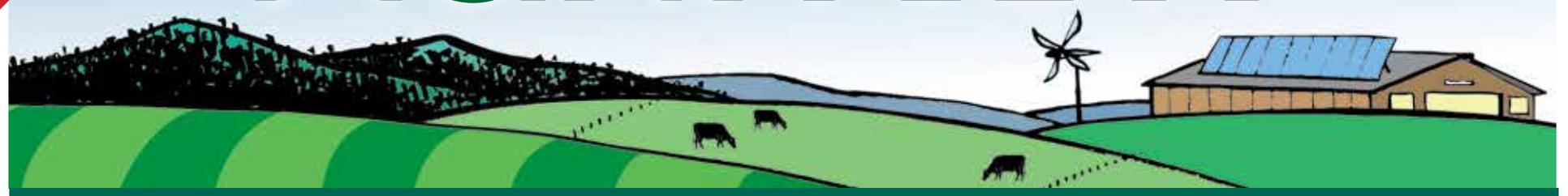


Special  
Energy Issue

January 23, 2015 • Vol. 79, Number 1

# AGRIVIEW



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## Vermont Farmers Embrace Renewable Energy Solutions

By Alison Kosakowski,  
VAAFAM

Vermont farmers are increasingly embracing new technologies to become more efficient and sustainable. In this special energy issue, we explore some of the issues and opportunities these new technologies present.

Farmers are increasingly seeking ways to conserve, and create, energy on their farms.

Methane digesters, for example, are turning manure into renewable energy. At last count, there were 16 operational digesters in the state, generating 18,000 MWh of “cow power” in 2013, with a retail value of more than \$2 million. Interest in wind and solar energy also continues to grow.



Aegis Renewable Energy

Vermont farmers have explored a lot of energy options over the years. The 572 solar panels, here shown almost fully installed on the new barn at Ayers Brook Goat Dairy in Randolph, use the one-third-acre south-facing roof, mounted on a frame designed by Aegis Renewable Energy. The image was captured using a remote-controlled helicopter. The solar panels power the barn, the farmstead, with excess power going to Vermont Creamery.

Farms are also adopting energy-efficient technologies to conserve resources and improve their operations, from LED lighting, to energy-efficient fans, to variable speed milk pumps, and more.

Efficiency Vermont (featured on page 4) is providing technical assistance and financial incentives for farm businesses interested in saving energy.

Agriculture is an integral part of

Vermont’s economy, landscape, and way of life. New technologies and innovations are offering farmers a chance to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels, and improve their bottom line.

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## AGRIVIEW

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## THE VIEW FROM 116 STATE STREET

In this issue of *Agriview*, we share viewpoints from a variety of the state's Ag Energy thought-leaders. Renewable energy and sustainability have been an area of personal interest throughout my career in public service, and so it is particularly gratifying to see the Ag sector embrace these new technologies.

The variety of perspectives presented in this issue reflect the diverse experiences and opinions of those engaged in energy work across the

industry. The issues are complex and nuanced, but one thing is clear. We all must work together to address the energy challenges facing our communities. We owe it to future generations to invest in renewable energy solutions, and explore opportunities to live more sustainably and efficiently.

*Charles R. Ross*

## New Agency Staffer Will Focus on FSMA Implementation

By Abbey Willard, VAAFM

**K**ristina Sweet recently joined the Agency of Agriculture, Food

& Markets as the Produce Safety Program Development Coordinator. This position will focus on outreach to Vermont produce farmers to assess potential impacts of Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)



Kristina Sweet

implementation, providing education and technical assistance for farmers preparing for changes to the produce safety landscape, and the possible development of a statewide produce safety program. The twin goals of this position are helping producers to access new markets and protecting public health.

Kristina comes to the Agency from the Attorney General's Office, where she conducted outreach,

research, and analysis for Act 120 rulemaking. (Act 120 is commonly known as Vermont's genetically engineered food labeling law.) Previously, she worked in the natural foods and restaurant industries in Burlington, Chicago, and New York City. In New York, her position as a Greenmarket farmers' market manager in upper Manhattan and the Bronx influenced her decision to return to Vermont for graduate school and the opportunity to work more closely with farmers and producers in her home state.

Kristina is a M.S. Candidate in Food Systems at the University of Vermont, where her thesis research centers on the Mad River Valley, and resides in Burlington.

Kristina's contact information is [kristina.sweet@state.vt.us](mailto:kristina.sweet@state.vt.us) or 802.522.7811

## Editor's Note

**T**he Vermont Farm Show returns to the Champlain Valley Expo Jan. 27, 28, 29. If you are reading this, and have not made plans to attend, I suggest you promptly clear your schedule! For farmers, food and animal lovers, Ag partners, and those engaged in the food system, it is a must-attend event. With exhibits, tastings, association meetings, and plenty of opportunities to catch up with farming friends, it's a tried-and-true way to beat the winter blues! Be sure to stop by Consumer Night, on Wednesday evening, to browse the wares from local producers at the Buy Local Market, and cheer on your favorite team in the local food cooking contest. Hope to see you there!

Also, a special thanks to Alex DePillis, the Agency of Ag Energy Expert, for envisioning this special issue and rolling up his sleeves to put it together! Readers, we hope you find this discussion of farm energy issues interesting and informative.

— Alison Kosakowski

Follow VAAFM on Twitter @VTAgencyofAg and follow me @VTFarmGirl

## AGRIVIEW

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**CHUCK ROSS**  
Secretary of Agriculture  
**ALISON KOSAKOWSKI**  
Editor

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# Manure Digesters: Opportunities, Trends, and Challenges

By Alex DePillis, Senior Agricultural Development Coordinator, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Back in the April, 2013 issue of Agriview, we described Vermont's fleet of manure digesters, and checked some of predictions that we made back in 1999. This time, we dig into the trends, economics, and challenges.

The cost of installing a digester continues to present obstacles for Vermont farmers. When we surveyed 171 farmers (and heard back from 110), 75% of those with 500 or fewer cows said overall cost effectiveness was a "great concern," and for larger farms, 55% said it was a "great concern." Eighty-three percent were mainly concerned about upfront costs and the operations and maintenance.

On that note, one trend is that farmers and their digester vendors are maintaining the existing systems. Joneslan Farm, which has one of Vermont's two small digesters (installed 2012), has had their digester re-designed and overhauled. Montagne Farm



The digester and bedding storage building at Joneslan Farm in Hyde Park. The insulated, in-ground digester is 72 feet in diameter and holds about 250,000 gallons of manure, large enough to hold three weeks of manure from the farm's 220 cows. (Photo courtesy of UEM Group)

went through an ownership change, and emptied their digester (originally installed in 2007), refilled it, and recommissioned it.

Another trend is corrosion and fouling from hydrogen sulfide in the biogas, which is an issue nationwide. We've looked at a lot of solutions, trialed one at Monument Farms (digester installed 2011), and, with help from Green Mountain Power's Cow Power program and the Renewable Development Fund of the Public Service Department,

we have engaged with a team of University of Vermont students to devise an appropriate system for Vermont's farm digester projects.

This fall, the Public Service Board, which regulates the electricity aspects of farm methane projects, asked for suggestions on what electricity rate any new farm methane project should receive. The Agency of Agriculture and the Public Service Department convened a team to research

actual operating costs and equipment costs. Because a larger digester can produce electricity at a lower cost than a smaller project, the team calculated that smaller projects would have to get a higher payment rate in order to achieve the same 9.6% rate of return. The idea of a new, separate rate for smaller digester projects is important because so much of Vermont's potential is on farms with fewer than 500 cows – more than half of the cows are on such farms.

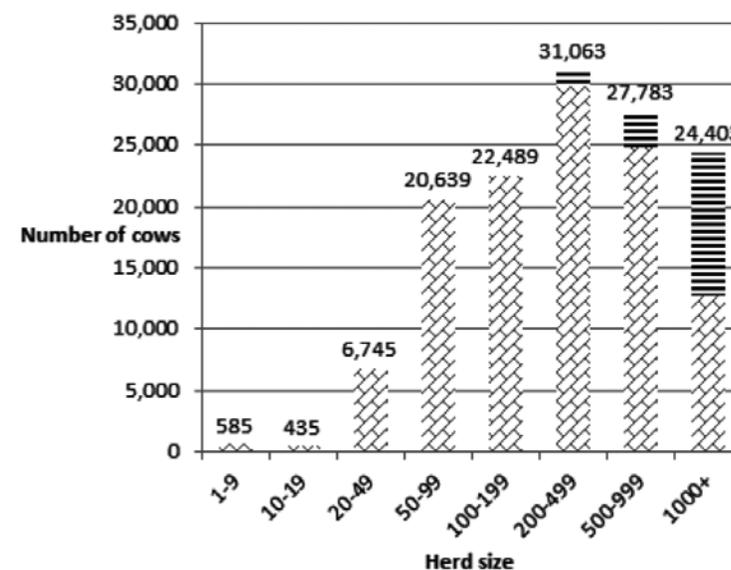
The Agency of Ag has partnered with vendors, consultants, and the Agency of Natural Resources to deal with Vermont's potential new feedstock for farm digesters: food waste that will no longer be allowed in landfills. With funds from the Public Service Department, two pilot projects will test the feasibility of processing food

scraps and putting them in an existing digester. The Agency of Agriculture and the Agency of Natural Resources are working together closely to clarify permitting responsibilities for this new scenario.

