

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
March 22, 2017



**CENTURY FARM AWARD PRESENTED TO
NORMAN HILL FARM OF THOMPSON**

The following remarks were given by Dr. James LaMondia of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station during last week's Agriculture Day at the Capitol announcement of Connecticut's Century Farm Award:

The Century Farm Award is selected by the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council and awarded to a Connecticut farm in operation for more than 100 years.

The 2016 award was presented last August at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station's annual Plant Science Day to Norman Hill Farm of Thompson

The farm was founded in 1910 by Carl A. Norman, who emigrated from Sweden in 1900, and initially sold vegetables, eggs, and butter. He gradually increased the dairy herd and poultry flock, and built three greenhouses to increase vegetable production.

One of Carl's sons, Oscar Norman, bought the farm from his mother in 1943 after the death of his father, continuing with the same farm enterprises. Poultry was dropped in 1958 and the last commercial vegetable crop was greenhouse tomatoes in 1980.

Oscar and his wife Elizabeth were involved with many organizations including the Killingly Regional Vocational Agricultural Consulting Committee, The New England Vegetable Growers Association, The Connecticut Farm Bureau, 4H, and the Woodstock Green Thumbs Garden Club.

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**ARTHUR SPIELMAN IV OF BALTIC IS
CONNECTICUT'S 2017 OUTSTANDING YOUNG
FARMER OF THE YEAR**

The following remarks were given by Dr. James LaMondia of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station during last week's Agriculture Day at the Capitol announcement of Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year:

Connecticut's agriculture industry grows great crops, including the next generation of farmers.

Arthur Spielman IV of Spielman Farm, LLC in Baltic, CT (pictured above accepting the award) has been chosen as Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of 2017.

The Outstanding Young Farmer Award is given annually by the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC), as part of the festivities surrounding Connecticut Agriculture Day at the State Capitol.

Candidates are selected based on their achievements in their agricultural enterprises, involvement in the agriculture industry and their community, and their work on soil and water conservation projects.

Arthur's first job, at the ripe old age of 8, was feeding calves on his family's multi-generation dairy farm. Each year saw added responsibilities and in 12th grade, a herd production issue prompted Art to seek out an independent study project for his agri-science class.

He selected a mentor who would meet with him twice weekly and work through specific issues to improve herd health and production. This initiative led him to a

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted.

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	69.00	73.00
boners 80-85% lean	70.00	73.50
lean 88-90% lean	65.00	71.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	133.00	137.00
Choice 2-3	128.00	132.00
Select 1-2	120.00	126.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	102.00	105.00
Choice 2-3	128.00	132.00
Sel 1-2	80.50	83.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS Yield Grade 1		
900-1720 lbs	99.00	105.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 120-130 lbs	137.00	137.00
No 1 96-118 lbs	159.00	165.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
120-160 lbs	110.00	140.00
160-200 lbs	90.00	130.00
200-300 lbs	80.00	100.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	130.00	145.00
40-60 lbs	155.00	180.00
60-80 lbs	190.00	225.00
80-100 lbs	230.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	220.00	235.00
130-180 lbs	230.00	265.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	220.00	240.00
100-150 lbs	245.00	305.00
150-250 lbs	295.00	350.00
SLAUGHTER WETHERS Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	290.00	305.00
100-150 lbs	340.00	380.00
150-250 lbs	380.00	435.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Avg dressing. Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	58.00	65.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00	50.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	45.00	57.00
	300-350 lbs	54.00	59.00
Sows, US 1-3	300-500 lbs	18.00	25.00
	500-800 lbs	21.50	29.00
Boars	400-800 lbs	5.00	5.00

ORGANIC WHLSLE BROWN EGGS

Price range is per unit as labeled.

EXTRA LARGE		
DOZEN	2.61	3.60
1/2 DOZEN	1.80	1.95
LARGE		
DOZEN	2.30	3.50
1/2 DOZEN	1.71	1.90

HAY - LANCASTER, PA

Small squares, each.

