding available for improvements). All types of agricultural plans considered. Sound resource management plan required and community connection or educational component desired. For more information, www.vlt.org/westfarm, or call Nick Richardson at 802.262.1224.(11/13)
- Log Yard Scaler, full time Gutchess Lumber Co., Canaan, NY. Scaling and grading, loading and unloading trucks, data collection and transfer, environmental and regulatory compliance, racking of receipts, and sales. Forestry background required. Contact Dave Dence, 802 379-4272 or drdence@gutchess.com. (11/13)
- Equipment**
Chest Freezer, 19.14 CU fee, 4 feet x 36 inches, as is, 115 volt, glass slider doors for easy access and viewing. Made in Denmark, UL rated, five baskets. Best offer over \$200. Call Frank 802-263-5548. (10/13)
- All weather cab to fit 450 or 550 dozer, with doors and windows. In excellent condition, glass & dorrs perfect! 603-543-3616. (10/13)
- Gould Liquid Manure Pump-Excellent condition. 3200 Liquid Manure Spreader-Very good condition. Ford 4 row corn planter - 3 pt hitch. Walter Morse 802-476-6725. (10/13)
- International No.56 silage blower short hopper auger feed. 892 NH chopper wit both hay and 2 row corn heads. Leave message 802-372-4513. (10/13)
- FREE tubed round bales for mulch. Will load. 802-586-2857. (10/13)
- IH 826 Hydro 4 new tires \$6500.00. Kuhn 4 star teddee \$1100.00. Two 16.9.34 tires \$200.00. Load Max 11 Ton goose neck trl \$6500.00. 50 gal. cider barrel with stand \$250.00. 802-948-2627. (10/13)
- 72 Hay elevator, Like new. 24 ton Victoria green bin. 9 to 10 green bin. Hay wagon, like new. 450 mowen. 458 New Holland mower. 32 ft hay elevator. John Deere transport harrow, like new. 624-0306, 895-4683. (10/13)
- Gates Style concrete forms; corners panels, rods, some ties. \$5000 or BO. Massey Ferguson MF50 loader/backhoe. New Rear Tires, \$5000 or BO Chip at 802-263-9393. (10/13)
- BCS Sickle Bar - New. 53 inch bar with gears in oil bath. \$1050. BCS Precision Garden Cultivator - 9" wide. Freestanding design. Adjustable wheels for consistent depth control. Only lightly used. \$150; Behlen Country Electric Heated 2 Hole Cattle Drinker, brand new, still in its plastic wrapping \$375. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211. (10/13)
- Spare Truck Tire. Michelin LT265/75R16. 75-80% tread. \$80.00. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (10/13)
- 2003 F-150 4 X 4, V6, 5 speed, 8' box. Includes two sets of tires. One set of all-season radials & one set of winter Blizzaks. Bed liner, diamond plate saddle tool box plus mechanics tool box. Mechanically well maintained. Asking \$ 4775.00. Please call 802-228-8672. (10/13)
- Four Nokian RSi 185 70R 14 winter tires. Used only one season. Asking \$ 50.00 each or \$175.00 for all four. Please call 802-228-8672. (10/13)
- New Holland Tow Type 8 ft. Disc Mower Conditioner. 540 RPMs. In good working condition. \$7000. OBO. Spare Truck Tire. Michelin LT265/75R16. 75-80% tread. \$60.00. Newbury, NH (603) 763-9422 (10/13)

6 Ton Kastin running gear, \$250 obo. Bale chopper with new motor to be installed, \$150 obo. 6' brush cutter, needs welders touch, \$200 obo. Richard 802-433-5870. (10/13)

John Deere 740 loader with all hoses and brackets. Originally on JD 7210. Loader in very good shape. Bucket is in fair shape. Call 247-6630. Brandon. (10/13)

Int'l 656- diesel-65hp- \$4500. 4 Tedders- 13'-17'- \$800.- \$2800. JD 3950 Chopper w/ 2 heads- Nice!- \$5500. JD 8' KBA- Trans. Harrows- \$1500. JD 1470- 11.5' Disk mower/cond- \$6500. M & W 5506 Round baler- 5'x5'- string/silage- \$4200. 802-885-4000 (10/13)

