

# Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

M. Jodi Rell, Governor  
F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner  
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director

CONNECTICUT  
GROWN



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

### ASSURING THE SAFETY OF SHELLFISH

Alissa Dragan, Environmental Analyst II

This summer The DA/BA increased two of its monitoring programs to ensure that CT shellfish is a safe and wholesome product for consumers. The warmer summer months can create the right conditions in Long Island Sound for two potential shellfish safety hazards, Vibrio bacteria and Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning. These potential hazards have yet to pose a serious risk in Connecticut waters and increased monitoring should help prevent illnesses from occurring. Reports of illnesses related to shellfish consumption can have a devastating impact on consumer confidence and result in severe economic loss to the shellfish industry.



Summertime can mean problems with shellfish quality and shelf-life due to warm water and air temperatures. The potential for increased bacteria levels in shellfish, specifically Vibrio parahaemolyticus has become a real concern to the shellfish industry. Vibrio bacteria are commonly occurring organisms in marine environments, unrelated to pollution. Two species of Vibrio can result in illnesses under the right conditions. Vibrio parahaemolyticus (Vp) can cause gastrointestinal illness within 24 hours that may last up to three days; more severe cases are rare. Vibrio vulnificus (Vv) usually does not harm healthy people but can cause illness in individuals with liver disease and weakened immune systems.

During 2009, the North East experienced an increase in the number of reported Vibrio cases. The number of Vibrio bacteria increases in growing areas as water and air temperatures rise during the summer months. Bureau of Aquaculture sampling in the summers of 2008 and 2009 found Vibrio bacteria in low numbers in Connecticut shellfish. This year the Bureau began sampling for Vibrio before the July 4th Holiday and will continue to collect samples through September. Initial sampling indicates that so far Vibrio levels are extremely low in our most actively harvested shellfishing areas. Continued routine monitoring for Vibrio will allow the Bureau to take action to prevent illnesses from occurring.

Consumers and Recreational harvesters can also take steps to avoid Vibrio-related illness. Individuals with compromised immune systems should only eat thoroughly cooked shellfish. When purchasing shellfish, verify that it comes from an approved source and make sure it is refrigerated or on ice. Once purchased or harvested, it is extremely important to refrigerate

all shellfish as quickly as possible and to keep it at temperatures below 45° F until consumed. This will prevent any Vibrio present in the shellfish from multiplying to levels high enough to cause illness.

In the spring the CT DA/BA began preparing for the possibility of a large-scale Hazardous Algal Bloom of Alexandrium in Long Island Sound. Alexandrium is the organism responsible for Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, PSP for short, also known as red tide. This single-celled plant produces a toxin that is concentrated by filter-feeding shellfish and may cause illness if consumed by humans or marine mammals. In past years, Maine, Massachusetts, and New York have closed shellfishing areas due to elevated PSP levels in shellfish. This year's bloom was predicted to be larger than any in recent years, but to date has not been as severe as in the past.

The DA/BA monitors PSP using plankton tows and microscopic examination to determine if there is any Alexandrium present in the State's growing waters. This year the Bureau expanded plankton sampling to cover the most actively harvested shellfish areas throughout the state. In addition to our Plankton monitoring program, the CT DA/BA places mussel cages in active harvest areas to screen for the PSP toxin. This mussel monitoring program began in May and will continue throughout the summer. This year, monitoring has not found any Alexandrium cells in plankton samples, and no mussel samples have returned a positive result for PSP. To date there have been no reported PSP illnesses linked to Connecticut shellfish.

The DA/BA's efforts to sample for Vibrio and PSP along with routine water quality monitoring samples ensure that consumers of Connecticut shellfish can continue to enjoy a fresh, local, and healthy product and help to maintain the quality reputation of the State's shellfishing industry. So be sure to ask for Connecticut shellfish at your local retailer.

### CONNECTICUT FARMERS CELEBRATE GOVERNOR RELL'S SIGNATURE ON FARMS, FOOD AND JOBS BILL

New Law Clears Hurdles for Farm-to-Consumer Sales and Helps Create Jobs

Windsor, Connecticut July 14, 2010 – Connecticut consumers will benefit from a new bill signed into law yesterday by Governor M. Jodi Rell. House Bill 5419, also known as the "Farms, Foods and Jobs" bill will significantly expand the availability of locally grown foods at farmer's markets and farm stands, allowing direct-to-consumer sales of poultry and acidified foods such as pickles and relish from farms to consumers.

