



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
 Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503
 Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor
 Wednesday, March 7, 2012

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM UPDATE

By Wayne Kasacek, Asst Director, Bureau of Regulation & Inspection

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is working to get Connecticut's Dairy Sustainability Program back on track.

BACKGROUND

In 2009, Connecticut adopted a program to provide ongoing support for Connecticut dairy farmers, authorizing payments when the federal pay price for milk drops below the sustainable monthly cost of production (COP) (82% of the USDA COP for a New England state). Connecticut's program relied on monthly USDA COP numbers.

The USDA suspended and later stopped their generation and publication in January 2011. Planning that USDA would not resume issuing monthly COP numbers for New England, the administration and state legislature amended the law to allow for an alternative way to utilize accurate COP numbers that truly reflect the cost of producing milk in our state.

Recently, Dairy Sustainability Program payments were made to Connecticut milk producers. This was made possible due to the recalculation of the Vermont COP using USDA 2010 survey data. In the long run we believe the best approach is to have reliable and accurate Connecticut COP data on which to base Dairy Sustainability Program calculations.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

To achieve this, the department has asked the University of Connecticut's Zwick Center for Food and Resource Policy and Co-operative Extension System in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to undertake this critical work. Cornell University's Dairy Farm Business Summary and Analysis (DFBS) has been chosen as the system to generate the data required for the calculation of Connecticut milk COP. With the cooperation of Connecticut milk producers and the assistance of the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, we will have Connecticut COP figures that will allow us to make payments as allowed under the law.

Participation of Connecticut dairy farmers is essential to our success. Dairy producers across the state are being asked to provide data for the DFBS. All Connecticut milk producers whose milk is accounted for through the USDA market administrator will be contacted by University of Connecticut graduate students and Extension System educators and asked to participate.

In addition to Dairy Sustainability Program payments, Connecticut milk producers will benefit by having access to an in-depth analysis of their operations. At the conclusion of the project, Connecticut milk producers will have confidential and exclusive access to their individual business data and the data aggregated from all participants. These tools should provide valuable information for Connecticut milk producers to base business decisions.

For questions about this project, please contact Rich Meinert, 860-626-6240, Joyce Meader, 860-774-9600, Joe Bonelli, 860-875-3331, or Professor Boris Bravo-Ureta, 860-486-1918, on the Storrs Campus.

IN THE MEANTIME

The Zwick Center will continue to utilize the USDA methodology to produce COP numbers. If these COP numbers and the federal milk price indicate that a Dairy Sustainability Program payment should be made, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture will process a quarterly payment as in the past.



**WHOLESALE FLOWERS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

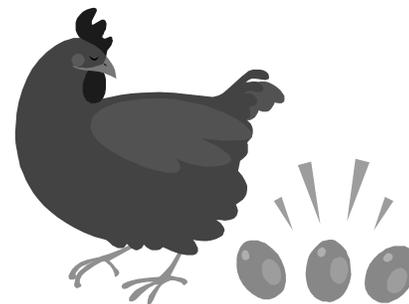
	Low	High
ANEMONE, bnch,lng	10.00	12.50
CALLA, bnchd 5, xlng	27.50	27.50
GARDENIA, blm	5.50	5.50
GARDENIA bnch, 3	15.00	15.00
GERBERA, stm, lng	.80	1.00
LILY, Asiatic, bnch, lng	12.00	12.00
LILY, Asiatic, 3-5 blm, lng	15.00	18.00
LILY, Casa blnc, bnch, 12, lng	25.00	27.50
LILY, Siberian, bnch, lng	20.00	20.00
LILY, Sorbnn, bnch, lng	20.00	20.00
SNFLWR, bnch, 5, lng	7.50	7.50



**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**



	Low	High
ALFALFA SPRTS, 5lb	11.00	12.00
APPLE, Red del, 88ct, xfcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE, Red Del, 80ct, xfcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE, Mac, 100t, US1	17.00	17.00
APPLE, Mac, 120ct, US1	15.00	16.00
BEAN SPROUT, 10lb	4.50	5.00
CIDER 4/1gal	14.50	14.50
PARSNIP, 25lb	24.00	24.00
POTATOES, Rnd, wh, 50lb	11.00	12.00
POTATOES, 10lb	2.50	2.50
SQUASH, Bttrnt, 1/9bu, lg	18.00	20.00
TOMATOES, Chrry, 5lb flat	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, Grnhs, 12lb, xl	27.00	30.00



