



## August/September Farm & Market Report

8/30/19

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### COMMISSIONER'S COLUMN

#### FOREFRONT

- Energy News
- Public Comment Period and Public Meetings Scheduled Shellfish Initiative Strategic Plan
- Massachusetts Cranberry Bog Renovation Enhancement Grant Program
- Reminder: Deadline Extended to September 3, 2019 for Written Comments on Ag Composting Regulations
- New England Farmland Finder Works for Farm Seekers & Landowners
- Build-A-Lease Tool

#### UPCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

- September 1 - Farming for Maximum Photosynthesis - Barre
- September 8 - Organic Cranberry Production - Fresh Meadows Farm, Carver
- September 14 - Honey Bee Education Days at State Apiaries
- September 15 - Mass. Christmas Tree Association Annual Meeting - Arrowhead Acres, Uxbridge
- September 16 - 100th Anniversary of the Massachusetts Building at the Big E
- September 19 - Massachusetts Day at the Big E
- September 21 - Honey Bee Education Days at State Apiaries - Honey Extraction
- September 22 - Explore Farming Workshop - Moraine Farm, Beverly
- September 24 - CISA Workshop: Get the most out of your farm's POS System, S. Deerfield
- September 24 - Acidified Canned Foods Workshop - UMass Food Science Pilot Plant, Amherst
- September 25 - Acidified Canned Foods Webinars

#### USDA NEWS

- [Hemp Crop Insurance Coverage Available for 2020](#)
  - [2020 Farm to School Census](#)
  - [Farm Storage Facility Loans](#)
  - [Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program \(NAP\) Losses](#)
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## COMMISSIONER'S COLUMN



Greetings, Mass. Agriculture and all its' friends,

My, there's a lot going on! Some of it's good news, and sadly, some of it isn't, but it's been a tremendously busy summer. I'm not exactly sure the best way to report it, but here we go, possibly a little more meandering than usual.

I guess I want to first address the elephant in the room-the mosquito-transmitted Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEv). This is a very serious disease and I urge everyone to gain some understanding of the issue and to regularly follow the personal protection practices suggested by the Department of Public Health (DPH). Those practices and a wealth of information are available [here](#).

Within MDAR's organization is the [State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board \(SRB\)](#), which I chair and serve on with Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Leo Roy and Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Martin Suuberg, or their designees. The SRB establishes administrative and technical policies, guidelines, and best management practices to ensure mosquito control programs are safe and effective. Additionally, SRB staff here at MDAR serve as the fiscal/legal team that provides administrative and legal support to the eleven regional programs throughout the state.

That's the regular ongoing element to MDAR's role in mosquito control, but there's another element that is triggered by situations like the one MA is currently experiencing. When DPH determined through evaluation of various criteria, including monitoring traps that aerial spraying for control of mosquitoes that may carry EEEv in some locations was its recommendation, it informed the SRB, which then voted its agreement. Once that happened, it became MDAR's job to manage the aerial spraying operation. Previous MDAR managed aerial sprays took place in 2006, 2010 and 2012.

The best time of day to achieve the highest level of control is dusk to dawn, and that's when the planes fly. Accordingly, MDAR staff was present at the respective airports coordinating with our contractors, Clarke Mosquito Control and Dynamic Aviation for every minute planes were in the air. There were two spray events in portions of Bristol and Plymouth Counties (August 8-11 and August 21-25) and on the evening of August 27 we concluded two consecutive nights of spraying in portions of Middlesex and Worcester Counties (August 26-27). More information about aerial spraying is available [here](#).

There is an enormous amount of very detailed coordination by MDAR with DPH, along with the Secretariats of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Health and Human Services, DCR, DEP, Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Police, the regional Mosquito Control Districts, local law enforcement), the contractors, airports, and any others I may have inadvertently omitted to make this work. Everyone stepped up!

I'm extremely proud of how everyone involved, but particularly the MDAR team, executed the spray operations. This was without exaggeration a round-the-clock operation. Frequently, we left the airport just as the sun was rising, and our GIS team was already in the office working on the previous night's maps with data provided from the aircraft.

**These sprays are designed to reduce populations; they can't eliminate all virus containing mosquitoes, so everyone must still be careful. This holds whether you are in or near the spray zones, or not. There have been other positive trapping hits throughout the state. This is not a disease to take lightly!**

I'm not exactly sure how to make a graceful transition to other subjects after that sobering one, so I'm not going to try-just going to plow ahead.