"With the growing demand for locally-grown foods, this new law will allow farmers to access a greater portion of the market and consumers will

**MORE FARMS, FOOD AND JOBS BILL ON PAGE 3**

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.**  
July 19, 2010

Prices To Retailers, Sales To Volume Buyers,  
USDA Grade A and Grade A, White Eggs In  
Cartons, Warehouse, Cents Per Dozen

EXTRA LARGE	80-84
LARGE	77-81
MEDIUM	57-59

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT, July 19, 2010

Live animals brought the following average  
prices per cwt.:

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	22.00	25.00
76-90 lbs.	29.00	35.00
91-105 lbs.	38.00	44.00
106 lbs. & up	47.00	52.00
Farm Calves	55.00	75.00
Started Calves	25.00	32.00
Veal Calves	65.00	135.00
Open Heifers	70.00	80.00
Beef Heifers	55.00	82.50
Feeder Steers	55.00	85.00
Beef Steers	64.00	89.00
Stock Bulls	75.00	88.00
Beef Bulls	64.00	81.00
Replacement Heifers	1 @	800.00
Feeder Pigs each	1 @	40.00
Sheep each	60.00	87.50
Lambs each	115.00	140.00
Goats each	55.00	162.00
Kid Goats each	37.50	47.50
Canners	Up to	55.50
Cutters	56.00	59.50
Utility Grade Cows	60.50	66.25
Rabbits each	4.00	29.00
Chickens each	5.00	22.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

MONDAY, July 19, 2010

Bulk/High/Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers	75-80% lean		
56.00-60.00	61.00-63.00	53.00-55.00	
Boners	80-85% lean		
52.00-55.00	56.50-58.00	49.50-51.00	
Lean	85-90% lean		
48.00-51.50	52.50-55.00	44.00-47.00	

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1

1490-1815 lbs	66.00-69.50
Bullocks: 875-1285 lbs	71.00-75.50
high dress	79.00-82.00
low dress	63.00-67.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3

40-60 lbs	162.00-177.00
60-80 lbs	158.00-175.00
80-90 lbs	151.00-164.00
90-110 lbs	158.00-170.00
110-130 lbs	154.00-168.00
Choice 2-3 40-60 lbs	144.00-161.00
60-80 lbs	144.00-162.00
90-110 lbs	146.00-162.00

**FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

**NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal	13.00	13.00
APPLES, Jersey Mac bu 2-1/2 up	25.00	25.00
ARRUGULA, 24's bunched	13.00	13.00
BEANS, Green bu handpicked	18.00	18.00
BLACKBERRY, 12/ 1/2-pt	28.00	28.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12/1-pint clamshell	19.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12/1-pint fiberboard	24.00	25.00
BROCCOLI, 14ct	12.00	13.00
BROCCOLI, Crowns 20lb	14.00	14.00
CABBAGE, Green box 50lb	8.00	9.00
CARROTS, 24 bunched/ w tops	19.00	19.00
CHIVES, 1-lb bag	5.00	8.00
COLLARD GREENS, Crate	11.00	11.00
CORN, 5 dz	10.00	12.00
CUCUMBERS, Pickling 1-1/9 bu	27.00	28.00
CUCUMBERS, 1-1/9 bu med	16.00	20.00
KALE, Crate 12-16's	11.00	11.00
MINT, 1/2 bu	9.00	10.00
MUSTARD GREENS, Crate 12-16's	12.00	12.00
NECTARINES, 20lb box 2-1/2 up	28.00	30.00
PEACHES, 25lb box 2-1/2 up	22.00	22.00
PEACHES, White 25lb 2-1/2 up	28.00	28.00
PEPPER, Bell Green 1-1/9 bu xlge	18.00	18.00
PLUMS, Kelly Yellow 20lb	25.00	25.00
PLUMS, Methley 20lb	25.00	25.00
SQUASH, Green 1/2bu sm-med CT	6.00	7.00
SQUASH, Yellow sm-med CT	7.00	8.00
SWISS CHARD, 12's	10.00	14.00
TOMATOES, 8 qt basket lge	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, Vine Ripes 25lb box med, ghouse	22.00	22.00
TOMATOES, Cherry 5-lb flats greenhouse	14.00	14.00
TURNIP TOP Greens, crates	12.00	12.00

