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June / July Farm & Market Report

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COMMISSIONER'S COLUMN



Greetings, Mass. Agriculture and all its friends,

First item I'd like to report to you is a change in personnel in the Commissioner's Office: Assistant Commissioner Jason Wentworth decided to pursue another career opportunity and left MDAR earlier this Spring. Jason joined the department in the summer of 2015. He effectively managed our legislative and food safety programs, did a great deal of thoughtful policy development work, and ably handled every special project I sent his way.

Jason was a tremendous help to me particularly and also to the entire Department. We are going to miss him. Department staff and I wish him great success in his new undertaking.

Since I last wrote, the Department initiated its [Hemp Program](#) on April 30th. Please follow that link for all relevant information including the Department's Policy and FAQs.

I realize that hemp cultivation and processing is much more regulated than other ag related practices in the state, but it's not every day that a whole new opportunity develops.

One needs a license from the Department to grow or process hemp in Massachusetts. I'm pleased to report that both our hemp group and I have spoken with numerous interested parties, that we have received applications, and already issued licenses to applicants whose applications were complete and appropriately addressed all criteria.

There are a host of questions and issues related to hemp; I do not write to encourage or discourage entry into the marketplace, but I do encourage anyone interested to research all elements carefully before making any business decisions.

I was surprised that last night we blundered upon a television show that was centered about a chemical compound that occurs in varying degrees in all Cannabis, known as CBD. CBD does not have the psycho-active properties that the more widely known Cannabis component THC does. It is purported to have certain therapeutic values. There are particular strains of Cannabis that fall under the definition of hemp (Cannabis containing less than .3% of THC) that have significant CBD present, and is the end product for which some hemp farmers plan to grow their crops.

What I found particularly interesting was that this network program wasn't a news show or documentary; it was a drama that addressed many of the issues we have carefully considered about cultivation of hemp and use of some of its products. Frankly it's not every day that some television drama is addressing a subject in

which MDAR is actively involved. Who knew that a hemp product would be the basis for a network television drama?

I want to note a few recent visits I've made since April. As part of Earth Week, we organized an Ag Energy tour and visited the greenhouse operation at Nourse Farms in Whately and the Anaerobic Digester at Bar-Way Dairy Farm in Deerfield, observing state of the art green systems that are great assets to farmers.

We had a great time participating in 3 in-classroom events to honor the winners of our first Name the Queen Honey Bee Contest. The response to the contest was fantastic with 7 counties, 17 towns, 18 schools, 24 teachers, 31 classes and 821 students participating to name the queens.

Chief Apiary Inspector Kim Skyrn and an MDAR team, along with Mass Bee Honey Queen Desiree Gracie and some racks of the hardworking bees from the State Apiaries visited with some great kids. I was lucky enough to join the team for two of them.

The winners:

- Cheryl Wright's 6th grade class at Leicester Middle School with winning name "Beelena Gomez"
- Lucinda Keith's 3rd grade class at Bournedale Elementary in Bourne with winning name "Mrs. Cranbee"
- Carol Buzzell's 5th grade class at Dr. A.B. Consentino School in Haverhill with winning name "Queenie"

It was exciting to see the kids so excited about bees-and it was great fun! Check our [Facebook](#) for photos.

We had an excellent Buy Fresh Buy Local Cape Cod tour and joined with the Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical High School-Culinary Program to check out farm to table. We started at Barnstable Sea Farms to see springtime oyster farming-boy it was cold and windy on a mid-May day, then greenhouse greens and shrimp farming at E&T Farm in W. Barnstable, Cape Cod Organic Farm and some of the Barnstable County Beekeepers Association's hives in Barnstable. We also saw local food distribution services at the Falmouth Service Center. It was a treat to have a nice lunch at a restaurant that routinely incorporates local product into its menu choices: Bear in Boots in Falmouth.

Hope your spring leads to a productive 2018!