Behlen Country Electric Heated 2 Hole Cattle Drinker, brand new, still in its plastic wrapping. \$350. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211. Jotul Cast Iron Wood Stove – Model F3CB, non-catalytic clean burn technology. New, never used. Black. Custom screen for open door burning \$1500. Antique Granite Jumbo Cobblestones Some weigh 45 pounds each and are 18 inches long with a beautiful patina. \$12 each; Antique Granite Street Curbing – Late 18th century to early 19th century. 4 – 8 feet long, 18 – 20 inches wide, and 7 – 8 inches thick. \$35 a linear foot. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211 (10/13)

John Deere 3970 chopper with 2 row corn head and grass head. Excellent condition. Asking \$9500. 5088 international cab tractor, 139 HP, ready to work. \$12500. 8 HP bale shredder, \$600. Call 802-933-4159. (10/13)

NH 900 Chopper Dual axle floatation tires metal alert very good condi-

tion \$13,500. Corn & hay heads. Richardton 200 Hi-Dump floatation tires very good condition \$9000. Valmetal 28-30' elevator \$1000. 79 GMC dump truck (15'silage box) 427 U8 airbreaks \$4500. 802-895-4828. (10/13)

Power take off for AC WD 45 or WD \$150. Electric welder 230 amps continuous \$90. Sawmill Ross Bandmill carriage 20 ft x 17 in wide \$2000. Call 802-674-5044 (11/13)

All weather cab to fit 450 or 550 Dozer with doors and windows. In excellent condition. 603-543-3616 (11/13)

Hesston Tractor, 80-66 HP, 2 wheel drive, 4800 hrs. Nice shape, good tires, \$7100. 2004 Ford F350 extended cab pick up, 5.4 engine, auto. 4wd, dumping bed, some rust, 118600 miles, runs good \$5000. Gooseneck hitch plate assembly \$100. Trades or best offers always considered. 802-236-4917 (11/13)

MF to 35 \$3500. MF 35 Gas \$2000. MF 50 Gas \$2000. MF IND 20 W loader \$4000. AC B with sliding saw rig \$1500. CUB 104 with Hyd deck lift \$450. AC 4 no row till planter \$1200. 6 ton 4 wheel running gear \$750. 4 cyl military gen \$400. 603-835-6816 (11/13)

Feed Cart 960 Ayra Metal excellent shape 25 Victorian grain Bin like new, 8-10 tin grain bin good shape, John Deere Harrow Transport excellent shape, international manure spreader 540 excellent shape 802-895-4683 or 802-624-0306 (11/13)

Hesston PT7 mower conditioner always stored indoors. 802-436-2068 (11/13)

1978 9700 Ford Tractor for parts bad motor good rear

tires 18-4 38s 1 new rear rim. \$3000 or best offer. 802-522-4168 (11/13)

Cordwood saw-3 pt hitch-PTO-\$500 Cockshutt manure spreader-ground driven-solid-needs one gear replaced-\$300. Middlebury 802-388-2718 (11/13)

Farmhouse kitchen sink SS 2 basin large 7'x2' Elkay Lustertone excellent condition \$350-Middlebury 802-388 2718 (11/13)

20 ft goose neck stock trailer, will haul most animals. 28 ft. goose neck flat bed trailer, 11 ton. Call Jay at 635-9550. (11/13)

TO30 Ferguson tractor for sale – good condition, good tires and rebuilt motor \$2000.00 Call Tom at 802-888-2650 or e-mail stonybrookfarm2@aol.com (11/13)

John Deere 913 V Ripper 3 spring reset rock standards excellent Condition \$2500.00 Roger Wood Concord VT 802-695-8818 (11/13)

Hoegger Milking System for 1 or 2 goats. Machine, 2 6-quart belly pails, tubing, shells, inflations, and float check valves all included. Bought new, used for four seasons. In perfect working order. I am expanding to a larger system. \$800 OBO. Contact Karen at 802-235-1133 (Middletown Springs, VT) or at orchardnubians@aol.com. Off farm sale only-- WILL NOT SHIP. (11/13)