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	141-150
LARGE	138-149
MEDIUM	106-116

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

March 5, 2012

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

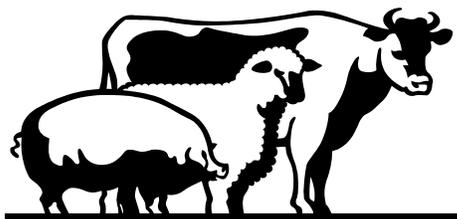
49-54	220-270 lbs	64.00-68.00
	270-300lbs	66.00-71.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	63.00-64.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	51.50-56.00
	500-700 lbs	58.00-60.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	30.00-33.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, March 5, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	45.00	50.00
61-75 lbs.	90.00	110.00
76-90 lbs.	135.00	145.00
91-105 lbs.	150.00	160.00
106 lbs. & up	170.00	175.00
Farm Calves	180.00	202.50
Veal Calves	70.00	140.00
Open Heifers	90.00	125.00
Beef Steers	87.00	117.50
Feeder Steers	92.00	122.50
Starter Calves	72.00	75.00
Stock Bulls	85.00	155.00
Beef Bulls	84.00	111.00
Sows	n/a	n/a
Goats each	85.00	205.00
Kid Goats	105.00	145.00
Canners	Up to	80.75
Cutters	81.00	85.00
Utility Grade Cows	86.00	102.00
Rabbits each	22.00	32.00
Chickens each	6.00	25.00
Ducks each	8.00	12.00
Feeder Pigs	40.00	80.00
Lambs	60.00	75.00
Sheep	65.00	85.00



SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
ARTICHOKES, 24s, CA	28.00	30.00
BEAN, Grn, md, bu, FL	18.00	22.00
BLACKBERRY, 12/6, MX	25.00	26.00
BLUEBERRY, 12/1pt, CE	24.00	28.00
CANTALOUPE, 12ct, HD	16.00	17.00
CARROTS, 50 lb, lse, CA	18.00	18.00
CAULFLOWER, 12ct, AZ	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9, md, FL	12.00	14.00
GARLIC, Col, 30lb, CA	45.00	50.00
LETTUCE, Rmn, 24, AZ	14.00	15.00
NECTARINES, 36, CL	17.00	17.00
ONION, Red, 25lb, NY	7.00	8.00
ORANGE, 113ct, CA	15.00	15.00
PEPPER, Cbnll, 1-1/9, lg, FL	16.00	18.00
PEPPER, Red, 1-1/9, med-lg, MX	16.00	18.00
RHUBARB, 6kg, Grnhs, NE	45.00	45.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

March 5, 2012

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

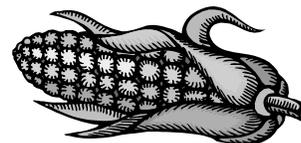
EXTRA LARGE	93-107
LARGE	88-102
MEDIUM	66-79

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN REPORT

March 5, 2012

Grain market for eastern Pennsylvania.

Corn, No.2, bu.	7.15-7.35
Ear Corn, ton	210
Soybeans, No.2, bu.	12.53-13.18



NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

March 5, 2012

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80%lean		
	83.00-88.00	88.00-90.00	79.00-82.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	80.00-85.00	86.00-87.00	74.50-77.00
	Lean 88-90% lean		
	73.50-78.00	79.00-83.00	67.00-72.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1			
	1035-1475 lbs	96.00-99.50	
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1			
	90-104 lbs	197.00-210.00	
	114-128 lbs	142.00-155.00	
	Number 2	112-128 lbs	141.00-150.00
	Number 3	100-130 lbs	167.00-177.00
Holstein Heifers: Number 1			
	85-110 lbs	180.00-220.00	
Number 2			
	80-110 lbs	100.00-160.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	40-60 lbs	250.00-270.00	
	60-80 lbs	226.00-263.00	
	80-90 lbs	220.00-238.00	

90-110 lbs	217.00-233.00
110-130 lbs	189.00-204.00
130-150 lbs	188.00-202.00
Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
50-60 lbs	220.00-235.00
70-90 lbs	175.00-208.00
90-110 lbs	188.00-203.00
110-130 lbs	179.00-194.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-160 lbs	86.00-96.00
160-200 lbs	86.00-101.00
200-300 lbs	n/a
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160 lbs	95.00-110.00
160-200 lbs	n/a
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
30-40lbs	122.00-122.00
40-60 lbs	118.00-145.00
60-80lbs	138.00-166.00
80-100lbs	160.00-177.00
100-110lbs	n/a
Nannies/Does:	80-130 lbs 160.00-175.00
	130-180 lbs 165.00-180.00
Bucks/Billies:	100-150lbs 184.00-199.00
	150-250 lbs 242.00-265.00

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now CT'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.

