



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
 Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, December 5, 2012

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

2012: A RECORD YEAR FOR WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY IN CONNECTICUT

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Center for Vector Biology & Zoonotic Diseases, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

The summer of 2012 will go down as a record year for West Nile virus (WNV) activity in Connecticut and many other regions of the United States.

As of mid-November, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had reported 5,207 human cases of WNV disease in humans from 48 states, including 2,643 cases of neuroinvasive disease (meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis) and 234 fatalities. In addition, 635 veterinary (mostly equine) cases were further reported, despite the availability of an effective equine vaccine.

In Connecticut, a record 21 human cases were confirmed among residents living in 15 different towns (onset dates: July 12 to October 3; age range: 38 to 84 yrs.) Twelve of these individuals were hospitalized with serious illness, but fortunately there were no fatalities. Two equine cases (one euthanized) were also reported from horses stabled in East Windsor and Southbury in late August.

State-wide mosquito trapping and testing conducted by scientists and staff at the Center for Vector Biology & Zoonotic Diseases at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) yielded 234 WNV positive mosquito pools from nearly 190,000 mosquitoes that were trapped, identified, and tested for viruses from June through October.

The first infected mosquitoes were detected on June 27, one of the earliest dates recorded for isolations, while the last infected mosquitoes were documented on September 27.

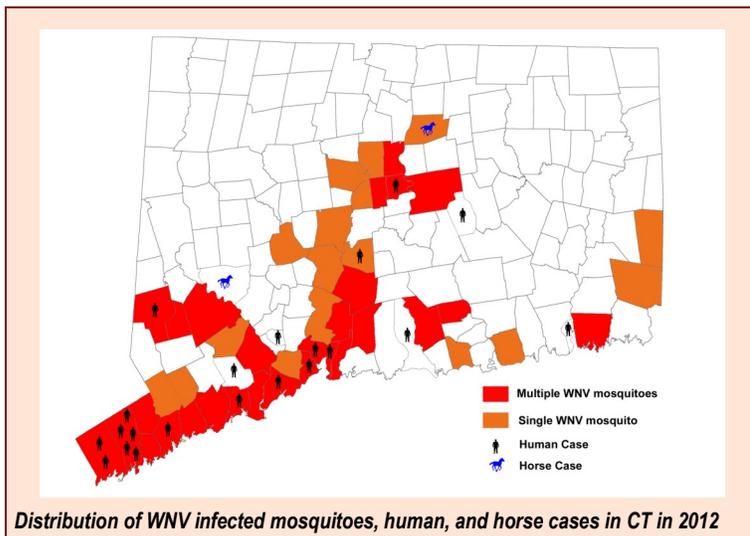
These mosquitoes were collected at 51 different locations in 44 municipalities representing the largest number of WNV-positive mosquito pools ever recovered by CAES during one season, and the widest geographic distribution of the virus in the state since its initial introduction in 1999. As in prior years, the majority of WNV activity and accompanying human cases were detected in densely populated urban and suburban regions in Fairfield and New Haven Counties and in and around the greater Hartford area.

Very little eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) activity was detected in 2012. A total of nine isolations of EEEV were made from mosquitoes collected in Cockaponsett State Forest in Chester in August and September. One equine case of EEEV (euthanized) was reported in mid-October from a horse stabled in Lisbon.

To monitor WNV and EEEV, the CAES maintains a comprehensive surveillance program that involves the collection of mosquitoes from 91 permanent trapping stations in 72 municipalities from June through October each year.

The objectives of the surveillance program are to provide:

1. early evidence of local virus activity;
2. information on the abundance, distribution, identity and infection rates of potential mosquito vectors and;
3. information that is used to assess the threat of WNV and EEEV to the public and guide the implementation of mosquito control measures.



