

# Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, October 3, 2018

## MONITORING COASTLINE TO ENSURE CONTINUED SAFETY OF CONNECTICUT SHELLFISH

*Emily Van Gulick, Bureau of Aquaculture*

Connecticut has a thriving shellfish industry and has reliably produced safe clams and oysters for locals and visitors to enjoy. Although Connecticut has not experienced a harmful algal bloom (HAB)-related closure since 2003, the Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s, Bureau of Aquaculture has consistently maintained a phytoplankton and toxin monitoring program as an early warning system, and collaborates with partner agencies to respond to potential HAB events and fish kills.

With the increasing threat of HABs globally, the reoccurrence of many harmful species along the New York border of the Long Island Sound and neighboring Rhode Island waters, along with much still to be learned about what causes and controls HABs, DoAg is continually preparing for a potential future bloom and any associated consequences for shellfish beds, growers and harvesters, and consumers.

HABs are caused by microalgae that can only be seen under a microscope; however, they can form blooms that are visible to the naked eye as discolored water. HABs are deemed harmful because they are associated with toxin production and have detrimental effects on human health and the environment. HAB species and their associated toxins can be filtered out of the water column by bivalve shellfish, like oysters and clams. Some toxins can even be lethal when concentrated in shellfish tissues.

Recent bloom events in Rhode Island and New York

have prompted DoAg to expand the expertise of staff in HAB identification and management, with the goal of improving our ability to monitor for hazardous species along the Connecticut coastline to ensure the continued safety of Connecticut shellfish.

Emily Van Gulick, Fisheries Biologist I in DoAg's Milford laboratory, attended the 2018 Monitoring and Event Response for Harmful Algal Blooms (MERHAB) training course at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in East Boothbay, Maine. The intensive week-and-a-half class was led by experts with decades of experience. Fifteen participants from around the nation were selected for the training, many representing state shellfish regulatory and water quality programs.



*Drs. Heil, Probert, Tomas, and Villac with state shellfish regulatory and water quality participants from around the nation at the 2018 Monitoring and Event Response for Harmful Algal Blooms (MERHAB) training course at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in East Boothbay, Maine.*

The course instructional time consisted of lectures, hands-on microscopy identifications, and demonstrations. In addition to learning about the taxonomy (classification) and identification of more than 60 traditional and emerging HAB species in U.S. waters, the program taught about sample collection, storage, and analysis; cultivation techniques; and statistical and quantification methods.

Since returning from the training, Emily, with the assistance of DoAg's Bureau of Aquaculture staff, has been working to advance the phytoplankton and biotoxin monitoring programs. In 2017, 116 phytoplankton samples were collected by the DoAg's analysts and screened for HAB species.

*(continued on Page 3)*

**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.05	1.33
LARGE	.99	1.13
MEDIUM	.66	.79

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.72	1.89
LARGE	1.62	1.75
MEDIUM	1.14	1.26
SMALL	.82	.92

**LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK**

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

<b>SLAUGHTER STEERS</b>		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	108.00	111.00
Choice 2-3	105.00	107.50
Select 1-2	100.00	104.50
<b>SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS</b>		
Choice 1-2	81.00	83.00
Select 1-2	78.50	81.00
<b>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS</b>		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	104.50	106.50
Choice 2-3	100.00	104.50
Select 1-2	93.00	100.00
<b>CALVES - Graded bull</b>		
No 1 90-118 lbs	97.00	110.00
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing</b>		
breakers 75-80% lean	51.50	55.50
boners 80-85% lean	51.00	56.00
lean 88-90% lean	41.00	47.50
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled &amp; Shorn</b>		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	182.00	205.00
110-130 lbs	162.00	191.00
130-150 lbs	145.00	167.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3</b>		
80-120 lbs	67.00	80.00
120-160 lbs	60.00	80.00
160-200 lbs	60.00	82.00
<b>SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1</b>		
40-60 lbs	145.00	165.00
60-80 lbs	175.00	195.00
<b>SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1</b>		
80-130 lbs	170.00	200.00
130-180 lbs	200.00	235.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1</b>		
100-150 lbs	215.00	240.00
150-250 lbs	270.00	330.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

<b>SLAUGHTER HOGS</b>		
52-56	200-300 lbs	46.00 56.00
	300-350 lbs	45.00 53.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	36.00 47.00
	300-350 lbs	44.00 50.00
<b>Sows, US 1-3</b>		
	300-500 lbs	22.00 28.00
	500-650 lbs	22.00 31.00
<b>Boars</b>		
	450-725 lbs	5.00 5.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT**

Price per ton, small squares. Sept. 28.

