S T A T E O F C O N N E C T I C U T
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Development
&
Resource Preservation

January 2012

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT

OF AGRICULTURE & _____FARMERS' MARKET

PURPOSE:
The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is hereby made and entered into by and between the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) and

_____ **Farmers' Market** is to recognize this farmers' market as a Certified Farmers' Market as defined by Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Chapter 422, Sec.22-6r. The starting date of this agreement is May 1, 2012 and the ending date is April 30, 2013.

EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MARKET MASTER/ MANAGER:
This agreement is intended to aid the CT DoAg in distinguishing Connecticut Farmers' Markets committed to selling CT Grown farm products. The only responsibility of the signee is to notify other participating farmers/vendors of the requirements covered by CGS Ch.422,Sec. 22-6r. This can also be found on the reverse side and at www.CTGrown.gov, under Laws and Regulations Link.

EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MARKET'S FARMERS/VENDORS:
To offer for sale CT Grown farm produce and farm products (as defined by CGS Ch. 1 Sec.1-1) with a traceable point of origin within Connecticut. Receipts proving origin should be kept. Non-compliance claims can be made to CT DoAg.

Either party may terminate this agreement by giving thirty (30) days written notice.

THE PARTIES HERTO have executed this agreement.

Connecticut Department of Agriculture:

_____ Date _____
Joseph Dippel, Director
Bureau of Ag. Development and Resource Preservation

_____ **Farmers' Market Master/Manager**:
(Farmers' Market Name)

_____ Date _____
Signature

_____
Printed Name

165 Capitol Avenue, Rm. 129, Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: 860/713-2503 Fax: 860/713-2516

What does this mean?

Participating Connecticut Farmers' Markets committed to selling CT Grown Farm Products are asked to sign a MOU. The designation of being a certified farmers' market benefits farmers and the market as a whole. Some examples of these benefits are:

- Certified markets allow the farmer's kiosk designation. This designation allows exempt items (jams, jellies, acidified foods, etc.) to be sold at certified farmers' markets. Without this designation, off farm sales of these products are prohibited.
- Yearly participation in the CT Farmers' Market Brochure and identification as to offering only CT Grown Farm Products
- Yearly participation on our website, www.CTGrown.gov
- Additional promotional opportunities with a variety of media outlets
- Market usage of the CT Grown Logo
- An option to participate in supplemental food programs including the WIC & Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)
- Farmer/Vendor recruitment
- Grant Opportunities
- Support in dealings with other government agencies (federal, state, and local)

CONNECTICUT FARM PRODUCTS: ARE DEFINED BY CGS CH.1, SEC.1-1

FISH: The CT Seafood Council and the DEP identify CT seafood as being caught/harvested by fisherman in boats that are landed in Connecticut are considered Connecticut Caught. Certified markets may only allow Connecticut Caught Seafood to be sold at their markets.

CGS Ch. 422, Sec. 22-6r:

(1) "Farmers' market" means a cooperative or nonprofit enterprise or association that consistently occupies a given site throughout the season, which operates principally as common marketplace for a group of farmers, at least two of whom are selling Connecticut-grown fresh produce, to sell Connecticut-grown farm products directly to consumers, and where the farm products sold are produced by the participating farmers with the sole intent and purpose of generating a portion of household income;
(2) "Fresh produce" means fruits and vegetables that have not been processed in any manner;
(3) "Certified farmers' market" means a farmers' market that is authorized by the commissioner to operate;
(4) "Farmer's kiosk" means a structure or area located within a certified farmers 'market used by a farm business to conduct sales of Connecticut-grown farm products;
(5) "Connecticut-grown" means produce and other farm products that have a traceable point of origin within Connecticut;
(6) "Farm" has the meaning ascribed to it in subsection (q) of section 1-1;
(7) "Farm products" means any fresh fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, nuts, shell eggs, honey or other bee products, maple syrup or maple sugar, flowers, nursery stock and other horticultural commodities, livestock food products, including meat, milk, cheese and other dairy products, food products of "aquaculture", as defined in subsection (q) of section 1-1, including fish, oysters, clams, mussels and other molluscan shellfish taken from the waters of the state or tidal wetlands, products from any tree, vine or plant and their flowers, or any of the products listed in this subdivision that have been processed by the participating farmer, including, but not limited to, baked goods made with farm products.
(b) A farmer's kiosk at a certified farmers' market shall be considered an extension of the farmer's business and regulations of Connecticut state agencies relating to the sale of farm products on a farm shall govern the sale of farm products at a farmer's kiosk.
(c) A farmer offering farm products for sale at a certified farmers' market shall obtain and maintain any license required to sell such products.
(d) Section 22-6g or this section shall not supersede the provisions of any state or local health and safety laws, regulations or ordinances.

You do NOT have to work with CT DoAg or hold a certified farmers' markets. You may run an independent market with policies that differ from the CT DoAg's definition of a certified market.