

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, June 20, 2018

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

Jason Bowsza, Chief of Staff, Commissioner's Office

At midnight on May 9, 2018, the short session of the Connecticut General Assembly came to a close. In even-numbered years, the regular legislative sessions begin in February and end in May—but the shorter term does not mean that there is less work to be done, only that there is less time to do it.

Nearly 300 bills passed both chambers of the General Assembly in concurrence and were sent to the governor for his signature. Some of those bills will have an impact on farming and agriculture.

Throughout the session, the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) tracked more than 120 bills, introduced legislation of our own, and advocated for policies that will be beneficial to the agriculture community in Connecticut—a community that contributes more than \$4 billion per year to the state's economy, according to the most recent economic impact study completed by the University of Connecticut.

DoAg successfully passed three legislative concepts. The first two concepts were included in **House Bill 5360, An Act Concerning Revisions to Certain Environmental Quality and Conservation Programs of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.**

The 2014 Farm Bill did away with the previous federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP) and created in its place the Agricultural Lands Easement Program (ACEP). Existing Connecticut statute specifically referenced FRPP.

Because Connecticut statutes didn't align with ACEP, Connecticut was at risk of missing out on federally reimbursed dollars

for farmland preservation, an omission that would result in a loss of more than \$12.5 million. House Bill 5360 corrected Connecticut statute language to maintain DoAg's ability to recapture federal funding for reimbursement of preserved agricultural lands.

Also under House Bill 5360, DoAg successfully advocated for an expansion of the buy/protect/sell program, allowing DoAg to partner with nonprofits and municipalities by buying farmland from farmers, selling it in fee simple to a partnering nonprofit or municipality, and then immediately buying back the development rights to the property, potentially in partnership with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The third concept that secured passage by DoAg was **Senate Bill 106, An Act Concerning the Sale of "Connecticut Grown" Products.** In this bill DoAg successfully sought to extend the same farm-of-origin disclosure requirements required of farmers at local farmers' markets to distributors who sell to schools.

The intent was to provide school districts in Connecticut seeking to support local agriculture through their procurement process some confirmation that products being sold and represented by distributors as "Connecticut Grown" are, in fact, grown in Connecticut.

It's unfair to local producers to be in competition with out-of-state producers who claim to be producing in Connecticut, but are not actually doing so.

The end result is that if a distributor is selling to a school district product claimed to have been grown in Connecticut, that



Governor Dannel P. Malloy and DoAg Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky visited Cushman Farms on May 29, 2018 to announce an additional \$1 million for the Agriculture Sustainability Account to help keep dairy farm families in business.

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.98	1.19
LARGE	.92	1.06
MEDIUM	.66	.79

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.41	1.69
LARGE	1.38	1.65
MEDIUM	1.16	1.26
SMALL	.82	.92

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	107.00	113.00
Choice 2-3	105.50	110.50
Select 1-2	101.00	106.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Choice 2-3 few	79.00	84.00
Select 1-2	73.50	78.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Choice 2-3 few	105.00	108.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	64.00	69.50
boners 80-85% lean	61.00	67.50
lean 88-90% lean	55.00	62.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 110-118 lbs	110.00	110.00
No 1 98-108 lbs	142.00	147.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	200.00	227.00
110-130 lbs	200.00	210.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 1-2		
80-120 lbs	80.00	105.00
120-160 lbs	70.00	95.00
160-200 lbs	60.00	85.00
200-300 lbs	50.00	75.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	135.00	165.00
40-60 lbs	165.00	200.00
60-80 lbs	215.00	260.00
80-100 lbs	220.00	265.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	190.00	220.00
130-180 lbs	225.00	245.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	250.00	310.00
150-250 lbs	330.00	370.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	49.00	56.00
	300-350 lbs	47.00	54.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	45.00	51.00
	300-400 lbs	45.00	46.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	350-600 lbs	32.00	34.00
Boars			
	200-400 lbs	30.00	34.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per small square. June 15, 2018.