Meanwhile, Green Mountain Power is checking the feasibility of one or more regional digesters that would serve several farms. How to extract phosphorus from the manure leaving the digester is an integral part of that assessment. And our own Agency of Agriculture has a parallel project to see how clusters of farms could have individual digesters that were essentially identical, and share some staffing and services, to lower costs.

And let's not forget that the biogas from a digester is energy, period. It can be used as a transportation

*continued on page 4*



According to the 2012 USDA census, about 60% of Vermont's cows are on farms with fewer than 500 cows. On the other hand, most of the cows whose manure is going through a digester (shown with horizontal lines) are on farms with more than 1,000 cows.

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# Efficiency Vermont: Your Partner in Cutting Energy Costs

By JJ Vandette, Agricultural Planning Manager, Efficiency Vermont

Efficiency Vermont is your statewide Energy Efficiency Utility that helps electric ratepayers reduce energy costs. Efficiency Vermont's efforts are largely focused on electrical energy efficiency; however, we also have some resources to help farmers save heating and process fuels. The Efficiency Vermont Agriculture Program has been in existence for over a decade and has served over 1,000 farms to-date. Originally a dairy-focused program, our Agriculture Program strives to serve all types of farms in Vermont.

Energy efficiency projects reduce operating costs for farms, improving long-term farm viability. Energy is often thought of as a fixed cost, but even a small decrease in monthly energy bills can add up to big savings over time. Moreover, many energy efficiency upgrades include non-energy benefits, such as improved animal health

with efficient ventilation, increased worker safety with efficient lighting, and superior product quality with controls for your refrigeration system.

The Efficiency Vermont Agriculture Program is always looking for new ways to support the energy efficiency needs of Vermont farms. Ventilation fans for dairy barns were a cool topic this past summer, and dairy farmers are taking advantage of Efficiency Vermont rebates to install high-efficiency fans. We've worked with UVM Extension recently to focus on refrigeration efficiency for vegetable growers' cold storage—stay tuned for a final report including best practices, coming out soon. Efficiency Vermont will soon be providing standard rebates for LEDs for both inside and outside lighting specifically for agricultural facilities. Additionally, existing maple sugar makers who install their first reverse osmosis system will soon be able to take advantage of rebates and technical assistance through our program. Be sure to check out the

February issue of Agriview for a more in-depth article on maple energy efficiency.

The slow season is a great time of year to focus on energy efficiency projects on your farm. Do you have a high electric bill that you want to better understand? Do you want to discuss potential solutions to reduce your energy usage? Are you replacing equipment or planning an expansion? Are you changing how you use your farm or are you constructing a new building? All of these are scenarios in which

Efficiency Vermont is here to assist. Some examples of "easy wins" for energy efficiency on your farm are:

- Are you milking more than 35 head? A heat recovery unit could help save on water heating costs immediately.
- Are you milking more than 50 head? A variable frequency drive on your milk vacuum pump can save money and help keep the vacuum level steady.
- Are you milking more than 75 head? A plate cooler with a variable

speed milk transfer system could save money and take stress off the bulk tank compressors.

- Do you have a 7.5-horsepower (or greater) maple-sap vacuum pump that runs 24 hours per day during the season? A variable frequency drive could save on your electric bill and help you manage breaks in the lines.
- Is your barn underlit? Before buying new lights, contact Efficiency Vermont about rebates for

*continued on page 5*

## Vermont Agency of Agriculture EPA 319 Grant

The Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets has received a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' through the Environmental Protection Agency 319 grant program to support the implementation of agricultural water quality programming statewide.

The grant agreement totaling \$187,431 helps to support the Agency's agricultural Best Management Practice program by partially funding the program administrator position along with two engineering staff positions under the Agricultural Engineering and Waste Management Assistance Program. These three positions help farmers enter into grant agreements for cost-share, design project concepts to be implemented by contractors hired by the farmer, and to reimburse the farmers for a portion of the implementation costs and to work with the federal partners to match grant funds where possible. This year the funding also helped to update the technical resources for the engineering staff, including equipment for field surveying and drafting designs.

The Agency passes a portion of the 319 grant funds to the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts to support the Agricultural Resource Specialist (ARS) Program and the Groundwater and Drinking Water Protection Program. The ARS program is meant to support small farms to understand the regulatory requirements and to provide a free, non-regulatory resource to help a farmer understand what challenges they face on their farm and how to receive assistance in correcting these concerns. As part of visiting the small farms, the ARS staff also take water samples to be tested for herbicides and nitrates. The water sample information is collected and reported to EPA under the drinking water protection program. In 2014 the Agency provided \$49,124 of the 319 funding to the VACD program.

Finally the 319 grant program helps to support a portion of a position that manages the GIS data and development of a water quality database that will track all regulatory information.

For additional questions about the 319 grant at the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, please contact Laura DiPietro, (802) 595-1990, [laura.dipietro@state.vt.us](mailto:laura.dipietro@state.vt.us).

## Manure Digesters

*continued from page 3*

fuel, or to heat a building or process, or injected into a gas pipeline. Various people in Vermont are pursuing each of these options. We'll be sure to keep you posted.

Vermont leads the agricultural methane sector, both per cow and per capita.

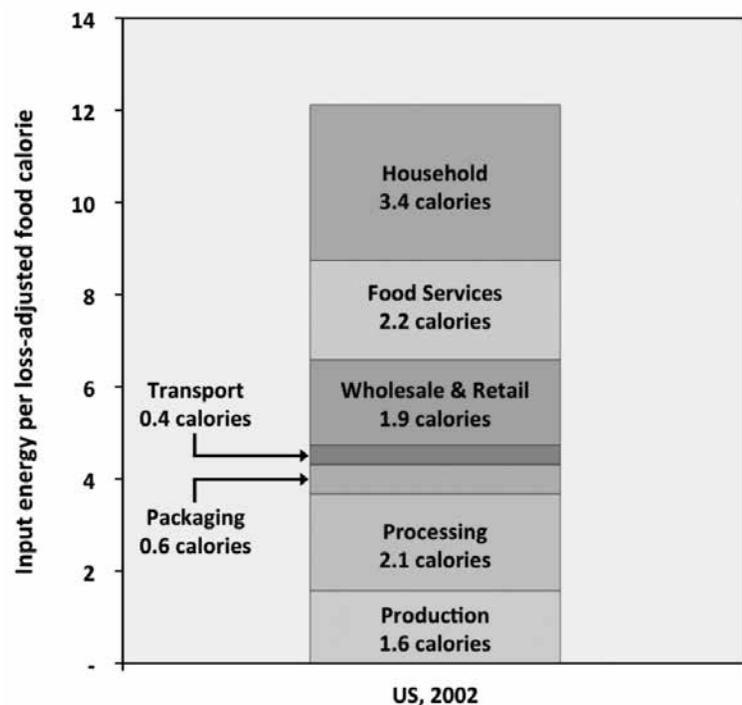
Partnerships with Green Mountain Power, the USDA, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Public Service Department, and private financial entities have brought us here. There's every reason to believe that these and new partnerships will usher in a new era of digester development in Vermont.

# The Role of Energy in Food Production

By Eric Garza, PhD  
Lecturer, The Rubenstein  
School of Environment and  
Natural Resources  
University of Vermont

**A**gricultural enterprises work hard to balance their need for revenue against their desire to be good stewards of the land, air, and water. One arena that's proven particularly vexing is energy. Agricultural enterprises, and food enterprises more generally, are very energy intensive, and since most of the energy used to produce, process, and distribute food comes from fossil fuels, there are both financial and environmental benefits associated with reducing energy use in the agricultural sector.

How much energy does it take to produce our food? This is complex question. Most farmers have a pretty good sense for how much electricity, diesel, propane, and other fuels they use. Unfortunately the electricity and other fuels used directly



*Energy use in the United States food system in 2002, shown as input calories (including both direct and "embodied" energy) for every calorie of food produced, once losses due to waste and spoilage are accounted for. Data are from the USDA report Energy Use in the US Food System, and from the USDA Economic Research Service.*

on a farm represent only a portion, and sometimes only a small portion, of the total energy that powers a farming enterprise.

Besides the energy carried by the fuels used directly on a farm, it also takes energy to manufacture and deliver the

machinery, building materials and other vital inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, bedding and feed. This "embodied" energy might be 75 percent of a farm's total energy use, or more. The cost of embodied energy is hidden in the purchase prices of new

equipment and other inputs, so farmers pay for it as surely as they pay for diesel or electricity. They even pay interest on embodied energy when they finance large purchases like a new barn or a new tractor.

In 2010 the United States Department of Agriculture released a report titled Energy Use in the US Food System. Data from the report show that, in 2002, it took about 12 calories of energy – including both direct and embodied energy – to produce a calorie of food once losses due to waste and spoilage were accounted for. Data published in the journal *Science* in 1974 suggest this number's been on the rise for decades, from a scant 1.4 calories in 1910 up through 10 calories in 1950 before reaching today's high figures. Data from the USDA report suggest it took 14 calories of input energy to produce each calorie of consumed food in 2007, so the

upward trend continues.

Energy represents an important cost for farmers, and for all food enterprises, throughout Vermont. Energy price shifts influence what farmers have to charge for their products, and rising energy prices push food prices skyward. Everyone benefits when farmers invest in energy efficiency and conservation measures, both monetarily and ultimately environmentally.

