

# Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Ned Lamont, Governor  
Melody A. Currey, Acting Commissioner



Wednesday, March 20, 2019

## CONNECTICUT SHELLFISH COMMISSIONS

*Kristin DeRosia-Banick, Bureau of Aquaculture*

Connecticut's shellfish industry and recreational shellfishing programs benefit greatly from the dedication of municipal shellfish commissions throughout the state of Connecticut.

The Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s Bureau of Aquaculture works closely with these commissions to closely monitor the entire coastline, from Stonington to Greenwich, to ensure the harvest of safe shellfish.

These partnerships are critical to our state's shellfish program. With limited staff and its laboratory in Milford, it is challenging for DoAg to cover the entire coastline, particularly those areas at the far eastern and western ends of the state.

Shellfish commissions comprise paid and unpaid volunteers whose responsibility in the field is similar to that of DoAg staff.

DoAg environmental analysts train volunteers in proper sampling techniques, sample handling, and documentation.

Shellfish commissions must sample their growing areas at least once a month throughout the year in order to comply with National Shellfish Sanitation Program requirements. These requirements necessitate sampling during challenging conditions, including adverse weather and following significant rain events.

DoAg and municipal shellfish commissions work hard to ensure that shellfish areas can be reopened quickly after pollution events in order to get commercial and recreational harvesters back to work.

One of DoAg's longest shellfish commission partnerships has been with Greenwich. The Greenwich Shellfish Commission samples all nearshore Greenwich town waters, as well as the offshore state waters for the program.

Greenwich manages a popular recreational area in Greenwich Cove, as well as a number of different nearshore recreational areas and offshore commercial areas.

A complete sampling run in Greenwich consists of 35 samples and can take anywhere from an hour-and-a-half to two-hours on the water depending on the weather, plus several hours of driving on I-95 to transport samples to the Milford lab.

The Greenwich Shellfish Commission averages about 30 sampling trips a year of varying length. The Town of Greenwich benefits from paying their volunteers a stipend for their time and allowing greater flexibility to sample during the workweek.

One such dedicated shellfish commission member is Jay Loudon, who has been instrumental in keeping the seawater monitoring program in Greenwich running smoothly for the past eight years. Mr. Loudon recently retired and was honored by the commission for his work leading those efforts for the commission on March 2, 2019.

In 1995, Jay and his wife moved from New Hartford, CT to take possession of his family home in Old Greenwich. They had considered selling, but decided instead to keep the house and seek employment locally.

Jay began his work in this part of the state as a boat builder in the small craft exhibit hall at the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, subsequently taking a staff position at the Bruce Museum in Greenwich in their exhibit department.

During his time with the Maritime Aquarium, Jay's boss learned that Jay was the owner of some family shellfish beds in Greenwich, and encouraged him to connect with local shellfish harvesters.

Jay built his own mini version of an Ed Stilwagen designed vacuum dredge vessel, which uses a minimal jet of water to loosen clams from the bottom and a vacuum system to suck them onto the boat. Jay then began harvesting clams from his old family grounds.



*Jay Loudon recently retired from the Greenwich Shellfish Commission.*

*(continued on Page 3)*

**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.88	1.04
LARGE	.82	.96
MEDIUM	.74	.87

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.80	1.95
LARGE	1.72	1.89
MEDIUM	1.25	1.35
SMALL	.84	.94

**LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK**

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

<b>SLAUGHTER STEERS</b>		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	124.00	126.00
Choice 2-3	117.50	122.00
Select 2-3	113.00	118.00
<b>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS</b>		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	117.00	123.00
Choice 2-3	115.00	122.00
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing</b>		
breakers 75-80% lean	60.00	65.50
boners 80-85% lean	56.00	61.50
lean 88-90% lean	48.00	55.00
<b>CALVES - Graded bull</b>		
No 1 100- 118 lbs	115.00	120.00
No 2 94- 128 lbs	107.00	127.00
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled &amp; Shorn</b>		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	285.00	305.00
110-130 lbs	240.00	275.00
130-150 lbs	225.00	270.00
150-200 lbs	200.00	245.00
Choice 1-2		
40-50 lbs	280.00	320.00
60-70 lbs fancy	275.00	305.00
70-80 lbs	260.00	295.00
80-90 lbs	265.00	305.00
Choice 2-3		
90-100 lbs	245.00	265.00
100-130 lbs	220.00	245.00
130-150 lbs	170.00	215.00
150-200 lbs	150.00	185.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3</b>		
80-120 lbs	112.00	115.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	115.00
160-200 lbs	65.00	100.00
200-300 lbs	60.00	90.00
<b>SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1</b>		
40-60 lbs	150.00	185.00
60-80 lbs	190.00	220.00
<b>SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1</b>		
80-130 lbs	195.00	230.00
130-200 lbs	240.00	265.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1</b>		
100-150 lbs	220.00	250.00
150-250 lbs	300.00	345.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

<b>SLAUGHTER HOGS</b>		
52-56	200-300 lbs	42.00 50.00
	300-350 lbs	47.00 54.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	32.00 40.00
	300-350 lbs	38.00 49.00
<b>Sows, US 1-3</b>		
	300-500 lbs	33.00 37.00
	500-900 lbs	32.00 38.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, GHS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 80	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88	30.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 100	30.00	30.00
APPLE, MAC, 125, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 100	22.00	22.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 125	18.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 138	18.00	19.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	28.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	19.00	19.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 12-10 OZ	24.00	28.00

**SHIPPED IN**

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 100	28.00	28.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, FCY, 88	31.00	31.00
BRUSSEL SPROUTS, CA, 25 LB	36.00	40.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, SACK	18.00	21.00
CABBAGE, RED, 50 LB, M/L	24.00	24.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CAULIFLOWER, AZ/ CA, 9's	24.00	25.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	9.00	10.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	14.00	16.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, GHS, CD, 12-4OZ	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	23.00	23.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 24'S	20.00	26.00
MESCLUN MIX, AZ/CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, OYSTER, 3 LB CTN	13.00	14.00
ONION, GREEN LEEK, BNCH 12	22.00	26.00
ONION, YELLOW, NY, 20-2 LB	19.00	20.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 20- 2 LB	22.00	24.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	23.00	26.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	22.00	24.50
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	25.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00

**BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC**

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, 45 LB, CRT, M-L	33.00	33.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	37.00	37.00
MESCULIN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	9.50
ONION, YELLOW, 50 LB, M/L	28.00	28.00
PEPPERS, RED, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	34.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	34.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	35.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	30.00	30.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	26.00	26.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB, CRT	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ACORN, BU, CRT, M	24.00	24.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, BU, CRT, M	28.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB, CRT	36.00	36.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT - March 11, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
<b>Bob Calves:</b>		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	34.00	37.50
76-90 lbs.	40.00	45.00
91-105 lbs.	47.50	50.00
106 lbs. & up	55.00	60.00
Farm Calves	62.50	100.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	75.00	145.00
Feeder Heifers	72.50	85.00
Beef Heifers	50.00	74.00
Feeder Steers	65.00	95.00
Beef Steers	67.50	92.50
Feeder Bulls	70.00	90.00
Beef Bulls	67.00	70.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	10.00	11.00
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	30.00	55.00
Sheep each	100.00	210.00
Lambs each	140.00	230.00
Goats each	105.00	345.00
Kid Goats each	45.00	315.00
Canners	up to	59.50
Cutters	60.00	64.00
Utility Grade Cows	65.00	69.50
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	27.50
Ducks each	5.00	10.00
Guinea Hens	8.00	15.00