Alfalfa/Grass-Supreme	425.00	430.00
Good	190.00	265.00
Grass Hays-Good	190.00	190.00
Alfalfa/Grass- Premium	335.00	345.00
Grass Hays-Premium	250.00	265.00
Straw	190.00	210.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 88	28.00	28.00
APPLE,CORT, FNCY,12-3LB,2-1/2"	20.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,FCY,TRYPK, 125	16.00	17.00
APPLE,MAC,FCY,TRYPK,138	17.00	17.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 88	30.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 100	24.00	24.00
BEAN SPROUTS,10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	22.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	26.00	26.00
FIDDLEHEADS,PER LB,10 LB	6.00	7.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LB LOOSE, MED	25.00	25.00
PARSNIPS, 18-1 LB, MEDIUM	23.00	23.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, BU	44.00	45.00

BOSTON SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

BEANS, GRN, GA, MACHPK, BU	22.00	25.00
BEANS, WX, GA, BU	38.00	40.00
BLUEBERRIES,NJ, L, 12-1PT	24.00	28.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 1.6 BU CARTON	10.00	12.00
CABBAGE,SAVOY,GA,40 LB,M/L	18.00	20.00
CABBGE, GREEN, GA, 50 LB, M	13.00	17.00
CHERRY,BING,CA,9-1/2RW,16LB	75.00	78.00
COLLARDS, NJ, 12 BNCH/CTN	13.00	13.00
CORN, BICOLOR, GA, 4 DOZ	13.00	15.00
CUKES, WAXED, GA, 1-1/9, M	22.00	24.00
CUKE,PICKLER,GA,200-300, BU	34.00	38.00
DANDELION GRNS, NJ, 12	18.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, FL, 1-1/9, MED	15.00	18.00
KALE, MULTI, NJ, 12	18.00	18.00
KOHLRABI, NJ, 12 BN,/CTN	20.00	20.00
LEEKs, NJ, 12 BNCHs/CTN	20.00	25.00
LETTc,BSTN GHS,CD,CLAM,12-4	16.00	17.00
LETTc,RED/GRNLF,NJ, 24	16.00	18.00
MACHE, GHS, PA, 3 LBS	12.00	13.00
MESCLIN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.00	7.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, NJ, 60, 1-1/4	38.00	42.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, NJ, 60, 1-1/4	36.00	40.00
PEPPERS, GRN, GA, 1-1/9, JMBO	13.00	15.00
PEPPER, FRYER,FL, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
PEPPER, JALEP, FL, 1-1/9, M-L	24.00	26.00
PEPPER, GRN LNGHOT,FL, 1-1/9	18.00	20.00
PEPPER, POBLANO, FL, 1-1/9	20.00	20.00
RADISHES, NJ, 24 BN/CRATE	16.00	18.00
SPINACH, BABY, CA, 4LBS	9.00	11.00
SPINACH, FLAT, NJ, 24	12.00	12.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, CA, 24	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, YLW, GA, 1-1/9, L	20.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, MX CLR, NJ, 12	18.00	18.00
ZUCCHINI, GA, 1/2 BU, S	12.00	18.00
ZUCCHINI, GA, 1/2 BU, M	11.00	15.00
ZUCCHINI, GA, 1/2 BU, L	18.00	18.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, CRISPIN, WAXF, 80	62.00	62.00
BLUEBERRY, CA, 12-6OZ, L	30.00	30.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, 45 LBS	28.00	28.00
CARROTS, CA, 48-1 LB, M-L	36.00	36.00
CUKES, 1/2 BU, 12	18.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, FL, 1-1/9	29.00	29.00
KALE, 12 BUNCHES	27.00	27.00
LETTc,RMAINE,CA/AZ,12-18OZ	42.00	42.00
MESCLIN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	8.00	9.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - June 18, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	20.00	25.00
61-75 lbs.	30.00	35.00
76-90 lbs.	44.00	47.50
91-105 lbs.	50.00	55.00
106 lbs. & up	60.00	65.00
Farm Calves	70.00	75.00
Starter Calves	28.00	32.00
Veal Calves	70.00	117.50
Feeder Heifers	100.00	110.00
Beef Heifers	90.00	93.00
Feeder Steers	70.00	75.00
Beef Steers	83.50	110.00
Feeder Bulls	90.00	120.00
Beef Bulls	68.00	90.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs each	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	97.50	120.00
Lambs each	100.00	220.00
Goats each	95.00	347.50
Kid Goats each	87.00	90.00
Canners	up to	61.00
Cutters	62.00	65.00
Utility Grade Cows	66.00	69.00
Rabbits each	4.00	21.00
Chickens each	3.00	22.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00

