

AGRIVIEW



Published monthly by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture • www.Agriculture.Vermont.Gov

Share the Road with Farmers: Be Alert. Be Patient. Be Kind.

Safety Message Goes Viral on Social Media

By Alison Kosakowski,
VT Agency of Ag

Be alert. Be patient. Be kind. That’s the message state officials are sending to Vermont drivers this season, as farmers return to the roads with tractors and heavy equipment.

The Agencies of Agriculture, Transportation, and Department of Public Safety teamed up to create a new public safety message that reminds Vermonters to take extra care on the roads. The message has gone viral. Since the video was launched on social media June 15th, it has been viewed more than 53,000 times, and the numbers continue to grow.

Alison Kosakowski, Agency of Ag



You can view the video on the Agency’s Facebook page, @VTAgencyofAg or website at <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/node/1537>. “Farmers are working hard

Ryan Carabeau is a farmer from Richmond, who worked with the state to create this important safety message.

to grow our economy, and keep Vermont beautiful,” according to Anson Tebbets, Vermont’s Secretary of Agriculture. “Sometimes they need a little extra patience and care

from fellow drivers – let’s give it to them.”

“Living in Vermont means living among our beautiful farms. Farmers are our neighbors, friends, and co-workers,” added Tom Anderson, Commissioner of Public Safety. “We’re asking all motorists to put safety first. Slow down, be patient and courteous, and enjoy the scenery.”

Ryan Carabeau is a farmer from Richmond who worked with the state to produce the PSA. He says he understands drivers can feel frustrated and confused when they encounter tractors on the road. He hopes the PSA will serve as a reminder to Vermont motorists to be

continued on page 2

AGRIVIEW

**Vermont Agency of
Agriculture, Food & Markets**

116 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2901

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit #10
White River Jct VT

Inside This Issue

- The View from 116 State Street Page 2
- Breakfast in the Farm Draws Big Crowds. . . Page 3
- Cheesemakers Learn to Be Storytellers Page 4
- Armyworms in VT . . . Page 4
- New TA Tool for Produce Growers Page 5
- Maximizing Manure Nutrients Page 6
- Bus Tour Showcases Water Quality Efforts .Page 8
- Farmer Profile Page 9
- Vermont Vegetable and Berry News Page 10

- Classifieds Page 11
- Worker Protection Standards Part 3 . . . Page 13
- Mosquito and Tick Safety Page 14
- Braveheart Farm . . . Page 16



THE VIEW FROM 116 STATE STREET

Young Vermonters want to farm in Vermont. I hear it as I travel around the Green Mountains. I recently traveled to Starksboro for a meet and greet with several farmers who are working the land and raising animals. They belong to the Vermont Chapter of the National Young Farmers Coalition. As we gathered around the garlic and other vegetables, it was clear they love what they do and they want to grow their businesses. Currently they are selling locally at Farmers' Markets and through a CSA program. They are growing produce and selling eggs. Some are raising chickens and pigs for meat. Others are growing hops for the craft beer industry in Vermont.



Fletcher. He was proud of what he and his family were doing. They were milking about 200 cows. The barn was spotless. The cows were comfortable. The family had installed robotic machines in a new barn. Four of the machines were churning away. The Jerseys were milked on one side. The Holsteins on the other. The young farmer loved his work. He proudly showed me the calf and heifer barn. The calves roamed about standing in thick sawdust pushing big toy balls around. The calves were healthy and living in heaven. He wanted to farm. He wanted me to tell his story.

We need to embrace these young people working in agriculture. We need to work harder on their behalf. All farmers need affordable

land and equipment, access to markets, and neighbors willing to share their knowledge. Over the next few months, the Agency will do its best to make it more affordable for farmers to farm. We welcome any suggestions or support you think will meet one of our goals.

Anson Tebbetts, Secretary of Agriculture

Share the Road with Farmers

continued from page 1

careful.

"I've had a few close calls over the years with impatient and distracted drivers," he says. "It can be scary."

"Attention, patience, and kindness are key to living and driving in rural

communities," says Tebbetts.

Here are some specific actions motorists should take when they approach a tractor on the road:

- 1) **Slow down:** The first thing you should do is slow down. Remember, the top speed for most tractors is 20mph. Slow down and give yourself the time and space to assess the situation.
- 2) **Pay close attention:** You should always give the road 100% of your attention – especially when approaching farm equipment.
- 3) **Don't get too close:** Give the farmer some space. Do not tailgate – it causes stress and distraction.
- 4) **Don't pass until it is safe:** Wait for a safe opportunity to pass. When it's all clear, it's OK to pass a tractor, as long as you do so safely!
- 5) **Be alert for turns:** Look for turn indicators, like hand signals and blinkers from the drivers. Farm machinery makes wide turns. Sometimes tractors will turn directly into fields – no driveway needed. Be especially alert for left hand turns. The left-turn collision is the most common type of farm machinery collision on public roads. It happens when the farm

vehicle is about to make a left turn; meanwhile, the motorist behind the farm vehicle decides to pass.

Want to help share this important

safety message, and protect our farmers? Like us on Facebook @ [VtAgencyofAg](#) and share this video with your friends! Our farmers thank you.

Letter from the Editor

The Agency of Ag is working hard to communicate better. After traveling around the state and hearing feedback from farmers during our Listening Tour earlier this year, it became

clear the Agency of Ag needed to ramp up communications efforts. To that end, in April, we expanded our *Agriview* distribution to include all farmers in Vermont, because we know many farmers

prefer to receive information in print, by mail. We have also expanded our social media efforts and are pushing out important news and information on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram daily. Follow us @VtAgencyofAg for the latest updates, and some fun stuff, too!

Do you know someone who would like to receive *Agriview*? They can sign up at http://agriculture.vermont.gov/news_media/agriview

If you would prefer not to receive a hard copy of *Agriview* in the mail, you can cancel your copy there and sign up for our online version instead.

What do you want to see in *Agriview*? What do you like, and what can we improve? We are all ears. Send your feedback and ideas to AGR.Agriview@vermont.gov

Thanks for reading, and helping us continually improve!

— Alison Kosakowski, *Agriview* Editor

AGRIVIEW

(UPS 009-700)

Agriview is Vermont's Agricultural Publication of Record.

It is published monthly by the

Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets, 116 State Street,

Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

Telephone: (802) 828-5667

Fax: (802) 828-2361

www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov

ANSON TEBBETTS
Secretary of Agriculture

ALISON KOSAKOWSKI
Editor in Chief

FAITH RAYMOND, Managing Editor

Advertising and subscriptions:

E-mail: agr.agriview@vermont.gov

The State of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action Employer and Provider.



Breakfast on the Farm Draws Record-Breaking Crowds

By Rene Thibault,
New England Dairy
Promotion Board

More than 1,000 people attended the first Breakfast on the Farm of the year, held on June 17th at Fairmont Farm in East Montpelier. The free public event included a pancake breakfast and self-guided tours of the dairy farm, which was recently named Vermont's 2017 Outstanding Dairy Farm of the Year.

Fairmont Farm consists of three separate locations, two in East Montpelier and one in Craftsbury. They milk 1,500 cows and care for over 3,600 acres of land. Nearly 100% of their land is planted without tilling the soil, which allows important nutrients to stay in the soil and prevents run-off into local waterways. Forty full and part time employees work on the farm, which provides 13,850 gallons of milk a day to the Cabot Creamery Co-operative



Guests line up to enjoy a free Breakfast on the Farm. This is the third year the Vermont dairy industry has hosted on-farm breakfasts.

facility in Cabot, Vermont.

In 1992 Fairmont Farm was formed when three family dairy farms came together. The newly formed farm allowed for the transition of operations and the business to the third generation of family members. Today, Fairmont is owned by Richard and

Bonnie Hall and Tucker Purchase.

A second Breakfast on the Farm event will be hosted by Blue Spruce Farm in Bridport on July 22nd. Tickets are free. Reserve yours now at www.VermontBreakfastOnTheFarm.com

VERMONT AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July

- July 22 – Breakfast on the Farm, Blue Spruce Farm, Bridport. www.vermont-breakfastonthefarm.com
- July 13-16 - Connecticut Valley Fair. More info: www.bradfordfair.org
- July 21-23 - Lamoille County Field Days. More info: www.lamoillefield-days.com
- July 29 - Pownal Valley Fair.