<b>ALFALFA/GRASS</b>		
	SUPREME	350.00 375.00
<b>GRASS HAYS</b>		
	PREMIUM	270.00 350.00
	GOOD	240.00 270.00
	FAIR	150.00 180.00

**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, CRTLND, 80, CRT, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, 88, CRT, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, GALA, LOOSE, NG	22.00	22.00
APPLE, HONYCRISP, BU, NG	45.00	45.00
APPLE, MAC, 80, CRT, XFCY	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, 88, CRT, XFCY	31.00	31.00
APPLE, MAC, 100, CRT, XFCY	26.00	26.00
APPLE, MACOUN, 80, CRT, XFCY	38.00	38.00
APPLE, CRISPIN, BU, NG	22.00	22.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEET, CHIOGGA, 25LB, M-L, LOOSE	20.00	22.00
BROCC, CRN CUT, 20 LB LOOSE	18.00	22.00
CAULIFLOWER, WHITE, 9S, CRT	15.00	16.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
CORN, ORN, INDIAN, BNCH, 20-3S	45.00	50.00
CORN, ORN, MINI, BNCH, 20-3S	28.00	32.00
CORN, ORN, POP, BNCH, 20-3S	45.00	50.00
CORNSTALKS, /BUNDLE, 5	5.00	8.00
CRANBERRIES, 24-12 OZ	28.00	28.00
EGGPLANT, WRPPD, 1-1/9, M	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, WRPPD, 1-1/9, L	15.00	17.00
GOURDS, ORNAMENT, 1/2 BU	14.00	16.00
GOURDS, ORN, SHELLACK 1/2 BU	22.00	25.00
PEPPER, GRN, 1 -1/9, JMBO	18.00	24.00
PEPPER, GRN, 1 -1/9, XLARGE	16.00	21.00
PEPPER, CUBANELLE, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
PEPPER, JALAPENO, 1-1/9, M-L	20.00	24.00
PEPPER, LONG HOT, 1-1/9, GREEN	16.00	20.00
PMPKN, CNDERL, OR, 24" BIN, L	285.00	300.00
PMPKN, FAIRYTL, OR, 24" BIN, L	285.00	300.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36" BIN, JBO	200.00	225.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36" BIN, XL	175.00	225.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36" BIN, L	175.00	225.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, WH, 24" BIN, JBO	400.00	400.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 1/2 BU, M	20.00	25.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 24" BIN, M	250.00	285.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 36" BIN, M	270.00	300.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36" BIN, JB	200.00	225.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36" BIN, XL	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36" BIN, L	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36" BIN, M	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36" BIN, S	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, HEIRLOOM, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	20.00
PMPKN, MINI, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	20.00
SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9, L	18.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, XL	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, CARNIVAL, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, BLUE HUB, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9, M-L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9, L	16.00	18.00
STRAW BALE, STAND, 1 BALE	7.00	8.00
STRAW BALE, MINI, 1 BALE	4.50	5.50
TOMS, GHS, 10 LBS, HEIRLOOM	24.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, 15 LBS, HEIRLOOM	28.00	30.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	15.00	15.00
TOMS, GHS, VINERIPE, 15 LBS	22.00	22.00
TOMS, VINERIPE, 20 LBS, L	18.00	19.00
TOMS, GHS, LOOSE, 25 LBS, S-M	18.00	19.00
TOM, GHS, CHRRY, 5 LB FLAT, S-M	15.00	17.50
TOM, GHS, CHRRY, 8-10 OZ, S-M	20.00	24.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT - October 1, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	22.50	25.00
76-90 lbs.	30.00	35.00
91-105 lbs.	40.00	42.50
106 lbs. & up	45.00	50.00
Farm Calves	55.00	60.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	100.00	115.00
Feeder Heifers	80.00	125.00
Beef Heifers	69.00	105.00
Feeder Steers	77.50	85.00
Beef Steers	66.00	77.50
Feeder Bulls	100.00	140.00
Beef Bulls	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	1@	.05
Sows	18.00	39.00
Butcher Hogs	56.00	87.50
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	80.00	170.00
Lambs each	85.00	215.00
Goats each	50.00	425.00
Kid Goats each	95.00	170.00
Canners	up to	49.50
Cutters	50.00	54.00
Utility Grade Cows	55.00	62.00
Rabbits each	4.00	20.00
Chickens each	5.00	21.00
Ducks each	5.00	14.00

**BOSTON MARKET CUT FLOWERS**

Wholesale. \$/unit listed.

