

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Ned Lamont, Governor



Wednesday, January 9, 2019

DAIRY REGULATION IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Kurt Nieminen, Bureau of Regulatory Services

For a small state, Connecticut's dairy industry contributes substantially to the state's economy.

According to the most recent Economic Impacts of Connecticut's Agricultural Industry, Update 2015, released by UConn's Zwick Center for Food and Resource Policy, Connecticut's dairy manufacturing industry including fluid milk, butter, cheese, and ice cream contributes more than \$1 billion annually to the state's economy.

In this same report, the sale of dairy cattle and milk from the Connecticut farms contributed another \$120 million.

During the ten-year period between 2007 and 2017, milk production in Connecticut increased by 67 million pounds per year, or 19 percent. Currently there are a total of 108 operating dairy farms in Connecticut. These farms include cattle, goat, and sheep milk producers.

The mission of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s milk safety program in the Bureau of Regulatory Services is to ensure Connecticut consumers have a safe and wholesome supply of milk and milk products.

To fulfill this mission, DoAg works to ensure appropriate statutes and regulations are applied uniformly to the entire milk industry through a team of professional sanitarians. Entities regulated by the DoAg include producer dairies, milk processing plants, cheese manufacturers, and retail raw milk producers.

Connecticut's dairy regulations closely follow the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) used in all 50 states and the territories for the production and processing of Grade A milk.

The regulations in the PMO are developed through a cooperative program that includes the states, industry, and the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Additional state regulations cover the production and sale of retail raw milk.

Connecticut's inspection program starts at the farm with the cow. The

first thing needed for safe and wholesome milk is a healthy cow. Once the cow is milked, that milk must be handled in a manner that ensures its quality and cleanliness.

Agricultural inspectors routinely perform inspections on the farm to check that the milk handling equipment is clean and up to the task of keeping the milk safe.

It is important that the milk is stored in a clean storage tank and kept at an optimal temperature of 35 - 40 degrees F until it can be transported to a dairy processing facility.

Inspectors also check the water on the farm used to wash equipment, to ensure it comes from an approved source and meets potable water standards.

Another key component of a dairy farm inspection program is the storage and labeling of antimicrobials used to treat sick cattle.

Regulations require antimicrobial drugs be used according to label and veterinary directions, and that the milk from treated animals be withheld until the drug clears from the animal's system. All milk is tested for the presence of antimicrobials before it enters a dairy processing facility.

Raw milk is also tested for its quality or Standard Plate Count (SPC) as well as somatic cells. The SPC test is used to indicate possible cooling or equipment cleanliness issues somewhere in the milking process. The somatic cell test is an indicator of the health of the dairy herd. If either of these tests are above regulatory standards, inspectors perform follow-up investigations.

The sale of retail raw milk, and raw milk cheese manufactured from retail raw milk, is legal in Connecticut. Due to the risks associated with raw milk, the producing farms and manufacturing facilities must meet stricter product quality standards.

DoAg inspectors are also responsible for inspecting dairy and cheese manufacturing plants in Connecticut. Connecticut has large corporate owned



*Hibbard Hill Farm, Woodstock, CT.
Photo courtesy of Dairy Farmers of America.*

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.12	1.28
LARGE	1.06	1.20
MEDIUM	.60	.73

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.86	1.96
LARGE	1.77	1.89
MEDIUM	1.26	1.37
SMALL	.85	.96