August:

- August 3-6 - Franklin County Field Days. More info: www.franklincountyfield-days.org
- August 8-13 - Addison County Fair & Field Days. More info: www.addison-countyfielddays.com
- August 15-19 - Vermont State Fair. More info: www.vermontstatefair.net
- August 16-20 - Orleans County Fair. More info: www.orleanscountyfair.net

- August 17-20 - Deerfield Valley Farmer's Day Exhibition. More info: www.dvfair.com
- August 23-27 - Caledonia County Fair. More info: www.caledoniacountyfair.com
- August 25-27 - Bondville Fair: More info: www.bondvillefair.org
- August 23 - Sept 3 - Champlain Valley Expo. More info: www.champlainvalleyfair.org

Governor Phil Scott along with Agriculture Secretary Anson Tebbetts and Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore recently attended the annual get together of the Friends of the Northern Lake. The standing room only event was held at the Tyler Place in Highgate.



It was great to see residents and farmers working shoulder-to-shoulder on improving water quality. Governor Scott was honored to address the group. The Governor highlighted the state's investment of \$55 million in Fiscal Year 2018 – an increase of nearly 70 percent over FY17 levels. The Legislature was on board too, passing a budget that came close to the Governor's proposal, for a total of \$54 million in clean water funding.

Correction: Our June issue reported that the Lanphear Family of Hyde Park was named 2017 Dairy Farm of the Year – this is incorrect. In fact, they were the 2016 Dairy Farm of the Year. The article was submitted by NE Dairy Promotion Board earlier this year, and we saved it to run in last month's special June Dairy Month issue – but we now realize the timing may have been confusing. The 2017 Dairy of the Year was just announced! Congratulations to Fairmont Farm in East Montpelier! We look forward to featuring them in an upcoming issue of *Agriview*.

Cheesemakers Learn to Be Storytellers

By Alison Kosakowski,
VT Agency of Ag

What makes your farm special? What makes your cheese unique? These were the questions posed to Vermont cheesemakers in a storytelling workshop held at Shelburne Farms on June 7th. A diverse group of cheesemakers attended the three hour workshop and learned techniques to help tell their stories and connect with consumers.

“Consumers are looking for something authentic,

that connects them to the land,” said Barbara Ganley, a former Middlebury creative writing professor and storytelling coach who led the workshop. “Farms that connect with consumers on an emotional level will have an advantage.”

Vermont is known for outstanding cheese, produced sustainably. In order to stand out, Ganley says, cheesemakers need to



Barbara Ganley with the Vermont Story Lab discusses techniques to make farm stories memorable.

Alison Kosakowski

personalize their marketing. She helped cheesemakers identify the images, phrases, and anecdotes that are uniquely theirs, that can help them stand out and

make a lasting impression.

“We are fortunate to have many outstanding cheesemakers among us, and the numbers continue to grow,” said Tom Bivins,

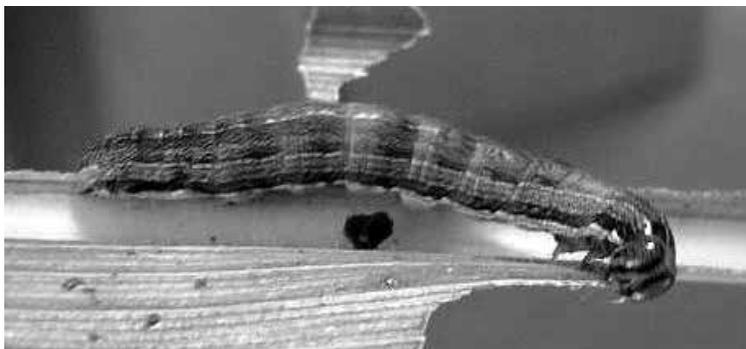
Executive Director of the Vermont Cheese Council. “Now more than ever, it is important for each of our farms to focus on what sets them apart from the rest.”

Armyworms on the March in Farm Fields Across Vermont

By Dr. Heather Darby,
UVM Extension

Armyworms have been spotted in several locations across Vermont in recent weeks including on Addison, Chittenden, Orange and Franklin County farms. It is critical that farmers scout their corn and grass fields for these pests.

True Armyworm, (*Pseudaletia unipuncta*) is typically seen on some acreage in Vermont each year. Agronomists with University of Vermont Extension predict that the state may see higher populations of this pest this year given the mild winter



weather experienced across the U.S.

It is important for farmers and consultants to monitor fields on a regular basis. At high populations, armyworms can create significant damage very quickly.

When mature, armyworm caterpillars can be almost 1.5 inches long. They are usually greenish or brownish,

but can be almost black. The sides and back of the caterpillar have light colored stripes running along the body. They normally feed at night and can cause much damage before they mature.

The crops that are most affected are field corn, grass hay (timothy), pasture and grains. However, they will feed on other plants if these crops are unavailable.

They will start feeding on the lower leaves and move upwards.

A large population of armyworm caterpillars can strip an entire field in just a few days. When the field is eaten, they “march” to adjacent fields. Corn fields that are reduced or no-tilled or fields infested with grass weeds are particularly susceptible.

More information on armyworm and its control can be found at: <http://go.uvm.edu/armyworm> or <http://go.uvm.edu/truearmyworm>.

For additional scouting and control options, farmers should contact one of the following UVM Extension agronomists:

Northwest Vermont:

Heather Darby at (802) 524-6501 or heather.darby@uvm.edu

Champlain Valley: Jeff

Carter at (802) 388-4969 or jeff.carter@uvm.edu

All other locations:

Sid Bosworth at (802) 656-0478 or sid.bosworth@uvm.edu



Got gardening questions? The UVM Extension Master Gardener helpline has answers! Vermonters can call, toll free, and speak with a Master Gardener, who will coach you through your garden issues. A terrific, free resource! 1-800-639-2230 www.uvm.edu/mastergardener

From the Green Mountains to the Garden State:

Vermont Produce Program Staff Pilot New Technical Assistance Tool for Produce Growers

By Emma Hanson,
VT Agency of Ag

This May a delegation from Vermont traveled to Vineland, New Jersey to participate in a pilot of a new tool to help produce growers evaluate their on-farm food safety practices. The tool is called an On-Farm Readiness Review (OFRR) and is designed to be a non-regulatory assessment to support growers in meeting Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) standards for on-farm food safety. Located in southern New Jersey, Vineland is in the heart of one of the most prolific produce producing areas in the Northeast. Participating in the New Jersey pilot helped the Vermont delegation prepare to host the next OFRR pilot right here in Vermont at the end of June.

What exactly is an On-Farm Readiness Review, you ask? Great question! OFRRs are designed to be voluntary, non-regulatory opportunities for a grower to have a one-on-one conversation with a Produce Safety Rule expert to evaluate pre-harvest, harvest, and post-harvest processes, assess what growers are doing well, and identify areas for improvement in food safety practices.

The reviews are



conversational in nature; for example, a reviewer might ask a grower, “Tell me about how you train your employees,” or while observing product being harvested, “Describe what’s happening here, the same way you might explain it to a new hire.” Open-ended questions help the reviewer get a sense of how a farm works and identify potential areas of concern. Reviewers leave behind any notes or observations on the farm.

The On-Farm Readiness Review program is currently under development in a collaboration spearheaded by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA), the Federal agency that oversees implementation of FSMA. State agriculture officials from Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, and Vermont are developing the program along with partners from Michigan

State University Extension, North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and University of Florida Extension. The OFRR development team has piloted the review process in Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, New Jersey, and Vermont, with Oregon on deck for the next pilot in July.

The Vermont delegation included Hans Estrin, UVM Extension Produce Safety Specialist, and from the Agency of Agriculture: Kristina Sweet, Produce Program Manager, Emma Hanson, Produce Safety Outreach Coordinator, and Tucker Diego, Food Systems Coordinator.

“The goal of this program is to help farms feel confident about their produce safety strategy prior to a Produce Safety Rule inspection. It’s an extremely valuable resource that we hope many growers will take advantage of,” said Hanson.

Once the program is finalized, Agency of Agriculture staff will be trained to complete On-Farm Readiness Reviews, and reviews will be available to Vermont growers. Growers considering participating in an OFRR should attend a Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training, which provides an in-depth look at Produce Safety Rule requirements and good agricultural practices to promote on-farm food safety.

The Agency of Agriculture and UVM Extension will host a PSA Grower Training in Richmond on November

7–8, 2017. To learn more about Grower Trainings and additional trainings scheduled in the region, visit <https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu>.

When asked about the best part of the trip to Vineland, Estrin responded, “Well, the Greek food at Olympia Restaurant was excellent—we went twice! But also, getting to see this tool first hand. I’m really excited to bring this educational tool to Vermont growers.”