Knight Slinger Spreader 8114, good condition, \$4500. JD 7000 4 row corn planter \$1500. 802/579-8241 Brattleboro (11/13)

2012 Sutton Ag Enterprise HarvestStar Mini-Harvester with band saw blade. Walk behind and harvest 300 lbs of greens per hour. Barely used. See <http://www.suttonag.com/HarvestStar.html> Pick up

in Burlington. New price: \$11,345. Asking \$9900. Thomas Case, Arethusa Farm, 802-578-6429 or arethusafarm@gmail.com (11/13)

CI 585- w/ 2250 ldr- 4 WD- 55 hp- Nice!- \$12,500. Int'l 656- diesel-65hp- \$4500. Krone KR125 round baler- string-silage..\$4500. JD 3950 Chopper w/ 2 heads- Nice!- . \$5500. JD 8' KBA- Trans. Harrows- \$1500.

Fransgard Winch V-5000- \$2300. Full line of other farm equipment available! www.youngsmilkyway-farm.com Ken Young Springfield 802-885-4000 (11/13)

Shaver Hydraulic Post Driver, Model #SHHD8. 3pth, manual tilt. New, never used. \$2550.00. Newbury, NH 603-763-9422. Spare Truck Tire. Michelin LT265/75R16. 75-80% tread. \$40.00. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (11/13)

NH TT75 tractor with loader, 650 hours excellent condition. \$19,500. Buckeye Tractor Co bed raiser, excellent condition. \$1600. Dual offset tire chains off F700 dump truck. \$95. Tunbridge, 889-3211. (11/13)

Hay, Feed & Forage

1st cut hay \$4.50. Call 603-543-3616. (10/13)

2013 first cut squares bales. 2013 first cut round bales. Leave a message 802-372-4513 (10/13)

2013 first cut square bales. 2013 first cut round bales. Leave a message 802-372-4513. (10/13)

First cut hay \$4.50. 603-543-3616. (10/13)

1st Cut Dry Round Bales (late cut) 25.00 per bale. 633-2588 (10/13)

Benson- certified organic hay, sq bales, \$4.25 at barn can deliver 802-537-3167 (10/13)

Processed Corn Silage- Tested 3700 pounds milk/ton.... \$65.00/ loaded 802-885-4000 (10/13)

Hartland Four Corners, VT: Hay: \$35 per 600 lb.-700 lb. John Deere net-wrapped round bales. 100 organic, medium quality, 200 bales. We also have some net-wrapped bales from last year stored outside you can have free, for bedding or other purposes. Delivery possible, but we prefer you pick up. Call farm manager Michel Guite, 802-885-7000. (10/13)

4x5 2nd cut grass round bales. Excellent quality, soft and net wrapped. Stored under cover \$50 per bale. 802-897-8201. (10/13)

170 1st cut wrapped round bales \$40.00. 80 2nd cut 4' wrapped round bales \$50.00. 40 late 1st cut wrapped round bales \$25.00. 802-895-4828. (10/13)

North Troy – Organic and Conventional dry or wrapped Round Bales,



CLASSIFIEDS

small square bale, Haylage in Ag Bags and Mulch Hay by the bale or trailer load. Some delivery available. Call 802-988-2959 or 802-274-2832 (11/13)

Day round and square wrapped baleage 1st & 2nd cut. 802-592-3356 (11/14)

1st cut hay \$4.50. 2nd cut hay \$6.00. 603-543-3616 (11/13)

1st cut 4x4 wrapped baleage off fertilized meadows \$40 each bale. 802-236-4917 (11/13)

Benson-certified organic hay, round bales, \$30 stored under cover, never wet. Square bales \$.25 each at barn can deliver. 802-537-3167 (11/13)

4X4 round bales, 1st cut. Some wrapped. 200+ bales. \$35. per bale. Trucking available. Call Gary or Jay at 635-9550. (11/13)

