

Tentative Schedule and Descriptions

2023 Maine Agricultural Trades Show Conference and Main Stage

Updated schedule times and room locations will be available at the Maine Agricultural Trades Show webpage:

www.maine.gov/dacf/agtradesshow

Participant/Title	Description	Day(s)	Time(s)	Location
Auditorium Stage - Farmers and USDA programs	Three USDA agencies; Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, and Natural Resources Conservation Service, will invite Maine farmers and producers to share in their own words about their process in working with the agency. Farmers will talk about the application process, award/loan implementation of funding, and how their farms and food businesses have benefited.	Wed	12 to 1	Auditorium Main Stage
Auditorium Stage - Maine Beef Producers	Cooking demo	Wed	10 to 11	Auditorium Main Stage
Auditorium Stage - Maine Cheese Guild	Presentation on Maine Cheese Guild Membership and a cutting and wrapping demonstration	Tues	12 to 1	Auditorium Main Stage
Auditorium Stage - Maine Dairy Promotion Board	Learn about dairy products and farms	Tues	10 to 11	Auditorium Main Stage
Auditorium Stage - University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H	Public speaking presentations	Wed	2 to 3	Auditorium Main Stage
Auditorium Stage - University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H	Public speaking presentations	Wed	5 to 6	Auditorium Main Stage
Agroforestry	Educational presentation	Wed	9 to 11	Hancock
Dairy Programing - UMaine Extension Livestock and Forage Updates	UMaine Extension Livestock and Forage Update	Tues	10 to 2	Howard

Dairy Programing - Maine Cheese Guild	Meeting with educational presentations	Tues	10 to 2	Howard
ESE Trustees	Annual winter meeting of the trustees	Tues	1 to 4	Waldo
Exhibits	Online Farmers Marker for your farm and community	Tu, Wed, Th	Full day	Auditorium
FarmDrop	Hear from Maine farmers who grow produce for Good Shepherd Food Bank - how being a part of this program not only helps their business, but also connects them with food pantries in their community. Hear from a couple food pantries about the impact the fresh farm produce has on those they serve.	Wed	10 to 11	Waldo
Farmworker Resource Network of Maine	The Maine Farmworker Resource Network (FRN) is a coalition of service providers assisting farmworkers and fishers throughout the state of Maine. Working together, the FRN maximizes outreach and access to services. Representatives from the Maine Department of Labor, Mobile Health Program, Migrant Education Program and other FRN organizations will be in attendance to share information about our programs.	Wed	9 to 10	Waldo
Good Shepherd Food Bank - Mainers Feeding Mainers	Educational presentation	Wed	11 to 12	Waldo
Hannaford Presentation	Educational presentation	Wed	1 to 2	Waldo
Maine Beef Producers	Annual Meeting with educational presentations	Wed	1 to 5	Piscataquis/Sagadahoc
Maine Bureau of Pesticides Control	Recertification credits and meeting	Tu, Wed, Th	Full day	Kennebec/Penobscot
Maine Christmas Tree Assoc.	Annual Meeting with educational presentations	Tues	Full day	Arnold
Maine Climate Action Network (MECAN)	Talks on the current state of climate and agriculture in our state. The keynote speaker is Dr. Julian Reyes, National Coordinator for the USDA Climate Hubs. Other speakers will address soil health, species habitat distribution, weather tools, carbon trading programs, and the latest Maine climate science.	Tues	noon to 5	Washington/York

Maine Course - Sodexo	Maine Course program and what local products we are searching for the attendees might be interested in providing to use.	Tues	9 to 10	Somerset
Maine Farm Bureau	<p>Pesticides and Policy: Navigating Changes Federal, State and municipal policy have a significant impact on how pesticides can be used. Our panel of experts will discuss some of the recent changes that have impeded access to safe and effective crop tools and the efforts that are needed to better educate the public.</p> <p>A Discussion About Farm Equipment “Right-to-Repair” A discussion about the information, tools and technology available to growers and ranchers to enable repair and maintenance of their equipment by themselves, by independent repair providers and by their dealer.</p> <p>Public Conversations & How to Tell Your Story Sometimes visitors can ask tough questions that it can be hard to respond to spontaneously. Let us help you! We will talk about strategies for telling the story of your farm, the tools you use and the challenges you face in an engaging and conversational way, whether you are testifying at a public hearing or giving a farm tour.</p>	Tu, Wed, Th	10 to 12	Somerset
Maine Farm to School Network	<p>Learn from experienced wholesale farmers on the ins and outs of selling produce to their surrounding school district(s). They will be joined by the school nutrition directors that purchase from them, who will share details from the school buyer end.</p> <p>Maine Farm to School Network (MFSN) and Maine Department of Education (DOE) will share resources on the Local Foods Fund and Maine’s Farm to School Institute, to explore the current incentives and opportunities of selling to schools and other meal-serving institutions.</p>	Wed	1 to 2	Waldo
Maine Farmer Resource Network	Educational presentations	Wed	Full day	Androscoggin/Aroostook

