



Growing Connecticut's Future with UConn Extension Agriculture Programs

UConn Extension's agriculture programs empower farmers, green industry professionals, and communities with science-based solutions to grow food, steward natural resources, and build climate resilience. Through technical assistance, workshops, and research-based education, we're cultivating a sustainable and thriving agricultural future for Connecticut. As agriculture faces increasing challenges from extreme weather events, market shifts, and environmental pressures, UConn Extension plays a critical role in ensuring the long-term viability of Connecticut's food systems and rural economies.

COMMUNITY IMPACTS



18k

acres adopted sustainable practices



3k+

green industry professionals adopted recommended practices



825

small farms and beginning farmers improved knowledge



750+

individuals increased food system knowledge

BY THE NUMBERS



3k+

views of the garlic cultivation fact sheet



270

fruit and vegetable farmers served



229

farmers completing certificate programs



634

participants trained in fertilizer and pesticide safety

“

UConn Extension is a lifeline for our farm—helping us adapt to climate change and grow smarter.”

Connecticut Farmer



“

UConn Extension continues to lead in promoting climate-smart agriculture, supporting pollinator health, and advancing food safety and risk management practices across Connecticut.”

UConn Extension provides vital education and assistance to the state’s agriculture sector. Programs span pest management, livestock health, soil conservation, urban agriculture, and farm business planning. In 2024, Extension expanded climate-smart agriculture initiatives and continued to train beginning farmers through Solid Ground.

Producers statewide adopted sustainable practices, improved production methods, and enhanced business resilience. UConn Extension’s outreach helped growers reduce pesticide use, improve soil health, and adapt to environmental and economic challenges—strengthening the future of Connecticut agriculture.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** UConn’s IPM program provided hands-on support to growers, helping reduce pesticide use and improve crop health. In 2024, the program reached hundreds of farms and growers with diagnostics, scouting, and training.
- **Soil Health Initiatives:** Workshops and consultations helped farmers improve soil fertility and resilience, supporting long-term productivity.
- **Farm Viability Services:** Strategic planning, grant assistance, and business development support helped farms adapt and thrive in a changing agricultural landscape.
- **Urban Agriculture:** Empowered communities to grow fresh food in urban spaces through education and technical assistance.
- **Greenhouse & Nursery Support:** Research and outreach helped greenhouse growers adopt more sustainable and efficient practices.
- **Solid Ground – Beginning Farmer Training:** This program supports new and beginning farmers with hands-on training in climate-smart agriculture, business planning, and farm mechanics. In 2024, Solid Ground awarded microgrants to 18 farms and trained hundreds through its Ag Mechanics and Business of Farming courses.
- **Livestock Education:** UConn Extension provides science-based education to livestock producers on animal health, grazing management, and biosecurity. Workshops and farm visits help ensure humane, productive, and sustainable livestock operations.

(9-2025) Data is based on 2024 program information. The University of Connecticut complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action, including the provision of reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. Extension program participants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations to address limitations resulting from a disability. For more information, please contact the UConn Extension Civil Rights Liaison at extensioncivilrights@uconn.edu.

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agriculture.extension.uconn.edu