Certified Organic, 4'x5', round bales of 1st cut grass hay. Stored inside. \$50 each when you purchase a tractor trailer load (38 bales) or \$55 ea. for smaller quantities. Help with trucking arrangements. Whitehall N.Y. gsearles@verizon.net or 518-499-0239 (11/13)

Goat-size hay racks, heavy gauge steel, hold 1 full flake of hay. Used indoors only, so they are in excellent condition. \$9 each (there are 10 of them). Contact Karen at 802-235-1133 or at orchardnubians@aol.com (11/13)

For Sale, 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 (11/13)

1st cut hay \$4.50 at the barn, Windham County delivery available. 802/579-8241 Brattleboro (11/13)

First cut hay, square bales, good quality, organic, \$3.50 per bale in lots of 100 or more. Delivery available. Call Bonnie at 802-685-2292 or 802-685-7733 or e-mail n_kennedy@charter.net (11/13)

ORLEANS COUNTY

Cut Christmas Trees for sale, wholesale. Also wooden crafts such as forks and spoons, cutting boards. 802-754-8487 (11/13)

Registered Border Collie pups born July 27th, vet checked, 1st shots, wormed, working parents, pups exposed to sheep and cows excellent blood lines. 802-673-2744 (11/13)

General

Jotul Cast Iron Wood Stove – Model F3CB, non-catalytic clean burn technology. New, never used. Black. Custom screen for open door burning \$1500. Nutone Slimline Ceiling Fan - Model PFL-36 with 3-speed pull chain and a forward/ reverse switch. Uses the ball and socket mounting system; Antique Granite Jumbo Cobblestones – Some weigh 45 pounds each and are 18 inches long with a beautiful patina. \$12 each; Antique Granite Street Curbing – Late 18th century to early 19th century. 4 – 8 feet long, 18 – 20 inches wide, and 7 – 8 inches thick. \$35 a linear foot. Orwell, VT 802-948-2211 (10/13)

For Sale Westminster Vt. Best organic land in the State- 30 + or - acres w/200 year old newly renovated farm house and 30x 30' 2 story Barn. House has New well, new electric, new plumbing, 27 new windows. 4 fields leased to organic farmer. 499,000. 802-732-8888 (11/13)

Land for Sale or lease in Westminster VT. 1.83

acres of wooded /part cleared land, private on paved road 29,000. great for Vet clinic or animal shelter etc. Only lot on Dead End Rd. 802-732-8888 (11/13)

Good land for Rent, for horses, sheep or goats. 802-732-8888 (11/13)

Property for sale: Hardwick VT. 12 acres dead end, VAST access, 6 stall barn with tack room. Mostly wooded, turnout paddocks by barn. Can be cert. Organic, subdividable, new 400 ft well. 3 frost free water sources. 1 bedroom home with loft. Propane/ wood heat. Electric hot water. Foundation upgraded. Many trails for riding. 4th class access to Nichols pond. NO owner financing outright sale only. Phone 8027519826 (11/13)

Goats

Nigerian Dwarf Goats for Sale: We are selling 2 does (\$100, \$150), 1 buck (\$50), and 1 wether (\$50) goat this Fall. Reasonable offers welcome - you need to pick up goats. You can see pictures and find out more by going to <http://tinyurl.com/ncxa8q9> or contacting me directly: Jess Weitz in Southern Vermont at 802-258-2568 or jessweitz72@gmail.com (10/13)

Boer buck for breeding this Oct – May rent or purchase. 603-827-3464. (11.13)

Horses & Other Equine

Pair beginner Beleguim horses (geldings). Have a job for them until the end of October. Can see them working a Riverview Orchards in Plainfield NH weekends 10-4. All UTD on shots. Must sell for health reasons. 802-295-2910. (10/13)

Horse Equipment

Easy entry horse cart, \$300; Amish smucker's single horse driving harness, \$150. 15" treeless western

saddle, excellent condition, \$300. Western leather/ synthetic 16" endurance saddle, \$250. Circle Y 14" western show saddle, \$500. 603-756-4348. (10/13)

One pair of pony driving harnesses with 16 inch collars with pad \$400. Settling tank for syrup \$50. Five barrel gathering tanks \$100. Lawn mower weed whacker \$200. Toro weed whacker \$20. Two old fashion wringers to ring out syrup fitters \$20 each. 802-889-3422. (11/13)

