

# Connecticut Farm Link Program – Farm Seeker Application

## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Connecticut Farm Link Program. The enclosed questionnaire will be used to share information between you and farm owners who are registered with the Farm Link Program. Below you will find a summary of the procedures for the program. If you have any questions, or if you need further assistance, please call the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Marketing Division at (860) 713-2503.

## How to Join the Program

Farm Seekers must complete a Connecticut Farm Link Questionnaire which includes a description of the farm situation you desire. This is your advertisement! It is important this description is a true representation of your qualifications and what you are looking for. Farm Owners will contact you based on your description. Please mail the completed and signed questionnaire to:

Connecticut Farm Link Program  
Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Marketing Division  
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 129  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

## What's Next - Your Listing with Farm Link

After we receive your completed questionnaire we will send you a letter stating we have received your information and a case number will be assigned to you. Your short description will be added to the Connecticut Farm Link website. You will be identified on the website by your case number only and the short description you have supplied to us. Updates to your listing are your responsibility and must be put in writing and sent to the Department of Agriculture. Farm listings submitted by Farm Owners and Seekers will be updated and published at least quarterly. Published listings will never include your full contact information.

## How Do I Find a Match? - Getting Information about Potential Farm Owners

If you identify a Farm Owner that looks promising, call (860) 713-2503 with the Farm Owner case number along with your case number. A complete copy of the Farm Owner's questionnaire with contact information will be mailed to you. Contacting farm owners is your responsibility. PLEASE NOTE: If you do not have a computer or access to the Internet at a public library, contact our office for copies of Farm Owners.



**READ CAREFULLY!**

**THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

**You as a Farm Seeker in the program are responsible for:**

- Completely and accurately completing the Connecticut Farm Link Questionnaire
- Proof reading the information you send to the Connecticut Farm Link Program
- Searching for Farm Owners on the Farm Link website
- Requesting and reviewing Farm Owner Questionnaires that are sent to you
- Contacting those owners who most meet your qualifications
- Asking questions of Owners to gather information. Example: Questions related to farm agreement, farm ownership goals, farm management practices, farm equipment use etc.
- Checking Farm Owner references
- Meeting with those Farm Owners who best meet your qualifications
- Contacting the Farm Link Program if you wish to remove or update your listing
- Following up with the Farm Link Program after a match to fill out a questionnaire so we can evaluate the program. We ask that you participate as it will help us help you and others in the future.

**This Program Does Not:**

- Screen Farm Owner applicants
- Check Seeker references
- Guarantee a suitable match for your needs

**Connecticut Farm Link  
Farm Seeker Questionnaire**

**Case Number** \_\_\_\_\_

This questionnaire is to be used for the encouragement of linking farmers through the Farm Link Program. *Please fill out form completely to help link you with compatible farmers!*

**Section I: General Information**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time To Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section II: Farm Desired**

1. Type of Farm:  Dairy  Field Crops  Specialty Crops  Livestock  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

If Livestock/Dairy, do you wish to buy animals or transfer those you already own:  
(Circle one) Transfer Buy Both

2. Are you seeking a farm that is currently in operation? (Circle one) Yes No

3. List Towns or Counties where would you like to farm: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Size of Operation Desired: Total Acres Owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Tillable Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wooded Acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Preserved Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are farm structures and or equipment necessary or needed? (Circle one) Yes No

If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What type of farming practices do you plan to use?  Conventional  Sustainable  
 Organic  Other

If other please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you have a business plan? Yes No In progress

Briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you require housing? Circle one: Yes No

If Yes, Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

### Section III: Farm Transfer You're Willing to Participate In:

#### 1. Lease Options for Farm and/or Business

- Long Term Lease (5+ years)  Short Term Lease (1-5 years)  
 Partnership  Lease with Option to Buy  
 Work to Own  
 Employment for a period of time then transfer to ownership  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

If looking to lease, maximum price per acre able to pay \_\_\_\_\_

If negotiable, please check here

#### 2. Sale Options for Farm and/or Business

- Standard Sale  
 Owner Financed Sale

### Section IV: Farming Experience

1. Are you looking to farm full or part time? Circle all that Apply: Full Part Time

If part time, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you currently farming? Circle one: Yes No

Years of Farm Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Farm Management Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Years of Agriculture Related Education: \_\_\_\_\_

List Schools/Colleges/Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section VI: Website Description:**

Please provide a Farm Listing Description, not to exceed 150 words. Should you exceed 150 words we reserve the right to edit your description. This description is for the website that will describe the farmland and situation that you need.

**This is your advertisement – make it a summary of what you would want a potential partner or seller to know about you, your skills, your interest in farming and the benefits you offer to a match.**

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**Section VII: References**

Give name, address and telephone number of three references which include one professional reference (ex: Bankers or attorney), one supplier and one personal reference.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Section VIII: Waiver**

Please read and sign the waiver below:

I give permission to the Connecticut Farm Link to release my name, address, phone number, and any other information given in this questionnaire to persons who may be interested in discussing a possible farm transfer arrangement with me. I understand that the Connecticut Farm Link Program and the Department of Agriculture do not guarantee that a match will occur or that if a match does occur that it will be successful. I will not hold the Connecticut Farm Link Program or the Department of Agriculture liable for any loss, damage, or injury that may occur as a result of inquiries or interviews related to the match.

I also confirm that this application is correct, to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the Connecticut Farm Link Program has the right to cancel my membership at anytime.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_