BOSTON MARKET CUT FLOWERS

Wholesale price. \$/unit listed.

ALLIUM,DRUM,CD,10/BN	10.00	10.00
ASTILBE,NL,10/BN,M	14.50	17.00
CELSIA,WHEAT,NL /BN,L	12.50	12.50
DELPH, BELLA,CA,/BN,L	9.50	11.00
EUPHORBIA,CA,/BN, L	10.00	10.00
FEVERFEW,CA, /BN, L	8.50	10.00
GLADS, CA, 10/BN, L	15.00	15.00
MARIGOLD, FL, /BN, L	8.50	8.50
PEONY,SDBL,RI,10,L	20.00	20.00
PEONY,NJ/NENG,/STM,L	2.00	3.00
QU AN LACE, CA,/BN,L	8.50	10.00
SCABIOSA,CA, 10/BN	8.50	8.50
SNAPDRGN,CD,10,XL	12.50	12.75
SUNFLWR, NJ, 5/BN, L	6.50	7.50
YARROW, CA, /BN, L	8.50	9.50

DAIRY REPLACEMENT CATTLE

For Wednesday, June 13, 2018.

FRESH COWS:		
SUPREME:	1250.00	1450.00
APPROVED:	950.00	1325.00
MEDIUM:	625.00	10.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-8 MONTHS):		
APPROVED:	950.00	1250.00
BRED COWS: (4-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED:	975.00	1200.00
SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):		
APPROVED:	900.00	1200.00
MEDIUM:	625.00	775.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME:	1375.00	1475.00
APPROVED:	900.00	1325.00
MEDIUM:	675.00	950.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED:	875.00	1200.00
MEDIUM:	700.00	875.00
SHORT BRED HEIFERS (1-3 MONTHS):		
APPROVED:	725.00	950.00
MEDIUM:	525.00	650.00

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distributor must disclose specifically where that product was grown.

The budget, which was passed with overwhelming bipartisanship in both chambers on the last day of the session, also brought good news for agriculture. Included in that budget was an additional \$1 million for the Agriculture Sustainability Account, which provides support payments to dairy farmers when the cost of production exceeds the price of milk.

This is a particularly timely and meaningful support program because of extremely depressed milk prices over the last several months. Additionally, Governor Dannel P. Malloy has restored the funding that had been swept from this account, injecting critical assistance that will help keep dairy farm families in business.

On May 29, 2018, with about 40 dairy farmers and agriculture stakeholders in attendance, Governor Malloy visited Cushman Farms in Franklin to make the announcement.

This type of investment in producers benefits the greater agricultural community because, in most cases, it is immediately reinvested into things like feed and equipment.

There were many more bills introduced by advocates, stakeholders and legislative partners that will have an impact on the agricultural community in Connecticut.

An additional benefit to farmers in Connecticut is **House Bill 5534, An Act Concerning the Classification of Farm Land**, which requires tax assessors to approve applications to classify any land that meets the farm land criteria under Public Act 490 as farm land.

Specifically, assessors may not refuse to classify a portion of land as farm land on account of municipal zoning regulations establishing minimum acreage requirements for residential or agricultural parcels.

