

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, March 10, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

APCP LOSES SUPPORTER AND FRIEND

By Frank L. Ribaudo,
Director, Animal Population
Control Program (APCP)
(Reprinted in part with permission
from Donna Sicuranza)

John A. Caltabiano, D.V.M., 55, of Old Lyme, passed away on November 6, 2009 after a courageous battle with cancer. John was a staunch supporter of the Animal Population Control Program and served on a number of committees contributing to the direction of the program. "Dr. Caltabiano's experience and knowledge of companion pets especially feral cats, provided assistance to this agency and our APCP office, at a time when our spay/neuter program was undergoing expansion into benefits for ferals and low-income Connecticut citizens", said F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Dr. Caltabiano received his medical degree from Iowa State University School of Veterinary Medicine. In 1980, he established the Mobile Veterinary Medical Clinic, one of the region's first house-call practices. Known fondly by residents of Southeastern Connecticut as "the mobile vet," his patients included a variety of large and small animals from pet mice to circus elephants. In 1997, as president of Tait's Every Animal Matters, he launched the nonprofit TEAM Mobile Feline Unit, Connecticut's first and only mobile spay/neuter and vaccination clinic for cats. His most recent innovation was the development of FeralStat®, a feline oral contraceptive created to end feral cat overpopulation. Dr. Caltabiano will be remembered by family, friends, clients and colleagues not only for his independence, positive spirit, generosity, and sense of humor, but also—and most importantly—for his fierce commitment to the compassionate care and treatment of all creatures, great and small. Dr. Caltabiano is survived by his longtime partner, Donna Sicuranza, of Westbrook, who will continue his work at TEAM and FeralStat®; and by his mother, Gloria Caltabiano, two sisters, a brother, and nieces and nephews.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Connecticut Agriculture in the Classroom is pleased to announce its 2010 Connecticut Ag Literacy Event. This event supports its mission of fostering awareness, understanding, and appreciation of agriculture and the food, fiber, flower, forestry and fuel systems. During 2010, volunteers throughout the state will go into classrooms to read a book with an agricultural theme and talk to students about agriculture. The book will be donated to the school library with a special bookplate recognizing the donors, Connecticut Agricultural Education Foundation, Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the Connecticut Poultry Association as partners in this 2010 Connecticut Ag Literacy Event.

We are asking our friends to go into a local elementary school classroom, read the designated book designated book for 2010 which is *Chicks & Chickens* by Gail Gibbons, and talk to students about the importance of Connecticut agriculture to their daily lives

For more information visit the Ag in the Classroom section of www.ctaef.org or contact Eleanore Provencal at eleanore@ctaef.org if you wish to volunteer.

WORKING LANDS ALLIANCE - PLOWING AHEAD: FARMLAND PRESERVATION IN 2010 AND BEYOND

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Kroon Hall, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, New Haven
Registration and conference details at: WorkingLandsAlliance.org/conference

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT EXTENSION OFFERS GARDEN RETAILER EMPLOYEE TRAINING

The University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension is offering *Helping Your Employees Become Gardening Gurus – Garden Retailer Employee Training*. This educational program will feature the following topics of interest garden center employees:

- o Common Insects in the Home Garden, Carol Quish, Horticulturist, Home and Garden Education Center, University of Connecticut
- o Use of Chemical and Organic fertilizers, Dawn Pettinelli, Extension Instructor, Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory, University of Connecticut
- o Common Diseases in the Home Garden, Joan Allen, Diagnostician, Home and Garden Education Center, University of Connecticut
- o Panel – Questions and Answers to your Most Common Questions, Joan Allen, Carol Quish and Dawn Pettinelli

This educational program will be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at the Middlesex County Extension Center in Haddam, CT. Handouts; and light refreshments will be provided.

Please make checks payable to the University of Connecticut. Cost is \$20.00 per person. \$15.00 per person for three or more registrations from the same company.

Please send to Leanne Pundt, Litchfield County Extension Center, 843 University Drive, Torrington, CT 06790.

