

# AGRiVIEW



Published monthly by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture • [www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov](http://www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov)

## Gypsy Moths Are Making A Comeback in Vermont

By Judy Rosovsky, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Many Vermonters are encountering gypsy moths (GM) for the first time. This invasive species arrived in the U.S. over 100 years ago and has been expanding its range ever since. They can be significant defoliators (leaf eaters) of trees and shrubs. They prefer oak trees, but when there are a lot of caterpillars around, they will eat any type of leaf, including maple and pine.

Vermont has not seen an outbreak of GM since 1991. At that time a fungus called *Entomophaga maimaiga* became prevalent in the area and significantly decreased the GM population. But the dry weather that we've experienced over the last few years has not been good for fungi, and the absence of fungi has allowed the GM



numbers to increase.

Trees can survive a year or so of defoliation, but defoliation and dry weather are stressors on tree, shrub and plant health. Keeping your plants watered will help offset defoliation stress. We may see another year or two of high levels of GM unless we get some rainy seasons, which should increase the GM killing fungi.



There are traps for caterpillars and adult gypsy moths. See below for more information on caterpillar control.

### General resources:

- <https://extension.unh.edu/resource/gypsy-moth-fact-sheet>

The following advice for dealing with GM caterpillars is

from Vermont Forest Biology Lab pathologist Savannah Ferreira:

### Mechanical control:

- If you have a few trees, caterpillars can be squished, or pruned out of the trees and submerged in soapy water. The egg masses can also be scraped and submerged or squished until you hear a "popping" sound.
- Installing a band of burlap around the trunk of the tree this year will encourage egg masses to be laid on the burlap this fall. After the eggs are laid, you can remove the burlap and destroy the egg masses. This can help reduce populations next year.
- Sticky bands can also be installed this year on the trunk and/or lower branches of high-value trees.

*continued on page 12*



**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

Water Quality Inspection .Page 3

Food System Plan: Dairy . . . . . Page 4

Agritourism Grants . . . Page 6

Riparian Area Planting . Page 7

Spotted Lanternfly . . . Page 8

Conservation Practices Funding . . . . . Page 9

Produce Safety Bite: Postharvest Water . . . . Page 9

Vermont Vegetable and Berry News . . . . . Page 10

Classifieds . . . . . Page 11

Grants Calendar . . . . . Page 13

Waterwise Vegetable Gardening . . . . .Page 14

Goat & Sheep Dairy Supply Chain Grant . . .Page 15

Apiary Update . . . . .Page 15

#Farm24VT . . . . .Page 16



## THE VIEW FROM 116 STATE STREET

We are now in the thick of the summer. Haying is happening. The corn is growing. Berry season is upon us. Farm stands are open. Farmers Markets are busy. The chores are non-stop. Things are getting back to a routine after more than a year of living under a pandemic. Parades are back. Fairs and Field Days are scheduled. Restaurants are seating customers again. 4-H shows are happening. Summer camps have returned. Concerts and gatherings are back. You could almost say "Vermont is back to its old self." Thanks to incredible leadership from our farmers, producers, teachers, health care providers, first responders and Vermonters we have emerged from Covid-19. Surviving the pandemic was not easy. It disrupted our economy and

our lives. Now we are focused on what we learned and what can we do better? Its a chance to change Vermont.

The Agency had a productive legislative session working closely with lawmakers on issues that move Vermont Forward. Working with Governor Phil Scott, lawmakers have agreed on a plan to address long time issues that have dogged Vermont. There will be substantial investments in connecting rural Vermont with the rest of the world. This effort will grow the rural economy by improving cell and broadband service to farmers and producers.

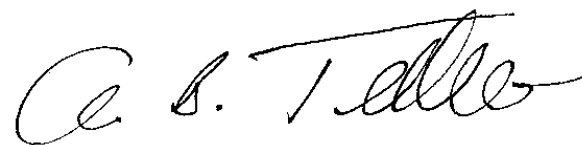
American Rescue Dollars will also be used to improve Vermont's infrastructure. Millions will be spent improving water and sewer projects over the next few years. This will help value added dairy

and meat businesses who want to expand or create opportunities. This new approach will help get more local food produced and it will also improve our environment. Investments were also made in housing, climate change, and economic development. All these areas will help rural Vermont grow and become more affordable. Please reach out to the Agency if you have any questions.

The Governor was also successful in his proposal to invest more dollars in the Working Lands Enterprise Fund. Over the coming weeks look for more details on this granting program. There is

\$500,000 dedicated to improving meat processing in Vermont. This was a priority of the Agency and the Governor going into the legislative session. We also continue to track programs by USDA that could also invest federal dollars in slaughterhouses. It is important we have a regional food supply and allow farmers to grow their businesses.

It has been an incredible 18 months for Vermonters. We thank you for getting us through it. You sacrificed. We wish you a safe and productive summer with family and friends. You have earned it.



Anson Tebbetts, Secretary, Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

CONNECT  
WITH US



@VTAGENCYOFAG



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) 828-1619

www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov

ANSON TEBBETTS, Secretary  
Agency of Agriculture,  
Food & Markets

TERRY SMITH  
Editor

FAITH RAYMOND, Managing Editor

SCOTT WATERMAN, Contributing Editor

Advertising and subscriptions:  
E-mail: agr.view@vermont.gov

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

## This Month's Recipe

## Blueberry Cheesecake Tacos

Prep Time: 15 Minutes • Cook Time: 30 Minutes • Total Time: 5 Minutes

## Ingredients

## Tortilla Shells:

- 6 large flour tortillas
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- vegetable oil for frying

## Homemade Blueberry Sauce:

- 2 cups fresh blueberries
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 7 tablespoon water
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest
- 2 tablespoon cornstarch

## Cheesecake Filling:

- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice

## Instructions

## Tortilla Shells

Cut the tortillas with a 3.5-4" circle cutter. This recipe will make 30 tortillas.

Heat 1 inch oil in a deep pan at medium heat. Next, place tor-

tilla circles in the hot oil, using tongs, and let them fry for about 10 second and then turn the other side, then fold them in half using the tongs, so that they look like shells and fry until they become golden brown. Turning to the other side and fry until they become golden brown.

Take them out of the pan, then immediately put in the bowl with light brown sugar. Cover the shells completely. Place them on the upside down muffin tin. Repeat the same procedure with the rest of the circles.

## Blueberry Sauce

Put blueberries, sugar, 5 Tbsp of water, lemon juice and lemon zest in a medium pan. Cook for 10 minutes on medium heat. In a separate, small dish, put 2 Tbsp of water and corn starch and stir them, then add to the



blueberry mixture in the pan. Stir and cook for 20-30 sec, until thickens. Remove from heat and leave to cool completely.

## Cheesecake Filling

Beat heavy whipping cream until stiff peaks form. Set aside. In a separate bowl, beat cream cheese,

powdered sugar and lemon juice, using medium speed, until smooth. Fold in whipped cream.

Put the mixture into a piping bag and cut off the peak. Fill the shells with cream cheese filling and top with blueberry sauce.

**Please note:** Make sure that blueberry sauce is cooled completely before you top tortilla shells with it. Keep this dessert refrigerated and serve it cooled.

# Water Quality Division Restructures Inspection Reporting

By Sonia Howlett, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Starting soon, if you are a farm operation that is regulated by the Water Quality Division (the Division) of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, then you will begin to notice this summer that the post-inspection reports are a little slimmer and more concise – and, as a result, in your hands much sooner following your inspection or investigation.

Water Quality Specialists must inspect, at minimum, each Large Farm Operation (LFO) once per year, each Medium Farm Operation (MFO) once every three years, and each Certified Small Farm Operation (CSFO) once every seven years. Specialists also investigate complaints against all farming operations as the complaints come in. While on the farm, Specialists connect with farm operators and owners about the Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) Rule, and, if applicable, the Medium and Small Farm Operation Rules for Issuance of General and Individual Permits, the General Permit for Medium Farm Operations, LFO Individual Permits, and the Large Farm Operations Rules. Specialists evaluate farms based on these rules/programs, and share information and materials that could help the farm to fix any water quality challenges that they are facing. Following the site visit, the Specialists draft an official report that includes photos as well as descriptions of any observed alleged violations or areas of risk. Once drafted and reviewed internally, this report is shared with the farm. If the report identifies any concerns, then it is passed on to the AAFM enforcement team for decisions regarding next steps.



Although Specialists share a summary checklist of specific concerns that they see on each farm with any farm operators or owners present at the end of every site visit, official multipage reports are useful to farms because they explicitly describe any water quality issues that the farms might need to address. Unfortunately, in recent years it has taken longer to return reports than deemed acceptable by the Division and farms.

These delays came to a head in 2020 when the inspection team was down several members and temporarily unable to re-hire due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Nate Sands, Agricultural Water Quality Section Chief, ruefully describes handing the previous year's inspection report to an LFO at the current year's inspection – resulting in frustration among both the inspected farms receiving the report and the Specialists delivering the report. The Division and AAFM officials apologize to the affected farms and to the farming community at-large, but also know that there needs to be a change in order to do

better in the future.