Llamas & Alpacas

Vermont Alpaca Company offers healthy alpacas & champion genetics. Start-up packages include special pricing, reproductive guarantees and financing options. 60 beautiful alpacas to select from. Top quality fiber and good temperaments. We enjoy helping our customer choose the right combination of animals to meet both their program goals and budgets. Companion quality males start at \$150 each. Call us at 802-765-9639 for more information or visit us at www.VermontAlpacaCo.com (10/13)

Sheep

Reg. Oxford yearling ram, good to handle, halter broke, \$250.00 and Reg. Oxford ram lamb, CH at ACFFD 4-H show, also good to handle, halter broke. \$250.00 Call or contact Amy/Chris Davenport, Wallingford 802-446-2084 or otterknoll@aol.com for pedigree or pictures. (10/13)

Sugaring Equipment

Vacuum pump. Atlantic Fluidics liquid ring, A20, 3 hp, pedestal mount, belt driven, water cooled. Can be driven by gas engine or electric motor. \$1900 with Baldor electric motor, or \$1600 without. Call Art Krueger in

Shrewsbury at 802-492-3653 or knsh@vermontel.net (11/13)

Maple Sugar Arch for Sale. 2' x 8' LaPierre, waterloo, small evaporator with extra front pan. 5 years old. \$4,500. Newbury 802-584-3769 (10/13)

Will load your trailer with clean dry slab wood mostly fir and spruce in exchange for some maple syrup. Call Israel in Cabot at 563-6061 (10/13)

Bulk tanks, 625 gal solar in good working condition, good for milk or sap. Selling complete or tank only. \$1250.00-\$1600.00 425 gal tank good for sap storage. \$500.00. 2x6 ft arch and old pans. Arch could be used, pans work but are not stainless. \$100. obo. 802-472-6279 (10/13)

1 Used Dual-Action Vacuum Sap Pump With Float Control \$550.00. 1 500 Gallon Stainless Steel Open Top Tank \$975.00. 1 2600 gallon Poly Transport Tank \$4200.00 (used 2-years). 1 Honda 3-inch Water Pump with Hoses and Couplers (used 1 year) \$475.00. 1 Atlantic fluids 200 CFM Vacuum Pump \$3000.00

1 Goodrich Tubing Washer \$350.00 (Electric). Black Sheep Sugarhouse

Call and/or leave message 802-754-6693. (10/13)

Swine

Piglets for sale \$90.00 each. 10 weeks old. Call 293-5354. (9/13)

For sale 8 week old Piglets. Duroc, Tamworth, Old Spot cross breed. Nice and healthy ready to go. 802-342-0612 or email tbruce@rrmc.org (10/13)

Wanted

Telephone poles. Must be 30' -33' long. 603-543-3616. (10/13)

Cheesing making a used 10-30 gallon TILTING

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS

(no drain) jacketed soup kettle. Will run with hot water, not steam, so pressure testing is not necessary, but good condition and no leaks is a must. 802-439-3377 6-7 AM or 7-10 PM (10/13)

Someone to spray, prune and otherwise take care of apple, plum, cherry, pear, blueberries and ornamentals etc for a small Homestead in Cabot. We

prefer organic sprays but we can talk. Call 563-6061 (10/13)

Good used dairy equipment: bulk tank washer; CIP system for pipeline/dump station; extra milk pail; line dryer. 518-645-2697; info@northcountrycreamery.com (10/13)

Dairy cattle, beef cattle, bulls, steers, feeders, sheep and goats, stray market 802-441-3085 (11/13)

Used Zero turn mower 42" – 48" deck. Used 3pt fail mower. 603-827-3464 (11/13)

Commercial Meat Band Saw S.S and Galv 802-365-4000 evenings (11/13)

Bush Hog 1432 7.6 ft transport, or 1424 7.6 ft 3PTH Harrow JD 3PTH plows or parts. 603-835-6816 (11/13)