(continued on Page 4)



**WHOLESALE HERBS
U.S./INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
BASIL, 1lb, HI	6.00	6.00
CLRY ROOT, 20lb, CN	18.00	22.00
CILANTRO, 30s, AZ	12.00	14.00
HRSRDSH, 5lb, MS	19.00	19.00
MINT, Crtns, 12s, FL	11.00	12.00
OREGANO, 1lb, FL	7.00	8.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

November 26, 2012

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

49-54	220-300 lbs	63.00-65.00
	300-400 lbs	62.00-65.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	60.50-62.50
	270-300 lbs	n/a
	300-400 lbs	59.00-61.50
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	54.00-57.00
	500-700 lbs	59.00-62.00
Boars:	300-700lbs	15.00-19.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, December 3, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	35.00	42.00
61-75 lbs.	52.00	62.00
76-90 lbs.	82.50	90.00
91-105 lbs.	95.00	100.00
106 lbs. & up	77.50	82.50
Farm Calves	102.50	107.50
Starter Calves	40.00	50.00
Veal Calves	85.00	110.00
Open Heifers	85.00	95.00
Beef Steers	73.00	80.50
Beef Heifers	68.00	76.50
Feeder Steers	75.00	115.00
Stock Bulls	90.00	115.00
Beef Bulls	85.00	90.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	11.00	31.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	120.00	200.00
Kid Goats	n/a	n/a
Canners	Up to	65.00
Cutters	66.50	68.00
Utility Grade Cows	69.50	70.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	20.00
Chickens each	4.00	19.00
Ducks each	9.00	19.00
Feeder Pigs	Six at	65.00 ea
Lambs	55.00	160.00
Sheep	95.00	135.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE, Empr, 120ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Empr, 96ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Gala, 100ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Gala, 12-3lb, fcy, 2-1/2"	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Mac, 80ct, fcy	27.00	27.00
APPLE, Mac, 96ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Mac, 120ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Mac, 12-3lb, fcy, 2-1/2"	21.00	21.00
APPLE, Rd DI, 100ct, fcy	25.00	25.00
CRANBRRY, 24-12oz, Hwe md	32.00	34.00
CIDER, 4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER, 9 1/2gal	27.00	27.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb	24.00	24.00
POTATOES, 10lb, szA	1.90	1.90
POTATOES, 10/5lb	11.00	11.00
POTATOES, Chefs, 50lb	10.00	13.00
RUTABAGA, 50lb	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, Bttrnt, 1-1/9	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Bttrnt, bin, per lb	.20	.20
TOMATOES, Vn ripe, 25lb, gh, loose	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES, Vn ripe, 12lb, gh	26.00	26.00
TOMATOES, Vn ripe, 5lb, gh	14.00	14.00
TURNIPS, 25lb, Prpl top	10.00	10.00

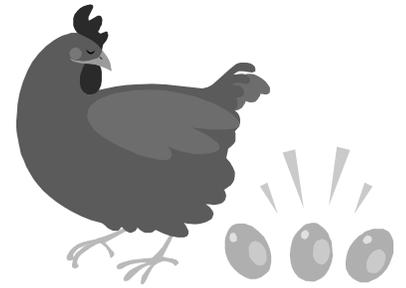


(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

December 3, 2012

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	68.00-72.00	73.00-78.50	62.00-67.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	67.00-71.00	72.00-75.00	58.00-65.00
Lean	85-90% lean		
	63.00-67.00	67.50-72.00	55.00-62.00
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves			
No.1	90-115lbs	105.00-145.00	
No.2	85-115lbs	50.00-85.00	
Non tubing	60-100lbs	20.00-45.00	
Slaughter bulls	890--1795lb	88.00-94.00	
Holstein Heifers No.1	90-115lb	105.00-145.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	50-60lbs	170.00-175.00	
	60-70lbs	160.00-182.00	
	70-80lbs	154.00-174.00	
	80-90lbs	138.00-158.00	
	90-105lbs	140.00-160.00	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown eggs in cartons, delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.72-1.87
LARGE	1.66-1.76
MEDIUM	1.22-1.32

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

December 3, 2012

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, per dozen. (Range)

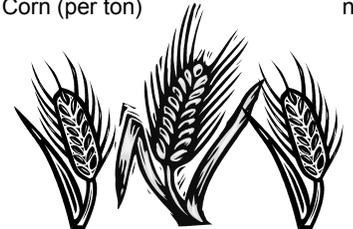
EXTRA LARGE	1.27-1.41
LARGE	1.24-1.38
MEDIUM	.99-1.12