To achieve this goal, the Division has built capacity by hiring a full team of specialists and is investing in a database that is expected to streamline work tasks. The Division has also restructured so that field inspectors will spend less time on permitting and more time on reports. An additional team member has been hired at the supervisory/reviewing level so that report drafts can get finalized and out the door faster. The Division has also made the decision to make reports streamlined and more focused in scope.

"It's a tradeoff," Chief Sands explains. In his experience, some farms have liked receiving thorough reports that describe not only the potential water quality violations identified by Specialists, but also the efforts that the farm must make or has made to address them. However, writing, editing, and reviewing those details take time. In the new, more efficient model, farms will get their reports more quickly, but the reports will necessarily focus primarily on what was observed –

the other details will be kept outside of the report as notes. These notes will be used to provide necessary context to Division discussions about next steps, but will not be in the report. As a result, farms should expect to receive their inspection and investigation reports sooner, although they will be less detailed than in the past.

The Division expects to finish processing the older reports in the very near future and is actively shifting to the new model for all inspections and investigations going forward. The database is expected to be fully operational by the end of the year and then reports will likely appear slightly different once again due to the new formatting of the system. Thank you for your patience as we introduce these changes to provide you with a useful report that helps you understand the areas of risk and/or the potential violations on your farms in as timely a manner as possible.

To learn more about the regulatory work of the Water Quality Division, visit [agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality](https://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality).

## VERMONT AGRICULTURE &amp; FOOD SYSTEM PLAN 2021 – 2030:

# Dairy

**Editor's note:** This brief is part of the Vermont Agriculture & Food System Plan 2021-2030 submitted to the legislature in January 2021. To read the full plan, please go to <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/document/vermont-agriculture-and-food-system-strategic-plan-2021-2030>

by Laura Ginsburg, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

**Author's note:** This segment is the remainder of the dairy brief. For context and introduction, see part 1 published in the June edition of Agriview. This segment covers the remaining three issues and concludes with overall dairy focused recommendations.

## Issue: Forage based production systems

Grass-fed dairy products, specifically those that are also organic but inclusive of conventional production, are the fastest growing segment of dairy products with annual sales growth over 30%. Vermont is well-positioned to take advantage of this market due to the abundance of high-quality forages, expert technical assistance, and availability of processors who seek to enter or expand their product lines into the grass-fed market. A grass and pasture-focused farm production strategy has additional environmental benefits, such as decreased water quality concerns and improved soil health.

## Bottlenecks and Gaps

- Many farms, of all scales, do not have an adequate land base close enough to their farm to switch to 100% grass production
- Switching to grass-fed production can lead to lower milk production, which can inhibit conversions if farmers rely on certain levels of milk production to meet debt obligations
- The learning curve can be steep and frustrating, and requires a whole farm system approach
- Processors may not yet be able to source and keep segregated new grass-fed milk production due to storage limitations and established hauling routes

## Opportunities

- Regionally, both Maple Hill Dairy and Organic Valley are processors experiencing growth in their grass-fed product lines. There are several other brands on the national market whose success and business models could be examples for Vermont
- Converting more farms to grass-fed production may improve consumer perception of dairy, help alleviate water and environmental quality concerns, and maintain the working landscape in a way that supports both economic and tourism purposes
- The land base affiliated with dairy farms that are going out of business, or are no longer milking



cows, can be utilized to graze animals from other farm or produce hay, keeping farmland in use to its highest potential and maintaining the dairy economy

## Issue: Value-Added Processing

Since 2010, Vermont has seen a 130% increase in the number of dairy processing plants, which includes the addition of both large (e.g., Commonwealth Dairy) and small facilities (such as on-farm cheese makers), producing a wide variety of products that are consumed locally and exported around the world. Several of the larger facilities that are responsible for processing higher proportions of Vermont milk are owned by out-of-state companies and may also need costly upgrades to remain functional or add capacity to meet changing consumer

preferences. Small processing facilities and the high-quality, award-winning products they create have pushed Vermont to the forefront of artisanal, specialty dairy marketplace both nationally and internationally. The combination of scales of processing and the successful marketing of these products is one reason why Vermont's dairy sector will remain relevant into the future.

## Bottlenecks and Gaps

- Maintaining adequate and licensed staff is a common challenge for larger scale processors and milk handlers, particularly in finding enough Commercial Drivers License (CDL) operators to haul milk
- Larger facilities often co-pack for other brands and may not have the storage capacity to maintain raw product separation, particularly as

the co-packed brands gain additional market share

- Small facilities are often a diversification strategy for farms, meaning that farm operators have to also become marketing and manufacturing experts in order to sell a competitive product
- Small processors who rely on an external milk supply are struggling to source consistent, high-attribute milk that meets their production needs as farms continue to close

## Opportunities

- New market research shows that cheese remains an economically viable option, particularly in the specialty marketplace into which most of Vermont's small scale processors fit
- Goat milk and non-traditional dairy products such as kefir also show potential for market growth and these

processing facilities are underdeveloped compared to traditional cow dairy products.

Building capacity for these products may help ensure continued market viability and relevance

- Cooperatives and larger processors are in a strong position to create distinct product lines that could help add value to their brand and return more money to farmers. This could also help their brand strategy, as public backlash against the continued loss of small farms may have a negative impact on processors
- Development of alternative milk trucking and handling facilities to segregate high-attribute, specialty milk for

cheesemakers outside of the commodity stream may encourage additional growth

### Issue: Alternative milk pricing strategies

Milk pricing is a complex, federally run system is impacted by a multitude of external forces such as commodities futures trading, product disappearance rates, and location differentials. Vermont exists in the Federal Milk Market Order (FMMO) system as part of Region 1, which also includes most New England (except Maine), some of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. The FMMO system was put in place to help ensure

that milk moves around the region and country in an orderly fashion, and that prices reflect distance to major milk consumption markets. Federal milk pricing sets the minimum farmers can be paid and impacts all farmers who sell into the conventional commodity stream. All processors can pay additional money for qualities they deem important (e.g., butterfat levels, milk quality) and this is the reason that organic process are much higher, yet variable, across organic processors. The Caring Dairy and Milk with Dignity programs are also examples of how processors can add money to milk checks based on farmers' production practices meeting specific criteria.

### Bottlenecks and Gaps

- Because prices are impacted by national milk production deficits or surpluses, any type of supply management system will need mandatory national buy-in to be effective at raising and steadying milk prices
- Federal milk pricing formulas are based on a limited number of products and do not reflect that actual market or consumption trends in the dairy sector
- As one of the FMMO states, Vermont's ability to enact pricing changes is limited and must be an add-on to the base milk price

### Opportunities

- The State of Vermont has the opportunity to add money to a farmer's milk check above the federally set price and there are several different models for how this could work

– payments for ecosystem services, being a farmer in compliance with regulations, or additional funds for maintaining farm appearance, for example – which could have additional benefits of making Vermont dairy products more attractive to consumers

- Components pricing is an opportunity that could move the pricing of milk away from a primarily fluid market and into a fat/protein market to follow consumption trends, with New Zealand being a model of success for this system.
- Seasonal production can be seen as an alternative payment model as farmer could get paid more by their processors for producing milk when they need it most and drying off their whole herd when the processing plants are over-supplied
- Supporting additional programs or growing existing programs such as Caring Dairy and Milk with Dignity helps both the processors sell more products and return more money to dairy farmers who choose to meet the criteria

### Recommendations

- Reinvigorate farmer cohort learning groups by funding a position that can coordinate meetings between farmers of different scales and in varying regions to share their specialized knowledge and allow farmers to connect with each other to broaden skills set while providing social outlets.
- Establish a formal mentorship program that will pay successful, retiring

dairy farmers to work one-on-one with young farms and help them navigate the challenges of being a new or beginning farmer. This could include animal health, farm management, finances, and personal challenges. This relationship keeps the inherent knowledge of the land, cows, and dairy production going strong and does not de-value the worth of years in the industry.

- Incentivize new farmers and farm transitions by starting a program similar to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's Remote Worker Grant Program that will help defray costs of starting a new dairy farm or taking over the operation of an existing farm through a family or business transition.
- Ensure that the current processing capacity is maintained or increased as this is critical to long-term farm sustainability.
- Expand opportunities to differentiate the milk supply by supporting farm and processor transitions to, or increasing the production capacity for, higher-attribute milk that responds to consumer trends and positions Vermont as the leader of innovative dairy production.
- Provide incentives and ensure current funding opportunities benefit dairy farms to move towards energy efficiency, including equipment upgrades, renewable energy generation systems, and work in concert with the needs of milk hauling and processing companies.

