

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

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



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
March 8, 2017



SOLAR PROJECT REDUCES FARM'S ENERGY COSTS, IMPROVES CONDITIONS FOR WORKERS

LEBANON - A self-sustaining energy supply and a roof over the heads of workers and product in their shipping area are two of the major improvements being brought to Pride's Corner Farms wholesale plant operation by the installation of a solar array that recently went online.

The 735 solar panels installed on the roofs of open-sided greenhouses built over the shipping area is expected to produce 25-percent of the energy used on the 400-acre farm.

The construction also provides shelter for the 100 or so employees who work in the shipping area, and the more than 2,000 varieties of plants they pack and send to stores and contractors from Maine to Virginia and west through Ohio.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held last week to mark the completion of the project through a partnership between the farm and the Connecticut Farm Energy Program, the USDA's Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area and the state Department of Agriculture.

Farm owner Mark Sellow said the company spent about \$1.6 million on the project, and received about \$600,000 from a USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant that encourages renewable energy and energy efficiency investments at farms.

The grants also recently funded projects at:

- Gilberties Herb Garden, Easton: \$75,825 for LED

lighting and a heating system upgrade expected to save nearly 172,000 kilowatt hours annually.

- Howling Flats Farm, New Canaan: \$28,652 to purchase a 26-kilowatt solar array, which will provide 100 percent of the farm's energy needs.
- Meadow Ridge Farm, Litchfield: \$39,509 to purchase a solar array that will offset all of its energy needs.

"Government works and this is an example of that," Sellow said at the ribbon-cutting, attended by a variety of officials and contractors involved in the project. "We want to be as energy efficient as possible, and I strongly believe that this never would have happened without the help of everyone here."

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky agreed. "All of these positive things that are happening as far as growing Connecticut farms and Connecticut agriculture wouldn't be happening without solid partnerships," he said. "This is a great day."

Reviczky said the Pride's Corner array is an example of a solar installation that takes advantage of a farm's agricultural infrastructure, generating electricity that helps offset costs of production and makes the farm more viable.

The solar panels covering the approximately 2-acre concrete shipping pad should produce about 296,600

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted.

| | LOW | HIGH |
|---|--------|--------|
| SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing | | |
| breakers 75-80% lean | 60.00 | 64.50 |
| boners 80-85% lean | 57.00 | 62.50 |
| lean 88-90% lean | 51.00 | 56.50 |
| SLAUGHTER STEERS | | |
| Hi Ch/Prime 3-4 | 130.00 | 133.00 |
| Choice 2-3 | 123.50 | 127.50 |
| Select 1-2 | 118.00 | 124.00 |
| SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS | | |
| Choice 2-3 | 75.00 | 82.00 |
| Sel 1-2 | 69.00 | 71.00 |
| SLAUGHTER HEIFERS | | |
| Hi Ch/Prime 3-4 | 118.00 | 124.50 |
| Choice 2-3 | 116.00 | 119.00 |
| Sel 1-2 | 107.00 | 112.50 |
| SLAUGHTER BULLS Yield Grade 1 | | |
| 900-1720 lbs | 92.00 | 99.00 |
| CALVES - Graded bull | | |
| No 1 120-128 lbs | 111.00 | 111.00 |
| No 1 94-112 lbs | 130.00 | 140.00 |
| SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn | | |
| Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3 | | |
| 80-90 lbs | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 90-110 lbs | 240.00 | 240.00 |
| 110-130 lbs | 215.00 | 217.00 |
| 130-150 lbs | 190.00 | 190.00 |
| 150-200 lbs | 185.00 | 215.00 |
| SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3 | | |
| 120-160 lbs | 110.00 | 140.00 |
| 160-200 lbs | 80.00 | 120.00 |
| 200-300 lbs | 80.00 | 120.00 |
| SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1 | | |
| 60-70 lbs | 210.00 | 220.00 |
| SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1 | | |
| 80-130 lbs | 175.00 | 241.00 |
| 130-180 lbs | 215.00 | 275.00 |
| SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1 | | |
| 100-150 lbs | 185.00 | 275.00 |
| 150-250 lbs | 295.00 | 350.00 |

