



Online Learning for Produce Farmers

January 2012

University of Vermont Extension **CENTER** for **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

- **Basic Soil Health & Soil Testing:** Dr. Heather Darby, UVM Extension Agronomist and Soil Specialist, explains the art of managing soils to promote crop productivity while protecting the environment.
- **Intro to Plant Diseases** Dr. Ann Hazelrigg, director of the Plant Diagnostic Clinic at the University of Vermont, to learn to identify common plant diseases and learn strategies for managing them.
- **A CSA Primer:** This webinar provides an overview of the CSA model, highlighting innovations made by Vermont farmers, with presentations from Jean Hamilton, NOFA Vermont's former Market Development Coordinator, Joe Buley of Screamin' Ridge Farm and the Central VT Food Hub, and Christa Alexander from Jericho Settlers Farm.
- **Practical Food Safety for Produce Farms:** Ginger Nickerson, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) Outreach Coordinator at UVM's Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and Hans Estrin, UVM Extension Farm to School Coordinator, provides an overview of why new farmers should be thinking about food safety, issues to consider as you plan your operation for the long term, and whether you need to undergo a GAPs Audit or not.

New Farmer Project webinars...are designed for newcomers to online learning.

If you have internet access and can hear sound through your computer, you should be able to view these presentations. A broadband internet connection is helpful but not necessary. The UVM Extension New Farmer Project presents webinars every month on topics of production, marketing, and farm finances.

The online format allows Extension to provide farmers live interaction with experts regardless of where they live, and all webinars are recorded. They can be viewed anytime. Links to the webinar recordings are posted within a week of their presentation at <http://www.uvm.edu/newfarmer>.



Right now, you can view webinars on past topics, including-- *Ins & Outs of Insurance for Farm Businesses*, *Bottom Line on Broiler Production*, *Pricing Your Products for Profit*, and *Selling to Restaurants*.

The UVM Extension New Farmer Project is funded by a USDA Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program Grant awarded to the VT New Farmer Network. The Network consists of organizations that serve VT's beginning farmers.

For more information visit www.uvm.edu/newfarmer.

Email newfarmer@uvm.edu, or call 802-223-2389 x203

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