Long stem unless noted. October 2, 2018.		
AMRNTHS, UPRT, NENG, /BN	12.00	12.00
AMRNTHS, HANG, NENG, /BN	12.00	12.50
DAHLLIA, XL, NENG, 5/BN	15.00	16.50
HYDRNGA, PG, NENG, /BN	12.00	12.50
SEDUM, NENG, /BN	6.50	6.50
SNAPDRGN, XL, NENG, /BN	12.50	13.50
SUNFLWR, NENG, 5/BN	7.50	8.75
SUNFLWR, NENG, EA	1.00	1.00
ZINNIA, XL, NENG, /BN	12.00	12.00

**RETAIL GRASS FED BISON MEAT**

\$/lb. Frozen. September 14, 2018.

RIBEYE STEAKS	19.49	48.00
FILET MIGNON	39.95	49.35
NEW YORK STRIP	12.50	26.95
FLAT IRON	14.99	30.00
FLANK STEAK	15.49	17.95
SKIRT STEAK	12.95	20.00
CHUCK ROAST	11.99	13.32
EYE OF ROUND ROAST	12.80	12.99
TOP SIRLOIN	12.99	42.00
SIRLOIN TIP	11.91	13.83
BRISKET	11.49	16.66
RIBS	8.49	10.12
PRIME RIB	26.95	39.98
TENDERLOIN	39.95	65.86
STEW MEAT	11.49	15.95
JERKY	34.49	43.80
HEARTS	6.95	9.99
LIVERS	7.45	20.38
TONGUES	8.54	10.99
HOT DOGS	13.49	15.36
<b>GROUND BISON:</b>		
BULK LEAN	10.79	14.95
PATTIES	11.39	14.83

(continued from Page 1)



Three potentially toxic genera: *Prorocentrum*, *Dinophysis*, *Pseudo-nitzschia* (left to right)  
(scale bar: 50 micrometers (1 million micrometers = 1 meter))

In efforts to analyze additional samples and involve local towns, DoAg is now creating a volunteer network to collect and deliver whole water samples that will be screened for HAB species by experienced DoAg staff. This network will allow the agency to monitor additional locations along Connecticut's coastline and help citizens and industry members better understand HABs.

### 2018 AQUAPONICS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Aquaponics Association held its 2018 conference titled "Putting Up Shoots" in Hartford, CT, September 21-23, 2018. The three-day event was filled with speakers and attendees from around the U.S., the world, and staff from the Department of Agriculture (DoAg).

Aquaponics refers to any system that combines conventional aquaculture (raising aquatic animals such as snails, fish, crayfish or prawns in tanks) with hydroponics (cultivating plants in water) in a symbiotic environment.

DoAg also participated in the conference by sponsoring a booth that provided information on aquaculture in Connecticut, which now includes oysters, clams, and kelp.

Conference attendees were able to tour Bigelow Brook Farm in Eastford, UConn Spring Valley Student Farm in Storrs, Keney Park Sustainability Project in Windsor, and Trifecta Ecosystems in Meriden, CT.

The four themes of the conference were commercial aquaponics, community aquaponics, aquaponics research and food safety, and aquaponics in STEM Education.

DoAg staff attended presentations in each of the four themes. Lunch and breaks were filled with networking, sharing of information amongst presenters and attendees, and visits to booths filled with new technology and ideas.

Spencer Curry, CEO and co-founder of Meriden-based Trifecta Ecosystems presented information regarding the commercial aquaponics industry and the future of aquaponics.

It is the hope of local aquaponics enthusiasts that Connecticut can become an aquaponics center of excellence because of its location between New York and Boston and its underutilized/untapped physical infrastructure, many academic resources and manufacturing expertise. This new wave of farming could be a bright future for Connecticut agriculture.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### 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](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://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.

49-R. Dahlia tubers – exhibiting/cut varieties. \$6 each. For more information about purchasing and varieties email [info@strongfarm.org](mailto:info@strongfarm.org).