DAIRY REPLACEMENT COWS

N. Holland, PA, February 22, 2017. By the head.

FRESH COWS:

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| SUPREME | 1550.00 | 1775.00 |
| APPROVED | 1100.00 | 1600.00 |
| MEDIUM | 950.00 | 1225.00 |

SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| APPROVED | 1150.00 | 1375.00 |
|----------|---------|---------|

SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| SUPREME | 1400.00 | 1600.00 |
| APPROVED | 1200.00 | 1400.00 |
| MEDIUM | 900.00 | 1150.00 |

BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| SUPREME | 1400.00 | 1595.00 |
| APPROVED | 1150.00 | 1325.00 |
| MEDIUM | 775.00 | 875.00 |

OPEN HEIFERS

| | | |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| 300-600 lbs | | |
| APPROVED | 525.00 | 600.00 |
| MEDIUM | 400.00 | 500.00 |
| 600-900 lbs | | |
| APPROVED | 800.00 | 875.00 |
| MEDIUM | 625.00 | 775.00 |
| 900-1200 lbs | | |
| APPROVED | 875.00 | 950.00 |

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLESBoston 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, GALA, FCY, 2-1/2", 12-3LB | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| APPLE, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 100 | 70.00 | 70.00 |
| APPLE, HNYCRSP, FCY, 80 | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| APPLE, HNYCRSP, FCY, 88 | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| APPLE, MAC, #1, 120 | 17.00 | 18.00 |
| APPLE, MAC, #1, 140 | 17.00 | 18.00 |
| 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 |
| POTATO, RNDRED, #1, SZA, 50LB | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| POTATO, RNDRED, #1, SZB, 50LB | 16.00 | 18.00 |
| POTATO, RNDWT, #1, CHF, 50LB | 11.00 | 13.00 |
| POTATO, RNDWT, #1, 10 LB FILM | 2.25 | 2.50 |
| POTATO, RUSST, #1, 10 OZ, 50LB | 11.00 | 12.50 |
| 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 |
| TOMATO, GHS, CHRRY, 8-10 OZ | 20.00 | 24.00 |

WHOLESALE HERBS

\$/per unit.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| ARUGULA, BABY, FL, 4 LB | 12.00 | 13.50 |
| ARUGULA, BABY, FL, 2-1-1/2 LB | 12.00 | 13.50 |
| BASIL, FL, 15/CARTON | 20.00 | 22.00 |
| CHERVIL, FL, 12/CARTON | 16.00 | 19.00 |
| CHIVES, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 8.00 | 10.00 |
| DILL, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 8.00 |
| DILL, FL, 1/2 BRUCE, 24 BN | 15.00 | 18.00 |
| MARJAROM, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 8.00 |
| MINT, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 8.00 |
| MINT, FL, 1/2 BU, 12 BN | 10.00 | 12.00 |
| OREGANO, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 9.00 |
| ROSEMARY, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 10.00 |
| SAGE, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 9.00 |
| SAVORY, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 10.00 |
| SORREL, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 10.00 | 12.00 |
| TARRAGON, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| THYME, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN | 7.00 | 8.00 |
| WATERCRESS, FL, 12/CARTON | 10.50 | 12.00 |
| WATERCRESS, FL, 24/CARTON | 14.00 | 16.00 |

NORTHEAST RETAIL ORGANIC DAIRY

\$/unit.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------|------|
| BUTTER, 1 LB | 3.99 | 5.99 |
| MILK, ALL FAT TESTS, 1/2 GAL | 3.79 | 3.79 |
| MILK, ALL FAT TESTS, GAL | 3.99 | 5.99 |
| YOGURT, GREEK, 4-6 OZ | 1.00 | 1.33 |
| YOGURT, GREEK, 32 OZ | 3.50 | 4.99 |