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY

December 3, 2012

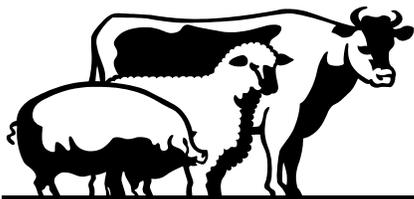
Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	6.70-7.87
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	7.50-9.15
Oats No 2 (per bu)	3.25-4.90
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	14.11-14.11
Ear Corn (per ton)	n/a



Wooled & Shorn Good & Choice 1-3

50-60lbs	160.00-175.00
70-80lbs	140.00-150.00
80-90lbs	122.00-130.00
90-110lbs	115.00-128.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
90-120lbs	78.00-90.00
120-190lbs	76.00-88.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160lbs	-62.00-76.00
200-215lb	-64.00-66.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Selection 1	
(sold by the head, on est. weights)	
45lbs	96.00
55lbs	106.00
60-65lbs	124.00-135.00
70-75lbs	108.00-128.00
80-100lbs	110.00-134.00
Nannies/Does:	100-125lbs 124.00-137.00
	130-140lbs 122.00-140.00
Bucks/Billies:	135lbs-158.00
	160lbs -184.00
Selection 2:	120-135lbs-137.00-158.00



ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

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

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. 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.

10-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.

122-R. High Quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-Concolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Discounted Commercial Grades available also! Hartikka Tree Farms (800)508-5099 www.treeman2.com

145-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, kissing balls, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

155-R. Blue Slope Sawdust. Sawdust, Bagged Shavings, Compost, picked up or delivered. Phone 860-642-7084. blueslopesawdust@hotmail.com

157-R. Three Hereford Heifers, 18-20 months, breed, \$950 each. 860-536-2588.

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.

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupectl at 860-713-258 for more information.

CORNELL ONLINE COURSES STARTING IN JAN

The Cornell Small Farms Program is offering a number of farm planning courses this winter, available from the comfort of your own home. Starting in January:

- [BF 104: Financial Records – Setting up Systems to Track Your Profitability](#)
- [BF 121: Veggie Farming – From Season-Long Care to Market](#)
- [BF 130: Poultry Production – Profiting from Layers, Broilers, Turkeys, and Ducks](#)
- [BF 202: Planning to Stay in Business – Writing Your Business Plan](#) – new 2nd offering of this popular course in 2013!
- [BF 203: Holistic Financial Planning – Building Profit into the Picture](#)

Each course features weekly live webinars followed by online discussions, readings, and homework assignments. All courses are taught by Cornell Cooperative Extension educators, farmers, or other agricultural service providers.

Each 6-week course costs \$200. Registration closes when course fills or one week before it starts (whichever happens first). Register at <http://nebeginningfarmers.org/online-courses>.

Learn more about how courses operate at <http://nebeginningfarmers.org/online-courses/online-course-faq>.

2013 HARVEST NEW ENGLAND AG MARKETING CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

Early registration is now open for the 4th biennial [Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show](#), Mak-



ing "Cents" in Today's Marketplace, Wednesday, February 27, and Thursday, February 28, 2013, at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, Mass. Register now and save.

Join growers from across New England for marketing workshops and networking. Conference highlights include:

- Keynote speakers Roberta MacDonald, senior vice president of marketing for Cabot Creamery, and Bob Burke, co-founder, The Natural Products Consulting Group;
- A facilitated discussion with New England agriculture chiefs;
- 23 breakout sessions covering marketing, social media, agritourism, financing, and more;
- A New England farmers' market manager workshop;
- Trade show featuring dozens of vendors.

More information and registration details are available at www.harvestnewengland.org.

FREE WEBINAR FROM FARM CREDIT EAST

Farm Credit East will host a free webinar, *Healthcare Reform: What You Will Need to Do to Comply*, on Monday, December 10, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

The Affordable Care Act, or Healthcare Reform, is a series of sweeping changes in how health insurance and healthcare is delivered in this country. Many of these changes will affect employers—these provisions take effect over the next couple of years, and employers need to start preparing for them now.