For more information contact Leanne Pundt, at 860-626-6240 or email: leanne.pundt@uconn.edu or visit the web site: <http://www.hort.uconn.edu/ipm/>

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.
March 8, 2010

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

EXTRA LARGE	121-125
LARGE	120-124
MEDIUM	101-103

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, March 8, 2010 - Live animals
 brought the following average prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	25.00	28.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	40.00
76-90 lbs.	42.50	45.00
91-105 lbs.	50.00	52.50
106 lbs. & up	55.00	62.50
Farm Calves	67.50	90.00
Started Calves	26.00	35.00
Veal Calves	70.00	120.00
Open Heifers	68.00	73.00
Beef Heifers	46.00	73.00
Feeder Steers	62.00	75.00
Beef Steers	60.00	83.00
Stock Bulls	82.50	85.00
Beef Bulls	83.00	85.00
Boars	1 @	5.00
Sows	15.00	38.00
Feeder Pigs each	2 @	90.00
Lambs each	80.00	125.00
Goats each	65.00	180.00
Kid Goats each	45.00	125.00
Canners	Up to	47.50
Cutters	48.00	50.00
Utility Grade Cows	51.00	58.00
Rabbits each	6.00	36.00
Chickens each	4.00	45.00
Ducks each	4.50	21.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, March 8, 2010

Bulk/High/Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers	75-80% lean	49.50-52.50	46.00-48.00
Boners	80-85% lean	46.00-49.50	50.00-51.50
Lean	85-90% lean	42.00-45.50	46.00-47.50
		37.00-41.00	

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1

	1455-2230 lbs	57.50-61.00
Bullocks:	800-1253 lbs	66.50-72.50

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3	
40-60 lbs	170.00-188.00
60-80 lbs	158.00-178.00
80-90 lbs	155.00-174.00
90-110 lbs	154.00-172.00
110-130 lbs	148.00-165.00
130-150 lbs	138.00-154.00
Choice 2-3	
50-60 lbs	150.00-162.00
60-80 lbs	133.00-156.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh	
120-160 lbs	66.00-80.00
160-200 lbs	56.00-68.00
200-300 lbs	46.00-60.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Empire bu 2-1/2 up no grade	10.00	11.00
APPLES, Fuji 88ct fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLES, Gala fcy 100 ct	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Red Delicious 120ct fcy	14.00	14.00
POTATOES, White Round 50lb	9.00	9.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 11 lbs on vine lg	21.00	21.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLES, Granny Smith us exfcy,80ct	36.00	39.00
ASPARAGUS, 28lb lge MX	32.00	32.00
CANTALOUPEs, 9ct HON	18.00	20.00
ARTICHOKES, 30ct CA	30.00	30.00
BEANS, Green bu handpicked FL	55.00	55.00
BEETS, 12's TX	14.00	15.00
CABBAGE, green 50lb lge NY	13.00	13.50
CAULIFLOWER, 12ct AZ	24.00	25.00
CELERIAC, 20lb CAN	18.00	18.00
CUCUMBER, 1 1/9bu med MX	30.00	30.00
DAIKON, 1-1/9 bu FL	26.00	26.00
EGGPLANT, Greenhouse 11lb sm CAN	25.00	25.00
GARLIC, Elephant 10lb CA	33.00	33.00
GRAPES, Flame 18lb xlge CHILE	40.00	42.00
GRAPEFRUIT, Red 40ct FLA	13.00	15.00
HORSERADISH, 5lb MIZZ	12.00	12.00
LEMONS, 115ct AZ	24.00	25.00
LETTUCE, Boston 12/4oz greenhouse TENN	14.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Iceberg, 24ct AZ	24.00	25.00
NECTARINES, 48-50 CHILE	21.00	21.00
OKRA, 1/2 bu sm-med MX	30.00	30.00
ONION, Yellow 50lb med NY	22.00	23.00
ORANGES, Navel 88's CA	18.00	18.00
PEACHES, 44ct CHILE	18.00	18.00
PEAS, Snow 10lb GUAT	18.00	18.00
PEPPER, Habanero 1/2 bu FL	30.00	33.00
PEPPER, Bell Green xl FL	40.00	44.00
RHUBARB, 10lb greenhouse MICH	24.00	24.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb lg CA	20.00	21.00
TOMATOES, 5x6 FL	42.00	43.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