ALFALFA	Good	170.00	170.00
ALFALFA/GRASS	Premium	200.00	220.00
	Good	160.00	185.00
GRASS HAYS	Premium	295.00	295.00
	Good	165.00	230.00
STRAW		100.00	145.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LB CTN	14.00	14.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4 OZ	16.00	16.50
APPLE, CORTLND, XF, 12-3LB	21.00	21.00
APPLE, MAC, #1, 120	18.00	19.00
APPLE, MAC, #1, 140	18.00	19.00
APPLE, MAC, XFY, 2-1/2", 12-3LB	22.00	22.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	21.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	22.50
EGGPLANT, THAI, 20 LBS	15.00	16.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LBS	23.00	23.00
POTATO, RNDRED, #1, SZA, 50LB	14.00	15.00
POTATO, RNDRED, #1, SZB, 50LB	14.00	15.00
POTATO, RNDRED, NG, SZA, 50LB	10.00	11.00
POTATO, RNDWT, #1, CHF, 50LB	12.00	13.00
POTATO, RNDWT, #1, 10 LB FILM	2.25	2.50
POTATO, YLLW, #1, SZB, 50 LB	11.00	11.00
POTATO, YELLOW, #1, SZA, 50LB	13.00	13.00
POTATO, YLLW, #1, CHEF, 50LB	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, GHSE, 25 LBS	15.00	15.00
TOMATO, GHS, ONVINE, 11 LBS	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, GHS, CHERRY, 5LB	10.00	14.00

NORTHWEST WHOLESALE HERBS

\$/Per unit.

ANISE, CA, 18 BN/CTN	28.00	30.00
ARUGULA, CA, 4 LBCTN, LOOSE	12.00	14.00
ARUGULA, CA, 6 - 1/2 OZ	16.00	16.00
BASIL, HI, 1 LB, LOOSE	5.00	6.00
BASIL, THAI, HI, 1 LB, LOOSE	6.00	9.00
CHERVIL, CA, 1 LB, 12 BN	13.00	14.00
CILANTRO, AZ/CA, 30 BNCHES	16.00	18.00
CILANTRO, AZ/CA, 60 BNCHES	30.00	32.00
CIPOLINOS, CA, 10 LB MESH	16.00	20.00
HORSERADISH, IL, 5 LB SACK	13.00	15.00
LEMON GRASS, CA, 30 LBS	36.00	40.00
MARJORAM, CA, 1 LB, 12 BN	7.00	8.00
MINT, CA, 12 BUNCHES	12.00	15.00
OREGANO, CA, 1 LB, 12 BN	7.00	9.00
ROSEMARY, CA, 1 LB, 12 BN	7.00	9.00
THYME, CA, 1 LB, 12 BNCH	7.00	10.00

MARYLAND WEEKLY FARMERS' MARKET REPORT

\$ per lb or as noted.

APPLES, GALA	1.99	1.99
APPLES, MCINTOSH	1.99	1.99
BEETS, PT	1.29	1.29
CABBAGE, NAPPA	2.00	2.00
CABBAGE, GREEN	1.00	1.00
CABBAGE, RED, LARGE	1.99	1.99
CARROTS, RAINBOW, ORG	4.00	4.00
CARROTS, ORANGE, ORG	4.00	4.00
CHARD, RAINBOW, ORG	4.00	4.00
CHESTNUTS, QT	3.00	3.00
KALE	3.00	3.00
PARSNIPS, PT	3.00	3.00
POTATOES, BROWN, PT	2.00	2.00
POTATOES, RED, PT	2.00	2.00
POTATOES, SWEET, PT	3.00	3.00
TURNIP, COMMON, BUNCH	1.99	1.99

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - March 20, 2017

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	22.50	27.50
76-90 lbs.	50.00	55.00
91-105 lbs.	57.50	60.00
106 lbs. & up	62.50	65.00
Farm Calves	67.50	70.00
Starter Calves	22.00	25.00
Veal Calves	60.00	125.00
Feeder Heifers	75.00	80.00
Beef Heifers	75.00	96.00
Feeder Steers	120.00	125.00
Beef Steers	71.50	110.00
Feeder Bulls	70.00	80.00
Beef Bulls	80.00	112.50
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	125.00	260.00
Lambs each	120.00	310.00
Goats each	120.00	320.00
Kid Goats each	35.00	180.00
Canners	up to	63.00
Cutters	64.00	69.00
Utility Grade Cows	70.00	75.00
Rabbits each	7.00	75.00
Chickens each	6.00	52.50
Ducks each	11.00	17.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.79	.98
LARGE	.73	.87
MEDIUM	.65	.78

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.18	1.35
LARGE	1.16	1.27
MEDIUM	.83	.95
SMALL	.54	.64

ORGANIC WHOLESALE YOUNG CHICKEN

Price range is per unit as labeled.

