



Dear CFBA Members,

We know that this is a scary and uncertain time with some many unknowns effecting both your family, your loved ones, your community and your farm business.

One thing we do know is that farmers know how to pull together when times are tough. Time and time again we have shown the world and our communities how resilient farmers are. We know you already have plans and strategies to weather this storm and we are here to help you along the way.

While there are a lot of unknowns, we want you to know that CFBA is working on your behalf to provide help and guidance.

As the COVID pandemic begins to have direct effects here in Connecticut we want you to know that CFBA is here to help.

### **1. Increased Communication on COVID issues and Issues Effecting Farm Businesses**

We are sifting through lots of information, news and events to try and provide you with the best information possible. We will continue to provide you with up-to-date advice and information on COVID pre-cautions for farms. Because the situation changes so rapidly, we will provide you with new regulations or rules affecting your farm business as well as forms of government support or assistance that become available for your ag businesses.

***NEW:***

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has just launched a webpage dedicated to [COVID - 19 Resources for Farmers](#).

Here is additional guidance from the CT Department of Agriculture:

- [CT Farmer's Markets and On-Farm Markets](#)
- [CT Farms and On-Farm Deliveries](#)
- [Press Release - Farmers' Markets](#)

### **2. Advocating for Your Farm**

We are working hard to educate our elected officials at the state and local

levels about the unique nature of farming. We are helping them understand both the critical role in feeding our communities but also the substantive economic impact of farming.

Please let us know by email or by phone what challenges you are facing. We are gathering this information to help us provide advice and recommendations to the Connecticut Department of Ag, the Governor, other state and local elected officials and our Congressional delegation in Washington.

### 3. Sharing of Resources and Problem Solving

We are planning a regular series of electronic town halls designed to share the most up-to-date information on the COVID epidemic which will include guidance from state and federal officials. These meetings will also serve as a forum for our members to share strategies and brainstorm effective solutions to some of your biggest problems and worries. The forums will be available by video conference or by telephone. Please check your emails for further detail.

Farmers are some of the best problems solvers we know. And they also know how to get through tough times. Our goal is to harness these unique qualities of resilience, creativity and hard work and use them together as a group to get us all through this unprecedented problem.

Sincerely,

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