



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

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



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE AWARENESS

Kirby C. Stafford III and Rose T. Hiskes, Department of Entomology
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), *Anoplophora glabripennis*, is an insect in the Order Coleoptera (beetles) and family Cerambycidae, the longhorned wood-boring beetles. This beetle is an unwelcome invasive pest from Asia that came to the United States hidden, probably as larvae, in wooden packing materials, such as pallets and crates used to package and transport products. This insect attacks maples, elm, birch, willow, horsechestnut and many other species of deciduous trees. If established, this beetle represents a significant threat to our forests and urban and suburban trees. Industries that depend on our trees, such as maple syrup producers, lumber processors, and nurseries will be negatively impacted. Fall tourism in Connecticut could also be negatively impacted. While ALB has not yet been detected in Connecticut, infestations in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts have increased the possibility that the beetle could also be present in any of the other northeastern states, including Connecticut.

The beetle was first discovered in Brooklyn, NY in 1996, in other areas around New York City, and then in nearby areas in New Jersey. Other infestations have been found in Chicago, IL; Toronto, Ontario; and most recently, Worcester, MA. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS), working with local and state partners, has quarantined infested areas and is attempting to eradicate the beetle by cutting and chipping infested and nearby host-associated trees. The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) began surveying for the beetle in southwestern CT shortly after the insect's discovery in Brooklyn and began distributing information about the beetle. The Experiment Station is the plant pest regulatory agency for Connecticut. Fortunately, we never detected the beetle, but then in August 2008, the beetle was discovered only 20-30 miles north of our border in Worcester, MA, an infestation that has been estimated to be 12-15 years old. To date, the quarantine area encompasses 74 square miles with over 16,000 infested trees found and a total of just over 25,000 trees removed from an area of about 2 square miles. The beetles kill healthy trees in 3 – 5 years, which means trees have been dying in Worcester for the last 7 – 10 years. Where have all those dead trees gone?

The adult ALB is large, measuring 1 to 1.5 inches, not including the long antennae. The beetle is shiny black with white spots and the antennae are banded in black and white. The adult beetles are active from roughly late June until freezing weather. Female beetles chew 35-90 pits in the bark of a host tree and lay one egg under the bark at each oviposition site. The larva tunnels through the cambium layers beneath the bark as it feeds and ends

up in the heartwood of the tree, feeding through the winter. Pupation occurs in the spring, with the adult beetle emerging the next summer, through a neat 3/8 inch emergence hole it chews in the bark. The beetle feeds on bark of young twigs, leaf veins, and blades. Adults then mate, and the life cycle begins again with beetles usually attacking the same tree again.

An ALB management program relies on several approaches to eradicate the beetle. These are survey and detection to determine the limits of an infestation; eradication by cutting and chipping infested trees; chemical treatment of non-infested host trees; regulation to curtail movement of infested materials (firewood is a high-risk method of spreading the beetle!); research on the beetle; education and outreach to citizens; and restoration to replace trees with a non-host tree. Public outreach is a very important part of the program as all the infestations have been detected by a citizen reporting the beetle to the proper authorities or bringing in a specimen for identification.

To increase public awareness and the chance of detecting new ALB infestations, while they are still relatively small, the USDA supported a Northeast Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project beginning in the summer of 2009. Participating states included all of New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Maximum public outreach was targeted for the month of August when adult beetles are most active. In association with this project, Governor M. Jodi Rell of Connecticut was the first governor in the northeast to sign a proclamation declaring August "Asian Longhorned Beetle Awareness Month". She also held a news conference in front of a beautiful sugar maple at Black Rock State Park in Thomaston, CT on August 6, 2009 to "raise public awareness, and ask the public's help in detecting this pest."

The ALB awareness project in Connecticut, led by the CAES, was a multi-agency, multi-organization cooperative effort and had three goals: training, outreach and survey. We accomplished these goals with the assistance of many groups and volunteers, including the Connecticut Master Gardeners, the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Division of Forestry, the Connecticut Forest and Parks Association, and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service. Train-the-trainer sessions were held in many areas of the state, with over 1,000 people being trained about the ALB and its host trees and the emerald ash borer (EAB), another exotic insect that is destructive to ash trees. Foresters in the DEP trained municipal tree workers, utility line workers, members of volunteer fire departments, loggers, and public park employees. Many CAES staff members were involved in training tree

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.