The Vermont Land Trust seeks long-term partnership with an organization or individual to manage or lease a 180-acre farm (approximately 100 tillable) in Jeffersonville, VT. House with 50-cow barn milking setup (funding available for improvements). All types of agricultural plans considered. Sound resource management plan required and

community connection or educational component desired. For more information, www.vlt.org/westfarm, or call Nick Richardson at 802.262.1214. (11/13)

FREE

Whey for free. You pick up at Cobb Hill Cheese/Hartland 4 Corners. Each Pick up between 100 and 150 gallons. Call Bonnie 802-436-9534. (11/13)

Vermont Vegetable and Berry News

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competition. We have the most variety and best prices in several years and sales are still down. Root cellar is filling up fast, wholesale is pretty strong, and the carrot and beet harvester we bought earlier has already paid for itself. Crew is dwindling, having to put in more hours than want to and conference season is starting in a few weeks!

(Little Compton RI) Bringing in fall and winter storage crops ahead of schedule (first time!). Our potato crops most limiting factor is our poor hilling technique. We are building a special hilling unit that will finally get this done right. We figure we can double our fingerling crop by hilling them a fourth time. We are hoping to use this on our leeks as well. All the European YouTube videos show their leeks all growing in hills. Speaking of leeks Megaton is our best grower and seller; expensive seed but worth every penny. We got our Watermelon radishes in the ground on August 8 and they are tennis ball size now and ready for the winter cooler. CSA winter signup has been weaker than last year. We are separating the mid-winter (Nov 1-Dec 31) CSA from the Deep

Winter CSA (Jan-mid April) to see if that is more appealing to our customers. It also gives us an out if we are too low in storage product in January.

(Plainfield NH) No frost yet, second planting of plums and cherry tomatoes still giving forth, but ripeness, flavor are not the same without the long days and heat. Raspberries still holding up- our workhorses are Caroline and Jaclyn. Finished potatoes later than hoped for, and although it's pretty late, opted to try a vetch rye cover at double rate in a gamble to establish for spring after we cleaned out the field. Closing the farm stand today and start CSA on Thursday which lasts until Thanksgiving, and will continue to move root crops and brassicas wherever. Lots of machinery piled in front of the shop and the list of fall chores looks pretty onerous. Excellent weather has helped sales as well the fall harvest. I am not sure the end result will put us into the plus column of the ledger, but it certainly helped after a really miserable mid-summer.

(Argyle NY) The beautiful autumn weather has been a blessing to push fall crops, get cover crops planted and harvest crops for the root cellar in T-shirts! We had low yields on sweet

Commenting On FSMA Produce Rules Made Easy

Webinar Nov. 4 at noon

The deadline for making comments on the Food Safety Modernization Act proposed rules is November 15. When finalized, these rules will affect many Vermont vegetable and fruit growers, large and small. Even if your farm falls in an 'exempt' category we anticipate these rules will influence standards for what the marketplace expects of all growers. UVM Extension, NOFA-Vermont and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture are hosting a webinar on November 4 from noon to 1 pm that will go over the elements of a strong comment, give examples of talking points for different types of farms, identify alternatives to the proposed rules, and walk you through how to submit comments on-line. Space is limited; register at: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/173761087>.

The webinar will not explain the details of FSMA, it will focus on how to comment. Please prepare ahead of time by getting familiar with the proposed rules; here are some resources:

- UNH FSMA website: <http://extension.unh.edu/Food-Safety-Modernization-Act-FSMA>
- Factsheet by Vern Grubinger: http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/factsheets/Understanding_FSMA_Rule.pdf
- National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition website: <http://sustainableagriculture.net/fsma/>
- American Farmland Trust webinar (takes a couple minutes to load): <http://www.farmland.org/programs/states/ma/Food-Safety-Modernization-Act.asp> Questions? virginia.nickerson@uvm.edu, UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture.

potatoes due to the late planting of the slips (delay from the grower) and the weather, but they look nice. Cabbage, kohlrabi, turnip (3 kinds), and carrot crops all look great. Still no frost so we are picking the last of the beans, corn, summer squash and cucumbers. Fall spinach is looking good with some mite damage; unusual for fall spinach. Fall lettuce is fantastic and we hope the markets keep up with production as we move inside for winter markets in a few weeks. Most of the three high tunnels are seeded or planted; salad mix greens and mustards

germinated and on their way to being sold in late December or early January. We are doing successive arugula seedings and will

transplant the last of the spinach plants when we rip out the tomatoes that continue to amaze us with good production.