NORTHEAST RETAIL DAIRY

\$/unit.

| | | |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| BUTTER, 1 LB | 2.99 | 4.49 |
| CHEESE, NAT, 8 OZ | 1.77 | 3.50 |
| CHEESE, NAT, 1 LB BLOCK | 2.99 | 3.99 |
| CHEESE, NAT, 8 OZ SHRED | 1.99 | 3.00 |
| COTTAGE CHEESE, 16 OZ | 1.50 | 2.99 |
| CREAM CHEESE, 8 OZ | .99 | 2.50 |
| ICE CREAM, 48-64 OZ | 1.99 | 3.99 |
| SOUR CREAM, 16 OZ | 1.49 | 2.00 |

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - March 6, 2017

| | LOW | HIGH |
|---------------------|--------|--------|
| Bob Calves: | | |
| 45-60 lbs. | 30.00 | 35.00 |
| 61-75 lbs. | 37.50 | 40.00 |
| 76-90 lbs. | 42.00 | 44.00 |
| 91-105 lbs. | 45.00 | 47.50 |
| 106 lbs. & up | 48.00 | 55.00 |
| Farm Calves | 56.00 | 65.00 |
| Starter Calves | n/a | n/a |
| Veal Calves | 70.00 | 97.50 |
| Feeder Heifers | 100.00 | 110.00 |
| Beef Heifers | 71.00 | 111.00 |
| Feeder Steers | 80.00 | 120.00 |
| Beef Steers | 71.00 | 112.00 |
| Feeder Bulls | 75.00 | 110.00 |
| Beef Bulls | 80.00 | 120.00 |
| 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 | 100.00 | 155.00 |
| Lambs each | 165.00 | 240.00 |
| Goats each | 125.00 | 385.00 |
| Kid Goats each | 15.00 | 35.00 |
| Canners | up to | 63.50 |
| Cutters | 64.00 | 67.00 |
| Utility Grade Cows | 68.00 | 71.00 |
| Rabbits each | 7.00 | 26.00 |
| Chickens each | 6.00 | 27.50 |
| Ducks each | 10.00 | 30.00 |

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDAPer doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

| | | |
|------------|-----|-----|
| XTRA LARGE | .56 | .70 |
| LARGE | .50 | .64 |
| MEDIUM | .41 | .54 |

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

| | | |
|------------|------|------|
| XTRA LARGE | 1.01 | 1.12 |
| LARGE | .98 | 1.09 |
| MEDIUM | .64 | .74 |
| SMALL | .52 | .63 |

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Avg dressing. Per cwt.

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 52-56 | 200-250 lbs | 54.00 | 62.00 |
| | 300-350 lbs | 62.00 | 62.00 |
| 48-52 | 200-300 lbs | 54.00 | 60.00 |
| | 300-350 lbs | 55.00 | 57.00 |
| Sows, US 1-3 | 300-500 lbs | 22.00 | 25.00 |
| | 500-800 lbs | 24.00 | 28.00 |
| Boars | 200-400 lbs | 5.00 | 8.00 |
| | 400-450 lbs | 7.00 | 7.00 |

FEEDER STEERS AUCTION

Greencastle, PA, March 3, 2017. Per cwt.

| | | |
|---------------|--------|--------|
| Med and Lge 1 | | |
| 300-400 lbs | 137.50 | 142.50 |
| 400-500 lbs | 137.50 | 154.00 |
| 600-700 lbs | 127.00 | 137.50 |
| 700-800 lbs | 119.00 | 126.00 |
| 800-900 lbs | 117.00 | 117.00 |

(Continued from Page 1)

kilowatts annually, or the equivalent of the electricity it takes to power 27 homes for a year.

U.S. Congressman Joe Courtney, D-2nd District, noted that the design and installation of the structure was done by Earthlight Solar & Energy Solutions of Ellington, and consulting was provided by Titan Energy New England of Rocky Hill.

“Connecticut is never going to drill for oil or mine coal,” Courtney said. “But we actually have a burgeoning solar industry that is growing, and it’s great to see it all come together to make this happen.”