**SHIPPED IN**

APRICOTS, 24lb loose CA	24.00	24.00
BASIL, 1/2 bu NJ	12.00	14.00
DANDELION GREENS, 16's - 18's NJ	15.00	15.00
MUSHROOMS, Shiitake 3lb organic PA	22.00	23.00
ONION, Vidalia jbo 40lb GA	32.00	33.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh

120-160 lbs	73.00-88.00
160-200 lbs	72.00-87.00

SLAUGHTER EWES Utility 1-2: Thin Fleshed

120-160 lbs	70.00-81.00
160-200 lbs	69.00-84.00

SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Seleccion 1, sold by the head, on estimated weights.

Kids: 40-60 lbs	108.00-128.00
60-80 lbs	115.00-130.00
80-100 lbs	128.00-151.00

Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs 92.00-107.00

130-180 lbs 106.00-118.00

Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs 158.00-172.00

150-250 lbs 205.00-219.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION**

MON JULY 19, 2010

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	57.00-59.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	55.00-57.00
	270-300 lbs	53.00-56.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	48.00-52.00
	500-700 lbs	54.00-57.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	26.00-30.00

**METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.**

**NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS**

For 1 dozen,  
Grade A eggs on:  
July 19, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	86-90
LARGE	84-88
MEDIUM	64-68

Above quotations based on  
CARTON sales to retailers.



**PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT**

Monday July 19, 2010

Hay and Straw Market for Eastern  
Pennsylvania. All hay prices paid  
by dealers at the farm and per ton.

	Premium
Alfalfa	140.00-160.00
Mixed Hay	120.00-140.00
	Good
Timothy	110.00-120.00
Straw	100.00-120.00

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAIL REPORT**

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores  
in the Northeast

Week of July 16, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound  
unless otherwise stated.

**VEGETABLES**

Asparagus	1.99 - 3.99
Broccoli	1.50 - 2.00 per bunch
Cabbage	0.39 - 0.49
Carrots, Baby organic	1.69 - 2.50 1lb bag
Celery	0.99 - 1.99 each
Cucumbers	0.33 - 0.75 each
Lettuce, Romaine	0.88 - 1.79 each
Mushrooms, White	1.49 - 2.00 8oz pkg
Peppers, Bell green	1.28 - 1.69
Peppers, Bell red	1.99 - 2.99
Potatoes, Russet	1.29 - 2.99 5lb bag
Squash, Zucchini	0.99 - 1.50
Tomatoes on the vine	1.49 - 2.50

**FRUITS**

Apples, Red delicious	0.98 - 1.28
Avocados, Haas	0.88 - 1.69 each
Cantaloup	0.98 - 2.99 each
Grapes, Green/Red	0.98 - 2.59
Lemons	0.33 - 0.69 each
Mangoes	0.75 - 1.50 each
Nectarines	0.79 - 1.99
Oranges, Navel	1.00 - 1.00 each
Peaches	0.78 - 1.99
Strawberries	1.49 - 2.99 16oz pkg
Strawberries organic	3.00 - 3.99 16 oz pkg

## ADVERTISEMENT

### FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, 1-888-526-8815, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com.. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com., Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher High Tensile and portable electric fencing for farms, deer control, gardens. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.0

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

85-R. Tomato stakes, tree stakes, fence boards, custom cut lumber. Staehly Products Co., LLC 860-873-9774.

92-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing 203-788-2430.

102. Parts for Grimm hay tedders for sale, also rough lumber. 860-684-3458.

105-R. Battery powered price computing scales CAS 60lb \$328. (CT state compliant). Battery powered cash registers, \$280. 800-403-5919.

115-R. Quality hay, 1st cutting new hay \$4.50 per bale. 2nd cutting \$5.50 per bale. Telephone 860-642-6856.

121-R. Good Hay – Good Prices. Round bales, wrapped, conventional and organic \$25/bale and up. Square bales good hay \$4.25 and mulch \$3.50. 860-429-9698 or 860-234-1605.