Farms In Floodplain - Quick Survey

UVM Extension, NOFA VT and West Virginia University are developing programs to help farms in floodplains stay resilient. We are interested in whether planting woody crops that can be harvested might reduce flood risk and we need to gauge your interest in this. Please take a 5 minute confidential survey on the challenges and needs related to farming in floodplains. Survey ends Oct. 18, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GW2JP79>.

How Does A Farmer Get From Sunflowers In The Field To Fuel In The Tank?

By Rachel Carter, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund

Farmers across Vermont want to diversify operations, lower fuel and feed costs, and be more self-sufficient. Oilseed crops are gaining momentum as farmers seek to meet these needs.

Oilseed crops like sunflowers, canola, and soybeans can be made into biodiesel, which is used as a fuel replacement. Oilseed meal can be used to feed livestock.

State Line Farm Biofuels is at the forefront of oilseed crop growing and biodiesel processing in the Northeast and the first to grow and process on-farm in Vermont. Located in North Bennington, the Williamson family has owned and operated State Line Farm since 1936. The falling milk prices of the 1990's led to diversifying operations and today maple syrup, honey, sorghum syrup, and hay are sold in local markets. In 2004 owner John Williamson and his family began experimenting with sunflower, canola, mustard, and flax varieties in an effort to fuel their farm with biodiesel.

State Line Biofuels operates a 120,000 gallon/year (300 gallon per batch capacity) biodiesel production facility, providing biofuel and livestock meal for on-farm use. The production capacity of State Line Biofuels can additionally serve oilseed pressing and biodiesel production needs of 10-15 farms within a 30 mile



The barn at State Line Farm Biofuels

radius, encompassing 1,500-2,000 acres of oilseed crops. State Line Biofuels is also an educational demonstration center for developing and teaching best practices for small-scale oilseed crop and biodiesel production in the Northeast.

Biodiesel fuel can be used to power most any diesel engine equipment and on varying levels of scale. "We used to have a really small batch processor making about 100 liters to a batch. Then we moved to the bio-barn and built a reactor that makes about 400 gallons to a batch—a batch of fuel is the amount of oil that is reacting to alcohol and lye," John explains.

The harvested seeds are dried and stored in a grain bin and then moved through an oilseed press to yield two products: meal and oil. Using the relatively simple batch reactor conversion process (oil, alcohol and lye), the oil from these crops becomes a low cost renewable fuel after being refined into biodiesel.

The meal could be con-

sidered the by-product, yet finds great value as a potential feed for livestock like dairy cows, goats, hogs, chickens, and sheep. It's said the Amish feed sunflower meal and oil to their horses, which is what gives them their healthy and shiny coats.

At 40 plus acres of sunflowers, flax, mustard, and canola John averages 75 gallons of biodiesel per acre. Even factoring in wind, rain, and wildlife damage, John considers the State Line Biofuel operation a low cost fuel source, paying for both time and equipment.

"If you had to start from scratch, it is cost prohibitive. But if a farmer is already set up to grow grains, you're most of the way there. If you can plant, harvest, and store grain, it's really just the oil mill and biodiesel mixing equipment that's needed," says John. "There are many ways to look at costs, but the bottom line is it's cheaper than buying fuel and money doesn't leave the farm."

John has tracked the cost from tilling the ground to

reduced with the oilseed meal produced replacing the need to purchase grain. Additionally, John sells the surplus feed and oil, as well as the biodiesel.

Rachel Carter is communications director at the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, a non-profit organization created by the State of Vermont to help develop Vermont's sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and forest product businesses. State Line Biofuels is a participant in the Vermont Bioenergy Initiative—a program of the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund. More information is at www.vermontbioenergy.com.



Biofuel storage at State Line Farm