Stay tuned for an update on Vermont’s OFRR pilot and the November PSA Grower Training in the August edition of *Agriview!*

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: National DCP, LLC. of Colonie, NY. to buy, sell and distribute milk and milk products within 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 July 15, 2017.

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.

Maximizing Manure Nutrients

By Dr. Heather Darby, UVM Extension Agronomist

All farmers know that livestock manure contains a spectrum of nutrients that can be used as fertilizer for their crops. Economics and new water quality laws, should encourage you to manage the manure nutrients as efficiently as possible. Below are a few techniques, both old and new, that can help you capture the most value from manure nutrients.

The first step is to know what you've got in that pile of manure. The nutrient content of the average Vermont liquid dairy manure is displayed in Table 1. Since manure nutrient content can vary considerably from farm to farm it is best to sample the manure on your farm to make the best estimate of application rate and nutrient availability. Manure tests can be conducted through the UVM Agricultural and Environmental Testing Laboratory. Manure sampling kits can be found at the UVM Extension offices throughout Vermont. Application rates of manure nutrients should be based on your soil test or nutrient management plan. The phosphorus (P) and

Table 1

Nutrient content of average liquid manure (Jokela et al., 2004)				
Total N	Ammonium-N	Organic-N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O
25	12	13	8	20
Lbs. per 1,000 gallons				

potassium (K) content in the manure is considered 100% plant available while the nitrogen (N) availability will depend on management factors and soil type.

The next step is to understand what type of nitrogen is in the manure. Unlike, commercial fertilizers the availability of N from manure will not be 100%. Therefore, even though the manure test indicates that there is 25 lbs of N this will not all be immediately available (Table 1). Manure nitrogen is divided into two fractions ammonium-N and the stable organic-N fraction. The organic-N is released over a longer period of time (years). Simply stated approximately one-third (4 lbs) of the organic-N is available to the crops in the first year. The remaining organic-N will become available over the next two years. The soil texture, temperature, moisture, and level of biological activity will influence how much of the organic fraction is available each year. The ammonium-N fraction of manure is generally equivalent to fertilizer N such as urea. This means that 100% of the ammonium-N is available for crop uptake as soon as it is soil

applied. On average liquid manure contains 12 lbs of ammonium-N per 1000 gallons of manure. Therefore, if you are applying 8000 gallons of manure per acre it has the potential to supply the crops with 96 lbs of ammonium-N per acre. This manure application can supply the majority of a corn crop's nitrogen needs in a season. However, just like ammonium fertilizers the ammonium-N in manure can be easily lost through a process called volatilization.

The final step is to minimize manure nutrient losses via run-off or volatilization!

Runoff of manure nutrients occurs when these nutrients get trapped in the soil solution and move across the soil surface into ditches, lakes, streams and other water bodies. If present in sufficient quantities, these contaminants can cause considerable problems. Phosphorus is one of the most common and serious surface water contaminants. Controlling manure runoff minimizes the potential of surface water degradation. Incorporation of manure greatly reduces the potential for runoff. Incorporation, by direct injection or some type of tillage, also maximizes crop utilization of manure nutrients. If incorporation is not possible, apply manure to fields with growing crops or substantial crop residues. The surface cover will help slow overland flow of water and minimize runoff. A growing crop extracts

Table 2

Ammonium-N availability from spring/summer manure (Jokela et al., 2004)	
Time to incorporation by tillage	Liquid manure (10% DM)
	% Ammonium-N availability
Immediate (1 hour)	95
< 8 hours	70
1 day	55
2 days	50
3-4 days	45
5-7 days	40
< 7 days or not incorporated	40

manure nutrients while crop residue "traps" some nitrogen otherwise lost to leaching or volatilization. Avoid spreading manure on steeply sloping land or land close to surface waters.

Nitrogen is lost to the air (volatilized) when ammonium-N in manure is converted into ammonia gas. The amount of ammonia volatilization will vary greatly on both the environmental conditions and management strategies. Losses can range from close to 100% for surface application to only a few percent when manure is incorporated immediately into the soil. While we can't control the weather, we can minimize N losses through various manure management strategies.

If manure is incorporated into the soil, ammonium-N is brought into direct contact with soil organic matter and clay, which absorbs ammonium-N and keeps it in the soil. Therefore, the best practice to reduce N

losses is to incorporate the manure immediately after spreading. The longer you wait to incorporate your manure the more nitrogen lost to the surrounding environment. Table 3 shows that immediate incorporation with standard tillage equipment or injection can increase N availability considerably.

Generally, in the spring most folks are rapidly incorporating the manure as soon as it is applied to corn fields. However, even a brief lag between manure application and incorporation can result in a 30% loss in ammonium-N. There are situations, such as on grass fields, where manure incorporation is not possible. In these situations, where manure is primarily surface applied, ammonium-N losses can approach 100% if conditions are prime. Recently, there has been interest in alternative manure incorporation systems such as aerators and various injection

systems that could be used on both corn and hay ground. These systems can provide rapid incorporation of manure with reduced or no soil tillage, thus keeping more N in the soil to be made available for plant uptake. There are many types of injection systems available but all work on the same general principle, slice the soil and drop down the manure. There is evidence that deep injection can effectively reduce ammonia losses on hay fields but the practice has also been shown to cause root damage and occasional yield reductions. Aerator systems poke holes in the soil (prior to or at the time of application) and most of the manure

makes its way into the holes. These systems result in reduced nitrogen runoff and volatilization as compared to surface applied manure. Some studies have also documented yield increases as a result of great nitrogen availability to the grass and alleviation of compacted layers.

These incorporation systems can also provide a host of other benefits. The advantages of using a rapid manure injection system include: fewer odors, ability to place nutrients directly into the seedbed, and the reduction in nutrient loss via surface runoff. There are some potential drawbacks to the systems such as they tend to be more expensive

and may not be suitable for all soil types found in Vermont such as, steeply sloping ground or stony soils. Of course, like any new practice you implement you must weigh all the advantages and disadvantages before making a decision for your farm.

Regardless, proper manure management can save you money. So the next time you look at your manure pile envision dollar bills. That's right proper crediting of manure can reduce fertilizer costs! For additional information or to obtain soil or manure test kits contact UVM Extension Agronomist, Heather Darby at 802-524-6501.

Vermont Agency of Agriculture Holds Dollar General to Account for Repeated Price Scanner Violations

By Alison Kosakowski, Agency of Ag

In response to forty-seven separate price scanner violations, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets has issued more than \$210,000 in penalties to Vermont Dollar General stores since 2013, including \$24,000 in penalties this year. Agency inspectors have observed repeated pricing inaccuracies which could shortchange consumers, such as discrepancies between the posted shelf price and the price charged at the register.

By enforcing weights and measures standards at retail stores, the Agency's Consumer Protection Section works to make sure Vermonters get what they pay for. Inspectors are on



the look-out for faulty price scanners and inaccurate scales – errors that cost shoppers money. For the first violation, the Agency issues an official notice. The store must send back a corrective action report detailing how it will correct the problem. If there are continued problems, the Agency may issue administrative penalties and take other action, including referral to the Vermont Attorney General's Office.

"The Agency of Agriculture has levied increasing monetary penalties against Dollar

General over the past four years," said Dr. Kristin Haas, head of the Agency's Food Safety and Consumer Protection Division. "We feel it is important that consumers are aware of these inaccuracies, so they can take an active role in ensuring they are charged accurately, by checking their receipts and paying close attention in the store."

"We are working towards helping Vermonters have a better experience when they shop at Dollar General," said Consumer Protection Chief Henry Marckres.

To see a list of the current Consumer Protection violations, visit http://agriculture.vermont.gov/food_safety_consumer_protection/consumer_protection/violations

IF YOU'RE A VERMONT FARMER OR PRODUCER:



SIGN UP TO RECEIVE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY AGRIVIEW SUBSCRIPTION!

DELIVERED TO YOUR MAILBOX EVERY MONTH

TO APPLY:

VISIT: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/node/1515>

EMAIL: AGR.Agriview@vermont.gov

CALL: 802-828-1619



For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: National DCP, LLC. of Bellingham, MA. to buy, sell and distribute milk and milk products within 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 July 15, 2017.

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.

Farmers Host Educational Bus Tour To Showcase Water Quality Efforts

By: Alison Kosakowski,
VT Agency of Ag

On June 13th, the Champlain Valley Farmers' Coalition hosted a bus tour to help build awareness for farmer-led efforts to improve water quality. More than 50 people participated, including legislators, representatives from the Congressional offices, environmentalists, and more. The itinerary was designed to showcase a variety of farm types and sizes.