**DAIRY CATTLE**

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

<b>FRESH COWS</b>		
APPROVED	850.00	1275.00
MEDIUM	575.00	850.00
<b>SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):</b>		
APPROVED	750.00	1050.00
<b>SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):</b>		
SUPREME	1150.00	1350.00
APPROVED	900.00	1175.00
MEDIUM	600.00	875.00
<b>BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):</b>		
SUPREME	1125.00	1250.00
APPROVED	750.00	1050.00
<b>OPEN HEIFERS:</b>		
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	285.00	385.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	460.00	535.00
MEDIUM	360.00	425.00
900-1200 lbs		
APPROVED	535.00	600.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT**

Price per ton, small squares. March 15, 2019

<b>ALFALFA/GRASS</b>		
PREMIUM	350.00	380.00
GOOD	250.00	310.00
FAIR	180.00	250.00
<b>GRASS HAYS</b>		
PREMIUM	340.00	430.00
GOOD	245.00	315.00
FAIR	170.00	240.00
STRAW	260.00	295.00

(continued from Page 1)

In 2010, as the shellfish market collapsed, Jay concluded that his small operation was no longer likely to be profitable. He sold the boat and strongly considered retirement.

That was not to be the end of Jay's shellfish career however. Upon recommendation from David Carey, director of DoAg's Bureau of Aquaculture, Jay received an invitation from the chair of the Greenwich Shellfish Commission, Roger Bowgen, to join the commission as their boat captain and lead for the sampling program.

After taking several trips with Commissioner Bill Grep and their captain at the time, Jay was convinced and accepted the position, taking his first run as an employee in the fall of 2011.

The DoAg Bureau of Aquaculture staff would like to extend their sincere thanks and gratitude to Jay for his commitment to working with DoAg and on behalf of the shellfish commission to enhance opportunities for recreational and commercial shellfishing in Greenwich.

He made a big impression on those of us fortunate enough to work with him over the years, and his personality, fine sense of humor and (not so well-hidden) rebellious streak have given us years of laughter and entertainment.

We wish Jay the best in his retirement, and remain hopeful that his move to the eastern end of the state does not mean the end of his connection with the shellfish world.

### CENSUS OF AQUACULTURE

The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) Agricultural Statistics Board has extended the response deadline for the Census of Aquaculture to March 22, 2019.

NASS requests that anyone who received a survey, please respond as quickly as possible. If you received a survey and have not responded but no longer have the survey form, please call 800-727-9540 from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ET to receive your survey code and respond online at <https://www.agcounts.usda.gov/cawi>.

NASS surveys provide critical data to run numerous different USDA programs that benefit farmers and ranchers.

Last conducted in 2013, the 2018 Census of Aquaculture provides current industry-specific data. This information is used by federal, state and local governments, agribusinesses, trade associations, and producers to make decisions impacting the sustainability and growth of the U.S. aquaculture industry.

The Census of Aquaculture expands on the data collected about aquaculture collected from the Census of Agriculture and provides a comprehensive picture of the aquaculture sector at the state and national levels. The aquaculture Census collects detailed information relating to production volume and methods, surface water acres and sources, sales, point of first sale outlets, and aquaculture distributed for restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreational purposes.

Census data are used by all those involved in the aquaculture sector. Growers can use Census data to help make informed decisions about the future of their own operations, including whether or not to expand production, and to compare production volumes and pricing points with state and U.S. averages.

Respondents are guaranteed by law that their individual information will be kept confidential. NASS publishes data only in tabulated totals. The report cannot be used for purposes of taxation, investigation or regulation. The privacy of individual Census records is also protected from disclosure through the Freedom of Information Act.

To access the 2013 Census of Aquaculture results and other agriculture Census data, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) or call the Agricultural Statistics Hotline at 800-727-9540.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

19-R. Planting, cultivating and harvest equipment for vegetables, tobacco and hemp (Italian Checchi & Magli and Mater Macc). Call Griffin Farm Equipment 860-508-2426 or visit [www.griffinfarmtools.com](http://www.griffinfarmtools.com).

