

AGCOM GATHERING
JANUARY 12, 2008

TOWN & YEAR AGCOM ORGANIZED	PRESENTER	WHAT IS AGCOM DOING?	WHAT IS AGCOM PLANNING TO DO?	WHAT DOES AGCOM NEED HELP WITH?
AMHERST	Pat Wagner	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working on Right to Farm Bylaw (town supports farming, but does not always tolerate farm odors, noises. 2. Held farmers forum last year to get expressions of opinions. Will hold another one this year. 3. Has made recommendations on zoning issues, feels that they are in on the ground floor by working in advance with the ZBA. 4. Have been involved with Town Master Plan 5. Noted that Farm Bureau (3 counties) will be working on wetland forum, wetland education. 		
BELCHERTOWN 2005	Grace Adzima	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working with local boards, e.g. Board of Health on manure management and composting, farm map. 2. Meeting with horse people in the spring on limited liability. 3. Organized 29- plot community garden at NESFI. 4. Held antique tractor show and distributed maps. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will hold an open meeting for an NRCS presentation on programs. 	
BUCKLAND	Sue Atherton	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town showed overwhelming support for Right to Farm Bylaw. 2. Working on farm inventory and list of available resources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will hold a county meeting of several AgComs with Franklin County Solid Waste Management about emergency plans for disposal of large animals. 	
GRANBY	David Kaskeski	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is new and is now generating ideas and information for local farmers. 		
GRANVILLE	Nate Woodger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom not available to give report. 		
GREENFIELD	Francoise Walk	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5- member AgCom has been set up (previously existing Farm Committee still in existence) 2. Working on a survey of farms in town and a map of farms that sell to the public. 		
HADLEY 2004	No Representation			
LANESBORO 2006	Aimee Thayer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom in place one-year. 2. Just sent out an inventory survey. 3. Looking into how non-farm residents in ag zones are thinking. 4. Has gotten ag census forms out 5. Looking into setting up a page on town website. 		

TOWN & YEAR AGCOM ORGANIZED	PRESENTER	WHAT IS AGCOM DOING?	WHAT IS AGCOM PLANNING TO DO?	WHAT DOES AGCOM NEED HELP WITH?
LEE	Mary Brittain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is one-year old now. 2. Compiled a list of farmers and is close to sending out an inventory survey. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are now drafting Right to Farm Bylaw. 	
LEVERETT	Jill Horton-Lyons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom brought a Right to Farm up last year, but withdrew it 2. Working with local boards, e.g. Board of Health on manure management and composting, farm map. 3. Organized 29- plot community garden at NESFI. 4. Held antique tractor show and distributed maps. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will hold an open meeting for an NRCS presentation on programs. 2. We will be meeting with horse people in the spring on limited liability. 	
LEYDON 2005	Bill Glabach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has members from Planning Board, Select Board, and Conservation Commission. They keep each other informed. 2. AgCom is one of the most active town committees. 3. AgCom has a Right to Farm Bylaw and has recently been concentrating on notifying people about the Bylaw, especially buyers of land and especially regarding manure and similar matters. 4. AgCom is keeping in the forefront with their upcoming Feb 16th Sugar on Snow Supper. 5. AgCom created a Welcome to Leydon sign (4' x 5') with the help from Franklin County Tech School- the sign includes " A Right to Farm Community" 6. They have lost their biggest dairy farm but have much protected land. 7. AgCom held a spaghetti supper for a farmer with medical problems. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are currently working on cloth shopping bags with the Right to Farm logo. 	
LUDLOW	Lenore Paul	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has completed a farm survey, with one quarter of 61A owners responding. 2. Biggest probable damage is from dirt bikes and snowmobiles. 3. Right to Farm is next, but the town is in the process of changing to a mayoral form of government. 4. Also of note, Mass Ag in the Classroom gets teachers to teach ag and gets teachers onto the farm and is sponsoring February Annual Conference coming up plus mini grants. 		
MONSON	Chuck Adams	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom formed last year. It is currently a committee of one, but he is active. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are inventorying all chapter lands. 2. We are getting all information on the town website. 	