The tour started at Conant's Riverside Farms in Richmond, a dairy that milks about 400 holsteins. Farmers Dave and Ransom Conant explained some of the conservation practices they employ, such as manure injection with a dragline, cover-cropping, crop rotation, and riparian buffers.

From there, the group traveled to Paul Mazza's vegetable farm in Essex. Mazza grows over 80 different types of fruits and vegetables on 250 acres throughout Jericho, Williston, Essex, and Colchester, and is has been working hard to implement buffers, manage soil health, and increase cover crops.

The third stop was Donegan Family Farm in Charlotte, a grain-free, grass-only dairy that milks 36 cows. Joe Donegan explained his management-intensive grazing program, which requires moving cows several



Tour participants pause for a photo at Foster Brothers Farm in Middlebury.

Alison Kosakowski

times per day. The Donegans maintain their land in perennial grass and have implemented trails and watering systems to keep animals out of waterways and stream-banks intact.

From there, the group saw Nea-Tocht Farm, in Ferrisburgh, by bus. To save time, farmer Harold Vander Wey boarded the bus to

answer questions about the farm's efforts to protect water quality. The Vander Weys milk 250 cows. The next stop was Foster Brothers Farm in Middlebury, where George Foster demonstrated no-til corn planting using a roller-krimper, which allows them to plant corn into a mature cover-crop, without disturbing the soil. The

Fosters milk 425 cows.

The final stop of the day was Layn Farm in Bristol, where Roger, David, and Curtis Layn milk roughly 150 cows. Curtis Layn explained how he has worked with NRCS and UVM to write and update the farm's nutrient management plan, and has become proficient using

goCrop software.

Representative Terry Norris, a legislator from the Addison-Rutland district, shared the following reflections on the day, "It was a great day, very well done and informative, everyone was very willing to talk about the different ways they are dealing with new regulations. I wish everyone in the state could see what they have done for water quality and how they had taken on the task with an eye on the future."



Farmer Paul Mazza points out new buffer strips at his fruit and vegetable farm in Essex.

Alison Kosakowski



UVM's Kirsten Workman explains how corn seed is planted directly into a cover-cropped field.

Alison Kosakowski

QUALITY

Farmer Profile: Pouliot Farm

By Nina Gage,
VT Agency of Ag

“I love cows, but my blessing in life is mechanical,” says Tony Pouliot as he works to replace the starter on his skid-steer. Tony runs Pouliot Farm, a 450-cow dairy farm, with his father along the Browns River in Westford, Vermont. Tony’s grandfather started the farm in the 1970s with just 35 dairy cows after his grain store in town had burned down. Today the Pouliot Farm continues in the family. Tony will say that everyone on the farm is family whether they are a Pouliot or just a long-time employee who feels like family.

Despite having two brothers and a sister, Tony was

the only one who used to go out to the barn after school, mostly as a way to spend time with his father, he confides. While his siblings had some interest in farming, he is the one carrying the family farm forward. Although, he will openly admit that he is skeptical about the future of dairy farming in Vermont. Referencing his own son, Tony says, “I don’t know if I want him to be a farmer, but he might.” He and his wife Jessica live across the street from the barns with their four young children.

Tony was a recipient of a tuition scholarship through the Farm and Agricultural Resource Management Steward Program, or the UVM/VTC 2+2 Program, which provides funding for



young Vermont residents interested in the VT dairy industry to attend college. Tony’s achievements in the program include an Associates degree in

Tony Pouliot

Dairy Farm Management Technology from Vermont Technical College and a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from the University of Vermont (UVM). Participants in the program can also choose

to study Community Entrepreneurship at UVM. The program ends with a hands-on semester managing a dairy farm at the Miner Institute in Chazy, New York. Tony comments, “school teaches you how to learn, not to farm,” explaining that he finds the biggest value in learning from others. “Anybody on a farm should work somewhere else, you learn to look at things differently. What you can learn from other farmers is tremendous,” says Tony.

On the Pouliot farm, it is all about storage systems and how they connect. Underneath the barn, is a one-million-gallon manure storage facility. As the cows walk around the barn their hooves push the manure through slats where it then ends up in the under-barn manure storage pit. From there, manure is pumped into the larger six and a half-million-gallon manure

pit behind the barn, which Tony clarifies has plenty of capacity to get the farm through the winter spreading ban and beyond. There is also a bunk leachate system and a clean water diversion system for roof runoff.

In addition to the structural systems for protecting water quality on the farm, the Pouliots practice reduced tillage. After spreading manure they will pass over the fields with a vertical tiller to incorporate the manure and follow with a 12-twin-row no-till corn planter. Incorporating manure immediately after spreading increases plant uptake of available nutrients, and Tony says that he can see these benefits in his fields. The reduced tillage equipment also helps save on fuel costs. Additionally, Tony explains that within Westford and the surrounding areas, their fields are often some of the first places anyone can spread. He attributes this to the reduced tillage management and the associated increase in soil health. While some people say that reduced tillage can lead to a decrease in yields the first few years while soil structure is reestablished, Tony expressed that he didn’t see major yield drops and that last year was their best corn yield yet.

“Its not just about the investments, it how you do things” explains Tony. “There are times when we try to make the best deci-

Funding Available in Vermont to Help Farmers Measure Impacts on Water Quality

Farmers can apply for assistance to install edge-of-field stations that monitor water quality as it leaves their fields, providing data to evaluate the success of various conservation efforts. Applications are due by July 10, 2017. The financial assistance is available through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Eligible farmers who receive funding can install and maintain the monitoring systems for up to nine years, giving time to measure the impact of conservation systems on water quality under different conditions. There will be no cost for approved applicants, as matching funds are available to cover the cost of projects. In the longer term,

data collected from many sources will help producers make the most informed conservation investments possible and document how edge-of-field monitoring of conservation work benefits the public and communities. Testing the quality of water as it leaves a field helps farmers and NRCS understand which conservation practices work best at preventing sediment and nutrient runoff. Verifiable data gives farmers, NRCS and other partners information needed to make targeted conservation investments to improve water quality. Contact your local VT NRCS field office to submit an application before the July 10 deadline. Visit www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov and follow them on Twitter @VermontNRCS.

continued on page 13

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

Upcoming Events

Organic Management of Cabbage Root Maggot
Bear Roots Farm
175 Snowbridge Road
Barre, Vermont 05641
June 28, 4:30-6:30 pm

Join Scott Lewins and Victor Izzo of UVM Plant & Soil Science Department as they tour Bear Roots Farm and discuss their Northeast SARE Partnership Grant project using entomopathogenic nematode (EPN) soil applications to control cabbage maggot. They are comparing a commercially available EPN to a regionally adapted EPN strain to determine efficacy, feasibility and utility to reduce yield loss from cabbage maggot using radish in their field trials. This workshop is free, see: <http://nofavt.org/events/organic-pest-control-cabbage-root-maggot>

VVBGA On-Farm Workshop Strawberry Production at Four Corners Farm
306 Doe Hill Road
Newbury VT
July 11, 5-7 pm

The Gray family grows about 50 acres of fresh

produce including 10 acres of strawberries. They use innovative plasticulture techniques, grow their own straw mulch, rotate with cover crops for soil health, and have tried many varieties and production systems over the years. Currently they have 11 different varieties in production. This workshop is free.

Organic Management of Leek Moth
UVM's Catamount Farm,
65 Green Mountain Drive,
South Burlington, VT 05403
July 19, 4-6pm

Join Scott Lewins and Victor Izzo of UVM Plant & Soil Science Department on a tour of Catamount Farm to look at field trials and discuss their VT Agency of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant project coordinating LM monitoring throughout the state and comparing impact on six different varieties of yellow storage onions. A grant from City Market funded trails with beneficial nematodes as an alternative to Entrust for managing LM. This workshop is free, see: <http://nofavt.org/events/organic-pest-control-leek-moth>

Reports From The Field

(Charlotte) Charlotte Berry Farm: Blueberries are looking great this year. The bushes are loaded and berries beginning to ripen. We had a field of strawberries ripen early which was a nice surprise in this wet year. Finished planting 2400 more brambles this spring, all are doing well. The black raspberries look terrific and think this will be an outstanding year. We are purchasing a replacement irrigation sys-

tem this year and will begin installation later this summer. Pumpkins and gourds planted late this year due to the wet soil, hoping we got them in the ground in time for a decent fall harvest.

