



Beltane Farm, Lebanon

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
Wednesday, August 21, 2013

TRACKING EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS, WEST NILE VIRUS, RABIES, AND OTHER DISEASES

Mary Jane Lis MS, DVM, PhD, State Veterinarian

Daily, animal owners and veterinarians play a key role in animal disease surveillance. With each appointment and farm call, veterinarians deal with the challenge to diagnose and treat a disease or condition affecting the health and well-being of an animal or group of animals, along with dealing with their owner's emotional and/or financial well-being.

No matter what the species, large or small, disease is the common threat to all. A "new" or foreign disease can devastate the individual, kennel, herd, or population.

We are fortunate in Connecticut to be free of a number of economically important and public health significant animal diseases—Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, Avian Influenza, and others—that burden other states and countries. The control and eradication of these diseases was not easy or inexpensive. It required cooperation by all parties, funds, diligence, and time to be successful.

Active and passive surveillance for disease involves owners, veterinarians, state and federal animal health officials, and diagnostic laboratories. Surveillance ensures freedom from eradicated diseases and early detection of new emerging diseases and the resurgence of endemic diseases.

The Department of Agriculture participates in a number of state and federal surveillance activities for zoonotic diseases. Here are three diseases affecting horses and people to watch for now through the first killing frost:

(1) Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) is a virus that cycles in the wild bird population by bird-feeding mosquitoes. The virus has no effect on wild birds, but can be fatal to humans, horses, pheasants, and emus when bitten by infected mosquitoes. Since 1938, outbreaks of EEE have occurred among horses and domestic pheasants in Connecticut, but no human cases have been confirmed. However, human deaths have occurred in adjacent states and other states east of the Mississippi River.

The EEE virus causes severe neurologic disease in horses and humans with high mortality and neurologic deficits in survivors. EEE vaccines are available for horses as a preventive, but not for people.

In 1997 the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program (www.ct.gov/mosquito) was created to monitor and control the spread of EEE. It is a collaborative effort involving the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) and the Department of Public Health, together with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Pathobiology at the University of Connecticut.

Monitoring and risk assessment for EEE and West Nile Virus emphasizes mosquito trapping and testing results. The CAES maintains a network of 91 mosquito-trapping stations in 72 municipalities throughout the state. Mosquito traps are set Monday through Thursday nights at each site every 10 days on a rotating basis.

(continued on Page 3)

 **Horse Cases of WNV & EEE Infection - Connecticut - 1999-2012**

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
WNV								
Total-Cases	0	7	11	4	14	0	0	36
Fatal-Cases*	0	3	4	1	8	0	0	16
EEE								
Total-Cases	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Fatal-Cases*	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
WNV								
Total-Cases	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
Fatal-Cases	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
EEE								
Total-Cases	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Fatal-Cases*	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2

* Died or were euthanized by a veterinarian

**WHOLESALE PEPPERS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
BELL,grn,1-1/9,xlg	18.00	18.00
BELL,grn,1-1/9,lg	18.00	20.00
BELL,green,1-1/9,md	15.00	15.00
BELL,trn rd,1-1/9,lg	8.00	10.00
CHRRY,ht,1/2bu	16.00	16.00
CUBNELL,1-1/9,lg	14.00	14.00
CUBNELL,1-1/9,trn rd,lg	8.00	8.00
CUBNELL,1-1/9,xl	20.00	20.00
JALPNO,1/2bu	14.00	16.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

49-54	220-300 lbs	71.50-73.50
	300-400 lbs	n/a
45-49	220-300 lbs	64.00-69.50
	300-400 lbs	n/a
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	58.75-71.00
	500-700 lbs	76.50-77.50
Boars:	300-700lbs	25.00-25.00

