

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Ned Lamont, Governor
Melody A. Currey, Acting Commissioner



Wednesday, January 16, 2019

AQUACULTURE LICENSING AND PERMITTING IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Shannon Kelly, Bureau of Aquaculture

Aquaculture by definition is the farming of fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic plants, algae, and other organisms.

The Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s Bureau of Aquaculture is the licensing/permitting agency for shellfish (hard clams, oysters, mussels) and algae seaweed (kelp) in Connecticut.

DoAg has always viewed the way shellfish growers in Connecticut manage their crops as farming because the ground is worked and monitored. The bottom is cleaned off prior to oysters being relayed onto it from another lot.

Oysters are moved to deeper, colder water to slow their growth. They are tumbled to produce a tougher shell and deeper cup. They are relayed to approved water for natural cleansing and can also be stockpiled for harvest at a later date.

Dried oyster shell—known as cultch—is put down to attract baby oysters that can then be moved to another site.

The Long Island Sound is a waterbody shared by many interests, including commercial/recreational fishing, recreational boating/sailing, kayaking,

scuba, snorkel, jet skiing, swimming, birding, and sightseeing.

Because all must be able to safely use, share, and enjoy this invaluable resource, there is regulatory oversight.

The use of any "structure" in the water column (i.e. bottom netting, bottom cage, hanging cage, floating bags, hatchery, upweller, or longline) requires an application to DoAg, which is reviewed by DoAg, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

A Certificate of Operations is needed from DoAg. Other permits may also be needed from DEEP and USACE before

work associated with any structure can begin.

Since 2000, when DoAg began keeping a database and actively tracking aquaculture projects, 39 entities (commercial companies, town shellfish commissions, schools, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, and DoAg) have applied for an Aquaculture Certificate to use primarily bottom cages, floating cages, upwellers, bottom netting, and hatcheries. Certificates have been issued to 35 entities.

Traditionally, hard clams and oysters have been grown on the bottom and harvested using dredges, relying on nature to produce enough product year after year.

Over time, and with innovation, the idea of growing shellfish from seed in a hatchery was developed to produce a more reliable supply of shellfish. In Connecticut there are currently three hatcheries producing seed oysters with several more in the planning stages.

Once the baby oysters/clams seed reach a certain size, they are moved out of the hatchery and into a system of individual cylinders, or silos, through

which ocean water is pumped, known as an upweller.

The upweller can be incorporated into/underneath a dock or moored alongside a floating dock. Having upwellers allows the company to purchase larger size seed, increasing the survival rate.

There are currently 12 companies permitted to have and use upwellers in Connecticut, with several more in the planning stages.

Because hard clams live in the mud, it is difficult to grow them in cages. However, they can be grown in the bottom under predator netting.

The netting is spread on

(continued on Page 3)



Kim Granbery of Leetes Island Oyster LLC. planting oyster shell. In late June to mid July oyster spawn swim for up to 14 days then go to the bottom and attach to clean oysters shell. Photo courtesy of Leetes Island Oyster LLC.

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.92	1.11
LARGE	.86	1.00
MEDIUM	.48	.61

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.84	1.95
LARGE	1.76	1.89
MEDIUM	1.25	1.35
SMALL	.84	.94