## For Agricultural Events and Resources Visit:

- The VT Agency of Agriculture Events Calendar: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/calendar>
- UVM Extension Events Calendars: [https://www.uvm.edu/extension/extension\\_event\\_calendars](https://www.uvm.edu/extension/extension_event_calendars)
- Vermont Farm to Plate Events Calendar: <https://www.vtfarmtoplate.com/events>
- Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont Events Calendar: <http://nofavt.org/events>
- DigIn Vermont Events Calendar: <https://www.diginvt.com/events/>
- Agricultural Water Quality Regulations: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations>
- Agency of Ag's Tile Drain Report now available here: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/tile-drainage>
- VAAF annual report available here: [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/about\\_us/budgets\\_reports](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/about_us/budgets_reports)
- Farm First: Confidential help with personal or work-related issues. More info call: 1-877-493-6216 any-time day or night, or visit: [www.farmfirst.org](http://www.farmfirst.org)
- Vermont AgrAbility: Free service promoting success in agriculture for people with disabilities and their families. More info call 1-800-639-1522, email: [info@vcil.org](mailto:info@vcil.org) or visit: [www.vcil.org](http://www.vcil.org).

For more agricultural events visit our Funding Opportunities & Resources for Businesses webpage at: [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer\\_partner\\_resources/funding\\_opportunities](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/funding_opportunities)

# \$112k Awarded in Dairy Agritourism Grants from NE-DBIC

*Dairy farmers and processors across four states to receive funds for agritourism projects*

*Kathryn Donovan, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets*

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) announces grant awards totaling \$112,857 through the Multi-Business Agritourism Grant program. Six dairy farmers, processors, and organizations in Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont will launch innovative agritourism projects through the NE-DBIC's first competitive grant round. The projects funded are designed to raise awareness, understanding, and consumption of Northeast produced dairy products through agritourism activities and will directly involve 95 dairy businesses across the region.

Fat Toad Farm of Brookfield, Vermont was selected to receive \$20,495 in funds to create and market a virtual tour experience featuring Ayers Brook Goat Farm and Fat Toad Farm's goat caramel production process. They will hire a contractor to create a 3D interactive tour experience to 'Meet the Farmer' and offer customers a farm tour

of Ayers Brook Goat Dairy, a 'Meet the Maker' and tour of Fat Toad Farm (FTF) caramel production, and a cooking video that will demonstrate the use of caramel and other Vermont dairy products.

"It is an honor to receive this grant and embark on the adventure of finding a new way to tell the story of Vermont farms and specialty food through a unique 3-D virtual tour experience. While the pandemic has kept many at home, this virtual tour will allow people from California to New York to enjoy a slice of the Vermont experience from the comfort of their own homes. We also intend to make this tour experience a springboard for understanding the link between Vermont farms and Vermont specialty food products and how important both are to the Vermont economy and landscape," said Fat Toad Farm co-founder, Judith Irving.

Other regional projects that were selected to receive funding were:

- **Sunflower Farm Creamery** of Cumberland, ME will receive \$10,000 to print and market their



*Steve Reid and Avalanche of Fat Toad Farm, a recipient of the NE-DBIC's Multi-Business Dairy Agritourism Grant.*

Fat Toad Farm, Brookfield, VT

cookbook, "Simply Good Chevre: A delicious guide to all licensed goat dairy farms in Maine" that features goat cheese recipes and day trips including Beer & Goats.

- **Jones Family Farm** of Herkimer, NY will receive \$15,000 to coordinate a marketing campaign in conjunction with the Central New York Cheese Trail and Little Falls Cheese Festival to promote events, increase sales, and educate the public.
- **The Milk Pail at Willow Bend Farm** of Shortsville, NY will utilize \$22,000 in funds to market and promote monthly events including a Dairy

Discovery 5k & Fun Run that will feature area dairy businesses.

- **Pennsylvania Cheese Guild** of Philadelphia, PA will receive \$20,677 to develop a digital marketing campaign and promotional materials to support the first Pennsylvania Cheese Month event and the Pennsylvania Cheese Trail.
- **Maple Bottom Farm** of Scottdale, PA will use \$24,685 to build upon agritourism events they created in response to the pandemic and will expand to include other area farms through a dairy trail map, farm-to-table dinners, Breakfast at the Farm event, and educational

camps.

The NE-DBIC provides support to dairy businesses in the Northeast region, serving ten states from Pennsylvania to Maine. The NE-DBIC promotes the development, production, marketing, and distribution of dairy products through market research, technical assistance, and competitive grant rounds for dairy farmers and processors. The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center is funded through USDA and hosted by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. More information at: [agriculture.vermont.gov/dbic](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/dbic)



**GROW YOUR BRAND!**

**Food, Farm & Agritourism Marketing**

**PamKnights.com • 802-477-2703**

# Landowners Plant 15,000 Trees and Shrubs to Restore Riparian Areas Across Orleans County

By Sarah Damsell, Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District

There are 7,100 miles of rivers and streams in the State of Vermont. Of these total state waters 195 waters or segments of waters are impaired, 115 waters or segments of waters are stressed, and at least 56 waters in the State are altered due to aquatic nuisance species. These facts are listed in Vermont's new Clean Water Act 64, passed in 2015, which outlines standards to prevent degradation of these waters to preserve the uses, benefits, and values of these vital assets. Vermonters are making progress by employing water quality practices and utilizing technical and financial resources to engage in meaningful ways. This spring in Orleans County alone five landowners planted 15,165 trees and shrubs on 50 acres in average 50ft wide riparian areas adjacent to streams and rivers.

Vermont rivers have been altered from their natural functions over the past many generations to accommodate human imposed changes to the river's processes. Activities



David Daniels and sons with CI Hill from Northwoods Stewardship Center, and Sarah Damsell, Orleans County NRDC Manager, standing in a recently planted streamside buffer.

such as deforestation, snagging, ditching, dams, diversions, gravel removal and encroachment from roads and urbanization. These alterations led to a changes in the amount and rate of water causing dramatic increases in the water volume, velocity and sediment runoff which changes the river system and the natural stages of the rivers channel evolution. These historic land use impacts and today's land use impacts are in large part causing the above-mentioned troubling statistics related to Vermont waters.

Grounded in this historical perspective and on the proven environmental benefits, the Orleans

County Natural Resources Conservation District (OCNRCD) and many other local, state and federal partners, such as the Northwoods Stewardship Center and the Missisquoi Basin Association, working in the Orleans County watersheds have grant funds to support landowners from the headwaters to the broad valleys in the Memphremagog Basin and Missisquoi River watersheds.

Establishing and monitoring successful riparian buffer plantings utilizes landowner involvement, volunteers, local contractors and a proactive, science-based method for site prioritization and restoration. Natural vegetated buffers of shrubs, trees, and herbaceous plants are relatively easily developed, planted and maintained at a reasonable cost. Utilizing stream geomorphic assessments and local site conditions like soil types; and existing vegetative natural community we all worked

together with landowners and operators to design and install many buffer projects this spring.

Misty Koloski, a dairy farmer in Newport Center, is one of the landowners who revegetated areas this spring. She said "Our experience with this project was certainly positive and the outcome great. Working with the Orleans County NRCD Director and the tree planting contractors was seamless. I was very pleased with the professionalism and methodology including selecting the species for the project. We appreciate that there were elderberry trees included for the birds! With the assistance provided planting a riparian buffer and putting up fence to get the heifers out of the stream our family organic dairy is positioned to improve the watershed and the small game habitat around our farm." This project was funded by the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Over time, these buffer projects will benefit the water quality by filtering overland flow waters, improving aquatic habitat to moderate water temperature and providing structure for fish, protecting riverbanks to provide stability and restore equilibrium to the rivers and increase scenic functions. All of these benefits have been proven critical to the long-term health of waterbodies especially on the 81 waters or segments of water in the state that are impaired and require an EPA imposed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan, which includes Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog. Through the Vermont Clean Water Act, programs like the Vermont Conservation Districts Trees for Streams program and the commitment of Vermont citizens, State waters can be protected and improved to prevent further degradation.

The OCNRCD is organized as a local non-profit that coordinates with landowners, municipalities, local organizations, and state and federal agencies in the County's 19 towns to encourage and support the integrity of land use practices and ensure environmental quality. For additional questions about the Conservation Districts 'Trees for Streams' program or any of the other available restoration programs, please contact Sarah Damsell at 802-334-6090 ext. 7008 or email [sarah.damsell@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:sarah.damsell@vt.nacdnet.net).

## Looking for a Vaccination Location?

The Vermont Department of Health's website — <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19> — provides you with the most up to date information, allows you to search for vaccination locations and offers a Frequently Asked Questions section.

