



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE



Greening Higher Education Agriculture at the University of Maine

Presented by **Elaine Clark**
*Executive Director of Facilities, Real Estate
& Planning, University of Maine*

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Boston, MA
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Agriculture in the Maine Economy

The University of Maine is a land-grant school in a state where agriculture forms a substantial, but not dominant, portion of the local economy. Although the majority of the state's economy is dominated by forest products, fisheries, and tourism, Maine farms sell between \$400 and \$500 million of potatoes, milk, eggs,

blueberries, apples, vegetables, and other crop and livestock products each year. By the time these products have been processed, packed, and shipped, about .3 billion dollars moves through the Maine economy.



UMaine's Experimental / Research Farms

Aroostook Farm

425 Acres, 2800 sq. ft. greenhouse

Focus: Potato Research

Blueberry Hill Farm

60 Acres in Jonesboro

Focus: Blueberry research focuses on disease, weed & insect control, pollution & honey bees, plant growth & nutrition

Highmoor Farm

278 Acres, 17 Acres in orchards

Focus: Apple research

Rogers Farm

100 Acres

Focus: Soils, Crops, Pests, Weed Control



Witter Center

300 Acres, Dairy, Livestock barn, Horse barn

Focus: dairy farm & horse farm management

UMaine's Agriculture in the Curriculum



These departments at UMaine offer courses that address environmental issues and/or satisfy core “general education” requirements

Courses		Courses	
Anthropology	3	Mechanical Engineering	2
Biochemistry, Microbiology, & Molecular Biology	1	Mech. Eng'r Technology	1
Biology & Ecology	4	Parks, Recreation, Tourism	3
Chemistry	1	Peace Studies	2
Civil & Environmental Eng'r	1	Philosophy	2
Chemical Engineering	1	Public Administration	2
Earth Sciences	8	School of Marine Studies	3
General Engineering	1	Plant Soil & Env't'l Science	2
Geography	2	Resource Economics/Policy	9
History	7	Sustainable Agriculture	15
Interdisciplinary	2	Wildlife Ecology	10
Kinesiology/Physical Educ'n	1	Women's Studies	2
		Wood Science	2

UMaine's Sustainable Agriculture Program

120-hour, 4 year degree program

- Crop Systems
- Crop Physiology & Ecology
- Soil Chemistry & Plant Nutrition
- Soil Organic Matter & Fertility
- Pesticides & the Environment
- Weed Ecology & Management
- Insect Pest Ecology & Management
- Sustainable Development & Public Policy



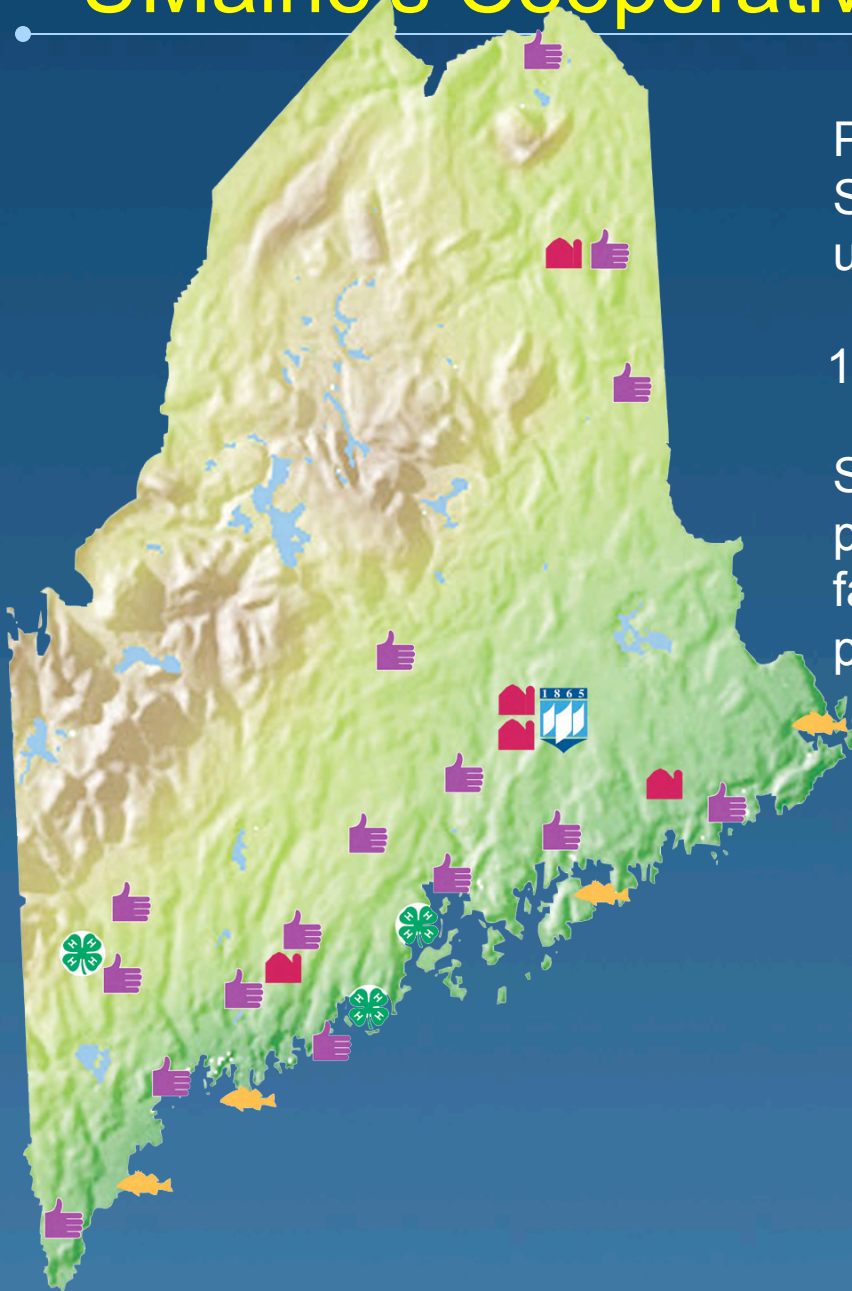
Under the New England Regional Student Program, administered throughout the New England Board of Higher Education, the Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainable Agriculture is open to applicants who reside in Connecticut, Massachusetts or New Hampshire for reduced tuition (in-state tuition plus 50 percent).