Best regards,



John Lebeaux

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FOREFRONT

Energy News

[Agricultural Net Metering Facilities – DPU Solar Net Metering Credit Value Order](#)

NOTE: This article appeared in the previous Farm & Market Report but we want to emphasize and repeat it in this edition as well.

Based on the recent D.P.U. 17-10-A Order, DPU has determined and ruled qualified Agricultural Solar PV Net Metering Facilities are still eligible to receive the original 100% net metering credit value in lieu of recently enacted Marketing Net Metering Credits for private solar PV facilities which are now valued at 60% of the original value. Presently this affects only solar PV credit values. Exemptions from the new 60% Marketing Net Metering Credits are smaller systems, including 10 kW or less with single-phase electric service and 25 kW or less with three-phase service. MDAR, EEA & DOER provided comments to the DPU 17-10 docket to continue to allow all Agricultural Net Metering Solar PV Facilities to still be eligible for the original 100% net metering credit based on the original Agricultural Net Metering Facility definition (220 CMR 18.02), provided that at least 50% of the energy generated by the system is used by metered agricultural accounts of the farm business.

In their review of the matter in Docket 17-10-A, DPU ruled that: “The fact that the Legislature defined certain facilities, regardless of fuel type, as agricultural facilities in the GCA (Green Communities Act) suggests an intent to grant agricultural facilities some benefit or designation that is different from other types of net metering facilities.” And further: “The Department finds that in reading the GCA in partnership with the Solar Energy Act (the new Act Relative to Solar), new solar net metering facilities may also be designated as agricultural net metering facilities and benefit from receipt of the agricultural status. The benefit of a new solar net metering facility that is also designated as an agricultural net metering facility is that it may generate a net metering credit equivalent to 100 percent of the net excess kWh so long as it retains its designation as an agricultural facility. G.L. c. 164, §§ 138, 139. Further, where the Solar Energy Act integrated the solar provisions into the GP (G.L. c. 164, §§ 138, 139, and 140), this interpretation permitting a new solar net metering facility that is also an agricultural net metering facility to generate net metering credits pursuant to 220 CMR 18.04(1)/(5) is reasonable. Further, such facilities will be able to generate a net metering credit equivalent to 100 percent of the net excess kWh for 25 years from the date that it interconnected to the electric distribution system.”

MDAR greatly appreciates DPU’s special recognition provided for farms in the net metering regulations and their subsequent decision and order, as well as the collaborative effort of EEA and DOER in pursuit of this.

All farms considering installing a non-exempted (10 kW/25 kW as noted above) solar PV system, should be aware of the requirements to benefit from qualifying as an Agricultural Net Metering Facility as you work on your PV system capacity and design. An optimum design would be one designed to provide more than 50% of the generated energy to be used or credited to agricultural accounts on the farm.

To qualify as any type of Agricultural Net Metering Facility including solar PV, farms need to submit to MDAR an Agricultural Business Determination form found on the [MDAR website here](#).

By regulation, to qualify the renewable energy system must demonstrate per the Agricultural Net Metering Facility in the Net Metering regulations 220 CMR 18.02, Definition: Agricultural Net Metering Facility. A Renewable Energy generating facility that is operated as part of an agricultural business and is not participating in the Small Hydroelectric Net Metering Program, generates electricity, does not have a generation capacity of more than two megawatts, is located on land owned or controlled by the agricultural business, and is used to provide energy to metered accounts of the business. Agriculture has the same meaning as provided in M.G.L. c. 128, § 1A; provided that, when necessary, the Commissioner of the

Department of Agricultural Resources shall determine if a business is an agricultural business and whether the facility is operated as part of that business.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gerry Palano, Energy Programs Coordinator, Gerald.Palano@state.ma.us, or 617-626-1706.

DOER's SMART PROGRAM FINAL GUIDELINES POSTED & SMART Tool Development

DOER's new solar incentive program, SMART (Solar MA Renewable Target), has posted all of the program's final Guidelines which will be incorporated as part of the final SMART regulations. Included are the Guidelines for the Agricultural Solar Tariff Generation Unit (ASTGU), also known as dual-use of land. You can find the final ASTGU Guideline [here](#).