# Keep an Eye Out for Spotted Lanternfly

By Emilie Inoue, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Originally from China, the spotted lanternfly (SLF) is a colorful, eye-catching invasive insect that was first detected in Pennsylvania in 2014. Despite aggressive efforts to contain SLF within PA, it has been established in eight other states including CT, NY, NJ, DE, MD, VA, WV and OH. The invasive tree of heaven is the preferred host plant of the pest when it is present but unfortunately, SLF also feeds on over 70 different plant species. Agricultural fruit crops such as grape, apple, cherry and peach are all susceptible to damage caused by spotted lanternfly. Economically valuable hardwood trees including maple, oak and walnut species are also at risk.

Egg masses are laid by adult spotted lanternflies during the late fall on virtually any flat vertical or horizontal surface (e.g. trees, cars, trailers, outdoor grills). Human aided movement has facilitated a faster and further spread of the insect than would otherwise be possible. Each egg mass contains 30-50 eggs and is covered in a mortar like, waxy gray coating and can be difficult to find. Gypsy moth egg masses may be mistaken for spotted lanternfly eggs because they are similarly indiscriminate in their choice of laying location. Both gypsy moth and spotted lanternfly are



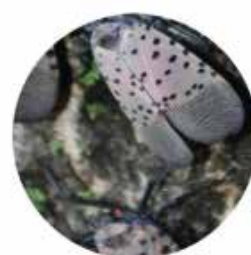
Eggs



Early Nymph



Late Nymph



Adult



invasive species so scraping off and squishing either type of egg mass helps to slow the spread of these invasive insects!

Adult spotted lanternflies are about 1" long. For a pest, they are quite remarkable-looking. Adults

have grey wings with black spots. When the spotted lanternfly's wings are spread, it exposes a bright red underwing. When they first emerge in May and June, the nymphs are black with bright white spots and are about the size of a pencil

eraser. The nymphs grow larger over the next several months and during their final stage before maturity, their body turns bright red with very distinctive black and white markings.

Here are things you can do to help us protect

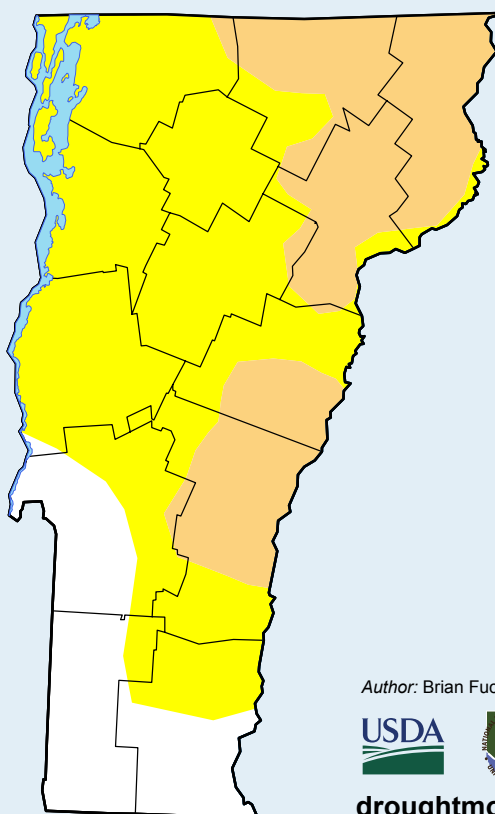
Vermont from Spotted Lanternfly:

- If you visit a known SLF infested area, inspect your vehicle carefully to make sure you aren't driving an egg mass into Vermont with you.
- Learn how to identify spotted lanternfly in its various life stages and how to distinguish its preferred host, tree-of-heaven or Ailanthus, from beneficial native species such as sumacs and black walnut.
- If you think you've found either spotted lanternfly or tree-of-heaven report it to [Vtinvasives.org](http://Vtinvasives.org) so we can follow up with you!

## Drought Early Warning Monitor

The U.S. Drought Monitor is a map released every Thursday, showing parts of the U.S. that are in drought. The map uses five classifications: abnormally dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought: moderate (D1), severe (D2), extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4). The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For the latest information about drought status, please visit [nedews.nrc.cornell.edu](http://nedews.nrc.cornell.edu)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Vermont



June 1, 2021

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	16.51	83.49	28.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 05-25-2021	16.51	83.49	28.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 03-02-2021	8.83	91.17	48.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12-29-2020	11.72	88.28	34.74	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-29-2020	0.00	100.00	76.65	29.39	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 06-02-2020	85.03	14.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



# Funding for Cover Crops, Manure Injection, and More!

By Nina Gage, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

The Agency's Farm Agronomic Practices (FAP) Program is now open for applications for conservation practices planned to be implemented July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Vermont farms continue to make huge strides in reducing phosphorus runoff. This program can provide financial assistance toward field practices that keep the momentum in agricultural water quality improvements moving forward!

The FAP program can provide funding for the following practices: conservation tillage (no-till), cover crop, crop to hay with or without a nurse crop, manure injection, and rotational grazing.

Applications that include

cover cropping are due August 1, 2021. For all other practices, apply at least 30 days prior to practice implementation.

For the FAP program the Agency will review applications in order of receipt. The Agency advises farmers to plan ahead as best as possible for implementation of agronomic practices, especially when seeking financial assistance. Please keep in mind that any applicant seeking assistance through FAP will be ineligible for financial assistance if the applicant is receiving financial compensation for an equivalent practice under another state or federal agreement.

Are you located in Missisquoi, Otter Creek, or South Lake Basin? Each of these watersheds require considerably more



Winter rye cover crop in the spring on a field in northern Vermont.

phosphorus reductions to meet state water quality goals. We want to support conservation practices such as manure injection and cover crops on your farm – so apply for FAP now or get in touch if you need

assistance!

For more information on the FAP program requirement and to apply go to [agriculture.vermont.gov/fap](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/fap). If you have specific questions about practice eligibility or how the FAP

program works, you can contact:

- Nina Gage: [Nina.Gage@vermont.gov](mailto:Nina.Gage@vermont.gov) or 802-622-4098
- Sonia Howlett: [Sonia.Howlett@vermont.gov](mailto:Sonia.Howlett@vermont.gov) or 802-522-4655

## Produce Safety Bite: Postharvest Water

*On-farm food safety tips for fruit & vegetable growers*

By Ollie Cultrara, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Produce safety means protecting fruits and vegetables from becoming contaminated with pathogens that can get people sick. Pathogens can spread easily through water, so it is important to understand the risks associated with postharvest water and to manage it safely.

Postharvest water includes water used for rinsing, cooling, packing, or icing harvested produce. It also includes water used for handwashing and cleaning food contact surfaces.

### Start with clean water

Use a lower-risk source, like a well or municipal system, for postharvest water. Never use surface water (like a pond or river). Test the water during the growing

season for generic *E. coli* bacteria, which can indicate possible fecal contamination. Postharvest water should contain no detectable *E. coli*.

### Understand cross-contamination risks

Sources of contamination could include pathogens on produce or debris from the field. Cross-contamination can happen when these pathogens transfer to other produce by spreading

through water. Single-pass water is less likely to cause cross-contamination than recirculated or batch water, like in a dunk tank.

### Consider sanitizers

Consider using an antimicrobial sanitizer registered for use in produce wash water. Sanitizers are not meant to “wash” or “sanitize” the produce itself. Rather, they help prevent cross-



Elizabeth Wood of New Leaf CSA in Dummerston, VT

*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.vvbga.org](http://www.vvbga.org)

## Reports From The Field

(Alburgh) Heavy frost the morning of May 29, badly burnt my 46-cultivar, 980-plant, tomato trial planting. Air was dead calm so there was radiational cooling. But the previous cold, windy week had hardened their growth, and I think they will survive. Planted within 200 yards of Lake Champlain's shoreline. So much for lake effect frost protection. Otherwise, I'm preparing to plant winter squashes.

This is dairy country, and the field corn is already 6" tall. We had an early spring but now a very late frost!

(S. Royalton) In 26 years I have never seen so many early CPB, and in such numbers. Tons of cuke beetles as well. Except for the dry-

ness (judging from the soil blowing off my tilled ground I'm farming in dust bowl Oklahoma) things are looking great. Few weeds germinating, garlic looks great, four cuts of overwintered spinach. River crazy low for this time of year, without a few good rains central Vermont could have a rough summer.

(Burlington) Slow start, quick start, which are we this year, it has seemed like both at different times. Ramping up for CSA pickups to begin in a week, holding off telling our members what Covid-19 practices to expect until the last possible minute, as things are changing so quickly. One of the silver linings for our 2020 CSA changes for Covid was a complete change in tables and flow, which we decided we liked much better. It reminds me how things that seem fixed in practice or space are worth evaluating periodically!

Tunnels and fields are off to a good start, particularly our indoor cukes. We frequently had a significant number of plants die during and shortly after transplanting into our unheated tunnel in early May. In the last couple of years, we've made more of an effort to flip the house from winter greens at least two weeks prior to planting, and close everything up to store up lots of heat for the cukes, which

seems to have helped reduce our early season plant losses.