TOWN & YEAR AGCOM ORGANIZED	PRESENTER	WHAT IS AGCOM DOING?	WHAT IS AGCOM PLANNING TO DO?	WHAT DOES AGCOM NEED HELP WITH?
MONTGOMERY 2006	Cindy Camp	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has five members. 2. Has a Right to Farm Bylaw and a RTF Community sign at each entrance of town. 		
NEW SALEM	Joe Cuneo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is quite new. Joe is working on getting other members appointed. 		
NORTHAMPTON	John Omasta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom was formed as a City Ordinance. 2. AgCom has Planning Board liaison with submitted budget items for planning staff assistance. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is working on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inventory of farmers • A March workshop on problems in the Meadows section of Northampton • On a land and farmer match program • A farmers market • Dealing with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program. 	
ORANGE	Warren Rice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom will have its second meeting next week. 2. Passed Right to Farm earlier. The Town has been quite supportive. 		
PLAINFIELD	Anna Hanchett	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is only five months old. 2. Passed Right to Farm before AgCom. 3. Expecting a presentation by NRCS January 24th about its services with notices to surrounding towns. 4. Have worked with a Hilltown Sustainability group to hold open forums on “goods from your woods” and other related subjects. 5. TTOR is helping them develop a land management plan. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is working on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are working with ConCom and other town boards and have a page on the town website. • We are working with teachers on integrating curriculum and have had kids visit Anna’s farm. 	
SHEFFIELD	James Kelly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has Right to Farm. 2. Currently educating themselves about farm issues. 3. Working on a Right to Farm sign complete with meadow muffin. 		
SOUTHAMPTON	Marla Hanc	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Just getting started. 		

TOWN & YEAR AGCOM ORGANIZED	PRESENTER	WHAT IS AGCOM DOING?	WHAT IS AGCOM PLANNING TO DO?	WHAT DOES AGCOM NEED HELP WITH?
SOUTHWICK		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town has Right to Farm Bylaw. 2. Got the town website changed from “bedroom community” to “agriculture and bedrooms.” 3. Held a workshop on the National Animal Identification System with presenters Mike Cahill (MDAR) and someone from NOFA. 4. Now in the process of looking for help implementing Right to Farm notices. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looking for help implementing Right to Farm notices.
SUNDERLAND	Scott Reed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has put out a second edition of a farm guide. 2. AgCom is holding a farm festival 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are working with other town boards. 2. We are winding up a farm inventory. 3. We are working on a Right to Farm Bylaw. 	
TEMPLETON	Matt LeClerc	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has passed a Right to Farm Bylaw before the AgCom was formed. 2. We are sending Right to Farm notice out with annual tax bills automatically. 3. We are educating ourselves and kids to conduct good meetings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are considering starting 4H again. 	
WILLIAMSBURG	Alden Bacon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has drafted a Right to Farm Bylaw. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will be holding a public forum on the bylaw next month in preparation for Town Meeting. 	
WINDSOR 2007	Kate Markowitz	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has been voted, but not yet appointed. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will be working on a farm inventory. 2. We will be working on a Right to Farm Bylaw. 	
WORTHINGTON	Mary-Beth O’Shea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom has just put out a farm survey 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Right to Farm Bylaw is on the spring Town Meeting warrant. 	
WINCHENDON 2007	Patti Stanko	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom passed Right to Farm Bylaw in November 2007. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is now working on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Market • Survey of farmers 	
YARMOUTH 2007	Martin Rivero	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom was formed one month ago with five members. 2. We have good Select Board support and are looking for a Town Meeting Vote. 3. The Senior Center wants to give land for community gardens; they have CPA money for the gardens. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AgCom is working on a Right to Farm Bylaw for this coming Town Meeting. 2. We are also working on a future Farmers Market. 	