(Orwell) One significant lesson from this cool spring is to never plant right into newly amended hoophouses. Over the past 2 years, we've transitioned to using soybean meal as our primary source of N in the hoophouses and while we've liked the fertility benefits from it, amending too heavily and too close to planting can cook tomato plants! Each planting, we've lost a small percentage of plants due to melting stems. It must heat up around the stem, plus it invites in wire worms and maggots in. Some of the survivor plants that suffered damage end up with a little weakness around the stem so I wonder how they will bear the load of fruit for the season. Next year we will heed Vern's advice and allow that two week window between amending and planting!

Leek Moth Update
(Vic Izzo, UVM Plant and Soil Science Dept.)

The second flight of leek moth appears to be imminent in the region. We have a few reports of male moths already flying in the upper Champlain Valley. We expect adult populations to reach peak numbers sometime in the next 10 days, by the end of June.

Control options include covering plants with row cover at night to exclude the nocturnal female moths from laying eggs. Where this is not feasible or cost effective, we suggest applying any chemical controls 7-10 days

following peak adult flights.

(Editor's note: there is little data on insecticide efficacy but one study comparing materials found B.t and neem to be ineffective while spinosad (Entrust, organic) and spinetoram (Radiant SC, conventional) were highly effective: http://web.entomology.cornell.edu/shelton/publications/pdf/Olmstead_and_Shelton_2012_Leek_moth_control.pdf

For more info see this factsheet from Cornell: <http://web.entomology.cornell.edu/shelton/leek-moth/images/RESOURCES/factsheet2011.pdf>

If you have any questions or concerns about leek moth, contact Scott Lewins at slewins@smcvt.edu and/or Vic Izzo at vizzo@uvm.edu

Use Of Tarps For Weed Control And Reduced Tillage

Brian Caldwell, Cornell University

Based on farmer suggestions, Cornell and the University of Maine are studying the use of removable impermeable tarps in organic vegetable production. The basic idea is to cover several beds at a time with 6-mil black plastic (silage) tarps for several weeks, then remove and plant.

We used tarps without tillage in organic permanent bed experiments at Freeville, NY and Monmouth, Maine. Results so far have been promising. In 2015, tarps were put out in mid-April and removed in early June before planting cabbage. In 2016, tarps were deployed over winter, and removed in late May before planting winter squash. The tarp/no-till treatment was compared with varying tillage intensities

from full-depth and shallow rototilling to no-till. Three surface mulch treatments (straw mulch, a 1.5-inch-layer of compost, and bare-ground) were also compared within each tillage treatment.

In both years, tarping improved the performance of no-till production, especially with bareground no-till. Tarps created weed-free planting conditions without soil disturbance and reduced labor for hand weeding by 70% in 2015 and 80% in 2016, when compared to no-till without tarps. Spring soil temperatures increased under tarps. After removal, plant-available soil nitrogen in bareground, tarped treatments was over four times greater than tilled soils in 2016. Crop yields with no-till tarping were similar to or greater than the tilled systems.

Another experiment is underway to look at the effects of various lengths of tarping time on weeds and crop growth. Tarping may be a valuable tool for small-scale organic farmers to minimize tillage while improving planting conditions, weed control and crop productivity. For more information see the webinar at: <http://smallfarms.cornell.edu/projects/reduced-tillage/reduced-tillage-webinars/>

Questions? Contact Brian Caldwell at bac11@cornell.edu. This research has been supported by USDA OREI grant # 2014-51300-22244

(Editor's note: I am seeing an explosion of farms using weed mat between crop beds. The combination of tarping before planting then applying weed mats after planting could be a good way to reduce tillage and maintain season-long weed control.)

MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Egg Prices

June 19, 2017

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

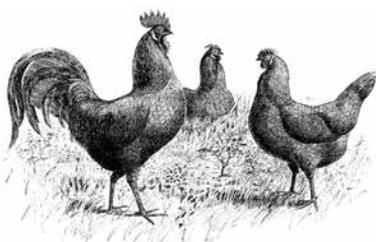
Vermont Egg Prices:

Extra Large . . . \$1.23-1.29
Large \$1.13-1.19
Medium \$.76-.86

You can find more reports online at

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>

This is the web source for **USDA Market News**



Vermont Agency of Agriculture - USDA Market News

Addison County Commission Sales — East Middlebury, VT

Livestock Auction Report for Monday, June 5, 2017

	Cattle	Calves
This Week:	122	171
Last Week:	125	135

Compared to last sale, slaughter cows sold steady on good demand. Slaughter cattle supply included 120 cows and 2 bulls. All prices quoted per cwt.

SLAUGHTER COWS:

	% Lean	Avg. Dressing	High Dressing	Low Dressing	Very Low
Premium White	65-75	—	—	—	—
Breakers	75-80	65.00-72.00	73.00-75.50	60.00-62.00	—
Boners	80-85	65.00-68.00	—	59.50-64.50	—
Lean	85-90	61.50-68.00	76.50	55.00-60.00	45.00-54.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS: 1490-1815 lbs 97.00-99.00. All prices per cwt.
CALVES: Holstein bull calves sold 10.00-20.00 higher on moderate demand.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES:

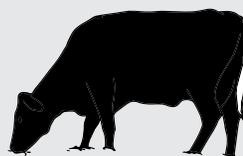
Number 1: 80-120 lbs 152.50-200.00.

Number 2: 80-120 lbs 120.00-170.00.

Number 3: 70-120 lbs 75.00-130.00.

Utility: 60-120 lbs 30.00-80.00.

HOLSTEIN HEIFER CALVES: 101lbs 180.00



Price and grade information is reported by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture-USDA Market News Service. While market reports reflect the majority of livestock sold at each sale, there are instances where animals do not fit reporting categories and are not included in this report.

SOURCE:

VT Agency of Ag-USDA
New Holland-Lancaster County, PA

Darryl Kuehne
Market Reporter
Cell: 802-793-5348

Levi Geyer, OIC
Cell 717-406-7350 / Office 717-354-2391

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/MP_LS141.txt

For all USDA Livestock and Grain market reports:
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/LSMNPubs/index.htm>

CLASSIFIEDS

Bees & Honey

We still have nucs available at \$165 for June pick-ups. Our northern survivor queens are a hybrid mix of the breeds mentioned on our site @ \$32. (We do not sell specific breeds.) See our website for shipping options on queens and prices on more than 10. www.vtbees.com or call (802) 948-2057 Singing Cedars Apiary

2017 New World Carniolan queen clipped and marked: \$35, shipped: \$40, honey qt. \$22, pt. \$13, propolis 2 oz. tincture \$16, fresh frozen pollen \$28/qt., lindenap@gmail.com, Linden Apiaries, 603-756-9056, Alstead, NH.

Cattle

Pure Simmental Bull - \$3,500. BWF1 2721A - Born 2/3/2014 Sire is CNS Pays to Dream T759 Dam is HPFMS Pep T27 Simmental Bull Born 10/5/2014 - \$2,000 blackwatchfarm@gmail.com

Dutch Belted Dairy Heifers, open and bred, healthy, closed herd. wide range of ages/sizes, price starts at \$400. Great cows for small,

grass fed dairies. Winchester, NH sarah@manninghillfarm.com or 603-239-4397.

Hereford cow bred to Belted Galloway bull, due early Aug.: \$1500. Her 1 y.o. daughter Herford/Galloway heifer: \$800. Both for \$2100. Call 802-454-1074

Two service bulls for sale: one Jersey and one Hereford, between two and three years of age. Call 802-438-5761.