(Westminster West) We came within 5 minutes of having our oldest greenhouse burn down Friday afternoon! In what seems a case of spontaneous combustion, a small pile of potting soil left outside heated up and ignited. The exhaust fans on the opposite side of the house was drawing the air and flames into the house quickly. I just happened to look up from the lower houses where I was working and saw thick smoke pouring out the exhaust fans. I ran up to see what was burning, thinking it was a motor or rubber belt smoldering and found the outside wall engulfed in flames! I ran to the barn and grabbed the fire extinguisher and smothered the flames, then the water hose to soak the wall, grabbed a shovel to pull away the burning pile. For those that don't know, the plastic covering a greenhouse is petroleum and will burn like crazy if ignited, as well as all the wood and plastic benches inside. Our insurance company required the installation of extinguishers around the farm years ago, that's what saved this from becoming a major uninsured loss! Be prepared for the unexpected!

We used the new potato planter we ordered from Poland, a one row unit. Very nice and much quicker than planting by hand. Been crazy cold, but had 2 days of rain and the pond is full again!

(Elmore) Never have seen it so dry the whole month of May. Plants are wilting, especially currant bushes with berries forming on them. Perennial plants in pots are suffering as are those in the ground. Our irri-

gation guy for fifteen years decided not to come back, so we are on a big learning curve to get our plants the water they need, as the temps go from 27 degrees one night to 88 degrees the next day. Grateful for the cooler weather this week as the fruit tree roots go deep to get more moisture. Blueberries look loaded but have unusual frost damage or drought damage on the green new growth, first time I have seen this. Many blossoms and lots of bumblebees around doing their spring pinball moves from bush to bush.

Some days I have the whole crew standing with hoses to keep plants watered. This is not smart but these are desperate times--we can either help our customers or help our plants, I am choosing the plants; if we don't the customers will have nothing.

We had Mike Feinman's team come to straighten our high tunnel and put new plastic on it. They did a very good job and we are back in business growing vegetables, fruits and seedlings in our hi tunnel that had not had much maintenance the last seven years. Never seen so many people out there growing their food, planting, excited about it—a home-grown revolution.

(Dummerston) It has been quite a season of weather extremes. But despite or even because of some this, the crops are doing well. The cold weather through early May allowed the spinach and other greens to hold up well in the high tunnel for my spring greens CSA program. In the recent heat-wave crops have taken off in the field. The strawberries have set fruit heavily with lots of

sun and irrigation and are just starting to show some color. CPB have arrived early and voles are eating some seedlings but these are our only pest problems so far.

## Vermont Vegetable Pest Scouting Reports Online

With funding from the VVBGA, the Vermont Entomology and Participatory Action Research Team (VEPART) is scouting for major vegetable insects and diseases weekly over the course of the growing season at UVM's Horticultural Research and Education Center. Their reports can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3c1JADh>

## MOFGA Vegetable Pest Reports

Caleb Goosen, maintaining the work established by his predecessor Eric Sideman, produces the Maine Organic Farmer and Gardener Pest Reports during the growing season. These updates describe emerging and common insects and diseases, and how to address them using organic practices. Sign up for the reports here or email [cgoossen@mofga.org](mailto:cgoossen@mofga.org)

## UMASS Vegetable Notes

The UMass vegetable team produces the *Vegetable Notes* newsletter which contains timely information on vegetable crop production and is published weekly during the growing season and occasionally in the off-season. They also use this mailing list to announce upcoming meetings and other opportunities. To subscribe, send the email address you'd like to subscribe to [umassveg@umass.edu](mailto:umassveg@umass.edu)



BUSINESS PLANNING  
BUSINESS VALUATION  
TRANSFERS & SUCCESSIONS  
TAX PLANNING & PREPARATION

LAND & FARM  
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

**B** BASSETTE  
Real Estate Group  
802-457-2244 (office)



KEVIN CHANNELL [Kevin@farmandforestservices.com](mailto:Kevin@farmandforestservices.com)  
802-249-7384 [www.farmandforestservices.com](http://www.farmandforestservices.com)

## CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad in *Agriview* sign up to be a paid subscriber — visit our website: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/administration/vaafm-news/agriview/advertising-agriview>

Email: [Ag.agriview@vermont.gov](mailto:Ag.agriview@vermont.gov), phone: 802-828-1619. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of each month for next month's issue. Example: January 1st deadline for February issue.

**Cattle**

2 Registered Guernsey cows: Certified A2A2, milking 75- 80lbs, both sired by Welcome JT – \$1200 each. 1 registered Guernsey bred heifer due late August A2A2 certified, sired by Latimer; dam is EX90 \$1500. 802-222-4047. (6)

22 Jersey cows 2 bred heifers. 4 fresh Jan, 2 Feb, 3 due Mar, 4 Apr, 1 May, 2 Jun. Can be reg. Feed grain hay pasture. 802-775-3846 (6)

3 breeding age bulls- one Hereford, 2 angus for breeding or beef. Asking \$850 each or will consider trading for Hereford heifers. 802-586-2857 (6)

Retirement sale: 26 crossbred organic cows, 4 are registered Jersey, rest are Jersey, Shorthorn, Ayrshire and Holstein mix. AI bred to Jersey or Swedish Red to calve in spring and summer. On November 10 still producing 45 lbs. on pasture and 10 lbs grain with 4.4% BF 3.3%P. BTSCC 150. \$45,000 for this very gentle group. Also available 8 well-grown crossbred heifers due in March \$10,000 (802)623-6584 (6)

High quality Organic Registered Holstein, Springing and bred heifers available. Call Spring Brook Farm 802 673-9061 / 673-3810 (6)

Cow-calf pairs, bred cows, open heifers. Mixed breeds, certified Organic, on pasture. Fair prices. 802-254-6982. (6)

Angus Bulls for sale. Greensboro, VT (802) 533-9804 (6)

Registered Ayrshire Cattle for sale, for more info contact Rachel [@rachelbefore@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbefore@gmail.com) or call 802-673-7649 (6)

**Equipment**

John Deer 440B Log Skidder for sale. \$10,000 Call Henry 802-276-3096 (6)

Riley stationary hoof trimming chute. Purchase new 2012. Lightly used and excellent shape. \$4500 OBO. 2012 Doda 780 separator with new screens for sale; excellent shape; used very little; \$20,000.00 OBO Bulk milk tanks for sale: (2) One is \$000 gallon Boumatic Dairy Kool, excellent condition-\$24,000.00. OBO. The other is 1500-gallon DEC, also excellent condition-\$8000.00. Double 10 Boumatic parlor for sale: reel, front exit with ATO and meters; auto ID and sort gate; excellent shape-\$30,000.00 OBO. Call 802-533-2984 (6)

JD 350 Dozer. New treads, many new undercarriage parts. Winch. Runs well. \$15,000. Thistle Hill Farm [info@ThistleHillFarm.com](mailto:info@ThistleHillFarm.com) or 802-457-9349 (6)

3 point hitch fertilizer spreader 500# works well 350.00. 802 384 3553 and [wallysdomesticzoo@gmail.com](mailto:wallysdomesticzoo@gmail.com) (6)

25,000 Winco PTO Generator on wheels. New Holland 518, 519 Manure spreader. 254 white Harrows 10 ft good shape. 3 Furrow plows – Sweden. 2 Furrow plows. 11-ton Brock Grain bin. 30 ft Hay elevator – red. 802-624-0143/802-895-4683 (6)

IH 843 Combine Cornhead; IH 7ft windrow head for 881

Gehl 350 spreader; 5 ton and 25-ton grain bins; Case 580 backhoe for parts; Case 850 drive sprockets; 85,000 BTU wood coal furnace. Call 802-770-0959 (6)

65-gallon Dutch-made vat pasteurizer with Anderson chart recorder, \$20,000. 15-gallon Jaybee vat pasteurizer, \$6,000. Both work well and are state-approved, but we've outgrown them. (6)

Tandem axle trailer, 7 X 14, new bed. \$600.00 tel. 802-226-7653. (6)

New Holland 7320 two years old \$18,000.00 call Dave at 1-802-779-5543. Kuhn real Augie 142 helix. \$25,000.00 call Dave 1-802-779-5543. Any questions please call Janet Messier 802-522-3402. (6)

**Equine**

Icelandic Walking horse cross. He is 14 hh 2 years old gelded and UTD on shots trims and worming and coggins and is an easy keeper. He is a beautiful yellow dun with striping. He will be sturdy and medium sized. He can trot and is also gaited. He needs knowledgeable home and trainer. He is not spooky and very friendly and polite. 900 B.O. 802 384 3553 and [wallysdomesticzoo@gmail.com](mailto:wallysdomesticzoo@gmail.com) (6)

**Farm & Farmland**

For Lease: 10 acres of organic meadow in Brandon, currently in alfalfa. Producing roughly 12-15 tons per year in dry hay. Three-year lease available, price negotiable, but approximately \$600/yr 802-247-8459 (6)



Private Horse Farm. 17 + acres. Covered small arena. Large sand ring. Insulated stable with 3 oversize stalls, attached paddocks, feed/tack room, hay storage, grass pastures with board fencing. Vermont country open concept farmhouse. 3 bedrooms, office, sunroom. Solar, cell phone reception, internet. Workshop, chicken house, orchard, stream trails, woods, views. Close to Dartmouth College and DH Medical Center. Equipment and supplies extra. \$549,999. Call 802-785-4410. (6)

Opportunity for Barn Lease in Williston Summer 2020: Well-maintained farm residence with equine barn, stalls, and pasture for up to four animals. Call Robin at 802-434-2788 for details (6)

**General**

Shelburne/ 5-gallon pails with handles. \$.75 each. Negotiable for volume purchase. 802-999-4644.