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.
August 7, 2013

Gr US 1	wt2 0-30	110.00	130.00
	Wt 30-50	100.00	125.00
	wt 50-60	100.00	120.00
Gr US 2	wt 20-30	100.00	115.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, Aug. 19, 2013 (auction open Labor Day)
Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	18.00	28.00
61-75 lbs.	40.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	50.00	55.00
91-105 lbs.	60.00	62.50
106 lbs. & up	65.00	70.00
Farm Calves	75.00	82.50
Starter Calves	32.00	36.00
Veal Calves	85.00	150.00
Open Heifers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	1 at	89.50
Beef Heifers	88.00	92.00
Feeder Steers	95.00	110.00
Stock Bulls	n/a	n/a
Beef Bulls	1 at	101.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	43.00	55.00
Goats each	45.00	195.00
Kid Goats	35.00	115.00
Canners	up to	81.50
Cutters	82.50	86.50
Utility Grade Cows	87.50	90.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	10.00	19.00
Feeder Pigs	38.00	42.00
Lambs	45.00	205.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
APPLE,gngr gld,3",bu	32.00	32.00
APPLE,gngr gld,xfcy,88ct	32.00	35.00
APPLE,pla rd,96ct,xfcy	30.00	32.00
BEET,12s	15.00	18.00
BLUEBERRY,plp,12/1pt	24.00	30.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	19.00	19.00
BROCCOLI,crwn,20lb	20.00	21.00
CABBAGE,grn,50lb	8.00	12.00
CABBAGE,svy,50lb	16.00	18.00
COLLARD,12s	11.00	13.00
CORN,5dz	18.00	22.00
CUCUMBER,pcklng,1 1/9bu	25.00	30.00
CUCUMBER,spr slct,1-1/9bu	24.00	26.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu	14.00	16.00
GREEN BEAN,1-1/9bu	40.00	45.00
KALE,12s	12.00	13.00
LETTUCE,rd lf,24ct	16.00	16.00
MUSKMELON,ea	1.50	1.50
NECTARINE,22-24lb	25.00	25.00
PARSNIP,25lb	21.00	21.00
PEACH,wht,25lb	24.00	24.00
PEACH,ylw,25lb	16.00	18.00
PEAR,clp,4/5bu	30.00	30.00
PLUM,rd,20lb	26.00	26.00
SQUASH,grn,md,1/2bu	12.00	14.00
SQUASH,grn,fcy,1/2bu	16.00	18.00
SQUASH,yllw,fcy,1/2bu	18.00	22.00
SWISS CHARD,12s	15.00	16.00
TOMATO,bskt,jbo,8qt	20.00	20.00
TOMATO,chrny,12/1pt	12.00	15.00
TOMATO,fld grwn,25lb	20.00	22.00
TOMATO,grp,12/1pt	13.00	16.00
TOMATO,hrlm,gnhs,10lb	36.00	40.00
TOMATO,plm,25lb	8.00	12.00
WATERMELON,sgrbaby,ea	1.50	1.50

CT FARMERS' MARKET PRICES

August 15, 2013

	Low	High
APPLE,gngr gld,qt	3.00	3.00
APPLE,plrd,qt	3.00	3.00
BEAN,grn,lb	3.00	3.00
BLACKBERRY,1/2pt	5.00	5.00
BLUEBERRY,pt	5.00	6.00
BROCCOLI,lb	3.00	3.00
CABBAGE,grn,hd,sm	1.00	1.00
CARROT,w/top,bnch	3.00	4.00
CUKE,Englsh,ea	1.00	1.00
EGGPLANT,ea	2.00	2.00
NECTARINE,qt	5.00	5.00
PEACH,dnt,pt	4.00	4.00
PEACH,qt	5.00	5.00
PEAR,clpp,qt	3.00	5.00
PEPPER,bell,2qt	3.00	3.00
PEPPER,fryng,2qt bskt	3.00	3.00
RASPBERRY,1/2pt	3.00	5.00
SQUASH,grn,lb	2.00	2.00
TOMATO,hrlm,orgnc,lb	4.29	4.29
TOMATO,lb	2.50	2.99
TOMATO,plm,qt	3.00	3.00