Proven red Angus bull, 2 years old, not aggressive. Asking \$1800. 802-586-2857

Jersey yearling beef steers \$650. Jersey 3 yrs old \$900. Jersey Angus Cross \$600. Sow pig \$250 250lbs. Bred Jersey heifer \$1200. 229-4628

Employment

Caretaker/rental in Cabot. Operate large tractor, gardening, chain saw, farm sitting. Private rental house \$800/mo. July 15th-April 30th. Flexible start date. 30 hrs/wk summer. 7-10 hrs/wk winter. Supplemental income needed in winter. \$15/hour, more with extensive experience. Call Israel 563-

6061

Vermont Farm seeks heavy equipment mechanic. Repair to and maintenance on excavators, loaders, tractors. Salary commensurate with experience. Call 802-497-4290

Vermont Farm seeks proficient equipment operator for plowing, harrowing, mowing, raking, tedding & baling. Salary commensurate with experience 802-497-4290

Equipment

2009 Kuhn Tedder GF7802, 25 Ft, Hydraulic fold \$11,500.00; Hay wagons, 1065A JD gear, 9x18 Diller rack (2010-12) 3 Pcs @ \$3,800.00 Ea. Hay wagons, 720 JD gear, 8x18 Lamco rack (1998) 2 Pcs @ \$3,100.00 each. Call 802-537-3167

8 Delaval milk master's automatic takeoffs for sale. They have multipoint hookups on them also, transformer available \$650 per unit. 802-309-1061

John Deere MX-8 rotary cutter, 96-in. cutting width, 1-12"

cutting height, semi-mount offset up to 13" left or right, 2" brush cutting capacity, like new, \$4,500, 802-895-4551

7.5 HP Universal variable Speed Vacuum Pump model 306364 (Suterbilt Pump) new 11/2005. Used for 7.5 years Asking \$3,500 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 in Concord, Vermont

2001 John Deere 2810, 5 bottom plow, auto reset \$7,000.00; 2006 John Deere 637 Disc Harrow, 15 ft, used on less than 25 Ac \$12,900.00; 1999 John Deere 930 Mower/conditioner, 12 Ft \$9,500.00; 2008 John Deere 348 baler with 42 kicker (electric controls) \$17,250.00 Call 802-537-3167

Ford 776-B Quik-Tackloader complete unit that fits series 10 tractors \$2000. (2) two-way walking plows that need handles - \$100 each. 3-point hitch cargo box \$100 *02-485-7434

Brillion 12' cultimulcher. Has 17" pulverizer wheels front and back. Older model in great shape. Model PMWT

148-04. \$3900. (802)779-6912 (Brandon)

John Deere 115 rear blade, 8 ft wide, hydraulic offset from 0-45 degrees left or right, hydraulic tilt from 0-18 degrees left or right, \$2,150, 802-895-4551

Hay wagon, 960 JD gear, 8x18 Lamco rack (1990) 1 Pc @ \$2,500.00, all hay wagons have telescopic poles. 18 Ft Lamco hay elevator with motor \$800.00, 2006 Lamco 30 Ft transport hay elevator with motor \$2,250.00 Call 802-537-3167

For sale: Schuco 70-gallon propane fired hot water tank (solar specific hot water tank) with Schuco Slim Line 2 panel solar system. We now have solar electricity and are converting our hot water to electric. Purchased July 2010. No reasonable offer refused. Call 802-372-5446

Electric motor-powered grinding wheel \$75. Pro-Rac Aluminum contracts truck rack system complete \$750. Ox or work horse dump cart old style well built, under cover \$2200. 802-485-7434

CLASSIFIEDS



2nd cut. Under cover stored in Addison. We will load. Contact S.L.Moore @802-463-3875.

Horses & Other Equine

20yr old Quarter horse dapple grey. In very good shape. Good comparison horse \$200 802-522-6729

Sheep

1 Dorset/Suffolk/Romney ram, 4 yrs old. Quite gentle! Proven. Hardy, fast-growing lambs, grass-fed. 3 ewes -

Dorset/Border Leicester. Good moms. Hardy fast-growing lambs. Grass-fed. \$100 each 802 522-6729

2 yearlings ewes Clue faced border Leicester/Dorset cross. Hardy, from flock with good parasite resistance. 802-522-6729

Wanted

Horse hay, approx. 30 4X5 round bales. Last year's hay will do, but must have been under cover. This year's hay

I will pick up in field. Please let me know just before you bale. Dick, 802-875-3659.

Young polled Hereford bull ready to breed. 802-586-2857

Looking for 1250 gal muller or 1500 gal muller bulkmilk cooler - Need serial # off dipstick 765-455-8664

Twine Knotter for Massey Ferguson Baler. Contact D Drew Route 5 #1141, Norwich VT 05055

Meat saw (2013) Fleetwood model SK 1 horse power driven, 98" Blade length, 110 voltage. 802-948-2112 ask for Andy

Tires 16-9-30 540/65 R26 Like New. 14-9-28 Good Shape. 24ft elevator on wheels. 70 ft John Deere Hay elevator. 15 ton grain bin. 24 ton grain bin. Call 802- 895-4683

Glencoe Chisel Plow. 11 ft wide, 9 shanks. Very rugged. Requires about 90 hp. \$1800. 2 row cultivator. 3-point hitch. Spring teeth with sweeps. Independent gangs with depth control wheels. 802-453-4591

8 ton grain bin. 10 ton grain bin. 24 grain bin. 15 ton grain bin. 8-9 ton Victoria grain bin 802-895-4683

Chopper, Excellent Condition JF Model FCT 900, 2 row corn head, (never used grass head)—1000 PTO \$10,000 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 Concord, VT

General

Free stall heifer boarding available in Weybridge, VT, for heifers 400lbs and up. Breeding services offered. Prices start at \$2.35/heifer/day. For info contact Dan at 802-545-2688.

BEDDING-Bulk Dairy or Dairy & Equine bagged shavings. Made in VT from locally sourced softwood logs. Heat dried. Call Richford Wood Products @ 802-848-7000, Text 802-582-5555

Hay, Feed & Forage

Organic hay second cut sq bales, \$4.00 bale at barn Call 802-537-3167

Good quality hay and straw. First and second cut. Small or large bales, long or processed. Organic available as well. We can load, OR direct delivery of trailer loads. Mountain View Dairy Farm 802-849-6266

ADDISON COUNTY

Hay for sale in Addison VT. Large square bales ,1st and

Vermont Farmers' Market Report

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

	Produce					
	Not Certified Organic			Certified Organic		
Asparagus (per bunch)	\$2.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$6.75	\$7.00	\$6.88
Beets	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$2.21	\$2.40	\$3.00	\$2.63
Carrots	\$1.65	\$2.00	\$1.79	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.50
Chard (per bunch)	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$3.60	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$3.75
Cucumbers, European (each)	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00
Herbs (per bunch)	\$1.75	\$2.25	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.00	\$2.79
Kale (per bunch)	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$4.33
Lettuce (per head)	\$3.50	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$5.00
Microgreens (per bag)	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$4.50	\$2.50	\$5.00	\$3.63
Mixed Greens:						
Arugula (per bag)	\$3.75	\$5.00	\$4.63	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Radish (per bunch)	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$3.33	\$3.00	\$3.50	\$3.17
Ramps	\$1.00	\$4.50	\$3.10	\$4.50	\$5.00	\$4.75
Rhubarb	\$1.00	\$4.50	\$3.10	\$4.50	\$5.00	\$4.75
Scallions (per bunch)	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$2.06	\$2.50	\$8.00	\$4.00
Spinach (per bag)	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$4.10	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$4.58

	Meats/Proteins		
Goat (all cuts)	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Rack of Lamb	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$17.25
Leg of Lamb	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$12.20
Ground Lamb	\$6.00	\$11.00	\$9.60
Ground Beef	\$6.00	\$8.50	\$6.98
Ribeye	\$12.60	\$16.00	\$14.53
Sirloin	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$10.13
Round Roast	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$9.53
Chuck Roast	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Strip Steak	\$10.00	\$18.00	\$14.38
Skirt Steak	\$7.00	\$18.00	\$11.38
Tenderloin	\$18.00	\$20.65	\$19.16
Beef Stew	\$6.00	\$10.00	\$7.66
Short Ribs	\$4.50	\$9.00	\$6.68
Eggs (per dozen)	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$4.65
Whole Chickens	\$4.00	\$5.50	\$4.48
Ground Pork	\$6.25	\$8.00	\$7.72
Pork Chops	\$6.00	\$13.00	\$9.05
Pork Loin	\$13.50	\$20.00	\$15.25
Pork Tenderloin	\$10.00	\$16.00	\$12.64
Shoulder Roast	\$7.50	\$13.00	\$9.41
Ham	\$8.00	\$9.00	\$8.45
Baby Back Ribs	\$7.50	\$10.00	\$8.64
Sausage	\$6.00	\$9.00	\$8.01
Bacon	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$10.47

Market Comments**SEASONALITY:**

New availability of a variety of spring and early summer products at the markets

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

It was a sunny, mild week for most of Vermont bringing good attendance for the start of the summer market season.

VENDOR COMMENTS:

N/A

Source:

VT Agency of Ag - USDA
New Holland-Lancaster County, PA
Alissa Matthews, Market Reporter
802-828-5824
E. Alissa.Matthews@vermont.gov

Levi Geyer, OIC
Cell: 717-406-7350
Office: 717-354-2391

ENGINEERING FOR AGRICULTURE

Multidisciplined engineering and environmental services for:

*water quality
stormwater
waste storage facilities
roofed barnyards
structural design
heavy use areas
wetlands
conservation buffers*



Contact: Andy Hoak, PE, PG
802-728-3376
ahoak@dubois-king.com

DuBois & King
INC.