WHOLE FRYER, PER LB	1.70	3.32
BNLS BREAST, PER LB	5.69	10.58
B/IN BREAST, PER LB	3.60	6.16
WHOLE LEG, PER LB	1.88	4.76
THIGHS, PER LB	1.95	3.92

ORGANIC RETAIL DAIRY

Price range is average price for week ending:

	3/15	3/8
BUTTER, PER LB	5.01	5.82
CHEESE, 8 OZ	3.08	N/A
CHEESE, 8 OZ SHRED	4.06	N/A
MILK, 1/2 GAL	3.69	3.64
YOGURT, 4-6 OZ GREEK	1.14	1.27

SPIELMAN NAMED OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER (Continued from Page 1)

position as the farm's herd manager, overseeing 300 cows and heifers.

When the herd was doing well, Arthur turned his focus toward the cropping program with the goal of making similar improvements. He trained a herd manager to take over those duties and assumed the new crop responsibilities, which included management and logistics for their 3-chopper custom-cropping operation.

The next challenge was to take the entire farm forward, and Arthur realized a general manager was needed. He presented his vision and its benefits at a family business meeting, and he was appointed General Manager in 2009.

Arthur's goals have changed along with his growth. Originally they were production-oriented, but upon becoming General Manager, he understood the need to focus on financial success and to be a good businessman.

To better manage the 1,400-acre, 575-cow operation, he utilizes an advisory team, facilitates meetings of the ownership and family to continue good communication, and actively works with the family to secure the long-term availability of their land base.

He also leads with a vision of environmental sustainability, practicing no-till corn planting and using an innovative radish-clover-rye-hairy vetch cover crop, and including wheat in his crop rotations.

He also has utilized NRCS expertise to build facilities that prevent runoff from silage as well as composting. All of these activities further the Spielman Farm mission

of providing stewardship to the land for the next generation.

The purpose of the Outstanding Young Farmers program is to bring about a greater interest in the farmer to foster better urban-rural relations through the understanding of the farmers' endeavors, to develop a further appreciation for their contributions and achievements, and to inform the agribusiness community of the growing awareness of the farmers' importance and impact on America's economy.

The state winner will be invited to compete nationally in the National Outstanding Young Farmers Program, which is sponsored nationally by John Deere.

Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmers have a history of winning: Joe DeFrancesco of Farmer Joe's Gardens, LLC and Joe Geremia of Geremia Greenhouses, of Wallingford, have been national winners.

Jamie Jones of Jones Family Farm in Shelton, Russell Holmberg of Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry and Matt Peckham of Elm Farm in Woodstock have also been national finalists.

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said Spielman and the other recent winners, including 2016 winner Bruce Gresczyk, Jr., are leaders in their respective disciplines, and exemplify the strength and diversity of Connecticut agriculture moving forward.

"The Spielman family has a rich tradition of farming in Connecticut," Reviczky said. "The faith and trust they placed in Arthur IV proved correct, and the honor of being named Connecticut's Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year is well-deserved."

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, 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.

27-R. Quality hay for sale; large bales from fertilized fields no kicker bales. 25 bale minimum \$5.75 per bale. Call 203-453-9865.

28-R. Farm for sale. 9.2 acre, ~40000 sq ft greenhouses in Eastford, CT. Used to produce lettuce, cucumbers, herbs, tomatoes. \$399,000.00. 860-336-8000.

32-R. For sale: 2013 custom John Deere 2-row corn planter. MaxEmerge XP Row units. Dry fertilizer hoppers. CM-250 planter monitor. \$7,995.00. Bellavance Farm 860-564-5717.

33-R. For sale: Can-Car cable log skidder. \$11,995.00. Bellavance Farm 860-564-5717.

34-R. For sale: Straw bales for bedding, mulch, construction. \$4.00 per bale. Bellavance Farm 860-564-5717.