November 16, 2009

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

EXTRA LARGE	115-118
LARGE	112-116
MEDIUM	93-99

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, November 17, 2009

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	16.00	24.00
61-75 lbs.	26.00	29.00
76-90 lbs.	30.00	32.50
91-105 lbs.	33.00	35.00
106 lbs. & up	41.00	45.00
Farm Calves	No	85.00
Started Calves	25.00	30.00
Veal Calves	55.00	85.00
Open Heifers	50.00	70.00
Beef Heifers	44.50	54.00
Feeder Steers	50.00	69.50
Beef Steers	40.00	51.50
Stock Bulls	47.50	85.00
Beef Bulls	45.00	59.00
Feeder Pigs each	4 @	47.50
Sheep each	35.00	180.00
Lambs each	30.00	180.00
Goats each	55.00	160.00
Kid Goats each	30.00	100.00
Canners	Up to	38.00
Cutters	39.00	43.50
Utility Grade Cows	44.50	46.50
Rabbits each	5.00	17.00
Chickens each	5.00	32.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, November 16, 2009

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	40.50-43.50	44.75-46.00	37.50-38.75
Boners	80-85% lean		
	39.00-42.50	-----	36.50-38.50
Lean	85-90% lean		
	36.00-40.50	-----	30.00-35.50
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1			
	1235-1575 lbs	58.50-63.50	
	1770-2185 lbs	55.25-55.75	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn			
	Choice and Prime 2-3		
	40-50 lbs	130.00-148.00	
	50-60 lbs	132.00-146.00	
	60-70 lbs	136.00-144.00	
	70-80 lbs	124.00-138.00	
	80-90 lbs	122.00-136.00	
	90-110 lbs	110.00-128.00	
	110-130 lbs	108.00-120.00	
	130-150 lbs	96.00-114.00	
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh			
	120-160 lbs	54.00-66.00	
	160-200 lbs	40.00-58.00	
	200-300 lbs	36.00-46.00	

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 9 – 1/2gal	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Spenser bu no grade 2-1/2”min	15.00	16.00
APPLES, Empire bu 2-1/2 up no grade	12.00	14.00
APPLES, Gala 100 ct exfcy	24.00	25.00
APPLES, Golden Delicious bu 2-1/2”min fcy	16.00	18.00
APPLES, Honeycrisp exfcy 3”min	28.00	30.00
APPLES, Macoun, 96ct exfcy	26.00	28.00
APPLES, Mcintosh ex fcy 96ct	21.00	22.00
APPLES, Mcintosh, 140ct US#1	13.00	15.00
APPLES, Mcintosh 8/5lb totes 2-1/2”min fcy	18.00	19.00
APPLES, Mutsu bu 3” fcy	16.00	18.00
BEETS, Carton-bunched 24ct	15.00	16.00
CABBAGE, Green 1-3/4bu box med	8.00	9.00
CABBAGE, Red 1-3/4bu box	11.00	12.00
CABBAGE, Savoy 1-3/4bu box	11.00	12.00
CRANBERRIES, 24/12’s	33.00	36.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb	22.00	22.00
PARSNIPS, 18 – 1lb	20.00	22.00
POTATOES, chef 50lb	9.00	12.00
POTATOES, Round white 10lb sz A	1.50	1.50
SQUASH, Acorn 1-1/9 bu lge	14.00	15.00
SQUASH, Buttercup 1-1/9bu	14.00	15.00
SQUASH, Butternut 1-1/9 bu lge	15.00	16.00
SQUASH, Butternut organic 40lb	30.00	30.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 15lb 20’s	24.00	24.00
TURNIPS, Purple Top 25lb	12.00	12.00