Also, DOER, MDAR and the University of Massachusetts Clean Energy and Vegetable Extensions are developing a SMART Tool that will provide shading analysis and agricultural assistance for farmers and developers alike. Utilizing the SMART Tool for shading analysis and potential agronomical use will be required as part for every ASTGU application. The SMART Tool will also incorporate an annual program required monitoring report format.

MDAR's MA Farm Energy Program (MFEP) - Energy Audits – Now is the time!

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. 413-727-3090, info@massfarmenergy.com, or visit www.massfarmenergy.com, submit a "Request Form", and we will contact you.

One Day Opportunities at the Massachusetts Building at The Big E

MDAR invites Massachusetts businesses and organizations to apply for the one day events on the front lawn of the Massachusetts State Exposition Building during The Big E, September 14 – 30, 2018. The Big E is a regional fair that attracts over 1.5 million attendees annually. The mission of the Massachusetts Building is to showcase Massachusetts agriculture, culture, commerce, and tourism through informational, educational, promotional and retail exhibits.

Learn more about the one day events including **Military Day (9/14)** , **Massachusetts Day (9/20)** and **Harvest New England Day (9/28)**.

Application deadlines for all three days is July 23rd. [Details and applications here.](#)

Massachusetts Food Companies at 2018 International Summer Fancy Food Show

A Massachusetts Pavilion at the 2018 Summer Fancy Food Show, New York City, June 30 – July 2, will feature products from 30 Bay State specialty food businesses, covering 3,600 square feet. The trade show has a reputation as the premier marketplace for value-added foods, with 2,400 exhibitors and 24,000 attendees. Many small to medium sized businesses develop sales from the mostly independent retail buyers in attendance. In addition to the companies in the Massachusetts Pavilion, there will be some 30 additional

Massachusetts exhibitors spread throughout the show, including first timers from CWK, a shared use kitchen in Boston. These entrepreneurial food businesses play an important role as part of the state's food system.

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources coordinates the Massachusetts Pavilion at the Summer Fancy Food Show as part of its support for the value added and specialty food sector. The Massachusetts Pavilion is part of the Avenue of State Pavilions featured at the show. Participants pay their complete expenses, however reimbursement under the USDA Market Access Program covers half the cost of eligible expenses if ingredients are 50% US grown. The state pavilions are of special interest to buyers looking to find regional products to meet their customer requests.

Farm stand operators and retail businesses looking to add Massachusetts value-added products to their inventory are among the buyers that attend the event. [Register](#) to attend.

In addition, the mission prior to the show coordinated by MDAR and Food Export USA Northeast, a USDA Cooperator, connects the businesses with international buyers, this year from 16 countries including Aruba, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, El Salvador, France, Honduras, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and the United Arab Emirates.

Two Massachusetts companies are winners for the "Oscar" of the food world - the prestigious "sofi" award. The winners are Vivra Chocolate and Sauces N Love in multiple categories.

Massachusetts Pavilion:

