

Read NWCS Research Reports

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News and Updates



The State of Farming **Film Screening and Discussion with Farming Community**

Monday, October 19, 6pm - 8pm and Tuesday, October 20, 6pm - 8pm

Welden Theatre, 104 N Main St, St Albans City, VT 05478

Cost: FREE!

You're invited to a screening of ***The State of Farming,*** a new documentary on the story of Vermont agriculture through the voices of the farmers who live it every day. **The film screening will be followed by a discussion and Q+A with a panel of local farmers.** Come enjoy the show and support local agriculture!

The State of Farming is proudly produced by Monument Farms, the Vermont Dairy Promotion Council, the Vermont Dairy Producers Alliance, and Mt. Mansfield Media.

This event is presented by the Franklin and Grand Isle Farmers Watershed Alliance and UVM Extension. Our thanks to Bourdeau Brothers, Inc., for generously sponsoring this event and supporting our agricultural community!

Seats are Limited! Reserve Your Free Tickets Today!

Learn about On-farm Research Around the World

In response to climatic and economic pressures, farmers around the world seek locally generated on-farm data to inform their decision making. NWCS recently created AgConnect, an open-data, user-friendly, free platform to support and streamline Vermont on-farm research. One source of inspiration has been Cornell University's Farmers Datalab and Global On-Farm Experimentation Network (GOFEN). Cornell distributes the monthly newsletter “On-Farm Experimentation Community Info” to share articles, conference announcements, and more with global readers. Recent issues have focused on Australia (October 2026, no. 52), Africa (August 2026, no. 50), and New York (May 2026, no. 47). Our team will

contribute Vermont-focused information to the November 2026 newsletter. Learn more about it and subscribe here.

Subscribe to the "On-Farm Experimentation Community Info" Newsletter

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SHREC Lab Now Accepting CEMA 216 Soil Samples

The UVM Soil Health Research and Extension Center (SHREC) lab is now accepting soil samples that meet NRCS Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity (CEMA) 216 requirements. Learn more at the link below.

SHREC CEMA 216 Soil Health Testing Package

Upcoming Events

Tri-State Dairy Exchange Monthly Webinar Series
Wednesday, October 28, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Topic: Enhancing Dairy Farm Employee Management
Speaker: Emily Skowronski, Cattle Care Inc.

Learn how Cattle Care Inc. parlor assessment tools and on-farm data collection can help identify opportunities to improve milking procedures, cow flow, equipment function, udder health, and overall parlor efficiency.

Watch Previous Webinars **Register Now**

Future-Ready Dairy Event Series: Navigating Funding Opportunities for Vermont Dairy Producers Workshops
Various dates and locations (see details)
Download event flyer

Explore funding opportunities, review the 2026–2027 funding schedule, and learn what types of projects are eligible for funding. Connect with representatives from relevant funding organizations and get answers to your project-specific questions.

Each workshop will cover the same content, so please register for the location that is most convenient for you.

- Workshop #1: Tuesday, November 3, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., People's Trust Company, 59 Franklin Park West, St. Albans, VT 05478
- Workshop #2: Thursday, November 5, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Middlebury Extension Office, 23 Pond Lane, Middlebury, VT 05753

- Workshop #3: Tuesday, November 10, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock, VT 05091
- Workshop #4: Thursday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Poulin Grain, 3916 US Route 5, Derby, VT 05829

Register Now



Northeast Cover Crops Council Fall Webinar Series

Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

November 3 through December 15 (Excluding November 24)

Beginning on November 3, join UVM Extension NWCS and the Northeast Cover Crops Council from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a webinar series exploring a variety of cover crop-related topics!

Learn from researchers studying cover crops in different settings and farmers sharing their hands-on experience and practical insights from the field. Webinar topics include:

Cover Crops for Northeast Vegetable Systems

Speakers: Jason Lilley (UMaine), Ruby Nelson (Pine Root Farm, ME), and Charlie Rackley (Fairwinds Farm, ME)

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Managing Crop-Row Cover Crops in Orchards and Vineyards

Speakers: Abigail Oswald (Penn State) and Mike Beneduce (Beneduce Orchards, NJ)

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Cover Crop Decision Support Tools

Speaker: Austin Menker (NC State Extension)

Date: Tuesday, November 17 , 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Innovations in Cover Cropping to Break Pest Cycle
Speaker: Jason Lilley (UMaine), Seth Kroeck (Crystal Springs Farm, ME)
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Cover Crop Variety Testing Network: A Researcher-Practitioner Partnership
Speaker: Etienne Sutton (MU Center for Regenerative Agriculture)
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Taking Adjusted N Applications to the Next Level: High Resolution Cover Crop Mapping Using Remote Sensing
Speaker: Laura Cangiano (Penn State) and Jyoti Jennewein (USDA ARS)
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register

Outcroppings Blog



AgConnect Update: Streamlining Farmer-Researcher Collaboration in On-farm Research
By Elizabeth M. Seyler

Are you a farmer curious about double-cropping? Or a researcher or service provider wanting to conduct on-farm experiments? We're developing AgConnect for you! AgConnect is a free, user-friendly, open-data, online platform that helps

farmers and researchers collaborate to answer farmers' questions. It combines project management, data entry, reporting, and more in one central spot, and it gives everyone access to decades of Vermont agricultural research to inform practices, policies, and programs. A lot has happened since AgConnect's creation in 2025: Farmers have clarified its value to them, our staff have tested it, and our developers have made some hefty improvements. Click below to learn more.

Read the Full Article



FFAR-Funded Research Prepares Farmers for Insecticide Use Changes
By Jamie Nickel, Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research

UVM Extension Agronomist and Soils Specialist Heather Darby is leading researchers in studying three factors that could manage pests with less reliance on neonicotinoids: soil management, planting dates and alternative seed treatments. Click below to learn more about this project.

Learn More



Cultivating Minds: UVM Extension Hosts Local Students at Borderview Research Farm

By Shannon MacDonald

For the second year in a row, UVM Extension's Northwest Crops & Soils Program welcomed third and fourth graders from Alburgh Elementary School to Borderview Research Farm to learn about different crops, how they are grown, and how they are processed into the foods and products we use every day. Read the full article to learn more about their day on the farm.

Read the Full Article

Photos





Alburgh students picked flint corn and discovered the beautiful colors beneath the corn husk.

Many students learned about soybeans for the first time and enjoyed harvesting them straight from the field.





More fun with flint corn!

Dr. Heather Darby answering questions about crops in the field.

University of Vermont

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