As Vermont pushes its Farm to Plate Strategic Plan forwards, I can think of a few really good questions we should be asking throughout the state: What role does farm energy management play in issues like food security and food access? What role does farm energy management play in farm viability? What role can investments in renewable energy play in giving farmers access to more environmentally benign sources of energy?

## Efficiency Vermont

*continued from page 4*

efficient lighting.

- Is your barn under-ventilated? Before buying new fans, contact Efficiency Vermont about rebates for efficient ventilation.

These are just a few of the many ways we've helped Vermont farmers save on their energy costs.

Standard rebates are available for these common types of energy efficiency projects. View our Agricultural Lighting & Equipment standard rebate form ([www.encyvermont.com/ag](http://www.encyvermont.com/ag)) for more details. For other energy efficiency opportunities, we may be able to provide technical assistance and custom rebates. Efficiency Vermont also offers loans for your energy efficiency projects. Our knowledgeable Efficiency Vermont Customer Support Team is ready to help. Give us a call (802-860-4095) if you have any energy-related questions!

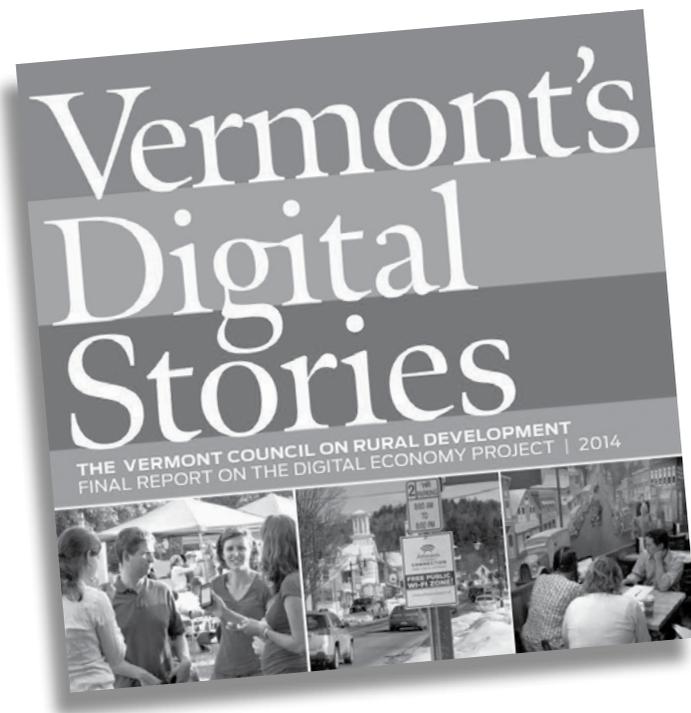


# Digital Tools Having Big Impact on Vermont Farms

By Michael Levine, for the Vermont Council on Rural Development

In one way or another Vermont's farmers have always been drawn to new technologies, from innovations in horse-drawn plows to devices that bring them essential weather updates. Today, rapid advancements in digital tools are putting remarkable opportunities into Vermonters' pockets and barns. Working lands enterprises across the state are adopting these tools in creative ways and they are making a big difference in areas such as efficiency, marketing, nutrition management, and resiliency.

Consider, for example, Carl Russell at Earthwise Farm and Forest in Bethel. At first thought, the co-owner of a draft-animal powered organic family farm wouldn't seem among the first to embrace mobile technology. Yet he is doing just that. As one of the businesses that received hands-on help through a recent federally-funded Vermont Council on Rural Development project Carl now uses an iPad to map his daily logging plan. But he went beyond that to solve a larger problem. In the wake of Tropical Storm Irene, Russell found plenty of demand for his sustainably harvested logs, but the time-consuming nature of the process made supplying the logs difficult. He found digital



tools to be an immense help in setting up a new cooperative for sustainable loggers across the state and encouraging them to pool resources to meet the ever-increasing demand.

Over the past two years the Vermont Digital Economy Project provided 50 of Vermont's most flood-damaged towns with services

that helped speed recovery, spur economic development and job growth, and improve community disaster resiliency. Earthwise was one of over 100 ag-related businesses that received one-on-one assistance.

As a result, VDEP developed an extensive resource of field-tested ways that digital tools can be used

in settings throughout the Green Mountain state. Many of these are highlighted in "Vermont's Digital Stories," and other online accounts that are posted at [vtrural.org](http://vtrural.org).

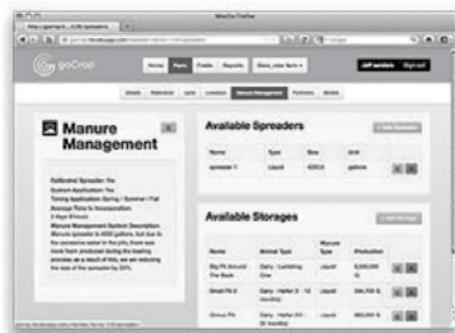
Last fall Nicky Foster and Julie Danyew completed their new cheesemaking facility on Nicky's family farm in Addison County. Their brown Swiss herd is world-renown as breeding stock, but the cheese needed online promotion. With help from the VtSBDC, Bridport Creamery launched an e-commerce web site ([bridportcreamery.com/](http://bridportcreamery.com/)) that informs visitors about their delicious products, lists places where people can buy locally, and offers customers an option to make their purchases online for delivery anywhere in the United States.

One thing that stuck out for Heather Darby, a farmer and professor at UVM

Extension, was that farmers really wanted an easier way to plan, analyze, and report their nutrient management. "What dawned on me was that farmers have trouble using their computers, but they all know how to use their phone," she said. The result is GoCrop, an app that replaces antiquated spreadsheets and puts technology to work in the field.

Front Porch Forum, the digital version of a local gathering place, is now available in every Vermont town. For farmers it's proving to be great way to let neighbors know about seasonal products, services, and on-farm events.

This handful of innovations is just scratching the surface of what's available today and possible tomorrow to propel all of Vermont's working lands.



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Balance of Nutrients		
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Phosphorus - P	20	0
Potassium - K	80	0
Manganese - Mn	324	0

## Review

Analyze and report your collected data with the confidence of precision.

# Looking for Mites and Other January Gardening Tips

By Leonard Perry, UVM Extension Horticulturist and Charlie Nardozzi, Horticulturist

Checking houseplants for spider mites and other insects, cleaning bird feeders, and disinfecting seed starting containers are some of the gardening activities for this month.

Aphids and spider mites may be multiplying like crazy amidst your houseplants, especially if they are grouped close together. Isolate each plant and inspect it closely with a magnifying glass if necessary. Aphids are easier to see, come in many colors, and move about on new growth and stems in particular. Look under leaves and where leaves join stems for the characteristic webbing of spider mites. Palms and English ivy are favorites of spider mites.

Treat these pests by holding the plant and pot upside

down and submerging the foliage in a sink full of soapy water (wrap aluminum foil over the soil to keep it from falling out).

Use a mild detergent, or weak solution, so not to damage the plant leaf surfaces. In severe cases, spray the plant with insecticidal soap or similar insecticide for indoors.

Birds deserve clean food surfaces as much as we do. Every few weeks bring the feeders inside and wash them with soap and water into which a little bleach has been added (one part bleach to nine parts water). Rinse thoroughly and dry.

If you have a heated bird



bath (a good idea if you don't), make sure to clean it every few days too. I have an old brush just for this purpose. Don't use your kitchen one that is used on eating

surfaces. Of course these can just be cleaned outdoors when filling them.

Take inventory of trays, pots, and six-packs from past years and discard any that are cracked. To get off to a clean start with seed starting this year, disinfect flats and pots in soapy water with bleach added: one part bleach to nine parts water. The longer you can soak them, the better, but at least try for 10 minutes. Then rinse well. Be sure to scrub off any soil before this cleansing rinse. If you prefer not to use bleach due to its chlorine fumes and caustic nature, a household disinfectant (such as the Lysol brand) can be used instead, with one part of it to two parts water.

If that geranium or coleus you're overwintering inside has sent out spindly new shoots, keep trimming it back until the increased sunlight can support sturdier growth. If you have low light, keeping the plant in

a cooler location (50 to 60 degrees F) may help.

Orchids are one of the most popular flowering potted plants now, and a common one often found in garden stores and retail chain stores is the moth orchid (*Phalaenopsis*). When in flower, they need consistent temperatures of above 60 degrees at night and above 70 during the day. In New England, a south window in winter is not too much light, whereas it would be too much in summer.

Fertilize orchids with a dilute liquid orchid fertilizer (high phosphorous, low nitrogen). Let the soil dry out somewhat between waterings but not get completely dry. The flowers can be damaged by gas from a stove, cigarette smoke, and other chemicals in the air. If buds drop before opening, raise the humidity with

a room humidifier or by grouping plants together on top of pebbles in a tray with water up to the bottom of the pebbles.

Other gardening activities for this month include keeping bird feeders filled daily or as needed, checking stored summer bulbs (like dahlias) and root crops (like winter squash) for rots, and studying seed catalogs and online websites for new varieties for this year's garden.