SHIPPED IN

CALABAZA, 50lb CR	20.00	21.00
CARROTS, 48/1-lb bags CAN	13.00	14.00
CARROTS, 48/1-lb bags Organic GA	42.00	42.00
GARLIC, 30lb #10 CAL	45.00	45.00
GRAPEFRUIT, Red 40ct FLA	14.00	15.00
GRAPES, Thompson med 16lb CAL	28.00	30.00
LETTUCE, Boston 24 NJ	20.00	26.00
MUSHROOMS, 10lb White med PA	13.00	14.00
NAPPA, 30lb NJ	14.00	16.00
ONION, Yellow 10lb med NY	2.20	2.20
POMEGRANATES, 30ct CA	27.00	32.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

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

Kids: 30-40 lbs	40.00-52.00
40-50 lbs	50.00-60.00
50-60 lbs	60.00-74.00
60-70 lbs	66.00-84.00
70-80 lbs	76.00-92.00
80-90 lbs	90.00-108.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	60.00-72.00
130-180 lbs	76.00-92.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs	138.00-150.00
150-250 lbs	156.00-174.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon November 16, 2009

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

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	40.50-44.50
	270-300 lbs	38.50-41.50
	300-350 lbs	38.00-41.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	37.00-40.00
	270-300 lbs	36.00-38.00
	300-350 lbs	35.00-38.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	38.00-42.00
	500-700 lbs	43.00-45.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	7.00-12.00

METROPOLITAN AREA

U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES

WHITE EGGS

TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,

Grade A eggs on:

November 16, 2009

EXTRA LARGE	121-125
LARGE	119-123
MEDIUM	100-104

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.

BOSTON, MASS.

NEW ENGLAND FISH

EXCHANGE AUCTION

FISH LANDINGS AND PRICES IN

1,000 LBS & \$/CWT

DATE 11/16/09

SPECIES	LBS	PRICE
HADDOCK	0.1	150
HADDOCK SCRD 1/	0.0	140
COD LGE	0.1	275
MKT	0.2	140
POLLOCK LGE	0.1	60
MED & SML	0.7	66
HAKE SOW	0.3	251
LGE	1.0	140
MED	0.6	110
SML	0.1	60
DABS LGE	0.8	160
SML	0.9	140
GREYSOLE MED	0.0	275
SML	0.2	202
OCN PRCH	0.9	71

BOSTON -

WHALING CITY SEAFOOD

DISPLAY AUCTION

FISH LANDINGS & PRICES IN

1,000 LBS & \$/CWT

DATE 11/16/09

PRICES INCLUDES DEALERS FEES

SPECIES	LBS	MIN	HIGH
COD LGE 1/	0.0	262	262
MKT	0.2	146	146
MIXED	0.6	57	64
GILLNET LGE COD	0.5	216	278
MKT	4.2	136	156
SCRD	0.0	124	124
HADDOCK	0.2	192	201
HADDOCK SCRD	0.1	136	136
POLLOCK LGE	9.0	66	66
MEDIUM	3.4	63	66
MIXED	2.4	41	46
CUSK	0.0	82	82
HAKE LGE	1.0	147	161
MED	1.2	102	129
SML	0.3	63	63
SOW	0.4	253	253
OCN PRCH	0.3	66	66
DABS LGE	2.0	217	217
MED	1.1	264	264
SML	3.0	236	246
SHOAL FLDR SML	0.1	216	304
GREYSOLE MED	0.0	316	316
SML	0.2	253	253

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.

3-R. CT Grown Mesh Bags - The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has CT Grown Mesh Bags for sale. These bags are super strong and exceptionally attractive. The dimensions are 16" l x 5" w x 12" h. They are being sold by the case (40 per case) for \$156.16. For more information or to order, please call 860-713-2503.

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.

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

99-R. Battery powered price computing scales with state compliance, battery powered cash registers, 60-pound pumpkin scale \$348. Call for information at 1-800-403-5919.

173-R. Christmas greens, balsam wreaths, several varieties of roping, kissing balls. Samples gladly shown. We deliver. 203-457-1344.

188. Registered polled Hereford bred cow-calf combinations, feeder steers and heifers, 3 year old registered Hereford bull with low birth weight and high intramuscular fat. Grand View Farm (860) 485-5720. lucasleslie40@hotmail.com.