We've had another longtime MDAR staffer retire after a long and very productive career. Fiscal Coordinator Joyce Toland in July after **forty-seven years** at MDAR! I quickly learned shortly after I became Commissioner that Joyce was everybody's go-to whether it was about payroll, HR, work related travel or many other matters, some of which may have been outside her normal job duties. She was a wonderful teacher and mentor to many people here over the years. Joyce had extraordinary knowledge of the state system (both the formal one, and often, more importantly, the informal one). Simply put, she knew how to get things done! We miss her terribly but are very happy for her well deserved retirement.

Since last column, we've been busy both in and out of the office. Though we enjoy getting out, it's important that we get ample opportunities to hear directly from farmers what's on their minds.

- Margaret Moulton and the team at [Berkshire Grown](#) treated MDAR staff to tours of Broadlawn Farm in Adams (It was great to see how with a great deal of community support and hard work how the Ziembra family has triumphed over the devastating fire they suffered last fall!); Caretaker Farm in Williamstown; and Red Shirt Farm in Lanesborough.
- We're on the Fair Circuit! Asst. Commissioner Ashley Randle toured the Westport, Barnstable, Hamden County 4H, Bolton, Martha's Vineyard, Marshfield, Middlesex County 4H, and Cummington Fairs. I visited the Littleville, Adams, Middlefield, Heath, and Westfield Fairs. There are plenty more on the schedule!
- Ashley attended the MA Association of Dairy Farmers at Tully Farms in Dunstable.
- Mackenzie May and the [Central Mass Grown](#) crew organized a tour staff and I attended to visit Breezy Gardens, Leicester; Bemis Farms, Spencer; and Free Living Farm, Brookfield.
- I had the opportunity to attend two farms' 100th Anniversary celebrations on the very same day: at the Ketowen-Clark Farm in Rutland and at the Bar-Way Farm in Deerfield. Congratulations to the Clark and Melnik families on this tremendous achievement!
- It's always a pleasure to get back to my roots. I had a great time at the MA Nursery and Landscape Association Down to Earth Summer Conference at Sylvan Nursey in Dartmouth. I heard a great presentation by Javier Marin, MDAR Forest Pest Outreach Coordinator on the Spotted Lanternfly. Better yet, I took the Plant ID test as part of my MA Certified Horticulturist recertification process and scored a very respectable 85%! I'm prouder of that than I probably deserve to be, but it's fascinating to observe how one's memory digs down to find old, largely unused information. Interesting (to me anyways, and maybe to other nursery people) I seem to much better retain my ability to identify woody ornamentals than herbaceous ones.
- Staff and I attended Congressman Jim McGovern's annual series of farm tours in his district.
- Ashley and staff attended the 5th Anniversary of Fenway Farms at Fenway Park.
- I visited the UMass Crop and Animal Research and Education Center in South Deerfield with other members of the Food Policy Council.
- As part of a tour of the Copley Square Farmers Market, we read Governor Baker's Farmers Market Week proclamation.
- I attended a very interesting W MA Hemp Tour organized by State Representative Natalie Blais.
- LG Polito and I toured Amy's All Natural in Palmer at which Amy Mitchell demonstrated how she manufactures her soap using locally sourced ingredients and herbs she grows. Amy is a vendor at the MA Building at the Big E.
- Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides, Ashley and I attended the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association 132nd Annual Meeting in Plympton. At the meeting Secretary Theoharides announced the Baker-Polito Administration's new [Massachusetts Cranberry Bog](#)

[Renovation Enhancement Grant Program](#). Such a program was highly recommended by the [MA Cranberry Revitalization Task Force](#) in its [final report](#).

- Karen Schwalbe and [SEMAP](#) hosted a tour for staff and me to my old friends and decades long vendors Fred Reuter and Dave Ellis at Roseland Nursery, Acushnet; Silverbrook Farm, Acushnet; and Jonathan's Sprouts, E. Freetown.
- It was a great pleasure to host the [35th Annual MA Tomato Contest](#) held at the KITCHEN at the Boston Public Market. We had over 80 entries competing for the coveted Tomy Awards! [Winners listed here](#).