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

Kids:	40-60 lbs	86.00-108.00
	60-80 lbs	107.00-130.00
	80-100 lbs	128.00-150.00
	100-120 lbs	132.00-152.00
Nannies/Does:	80-130 lbs	100.00-116.00
	130-180 lbs	112.00-122.00
Bucks/Billies:	100-150 lbs	150.00-166.00
	150-250 lbs	178.00-200.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon March 8, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual
 weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	51.00-52.50
	270-300 lbs	51.50-53.50
45-49	220-270 lbs	48.00-50.50
	270-300 lbs	50.00-50.50
	300-350 lbs	47.00-50.50
40-45	300-400 lbs	40.00-45.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-450 lbs	42.00-46.50
	450-500 lbs	46.50-52.00
	500-700 lbs	50.00-55.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	15.00-16.00

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

NEW YORK PRICES

**WHITE EGGS
 TO RETAILERS**

For 1 dozen,
 Grade A eggs on:

March 8, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	133-137
LARGE	131-135
MEDIUM	112-116

Above quotations based on
 CARTON sales to retailers.



**PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY
 HAY REPORT**

Week ending March 5, 2010

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

	Premium
Alfalfa	210.00-210.00
Mixed Hay	195.00-255.00
	Good
Timothy	140.00-190.00
Straw	125.00-180.00

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE
 RETAIL REPORT**

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores
 in the Northeast

Week of March 5, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound
 unless otherwise stated.

VEGETABLES

Asparagus	1.29 - 2.99
Broccoli	.99 - 2.50 per bunch
Carrots, Baby organic	1.50 - 2.49 1lb bag
Cucumbers	.33 - .79 each
Lettuce, Iceberg	.97 - 1.29 each
Mushrooms, White	.99 - 2.00 8oz pkg
Onions, Sweet, Yellow	.99 - 1.69
Peppers, Bell green	1.69 - 1.69
Peppers, Bell red	1.49 - 3.99
Potatoes, Russet	.98 - 2.50 5lb bag
Squash, Zucchini	.98 - 1.69
Tomatoes	.98 - 2.99
Tomatoes on the vine	1.99 - 2.99

FRUITS

Apples, Red delicious	.98 - 1.49
Avocados, Haas	.89 - 1.50 each
Cantaloup	.97 - 2.99 each
Grapes, Green/Red	.98 - 2.99
Honeydew	2.50 - 3.99 each
Lemons	.25 - .69 each
Mangoes	.99 - 1.50 each
Nectarines	1.79 - 2.49
Oranges, Navel	.34 - 1.00 each
Peaches	.99 - 2.49
Strawberries	1.99 - 3.99 16oz pkg

ADVERTISEMENTS

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, 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.

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

12-R. Hay – excellent 1st cut round, plastic wrapped bales \$40. 2nd cut \$50. 2nd cut squares \$5. Lebanon 860-886-0716.

14-R. Hay 4x5 round bales, stored in barn, \$50. p.u. Hereford heifer spring calf \$450. Standard donkey 6 mo. old jack \$450. Pygmy goats, young, 3 males, 1 female. International 1850 bucket loader attachment \$400. Call 860-537-1974.

25-R. Honeybees for sale, 3lb packages scheduled March 27 and April 26; 5 frame nucs April 10, Riverside Apiaries, 860-295-8972.

31-R. NH 316 baler w/mod. 75 kicker, electric controls \$7,500. JD 1219 Haybine, stub guards, hyd. tongue \$3,900. Haywagon \$1900. Kuhn GF452T tedder \$1900. NH hay rake, old, \$900. 150 gal. Mueller M self-contained bulk tank \$2,500. Small 2" DeLaval pipeline, complete w/pump, wash sink and receiver jar \$2,500. 860-951-8021.

36-R. 4 foot EMC 3pt hitch rotary mower \$300. James Fazzone 203-250-6677.

37-R. Somers 3.3 acre business zoned with 960 SF bldg and 9000 SF of greenhouse space. Zoned for many business uses. \$239,900 Clint Charter, Wallace-Tustin Realty, 860-558-3908.

38-R. Hay – 1st cut \$5.00 per bale. Special quantity discounts. No delivery. Stebner Farm, Lebanon, 860-423-9310.