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

August 16, 2013

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	76.575	80.00
boners 80-85% lean	73.00	77.00
lean88-90% lean	66.75	71.50
CALVES graded bull		
No.1 95-120lbs	135.75	152.75
No 2 95-120lbs	121.00	142.00
No 3 80-120lbs	82.50	108.75
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr		
High dressing	98.00	103.50
Avg.dressing	91.50	97.00
Low dressing	88.00	93.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	122.75	124.75
Ch2-3	117.25	120.00
Sel2-3	109.50	112.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/prm3-4	125.50	128.00
Ch2-3	120.00	124.50
Sel2-3	115.00	117.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	107.00	111.50
Ch 2-3	102.50	106.25
Sel1-3	93.50	99.50
VEALER 60 120lbs	29.50	50.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	n/a	
50-60lbs	134.00	180.00
60-70lbs	135.00	175.00
85lbs	126.00	126.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3: md flesh		
120-150lbs	n/a	
160-180lbs	56.00	76.00
Bucks	130-160lbs	n/a
150-190lbs	48.00	77.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est. wt.		
40-60lbs	118.00	135.00
60-80lbs	122.00	144.00
80-100lbs	128.00	152.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130lbs	140.00	168.00
130-150lbs	140.00	175.00
Bucks/Billies: 120-150lbs	180.00	235.00

EASTERN PA GRAIN

August 12, 2013

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	3.60
CORN	5.99
OATS	3.45
SOYBEANS	12.15
WHEAT	6.61

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

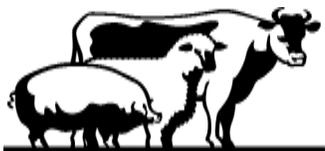
Per doz., USDA Grade A/Grade A white in cartons
(volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.22	1.26
LARGE	1.20	1.24
MEDIUM	1.04	1.08

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons
(delivered)

XTRA LARGE	1.57	1.66
LARGE	1.50	1.59
MEDIUM	1.07	1.17



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.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

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

5-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.

77-R. Dark brown landscape mulch and screened compost. Large quantities available. Call for discount pricing. 860-767-8501.

98-R. Mediterranean Miniature Donkeys. Adorable adults and foals for breeding, pets and show. 860-729-6310.

www.fosterhillfarmdonkeys.com

99-R. Canton-1850 Post & Beam Farmhouse on 11 acres. Large country kitchen, 1st floor MBR, family room overlooking meadow, heated shop and barn. Ideal for horses, small contractor. Call Clint Charter, Wallace Tustin Tetreault Realty. 860-558-3908.

101-R. High Quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-C2-Roncolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Serbian Spruce. Discounted Commercial Grades available also! Hartikka Tree Farms (800) 508-5099 www.treeman2.com

103. For Sale: 500 Norway Spruce, 6' to 8' high, pruned and available for digging. KRUSHEFSKY'S TREE FARM, Woodstock Valley, CT. Must see to appreciate quality. Call Frank @ 860-942-1818, Fax 860-974-3501. www.enchantedwoodsfolkart.com

MISCELLANEOUS

6-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.

93-R. Bulldozing in Eastern CT. Land clearing and ponds dug, also ponds cleaned. Large farm ponds dug and land cleared for farmers a specialty. Land clearing with root rake to save top soil. Will help with permits. Don Kemp 860-546-9500.

104. Healthy Soils in Action Workshop--An innovative and interactive Soil Health Workshop presented by Eastern CT RC & D Council and USDA-NRCS, CT. Thursday, August 29 8am-3:30pm. Contact Ray Covino at 860-779-0557 or Sal DeCarli at 860-373-7408. Learn about soil amendments, cover crops, nutrient cycling, rainfall demonstrations and more. Location: Woodstock Orchards, Quasset Hill Road, Woodstock, CT. Registration is required.

TRACKING EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS, WEST NILE VIRUS, RABIES, AND OTHER DISEASES

(continued from Page 1)

Mosquitoes are grouped (pooled) for testing according to species, collection site, and date. Each pool is tested for the presence of viruses of public health importance. Positive findings are reported to local health departments and on CAES's website, www.ct.gov/caes.

(2) West Nile Virus (WNV) is also transmitted by infected mosquitoes bites, and cycles among mosquitoes and birds until biological pressures lead to human and horse infections by mammal-feeding mosquitoes.