122-R. International Cub tractor - \$2,400. International Cub sickle bar mower \$350. Cub snow plow \$250. Cub land plow \$175. All in good condition. 860-628-5475.

123-R. New Holland 310 baler rebuilt last year \$3,000. Morra 4-star hydraulic tedder \$2,500. 860-628-5475.

125-R. Geese for sale – 4 Embden (\$6 each) and 2 American Buff (\$8 each), Murray McMurray hatch 4/17/2010 Lebanon, CT 860-423-4995.

126-R. JD 6405 2WD with loader, sharp - \$27,000. JD 6310 L 4x4 with 640 self-leveling loader, left-hand forward reverser, 5700 hours - \$27,000. IH SBX 520 baler, like new - \$9,000. NH 575 baler with thrower - \$11,500. NH 570 baler with thrower - \$11,500. NH 258 hydraulic drive rake, like new - \$3,200. NH BR 730 round baler \$11,000. 2 Case IH 8430 round balers \$6,500 and \$7,500. 3 – 4-star tedders. 2 JD 730 direct start diesels. Sharp JD 336 baler with kicker. JD and IH front and rear weights. 2 4020's. 203-530-4953.

127-R. Three Registered Male Llamas, - one Black and white, Two Brown. Great Pets, Easy to keep. Price for all Three \$285. Or 2 Llamas for \$190. Will keep dogs, coyotes and deer off your property. Bernie @ West view Farm, Monroe, Ct... 203-880-6814

128-R. Round 4x4 bales. Premium dry, silage grass, alfalfa. Tightly plastic wrapped, starting \$43. 860-884-2889.

129-R. Mower conditioner John Deere 1219, new guards, knives. Hydraulic swing/lift. Excellent condition \$3,100. 860-884-2889.

### WANTED

35-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 860-662-2412.

### MISCELLANEOUS

7-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

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### FARMS, FOOD & JOBS BILL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

benefit," says Don Tuller, President of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association which worked hard this past legislative session to get the bill passed. "This new law will stoke the economic engine of Connecticut agriculture and will help local farms, promote local food, and create local jobs."

Among the measures laid out in the new law:

- **Acidified Foods:** Farmers will now be able to sell acidified vegetables and fruits direct from the farm. This means items with a pH of 4.6 or less such as pickles, relishes and salsa, can be sold direct to consumers by farmers that complete a food safety course and follow the other safety provisions of the law. Items such as meat, dairy products, eggs, fish, poultry and shellfish are specifically excluded.

- **Poultry:** Farms that raise poultry will be allowed process and sell dressed poultry or poultry products directly to consumers, restaurants, and hotels. The bill grants the State Department of Agriculture the authority to inspect poultry farms and processing to ensure safety. The bill's provisions are limited to farms that produce no more than 5,000 turkeys and 20,000 other poultry annually.

- **Farmers' Markets:** Farmers' Markets have become extremely popular in Connecticut. Previously they could only be open on a regular, scheduled basis. The new law will now allow such markets to be set up as single-day events or as part of happenings such as county or town fairs.

- **Milk Promotion:** The new law allows the state's Milk Promotion Board to access part of the federal milk promotion funds for local use, educating state residents about the benefits of milk and funding promotion and research.

"By expanding the opportunities for farmers to sell their products, everyone benefits," adds Tuller. "Connecticut agriculture is growing as consumers demand more Connecticut grown products. This new law is a welcome opportunity to allow farmers to produce and sell their products. When they sell more products, we'll see more jobs created and more revenue come into the state's economy. This bill also helps consumers who want to support local farming by giving them more chances to do so."

"Modifying the law to allow greater access to Connecticut Grown foods was a high priority for the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association," said Association executive director Steven Reviczky. "The unanimous passage of this legislation by the members of the General Assembly and the signature of Governor Rell demonstrates their strong commitment to Connecticut agriculture," he added.

About the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

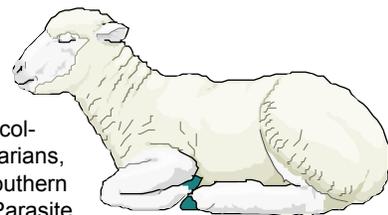
Since 1919, The Connecticut Farm Bureau Association has provided a strong, clear voice in state agricultural issues. As a non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm families, the Connecticut Farm Bureau is united to find solutions for concerns facing production agriculture in our counties, state and nation. Volunteer leaders and staff work closely with state and federal regulatory agencies and elected officials on issues ranging from economic viability, property rights, taxation, land use planning to labor laws and farmland preservation. For more information visit [www.cfba.org](http://www.cfba.org).