40-R. KMW loader off of Zetor 5211 tractor. Best offer. 860-861-4238.

42-R. Pioneer Forecart for use as a training cart or for pleasure driving. Excellent condition. \$ 1,450.00 Contact: Tom 860-885-8299

43-R. Draft Horse Harness made by Yonie:Two stainless steel hame style draft horse harnesses. Excellent condition. \$1,800.00/pair Contact: Tom 860-885-8299.

45-R. Corn silage in silo with unloader good for smaller quantities in Bristol, CT. Call evenings 860-635-1379.

46-R. 300 tomato cages, 4ft tall, steel reinforcing wire, \$3.00 each, Killingworth:860-663-3282

47-R. Wade irrigation pipes 4 inch, 20 and 40 foot lengths, connectors, uprights, sprinklers, 1500 to 2000 feet, \$1200.00 or best offer. Estate sale available now Bristol CT. Terry LeBeau 860-583-4946

48-R. J.D. 8' Drop Spreader \$350 OBO. 1st cut square bales \$4.50. 203-265-4588.

51-R. Hay - First Cutting. Square Bales. \$4.00/bale. Call 860.829.1465.

WANTED

35-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 1-800-806-1664.

49-R. Good condition used hot air greenhouse furnace wanted – oil or propane. 860-342-2374 Portland, CT.

50-R. Wanted: Persons for general greenhouse work, mail order Alpine geranium propagation and shipping, and retail garden center sales. Starting now through August. Flexible hours. Pay commensurate with ability. Some plant knowledge and retail experience helpful. Non-smokers only. We have a reputation for top quality plants and good service. Wheeler Farm Gardens, Portland, CT 860-342-2374.

41-R. For Lease: Preston, Rt 164, easily accessible farm property, buildings, etc. For more information 860-889-0598.

44-R. One or two bottom trailer plow wanted or 3ph. Telephone 860-354-4659.

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.

AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST'S "SAVING THE LAND THAT SUSTAINS US" FINALIST IN THE IDEAS FOR CHANGE IN AMERICA CONTEST

American Farmland Trust's (AFT) idea, No Farms No Food – Saving the Land That Sustains Us, placed first in the "Food & Agriculture" ideas category in the Ideas For Change in America contest sponsored by Change.org.

Hundreds of people voted in favor of drawing more attention to our nation's most precious resource, farmland, in the preliminary round, moving AFT into the final heat. However, the contest isn't over yet, and the final round of voting begins March 1, 2010 at 1 p.m. ET and concludes on Friday March 12, 2010 at 11 p.m. ET at www.change.org/ideas.

"Everyone who produces food and likes to eat should cast their vote in favor of this cause," said Jane Kirchner, AFT's Senior Director of Marketing and Communications.

The Ideas for Change in America online contest was started by Change.org in 2008 after the presidential election. As finalists, AFT's idea will be entered into the final round of voting along with the second and third place winners in the sustainable foods category.

The final competition begins as the top 60 ideas from across the preliminary categories vie to be named one of the "Top 10 Ideas for Change in America." The winning ideas from this contest will be presented to the Obama administration; and will receive the backing of Change.org's million member strong communities of supporters to turn the "Top 10 Ideas" into reality.

"We hope our members and supporters will help AFT bring out the vote and tap the power of online communities to help bring attention to this great idea and raise it to the level of national prominence it deserves," said Kirchner.

American Farmland Trust is a national nonprofit organization working with farmers and ranchers to protect the land, produce a healthier environment and build successful communities. AFT's national office is located in Washington, D.C. The phone number is 202-331-7300.

KIDS LOSE POUNDS, GAIN FITNESS, IN HOUSTON STUDY

Innovative, kid-friendly strategies for losing weight and gaining nutrition savvy--plus physical fitness skills--are emerging from scientific studies funded by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS).

For example, investigators Craig A. Johnston, John P. Foreyt and Chermaine Tyler and their colleagues are building upon one of their earlier studies in which many of their Texas middle-school participants achieved weight-management success. The volunteers were primarily Hispanic children who were either overweight or at risk of becoming so.

The researchers are with the ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, where Johnston and Tyler are instructors in nutrition and Foreyt is a professor of medicine.