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	113.50	116.00
Choice 2-3	109.00	113.00
Select 2-3	104.00	108.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
High/Prime 2-3	few	84.00
Choice 2-3	ind.	81.00
Select 1-2	73.00	77.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4 individual	110.00	113.00
Choice 2-3	106.00	107.00
Select 1-2	n/a	n/a
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	43.50	49.00
boners 80-85% lean	44.00	49.50
lean 88-90% lean	33.00	39.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 85-125 lbs	65.00	80.00
No 2 85-110 lbs	45.00	65.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	n/a	n/a
90-110 lbs	190.00	215.00
110-130 lbs	180.00	220.00
150-200 lbs	155.00	190.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	110.00	130.00
120-160 lbs	90.00	110.00
160-200 lbs	85.00	110.00
200-300 lbs	80.00	100.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	n/a	n/a
40-60 lbs	145.00	160.00
60-80 lbs	165.00	190.00
80-100 lbs	180.00	215.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	195.00	230.00
130-180 lbs	225.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	n/a	n/a
100-150 lbs	260.00	285.00
150-250 lbs	345.00	360.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	40.00 80.00
	300-350 lbs	58.00 70.00
	350-400 lbs	59.00 70.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	35.00 54.00
	300-350 lbs	n/a n/a
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	12.00 36.00
	500-800 lbs	12.00 50.00
Boars		
	600-850 lbs	2.00 5.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, GHS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE, CRTLND, XFCY, 80	30.00	30.00
APPLE, CRTLND, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 80	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 88	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, FCY, 64	30.00	30.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, FCY, 72	65.00	65.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 80	31.00	31.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 100	26.00	26.00
APPLE, MAC, 125, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, MACOUN, XFCY, 80	38.00	38.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 100	22.00	22.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 125	18.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 138	18.00	19.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, 1/2 BU, L	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	20.00	22.00
TOMS, GHS, 25LBS, VINERIPPE, S-M	14.00	14.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	24.00	24.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 100	28.00	28.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 125	24.00	26.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
BRUSSEL SPROUTS, CA, 25 LB	36.00	40.00
CABBAGE, SVY, FL, 40 LB, M/L	18.00	22.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LB, M/L	36.00	36.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	14.00	17.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	24.00	24.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, GHS, CD, 12-4OZ	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	24.00	30.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 10 LB	25.00	28.00
MESCLUN MIX, AZ/CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, SHITAKE, 3 LB CTN	11.00	13.00
ONION, YELLOW, NY, 50 LB, M	15.00	16.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 20- 2 LB	20.00	22.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	26.00	26.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	28.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOE, 40 LB CRT	27.00	27.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, 45 LB, CRT, M-L	33.00	33.00
CUKE, CTN, 24S	35.00	35.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	37.00	37.00
MESCLUN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	9.50
PEPPERS, RED, 11 LB, CRT	28.00	28.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	28.00	28.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	32.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB, CRT	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ACORN, BU, CRT, M	24.00	24.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, BU, CRT, M	25.00	25.00
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB, CRT	36.00	36.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - January 14, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	20.00	25.00
76-90 lbs.	37.50	40.00
91-105 lbs.	55.00	70.00
106 lbs. & up	120.00	140.00
Farm Calves	155.00	200.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	75.00	125.00
Feeder Heifers	75.00	115.00
Beef Heifers	53.00	68.00
Feeder Steers	60.00	110.00
Beef Steers	75.00	89.00
Feeder Bulls	65.00	125.00
Beef Bulls	56.00	74.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	14.00	40.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	30.00	95.00
Sheep each	85.00	180.00
Lambs each	110.00	240.00
Goats each	165.00	302.50
Kid Goats each	130.00	270.00
Canners	up to	50.00
Cutters	51.00	55.00
Utility Grade Cows	56.00	60.00
Rabbits each	6.00	18.00
Chickens each	5.00	32.50
Ducks each	8.00	14.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. December 21.

ALFALFA/GRASS		
SUPREME	435.00	460.00
PREMIUM	335.00	395.00
GOOD	250.00	310.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	300.00	375.00
GOOD	230.00	300.00
FAIR	155.00	230.00
STRAW	180.00	250.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	800.00	1275.00
MEDIUM	550.00	850.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-9 MONTHS):		
MEDIUM FEW	500.00	625.00
SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):		
MEDIUM FEW	n/a	n/a
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME FEW	975.00	1150.00
APPROVED	600.00	1000.00
MEDIUM	400.00	750.00
BRED AND SHORT BRED HEIFERS (1-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED FEW	475.00	825.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
50-300 lbs		
APPROVED	n/a	n/a
MEDIUM	n/a	n/a
200-600 lbs		
APPROVED	210.00	375.00
MEDIUM	175.00	285.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	370.00	510.00
MEDIUM	235.00	375.00

(continued from Page 1)

the bottom similar to row covers and held to the bottom with rebar around the edges.



Oyster beds become visible when the Sherwood Mill Pond in Westport, CT is drained.
Photo courtesy of Hummock Island Shellfish LLC.

This prevents predator crabs from eating the baby clams. There are currently three companies permitted to use predator netting for growing hard clams in Connecticut.

Bottom cages, similar in size and shape to lobster cages, are used to grow and hold oysters. The use of cages produces a more desirable and reliable product.



Oysters growing in trays which are stacked and then suspended from longlines.
Photo courtesy of Tessa Getchis, Connecticut Sea Grant.

Using cages makes it easier to locate and handle the oysters and harvest the exact number needed to fill orders. The use of cages does, however, require a different boat design because dredges are not used.