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Part of a nationwide Cooperative Extension System, which works through the land-grant universities in each U.S. state

16 county offices located throughout Maine

Staffed by experts who provide practical, locally based solutions for farmers, small business owners, kids, parents, consumers, and others.



Extension County Offices



Maine Agricultural & Forest Experiment
Station Research Facilities



Extension 4-H Camps



Marine Extension Team Facilities

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

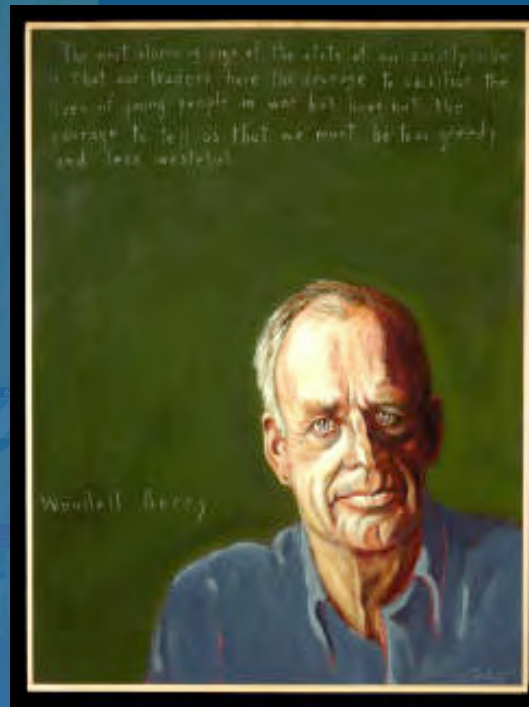
- Puts University research to work in communities
- Practical, locally-based solutions for farmers, small business owners, families
- Commercial Agriculture
- Global Climate Change & Sustainable Living Education



- Conserving Energy & Alternative Energy
- Food systems, **Local Foods**, Nutrition, Food Preparation

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

“eating is an agricultural act”



Wendell Berry – U. Kentucky

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Consumers → Co-producers

Environmental, social and personal
benefits to rethinking how we view food
in New England



UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program



Develop a parallel agricultural system

- Using our advantage
- Better nutrient retention
- Healthier fatty acid profile
- \$'s remain in region
- Land stays in ag production

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Farmers
Markets

CSA's



Agriculture
Supported
Community



Orono
Farmers
Market



UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Community Gardens



UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Giving Garden ... growing food for local fixed income seniors ...



UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Project Impact 2004 - 2008

- Delivered approximately 3500 lbs/yr
- Most eat > 90% of what we give them
- Most said we significantly improved diet
- Otherwise wouldn't eat fresh food



UMaine's Cooperative Extension Program

Plant a Row for the Hungry

2008

- 80,748 pounds of produce donated to local soup kitchens and food banks
- 225 volunteers
- 11 food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens

