

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Ned Lamont, Governor
Bryan P. Hurlburt, Commissioner



Wednesday, June 5, 2019

CELEBRATE JUNE DAIRY MONTH

Rebecca Eddy Murphy, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

June is National Dairy Month—a celebration of the delicious and nutritious dairy foods produced by dairy farm families throughout Connecticut.

Connecticut is home to nearly 100 licensed dairy producers milking more than 20,000 head of dairy cattle, which produce 427 million pounds of milk annually. Milk and dairy products have a market value of \$81 million dollars, ranking second in the state's leading agricultural products.

Dairy is a vital component of Connecticut's agricultural landscape. Approximately 72,000 acres are utilized as cropland to produce hay and corn to be used as feed for dairy cattle. These farmlands contribute to the quality of life and open space for all residents of the state to enjoy.

As part of June Dairy Month, the Connecticut Milk Promotion Board will be a presenting sponsor at the Hartford Yard Goats, a minor league baseball team, for the second year in a row. In addition to offering samples of Guida's chocolate milk and Cabot Creamery Co-operative cheddar cheese, dairy farmers will be speaking with game attendees about life on the farm. And, for those who have never had the opportunity to milk a cow in real life, Daphne, a mechanical cow will be present for a simulated experience.

"Last year's event was a resounding success offering lively interaction with game attendees. The education and outreach efforts funded by the Milk Promotion Board highlight the significant contributions made by dairy farm families and raises their profile in the eyes of consumers," said Jim Stearns, vice chair of the Connecticut Milk Promotion Board.

The Connecticut Milk Promotion Board also aids in consumer education through CTDairy.org where visitors are able to put a face to their farmers; learn about cow-care practices; receive facts about milk and

value-added dairy products; and explore creative, delicious ways to incorporate dairy into their diet.

A mobile device-compatible interactive map helps visitors locate a dairy farm with a retail location to purchase Connecticut Grown milk, cheese, yogurt, butter, or ice cream. Other site features include a calendar of upcoming events to help plan a trip to a local dairy farm hosting a tour.

Dairy Does a Body Good

Dairy farm families pride themselves on producing wholesome dairy food that not only helps their families grow up strong and healthy, but their neighbors as well. Just one eight ounce glass of milk provides nine essential nutrients including calcium, potassium, and vitamin D.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reinforced the importance of consuming three daily servings of dairy foods like milk and cheese in the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Dairy's unique combination of nutrients play a key role in preventing heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes, and osteoporosis.

Knowing the significant benefits of dairy in one's diet, especially when it comes to building strong bones and teeth in children, Connecticut dairy farm families give back through a partnership with the New England Dairy and Food Council.

Over the past two school years, Connecticut's dairy farm families have contributed more than \$120,000 to support school breakfast and lunch programs through Fuel Up to Play 60. Projects have included installing hot chocolate milk dispensers, smoothie makers, and yogurt bars to encourage consumption of dairy while providing children the opportunity to flourish, both academically and physically.



The Connecticut Milk Promotion Board aids in consumer education through outreach events where farmers interact with game attendees offering samples of dairy products and discussing on-farm practices.

(continued on Page 3)

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.48	.64
LARGE	.42	.56
MEDIUM	.40	.53

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.06	1.49
LARGE	.97	1.39
MEDIUM	.78	.88
SMALL	.69	.79