*Charlie Nardozzi is a nationally known horticulturist, author, gardening consultant, and garden coach ([CharlieNardozzi.com](http://CharlieNardozzi.com)). Distribution of this release is made possible by New England Grows—a conference providing education for industry professionals and support for Extension's outreach efforts in horticulture.*



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Efficiency Vermont

# Trade Show Grants Available to Help Vermont Working Lands Businesses Expand Their Reach

By Reg Godin, VAAFM

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets has created a new matching grant program to help agriculture and forest product businesses attend domestic trade shows and expand their presence in other U.S. states. In total, \$25,000 in matching funds are available.

Trade shows enable companies to connect with buyers and brokers, potentially opening new markets for sales.

Applications for the grants can be found online at: [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer\\_partner\\_resources/market\\_access\\_development/domestic\\_export/trade\\_show](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/market_access_development/domestic_export/trade_show)

The deadline for applications is Friday, February 6th, 2015.

The trade show assistance grant is part of the new Domestic Export Program, created during the 2014 legislative session. In addition to the trade show assistance grants, the Domestic Export Program will facilitate buyer connections in regional markets and offer technical assistance, focusing on business and marketing skills that will help Vermont business succeed in out-of-state markets. This Domestic Export program assists Vermont companies to leverage the Vermont brand and access regional markets.

“The trade show assistance grant is an important step to assuring our Vermont



Trade shows like the New York Fancy Food Show offer producers a unique opportunity to connect with buyers and expand into regional markets.

businesses are prepared and able to succeed in out-of-state markets” said Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Ross.

“Trade shows require a large capital investment from small businesses, but they offer a significant opportunity to connect with out-of-state buyers. These funds will support early and growth stage Working Lands businesses to grow sales and increase their economic impact on the state of Vermont.”

Associations such as the Vermont Specialty Food Association and Vermont Wood Manufacturers Association have assisted Vermont businesses attending domestic trade shows in the past. In recent years, Vermont forest products have been featured at shows

like the High Point Market in High Point, NC and the Fine Furnishings Show in Providence, RI.

In addition, shows such as the Summer Fancy Food

Show and Natural Products Expo East routinely have a strong Vermont showing. In July of 2014, 28 Vermont businesses exhibited their wares at the Summer Fancy

Food Show, the Big Apple’s signature event for specialty foods.

The state continues to look for new venues, such as The Vermont Building at the Eastern States Exposition, and Boston Public Market, where it can further influence the sale of Vermont food and forest products.

The Domestic Export Program is administered by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, in collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. For more information about The Domestic Export Program, contact Reg Godin at [Reg.Godin@state.vt.us](mailto:Reg.Godin@state.vt.us) or (802) 522-3648, and visit [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer\\_partner\\_resources/market\\_access\\_development/domestic\\_export](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/market_access_development/domestic_export)

## Vermont’s State Veterinarian Will Serve on National Animal Health Board

By Alison Kosakowski

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) recently installed its 2014-2015 officers at its 118th Annual Meeting, hosted in Kansas City in October, in conjunction with the Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. The newly elected officers represent the executive committee for the organiza-

tion, and oversee year-round operations.

Dr. Bruce King of Utah was elected to serve as president. King represents the western district of USAHA, and recently retired as state veterinarian of Utah, a position he has held since 2009 and includes 15 years of service to the state of Utah.

Dr. David Schmitt of Iowa is the new president-elect. Schmitt is the state veterinarian of Iowa, appointed in

2008, and has served the department since 1999. Schmitt represents the north central district.

Dr. Boyd Parr of South Carolina is first vice-president. Parr is employed by Clemson University, serving as State Veterinarian, Director Livestock Poultry Health since 2009. Parr has been with the department since 2004, where he left

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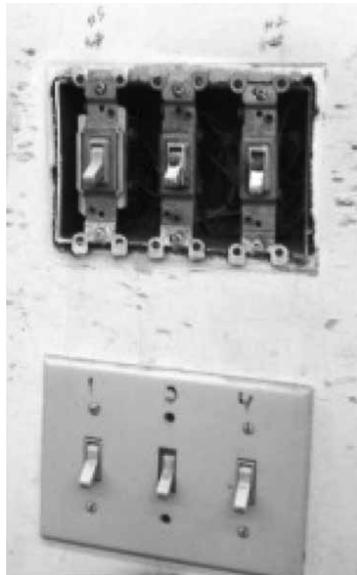
# Common Hazards Identified In The Agriculture Industry

By Shawn Barth  
Project WorkSAFE

While touring various agricultural establishments with the Vermont Farm Safety Team repetitive hazards were identified which the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) would associate with the potential of causing serious physical injury. The following is a brief overview of the common occupational hazards identified.

## Electrical Hazards

Electric panels, circuit breakers, outlet boxes or any enclosure that may contain energized electrical components which operate at 50 volts or greater are required to



Faceplate not affixed to switch box.

be entirely enclosed with equipment that has been manufactured and rated for such use. For example, the missing faceplate as seen in the photo above results in exposed electrical

components. In this case an appropriately fitting faceplate which has been designed and rated for such use would need to be securely affixed to adequately enclose the switch box. Other examples of electrical hazards include damaged flexible cords, plugs that are missing ground prongs or ungrounded electrical devices, and obstructed electrical panels.

## Machine Guarding

Adequate machine guarding needs to be provided to protect employees from hazards created by rotating, moving or grinding parts. In particular, power take-off (PTO) shafts which are seen throughout the agricultural industry in Vermont are required to be completely enclosed to prevent accidental contact.

## Roll Over Protective Structure (ROPS)

If tractors or any other vehicle on site has a ROPS it is imperative that operators wear the seatbelt provided and assure it is securely tightened. In the unintended instance where a tractor with a ROPS was to roll-over, the seatbelt in theory would keep the operator within the periphery of the ROPS. It is highly encouraged that tractors without ROPS are either decommissioned or retrofitted with a ROPS and seatbelt.

## First Aid and Fire Extinguishers

For places of employment where it would take emergency responders more than four minutes to respond to an emergency it is advised by OSHA that at least one

employee on site is trained in First Aid with First Aid supplies readily available. It is probable that this applies to the majority of those who work in agricultural industry in Vermont. Also in the case of a fire please ensure that employees need not travel more than 75 feet to easily access a fire extinguisher

Many safety and health related incidences within any industry can be prevented through practicing good housekeeping. The more organized and cleaner your workplace is, the safer it will be. If you have any questions regarding occupational safety and health related topics, please feel free to contact Project WorkSAFE VT at 1-888-SAFE-YES (1-888-723-3937).

Best wishes for a safe and healthy 2015.

## Vermont State Vet continued from page 8

private dairy practice. Parr is the southern district representative.

Mrs. Barbara Determan of Iowa was elected at second vice-president. Determan represents the allied industry to USAHA, on behalf of the National Pork Producers Council. She operates a marketing firm, in addition to her family's farm in western Iowa.

Dr. Kristin Haas of Vermont is the new third vice president. Haas serves as state veterinarian of Vermont, a position held since 2007. Haas is the newest member

of the executive committee, representing the northeast district.

Dr. Annette Jones of California was reelected to serve as Treasurer for USAHA. Jones is the state veterinarian of California, appointed in 2010, and has served as treasurer since 2011.

Additionally, Dr. Stephen Crawford of New Hampshire was recognized for his service as president for 2013-2014. Crawford is the New Hampshire state veterinarian, and remains on the executive committee as the immediate past president.

USAHA's leadership will

be implementing a new strategic plan, approved at the 2014 meeting, over the next five years to evaluate, develop, and implement strategies for the organizations work in animal health and regulatory medicine. Additionally, the organization approved 25 unique resolutions, which can be viewed at <http://usaha.org/Reference/USAHAResolutions.aspx>

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) is the leading forum for animal health issues in the United States, promoting active participation from industry, academia, and government. USAHA provides a

national venue for stakeholders to identify the most effective methods to protect and improve animal health and welfare and public health.

The United States Animal Health Association develops and promotes sound animal health solutions for the public good.



Vermont State Veterinarian Dr. Kristin Haas

## VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



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

## Reports From The Field

(Grand Isle) A portion of the interior of our home now resembles a makeshift greenhouse as we are trying to wait until the last possible moment to start heating the actual greenhouses. Maxifort tomato rootstock appears to be way ahead of Estimino on emergence. This may make our grafting to chosen scions challenging due to stem size. I am not sure what we would do without January--the perfect time to tackle paperwork, inventory lists, grandiose plans, machinery maintenance, painting projects, and those glossy seed catalogues. We have decided to join the bandwagon and replace our hand written invoices for restaurants with a cloud based on-line system. So far, our greenhouses have been spared the wrath of wind and snow load. Wishing all a great new season.

(Williston) Kale in the hoop house is in deep freeze mode. I had it covered with two layers of 19 Agribon but did not protect it enough. It will bounce back on warmer sunny days but still waiting for those days to appear. I heard talk of less covering of crops in hoop house so I may experiment with that idea with one row. I seem to have very happy voles living on the hoop house so time to get out the traps. Not too much damage and only on the smaller plants. Great Veg/Berry conference last week motivated me to start ordering seeds and plants. Great update on pests and diseases of this past year and what to look out for in 2015. Tile drainage talk was something I have always wanted to

know more about and now I have a better understanding of different options to improve drainage and soil productivity. I will be trying a few rows of interseeding between raised bed rows with annual ryegrass this year. Drop spreader idea will work well with my size operation. Looking forward to the Farm Show in Essex VT this week and NOFA in February. My trip this year took me to India where agriculture is a whole different scene. Lots of monoculture and lots of chemicals being sprayed with little or no PPE!