It's almost Big E time! The MA Building on the Avenue of States is managed by MDAR's Fran Pearson, and she and our Agricultural Markets team have pulled out all stops because it's a very important year-it's the 100th Anniversary of the MA Building, the first state building to be constructed! Special MA Building events include Military Day, Friday September 13th; Rededication Day, Monday September 16th; Massachusetts Day, Thursday September 19th; and Harvest New England Day Friday September 27th. Please join the over one million people who will visit the MA Building between September 13th and 29th. Our Rededication Day will honor the Building's 100th Anniversary. Hope to see you there!

I guess I'm going to both open and close with serious or sad notes. For over fifty years, no one had a wider or more positive influence on Central Mass. horticulture and gardening than Paul Rogers who died at the age of 90 in July. I had the great fortune to initially meet him in the late Sixties when one of my first jobs at my family's business, Shrewsbury Nurseries, was to help unload his frequent wholesale deliveries of perennials (each pot with a handwritten wooden ID tag) from his Volkswagen van. Paul taught me something virtually every time he delivered.

Paul did so many things very well, but his ability to communicate excellent information, his love for growing, and his perpetual joyfulness to talk plants inspired generations of professionals and amateurs alike. It didn't matter if it was in his column in the Worcester Telegram, on his WTAG Radio program, at an event, or at a coffee shop, he was always delighted to share his enthusiasm and tremendous wealth of knowledge.

Those of us in the industry had to make sure we regularly read what he wrote about and spoke about to be sure to have it on hand, because (speaking from experience) people would constantly visit garden centers to seek what "Paul Rogers said I should buy...." His support of the nursery industry was boundless, but if we didn't have exactly what Paul suggested, all too often there'd be no sale of an alternative.

Along with family and friends, Paul leaves special legacies of thousands (millions?) of plants that are growing throughout the region, and the many backyard and professional growers he greatly helped along the way.

Paul Rogers truly shaped the Central Mass. landscape and made it so very much better.

I was very pleased to learn that Tina and Ed Bemis, of Bemis Farms Nursery in Spencer are the new hosts of the Saturday morning Gardeners' Calendar program on WTAG. Like Paul, they each possess a deep wealth of horticultural knowledge, along with the communication skills to inform all levels of gardeners. Tina and Ed are perfect successors to Paul to continue to promote horticulture in Central MA!

Summer has just flown by-I hope it has been and continues to be productive!

Best regards,



John Lebeaux

[Top](#)

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## FOREFRONT

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### Energy News

#### [MDAR's MA Farm Energy Program \(MFEP\) - Energy Audits](#)

MDAR's Massachusetts Farm Energy Program (MFEP) has funds to help farms cover audits, energy efficient projects, and select renewable energy projects. Contact us now for more information through the Center for EcoTechnology (CET), our partner carrying out the MFEP. Contact 413-727-3090, [info@massfarmenergy.com](mailto:info@massfarmenergy.com), or visit [www.massfarmenergy.com](http://www.massfarmenergy.com), submit a *Request Form*, and then you will be contacted.

#### FY2020 ACRE Grant Applications

MDAR was pleased to receive 70 total applications for our Agricultural Climate Resiliency and Efficiencies (ACRE) grant program. Applications are currently under review. The grant program is divided between Part 1 Non-energy and Part 2 Energy related technologies, both efforts designed to help provide greater adaptation and mitigation to climate change for agricultural operations.

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### Public Comment Period and Public Meetings Scheduled Shellfish Initiative Strategic Plan

Public Comment Period and Public Meetings Scheduled to Solicit Preliminary Stakeholder and Public Feedback Regarding the Development of the Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative Strategic Plan

A Comment period and four public meetings have been scheduled to solicit preliminary public and stakeholder feedback to inform The Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative (MSI) Taskforce's Strategic Plan have been scheduled. Anyone interested in participating in the development of a strategic plan focused on protecting public access to, and ensuring the sustainability of, the Commonwealth's shellfish resources are encouraged to submit written comments and/or attend one of the four scheduled public hearings. Written comments will be accepted starting August 26, 2019 and until 5pm on October 4, 2019. Public comments will also be accepted verbally at one of the four scheduled public meetings. Comments should directly address shellfish management in the Commonwealth or one or multiple MSI Strategic Plan thematic areas of interest:

1. Building public and stakeholder capacity and support for shellfish.
2. Management, research, and industry resource development.
3. Supporting and promoting cultural and historical uses of shellfish.
4. Supporting and promoting balanced and sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish.