Randolph, Brandon, South Burlington, Springfield

Know the Facts: Worker Protection Standards for Pesticide Handler Employers

Part 3 in our Worker Protection Series

By Doug Johnstone, VT
Agency of Ag

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) has specific requirements for pesticide handler employers. A handler is anyone who is employed by an agricultural establishment (or commercially hired) who performs certain tasks such as mixing, loading, transferring, disposing of pesticides, acting as a flagger during pesticide applications, cleaning or repairing equipment that may have pesticide residues, or who enters enclosed spaces (greenhouses, hoop houses) under certain conditions. The *How to Comply Manual* (HTC) describes all the specifics needed. The HTC, along with other helpful links can be found on our web site: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/node/1345>

Handler employers' responsibilities are:

- **Application Restriction & Monitoring** – Require training for handlers that enter treated areas and Application Exclusion

Zones (AEZ). Specific communication to the handler is required for the use of specific pesticides, as well as applications in enclosed areas (e.g., greenhouses).

- **Specific Instructions for Handlers** – Provide access to product labeling and detailed labeling instructions prior to pesticide application to all handlers.
- **Equipment Safety** – Allow only properly trained handlers to clean, repair or adjust application equipment. Application equipment must be inspected before each use.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Safety** – Provide handlers with PPE as required by the product label. Standard attire of the WPS, shirts, pants, shoes and socks do *not* need to be provided by the employer

The most significant change of the new WPS is the documentation¹, training and evaluation required for fit-testing and wearing of appropriate respirators. When a respirator is required, han-

dlers must annually:

- Receive a medical evaluation;
- Be trained in proper respirator use; and
- Be fit-tested for the appropriate respirator.

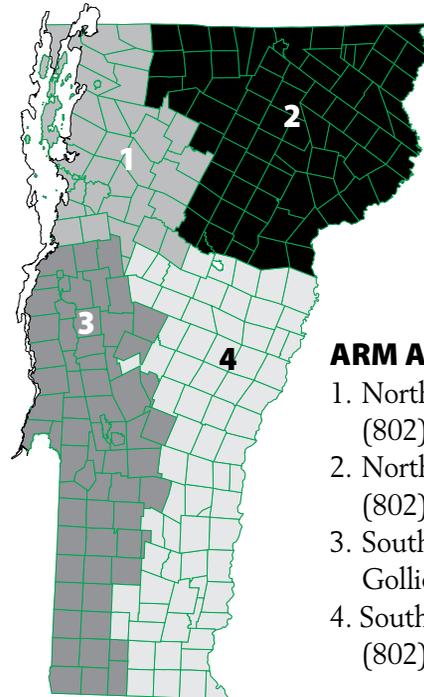
Handler employers must protect against heat stress and provide a pesticide-free area to ensure:

- Storage of personal clothing not in use;
- Proper training regarding donning and doffing of required PPE; and
- PPE must not be taken home
- **Care of PPE** – Care for all label-required PPE as detailed in the HTC, including inspection, proper cleaning and storage of reusable PPE, along with replacement of disposable PPE.
- **Replacing Respirator Purifying Elements** – Maintain and replace air purifying respirators when:
 - Breathing becomes difficult
 - Filter is damaged
 - Required by respirator or label
 - No more than 8 hours of use, in absence of

- contrary label directives
- Noticeable odor/taste/irritant
- Required by pesticide or respirator label (whichever is less)
- Excessive breathing resistance
- No more than 8 hours of use, in absence of contrary label directives
- **Disposal of PPE** – Must render contaminated PPE unusable when applying products that display the signal word DANGER or WARNING and discarded according to state regulations.

- **Instructions for People Who Clean PPE** – The handler employer must inform people who clean or launder PPE:
 - That PPE may be contaminated with pesticides, as well as the effects of potential exposures
 - How to protect themselves, correctly clean PPE, and properly decontaminate after

The revised WPS is in effect now and impacts both conventional and organic establishments. For compliance assistance, contact your local ARMS field agent (see map).



ARM Agent Territories

1. Northwest VT: Matt Wood (802) 828-3482
2. Northeast VT: Bethany Creaser (802) 793-1628
3. Southwest VT: Dominique Golliot (802) 793-2167
4. Southeast VT: Doug Johnstone (802) 793-2547

¹ Documentation must be kept for two years.

Pouliot Farm

continued from page 9

sion, and we just do our best. I'm not here to ruin the environment, I'm here to make a living with it. If my soil erodes down the river, I'm not happy." Tony claims that many of the regulations around water quality that have been passed are not the reason for improvements at the Pouliot Farm, but rather that farmers make improvements that are essential. "When farmers profit, they make investments in

improvements on the farm," states Tony. "I want this place to be here for my grandsons." He goes on to explain the disparity he sees between society and the agricultural world and how there is a small percentage of people producing food for the rest, with consumers not always considering all the work that goes into producing food. Although there are not many dairy farmers the same age as Tony, there are some, "and these young farmers can really make milk and care for the environment," he explains.

~ Free Estimates ~

Livestock Fencing

Ron Miller
Snowshoe Farm, Peacham, VT
snowshoefarm.com/fencing
802-592-3153

REGISTERED *Angus*
1-3 YEAR OLD BULLS
BRED & OPEN HEIFERS
BRED COWS
COW CALF PAIRS
FEEDER CALVES
DNA TESTED
VACCINATED
518-436-1050 ~ James Frueh
Registered Angus
SGF

bred for:
DURABILITY & FEED EFFICIENCY
Choose WAGYU for Improved
• MARBLING • BEEF QUALITY
• FAT PROFILE
all animals are
• VACCINATED
• DNA TESTED
Breeding stock &
feeder calves
802-376-6729 ~ Mary Beth
Fullblood & Crossbred WAGYU
Fischer Farms



Warmer Weather is Almost Here!

Here's What You Should Know About Mosquito and Tick Safety This Summer

By Patti Casey,
VT Agency of Ag

Most mosquitoes in the northeast do not pose a health hazard, but are instead considered to be nuisance mosquitoes. A small percentage of mosquito species in Vermont are capable of transmitting disease, and many of those do not feed on humans, preferring to bite birds or amphibians. When environmental conditions are right, it is possible for some disease-carrying mosquitoes (called primary vectors) to transmit disease to other mosquito species (called secondary vectors) that do feed on humans and other mammals. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food & Market's (VAAFAM) Mosquito Surveillance Program works to detect when this happens and notifies the Vermont Department of Health, which decides when and if any intervention is needed. More information about mosquito-borne illnesses, including West Nile Virus, Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE), and Zika virus can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/outdoor/mosquito-borne/default.html>

The risk for contracting a mosquito-borne illness in Vermont is very low. However, you should still take precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes

to protect yourself and your family.

Here's what you can do to protect yourself around your home and garden

- Empty birdbaths, wading pools, and plant pots or saucers twice weekly. Put the wading pool inside if it's not being used.
- Empty and cover storage and trash containers to prevent water collection.
- Remove any containers that hold water, like pails, drums, bottles, cans, and old tires, even bottle caps.
- Clean rain gutters, drains, ditches, and culverts to remove leaves, trash, or weeds that prevent drainage.
- Inspect outdoor pipes, hoses, and faucets for leaks, and make any needed repairs.
- Anything covered with tarps – be sure the tarp itself doesn't provide pockets of water for breeding.
- Boats, canoes, kayaks – invert or cover them so they don't catch and hold water, or bring them inside.
- Outdoor toys and gardening tools – same thing.
- If you have a pool, make sure it's well maintained and looked after if you go away.
- Stock water gardens with goldfish that feed on mosquito larvae.
- Fill soil in ruts or puddles that form in heavy rain.

- Use sand or concrete to fill tree rot holes and hollow tree stumps.
- Reduce vegetation in and around your yard that harbors biting insects – keep the grass cut.
- Trim shrubs and trees that overhang porches and decks.

When You Go Outside

- Cover up with light-colored long pants and long-sleeved shirts.
- Avoid unnecessary dawn and dusk outdoor activity.
- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent.

For more information, visit www.CDC.gov, www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov, or www.HealthVermont.gov

About the VT Agency of Agriculture's Vector Management Program

Our Vector Management Program conducts statewide mosquito and tick surveillance to help monitor insect populations that may harbor diseases that affect humans and livestock. For our mosquito program, we have a network of trap sites around the state that are visited at least weekly; mosquitoes are collected, brought back to our Berlin lab, identified to species, and sent to the Vermont Department of Health Lab in Colchester for disease testing. Positive results are monitored carefully by the Health Department.