196-R. First cut 4x5 round bales \$40 p.u. First cut square bales \$4.50. Call 203-265-4588.

200-R. Millcreek 35 bushel manure spreader with a rubberized floor, a new apron, also a spreader that can be used with a garden tractor. Phone 860-354-4659. Leave message.

202-R. Six month old Yorkshire boar for sale 203-996-4715.

203. Registered Angus Bull: Trowbridge Cross Country-701, born 1-3-08. An elite herd sire, nice quiet bull with manners. Looking to move him in Jan/Feb 2010. No reasonable offer will be refused. Call Red Tail Ridge Farm 203-888-7779.

204-R. Tractors: JD 3010 \$7,500. Farmall 706 \$6,500. Kubota B7500 \$6,000. Farmall 200 \$2,500. Make offer. 860-648-1355. Dzen Brothers Farm.

205-R. Four Male Llamas for Sale- one Black and white, One Black, Two Brown. Price for all four, \$700.00. Westview Farm, Monroe, Ct.. Bernie @ 203-880-6814.

WANTED

201-R. Several all wooden cattle stanchions wanted. Adult cow size. Must be serviceable. Call 860-434-2888.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has established the Farm Link Program. It is a matchmaking service to help new farmers find farm land owners (for rent or for sale) and to aid in the process of land rental and/or farm transfer to the next generation of farmers. A website will be developed to aid linking farm seekers and farm owners. Persons interested in the process can receive applications now available at www.farm-link.uconn.edu or calling the CT Dept. of Agriculture at (860) 713-2503. The Department is encouraging all next generation farmers and transitioning family farms in Connecticut to participate. For further information, please contact Jane Slupecki at (860) 713-2588.

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.

BEETLE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

arborists, nursery workers, farm bureau members, master gardeners, science teachers, and land trust workers. These people then went on to train others as well as educate the public. Our outreach efforts also focused on persons who garden. We educated garden center managers and gave them literature to hand out to their customers, talked to garden clubs, and staffed display tables at agricultural fairs. Public outreach included such events as the Woodstock Outdoor Fest, CAES's spring Open House and Plant Science Day, the Lebanon Fair, the Big E, and farmers' markets. The success of the outreach program is reflected in the increase of 134 ALB inquiries in 2009 (see figure), of which 76 were in August, 171 reports of possible ALB (no ALB has been found), and 55,700 or more people who attended various outreach events during the summer.

CALLING ALL ORGANIC TOMATO GROWERS!

If you grew or tried to grow tomatoes in 2009 and you used organic practices to do it, NOFA wants to hear from you about your experience with late blight.

NOFA/Mass is researching organic management strategies that Northeast tomato growers - both farmers and gardeners - used in 2009 to mitigate the late blight. The insights collected will be presented at the NOFA/Mass Winter Conference on January 16, 2010, in the Spring 2010 Edition of *The Natural Farmer*, and on the NOFA/Mass website.

By gathering responses from a significant number of growers on their experiences, NOFA/Mass hopes to contribute to a shared understanding of what organic growing practices for tomatoes were actually applied in 2009 and also hopefully shed light on strategies that can be effective in managing the disease.

Responses are being sought from growers in MA, VT, CT, RI, NY, NJ, ME, NH, and PA.

Survey deadline: respond by January 1, 2010

To contribute to the collective knowledge about dealing with one of the most destructive crop diseases that has affected our region in recent memory, please go to the following website and take the survey there: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=7gWicbMRJAK9uhwb_2bBtdxw_3d_3d

NOFA/Mass has received a \$5,000 grant from Whole Foods Market to support the gathering and for dissemination of information for this research project.

If you have any questions about this survey, contact Ben Grosscup, ben.grosscup@nofamass.org, 413-658-5374.

CT FARM WINERIES RIPE FOR VISITS IN AUTUMN

Autumn is the peak of wine season here in Connecticut, according to Agriculture Commissioner F. Philip Prelli.

"One of our state's best-kept secrets is its farm wineries," said Commissioner Prelli, who also serves as Chairman of the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council. "Twenty-eight are open to the public, and many offer fun and entertainment for not just adults, but children as well. In addition to wine talks and tastings for parents, farm tours, pick-your-own crops, play areas, games, and other activities often are integrated into these family-friendly destinations."