5. Fostering communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance.
6. Ensuring ecologically sound management/enhancement of shellfish resources and coastal ecosystems.

[Details and public meeting locations here.](#) For more information and to submit written comments please email: [roleary@maritime.edu](mailto:roleary@maritime.edu).

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## Massachusetts Cranberry Bog Renovation Enhancement Grant Program

Request for Response (RFR): For the implementation of cranberry bog renovations to create more efficient bogs both in design and more productive berry varieties to enhance business and environmental sustainability through enhanced productivity of the cranberry operation.

COMMBUYS link: [www.commbuys.com/bs0/external/bidDetail.sdo?bidId=BD-20-1002-1003-001-43067&parentUrl=activeBids](http://www.commbuys.com/bs0/external/bidDetail.sdo?bidId=BD-20-1002-1003-001-43067&parentUrl=activeBids)

Responses must be received **by Friday, September 13, 2019 by 3:00pm**. Contact: Robert Monahan: [Robert.Monahan@mass.gov](mailto:Robert.Monahan@mass.gov)

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## Reminder: Deadline Extended to September 3, 2019 for Written Comments on Ag Composting Regulations

The Department of Agricultural Resources has extended the deadline for written comments on the Agricultural Composting Regulations, 330 CMR 25:00.

Written comments will now be accepted **until 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 3, 2019**. Comments must be submitted by e-mail to [Dorothy.Du@mass.gov](mailto:Dorothy.Du@mass.gov) or by mail to Dorothy Du, 251 Causeway Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02114- 2151.

The proposed regulation is available on the Department's website at: [www.mass.gov/service-details/mdar-proposed-amendments-to-regulations](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/mdar-proposed-amendments-to-regulations) or may be obtained by calling Dorothy Du at 617-626- 1741. For special accommodations for this event or to obtain this information in an alternative format, you may contact ADA Coordinator, Agatha Summons, at 617-626-1282.

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## New England Farmland Finder Works for Farm Seekers & Landowners

Connecting farm seekers with exiting farmers and other farmland owners is needed now more than ever. [NewEnglandFarmlandFinder.org](http://NewEnglandFarmlandFinder.org) is a free farm property posting website that helps them find one another.

"This site has been very helpful. I've had about a dozen interested candidates and today toured with a very interested family. Thank you!" shared Janice Wentworth, The Warren Farm & Sugarhouse (MA). It can work for you, too.

Send your suggestions! LFG and other members of the New England Farm Link Collaborative want your suggestions for where New England Farmland Finder should be listed, linked or advertised. Send your suggestions to [communications@landforgood.org](mailto:communications@landforgood.org).

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## Build-A-Lease Tool

Farmers and landowners—and the land—benefit from good farm leases. A sound, written farm lease doesn't have to be complicated, but it should have a solid legal foundation and reflect the interests and goals of both parties.

The Land For Good Build-a-Lease Tool will help you develop or improve your farm lease. With this Tool you can:

- Learn about farm leases
- Build a working version of a lease agreement that fits your situation or intent
- Share, review and edit the Tool output with your attorney and the other party
- This tool was designed with New England farmers and landowners in mind and based on our work with them and other service providers. That doesn't mean it isn't useful elsewhere, but some language and clauses might be different in other regions.

This is an educational tool. It is not intended to produce a legal document or to replace legal advice from an attorney. You can use this Tool to learn about farm leasing without filling in the template. [Details here.](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