20. Ewe lambs. One Dorset/Texel cross, one Southdown. Both 1 year old in May. 860-395-4833.

### WANTED

6-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. [RyanM01@comcast.net](mailto:RyanM01@comcast.net) or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

### USDA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced is seeking public input on its existing national conservation practice standards as part of implementing the 2018 Farm Bill. NRCS offers 150-plus conservation practices to America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to help them meet their business and natural resource needs on their working lands. NRCS is requesting public comments on how to improve conservation practice standards that support programs. The comment period ends April 25, 2019. For more information go to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1447828>.

### CT NRCS ACEP APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 22, 2019

Connecticut NRCS is now accepting applications for FY2019 ACEP Program funding. NRCS will prioritize applications that protect agricultural uses and related conservation values of the land and those that maximize the protection of contiguous acres devoted to agricultural use.

Land eligible for agricultural easements includes cropland, grassland, pastureland, and nonindustrial private forest land. Native American Tribes, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations that have farmland or grassland protection programs are eligible to partner with NRCS to purchase conservation easements.

To apply, entities should submit application packages for funding by Monday, April 22, 2019. To find out more about the application process go to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ct/programs/easements/acep/?cid=stelprdb1249593>.

## EXHIBIT AT THE 2019 BIG E

The Connecticut Building at the Big E offers a unique opportunity for agricultural businesses, non-profits, and other entities with an agricultural mission to showcase the diversity of Connecticut agriculture. The 2019 Big E is scheduled to run from September 13–29, 2019. Connecticut Day will take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is accepting vendor applications for the agriculture booth spaces in the Connecticut Building with the purpose of providing Connecticut farms, small agricultural businesses, and agricultural non-profit organizations the opportunity to market and promote their products and/or service. Applications are available at [www.ctgrown.gov](http://www.ctgrown.gov) and are due by Friday, March 29, 2019.

Please call 860-713-2538 or email [Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov) to receive the application or more participation information.

## DOAG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FARMERS' MARKET AT THE REGIONAL MARKET

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting applications for the Farmers' Market at the Regional Market. The 2019 farmers' market season runs from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Stall use agreements are available for periods of three months up to one year.

Applications and information can be found on DoAg's website at [https://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/regional\\_market/2018/Farmers\\_Market\\_Application\\_2019.pdf](https://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/regional_market/2018/Farmers_Market_Application_2019.pdf). For more information or questions, please contact Erin Windham at 860-713-2543 or [Erin.Windham@ct.gov](mailto:Erin.Windham@ct.gov).

## 2019 CTRC&D SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CTRC&D announces the 2019 Scholarship Award Program to encourage studies and careers in the conservation field. Under the program, two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors or college students attending school in Connecticut. Applications must be received at CTRC&D in Haddam, CT by May 3, 2019.

These scholarship are awarded to a graduating high school senior or a post-secondary education student who is pursuing a career in natural sciences, conservation, or community planning. Only one CTRC&D scholarship may be applied for annually. For more information go to <https://ctrcd.org/about-us/scholarships-awards>.

## CT GROWN BUYER/GROWER NETWORKING EVENT

Are you looking to expand your wholesale markets? The Department of Agriculture will be hosting a Connecticut Grown buyer/grower networking event on Thursday, April 25, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Middlesex County Extension Center in Haddam, CT. This is your opportunity to discuss your business and products one-on-one with buyers looking for Connecticut Grown products or connect with new suppliers for your business.

Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration must be completed by April 15, 2019.

To register go to <https://www.cognitofrms.com/CTDepartmentOfAgriculture1/buyergrowermeetingregistrationform>.

Please call 860-713-2543 or email Erin Windham at [Erin.Windham@ct.gov](mailto:Erin.Windham@ct.gov) for more information.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CTGrown.gov

**Advertising Rates:** Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact [Crystal.Morris@ct.gov](mailto:Crystal.Morris@ct.gov) or call 860-713-2533.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103.

**Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.**

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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Acting Commissioner Melody A. Currey

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