### FOR LAMBS, A PASTURE A WEEK KEEPS BLOOD SUCKERS AWAY

Deworming lambs can be minimized with rotational grazing and checking the animals' eye color, according to an Agricultural Research Service (ARS) study.

Animal scientist Joan Burke at the ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center in Booneville, Ark., and colleagues made this finding as part of a continuing collaboration with scientists, veterinarians, and extension agents from the Southern Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control.

The consortium was formed in response to the threats posed by worms resistant to parasiticides. Unnecessary de-worming speeds development



**LAMBS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**LAMBS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

of resistant worms. Reducing the use of conventional parasiticides fits well into organic and grass-fed management systems and meets consumer preferences of minimizing chemical residues in meat.

The blood-sucking worm, *Haemonchus contortus*, can cause severe anemia in animals. It is called the barber pole worm for the spiraling of its white, egg-filled ovaries around blood-filled intestines. Worldwide, they cost farmers and ranchers millions of dollars in losses. Animals shed worm eggs with their manure, and the larvae that hatch can be eaten by other livestock.

Burke and colleagues found that gel capsules filled with copper oxide wire particles eliminated the need for conventional dewormers in all but one case. And lambs that also rotated pastures needed fewer dewormings with the copper oxide pills.

They tested 71 lambs naturally infected with the barber pole worm. This is the first study of rotational grazing that used worm-infested lambs. They did the copper oxide deworming only to animals whose inner eyelid color was medium pale, Stage 3, on an eye color chart used as part of a clinical, on-farm system for detecting anemia and eliminating unnecessary dewormings for barber pole infestations.

The stages range from the red eyelids of healthy livestock (Stage 1) to the almost white eyelids of severely anemic goats and sheep (Stage 5).

Some of the lambs grazed on bermudagrass in the same pasture all season, and some were rotated every 3.5 to 7 days.

This work was published in the journal *Veterinary Parasitology*.

Read more about the research in the July 2010 issue of *Agricultural Research* magazine, available online at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/jul10/lambs0710.htm>.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) principal intramural scientific research agency. The research supports the USDA priority of promoting international food security.

**CUT FLOWER PRICES**

DAHLIA, bunched 5 long NE	8.50	8.50
GARDENIA, per bloom NE	5.50	5.50
GARDENIA, Carton 3's	15.00	15.00
GERBERA, per stem long	1.25	1.25
GERBERA, per stem mini long	.85	.85
LILIES, Asiatic long per bunch 2-3 bloom	12.00	12.50
LILIES, Asiatic long per bunch 3-5 bloom	16.00	18.00
LILIES, Casa Blanca long per bunch 5	25.00	30.00
LILIES, Siberia per bunch long	25.00	25.00
MONKSHOOD, bunched 10 NE	15.00	16.50
PEONY, per stem long	1.75	1.75
PHLOX, per bunch long	10.00	10.00
SCABIOSA, per bunch long	7.50	7.50
SNAPDRAGON, bunched 10 long	12.00	12.50
SNAPDRAGON, bunched 10 short	7.50	7.50
SUNFLOWER, bunched 5's long	5.00	5.50
SUNFLOWER, Teddy Bear per stem long	.85	.85
ZINNIA, per bunch long	5.00	5.50

**HERB PRICES**

BASIL, 1/2 carton bunched 15's NJ	14.00	14.00
CILANTRO, 1/2 carton bunched 24's NJ	15.00	18.00
DILL, bunched 24's NJ	22.00	22.00
DRY ESCHALLOT, 5 lb sack CAN	8.00	9.00
MARJORAM, 1lb bag MX	7.50	7.50
OREGANO, 1lb bag NJ	8.00	8.00
ROSEMARY, 1lb ba NJ	8.00	8.00
SAGE, 1lb bag NJ	8.00	8.00
SORREL, bunched 24's MICH	15.00	15.00
TARRAGON, 1lb bag NJ	10.00	10.00
WATERCRESS, bunched 24's AL	14.00	15.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

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