(Shrewsbury) Lots of potatoes and onions in storage, but not having ideal storage conditions for squash led to more spoilage than we'd like. We're looking forward to building a room with the right conditions to store squash this coming year. We've been mostly disappointed with the growth of greens in our tunnels and although we're excited for the days to get longer, we really appreciate this slower time of the year for the opportunity to focus on other things. It's nice to get a little break from being consumed by vegetable production, marketing, and crew management!

(Dummerston) An ongoing battle with the voles in the high tunnel has me thinking back to the post-harvest conference presentations - would hardware cloth really keep them out or would they chew through plastic elsewhere? Spinach in a caterpillar tunnel is also a failed experiment because of voles - it's just not practical to crawl in there often enough to keep them in check. I'm thinking of taking on fewer winter CSA members next year (or none) and selling more at the winter farmers' market - more flexibility and less pressure to maintain a diverse mix of produce all winter. All kinds of ideas and tips from the conference: thinking of streamlining and cleaning up the wash area, planting annual ryegrass between plastic mulch, and using fans to dry garlic better for longer storage. Great ideas for weeding equipment and storage facilities too, but my wish list is now far bigger than my farm budget.

(Burlington) I had a great time at the VVBGA winter meetings. I

came away with several interesting things to try in weed control, harvest, and storage realms. Haven't had quite enough sun or warmth to making timing spinach harvest out of our 14-foot tunnels easy, but the 32-footers will be a piece of cake, as they have only frozen occasionally. Wishing for snow, but happy to feel the longer days.

(Fairfax) Carrot washing is keeping us busy three days a week. Always nice having product to sell in Feb. and March. Quality is still quite good with little shrinkage but I know that will likely change once we get into March. Great conference in Fairlee. Always impressed at how innovative growers in Vermont are. I really enjoy hearing about what our growers are doing. Lots of great ideas to try and replicate on our farm.

(Westminster West) First seeds are coming up in plug trays and transplanting plugs into pots begins tomorrow. It feels like I haven't had a break at all this winter before it all starts again. Had a great VVBGA show in Fairlee last week. Meeting with buyers next week at my top accounts and if this year is as good as last year I will be happy.

(Harborside ME) Since there are more than enough summer growers in our area, we decided last spring to specialize in winter and only sell from September to May. Our one large non-moveable greenhouse which used to grow tomatoes, peppers and eggplants could therefore take the summer off. So we decided to solarize the soil in there by irrigating to wet the soil, laying down plastic on the soil from edge to edge, and shutting up the house from mid-July to mid-August. We used soil thermometers to make sure we hit 145 degrees F at the 2-inch depth. The result this winter is the most weed-free greenhouse I have ever experienced. Our other large greenhouses, all moveable, grew summer crops of sweet potatoes and paste tomatoes (which we freeze whole and sell at winter markets) but we are thinking now that they could be moved off those crops in mid-July (we would need to grow non-staking tomatoes) to solarize the next door plot that will be in winter

crops. We want to use solarization on our outdoor fields also before fall planted crops and so this summer we are planning on moving our cathedral greenhouses (three 14-foot wide sections make a 50-foot house) sideways progressively across a field.

## Slide Presentations From Vvbga Meetings Are Posted

The 2015 Annual Meeting:  
<http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/VVBGAMeeting2015Presentations.html>

The Post-Harvest Handling of Vegetables Conference:  
<http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/PostHarvestConference2015.html>

## A Few Days Left To Join VVBGA For \$35 Per Farm

After Jan. 30 the VVBGA membership dues will increase to \$45 per farm. To pay on-line go to <http://2015vvbga.eventbrite.com>, or you can print the membership form then mail it in with your check: [www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/VV&BGA/VVBGA\\_membership\\_form.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/VV&BGA/VVBGA_membership_form.pdf).

## Vegetable Production Course For Newer Growers

The VVBGA is sponsoring this in-depth, affordable and unique opportunity for new and early career farmers to learn from a remarkable group of experienced growers in Vermont. Tim Taylor of Crossroad Farm has put the highly practical curriculum together and will lead the 8-week course that will be held on Mondays from 10-1 in the Berlin Extension office, with a field trip at the end of the course. People should register ASAP as classes begin Feb. 2 and space is limited. More info at: <http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/meetings/SustVegCourse2015.pdf>

## Digital Record Keeping And Labeling For Produce Growers

Produce growers: please complete a survey to help this project design the right solution(s) for you. The goal of this project is to research, select, and pilot test an affordable, easy to implement, and easy to use

*continued on page 13*

MARKET REPORT

**Wholesale Prices**

January 2015

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

**Vermont Egg Prices:**

Jumbo . . . . .	\$2.25
X-Large . . . . .	\$1.89
Large . . . . .	\$1.85
Medium . . . . .	\$1.33

Market is steady and supply is good.

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



**Northampton, MA • January 20, 2015**

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

Source: Northampton Cooperative Auction Association, Inc., [www.northamptonlivestockauction.homestead.com](http://www.northamptonlivestockauction.homestead.com)

Calves:	LOW	HIGH		Cows:	LOW	HIGH	
Good & Choice: 61-75 lbs	48.00	75.00	cwt	Canners	60.00	102.00	cwt
76-95 lbs	50.00	83.00	cwt	Cutters	105.00	112.00	cwt
96-105 lbs	50.00	75.00	cwt	Utility	115.50	122.00	cwt
106 lbs and up	50.00	76.00	cwt	Sows	41.00	45.00	cwt
Farm Calves	100.00	430.00	cwt	Hogs	54.00	65.00	cwt
Starter Calves	60.00	125.00	cwt	Boars	none		cwt
Feeder Calves	100.00	191.00	cwt	Shoats	60.00	90.00	cwt
Vealers	none		cwt	Feeder Pigs	55.00	96.00	each
Bulls	91.00	137.50	cwt	Lambs	185.00	285.00	cwt
Heifers	85.00	129.00	cwt	Sheep	82.00	120.00	cwt
Replacement Cows	none		each	Goats	67.50	300.00	each
Steers	131.00	161.00	cwt	Rabbits	6.00	10.50	each
				Hay (7 lots)	3.60	5.20	bale

**Addison County Commission Sales • Middlebury, VT • January 19, 2015**

Cattle: 148		Feeder Calves	
Calves: 185			
Slaughter Cows		Holstein Bulls	90-120 lbs. 352.00 420.00 cwt
Breakers 75 - 80% lean	103.50 115.00 cwt		80-90 lbs. 270.00 365.00 cwt
Boners 80 - 85% lean	106.00 117.00 cwt	Utility	70-120 lbs. 125.00 202.50 cwt
Lean 85 - 90% lean	100.00 112.50 cwt	Holstein Heifers	82 lbs-88 lbs not well tested cwt

CLASSIFIEDS

**Advertising in Agriview**

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

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

**Display Ads:** Information available upon request

**Classified advertisements must be sent:**

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

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

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

**Ads must be limited to 40 words or less.**

**Agriview Subscribers can Now Submit Classifieds Online**

Agriview subscribers now have the ability to submit their classified ads online. Subscribers can log on to [http://agriculture.vermont.gov/news\\_media/agriview](http://agriculture.vermont.gov/news_media/agriview) and submit their ad using the online form.

Classified ads are free to all subscribers — limit two ads per issue. Ads must be 40 words or less. You must include your subscriber number when submitting your ad.

Please take advantage of this service, which will help streamline the classifieds process. For those who are unable to access the Internet, we will still accept classifieds by mail.

If you have questions about classified ads, please contact Faith Raymond at 802-828-1619 or [Faith.Raymond@state.vt.us](mailto:Faith.Raymond@state.vt.us).

**Cattle**

Rotokawa Red Devon and Devon cross cows checked pregnant to Rotokawa Devon bull, \$2,000 each Wells, 802-645-0865 (1/15)

500-gallon Sunset flat-top bulk tank, used last winter. \$2,000 Wells, 802-645-0865 (1/15)

Blonde d'Aquitaine. Prepare for the 2015 breeding season. Bring that bull in now to ensure readiness (herd and environment compatibility). PFB YASMIN 99.22%BD,DOB 11/19/2011.