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Choice 2-3	114.00	119.50
Select 2-3	108.00	117.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Choice and Prime 2-3	111.00	118.50
Choice 2-3	101.00	118.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	55.00	69.50
boners 80-85% lean	50.00	68.00
lean 88-90% lean	40.00	64.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 100-108 lbs	70.00	195.00
No 2 90-99 lbs	30.00	172.00
No 2 100-108 lbs	50.00	167.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-88 lbs	192.00	217.00
90-97 lbs	195.00	225.00
100-140 lbs	185.00	210.00
Choice 1-2		
50-59 lbs	187.00	220.00
60-65 lbs	185.00	210.00
70-79 lbs	175.00	200.00
80-89 lbs	175.00	197.00
Choice 2-3		
90-99 lbs	170.00	202.00
100-133 lbs	170.00	195.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Choice 2-3		
157-180 lbs	110.00	185.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight		
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-49 lbs	155.00	170.00
50-59 lbs	180.00	190.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
100-149 lbs	200.00	255.00
150-199 lbs	235.00	260.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
110-149 lbs	240.00	290.00
150-199 lbs	280.00	355.00
200-225 lbs	340.00	355.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
BARROWS AND GILTS		
US 1-2	224-298 lbs	48.00 60.00
	300-310 lbs	50.00 54.00
US 2-3	220-298 lbs	41.00 53.00
	305-390 lbs	41.00 48.50
SOWS		
US 1-2	360-396 lbs	35.00 36.00
	457-495 lbs	41.00 45.00
	503-590 lbs	42.00 47.00
SOWS		
US 2	325-355 lbs	20.00 22.00

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, MAC, XFCY, 72	28.00	32.00
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, RED DEL, XFCY, 80	24.00	24.00
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	22.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	27.00	27.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LB, LSE, M	32.00	36.00
PARSNIPS, 18 1-LB BAG, M	28.00	34.00
RHUBARB, 20 LBS, CRT, L	35.00	36.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	24.00	24.00
TOMS, GHS, ON VINE, 11 LB	14.00	14.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 12 10-OZ	24.00	25.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, NY, 125, #1	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, NY, 138, #1	18.00	18.00
ASPARAGUS, NJ, 28 LB, BNCH	65.00	65.00
BEETS, RED, NJ, 12S, BNCH	18.00	20.00
BEETS, GOLD, NJ, 12S, BNCH	24.00	24.00
BLACKBERRIES, GA, 12-6 OZ.	15.00	15.00
BLUEBERRIES, GA, 12-1 PT	30.00	32.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 1 3/4 BU	20.00	20.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, CA, 14'S	20.00	25.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NY, 50 LB	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, RED, GA, 50 LB, M/L	26.00	30.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, GA, 40 LB, M/L	24.00	26.00
CABBAGE, NAPA, GA, 50 LB	24.00	25.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	22.00	24.00
CAULIFLOWER, CA, 12's	16.00	22.00
COLLARDS, NJ, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	16.00	16.00
CUCUMBER, GA, 1 1/9 BU, MED	17.00	22.00
CUKE, PICKLES, GA, 150-200	34.00	36.00
EGGPLANT, GA, 1 1/9 BU, MED	20.00	26.00
ESCAROLE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 24'S	16.00	19.00
FIDDLE HEADS, MA, PER POUND	3.00	3.75
KALE, NJ, CTN, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	16.00	16.00
KALE, TUSCAN, NJ, 1 3/5 BU, 12S	16.00	16.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, NJ, 24S	15.00	15.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, NJ, 24S	17.00	17.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, NJ, 24S	17.00	17.00
LETTUCE, ROMAINE, NJ, 24S	17.00	18.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, SHITAKE, 3 LB	14.00	16.00
ONION, GREEN LEEK, CA, 12S	17.00	22.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, NJ, CTN, 60'S	28.00	30.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, NJ, CTN, 60'S	28.00	34.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, NJ, 1 1/9 BU	66.00	70.00
RADISHES, NJ, CRT, BNCH, 24S	20.00	22.00
SPINACH, SAV, NJ, 1.3 BU, LSE	20.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
SQUASH, ZUC, NJ, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, GA, 1/2 BU, S	22.00	22.00
SWEET POTATOES, NC, 40 LB	20.00	32.00
SWISS CHARD, RED, CA, 24's	18.00	18.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - June 3, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	50.00
76-90 lbs.	55.00	60.00
91-105 lbs.	65.00	70.00
106 lbs. & up	72.50	75.00
Farm Calves	77.50	100.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	75.00	130.00
Feeder Heifers	70.00	75.00
Beef Heifers	74.00	80.00
Feeder Steers	85.00	100.00
Beef Steers	75.00	110.00
Feeder Bulls	75.00	100.00
Beef Bulls	65.00	88.00
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	75.00	125.00
Lambs each	80.00	220.00
Goats each	125.00	415.00
Kid Goats each	40.00	90.00
Canners	up to	64.00
Cutters	65.00	69.00
Utility Grade Cows	70.00	74.00
Rabbits each	7.00	25.00
Chickens each	8.00	20.00
Ducks each	4.00	20.00
Pigeons each	7.00	9.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH/MILKING COWS		
APPROVED	1025.00	1375.00
MEDIUM	750.00	1100.00
BRED COWS:		
APPROVED	825.00	1125.00
BRED HEIFERS:		
APPROVED	825.00	1175.00
SPRINGER HEIFERS:		
SUPREME	1250.00	1400.00
APPROVED	975.00	1250.00
OPEN HEIFERS		
APPROVED	650.00	710.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. June 4, 2019

GRASS HAYS		
FAIR	180.00	210.00
STRAW	180.00	180.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

BLUEBERRIES, CA, 12-6 OZ	20.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT	26.00	26.00
CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT	34.00	38.00
CARROTS, CA, 25 LB LOOSE	23.00	24.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	26.00	26.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LB	9.50	10.00
SQUASH, ZUC, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SQUASH, YEL, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
STRAWBERRIES, CA, 8-1 LB	20.00	20.00
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB	35.00	42.00

*(continued from Page 1)***Future of Dairy**

As the world changes, dairy farmers are adopting new technology to be more efficient and improve cow care while remaining viable and sustainable into the future.

Robots are being utilized to milk cows and push up feed. Electronic collars, similar to Fitbits, are used to monitor the activity of each cow—from how much she eats and drinks to how much time she spends laying down. All crucial to identifying any potential issues with a cow to ensure optimum health.

Investments such as these enable producers to better control their input costs, which is critically important during challenging times such as these when low prices for the products they sell threaten their existence.



Dairy farmers are adopting new technology to increase efficiencies, improve cow care, and remain sustainable into the future.

Earlier this week at the Northeast Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NEASDA) annual meeting in Brewster, MA, a dairy roundtable discussion was held to address the state of the industry. Panelists included Catherine de Ronde, AgriMark Dairy Cooperative economist and Bob Gray, agricultural policy advisor with the State's Ratification Committee.

As the number of dairies decreases nationally, support from state and federal programs are essential for milk producers. Connecticut's dairy sustainability grant helps bridge the difference between the minimum sustainable cost of production and the price producers are paid for fluid milk. The 2018 Farm Bill incorporates Dairy Revenue Protection (DRP), an insurance policy, and Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC), a voluntary risk management program, for dairy producers.

Discussion ensued over how to support supply/growth management nationally, international trade tariffs, and the Helping Labor Personnel (HELP) Farms Act (H.R. 2801) to provide a short-term, one-time fix to help the non-seasonal agriculture workforce while talks continue on a rule to allow H-2A visas to be granted on an annual basis rather than seasonal.

"It's imperative that we continue providing support for Connecticut's dairy farm families through our various programs including our dairy support program, farmland preservation, and transition grants in order to maintain a critical mass. As a small state a vibrant dairy industry is crucial to the entire agricultural economy," said Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner, Bryan P. Hurlburt.

History of June Dairy Month

In 1937, grocer organizations designated June as National Milk Month to promote drinking milk. By 1939, June became known as National Dairy Month to celebrate all things dairy, including the significant contributions made by dairy farm families on a local and global scale.