An onboard crane system is needed to lift the cages on deck. The cages can either be emptied onsite, or the whole cage can be brought back to shore. Cages are set either individually with one buoy per cage or several on the same ground line with one buoy per line.

There are currently 23 companies permitted to use bottom cages to grow oysters in Connecticut.

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

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.

11-R. Promix 3.8 CuFt For Sale. BX \$27.45, Biofungicide \$28.35, Picked Up NESEED East Hartford, CT. 860-724-1240

WANTED

9-R. Used green house approximately 20 x 24 ft in good working condition. Please call 203-213-8833.



**CONNECTICUT
GROWN**
CTGrown.gov

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SEEKS PROPERTY AGENT 1

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has an opening in its Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation for a Property Agent 1 to assist with farmland preservation, restoration, land owner/seeker linking, and related work.

Applicants must meet the minimum qualifications specified in the posting and must apply no later than January 24, 2019, through the State of Connecticut's employment portal.

Please see <https://www.jobapscloud.com/CT/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=190102&R2=6585ES&R3=001> for more information and application instructions.

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL REGISTRATION OPEN

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) invites agricultural non-profits, agricultural producer associations, agricultural cooperatives, federal and state agricultural agencies, and Connecticut municipalities to register for Ag Day at the Capitol.

Ag Day will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the North Lobby and Hall of Flags at the Capitol in Hartford, CT. The snow date is March 21, 2019. Registration and payment to participate in Ag Day is due by Thursday, March 1, 2019.

CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer and Ag Journalism awards. For more information, contact Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or register at: <http://ctaginfocouncil.org/index.html>.

**FARM TRANSITION GRANT APPLICATIONS
DUE FEBRUARY 14, 2019**

Grant guidelines and applications for the Dept. of Agriculture's Farm Transition Grant program are available online and must be submitted by February 14, 2019. The program provides grants to up to \$49,999. Applicants must provide a one to one match. The purpose of the program is to strengthen the economic viability of Connecticut farmers and agricultural co-operatives. Funding priorities for 2019 include:

- On-farm improvements to comply with the Produce Safety Rule of the Food Safety Modernization Act
- Meeting food safety requirements for advanced positioning in the marketplace.
- Strengthening infrastructure to meet changing climate conditions.
- Projects that increase year-round availability of Connecticut Grown products while enhancing farm viability.
- Diversification of existing farm operations into new and emerging crops and/or product lines.

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/grants. Two opportunities to learn about the application process and how to write a project plan will be offered:

- **Thursday, January 31, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**
(Snow Date: Friday, February 1, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.)
CT Farm Bureau Association
78 Beaver Road, Wethersfield
RSVP to Jaime Smith: Jaime.Smith@ct.gov or 860-713-2559

- **Saturday, February 2, 10:15 – 11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.**
At the 3rd Annual Agricultural Re\$ource Fair
4-H Education Center at Auerfarm
158 Auer Farm Rd, Bloomfield, CT
RSVP and more info: <https://newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground/3rd-annual-agricultural-reource-fair/>
Questions regarding the Farm Transition Grant can be directed to Jaime Smith or found online at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

HARVEST NEW ENGLAND PRE-CONFERENCE TOUR & SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Attend the Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference & Trade Show in Sturbridge, MA, on February 27 and 28 and take your farm marketing to the next level. Experience 28 workshops on topics such as retail and wholesale marketing, agri-tourism, business planning, value-added product development, social media, and more.

A pre-conference farm tour on Tuesday, February 26 will provide the opportunity to see how farms and venues across the region are diversifying marketing opportunities to expand their customer base. Tour stops in Rhode Island and Massachusetts include Wright's Dairy and Bakery, Wachusett Mountain, Red Apple Farm and Hardwick Farm and Winery. The complete agenda and details can be found online.

A limited number of scholarships are available for growers to attend the conference. Apply by January 30 for consideration. Early bird registration ends January 30. Go to www.harvestnewengland.org/events for additional details.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CTGrown.gov

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 Crystal.Morris@ct.gov or call 860-713-2533.

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
www.CTGrown.gov
860-713-2500

Acting Commissioner	Melody A. Currey
Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation	Linda Piotrowicz 860-713-2503 linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov
Regional Market	Linda Piotrowicz 860-566-3699 linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov
Regulatory Services	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504 bruce.sherman@ct.gov
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505 mary.lis@ct.gov
Aquaculture	David Carey 203-874-2855 david.carey@ct.gov

**VOL. XCIX
No. 3
January 16, 2019**