Top blood lines. Progeny registerable. A great opportunity to elevate those hanging weights. Come take a look! Blonde d'Aquitaine. Prepare for the 2015 breeding season. Bring that bull in now to ensure readiness (herd and environment compatibility). PFB ARNIE 99.22%BD,DOB 12/02/2013. Out of a DDD CLAY daughter. Progeny registerable. A quiet individual, good length of loin. Blood lines for production PADDOCK FARMS, 802/426-4086,

Please leave clear and distinct message. Thank you. Or [beefbypfb@yahoo.com](mailto:beefbypfb@yahoo.com) (2/15)

7 month old Black Angus Bull, great temperament and great bloodline \$1600 call (802) 558-8196 (2/15)

Black Angus 2 year old Hefier deven calf \$1600. Jersey breed February \$1500. Pigs - 400 lbs \$400. Old hens \$2 each. Red Angus Bull calf deven \$1800. 802-229-4628 (3/15)

2/500-600 pound sows for slaughter, were breeding

## CLASSIFIEDS

stock. Asking \$300 each.  
603-256-8422. (3/15)

Hereford cow and Heifer bred to Hereford \$1200 each or BO, also Bull Jersey calfs and 8 mons Jersey heifer \$550 or BO. Trade fir Itay 603—336-0017 (3/15)

Grass-fed Angus beef now available. Whole, 1/2, - 25, 50 and 100 lb lots. Shrink wrapped and frozen. call 802-482-2320 after 6. (3/15)

New Holland discbine 411 new rolls excellent overall \$6,900.00 john deere 336 baler no kicker. new teeth \$3,450.00 new Holland rolar bar 57 3 ph rake good teeth, handy \$2,750.00 vicon 510t tedder \$1,850.00 rebuilt bale sled \$200.00 802 773 8898 (3/15)

John Deere 2950 4wd OS fender tractor. Quad outlets hi/lo 4500 original hours. This tractor has been professionally mechanically refurbished and repainted Too many new parts to list. \$18,950.00 802 773-8898 south Crittenden (3/15)

**Equipment**

New Idea manure spreader 90 Bushel. Clean and in excel-

lent condition stored in barn. I don't use it anymore and need the space it takes up. Runs great. No rust! Asking \$5,500.00 OBO. Call Cabot 563-6061 (3/15)

New Idea Manure spreader NO 17 ground driven, good condition \$800 or OBO. 802-295-2910 (1/15)

Spreader, broadcast, Herd Model 750, PTO mount with shroud for width control, use for sand, salt, seed, lime, etc, 9.6 bushel capacity, (See it at Herd.com) Good condition, minimal rust, works well \$650 802-685-3321 (1/15)

7ft McCormick Deering tractor Harrows. Came with farmal H tractor in the early 1940's. I used with 4 horses. 802-877-3297 (1/15)

US Berkel Commercial Meat Band Saw. 6' glass sliding doors. Old International register. 802-365-4000. (1/15)

Cedar fence posts 6' & 7' - \$3.25 to \$4.25. Corral panels 12ft walk through gate-\$90 ea. Farmall C, mower W/F good tires - \$2750. Farmall A, plow good condition - \$2500. Ford#461, blade as is - \$2000. Ford 8N, 1949, mower

little use excellent condition \$3500. JD 3 bottom plws 3 pt, trip, no coulters -\$950. MF 3 bottom plows 3 pt coulters - \$750. Kuhn tedder #GA 5001, 17.5', clean - \$3950. JD 717 brush-hog 7dt clean - \$2500. IH brush hog #111, solid 3 pt, 5 ft - \$750. JD #60 H hopper blower- \$950. (1/15)

New Holland 892 Chopper both hay and two row corn heads, International NO 56 silo blower short hopper with auger feed. For price call 802-372-4513 (1/15)

1959 John Deere, 430, with bucket, gas engine tractor starts and runs excellent! Original condition very versatile. \$3300. 802-463-3190 (1/15)

Ball Hitch Horse trailer; Horse equipment; Bobsled; Horse shoe kit; etc. 1500 Gal Hesston Liquid Spreader. 3200 Gal Harvester liquid tank. Three old International trucks. Call 802-885-4920 (1/15)

2014 Baleage for sale 4x4 wrapped round bales 1st and 2nd cutting, processed tight bales. Alfalfa and grass mix, forage tested \$55/bale. Equipment for Sale Patz round bale chopper, dry hay or straw only. \$1800 or best offer Walpole NH 603-445-5104 (1/15)

Hillsboro L700 Gooseneck Trailer. GVW 14,000 lbs. 18 foot with 5 foot dovetail (23 x 8 overall). Tandem axle, electric brakes. Excellent tires. Very good condition. Road ready. \$3200.00. Older model Black and Decker skill saw. 1 1/2 HP. In good working condition. 1st. \$5.00 takes it. Newbury, NH (603) 763-9422. (1/15)

2001 Corn Pro trailer 25 Ft flat deck x 102" wide, 21K GVW, Tri Axle with all new tires and brakes, stored indoors when not in use, Excellent condition has 4 Ft. Adjustable beaver tail with 5 Ft ramps, Pintle pull. \$4,200.00 Call 802-537-3167 (2/15)

New glass jars with gold cap, 7.2oz. In case lots of 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, \$5.60 per dozen.



Call for details 802-343-7303. Note jars are fancy. (2/15)

Antique farm wagon or called Keystone farm truck, Made for Int. Harvester co. In good condition. Call for more details 802-343-7303 Asking \$1,100 or best offer (2/15)

C7 Tree Farmer grapple and wink tires and chains 90% in good shape, \$10,900. Call 802-673-6474 or 802-755-6202 (3/15)

7.5 Universal vacuum pump, like new. 6 ton brook grain bin, excellent shape. 12 ton vatoure grain bin. 84 feet long new halland elevator, good shape. 4 b 12 Leader pan complete and brand new, price to sell. 8 -9 ton grain bins complete redone, excellent condition. 12 -13 ton grain bin 802-624-0143 or 802-895-4683 (3/15)

Pronovost Round Bale Tuber. Works great. \$6500. Call before 8 pm. 802-348-6303. (3/15)

JD 6620 Combine with 4 row corn head, 4 row IH cultivator, rotary hoe and JD 450 spreader. Contact (845)2704159. (3/15)

JD 3020 7768 hrs. 70 hp, diesel, with cab. new rear tires, rebuilt engine, needs batteries, always shedded, only used for hauling round baler, excellent condition, call 802-482-2320 after 6. (3/15)

Gehl 1287 (NH 680) man sprdr- end gate..\$2800. NI 3622 Manure Sprdr- 150 bu..\$2200.

Kuhn EUI Vertical mixer-scales..\$8500. Farmhand X630 Tub grinder..\$3500. JD 2750- 4WD- w/ ldr- really nice cond- like new tires..\$15,500. Kverneland 7512 Wrapper- 20" self-loader..\$8500.

802-376-5262 www.youngsmilkywayfarm.com (3/15)

**Farm & Farmland**

12 + 1/4 acre parcels VAST trail surveyed 400 ft well, 750 gal septic, pond, nice horse barn, 1 bedroom camp, access to hundreds of trails. Able to develop organic gardens and fruits. Part of a very exciting community. \$150,000 firm, 802-751-9826. Please leave a message. (1/15)

61 acres on paved town road in Whitehall, NY. 14 acres, flat, certified organic. Balance are woods. Excellent hunting, timber, Adirondack Mountain and Green Mountain views. Must lease back hay land for 2015 crop year. \$125,000. gsearles@verizon.net (3/15)

**Hay, Feed & Forage**

Seed corn for sale. Vermont grown open pollinated organic Early Riser \$150/50 lb. bag. Also available Ontario grown DeDell hybrid seed corn from 78 day to 115 day maturity. All De Dell corn is non GMO. Some organic varieties available. For more information or a catalogue, contact Jack Lazor Butterworks Farm Westfield, VT. (802) 744 6855 or 999 7722. Catalogues will be available at the Northern Grain Growers table at the Vermont Farm Show. (3/15)

2nd cut sq bales \$4 per bale 802-796-6067 (1/15)

Excellent quality 2nd cut square bales. 802-728-5000 (3/15)

**ADDISON COUNTY**

2nd cut clover/grass mix large square bales \$200/ton, small sales by the bale. 758-2682 (1/15)

2014 corn silage for sale, 550 tons processed and treated with pioneer innocule \$47 per ton. 2014 haylage 1st cut

**TWINE & PLASTIC Pre-Order Special!**

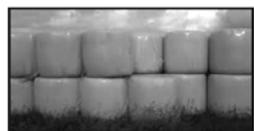
**Clover & Winmore Brand**  
**Order now, Pay later**

*If the price drops—you pay less—never more!*

Prices only guaranteed thru 1/31/15 early order

**BALE WRAP**

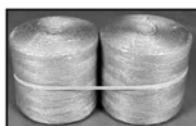
Available in white, green & black



20" \$68/Roll



30" \$82/Roll

**POLY & SISAL TWINE**

**Poly**

7,200 \$26/roll  
9,600 \$32/bundle  
20,000 \$24/bundle

**Sisal**

9,000 \$52/bundle



**NET WRAP** 48" X 9,844' \$215  
51" X 9,844' \$225

ALL SIZES available in Poly, Twine, & Net!  
(please call if you don't see what you need)

**We ship anywhere in the Northeast for just \$90/pallet**

**BLISS FARM ENTERPRISES**

"Farmer to Farmer" Sales

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

## CLASSIFIEDS

and 3rd cut, excellent quality, test results available 430 - \$40 to Addison. Small square bales 1st cut Timothy and mixed grasses 40# and each excellent for horses \$4 bale. Small square bales 3rd and 4th cut 16-19% protein, test results available 40# each \$5 bale. 802-759-2480. (3/15)

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

Large or small square bales.