+/-230ft / 2inch / 46 Stalls stainless steel milk line including vacuum line, wash sink, 3 units, control box, and receiver jar is \$2500. \$4000 with vacuum pump. Call (802) 446-2791 Wallingford. Ask for Jerry. (6)

**Hay, Feed & Forage**

Good quality certified organic Haylage stored in Ag Bags and large round bales 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cut. Delivery available. 802-988-2959 or 802-274-2832

Quality Canadian hay for sale, big/small squares wrapped, or unwrapped, round bales wrapped or unwrapped, 1st, 2nd, 3rd cuts available. Switch grass and straw available, call Richard at 802-323-3275

2019 1st cut Timothy and clover hay \$ 5.00 a bale plus delivery fee. Call 603-256-8422

1000 tons corn silage, processed in Colchester. 50 @ ton 802-272-3478

or 802-223-1370 or email [sethgardner@hotmail.com](mailto:sethgardner@hotmail.com)

Excellent quality first cut wrapped round bales; baleage. Shelburne VT Call Andy 802-598-6060. Analysis available upon request.

2019 1st Cut 4X4 Wrapped Round Bales for Sale \$40/Bale, 2019 2nd Cut 4x4 Wrapped Round Bales for Sale \$45/Bale, South Pomfret, call Tom at 802-457-5834

Organic haylage 12% protein \$45 per ton, 15% protein \$55 per ton. 802-537-2435

4x4 round balage mixed grains cut late June. \$30 802-325-3707

1st cut 4x5 round bales. Don Pettis, 802-265-4566.

1st, 2nd & 3rd cut haylage and corn silage for sale at the bunk. Call Peter Gebbie 802-533-2984, leave a message.

June 15th cut mixed Hay, great quality, Will Load, 4' X 4' Round Bales, \$40/bale, quantity discount/cash prices available. Westford, 802-355-2930

Certified Organic First Cut Wrapped Round Bales for sale. Clover, Timothy and mixed grasses. Test samples and delivery available. Call Matt 802-558-3879.

Vetch & rye seeds for sale, mixed in 50 lb. bags, \$1/lb. certified by Vermont Organic Farmers. Thornhill Farm, 198 Taylor Road, Greensboro Bend, VT 05842, [todd@thornhillfarmvermont.com](mailto:todd@thornhillfarmvermont.com), 802.441.3176

**ADDISON COUNTY**

1st cut 4x5 round bales never wet. Good horse & cow hay. 802-948-2627 or 802-558-0166

Certified organic, small square bales always stacked and stored under cover, 35-40lbs/bale. \$4/bale, discounts available for large quantities. 802-989-0781 for inquiries.

## CLASSIFIEDS

Hay for Sale in Addison, VT.  
Large square bales and small squares. \$50-60 for Large, \$3.50-4.50 for Small. Delivery Available. Call Jack 802-989-8968

Hay for sale. \$3.25 bale. 802-377-5455

1st cut 5ft diameter round bales. \$30-\$35 Orwell 802-948-2211

Straw for sale - \$7/bale for 50 or more. \$8/bale for less than 50, \$6/bale for all in the barn, approx. 350. from our winter rye harvest in August. certified organic. Thornhill Farm, Greensboro Bend, 05842, todd@thornhillfarmvermont.com, 802.441.3176

Hay for Sale, Cows have been sold. 750 Lb 4X5 round bales stored inside or tube wrapped.

Bedding/Mulch \$35 Heifer/ Beef \$40 Dairy \$55 I will load your truck. In Whiting Call 802-623-6584

**BENNINGTON COUNTY**  
Corn Silage 1000 ton plus. Haylage 500 ton plus. Round bales 4x4. Square bales small. 802-394-2976

**CALEDONIA COUNTY**  
Square baled hay- Top quality, VOF certified organic, generous sized. 1st cut \$4.50/bale, 2nd cut \$5.50/bale at the barn in Barnet. 802-592-3088

**CHITTENDEN COUNTY**  
Round bales for horses. Clean first cut timothy mixed grass, quality net wrapped 4' X 5' bales. Never wet. \$45. each. 802- 879-0391 Westford.

15 large 5x5 round bales mixed grass w/some timothy + clover 800+lbs \$50 ea. call 899-4126

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**  
Good Quality Hay 1c & 2c from western US & Canada. Alfalfa orchard & orchard sweet grass 18 to 20% plus protein large bales & organic by trailer loads. Large or small square bales of straw whole or processed at farm



we load on direct delivery by trailer load. Mountain View Dairy Farm 802-849-6266 (6)

**LAMOILLE COUNTY**

Organic baled straw. \$5.50/bale. Certified organic. Valley Dream Farm, Cambridge, Vt. 802-644-6598 or valleydream@myfairpoint.net.

**ORANGE COUNTY**

2019 first cut square hay bales for sale. \$4.00 per bale. Delivery available. Bonnie Kennedy, Chelsea, VT. 802-685-2292.

Approximately 375 ton of high-quality grass and clover first and second cut, cut extremely early in 2018. First finished May 22, second finished July 2nd. Tests high in energy and protein. 45% harvested "hay in a day" \$50 per ton. Chris 802-522-9485

**ORLEANS COUNTY**

Pure alfalfa for sale and also 1st, 2nd and 3rd cut big/small squares, round bales, wrapped or unwrapped, straw and switch grass. Call Richard at 802-323-3275.

**Vermont Fairs & Field Days**

Please visit [vtfairs.com](http://vtfairs.com) to get the most up-to-date information as to the status of our favorite Vermont fairs and field days!

Organic Certified Silage for Sale: We will deliver from our farm or you can come and pick up. Call for prices and delivery charge. 1-802-744-2444 or 802-274-4934 or 802-744-6553.

**RUTLAND COUNTY**

Good quality 1st and 2nd round bales available, wrapped and dried. Please call 802-446-2435.

**WINDHAM COUNTY**

2020 4X4 wrapped baleage. June cut. Certified organic, never wet. 802-254-6982

1st cut hay. Good horse hay. \$4.50 bale 802-254-5069

**WINDSOR COUNTY**

Hay for sale-400 square bales, Reading, Windsor County Vt. \$3.50 per bale at the barn. Call 802-484-7240

4x5 dry round bales \$45.00 delivery available. 802-457-1376

Rolling Meadows Farm: square bales in the field or barn \$4.00. Delivery can be arranged at \$5.50. Very nice hay from fertilized fields in the South Woodstock and Reading area. Call 802-484-5540 or goodfarmvt@gmail.com. Ask for David.

1st. cut dry round bales for sale. Never been rained on, stored under cover. \$50. @ 1st. cut haylage bales for sale. \$45. Rte. 5 Weathersfield Bow 802 -546-4340.

Dry Round Horse Hay, \$50/ Bale. 200 Bales left. Call 802-356-5030.

**Sheep**

A pure bred (w/papers) Romney Ram 3 years old, 1 pure bred (w/papers) Shetland ram for sale. 4 icelandic/romney ewes for sale various ages/colors (certified organic) 422 4704 leave message. (6)

Buying Lambs- 40 lb and up & 1.75/ lb live weight. Call 802-674-2417. Pick up available (6)

**Wanted**

Dairy Grazing Apprentice, currently on the Corse Farm, graduating in September 2021 looking for placement on a farm that has at least a potential organic market in the future. Ideally 50 to 80 cows with adequate grazing land and a farmer, without a successor, interested in a

gradual transition to a new farmer. MacKenzie Wallace mackenzierwallace2@gmail.com or Home Number 802-368-2230 or Cell Number 603-289-4790 between 12:30 -1:30 PM or 6:30 -8 PM (6)

F350 or 450 flatbed dump. Dutch belt heifer calf and black white face bull calf. 603-336-0017 (6)

Looking for several 4 spoked 4 ft. diameter pin wheels for an old Farmhand rake. The 90-degree rod hole holding the pin wheel on is 21/4 inches in diameter. Call 802-457-2218 (6)

4-6 Galvanized stock tanks. 10 barrel or so in size. Don't need to hold water just needs to hold dirt. Little bit of rust is ok but not a lot. Willing to pay some based on condition. Call Troy at 802-356-9082. (6)

**Gypsy Moths**

*continued from page 1*

When caterpillars crawl up the trunk, they will get stuck and die. If you use this method, a piece of chicken wire or plastic covering should also be used to prevent wildlife such as birds or small mammals from getting stuck on the bands.