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	111.00	113.00
Select 1-2	100.00	106.00
High Dressing	102.00	124.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prime 3-4	80.00	85.00
Choice 2-3	78.00	80.00
Select 1-2	72.00	78.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4 individual	85.00	85.00
Choice 2-3	79.00	80.00
Select 1-2	72.00	76.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	48.50	54.00
boners 80-85% lean	43.00	50.00
lean 88-90% lean	40.00	45.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 90-130 lbs	20.00	25.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	185.00	195.00
90-110 lbs	180.00	200.00
110-130 lbs	152.00	180.00
150-200 lbs	135.00	150.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	65.00	80.00
120-160 lbs	70.00	85.00
160-200 lbs	50.00	80.00
200-300 lbs	50.00	70.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	130.00	150.00
40-60 lbs	150.00	170.00
60-80 lbs	170.00	205.00
80-100 lbs	190.00	225.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	170.00	200.00
130-180 lbs	190.00	215.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	195.00	225.00
100-150 lbs	250.00	265.00
150-250 lbs	280.00	320.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	50.00 54.00
	300-350 lbs	53.00 58.00
	350-400 lbs	42.00 44.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	41.00 49.00
	300-350 lbs	41.00 49.00
	350-400 lbs	36.00 44.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	28.00 36.50
	500-900 lbs	30.00 41.00
Boars		
	300-400 lbs	7.00 10.00
	500-900 lbs	3.00 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	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, XFCY, 88	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, NG, LOOSE	18.00	18.00
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	30.00	30.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, NG, LOOSE	45.00	45.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 80	31.00	32.00
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, MAC, NG, LOOSE	18.00	18.00
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
CRANBERRIES, 24-12 OZ	6.00	8.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	20.00	22.00
TOMS, GHS, 25LBS, VINERIPE, S-M	22.00	22.00
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
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, M/L	26.00	30.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LB, M/L	30.00	35.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	12.00	12.00
KALE, TX, CTN, BNCH, 24	25.00	25.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, GHS, CD, 12-4OZ	26.00	26.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	24.00	30.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, CRN CUT, AZ, 10 LB	24.00	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	22.00	22.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, CA, BNCH, 24	30.00	30.00

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	30.00	30.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	30.00	30.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	34.00	34.00
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 - December 17, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	20.00	25.50
76-90 lbs.	32.50	35.00
91-105 lbs.	40.00	50.00
106 lbs. & up	55.00	65.00
Farm Calves	112.00	175.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	90.00	105.00
Feeder Heifers	85.00	150.00
Beef Heifers	75.00	97.50
Feeder Steers	85.00	190.00
Beef Steers	77.00	108.00
Feeder Bulls	70.00	190.00
Beef Bulls	62.00	78.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	1@	28.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	4@	25.00
Sheep each	160.00	250.00
Lambs each	170.00	215.00
Goats each	165.00	210.00
Kid Goats each	80.00	135.00
Canners	up to	56.00
Cutters	57.00	60.00
Utility Grade Cows	61.00	64.50
Rabbits each	5.00	40.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. December 21.

ALFALFA/GRASS		
SUPREME	460.00	540.00
PREMIUM	390.00	460.00
GOOD	290.00	340.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	285.00	370.00
GOOD	190.00	290.00
FAIR	155.00	205.00
STRAW	265.00	285.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	900.00	1250.00
MEDIUM	525.00	825.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-9 MONTHS):		
MEDIUM FEW	750.00	800.00
SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):		
MEDIUM FEW	675.00	800.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME FEW	1000.00	1150.00
APPROVED	700.00	1000.00
MEDIUM	425.00	675.00
BRED AND SHORT BRED HEIFERS (1-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED FEW	550.00	725.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
50-300 lbs		
APPROVED FEW	85.00	210.00
MEDIUM FEW	25.00	50.00
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	250.00	275.00
MEDIUM	175.00	175.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	450.00	460.00
MEDIUM	200.00	325.00

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facilities as well as smaller farmstead processing facilities.

Manufacturing/processing facilities are inspected quarterly. In addition to the PMO, many of these facilities also have to comply with the Preventive Controls rules of the federal Food, Safety and Modernization act (FSMA). These rules include a having a food safety plan for the facility and certain record keeping requirements.

DoAg has been working with the UConn Cooperative Extension system to provide Preventive Controls qualified individual training.

Even if a facility is "exempt" by having less than \$1,000,000 per year in sales of all food, DoAg encourages all milk processors and cheese manufacturers to attend the training.