88 Acres Foods, Dorchester, 88acres.com, Healthy snacks with wholesome ingredients
Bacci Chocolate Design, Swampscott, cbstuffer.com, Biggest and best peanut butter cups
Bonnie's Jams, Cambridge, www.bonniesjams.com, Fresh fruit jams
Boston's Best Coffee Roasters, South Easton, www.bostonsbestcoffee.com, Gourmet coffee selection
C'est Gourmet, Framingham, www.cestgourmet.com/index.html, exceptional take and bake pastries
Coastal Goods, Barnstable, www.coastalgoods.com, Gourmet seasonings
Coffee Snacks, Topsfield, www.coffeesnacks.com/, Premium coffee snack bars
Cold Brew Evy Tea, Boston, coldbrewedtea.com, Cold brew premium tea
Coop's MicoCreamery, South Boston, www.coopsmicrocreamery.com/, Artisanal dessert toppings
Dancing Deer Baking, Boston, www.dancingdeer.com, Gourmet baked goods
Decas Cranberry Products, Carver, www.decascranberry.com/, Diverse cranberry product offerings
Dresden Stollen, North Grafton, www.dresdenstollen.com, Delicious rich German bread
Fancypants Baking, Walpole, www.fancypantsbakery.com, Hand-crafted cookies, 100% natural, and nut free
Golden Cannoli Shells, Chelsea, www.goldencannoli.com, Hand-rolled cannoli shells
Goodnow Farms Chocolate, Sudbury, www.goodnowfarms.com, Award-winning chocolate
Harbor Sweets, Salem, www.harborsweets.com, Handcrafted chocolates
Lark Fine Foods, Essex, www.larkfinefoods.com, Cookies for grown ups
Makomas, Revere, makomas.com, Thirst quenching and delicious beverages
McCrea's Candies, Hyde Park, www.mccreascandies.com, Unique flavored caramels
Minus the Moo, Dorchester, minusthemoo.com, Lactose-free ice cream
MOJO Cold Brewed Coffee, Wenham, www.mojocoffees.com/, Bottled cold brew coffee
Nature's Godfather, Lexington, www.belleandbella.com/, Yogurt and probiotic suppliers
New England Natural Bakers, Greenfield, www.newenglandnaturalbakers.com, Organic, all natural bulk granola and trail mix
Philips Candy House, Boston, www.phillipschocolate.com, Handcrafted chocolates and gourmet confections
Plenus Group, Lowell, www.pgifoods.com, Premium, value-added specialty foods
Powell & Mahoney, Salem, www.powellandmahoney.com/, Craft cocktail mixers

Sauces 'n Love, Lynn, www.saucesnlove.com, Unique sauces to complete a meal
Spindrift Beverage, Waltham, spindriftfresh.com, Sparkling beverages made with real squeezed fruit
Stirrings, Mansfield, www.stirrings.com, Fun cocktail mixers
Strawberry Hill Grand Delights, Waltham, www.strawberryhillcandy.com, Elegantly designed chocolates and hard candies
Two Friends The Chocolate Company, Boxborough, www.twofriendschocolates.com, Handcrafted artisan chocolates

Farm & Sea to School Conference Seeks Workshop Proposals



On December 6, 2018, Mass. Farm to School will hold its fifth statewide Conference. This year's theme is *Setting the Table: Communities Creating Change*. The conference seeks to amplify traditionally underrepresented voices in the Massachusetts food system and identify strategies and resources for promoting racial equity and social justice as we grow the farm & sea to school movement. There's still time to submit a workshop proposal! The deadline has been extended through June 22nd. Important Note: There is no fee to present a workshop at the Farm & Sea to School Conference (and if your workshop is accepted, you will receive a reduced-rate registration fee). We would like to clarify this point because in the Workshop Submission Form, there was an erroneous reference to a fee which was placed there in error.

Conference proposals should relate to this year's theme, *Setting the Table: Communities Creating Change*. We seek workshops that represent a variety of program approaches, reflect the diversity of our state, and promote equity in the farm and sea to school movement.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Policy Efforts and Community Organizing
- School Based Health & Wellness Initiatives
- Racial Equity & Social Justice in the Food System
- Student Leadership in the Farm & Sea to School Movement
- Community Partnerships
- Cultural Diversity in School Meals & Farm to School Activities
- Early Childhood Education Initiatives
- Growing/Producing Food for Institutional Markets

To read the full request for proposals and to submit your proposal, please [click here](#). New! Submission Deadline: June 22, 2018 - For more information about the conference, please visit [website](#).

Annual Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest

Each year MAC, the Grange, and MDAR collaborate on its' annual Agriculture Calendar and we are making plans for 2019 now!



Send us your best agriculture related photographs!
Submissions are due July 1st.