70-R. Border collie puppies. Black and white. 2 males, 5 females. Ready early September. 203-263-4725.

72-R. Round hay bales. Wrapped or unwrapped, first cutting. Picked up or delivered. 203-264-2217.

73-R. Pumpkins – Full selection gourds, munchkins, novelty pumpkins and squash, white, prizewinner, face, and sugar. By the bin or trailer loads. Good color, stems, and spray program. Picked fresh. Dzen Farms, 860-648-1355.

75-R. Farm for sale. 9.2 acre about 40,000 sq. ft. greenhouses in Eastford, CT. Used to produce lettuce, cucumbers, herbs, tomatoes. \$329,000.00. Negotiable. 860-336-8000.

76-R. Registered Angus and Hereford cattle for sale. Open heifers, bred heifers, mature cows safe in calf to industry leading A.I. sires. Contact Eric at CJR. 860-567-9423, Extension 217.

77-R. Nursery hoops for sale in Suffield, CT. 100's available in 3 sizes, 14'W x 6'H, 17' x 9', 20' x 9'. Call Paul for more details 860-668-7371.

79. Massey Ferguson 63 HP. Perkins diesel engine, live power, Rops cab, 3 point hitch with forks, Woods brush hog. 203-509-3742.

80-R. Christmas greens: wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fundraisers. 203-457-1344.

81-R. Hay for Sale. New Hartford. 1st and 2nd . 860-806-1156.

### 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](mailto:RyanM01@comcast.net) or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

### MISCELLANEOUS

68-R. Bulldozing in Eastern CT. Farm ponds up to 3 acres. Need farm water, call Don Kemp. Also, land clearing. 860-546-9500.

### AG JOB CONNECTION

82-R. Seeking farm manager for Green Acres Farm in Bristol, CT. Need experience with haying, handling and repairing farm equipment, property maintenance including snow plowing, and buying, selling, and managing small number of beef cows, and other farm related responsibilities. Resume and contact info should be sent to: Green Acres Farm, c/o Whit Betts, 1924 Perkins Street, Bristol, CT 06010. Tel: 860-681-1375.

**ON FARM READINESS REVIEWS  
OFFERED FOR CONNECTICUT FARMS**

DoAg and UConn Extension staff continue to perform On Farm Readiness Review (OFRR)'s for fruit and vegetable growers in Connecticut. The program assists in preparing for the implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR). An OFRR consists of a non-regulatory review of a farm's produce growing and handling activities. Its goal is to help farmers implement or enhance on-farm produce safety practices, and provide an opportunity for a one-on-one personalized discussion and guidance about farm operations. The OFRR is free and voluntary for Connecticut farms following the completion of the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training course.

Connecticut fruit and vegetable growers interested in participating in an OFRR or with questions can contact Resha Jacquier at 860-713-2529 or Resha.Jacquier@ct.gov.

**ORGANIC COST SHARE PROGRAM**

DoAg has again entered into a cooperative agreement with the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) for the Organic Cost Share Program. Producers and handlers who have received certification from a USDA accredited certifying agent are eligible to participate.

For many farmers, the cost of organic certification can be prohibitive. But by offering reimbursement for certification-related expenses, the NOP recognizes the cost of regulation

and makes certification more affordable to farmers.

Connecticut organic producers and handlers can be reimbursed for a portion of their certification fee. Reimbursement will be 75% (up to \$750) of the certification cost. This year's approved cooperative agreement allows a maximum total of \$48,000 for producers and handlers. This program is administered on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Additional information about the program and application materials are available at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants).

**FARM VIABILITY GRANT PROGRAM**

Grant guidelines and applications for DoAg's Farm Viability Grant program are available online and must be submitted by November 20. The Farm Viability Grant can provide matching funds to Connecticut municipalities, groups of municipalities, regional councils of governments, and/or agricultural non-profit organizations for projects that foster agricultural viability. Please note this program may be limited by the availability of funding.

The maximum award under this program is \$49,999. Applicants must provide a 40% match through cash or in-kind services. Previously funded projects have included town-owned farm improvements, efforts related to farmland preservation, the purchase of processing equipment to increasing the availability of Connecticut Grown products year-round in schools, and a host of other efforts that foster agriculture viability. Grant guidelines and forms can be found at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants).



**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.

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

**Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.**

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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