

Daily Maine Farmer ZOOM
March 23, 2020

From Rick Werner - rick@goforager.com. 303-888-3725: For info on Forager's weekly Working Group: www.goforager.com/covid19-strategy

From Nicolas Lindholm - nlindholm@mofga.org: Here's a link to resource listing that I've put together for MOFGA : https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u-4vknKxjablHeROQmcGHfN67Ae_ynfF/edit#

It provides links to on-line marketing sites, both ones that already exist like farm drop.us, as well as site that anyone can set up their own site to sell online

From Caleb : cgoossen@mofga.org

From Helen Costello : Helen Costello - hcostello42@gmail.com - 207-529-5640 landline - 603-344-5639 cell/text – has expertise on distribution channels, food systems and healthy foods for people in need.

From JP Espinosa : JP Espinosa (207) 423-3626 - Justin.p.espinosa@gmail.com Mystery Farms (Parsonfield, ME) Looking to see what online programs/apps are popular with potential customers in Maine. Check the MOFGA resource site above for listing.

From kelseykobik : kelnkobiksey@gmail.com and kelsey@grapevinelocalmarketing.com

From Stacy Brenner : Stacy Brenner, Broadturn Farm mrs.lemonburger@gmail.com

From sarah : Sarah Tompkins, Fine Line Farm- 5lbsodirt@gmail.com

June : June Sleeper Cultivating The New Economy cultivatingtheneweconomy@gmail.com 207-650-8309 – Working with Good Shepherd.

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : Hello All, Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch in Mount Vernon. I don't have audio / video, so I'll introduce myself here. My husband Roger & I (now empty nesters) are a small family farm of 21 yrs raising poultry, eggs, tree fruits, herbs, garlic, and 30+ varieties of organically grown vegetables. Had sold heritage breed pullets through Common Ground Country Fair for years, doubtful we will plan to do so this year due to market unpredictability. Since early retirement, our mainstay is our home-based business Scott Ranch Canvas & Upholstery (scottranchcanvas.com). I work for the wonderful Christianson Farm in Readfield seasonally in the greenhouse, fields, and farmstand (which I LOVE!) Going through my Maine Master Gardener fruit & veg certification now. We are a Fire & Rescue family like Sarah. Very concerned about planning for COVID impact on farmstand traffic and operations this summer. Grateful to learn more about effective marketing despite my poor confidence in IT /tech skills. Glad to meet all of you!

From Jason Lilley : Jason.Lilley@maine.edu Resource to help growers list their products and to help the public find local food products. <https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/farm-product-and-pickup-directory/>

From Jonathan Malacarne : Jonathan Malacarne, Agricultural Economist at the University of Maine, jonathan.malacarne@maine.edu. Willing to help farmers with websites and social media.

From Richard Kersbergen : Rick Kersbergen richard.kersbergen@maine.edu, work with dairy farmers and trying to put together a list of folks familiar with caring for livestock that may be able to help a livestock producer who gets sick.

From Mimi : Aldermere Farm with MCHT: mimi.rebein@gmail.com

From Nicolas Lindholm : Jason, does your list also have space for farmers who have lost markets to reach out to others who need product?

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : I had heard in a conference call that the SBA loans for payroll would be forgiven after six weeks. I do not know if this was a proposal in Congress, or if it actually happened. Please confirm vs. taking my word for it. – (the SBA only applies to Farm Cooperatives)

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : I put in an unemployment claim as I am out of work as a substitute teacher. It appears my employment as a seasonal agricultural worker "does not count as qualified income". Really hoping I misunderstood this.

From Rebecca Long : Rebecca Long, UMaine Cooperative Extension Oxford County, Rebecca.j.long@maine.edu,

From Anne Devin : Chase Stream Farm in Monroe, anne@chasestreamfarm.com

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : I appreciate Stacy bearing her soul -- this has been a really hard emotional time for the toughest people. We're with you sister! We're gonna be okay, and we'll together have to figure out some new ways of making that happen

From kelseykobik : Just wanted to put this out there as a resource, too: GrazeCart is a direct marketing resource primarily for meat and dairy people, though could be applied to veg. Not farmer-owned though: <https://coaching.grazecart.com/perishable-shipping-launchpad>

From Nicolas Lindholm : Thanks Kelsey —they're on the resource list that I put out as well!

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : Thanks all. Eager to hear your thoughts on how to plan for farmstands this year.

From Donna Coffin : <https://extension.umaine.edu/piscataquis/agriculture/zoom/> is the page I am working from for our daily sessions. You can check here for possible upcoming guests.

From Lori Scott of the Scott Ranch : We have been working with a business advisor through SBDC (Small Business Development Corp), and she has been FANTASTIC! Services are free. All currently online / phone meetings.

From kelseykobik : I'd be happy to help with any media—I am a social media manager for two different farms too. I'd also be more than happy to do a free talk or Q&A here on social media for farmers

“See” you Tuesday, March 24th. I have someone from FSA planning to join us to talk about their programs.

We do have the capability to record the sessions. You can let me know if you would prefer recorded or not recorded sessions in an email to me. Donna.coffin@maine.edu You will be able to see if we are recording by a small icon at the top left of the screen when you tune in.