Technical assistance on the project and in applying for the USDA grant was provided by the Connecticut Farm Energy Program, a service of the USDA that is available to help farmers statewide.

Since 2010, the program has helped farmers secure nearly \$2 million dollars in REAP grants that helped fund \$7.6 million in energy efficient and renewable energy projects on Connecticut farms, said program coordinator Amanda Fargo-Johnson.

The Pride’s Corner project is the second largest that the program has been involved in.

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.

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.

31. Draft horse harnesses and related items for sale: Harness, collars, hitches. 203-530-5951.

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.

WANTED

26-R. Trailer load of hardwood treetops or imperfect logs for firewood, Danbury. Please call Joe at 203-994-0997.

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

Eric Virkler, project manager for Earthlight, said it took nearly two years to work out the design that incorporated the solar panels into the roofs of the Nexus greenhouses, while still allowing light to pass through to the shipping area.

“This was a very exciting project for us and the final product is one that we are very proud of,” Virkler said. “Pride’s Corner is an example of a company devoted to sustainability and committed to using the latest technology to get there.”

**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.

25-R. Creating and Improving Pollinator Habitat on Your Farm – March 9, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. More information: <https://tinyurl.com/jnc6xsv>. 5.25 pesticide recertification credits. To register, contact Tracy Zarrillo at 203-974-8573 or Tracy.Zarrillo@ct.gov.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is promoting maple syrup during the month of March on several state radio stations, as well as Pandora radio and the agency Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ConnecticutGrown and at www.CTGrown.gov/maplesyrup.

The ads feature the message: “What do pancakes, ice cream, vegetables, coffee and oatmeal have in common? They all taste better with Connecticut Grown maple syrup. Find a sugarhouse near you at www.CTGrown.gov/maplesyrup and tap into the sweetness.”

Also, visit our Pinterest page, pinterest.com/GrowCTAg, for sugaring facts, maple syrup recipes and sugarhouses open to the public.



Page 1 left: An aerial view of the solar array at Pride's Corner Farms.

Page 1 right: Those participating in the ribbon-cutting last week were (R-L) Amanda Fargo-Johnson of CT Farm Energy Program; Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky; State Sen. Cathy Osten; farm owner Mark Sellaw; U.S. Congressman Joe Courtney; Lebanon First Selectman Betsy Petrie and Eric Virkler, project manager for Earthlight.

Above: the solar array will provide about 25-percent of the farm's energy, including its new office building.

VENDOR APPLICATION AVAILABLE FOR FARMERS' MARKET AT HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET

The 2017 vendor application for the farmers' market at the Regional Market in Hartford is now available at http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/regional_market/2017/Final_2017_HRM_FM_Application_.pdf

Please return application with payment and all applicable certificates, permits, licenses, reports, maps, and resale listings to Jane Murdock, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 703, Hartford, CT 06103.

Call 860-713-2588 or email Jane.Murdock@ct.gov with any questions.

SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT PROPOSALS SOUGHT

The Dept. of Agriculture is seeking concept proposal 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.

Projects cannot begin until after January 1, 2018, and must be completed by September 29, 2020. The maximum award is \$75,000.

More info and complete application guidelines are available at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE www.CTGrown.gov 860-713-2500

| | |
|--|--|
| Commissioner steven.reviczky@ct.gov | Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2501 |
| Marketing linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov | Linda Piotrowicz 860-713-2503 |
| Regional Market linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov | Linda Piotrowicz 860-566-3699 |
| Farmland Preservation cam.weimar@ct.gov | Cameron Weimar, Ph.D. 860-713-2511 |
| Regulation & Inspection bruce.sherman@ct.gov | Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504 |
| State Veterinarian mary.lis@ct.gov | Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505 |
| Aquaculture david.carey@ct.gov | David Carey 203-874-2855 |
| Agricultural Report Editor steve.jensen@ct.gov | Steve Jensen 860-713-2519 |

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