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### September

- **September 1 - Farming for Maximum Photosynthesis** - 10-2pm, Many Hands Organic Farm, 411 Sheldon Rd., Barre. Maximum photosynthesis leads to more food of better quality. Topics: no till vegetable and fruit production using intersown cover crops, heavy mulch, and targeted foliar nutrition; highly integrated animal husbandry - pigs, chickens, turkeys – their rotations, feed and housing; all of the extra products and ventures that flow from this diverse and packed landscape; tour of energy efficient and solar house design/root cellar. [More here.](#)
- **September 8 - Organic Cranberry Production** - Fresh Meadows Farm, Carver. Tour one of Fresh Meadow Farms organic cranberry bogs and discuss the variety of cultivation techniques they use and the specific cultivars they find to work well in organic production. Learn about handling the crop after harvest. Questions regarding transitioning from conventional to organic production and opportunities in the organic market. [Details here.](#)
- **September 14 – Honey Bee Education Days at State Apiaries - Fall Management Part 2** - Join the Bee Team from MDAR's Apiary Program to get a tour of live working honey bee colonies, hands-on demonstrations of hive management techniques, and exposure to the latest knowledge on how to best sustain healthy honey bee colonies in MA. These events are free and open to the public, but will focus on topics of interest to beekeepers. [Details here.](#)

- **September 15 - Mass. Christmas Tree Association 61th Annual Meeting** - 8am - 3pm, Arrowhead Acres, Uxbridge. All Christmas Tree growers welcomed. [Program flyer here.](#)
- **September 16 - 100th Anniversary of the Massachusetts Building at the Big E** - Questions [Katelyn.Rozenas@Mass.gov](mailto:Katelyn.Rozenas@Mass.gov).
- **September 19 - Massachusetts Day at the Big E** - Questions, [Phu.Mai@mass.gov](mailto:Phu.Mai@mass.gov).
- **September 21 – Honey Bee Education Days at State Apiaries - Honey Extraction** – 10am-2pm; Location TBD. [Updates here.](#)
- **September 22 - Explore Farming Workshop** - 7 - 9 pm. New Entry Farmer Training Center, Moraine Farm, Beverly. If you or anyone you know has ever wondered if farming was a realistic career path, this your chance to find out everything you need to know to make that decision. This free, two-hour workshop is for anyone interested in learning about sustainable agriculture. It will cover all the different aspects of a farm business and the commitment it takes to work in a successful sustainable farming operation. [Details here.](#)
- **September 24 - CISA Workshop: Get the most out of your farm's POS system**, 6-8:30pm, Polish American Citizens Club, S. Deerfield. Calling all farmstand and store managers - get expert advice from presenter Erin Pirro of Farm Credit East on how to use your point-of-sale system to make better business decisions for your farm. Learn how to use your system most effectively to stay on top of sales trends, look at margins, track your inventory, and increase farm profitability. [Details here.](#)
- **September 24 - Acidified Canned Foods Workshop** - 5:30-8:30pm - UMass Food Science Pilot Plant, 102 Holdsworth Way, Amherst. Producing shelf-stable acidified canned foods can help to add value to produce and help to increase markets, extend the agricultural season, and reduce waste. These programs will include the overall product development process, review the product formulation manual, discuss some of the product development challenges that occurred during development, and discuss how processors can request access to these product formulations for their own market use to produce at their own commercial facilities. [Details here.](#)
- **September 25 , Acidified Canned Foods Webinars** - 12:30-1:30pm OR Thursday, September 26, 2019, 6-7pm. Registration: Click here to register for one of the webinar times. Questions? Contact Teddy Phan at [ttphan@umass.eduprogram](mailto:ttphan@umass.eduprogram). [Details here.](#)

## October

- **October 1 - Erosion Control Field Day** – 8am to 4pm, The Paul Center, Chelmsford. Or Wednesday, **October 2** – Brigham Hill Community Farm, North Grafton. Registration is required for both. Training for professionals working in soils, erosion control, water quality, public works, engineering, roads, planning and consulting. Participants will receive a certificate of completion for six (6) contact hours for Professional Development Hours (PDHs). These credits can be applied to recertification for the three year Massachusetts Natural Shoreland Erosion Control Certification, and can also be applied to EnviroCert recertification. Otherwise, it is up to the individual to contact their associations to determine if these credit hours can apply to their professional license or recertification. [Registration and details here.](#)

**Save the Date:**



- **December 10-12:** [New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference](#), Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH.

## [MDAR Calendar](#)

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# USDA News

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## Hemp Crop Insurance Coverage Available for 2020

Certain industrial hemp growers will be able to obtain insurance coverage under the Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) program for crop year 2020. USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) today announced coverage for hemp grown for fiber, flower or seeds, which will be available to producers who are in areas covered by USDA-approved hemp plans or who are part of approved state or university research pilot programs.