There were several proposals this session that would have allowed, in some way, for the cultivation of cannabis in Connecticut, a policy that DoAg supports with a number of conditions—specifically that it is considered an agricultural product, that it is appropriately regulated and necessary funding is in place to support a regulatory program, and that it comports with federal law. Under the 2014 Farm Bill, state departments of agriculture and land grant universities can implement pilot programs for market research purposes, not for commercial sales production.

There remains much work to do to provide opportunities for the diversification and continued growth of agriculture in Connecticut. We need to advocate for policies that allow for continued access to high-quality farmland; that allow for expansion of sales opportunities for farm wineries, farm breweries, and farm distilleries; that encourage market-access opportunities for new and beginning farmers; that encourage and assist with farm transition planning; and so many more issues.

USDA EXTENDS APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR DAIRY MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM TO JUNE 22

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the re-enrollment deadline for the Margin Protection Program (MPP) for Dairy will be extended until June 22, 2018.

The new and improved program protects participating dairy producers when the margin—the difference between the price

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48-R. Cub Cadet Gas, 100 gallon polyethylene Tank Sprayer, 5 HP Kawasaki engine, 2-wheel trailer. Spray gun 18", electric reel/hose, \$4,100.00. VM 203-592-0554.

49-R. Dahlia tubers – exhibiting/cut varieties. \$6 each. For more information about purchasing and varieties email ifo@strongfarm.org.

50-R. 800 gallon stainless steel jacketed tank with gear-head agitator. Last used to hold dairy products. In excellent condition. 860-276-7815.

51-R. For sale: Parts for Grimm Hay Tedders. Also, rough lumber. 860-684-3458.

52-R. 20,000 tomato stakes for sale, good condition, \$.25 each. Negotiable for large quantities. Baggot Farms in East Windsor. 860-573-6442.

WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

42-R. Interested in purchasing a farm or land in Middlesex or New London County. Call 516-801-0888.

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.

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of milk and feed costs —falls below levels of protection selected by the applicant. USDA has already issued more than \$89 million for margins triggered in February, March, and April, and USDA offices are continuing to process remaining payments daily.

The re-enrollment deadline was previously extended through June 8, 2018. The deadline is being extended a second time to ensure that dairy producers are given every opportunity to make a calculated decision and enroll in the program if they choose.

This will be the last opportunity for producers to take advantage of key adjustments Congress made to provisions of the MPP program under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to strengthen its support of dairy producers. USDA encourages producers contemplating enrollment to use the online web resource at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool to calculate the best levels of coverage for their dairy operation.

The next margin under MPP, for May 2018, will be published on June 28, 2018. Therefore, all coverage elections on form CCC-782 and the \$100 administrative fee, unless exempt, must be submitted to the county FSA office no later than June 22, 2018. No registers will be utilized, so producers are encouraged to have their enrollment for 2018 completed by June 22, 2018.

All dairy operations must make new coverage elections for

2018 during the re-enrollment period, even if the operation was enrolled during the previous 2018 signup. Coverage elections made for 2018 will be retroactive to January 1, 2018. MPP payments will be sequestered at a rate of 6.6 percent.

To learn more about the Margin Protection Program for dairy, contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency county office at offices.usda.gov or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

UConn Extension Offers Farm Branding Workshop Series

The University of Connecticut (UConn) Extension is hosting the 2018 Simple Farm Marketing Summer Series to assist farmers in all aspects of farm marketing.

Each part of the five part series will be held at the Middlesex County Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT, 6:00 p.m - 9:00 p.m..

The cost is \$20 per workshop or sign up for all five for \$80. Below is a list of dates and topics for the series.

- June 27, 2018: Branding 101
- July 19, 2018: Streamlining Your Social Media
- August 1, 2018 : Smart Phones for Smarter Marketing
- August 16, 2018: Design Your Own Simple Website
- August 29, 2018: Marketing on a Budget

For more information or to register contact MacKenzie White at Mackenzie.White@uconn.edu or 860-875-3331.



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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103.

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