12 winners (and maybe a few “Honorable mentions”) will be invited to the Big E on Massachusetts Day September 20th, and the winning cover photographer receives a “Sweet Basket” (Massachusetts produced Maple Syrup, Honey, and a few other goodies!) [Submission details here.](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

June 19 - Pesticide Board Meeting – Boston, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. [Details here.](#)

June 19 - Respirator Train-the-Trainer Course for Farmers, Beekeepers, and other employees who need to use respirators - 2 hour workshop at Best Western, Marlboro. Farmers, beekeepers and other who need to wear respirators, required by pesticide labels, can benefit from the workshop. Participants will learn how to fit test a respirator, select, use, clean, maintain and replace respirators. All handlers must be trained under the EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Respirator Requirement if they apply any pesticide that requires a respirator. This is a hands-on workshop. [Details here.](#)

June 19 - Conservation Workshop: Dollars and Sense Farm Grant Workshop - Jones Library Woodbury Room, 43 Amity Street, Amherst, 1:00 - 4:30 pm. The Hampden-Hampshire Conservation District is hosting a free workshop on finding resources for conservation improvements on your farm. Learn how to identify conservation projects and where resources are available to implement them. Presentations from MDAR, USDA, UMass Extension, Land for Good, Northeast SARE and more. Space is limited. To register, contact: Sarah Rippere, 413-932-3235 or Sarah.Rippere@ma.usda.gov.

June 20 - Weed Walkabout - Pine Banks Park, Malden, 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Correct weed identification and site assessment are important steps in the development of an effective weed management program for turf and landscape. [More here.](#)

June 20 - Marketing Webinar Series: Building Online Engagement to Market Your Farm – 7:00 pm. Marketing can help you decide what to grow or produce, choose where and how you want to sell it, differentiate yourself from other farmers, and make effective use of social media and other marketing tools. Learn the basics to doing your own marketing or supervising someone else. This series of 4 webinars is designed as a complete marketing class, but you can register for 1 or all 4. [Details here.](#)

June 23 - Growers Gathering - Christmas Trees - Coward Farm, Southwick, 8:00 am - 2:30 pm. [Details here.](#)

June 25 - Fruit and Vegetable Twilight Meeting – Kimball Fruit Farm, Pepperell, 4:00 – 7:00 pm a. *1.5 Pesticide recertification credits have been approved for this meeting. [More here.](#)

June 27 - Copicut Farms Twilight Workshop – Dartmouth, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Raise pigs and chickens for both meat and eggs. SEMAP Twilight workshop will focus primarily on their poultry growing operation, including considerations and best practices for others who would like to start raising meat chickens or egg layers on their farm. [Details here.](#)

June 28 - Agritourism Workshop for Farmers – 6:00 – 8:00 pm - Park Hill Orchards, Easthampton. Join CISA for an early evening farm tour and round table with Russell Braen and Alane Hartley of Park Hill Orchard. Park Hill practices the "Three T's" of agri-tourism - Tours, Talks and Tastings - in order to create meaningful participatory experiences for visitors. RSVP to Stevie Schafenacker stevie@buylocalfood.org, or at 413-665-7100, ext. 27.

June 28 - MAC Educator Workshop - Family Owned Dairy Farms - the History, the Satisfaction, and the Challenges - Tully Farms, Dunstable, 9-3pm. [Details here.](#)

July 14 - Honey Bee Education Day at State Apiaries - Topic: Pests, Parasites and Pathogen Detection - Danvers and Amherst. [Details here.](#)

July 17 - MAC Educator Workshop - Growing for Others and Improving Your Garden - Community Harvest Project, North Grafton – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. [Details here.](#)

July 19 - MA Food Policy Council Meeting - Westboro , 9:30 am – 12:30pm. [Details here.](#)

July 24 - Twilight Mtg - Organic Weed Management - Langwater Farm, 209 Washington St., North Easton, 4:00 – 7:00 pm. [Details here.](#)