Maine Farmland Trust – Cost Accounting	Learn about this financial tool to help manage your business	Tues	9 to 11 am	Androscoggin/Aroostook
Maine Farmland Trust - Solar Siting	Solar Citing on farmland and new municipal policy guide	Tues	10 to 12 pm	Washington/York
Maine Federation of Farmers Markets	Farmers' Market Workshops	Thurs	Full day	Piscataquis/Sagadahoc; Washington/York
Maine Florists and Flower Growers	Seminars and classes	Thurs	Full day	Augusta
Maine Maple Syrup Producers	Maple producer meeting	Wed	9 to 3	Washington/York
Maine Network of Community Food Councils	Conversations about how Maine food councils are currently supporting local farms (starting harvest bucks programs, doing promotional events, etc.) and learn ways to improve - especially learning from farmers.	Wed	4 to 6	Waldo
Maine Nutrition Council	Maine's Aging Population: Nutritional Needs and Limitations in Resources and Food Security	Thurs	9 to 11	Waldo
Maine Sheep Breeders	Wool handling, working with wool	Wed	5 to 6	Piscataquis/Sagadahoc
Maine Sr. FarmShare Program	<p>Farmer Roundtable</p> <p>Participating and interested Maine Senior FarmShare farmers are welcome to join the Program Manager to discuss program and hear about and shape 2023 improvements. Troubleshoot issues and skill share with other farmer participants.</p> <p>Participant Roundtable</p> <p>Maine Senior FarmShare program participants are welcome to share about their experience with the program and offer feedback for the Program Manager. People new to the program can attend to learn about the program from participants!</p>	Wed	1 to 2	Hancock
Maine State Pomological Society	Educational talks on apples and other trees fruits, and the organization's annual business meeting	Wed	Full day	Arnold/Howard
Maine Vegetable & Small Fruit Growers	Veggie and fruit growing information	Tues, Wed	Full day	Ft. Western

Maine Winery Guild	Annual membership meeting and presentation	Tues	2 to 5	Hancock
Maine Woodland Owners - Forestry Forum	Forestry Forum is a free event open to the public offering information about forestry and discussing topics important to woodland owners.	Wed	Full day	Augusta/Cap/Pinetree
Merrymeeting Food Council - Labor	Open to farmers and farm workers to discuss needed resources, successes and challenges in sourcing labor, and to get connected with programs and resources to help meet your needs.	Thurs	9 to 10	Somerset
MOFGA	Educational presentations	Tues	Full day	Piscataquis/Sagadahoc
New England Dairy Travel Course	New England Dairy Students Learn about the Maine Dairy Industry	Thurs	9 to 11	Capitol
New England Forestry Foundation	Family Forestry Focus: Prioritizing Wildlife Habitat, Climate, and Long-term Timber Income	Wed	3 to 5	Somerset
Nutrient Management Sessions	Nutrient Management Programs and continuing education credits	Tu, Wed, Th	Full day	Lincoln/Oxford
PFAS Presentation	The Department and state partners will provide an update on the PFAS response work to date	Wed	9 to 12	Piscataquis/Sagadahoc

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training with UMCE and DACF	This course is for fruit and vegetable growers and others interested in learning about produce farm food safety and best practices. Earn 3 pesticide credits and a certificate of completion. The manual is a resource for USDA GAP audits and the FDA Produce Safety Rule (PSR). This course meets the PSR food safety training requirement for farm supervisors. Lunch provided. Pre-registration and \$30 course payment required. Go to: https://extension.umaine.edu/food-health/food-safety/northeast-produce-safety-training/	Thurs	Full day	Ft. Western
Revision Energy	Solar Farms: Where are we now and what's next? Join us for an overview of state solar farm policies, how solar farms can integrate into existing operations, and evaluating if hosting a solar farm is right for your future plans.	Tues	9 to 10	Washington/York
SCORE Maine	Business advising support	Wed	3 to 4	Somerset
USDA Rural Development	USDA Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, and Natural Resources Conservation Service will continue a producer focused discussion of available programming. Attendees will be provided an overview of available USDA programs, the opportunity to share/hear stories, and participate in a Q&A session. Join USDA Rural Development for a 30-minute presentation on the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) to discuss opportunities for rural small businesses and agricultural producers to receive grant funding for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements at their business or farm. Join USDA Rural Development for a 30-minute presentation on the Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) to discuss opportunities for agricultural producers to receive grant funding for value-added activities that generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income.	Wed, Thurs	1 to 3; 11 to 12	Somerset; Waldo