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

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.

23-R. Taking pre-orders for spring Narragansett turkey poults, min 5, \$9 each. 10 or more \$8 each. Pick up in New Milford, CT pbucciaglia@yahoo.com or 860-350-3158 for details.

30-R. 4x5 round bales, \$55.00 p.u. 2nd cut alfalfa square bales, \$5.00. p.u. 860-537-1974.

31-R. Kiln dried sawdust for bedding, excellent for cows and horses. Good rates. Trailer load. Call for price in your area @ 860-974-3853.

33. Kinze, 4 row corn planter, double frame, no till, fertilizer box, excellent condition. \$5,000.00. JD 3970, 2 row corn chopper, new knives, shear bar, bearings, field ready. \$6,500.00. Fargo dump wagon with cover \$3,000.00. 1973 Ford 9000, silage truck, 18' body, auto gate, tandem, runs and looks good. \$4,000.00. JD loader, model 146, quick hitch, \$2,000.00. CAT 922 wheel loader, diesel, new paint and glass, good tires, runs good. \$8,000.00. New culvert pipe. Galvanized, corrugated, 24' long, 52" diam. \$500.00. 860-537-1974.

39. I.H. 5 bottom spring reset plow. Large forced air wood stoves with blowers and fabricated shrouds. Complete 28" cider mill. Will grow any amount of tomato plants. 203-266-7721.

WANTED

34. New 8 frame bee hives, complete, 2 deep, 2 medium, inner and outer covers, screened bottom board, 16 Peirco frames, treated, ready to go, \$150.00 each. "Woodlot," 6.5 acres, perfect for camp, agriculture, hunting, etc. Surveyed, perk tested. Off grid, easy access, in the middle of the woods, \$39,000.00. 860-423-1347.

35-R. New Krone haying equipment. Rakes, tedders, disk mower, round balers, and more. Massey Ferguson square balers, all steel hay wagons. 0% financing. 860-928-9778. www.bigboystoysllc.net Rte 169, Pomfret, CT.

36-R. Used tractors: Allis Chalmers 6080 w/cab, 2 WD, good condition, \$13,500.00. JD 3020 good condition, \$10,500.00. Massey Ferguson 1533 w/cab and backhoe, 600 hours, \$28,500.00. Massey Ferguson, GC2610 tractor, loader, backhoe, 85 hours, \$14,500.00. Ford 8N, nice, \$1,800.00. Much more used equipment. www.bigboystoysllc.net Rte. 169, Pomfret, CT. 860-928-9778.

37-R. Quality 1st cutting hay. \$5.00 per bale. Call any time 860-828-9403.

38. Donut machine, barely used, \$1,000.00. Modene propane heater with thermostat and stainless chimney, 150 Btu, \$250.00. refrigerated pastry display case, like new, \$1,900.00. Call 203-925-9746 evenings.

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.

11-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

UConn PERENNIAL PLANT CONFERENCE MAR 15

The University of Connecticut's Perennial Plant Conference, *A Conference for the Professional Horticulturist*, will be held Thursday, March 15, 2012, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in Storrs.

This all-day educational conference will address a wide range of topics focusing on herbaceous perennial production, sustainable landscape design, and retail marketing. Topics were selected to appeal to professional landscapers and designers, nursery and greenhouse producers, and retail garden centers. Two concurrent sessions will feature nationally renowned speakers and local experts from industry and academia.

Speakers include Suzi McCoy, Kelly Norris, Doug Tallamy, Sydney Eddison, Ethan Roland, Barbara Balgoyen, Randy Prostack, Luke Kreye, and Michael Bowell. The 2012 program features talks on marketing and challenges related to Gen Y & using social media, design sessions, ecological options in designing with native plants, permaculture, and new perennials.

Program and information, including online registration, is available at www.2012perennial.uconn.edu or contact Donna Ellis, 860-486-6448 or donna.ellis@uconn.edu.

FARM BILL CONVERSATION MAR 14 IN VERNON

Join the New CT Farmers Alliance (www.newctfarmers.com) for a Farm Bill conversation. We will learn how the Farm Bill directly impacts Connecticut's farmers and can specifically represent new, emerging, and local market farms. Up for conversation are the Local Food Bill and Beginning Farmer Bill.