The clinical disease appears milder than EEE in most cases. WNV presents with severe ataxia in the rear legs and paresis, with twitching of facial and neck muscles and hyperexcitability. The prognosis is variable for horses, but apparent complete recovery occurs in approximately 60 percent of cases.

Since 2001, a WNV vaccine has been available for horses. No vaccine is available for people. For more general information, see <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1367&q=259124&doagPNavCtr=1446781#44685>.

In 1999, WNV mosquitoes were identified in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, and hundreds of wild birds died for lack of a natural immunity to the virus. Surveillance by state and federal agencies of mosquitoes, wild birds, humans, and horses have documented the spread of WNV through the state of Connecticut and the rest of the United States over the last 13 years. Maps showing this progression can be seen on the following sites:

<http://www.cdc.gov/westnile/statsMaps/finalMapsData/index.html>

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/wnv/>

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/wnv_distribution_maps.htm

(3) Rabies is a viral disease primarily of animals caused by infection of the brain and spinal cord. People and animals acquire rabies from the bite of an infected animal. Bats, raccoons, skunk, and fox are the major wildlife reservoirs.

In 1991, a resurgence of rabies in Connecticut followed the spread of rabies in raccoons from southern states and resulted in the first rabid domestic animals in the state since the 1940s. The raccoon rabies outbreak reached Connecticut in March 1991, entering Fairfield County through New York State. The first rabid pony was diagnosed in 1993 on a Windsor farm. Sixty-seven people were identified with contact and 39 received rabies post-exposure treatment.

By 1995, rabies spread to all eight counties and remains present throughout the state today. There is a licensed rabies vaccine available for horses and vaccination is required by state regulation for animals in public settings. Nine horses and one donkey have been reported to have had clinical rabies in Connecticut since 1993.

More Rabies statistics can be found at <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&q=396744>.

In conclusion, horse owners should review their animals' vaccination records with their veterinarians to ensure that EEE, WNV, and rabies vaccinations are current and their horses are protected during the mosquito season and year round.

Reduce and remove potential mosquitoes breeding sites and containers around stable areas.

Owners should also seek assistance from their veterinarian early when animals first become sick, so diagnostic samples can be collected and supportive treatment started quickly for the best possible outcome.

Finally, remember to report neurological cases to the state veterinarian immediately at 860-713-2505.



AGRICULTURAL ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is launching a new essay and poetry contest.

All are welcome to submit original works of up to 1,250 words on the following topic:

A Day (or week, month, or year) in the Life of a Connecticut Farmer.

Winners will be published in upcoming issues of the Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report.

This is an ongoing contest. Entries must be original works, must not have appeared in other publications, and may be submitted at any time.

Winning entries may be edited for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or clarity as deemed appropriate. Winning authors will not be paid but will be credited when published.

Writers of all ages and levels of experience are encouraged to enter. Students may submit class assignments and projects with their teacher's permission. Teachers are encouraged to get their classes involved.

Please direct submissions and/or questions to Linda Piotrowicz at linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov or 860-713-2558.

FREE PUBLIC ACT 490 SEMINARS IN SEPTEMBER

Do you own farmland, forest land, or open space? Connecticut Farm Bureau Association is hosting three upcoming programs for landowners to learn all about Public Act 490, Connecticut's land use value assessment law for farmland, forest land and open space land:

- September 12, 2013, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Lebanon Fire Safety Complex, 23 Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon.
- September 17, 2013, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Memorial Hall, Main Street, Bethlehem.
- September 24, 2013, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Connecticut Farm Bureau Association, 775 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor.

These programs are free and open to the public. For more information, please call 860-768-1100.

ON-FARM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WORKSHOP

A tour will be held at Blue Slope Country Museum in Franklin on August 27, 2013, from 9:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There is no cost to attend this event. This tour is sponsored by the UConn Farm Risk Management Program, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and the Risk Management Agency, USDA.

Sandra Staebner will provide helpful information on organizing school and museum events. Mathew Staebner will provide insight into marketing value-added meats.

For more information or to register, contact Candace Bartholomew at 860-570-9010 or Candace.bartholomew@uconn.edu.

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.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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www.CTGrown.gov www.CT.gov/doag
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