July 26 - Down to Earth: Annual Summer Conference & Trade Show - Wachusett Mtn, Princeton. Unique Massachusetts industry summer meeting and trade show. The meeting will offer something for everyone. Whether it is the NEW Hort Olympics, the innovative exhibits, hands-on demonstrations or cutting-edge education, exhibitors and attendees are sure to find what they are looking for at this years' conference. [More here.](#)

Save The Dates:

- **August 5 – 11 - Massachusetts Farmers Market Week**
- **August 21 - The 34th Annual Tomato Contest - Attention Tomato Growers** – Contest will be held on in The KITCHEN at the Boston Public Market. Keep an eye out for details in July.
- **November 7 & 8, 2018 - Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo**, Boxborough Regency Hotel, Boxborough. For exhibit space and sponsorship opportunities, contact karen@delaneymeetingevent.com.
- **February 27 – 28, 2019 – Harvest New England Ag Marketing Conference and Trade Show**, Sturbridge Host Hotel.

More events here: [MDAR Events Calendar.](#)

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USDA News

Last Chance to Complete the 2017 Census of Agriculture

Last chance to submit the questionnaire by mail. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is wrapping up data collection for the 2017 Census of Agriculture. To stay on track for data release in February 2019, the deadline for submitting the paper questionnaire is June 15, 2018. Farmers and ranchers who have not responded by June 15, 2018 still have until the end of July to complete the Census online through the secure website found on the cover of their Census form. Phone follow-up and personal interviews will also continue through July.

"The Census of Agriculture provides the only source of comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation," said USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue. "These data are used to make important local, state, and national decisions that will have a very real impact on farmers, ranchers, ag operations, and rural communities. I encourage producers to respond online or to send in their paper form today." The questionnaire needs to be completed by everyone who received a form - including landowners who lease land to producers, those involved in conservation programs, even those who may have received the Census and do not farm. Every response matters.

Federal law, Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113, requires NASS to keep all information confidential, to use the data only for statistical purposes, and to only publish in aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation.

For more information about the 2017 Census of Agriculture or to respond online, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov. Improved in 2017, the online form is faster and more convenient than ever. For questions about or assistance with filling out the Census, call toll-free (888) 424-7828.

USDA Extends Application Deadline for Dairy Margin Protection Program to June 22

The new and improved program protects participating dairy producers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below levels of protection selected by the applicant. The re-enrollment deadline was previously extended through June 8, 2018. The deadline is being extended a second time to ensure that dairy producers are given every opportunity to make a calculated decision and enroll in the program if they choose.

This will be the last opportunity for producers to take advantage of key adjustments Congress made to provisions of the MPP program under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to strengthen its support of dairy producers. USDA encourages producers contemplating enrollment to use the online web resource at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool to calculate the best levels of coverage for their dairy operation. The next margin under MPP, for May 2018, will be published on June 28, 2018. Therefore, all coverage elections on form CCC-782 and the \$100 administrative fee, unless exempt, must be submitted to the County FSA Office no later than June 22, 2018. No registers will be utilized, so producers are encouraged to have their enrollment for 2018 completed by COB June 22, 2018.

All dairy operations must make new coverage elections for 2018 during the re-enrollment period, even if the operation was enrolled during the previous 2018 signup. Coverage elections made for 2018 will be retroactive to January 1, 2018. MPP payments will be sequestered at a rate of 6.6 percent. To learn more about the

Margin Protection Program for dairy, contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency county office at offices.usda.gov or visit us on the Web at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Accurate and Timely Acreage Reporting Important for Federal Crop Insurance Policies

Federal Crop Insurance policy holders have a lot at stake in making sure your crop insurance acreage report is accurate and timely filed. If you fail to report on time; you may not be protected. If you report too much acreage; you may pay too much premium. If you report too little acreage; you may recover less when you file a claim.