Talk with American Farmland Trust's Kip Kolesinskas, National Young Farmers Coalition representatives, and New England Farmers Union's Marydale DeBor and Annette Higby. Representatives from Congressman Joe Courtney's office may also be on hand to talk about what they are doing for Connecticut in the Farm Bill.

Come, contribute, and take action, Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Tolland County Ag Center in Vernon.

This is a free gathering but space is limited so please RSVP. Contact farmer@newctfarmers.com or call Susan Mitchel, 845-642-2836, or Shannon Raider, 860-318-6813 to RSVP or for more info.

REQUEST FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture requests grant applications for projects that solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, maple syrup, honey, horticulture, and nursery crops.

Projects must impact and produce measurable outcomes for the specialty crop industry and/or the public. Submitted projects cannot begin until after October 1, 2012, and can last up to three years. Maximum award is \$75,000.

Workshops on how to develop and submit a successful project in accordance with USDA guidelines will be held around Connecticut as follows:

- Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 9:00 -11:00 a.m., [CT Ag Experiment Station](#), Windsor
- Thursday, March 15, 2012, 1:00-3:00 p.m., [Windham County Extension Center](#), Brooklyn
- Friday, March 23, 2012, 1:00-3:00 p.m., [CT Ag Experiment Station](#), New Haven
- Monday, March 26, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, [Litchfield County Extension Center](#), Torrington

For more info see www.ctgrown.gov/grants or contact Jaime Smith at 860-713-2559 or jaime.smith@ct.gov. Applications are due to the Department of Agriculture by May, 17, 2012.

DAIRY PRODUCERS REMINDED OF MILC PROGRAM

Current projections of a drop in milk income may activate Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments over the next few months. Marsha Jetté, Executive Director of the Connecticut Farm Service Agency, reminds dairy farmers to contact their county FSA office to complete form CCC-931 "Adjusted Gross Income," update their eligibility forms for any changes in the farm operation, and provide milk marketed if they have not already authorized their dairy or cooperative to send this information to the FSA county office.

The start month of MILC contracts can be changed by the 14th of the month prior to the month selected. New dairy farms can file form CCC-580 and should do so soon.

WIC & SR FMNP RE-CERTIFICATION MEETING MAR 13

All WIC/Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) certifications have expired. Farmers have one remaining meeting to re-certify for program years 2012-2014. It will consist of a review of the FMNP certification handbook and all required documents. Market Masters/Organizers not familiar with this program encouraged to attend.

The meeting will be held March 13, 2012, 6:30 p.m., at the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station Valley Laboratory, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor. Cancellation due to weather will be announced on WFSB 3.

Farms must have been FMNP certified in the past and currently be members of a WIC/Senior FMNP authorized farmers' market. Questions can be directed to Mark Zotti at Mark.Zotti@ct.gov or 860-713-2538 or Rick Macsuga at Richard.Macsuga@ct.gov or 860-713-2544.

PROCESSING FARM PRODUCTS CONFERENCE MAR 31

Processing your Farm Products for Profit will be held 8 to 4 on March 31, 2012, at Wesleyan's Exley Science Center, 265 Church St., Middletown. This is the third annual statewide conference from Connecticut Farm Bureau Association in cooperation with USDA Risk Management and UCONN Cooperative Extension.

Surging demand for locally grown produce and passage of *Act Concerning Farms, Food and Jobs* has created opportunity in processing and selling farm-raised products, which is regulated by multiple agencies. This program will provide a road map to help navigate the regulatory process. Representatives of the Connecticut Departments of Agriculture, Public Health, and Consumer Protection, plus experienced producers will present guidelines on processing acidified foods, farm-raised meats, poultry, eggs, dairy, cider production, GAP, commercial kitchens, marketing to restaurants, and more. \$50 Farm Bureau members/\$65 non-members, includes lunch. (\$75/\$90 after March 27.) www.cfba.org or 860-768-1100 for program and to register.

2012 PYO BROCHURE TO BE UPDATED AND PRINTED

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture's [Pick-Your-Own brochure](#) is scheduled for updating and printing again in 2012.

To have your pick-your-own farm included, complete an application and return by March 16, 2012, along with a \$25 check payable to the Connecticut Apple Marketing Board. This fee will help defray printing costs.

Applications can be found on the Department of Agriculture's website at www.CTGrown.gov/Publications (click on "Commodities Brochures" link near top of page).



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-served 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 check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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