Whole or processed by bales at Farm we load on direct delivery by trailer load. 802-849-6266 (3/15)

**GRAND ISLE COUNTY**

Second cut, wrapped, round bales. 4 1/2 by 4 'bales. \$35 per bale. Crescent Bay Farm, South Hero 802-318-3208 or Email crescentbaybb.com (2/15)

**Horses & Other Equine**

Free Morgan Mare, clean neat well trained shots feet cross-ties well. Flaxer main & tail. Perfect home adult needs to be alone and will thrive, worth calling. 802-751-9826 (1/15)

**Horse Equipment**

Horse Trailer, old but good shape, have no more use for it, \$1000. Set of new D ring harnesses used 3 times, 2 new bridles, no bits. Travis Sled holds 15 average people good shape \$800. Also, just the front sled that would fit onto sled \$200, has new runners. 3 collars, pads, pair new blankets, other blankets, wool blankets to use on sled. 802-295-2910 (1/15)

Meadowbrook Horse Cart, good condition, Harness with bridle, Western Saddle almost new, Bridle, blanket and other accessories. Perfect size for Standard Bred. Crescent Bay Farm, South Hero 802-324-5563 or Email crescentbaybb.com (2/15)

36x72 12stall horse barn by behlen country. It is designed to be moved and disassembled/reassembled without special tools or equipment. barn is priced to sell. call Newton farm in Chittenden 802 773 8898 for pricing, photos and complete details. (3/1)

**Sheep**

Sheep management books such as: Practical Sheep Dairying by Olivia Mills \$30 for 6. 802-463-3190 (1/15)

Sheep: Beautiful, registered, 2 year old Border Leicester ewe with a fabulous fleece needs a new home. She had twin lambs last year, in her first year of lambing. Excellent mother with great breed characteristics. She would be a great addition to a spinner's flock, or for anyone wanting to look out their window to a beautiful grazing ewe. Call 802-233-2640 for a visit, or pictures. \$225. (1/15)

Selling beautiful registered Border Leicester ram lambs who would make great breeding rams for a wool flock. Shine and luster in a consistent fleece is evident. Breed characteristics are top of the line. Friendly dispositions and come from great stock. \$175. Call 802-233-2640 for pictures or a visit. (1/15)

Icelandic Sheep 3 Proven Ewes, and two lamb ewes for sale. Want to find good home for older ewes. 518-963-4355 (1/15)

**Sugaring Equipment**

5 Horse power vacuum pump good shape. 80 ft hay elevator, 32 ft hay elevator. 8 to 9 ton grain bins very good shape. 12 to 13 ton grain bins. 4 by 12 Leader arch and pans new never been used. 802-895-4683 (1/15)

Sugaring Equipment Steel Sap Tank Approx 600 gallon capacity, \$300 or best offer, Walpole NH 603-445-5104 (1/15)

3' x 10' Welded Leader raised flue evaporator, oil fired insulated arch with S.S. sides, burner cover & stack, includes 275 gallon oil tank, Carlin burner, 3 x 7 S.S. steam hood with stack, also small utensils. Very nice condition \$9,000. Norwesco 550 gallon Vertical tank, Clean \$325. Norwesco 225 gallon Horizontal tank W/ valve, Clean \$275. Stock tank 300 gallon, no rust \$100. Stock tank 200 gallon, no rust \$75. 2 HP Delaval 76 recently rebuilt \$900. 3 HP Massport with reclaimers \$900. Whitingham 368-2420 (1/15)

Chopper, Excellent Condition JF Model FCT 900, 2 row corn head, never used grass head--1000 PTO \$15,000 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 Concord, VT (1/15)

New Idea manure spreader 90 Bushel. Clean and in excellent condition stored in barn. I don't use it anymore and need the space. Runs great. No rust! Asking \$5,500 obo. Cabot 563-6061 (1/15)

4x14 Waterloo Evaporator oil fired with preheater hoods and extra pans in good shape \$6500. 802-673-6474 or 802-755-6202 (3/15)

2014 Maple Syrup for sale. Grade A dark and B I quart \$15. Half gallon \$25. And gallon \$40 also have cooking syrup in half gallons and quarts. 802-728-5241 (3/15)

**Swine**

Piglets for sale. 802-483-6521 (1/15)

2 500-600 pound sows, were breeding stock, now for slaughter. Asking \$300 ea. 603-256-8422. (1/15)

**Wanted**

Dairy Breed Sheep Ram, Friesion preferred. 802-439-5478 (1/15))

Round bale unroller self loading or traveling feeder for tie stall barn. 9:00 am 802-223-5747 (1/15)

Looking for a Galloway or (polled) Red Devon bull calf, preferably born last spring or summer, to grow into our herd sire. Please email neds-bestbeef@gmail.com if you

have one you'd like to sell. (802) 485-9910 (1/15)

Help wanted on diversified organic dairy in southern Vermont. Learn and participate in all aspects of organic dairy, maple sugaring, and woodland management. Room and board with farm family plus a competitive wage based on ability, willingness to work hard and learn, and experience. 802-254-2228 Guilford (2/15)

1 used Same (Drago) tractor rear wheel rim. Tractor is 120 horsepower. Rim size 18.4"x 38". 8 bolt hole rim. Richard Alexander, Chester. 802-875-3659. (2/15)

1st cut hay, square bales 40 - 45 lbs, Will pay up to \$3.25 bale. Large quantity wanted. Call cell #603-848-2477 (2/15)

Holstein Brown Swiss crossed bull calves 802-775-5316 (2/15)

1967 -1972 Chervrolet or GMC pick up truck. I need trim parts, but can take the whole truck. 802-446-2870. (3/15)

Apple Boxes - bushel size. Eastern or "SCAPA" style.

802-438-5068 (3/15)

Hay squares or round del. Price also corn chopper belt driven chopper/blower 603-336-0017 (3/15)

Dairy cattle, beef cattle, bulls, steers, feeders, sheep, and goats. 413-441-3085 (3/15)

Looking for set of skidder chains to fit 16.9 -30 tire at least 50% or up worn. 802-434-2275 (3/15)

Looking for steel panel fencing and gates for cattle and sheep. Various sizes needed. Must be in good condition. (802) 362-2290. (3/15)

Proven nurse cow, in milk or due in late February / early March. Normande preferred, though Jersey okay. Would also consider a non-proven nurse cow that doesn't fit well in your parlor (3 teats, etc.). Call Meghan: (802) 451-6548 (3/15)

4-stall "Step-up" (pass-thru or flat-barn) milking parlor; CIP milk machines & pipeline. Ashlee 518-645-2697, info@northcountrycreamery.com (3/15)

**Vermont Vegetable and Berry News**

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digital traceability solutions for Vermont produce growers, in order to meet FDA and market-enforced food traceability requirements. All completed surveys will be entered into a \$250 Raffle! The survey link is on the project homepage <http://bit.ly/vtproduce>. Questions? Contact: Stan Ward, stan@stanward.com or 802-595-3232.

**Practical Food Safety Workshops For Growers In February**

Reminder, this one-day event is offered at 5 locations: St Johnsbury Feb. 18, White River Jct. Feb. 19, Swanton Feb. 20, Poultney Feb. 23,

and Middlebury Feb. 24. Registration closes February 9. Cost is \$18 for first registrant, \$10 per additional person from same farm. Growers from neighboring states are welcome! More info and registration at: <http://go.uvm.edu/-b2il>.

**Low Cost Or No-Cost Crop Disaster Insurance: Deadline March 15**

The 2014 Farm Bill offers new opportunities for fruit and vegetable growers to mitigate financial risk through an enhanced Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. NAP now offers catastrophic levels of protection to beginning farmers (farming for 10 years or less), socially disadvantaged individuals

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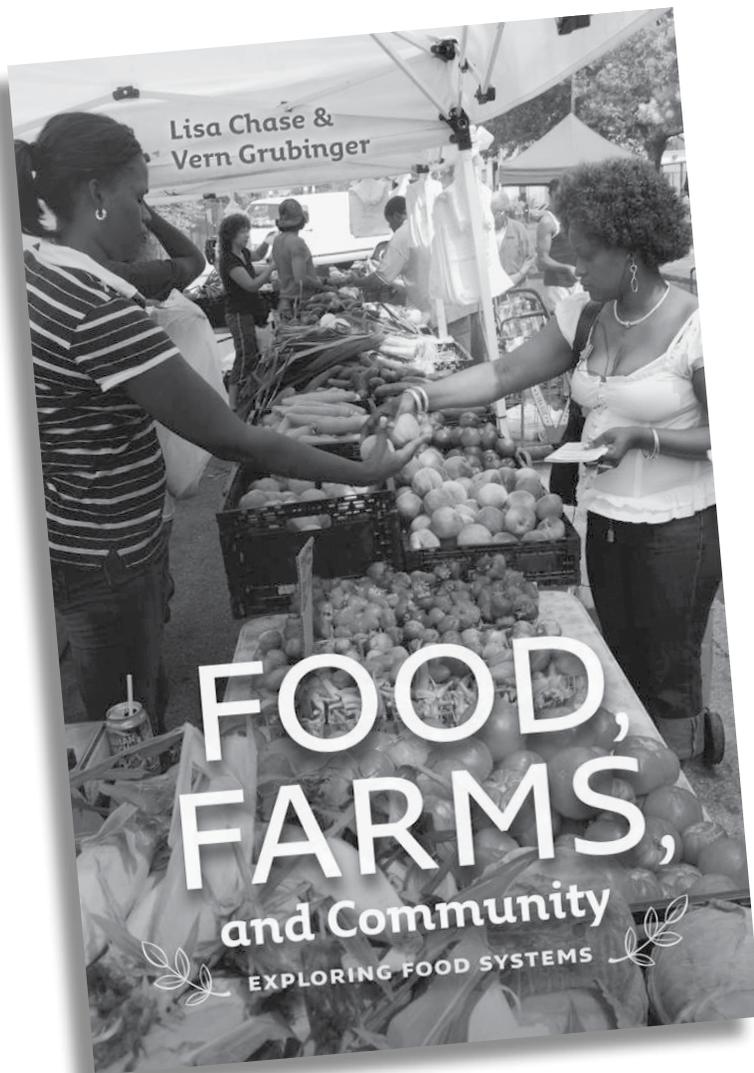
# UVM Extension Professors Explore America's Food Systems in New Book