Producers can obtain WFRP coverage for hemp now if they are part of a Section 7606 state or university research pilot as authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill. Other producers cannot obtain coverage until a USDA-approved plan is in place. WFRP allows coverage of all revenue for commodities produced on a farm up to a total insured revenue of \$8.5 million. It is popular for specialty crops, organic commodities and non-traditional crops. The 2018 Farm Bill amended the Controlled Substances Act to address how industrial hemp is to be defined and regulated at the federal level, and those modifications cleared the way for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to offer policies for it. The Farm Bill defines hemp as containing 0.3 percent or less tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) on a dry weight basis.

### Policy Requirements

RMA has started addressing the changes by offering hemp coverage under WFRP for the 2020 crop year. To be eligible, among other requirements, a hemp producer must comply with applicable state, tribal or federal regulations for hemp production and have a contract for the purchase of the insured industrial hemp. WFRP provisions state that hemp having THC above the compliance level will not constitute an insurable cause of loss. Additionally, hemp will not qualify for replant payments under WFRP.

### Hemp Plans

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is formulating regulations that will include specific details for both a USDA plan for the production of hemp and a process for submission of state, territorial or tribal plans to USDA. AMS is developing the regulation now, which is anticipated to post to the Federal Register later this year. Once rulemaking is complete, RMA, the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service and other USDA agencies will share eligibility information on their programs, which include safety net, conservation, farm loan and disaster assistance programs. This includes FSA looking at additional coverage options through its Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program and through RMA-administered crop insurance.

For more information on the Hemp Production Program, visit the AMS [Hemp Production webpage](#) and these [questions and answers](#). For more information on WFRP coverage, visit the [Hemp and Farm Bill Programs webpage](#) on [farmers.gov](#). RMA will publish a bulletin with additional information for approved insurance

providers on Aug. 30.

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## 2020 Farm to School Census

In 2010, the National School Lunch Act was amended to formally establish a Farm to School Program within USDA to improve access to local foods in schools through grants, training/TA, and research. In 2013 the first Farm to School Census helped establish baseline data. **Now in 2019**, USDA is about to launch its third census to every school in the nation! Many schools in the Commonwealth have embraced the Farm to School mission by serving locally sourced ingredients in the school meals, planting school gardens and incorporating nutrition education into their curriculum. Participating in the census will make sure all of this hard work gets counted! School Food Service personnel can start preparing for the census today by using [this preparation worksheet \(.doc\)](#). Are you Interested in learning more about the Farm to School Census? [Click here for more information](#). Are you a farmer interested to connect with Massachusetts schools? Contact [Massachusetts Farm to School](#) for some great resources and assistance.

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## Farm Storage Facility Loans

[FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan \(FSFL\) program](#) provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks. The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities. Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security. Loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security. Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

To learn more about the FSA Farm Storage Facility Loan, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport) or contact your local FSA county office.

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## Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Losses

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters including freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes, flood, excessive heat and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing), among others. Eligible producers must have purchased NAP coverage for 2019 crops. A notice of loss must be filed the earlier of 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 days of the final harvest date. Producers of hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent. Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

For more information on NAP, contact your local FSA office or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap).

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## Classified

- [Farmers Markets Seeking Vendors](#) - Check back periodically for updates to this list. If you have updates, please send to [David.Webber@mass.gov](mailto:David.Webber@mass.gov).
  - **Job posting** - MDAR is hiring an Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program Stewardship Planner. This person will be part of a team of responsible for all aspects of stewardship for MDAR's Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (similar to Conservation Restrictions), and will be based in the West Springfield office. Job description is here: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=190006J3>. Questions, contact Caroline Raisler [caroline.raisler@mass.gov](mailto:caroline.raisler@mass.gov).
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## About the *Farm & Market Report*

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MDAR's mission is to ensure the long-term viability of agriculture in Massachusetts. Through its four divisions – Agricultural Conservation & Technical Assistance, Agricultural Markets, Animal Health, and Crop and Pest Services – MDAR strives to support, regulate and enhance the rich diversity of the Commonwealth's agricultural community to promote economically and environmentally sound food safety and animal health measures, and fulfill agriculture's role in energy conservation and production. For more information, visit MDAR's website at [www.mass.gov/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr).