Statistics that the scientists reported for the 6-month study were based on 57 overweight kids who were assigned to either a self- and parent-taught program, or, instead, an intensive, instructor-led regimen.

For instance, once a week for the first 3 months of the investigation, kids in the self-taught group spent time in study hall reading a self-help weight-management textbook for youngsters. Meanwhile, their peers in the instructor-led team spent four class periods a week outdoors, improving their physical fitness, with a fifth session each week--indoors--learning about nutrition, healthy eating, and behavior-change skills essential for living an active lifestyle and making healthful food choices.

AGRICULTURE DEPUTY SECRETARY MERRIGAN ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF \$5 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR FARMERS MARKET PROMOTION PROGRAM

This year FMPP will emphasize three priorities during the 2010 grant period: (1) focus on the recruitment and retention of new farmers to participate at farmers markets and other direct-to-consumer farm marketing outlets; (2) develop professional expertise for farmers market managers, farmers/vendors, boards and organizations to effectively manage and/or operate farmers markets and other direct marketing enterprises; and (3) improve food access in local, rural and underserved communities to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables from local farms.

Since AMS began tracking farmers markets in 1994, the number has grown by nearly 4,000 nationwide. Currently, nearly 5,274 farmers markets operate nationwide, up from 4,685 in 2008, an increase of 13 percent. AMS maintains a comprehensive list of farmers markets, posted online at www.ams.usda.gov/farmersmarkets.

AMS also has developed two new tools for prospective grant applicants. The FMPP Pre-Application Guide for 2010 helps readers assess their readiness for the grant application and implementation process. AMS has also captured its on-site FMPP grant-writing training in a detailed PowerPoint presentation that provides step-by-step instructions on how to fill out the application forms. You can access both tools on the FMPP website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP>.

More information on the "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" initiative is available at <http://www.usda.gov/KnowYourFarmer>.

Information on how to apply for a grant will be published in the Mar. 1, 2010, issue of the Federal Register and posted on the AMS website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP>. Applications and proposals must be received by AMS no later than the close of business on April 15, 2010. Applications received after April 15, 2010, will not be considered.

For more information, contact Carmen Humphrey, Program Manager, Farmers Market Promotion Program, AMS, 1800 M Street, N.W., Room

3012-South Tower, Washington, D.C. 20036; phone (202) 694-4000; fax (202) 694-5949.

First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! campaign to end childhood obesity within a generation was launched earlier this month. The campaign has four primary tenets: helping parents make healthy family choices, serving healthier food in schools, improving access to healthy, affordable food, and increasing physical activity of kids. Already, the administration has announced its plans to improve school meals, a financing initiative to reduce food deserts, new research tools that detail local food environments and health outcomes, including grocery store access and disease and obesity prevalence, and a broad range of public/private partnerships to solve America's childhood obesity epidemic.

KIDS LOSE POUNDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

When evaluated at the end of the 6-month study, kids in the intensive, instructor-led course had significantly greater weight loss as well as greater "physical quality of life"--as measured by their answers to a standard questionnaire--than did the kids in the self-taught program. What's more, one and two years later, youngsters in the instructor-led team had significantly greater decreases in their body mass index, or BMI, than did the self-taught youngsters.

These preliminary results suggest that a school-based weight-management program might be effective in reaching large numbers of kids, according to the scientists. They published their findings in the journal *Obesity* in 2009 and in *Pediatrics* in 2007.

Read more about this research in the March 2010 Agricultural Research magazine special issue on preventing childhood obesity. <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/mar10/kids0310.htm>

ARS is the chief intramural scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Houston research helps improve children's nutrition and health, a USDA top priority.

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Advertising Rates: Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers and addresses, etc., are counted separately. **Print or type copy.** Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come-first serve basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. **Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted.** Remittance with copy required. Make checks or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and mail to: Marketing - Ag Report Classifieds, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

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Marketing&Technology	Robert Pellegrino	(860) 713-2503
Regional Market	Robert Pellegrino	(860) 566-3699
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis	(860) 713-2505
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FAX NUMBERS	(860) 713-2516	(860) 713--2514

E-Mail: jessey.ina-lee@ct.gov
 Internet: <http://www.ct.gov/doag>

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