Join Attorney Robert Noonan in this free webinar as he discusses what to do to comply with this law. To register, click on "News and Events" at www.farmcrediteast.com.

PROGRAM OFFERS GRANTS TO FARM FAMILIES AFFECTED BY HURRICANE SANDY

Farm families affected by Storm Sandy may apply through December 7, 2012, for financial assistance through the Farm Credit East Cares program. The program will provide grants of up to \$500 to aid farm families that suffered damage or loss as a result of this natural disaster.

To be eligible, applicants must have experienced damage and/or losses in excess of \$10,000 as a result of Storm Sandy. Eligibility is not limited to Farm Credit East customers. Actual grant amounts will vary, with \$500 being the maximum per family.

Applications can be submitted at FarmCreditEast.com or at a local Farm Credit East office.

Additional contributions to Farm Credit East Cares can be made by check to Central New York Community Foundation, 431 East Fayette Street, Suite 100, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202, or via credit card at <https://mygiving.cnycf.org/farmcrediteast>. Initial financial support for this effort is provided by Farm Credit East and CoBank.

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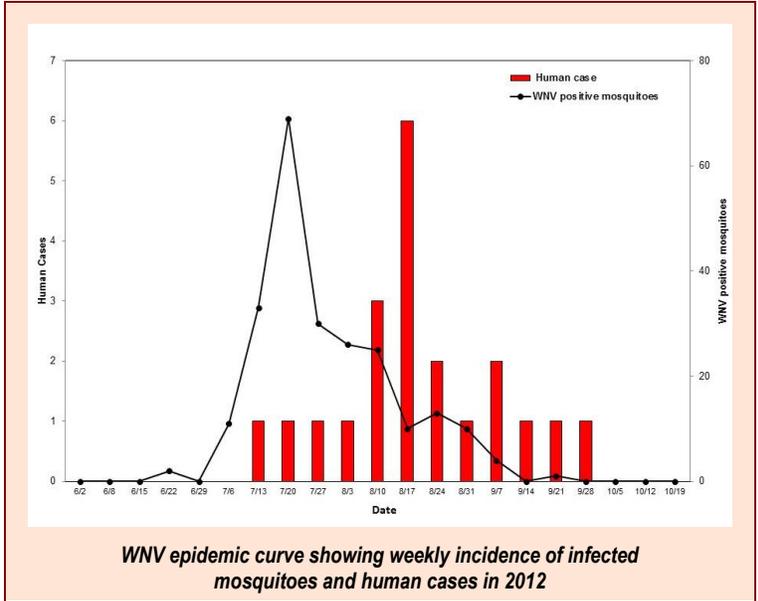
The CAES is responsible for conducting all mosquito trapping and testing activities. Traps are set and attended by CAES staff every 10 days at each site on a regular rotation. Two trap types were used at all trapping stations—a CO2-baited CDC Light Trap, designed to trap host-seeking adult female mosquitoes, and a Gravid Mosquito Trap, designed to collect previously blood-fed adult female mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes are transported alive to the laboratory each morning, where they are identified to species. Mosquitoes are grouped (pooled) according to species, collecting site, and date, and frozen at -80°C. A maximum of 50 female mosquitoes are included in each pool. Aliquots of each mosquito pool are inoculated into Vero cell cultures for detection of mosquito-borne arboviruses of public health importance.

In addition to WNV and EEEV, mosquito pools are tested for several other mosquito-borne viruses that are known to cause human and animal disease, including Jamestown Canyon, Cache Valley, Trivittatus, Highlands J, LaCrosse and Potosi viruses.

Isolated viruses are identified by Real Time (TaqMan) polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or standard RT-PCR using virus-specific primers. All of the virus isolation work is conducted in a Bio-Safety Level 3 containment laboratory at the CAES facility in New Haven.

The laboratory is certified to work with select agents by the CDC, USDA and Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). Weekly test results are reported to the CDC electronically via ArboNet and to the DPH for dissemination to other state agencies, local health departments, the media, and neighboring states.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

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