Crop insurance agents often say that mistakes in acreage reporting are the easiest way for producers to have an unsatisfactory experience with crop insurance. Don't depend on your agent to do this important job for you. Your signature on the bottom of the acreage reporting form makes it, legally, your responsibility. Double check it yourself. Also make sure that your crop insurance and USDA Farm Service Agency reports are identical (provide written explanation of any differences). The law requires that they be compared. Insureds should always make sure that they receive and retain a signed copy of the acreage reports that they file, as this is critical to correct any errors that may show up later.

The acreage report is the basis for determining the amount of insurance provided and the premium charged. An annual acreage report for each insured crop in the county in which you have an ownership share must be submitted to your insurance company (through your agent) on or before the acreage reporting date for that crop. The acreage report shows the crops you have planted, acreage prevented from planting, what share you have in those crops, where the crops are located, how many acres you planted, the dates you planted them, what insurance unit they are located on, and the cultural practice followed (i.e., irrigated, double cropped, etc.). You may not revise this report after the acreage reporting date. Acreage reporting dates vary by crop and State. They are also subject to change, so don't forget to check with your crop insurance agent to make sure you do not miss this important deadline.

Summary of Protection or Schedule of Insurance

About 8 to 10 weeks after you submit your acreage report, you will receive a Summary of Protection or Schedule of Insurance. This document summarizes your acreage report as it appears in the official records. Review it carefully to make sure that all entries are correct and match the copy of your signed acreage report that you initially provided to your insurance agent. Differences between the summary and your signed acreage report can usually be corrected if you contact your agent and give notice of the error immediately upon receipt of the summary. Remember: Acreage reporting is your responsibility as a policyholder! Doing it accurately and timely will save you money.

UMass Extension works in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) and various agricultural organizations to educate and inform Massachusetts producers about Federal Crop Insurance and Risk Management Programs. For more information, please visit www.rma.usda.gov or contact UMass Extension Risk Management Specialists Paul Russell at pmrrussell@umext.umass.edu or Tom Smiarowski at tsmiarowski@umext.umass.edu or visit: <https://ag.umass.edu/risk-management>

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- [Farmers Markets Seeking Vendors](#) - Check back periodically for updates to this list. **If updates, please send to David.Webber@state.ma.us.**
- **Manufacturing space available in Malden/Methuen area for a variety of food, beverage and ag purposes** - IndusPAD is a production center ideally suited for Food Processing, Agro-Tech, Beverage, Storage, Manufacturing, Robotics and other companies from across the state. The former Malden Mills campus is located within the Lawrence and Methuen area with 596,161 square feet that includes dual grid power, city water and on site filtered water, high pressure/low pressure steam, compressed air, high ceilings, concrete slabs, sewer capacity, homogenization tanks and a strong infrastructure for manufacturing. IndusPAD vision is to bring together entrepreneurial CEOs to co-operate in an innovative eco-system working. Visit www.induspad.com for more information or contact Jitender Makkar at Jitender@IndusPAD.com.
- **Hillside School is seeking an experienced Farm Director** to assume leadership of its current farm program. Director will be given the freedom to create, develop and implement their vision and make the farm a signature program. Hillside has recently earmarked, with board approval, significant financial resources for farm program and facility improvements. To accomplish this objective, Hillside will require a Farm Director who is a high-impact self-starter with an entrepreneurial spirit and results driven approach. Director will be responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the farm while concurrently considering, retooling, and implementing a bigger picture vision to ultimately create a true signature program. [More here](#). Questions, tgochman@carneysandoe.com.

About the *Farm & Market Report*

Published bi-monthly by MDAR:

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- Mary Jordan, Director of Agricultural Markets, Mary.Jordan@state.ma.us
- Gerard Kennedy, Director of Agricultural Conservation and Technical Assistance, Gerard.Kennedy@state.ma.us
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Next issue to be published in August. Please send news, events, or classified information by August 6 to Richard.LeBlanc@state.ma.us. To unsubscribe, or change your email address, contact Richard.LeBlanc@state.ma.us or call 617-626-1759.

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