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 Zyskowski today at 203-444-6553

27-R. Pollination services for small scale farms. Call Hilltop Apiaries for information at 860-408-9039

32-R. 20 KW Genset, 4 cylinder engine propane, skid mounted full cabinet, runs good \$1,200. Call 203-457-1949. Leave message

33-R. Potting soil, Berger BM1. 5 pallets available, 3.8 cu ft bags. Dzen Brothers Farm 860-648-1355

34-R. Saanen dairy goats and boar buck. Good milk lines. Very good confirmation. 860-564-3615.

35-R. Former garden shop and greenhouse, retail store, house, storage barn. 4 acres. Busy road Route 194. \$399,999. 860-648-9017

37. Ford 3000, Honda 2X4, Craftsman 19 HP 42' mower, Ford 2 row corn planter, Misc. trailers, carts, workbench, hay-trailer, 3PT woodchipper, 7' scraperblade, 3PT Gang harrow, Bog Harrow, Tractor tires 9.5X24, Morelli Winepress, Assortment of woodstoves, Lincoln Welder, Air compressor, Cutting torch with tanks and cart, Metal cabinets, Brinkman grill, Craftsman miter saw, ICB 350 gal tanks, Antique hayrake, 3Pt potato planter, sprayer, Spike for round bales, 3pt rear scoop, 6' Bushhog mower, Tires 245 75 16, Lawn rollers, Chicken feeders and waterers, Misc. other items. 860-918-8515

WANTED

6-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

NRCS CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications for the National Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Program. The program aims to spark the development and adoption of cutting-edge conservation technologies and approaches for farmers and other landowners. National CIG applications are due July 30, 2019.

The 2019 CIG priorities are: increasing the pace and scale of conservation adoption, water quantity, pollinator habitat and urban agriculture. NRCS is also offering statewide CIG competitions (award maximum of \$75,000) in Connecticut. Projects must be within the state and may be area-based or statewide in scope.

Applications for Connecticut's state CIG are due June 14, 2019. For more information go to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ct/programs/financial/cig>.

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SEEKS STATE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS**

The Department of Agriculture has openings for two State Animal Control Officers in its Bureau of Regulatory Services. Applicants must meet the minimum qualifications specified in the posting and must apply no later than June 5, 2019, through the State of Connecticut's employment portal.

In this position you will be accountable for independently performing a full range of tasks in the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to the control of domestic, companion and exotic animals, and animal cruelty laws.

For more information go to <https://www.jobapscloud.com/CT/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=190517&R2=1405PS&R3=001>.

NRCS EQIP/AMA APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 21, 2019

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced a third opportunity to sign-up for FY2019 conservation program funding.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program for those engaged in livestock, forestry, or agricultural production – including organics. It offers financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. It also provides payments for implementing practices that have a positive environmental impact, while protecting long-term production and sustainability. Eligible crop production includes, but is not limited to, field-grown ornamentals, fruits, orchards, plant materials in greenhouses, row crops, vegetables, and vineyards.

The Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to voluntarily address issues such as water management, water quality, and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operations. Producers may construct/improve water management structures or irrigation structures or mitigate risk through production diversification or resource conservation practices including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming.

Applications are accepted year-round; however, to be eligible for current year funding you must ensure your application is submitted to your local NRCS office by June 21, 2019.

For more information visit <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ct/programs/financial/> or contact your local USDA Service Center: Danielson 860-779-0557; Hamden 203-287-8038; Norwich 860-887-3604; Torrington 860-626-8852; Windsor 860-688-7725.

DOAG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FARMERS' MARKET AT THE REGIONAL MARKET

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting applications for the Farmers' Market at the Regional Market. The 2019 farmers' market season runs from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Stall use agreements are available for periods of three months up to one year.

Applications and information can be found on DoAg's website at https://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/regional_market/2018/Farmers_Market_Application_2019.pdf. For more information call 860-713-2543 or email Erin.Windham@ct.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.

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**VOL. XCIX
No. 23
June 5, 2019**