Winemaking is a relatively new, but quickly growing, industry in Connecticut. The first farm winery, Haight-Brown Vineyard in Litchfield, opened in 1975. This year, the state boasts 30 licensed farm wineries, each making between three and 14 different wines. Several include specialty fruit wines and hard ciders in their product lines.

For some farms, grape cultivation and winemaking has been one way to diversify in an age that has seen farms disappear at an alarming rate.

"Our sixth-generation farm saw an opportunity to extend our season, while offering something deliciously interesting and exciting to our longtime customers," reflected Jamie Jones of Jones Family Farm and Winery in Shelton. "At the same time, it challenged and broadened our skill as farmers, and also helped us to attract new customers who never knew we existed. It has been a win-win all around, both for us and for our customers."

WINERIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

WINERIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Although CT Grown wines are relatively new to the fine dining scene, many have earned respect and received awards on the international stage. Priam Vineyard's Late Harvest Riesling, for example, received a Gold Medal at the 2008 Amenti del Vino International Wine Competition, while Sunset Meadow Vineyard's 2007 Cayuga White won a Gold Medal at the 2009 Finger Lakes International Competition. Closer to home, the Big E Northeast Gold Wine Competition has recognized many of the state's farm wineries for varieties that are outstanding in their field.

The Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries Program, sponsored by the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council and administered by the state Department of Agriculture, runs annually from May until November and challenges residents and tourists to visit at least 14 Connecticut farm wineries. Passports bearing at least 14 different visit stamps at the end of the season are eligible to be entered into a random drawing for a two-week vacation for two in Spain. Two vacations for two are awarded each year. (No purchase is required during visits to qualify.)

Local liquor stores have begun to carry a few CT Grown wines, but most are available only directly from the winery at which it is made. For a listing of vineyards and wineries in Connecticut, and for more information about the Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries Program, go to the Department of Agriculture's website at www.CTGrown.gov and click on "Publications" at the left of the page, then scroll the list to find Vineyards and Wineries.

MORE FARMERS' MARKETS ILLUSTRATES NEED FOR LOCAL FARMS AND FARMLAND

USDA Announces Number of Farmers Markets for 2009

With the recent announcement from Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack that the number of farmers' markets in the country increased by 13 percent from last year, American Farmland Trust applauds the many communities and consumers reaching out for fresh food and supporting their local farm-

ers and farmland. Farmers and consumers connected at 5,274 farmers' markets this year, up from 4,685 in 2008.

"This growth in the number of farmers' markets is a good indicator of just how important local farms and food are to people today," says Julia Freedgood, managing director of AFT's Growing Local initiative. "Farmers' markets play a crucial role in bringing fresh food to areas where it's not always available. And by getting to know the farmers who grow their food, people are able to better understand where their food comes from, something that is hard to do in most grocery stores. This relationship between farmer and consumer underscores the fact that food comes from farmland nearby, and how without that land there would be no food."

American Farmland Trust launched a national online contest this summer so consumers could vote for their favorite farmers' markets. This contest also illustrated several key concepts including AFT's "No Farms No Food" message and the importance of farmers' markets to local economies, access to healthy food, farmland protection and the environment.

"Not only does this mean the number of farmers' markets has increased," adds Stacy Miller, Executive Secretary of the Farmers' Market Coalition, "but it also represents growth in the number of people participating in nutrition and food assistance programs, such as SNAP, and in the degree to which communities are building partnerships and connections that support local food systems and access to local food."

"This is a second Renaissance of farmers' markets—reminiscent of their growth in the early 1980s," Freedgood adds. "Pioneers like Barry Benepe, founder of the New York City Greenmarkets, and Fred Winthrop, former commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture and AFT founding member, were leaders in building the link between a strong agricultural economy, farmland protection and nutritious food."

"As AFT enters our 30th anniversary it is important to reflect on past successes but also to look ahead at how to engage a new generation in understanding the importance of protecting farmland. Farmers' markets are a great way to accomplish this," Freedgood concludes.

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