36. For Sale: Dearborn 2-bottom plow Model 10-156. Good Condition. \$375.00. Call or text: 860-836-2814.

40-R. 3rd cutting bealage 4' x 5', 14.3% CP, 48% DM. \$50.00 per bale. 860-668-7419.

37-R. 99 Dart Hill Road, South Windsor. 5.5 acres, Rural Residential. Fully approved building lot with sewer available, well required. Ideal for horses, ambitious gardener, agricultural or home business. 800 foot driveway. Creative owner financing available. \$248,000.00. Annette Griffin, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services N.E. Properties. 860-604-7845.

38-R. East Hartford. Former vegetable and green house farm on 4.1 acres. 2 family and building need TLC. Cropland maybe certified organic. City water and sewer. \$219,000.00. Call Clint Charter, Wallace and Tetreault Realty 860-558-3908.

39-R. East Windsor. 41 acres, mostly open and tillable. Ideal for crops, horses or green houses. \$459,000.00. Call Clint Charter, Wallace and Tetreault Realty 860-558-3908.

41-R. JD 4230 100 HP NH TT75A w/bucket, 75 HP NH 185 Spreader, Hay equipment, cow manure. J&S Farm, New Milford, CT. 203-770-4199.

42-R. Greenhouse furnaces 300,000 – 400,000 BTU's. Price range from \$1,500.00 to \$3,000.00. Call Alex 203-223-4853.

43. Hydroponic equipment: 80' x 24', cropping nft system, nutrient and reservoir tanks, steel piping benching, nutrient monitors. Email: sugarwaterfarm@gmail.com

WANTED

30-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/softwood, especially sugar maple/white oak. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

35. Wanted: Large Katahdin Ram, one to five years old. Call David 203-453-9865.

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-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.



Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky visiting the Association of Connecticut Fairs booth during Ag Day at the Capitol last week.

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Roy and Earl Norman, Oscar's sons, and the third generation on the farm, bought the farm in 1976. They each built homes on the farm and now operate strictly as a dairy farm.

Currently, Roy and Earl have a 100-cow freestall barn for the milking herd and a 120-cow freestall barn for dry cows and 3 different age groups of heifers.

They also produce grass and corn for hay and silage feed. Roy and Earl are members of The Connecticut Farm Bureau, and Roy is very involved with the Fellowship of Christian Farmers Association.

Earl (pictured on Page 1 accepting the award) serves on the Thompson Agricultural Commission and the New England Dairy Promotion Board. The farm received the Albert R. Todd Conservation Award for improvements in conservation and pollution control practices.

Members of the fourth generation of Normans continue to work on the farm and a member of the fifth generation recently joined the Happy Herdsmen 4H Dairy Club, the same club that their grandfather Earl belonged to over 50 years ago.

AG JOURNALISM WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council announced its 2016 Ag Journalism Awards at last week's Ag Day at the Capitol:

- Steve Jensen/CT Weekly Agricultural Report:** "Throwback Organic Farmer Succeeding with Cutting-Edge Growing Techniques in Lebanon," describing innovative techniques utilized by organic farmer Bryan O'Hara, such as introducing soil-enriching and hydrating forest microbes into his crop fields. Bryan's ingenuity pays off because his techniques allow him to harvest crops year-round under low tunnel protection. He avoids pesticides by utilizing items in nature to strengthen plants and harden them against invasives.
- Quinn Eurich/Countryside Network:** "Local Students Connect with Farm Life by Adopting Chickens," regarding a creative program run by Strong Family Farm in Vernon that educates young and old about raising and caring for chickens in a true family farm environment.
- Amy White/Go Local Magazine:** "Udderly Fresh: Dairy from Smyth's Trinity Farm," describing the history of Smyth's Trinity Farm in Enfield, a third generation dairy farm that embodies the spirit of the farm-to-table movement.
- Jim Altman and photographer Josh Hartmann/Fox 61:** "Roses for Autism Bottling Success with Some Help from Adults," detailing a vocational training program for adults who grow, cut and packages flowers and roses in one of the largest greenhouses in Connecticut, located at Pinchbeck Farm in Guilford.
- John Charlton and photographer Jesse Burkett Hall/Fox 61:** "The Vanishing Colonies of Honey Bees," describing the vital role of honey bees in the food chain and how tenuous their existence is based on the number of colony collapses.

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact Jane.Murdock@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

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