## *Food, Farms, and Community: Exploring Food Systems*

By Hannah Reid, VAAFM

University of Vermont Extension professors and co-authors Lisa Chase and Vern Grubinger recently completed a new book titled *Food, Farms, and Community: Exploring Food Systems*, published by University Press of New England. The book examines our local, regional and national food systems, with chapters that focus on a dozen specific food system components such as the business of food, farm-to-school initiatives, food safety, energy, environmental issues, farmland protection and values in the food system. Examples in these chapters come from business and organizations in Vermont, multinational food companies, and everything in between. While rooted in academia, *Food, Farms, and Community* strives to unravel the complexity of modern food systems in plain language for consumption by anyone interested in learning more about where our food comes from, and why. The real-life case studies featured in this book highlight the efforts to improve food systems, providing a compelling human element to counter-balance the work's in-depth food systems analysis supported by the latest research.

"So often we focus on just the symptoms of the problems that plague our food systems rather than



**"One of the reasons the local food movement has been so successful in Vermont is because the social networks connecting farmers and consumers are extremely strong."**

—Professor Lisa Chase

digging into the underlying causes," says Professor Chase. "We tried to get at the roots of the problem, and one thing we came to understand is that the people part of food systems is REALLY important. When you take the people out of the equation, food becomes anonymous.

One of the reasons the local food movement has been so successful in Vermont is because the social networks connecting farmers and consumers are extremely strong. We hope the stories we share in this book of farmers and food entrepreneurs throughout the United States will

help readers understand the importance of active participation in our food systems and the value of social capital."

*Food, Farms & Community* is the brainchild of Lisa Chase, natural resources specialist at University of Vermont Extension and the director of the Vermont Tourism Research Center, and Vern Grubinger, vegetable and berry specialist

with UVM Extension and coordinator of the USDA's Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. What started out as a look at the evolution of the local food movement in Vermont quickly morphed into a broader exploration of food systems on a regional and national level when it became clear to Chase and Grubinger that the interconnectedness of our food systems made it nearly impossible to isolate local food issues from the larger context.

According to the authors, the goal of the book was to conduct a critical examination of our modern day food system, complete with a historical look at how it came to be, while



Lisa Chase



Vern Grubinger

also providing practical examples from farmers, food business, non-profits and public entities working within the food system.

Says Grubinger, "Our hope is that this book will help people think more critically about what they eat, be more intentional about their participation in the food system, and learn from the good work of others

that is taking place not only in Vermont but all across the country."

To learn more or purchase a copy of *Food, Farms, and Community: Exploring Food Systems*, visit: <http://www.upne.com/1611684216.html>



# 16th Annual Vermont Dairy Producers Conference Returns to Burlington Feb. 24th

*Dairy Industry Experts will Share Practical Solutions for Increasing Efficiency and Profitability*

By Alison Kosakowski,  
VAAFM

Dairy producers from across the region will convene once again for the 16th Annual Vermont Dairy Producers Conference (VDPC) February 24th at the Burlington Sheraton.

Over the past decade, the VDPC has developed a reputation as the “must-attend” regional industry event for dairy farmers seeking practical, actionable ideas for improving their operations.

The 2015 speakers include a variety of thought-leaders and experts from across the industry, representing some of the brightest minds in dairy science and management.



The speakers, and their respective topics, include

- Dr. Julio Giordano - Cornell University: Reproduction
- Jay Waldvogel - DFA: The global dairy market and what it means to me
- Nigel Cook - University of Wisconsin, Madison: Facilities impact on your herd
- Joe Schwarcz - McGill University: Good Science/ Bad Science
- Mark Andrew Junkin -

Agriculture Strategy: Farm succession and motivation

- Dr. Tom Overton - Cornell University: Transition strategies

Tickets for the event can be purchased online at [www.vdpc2015.eventbrite.com](http://www.vdpc2015.eventbrite.com) and are priced as follows:

- Pre-registration marked before February 10, 2015: \$50
- Pre-registration after February 10, 2015: \$70
- Registration at the door, if space is available: \$85

## Don't Miss the 16th Annual Vermont Dairy Producers Conference! Feb. 24th at the Burlington Sheraton

- Expert Speakers
  - New Strategies
  - Practical Information to Improve Your Operation
- For tickets, visit [www.vdpc2015.eventbrite.com](http://www.vdpc2015.eventbrite.com)

“We’re proud to present this roster of world-class speakers at our 2015 conference. These experts will be sharing practical, actionable ideas and insights,” according to Conference Chair, Reg Chaput, a dairy farmer from North Troy. “Attendees can expect to take home new strategies for improving the efficiency and profitability of their operations, as well as new ideas for management and future planning.”

**About The Vermont Dairy Producers Conference:** *Founded in 1999 and organized by farmers, for farmers, The Vermont Dairy Producers Conference (VDPC) brings industry experts together each year to share information, strategies, and best-practice sharing. The VDPC is the premier event for New England and New York dairy farmers seeking cutting-edge information to improve their business practices.*



## Vermont Vegetable and Berry News

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(including women and minorities), and limited resource producers at NO COST! These fees normally amount to \$250 per crop, with a maximum of \$750 for three or more crops (grown in the same county). Payments at the catastrophic level of coverage kick in once you suffer a greater than 50% loss of production, with payments calculated at 55% of the established crop price. Higher levels of coverage are available, up to 65% of production at 100% of price, with premiums applying. Those producers eligible for catastrophic

levels of coverage at no cost also get a 50% reduction on their premiums for the higher levels of coverage. The application deadline for covering vegetable crops is March 15, 2015. Please contact your county's Farm Service Agency office for more details. Addison: 388-6748. Caledonia and Essex: 748-2641 or 800-862-1121. Chittenden and Washington: 288-8155 or 800-910-2035. Franklin and Grand Isle: 527-1296 or 800-717-8637. Lamoille: 888-4935. Orleans: 334-6090 or 866-241-2190. Rutland and Bennington: 775-8034 or 800-300-6927. Windham: 254-9766. Windsor and Orange: 295-7942 or 800-789-6713.

## Farm To Plate Helps Statewide Efforts in Energy and Agriculture Come Together

By Rachel Carter, VT Farm to Plate and Chris Callahan, UVM Extension

**W**e all know food gives us energy. But we might sometimes lose sight of the amount of energy involved in producing, processing and delivering that food to our plates.

Everything requires energy:

from tractors plowing and planting to producing fertilizer or compost; from milking cows and keeping that milk cold to storing and transporting vegetables. This energy costs farms real money and it is sometimes a major category of expense. Energy costs are typically one of the highest for farms, rivaling feed costs on dairy

farms and labor costs on vegetable farms.

As Vermont experiences growth in food-related businesses and jobs, decisions about energy become more and more important. This has been part of Vermont's Farm to Plate Strategic Plan and the associated network of people working on imple-

**farm to plate**

menting that plan. The plan includes goals related to energy, including; reducing farm production expenses, reducing adverse environmental impacts from farm and food system activities, reducing energy use, and increasing renewable energy use in the food system.

One example of how this is actually working is a group called the Farm to Plate Energy Cross Cutting Team:

a group of energy specialists from Efficiency Vermont, the Agency of Agriculture, UVM's Rubenstein School and UVM Extension, The Vermont Bioenergy Initiative, USDA NRCS and private companies. The team meets regularly to learn from each other and take on specific projects such as the recent set of seven "Energy Success Stories" which were released at the 2014 Farm Show, showcasing farms, businesses, vendors, installers, and technical assistance providers

who have made a difference with energy efficiency savings and renewable energy production. These stories are available online at [http://](http://bit.ly/vtfarmenergy)



*Nick Meyer of North Hardwick Dairy, an Organic Valley milk producer, reduced energy costs and increased self-sufficiency by growing sunflowers for biodiesel and meal while maintaining a wind turbine to help cover electricity needs.*

[bit.ly/vtfarmenergy](http://bit.ly/vtfarmenergy), where additional stories will also be published.

Chaired by UVM Extension agricultural engi-

neer, Chris Callahan, the energy team will continue to address Farm to Plate energy goals and provide updates at [www.VTFarmtoPlate.com](http://www.VTFarmtoPlate.com) and in publications such as *Agriview*. One of the team's next projects is consolidating all of the energy-related incentives, organizations, service providers, and reports into a single, easily accessed resource.

The team is always interested in having new members. If you have an interest in energy, especially energy on farms and in the food system, we'd

love to hear from you. Chris Callahan can be reached at 802-773-3349 x277 or by email at [chris.callahan@uvm.edu](mailto:chris.callahan@uvm.edu).

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Please visit [newenglandfarmersunion.org/insurance](http://newenglandfarmersunion.org/insurance) for details.