Our field technicians are a hard-working crew of men and women who put

in long hours in some pretty swampy places. Our lab folks are equally dedicated, spending their days staring into microscopes and counting mosquitoes.

We rely largely on the generosity of landowners and farmers like yourself to grant us access to floodplain fields, swamps, and other areas so we can conduct our surveillance. We do our best to track down all landowners in advance of trapping, but sometimes we have a hard time finding people to check in with. We always leave a letter in a ZipLoc bag with

contact information at the site. If you see our traps on your property (see photos below), please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We can often find another suitable spot if you prefer we not use your land. If you run into any of our field techs, say hi – they're all very friendly and trained to answer any questions you may have.

Rest assured we're out there working hard to keep you and your livestock safe!

Contact: Patti Casey, Vector Management Coordinator, 522-6858.



All in a day's work: Dr. Shelley Mehlenbacher visits an elk farm for their annual head count.

Veterinary Oversight of On-Farm Treatment Records – Knowledge is Money!

By Dr. Kristin Haas,
VT Agency of Ag

Through prior *Agriview* articles in this series, you now have an enhanced understanding of the Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR), the importance of thorough record-keeping, and the benefit that the Food Armor® HACCP for Proper Drug Use Program can have to your on-farm practices. To get the most out of thorough record keeping, it is important that your herd or flock veterinarian regularly reviews your treatment protocols, SOPs and animal-side records. By doing so, your veterinarian can identify short- and long-term risks, as well as protocol and treatment compliance, all benefits for your farm. This regular review allows veterinarians to supervise treatment without being present at the moment of treatment and still have an accurate picture of the outcome. Veterinarians and farm owners/managers may then collaborate to make immediate adjustments to treatment protocols, versus allowing continued failed treatments, saving money in the long run. If your veterinarian does find something that needs to be addressed, he or she will convey the information to the VCPR team – owners, consulting veterinarians and farm employees. Quality oversight of records may mean more on-farm time for the veterinarian but often leads to decreased medication use and more effective culling decisions, which will be economi-

cally beneficial to the farm and should more than pay for the veterinarian's time.

Oversight is a positive reason to see your veterinarian on your farm more often, and thorough records can protect both the producer and the veterinarian. Your farm records will serve as proof that you are following the veterinarian's advice and adhering to the VCPR if tissue or milk violation questions arise, and will provide a foundation for those important collaborative conversations that should happen but often get put on the back burner. Producers and veterinarians need to work together closely to make treatment and management decisions, and regular collaborative farm record reviews can provide a foundation for this important partnership.

The development of protocols, SOPs and animal-side treatment records is time-consuming, but it is only wasted time if those records are subsequently put on a shelf and allowed to collect dust. Instead, your records should be living documents that are reviewed and amended regularly to reflect evolving best management practices on your farm; if this important step is taken, the time invested in their creation will be time well spent and money often saved! As a producer, you will be able to make informed management decisions based on a historical record tailored to your farm, and your veterinarian will be more knowledgeable about your drug use practices and animal treatment pro-

ocols. Veterinary oversight of the on-farm records is a win-win!

To learn more about the Food Armor® HACCP for Proper Drug Use Program, visit www.foodarmor.org, and if you are interested in imple-

menting the principles of this program on your farm, contact Kristin Haas at Kristin.haas@vermont.gov or (802) 828-2421. To review previous *Agriview* articles in this series, please visit http://agriculture.vermont.gov/news_media/

agriview/archive

Created through collaboration between the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets and Food Armor® Foundation Inc.

Opinion

Doubling-Down on Vermont's Environment

By Julie Moore,
Secretary, Vermont
Agency of Natural
Resources



President Trump's call to abandon the

Paris Climate Agreement, slash federal funding for clean air and water, and reduce protections for threatened and endangered species have made national headlines, and created grim reading for those who care about protecting the health of our people and our environment.

But, as is often the case, we are charting a different course in the Green Mountain State. Instead of political gamesmanship, Vermonters of different parties and across branches of government are expanding our commitment to clean water.

In his inaugural budget address, Governor Phil Scott proposed investing \$23 million in clean water in the coming year, for a total investment of \$55 million in Fiscal Year 2018 – an increase of nearly 70 percent over FY17 levels. The Legislature joined the conversation, passing a budget that came close to the Governor's proposal, for a total of \$54 million in clean water funding.

Committing to this investment during a very challenging year for our state budget was not easy. It is essential, however, because this money will be used to:

- Build better local roads, which will both produce less pollution and have a stronger resiliency in a changing climate;
- Help farmers produce both clean water and healthy local food for Vermonters from their land;
- Assist towns, business people and property owners in putting new and innovative technology to work so that the rain which lands on their roofs and parking lots either stays on-site or leaves as clean as it arrived.

This is the start of a long effort, not the end. Over the coming months I will be working with Vermonters – both those who make environmental policies and those affected by them – to develop a plan for funding needed investments in clean water over the next two decades.

I am encouraged by the resolve and the energy I see in our brave little state. The actions taken by the Governor, and by lawmakers, tell me that even if our federal government pulls back or falters in its commitments to protect and restore the nation's environmental assets, Vermont is prepared to make necessary investments in continued stewardship in our land, air and water.

A Visit to Braveheart Farm in Moretown, Vermont

By Faith Raymond,
VT Agency of Ag

Secretary Tebbetts recently visited the Braveheart Farm in Moretown. He was greeted by Kaleigh Hamel and her mom, Chris Hamel and was soon introduced to the rest of the residents of the Braveheart Farm. Braveheart Farm is a draft animal powered homestead that sets on 20 acres on the Moretown mountainside. While Kaleigh manages her large animal training and agritourism business, her mom Chris is running her private psychology practice in Waterbury during the day, but in the evenings, they both can be found working on the Braveheart grounds.

Braveheart farm offers many intriguing crafts and services. First and foremost, Kaleigh, she is truly the "heart" in Braveheart, this young woman has an incredible vision for her future. She is nationally known for her training techniques with large animals, she has also started to market her own woodworking and metal crafts, and has been known to perform at events with her animals.

Kaleigh's career started as a competitive showman with her oxen. The training and competing with her animals would soon become a true passion. As Kaleigh became more experienced with training her passion expanded to educating people on training and working with equines and bovines. Her technique based on a mutual trust between



The amazing Kaleigh Hamel and her oxen team.

her and her beast, finding respect and creativity with each relationship. Following her passion to educate has opened doors to participate in training clinics including Tillers International in Michigan; being hosted by the Midwest Ox Drivers Association for a calf starting and trick training class; leading an advanced training clinic at the Draft Animal Powered Field Days in Massachusetts; and regularly participating in teaching oxen-based courses at Sterling college in Craftsbury, Vermont. Kaleigh is now a private trainer, with horses and oxen and their owners correcting issue from past training or starting training with green animals. On her off time from private training she can be found training and selling her own, varying from calves as oxen to rescuing and rehabilitating a horse.

Agritourism is another venue you can find Kaleigh

with her large team of Percheron draft horses, providing sleigh rides in the winter and wagon rides in the summer. With her team of Holstein oxen and a miniature trick horse are Kaleigh's can be found at the Waitsfield Farmers Market performing tricks she has taught them and simply being social among other local events. They can be seen performing Roman riding, bowing, liberty work, and much more!

Surprisingly, training these beasts has not taken all of Kaleigh's time. She can also be found in her workshop making yokes and metal crafting. Customers from around the country have placed yoke orders. She handcrafts ox yokes for the teamster in need of the equipment. She has made small yokes for teams of calves just starting, to large yokes for oxen logging, farming, or competitive pulling. For a splash of

creativity, her metal craft is making small metal roses that she sells on consignment in several local shops.

Kaleigh's goal for the future is to continue learning and expand her business. This will entail a larger facility where she will be able to host training clinics, horse riding lessons, driving, and ox teamstering. She also would like to provide high end services such as weddings with her team of horses.

Kaleigh has inspired us at the Agency of Agriculture with her determination, kindness, and confidence as a young trainer. She has proven herself to not only those that have invited or

hired her but to the animals she has trained. The belief in trust as the primary foundation between animal and trainer has made Kaleigh a high respected trainer. Her constant drive for not only continuing to educate herself but to share her knowledge with others to all that work with animals. Kaleigh's mission as the trainer behind Braveheart Beasts is to understand and embrace each person and animal that crosses her path so that she can help them find their soul fire to lead to trust, compassion, and a greater understanding of the connection between human, beast, and heart.

VERMONT AGRICULTURAL CREDIT CORPORATION
Financing for Vermont Farmers, Agricultural Facilities and Forest Product Businesses
www.veda.org 802-828-5627