**Other control:**

- The most commonly recommended pesticide treatments contain the bacteria, *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk). Btk is applied to foliage where gypsy moth larvae will consume it and are then killed. This strain of bacteria is specific to moth larvae, and its toxic properties get activated when it interacts with particular enzymes in the caterpillar's digestive tract. Here are a few additional

caterpillar control resources that you may find helpful:

- <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/gypsymothinwisconsin/pest-management-2/management-guide-for-homeowners/>
- <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/gypsymothinwisconsin/making-a-burlap-barrier-band-trap/>
- <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/gypsymothinwisconsin/making-a-sticky-barrier-band/>



## Nuisance Bears: A Fed Bear is a Dead Bear

People often encourage bears to come out of the forest by providing food without realizing it. When bears become used to these food sources and have frequent contact with humans they are often considered “nuisance bears.” This is bad news for the bears. Relocating a nuisance bear is nearly impossible and frequently they must be killed.

The most common sources of food that attract bears are pet food, bird feeders, barbecues, garbage, trash containers, open dumpsters, and campsites with accessible food and food wastes.

Purposely feeding a bear is not just bad for the bear, it’s also illegal.

If you see a bear in a resi-

dential area or you encounter an aggressive bear, please contact the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.

### Protecting Your Home and Property

Vermonters must take reasonable measures to protect their property from bears before lethal force can be taken. Some of these measures include:

- Keep chickens and honeybees secure within an electric fence or other bear-proof enclosure.
- Never feed bears, deliberately or accidentally.
- Feed your pets indoors.
- Feed birds from December to March only.
- Store trash in a secure place. Trash cans alone are

not enough!

The Fish & Wildlife Department will not reimburse claimants for bear damage to livestock, fruit, or bees. Farmers will be reimbursed as long as their land is not posted against hunting.

Persons suffering bear damage should contact the nearest Vermont Fish & Wildlife office or local state game warden prior to taking any control action on their own. Fish & Wildlife personnel will recommend appropriate measures or control strategies that can lessen the problem.

It is your responsibility to avoid attracting bears. Bears are wild animals that belong in their natural habitat—the forest.

### Produce Safety Bite

*continued from page 9*

contamination by reducing the concentration of active microbes in the water. A variety of sanitizers are available, including organic options. Each product’s label outlines the legal and effective treatments for the intended use. Many growers find that sanitizers also improve quality and shelf-life by reducing microbes that cause spoilage and decay.

### Manage water quality

Whether or not you use a sanitizer, it is important to manage the quality of postharvest water throughout its use. Minimize build-up of organic material and microbes in wash water. Monitor variables like turbidity (cloudiness) and sanitizer concentration. Maintain safe water quality by changing out water on

a schedule or adjusting sanitizer concentration.

### Next steps

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) sets a standard for preventing contamination from agricultural water. Whether or not your farm is subject to the PSR requirements, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Produce Program and UVM Extension can provide assistance with postharvest systems, water testing, and sanitizers. Contact the Vermont Produce Program at [AGR.FSMA@vermont.gov](mailto:AGR.FSMA@vermont.gov), (802) 461-5128 or the UVM Extension Produce Safety Team at [producesafety@uvm.edu](mailto:producesafety@uvm.edu)

For more information, visit [agriculture.vermont.gov/produceprogram](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/produceprogram)

## Subscribe to Field Notes!

*A quarterly newsletter from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets’ Food Safety and Consumer Protection Division*

If you eat food or purchase commodities at retail in Vermont, you will benefit from quarterly updates from the Agency’s Food Safety and Consumer Protection Division, comprising the Dairy, Animal Health, Meat Inspection, Weights and Measures, and Agricultural Products Sections. Get a glimpse into how this specialized team ensures safe food and fair markets for all Vermonters! To subscribe, visit here: <https://mailchi.mp/f26e9073062e/07qpkd3niy>

## New Grants Calendar Available

The Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets is pleased to be able to help you more easily identify upcoming grant opportunities. Please go to <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/grants/calendar> for more information.

### Programs Open Year-Round

**Farmstead Best Management Practices (BMP) Program**  
Technical and financial assistance for engineered conservation practices on Vermont farms.

*Jenn LaValley*  
[Jenn.LaValley@vermont.gov](mailto:Jenn.LaValley@vermont.gov)  
(802) 828-2431

### Pasture And Surface Water Fencing (PSWF) Program

Technical and financial assistance for pasture management and livestock exclusion from surface water on Vermont farms

*Kaitlin Hayes*  
[Kaitlin.Hayes@vermont.gov](mailto:Kaitlin.Hayes@vermont.gov)  
(802) 622-4112

### Grassed Waterway and Filter Strip (GWFS) Program

Technical and financial assistance for implementing buffers and seeding down critical areas on VT farms

*Sonia Howlett*  
[Sonia.Howlett@vermont.gov](mailto:Sonia.Howlett@vermont.gov)  
(802) 522-4655

### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Implementation costs of vegetated buffers and rental payments for maintained buffers on Vermont agricultural land

*Ben Gabos*  
[Ben.Gabos@Vermont.gov](mailto:Ben.Gabos@Vermont.gov)  
(802) 461-3814

*Phil Wilson*  
[Phillip.Wilson@vermont.gov](mailto:Phillip.Wilson@vermont.gov)  
(802) 505-5378

### August

#### Dairy Food Safety Certification Grant

Grant funding to support food safety improvements including technical assistance, audits, plan writing, and infrastructure upgrades

*Kathryn Donovan*  
[Kathryn.Donovan@vermont.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Donovan@vermont.gov)  
(802) 585-4571

### Fall 2021 (Biennial) Agricultural Clean Water Initiative Program

Grants for water quality initiatives by supporting farmers with education and outreach, technical assistance, identifying and implementing best management practices, planning, and more

*Nina Gage*  
[Nina.Gage@vermont.gov](mailto:Nina.Gage@vermont.gov)  
(802) 622-4098

### September

#### Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP)

Purchase of innovative farm equipment that aids in the reduction of runoff

*Nina Gage*  
[Nina.Gage@vermont.gov](mailto:Nina.Gage@vermont.gov)  
(802) 622-4098

### September/October

#### Working Lands Enterprise Fund Business Grants

Grants to support agriculture and forestry projects

*Lynn Ellen Schimoler*  
[Working.Lands@vermont.gov](mailto:Working.Lands@vermont.gov)  
(802) 585-9072

### September/October Working Lands Enterprise Fund Service Provider Grants & Contracts

For service providers that support agriculture and forestry businesses

*Lynn Ellen Schimoler*  
[Working.Lands@vermont.gov](mailto:Working.Lands@vermont.gov)  
(802) 585-9072

# Waterwise Vegetable Gardening

By Nadie VanZandt, UVM Extension Master Gardener

Conserving water is always a good idea, and if the dry weather of the last two summers is any indication, such practice should become habit.

Fortunately, you can learn from gardeners in dry climates how to successfully grow plants during droughts. These tried-and-true sustainable practices protect and insulate your plants to yield a bumper crop.

A healthy soil amended with compost is your first defense against drought. Besides nourishing your plants, compost enables water retention. You can work the compost into the soil around established plants.

A good second defense is to adopt companion planting, the practice of growing plants together that physically and chemically complement each other. This improves productivity, discourages diseases and pests and maintains a healthy

soil.

The best-known example of companion planting is the clever use of corn, pole beans and winter squash by Native Americans. They called this trio the Three Sisters, and it has many benefits.

The corn stalks support the pole beans, which in turn, fixate the nitrogen in the air to the soil. The large squash leaves shade the soil and act as mulch while their prickly edges discourage weeds and pests.

When using companion planting, consider spacing plants so their leaves barely touch when full-grown. This keeps the soil surface cool.

A third defense against drought is to use hydrozoning, the method of grouping plants with similar watering needs to conserve water. For example, deep-rooted vegetables, such as asparagus and tomato, should be placed together to benefit from deep, but less frequent, watering.

Similarly, shallow-rooted plants, such as strawberries and bush beans, planted



together benefit from shallow, but frequent, watering.

Even sun lovers appreciate a little shade. In an established garden you can spread a shade cloth over vulnerable plants. Some gardeners even use patio umbrellas.

Heavy mulching is another way to keep the soil moist and cool. About two or three inches of organic mulch such as straw or grass clippings will do the trick. Avoid hay as it may contain weed seeds.

Most importantly, water wisely and with the right tools. Water early in the morning before the heat of the day. Avoid overhead sprinklers because most of the water is wasted through

evaporation.

Targeting the base of the plants saves water and prevents fungal diseases. A simple watering wand attached to your hose will do the job. Less frequent and deep watering will benefit deep-rooted plants, such as tomatoes, pumpkins, parsnips, artichokes and watermelon.

