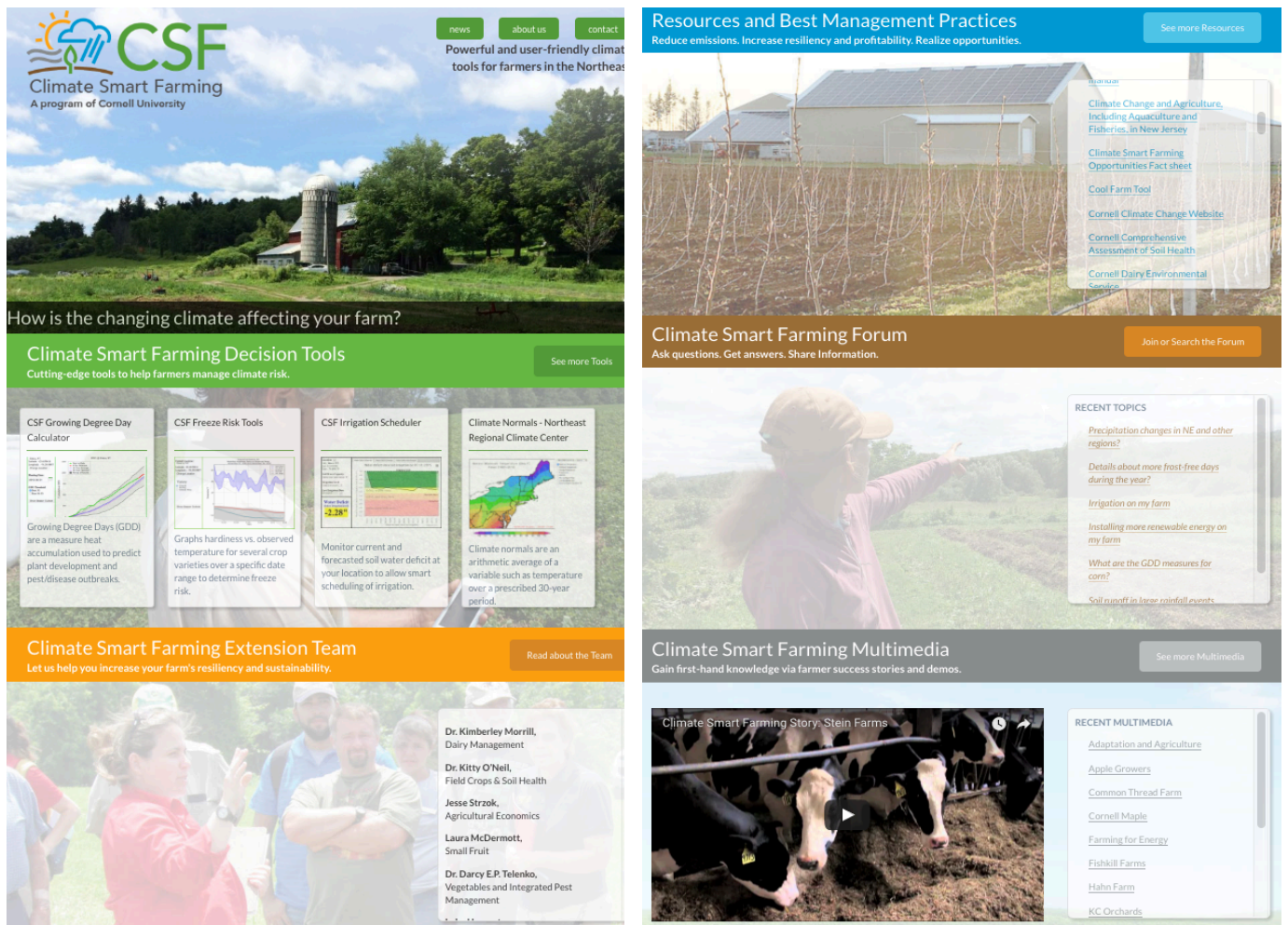




The Climate Smart Farming Website

Powerful and user-friendly climate tools for farmers in the Northeast

www.climatesmartfarming.org



Navigate to each major section of the website on the homepage, to use our climate-based Decision Tools, learn about our CSF Extension Team, read through trusted Resources and Best Management Practices, interact with other stakeholders in the CSF Forum, and explore some of our Multimedia. Also, jump to the “News,” “Contact Us,” and “About Us” pages at the top right to keep up with CSF news and events, and to request more information. Send any feedback about the site to cicca2014@gmail.com.

The Climate Context for your Farm

How is the changing climate affecting your farm?

Climate Tools Team Resources Forum Videos



Climate Preparedness Makes Good Business Sense

The earth's climate is always in flux, but today's rate of change is far beyond what previous generations of farmers have had to face. Climate change is already posing new challenges, such as increased risk of flooding, summer heat stress, and more intense pest and weed pressures. Some farmers are beginning to plan to minimize the risks and capitalize on opportunities. In the Northeastern United States, there will be plenty of both. Making business decisions based on future scenarios is always a complex endeavor, and is muddled even more by trying to discern between normal weather variability and long-term climate shifts. Many of the commodities that currently dominate the Northeast agricultural sector, such as dairy products, apples, cabbage, and potatoes, are not well suited for the warming trends predicted for this century. However, there will be profitable opportunities to experiment with new crops or new crop varieties as temperatures rise and growing seasons lengthen.

The banner images and subpage “How is the changing climate affecting your farm” (above) detail the challenges of extreme weather, variability and change for farmers in the Northeast, and outline solutions to these issues: flooding and extreme rainfall, short-term drought, heat stress, disease, pests, weeds, and freeze risk.

Decision Support Tools and Other Resources

Climate Smart Farming Tools

Climate Tools Team Resources Forum Videos

CSF Growing Degree Day Calculator



Growing Degree Days (GDD) are a measure heat accumulation used to predict plant development and pest/disease outbreaks.

CSF Freeze Risk Tools



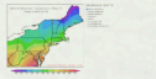
Graphs hardiness vs. observed temperature for several crop varieties over a specific date range to determine freeze risk.

CSF Irrigation Scheduler



Monitor current and forecasted soil water deficit at your location to allow smart scheduling of irrigation.

Climate Normals - Northeast Regional Climate Center



Climate normals are an arithmetic average of a variable such as temperature over a prescribed 30-year period.

U.S. Drought Monitor



The map is based on measurements of climatic, hydrologic and soil conditions as well as reported impacts and observations from more than 350 contributors around the country.

NOAA Seasonal Outlook - Precipitation



A seasonal forecast is the best available prediction of what our climate will be like in the next few months.

NOAA Seasonal Outlook - Temperature



A seasonal forecast is the best available prediction of what our climate will be like in the next few months.

USDA Plant Hardiness Map



The USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location.

The Climate Smart Farming Tools Page (above) provides science-based, and practical decision tools to help farmers make the most informed decisions about their production systems, based on historical and current weather forecasts, and future climate change projections. The website also provides CSF Resources and Videos, and an Interactive Forum to share information.