The FDA has begun inspecting these exempt facilities (Grade A milk and milk products, non-Grade A milk and milk products, and manufactured products) for compliance with FSMA's current good manufacturing practices rule and preventive controls rule.

Dairy processing primarily relies on pasteurization to ensure the safety of milk and milk products. Pasteurization is a process that destroys harmful bacteria by heating the milk to a specific temperature for a set period of time.

Depending on the product and type of pasteurizer being used, there are standards for both the temperature and amount of time that milk is pasteurized in order for it to be deemed safe.

Inspections of milk processors and cheese manufacturers includes periodic verification of process controls. Inspectors must receive specialized training to verify that pasteurization equipment is properly designed and functioning.



DoAg inspectors also obtain finished product samples from each dairy plant monthly. Testing is conducted at the Connecticut Department of Public Health laboratory in Rocky Hill.

Connecticut dairy farmers strive to produce wholesome milk and milk products that you and your family can feel good about eating.

The regulations concerning the production and processing of milk and milk products in the U.S. are some of the strictest in the industrialized world. The overwhelming evidence is that the milk and milk products produced and processed in the U.S. are the safest in the world.

We can and should be proud of what we have accomplished together as farmers, processors, and government agencies; all working together to ensure the milk you drink and supply to the country is safe and of the highest quality.

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.

8-R. Round bales for sale. 1st cutting bales and 2nd cutting wrapped silage. Woodbury. Delivery available. 203-266-4067.

WANTED

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

CONNECTICUT GROWN



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.

DOAG TO HOST FARM-TO-SCHOOL CONFERENCE

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is hosting the Connecticut Farm-to-School Conference, "Wholesale Readiness and Culinary Trainings: Making Connections Across the Sectors."

Producers, food service professionals, and others interested in farm-to-school initiatives are invited for a full day of trainings, panel discussion, educational sessions, and networking.

The conference will be held Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m. at the Hartford Sheraton South, 100 Capital Blvd, Rocky Hill, CT.

To register as an attendee, or apply for an exhibit space visit www.cognitofrms.com/CTDepartmentOfAgriculture/_2019ConnecticutFarmtoSchoolConference.

The registration fee is \$40 per person which includes breakfast, lunch and all materials. For additional information regarding exhibiting, registration, and scholarships contact Erin Windham at 860-713-2543 or Erin.Windham@ct.gov.

Funding for this conference is provided by a Farm-to-School Grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service to train producers and food service professionals on farm-to-school practices.

This annual grant program provides funding to support the use of locally produced food in schools. This project has been funded in part with federal funds from USDA. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of USDA, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

BEDDING PLANTS PROGRAM FOR GREENHOUSE GROWERS

The UConn Extension is offering an educational program featuring topics of interest to those who produce spring ornamental crops in the greenhouse. This program will be offered at the following locations on two separate dates:

- January 29, 2019 from 9:30 to 2:30 at the Litchfield County Extension Center, 843 University Drive in Torrington, CT.
- February 14, 2019 from 9:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Tolland County Extension Office, 24 Hyde Avenue in Vernon, CT.

The Bedding Plant Program for Greenhouse Growers will provide the latest information on insect and disease management, proper watering techniques, mixing pesticide formulations, and networking with fellow growers. The program will feature the following topics and speakers:

- Watering: Air and Water Balance in the Root-Zone, Rosa Raudales, Greenhouse Extension Specialist, UConn Storrs
- Root Rots, Mildews, and Blights, Dr. Yonghao Li, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, CT
- Update on Managing Insects and Mites, Leanne Pundt, Extension Educator, UConn Extension
- Pesticide Formulations, Candace Bartholomew, Pesticide Safety Educator, UConn Extension

For more information go to <http://ipm.uconn.edu/documents/raw2/1428/2019Bedding%20Plantsspringprogramfinal.pdf> or contact Leanne Pundt at 860-626-6855, or leanne.pundt@uconn.edu.

The \$25 registration fee includes handouts and lunch. Four pesticide recertification credits are available.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



CTGrown.gov

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