To make a deep-root irrigator you can use a simple PVC pipe. Cut a two-inch-diameter PVC pipe in two-foot lengths. Starting eight inches from one end, drill one-quarter-inch holes every two inches along the rest of the pipe for drainage.

Cover the pipe with a piece of open-weave shade cloth tied securely to one end of the pipe with a plastic tie. The shade cloth prevents debris and rodents from entering the pipe.

Dig a hole next to the plant and bury the pipe, open end down, with the holes facing the plant. For easy access, leave three to four inches of pipe above ground. Place your hose over the shade cloth to water the deep roots through the pipe. For plants with shallower roots, use soaker hoses.

Reduce watering after the plants are established and resume when flowering and fruit setting begins.

Finally, control weeds to ensure your plants do not compete for nutrients and water. Make a ritual of removing weeds before they flower and make seeds.

Waterwise practices make sense in a changing climate. With a few changes, you can still reap a bountiful harvest, protect a precious resource and save money in the process.

## Save the Date!

### Vermont Open Farm Week: August 8th - 15th, 2021

Do you love local food and farms? Want to get to know your farmers and get a behind-the-scenes look into Vermont's vibrant working agricultural landscape? During Open Farm Week, you can meet the farmers, plants, and animals that bring your favorite high-quality Vermont products to your plate.

Stay tuned for the full schedule of events or visit <https://diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021> for more information. Save the date & spread the word!



## Agency Contact Numbers

To help you find the right number for your question, please consult the list below. You are always welcome to call our main line 802-828-2430. We will do our best to route you to person most able to answer your question quickly and accurately.

### Program Phone Numbers

Act 250	828-2431
Animal Health	828-2421
Business Development	828-1619
Dairy	828-2433
Enforcement: Water Quality or Pesticide	828-2431
Feed, Seed, Fertilizer & Lime	828-5050
Licensing & Registration	828-2436
Meat Inspection	828-2426
Produce Program	461-5128
Vermont Agriculture & Environmental Lab	585-6073
Water Quality BMP	828-3474
Water Quality Grants	622-4098
Water Quality Reports	272-0323
Weights & Measures	828-2433
Working Lands	622-4477

# Goat and Sheep Dairy Supply Chain Grant

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) will release the Goat and Sheep Dairy Supply Chain Grant program's request for proposal on June 22. This grant will provide funding for New England dairy farmers, processors, and/or producer associations to improve the goat/sheep dairy supply chain. Projects funded by this grant will develop or expand goat and/or sheep dairy products or markets that will positively impact multiple businesses within the goat and/or

sheep dairy supply chain. Projects will increase the exposure and promotion of regionally produced dairy products through supply chain impacts. Funded projects will increase consumer awareness of products, develop market channels and distribution opportunities to increase product placement, support innovative strategies to increase consumption, and/or increase business revenues. Project activities under these grants will



demonstrate how the market or product the applicant is developing or expanding will positively impact multiple

businesses within its own supply chain. Projects must benefit the applicant and additional enterprises, either directly or indirectly, which could include: leveraging supply chain partnerships, business diversification, research and development, or operations improvement. Priority will

go to projects that will have direct impact on the ability of goat/sheep producers and processors to sell product. Grants will range from \$20,000 - \$50,000 with a 25% match commitment. Application period is July 8 - August 19. Learn more about this grant at: <https://bit.ly/3wvBeLS>. For more information about NE-DBIC grants, contact [kathryn.donovan@vermont.gov](mailto:kathryn.donovan@vermont.gov) or 802-585-4571.

## Apiary Update

By Brooke Decker, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

The 2021 Beekeeping season is taking off swarmingly. Bloom reports from around Vermont, state the dandelion, apple, and honeysuckle bloom as stellar this year. Beekeepers are hoping the Locust and Basswood tree blooms will follow suit. These pollinator friendly plants provide great resources of nectar which can provide a substantial and delicious honey crop.

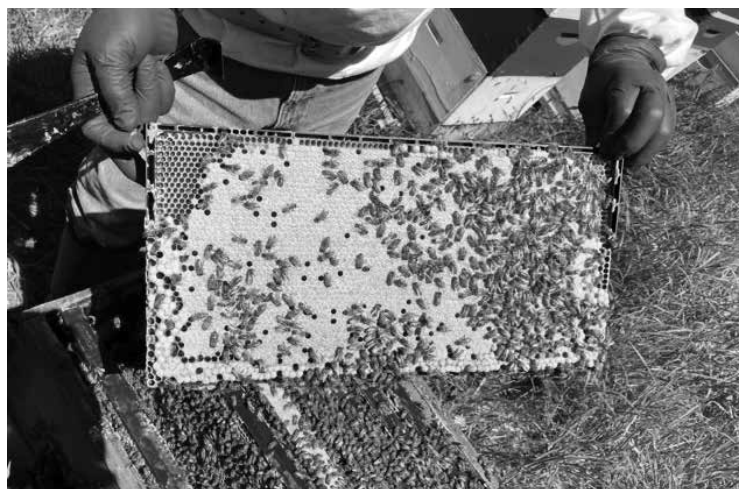
This heavy nectar flow, combined with other environmental factors are contributing to numerous reports of swarming honeybee colonies. Beekeepers should be sure to super their hives early and check their colonies frequently to prevent swarming.

Before those heavy supers get stacked too high, apiarists should be sure to perform the recommended monthly Varroa mite counts throughout the year is a key component of successful beekeeping. A low mite

count threshold is less than 3-5% infestation. Using the recommended alcohol wash sampling method, a half-cup of bees (approx. 300 bees) should result in fewer than 15 mites per sample. Samples over the infestation threshold are considered high risk of disease and require mitigation measures to be taken.

### Spring 2021 Report from the Field:

- Total number of spring nucleus colonies sold in VT: 2,707
- Number of packaged bees sold/imported into VT: 882
- Number of VT overwintered nucleus colonies intended for sale: 214
- Number of spring nucleus colony inspections: 687
- Number of 2021 hive inspections (as of June 1): 725
- Honeybee imports, states-of-origin: NY, NH, MA, ME, MS, SC, GA, FL, CA, PA, LA



### For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Jericho Market #10821, of Jericho, Vermont to package cheese 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 August 15, 2021.

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.

Vermont Farm Bureau is a grassroots not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to supporting Vermont farm families, agriculture and forestry.

We advocate for public policies that strengthen and grow our agricultural economy and conserve our natural resources.

[www.vtfb.org](http://www.vtfb.org)



# #Farm24VT Was Amazing!

By John Roberts and Amy Richardson, #FarmVT24 organizers

Starting at 5:00 a.m. on May 12, 100 Vermont farmers, food producers, and agribusinesses took to social media to share photos, videos, and stories as part of #Farm24VT. Their goal? To give Vermonters and residents throughout the region a behind-the-scenes look at where our food comes from. By the end of the event twenty-four hours later, more than 150,000 people had tuned in from home, work, and school.

#Farm24VT is a collaboration of the Champlain Valley Farmer Coalition (CVFC) and the Connecticut River Watershed Farmers Alliance (CRWFA) with the help of a grant from Vermont Breakfast on the Farm. As the event organizers, we wanted to promote the work that our farmers do in their daily lives to get food, dairy, fiber, and the full range of farm products to consumers.

#Farm24VT was inspired by a similar social media-based event held throughout the United Kingdom, highlighting and celebrating the essential role of agriculture and its connections to consumers. Representatives from both CVFC and CRWFA felt strongly that we could organize a similar event with a Vermont twist. Collaborating on



participants and attendees alike has been overwhelmingly positive. Post-event surveys reveal that #Farm24VT improved attendees' attitudes toward farming, in general, and dairy farming, in particular. Our event even changed the minds of some folks who were not so keen on agriculture!

Now we look forward to planning next year's #Farm24VT, with lots of ideas for improving and expanding it. To learn more, visit us on the web at [www.farm24vt.com](http://www.farm24vt.com), search for the #Farm24VT hashtag on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, or follow us @farm24vt.

it would be even more rewarding as a way to bring farmers together with friends, neighbors, and new acquaintances who appreciate food and farming within Vermont and beyond.

The response that we have received from

VERMONT

# BEEF

INDUSTRY COUNCIL

## DID YOU KNOW?

Every time you sell live cattle of any age, breed, purpose or number directly to another person, you are responsible for making sure that the \$1-per-head beef checkoff assessment is sent to the Vermont Beef Industry Council.

Visit us at [vtbic.org](http://vtbic.org)

## Vermont Beef Producers Association

Educating producers  
Building cattle markets  
Supporting Vermont's beef industry  
Representing members statewide



**Vermont Economic Development Authority**  
Financing for Vermont Farms, Diversified Agriculture and Forest Product Businesses

[www.veda.org](http://www.veda.org) | (802) 828-5627