

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, May 22, 2019

2019 ISSUE OF CONNECTICUT GROWN MAGAZINE NOW AVAILABLE *Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation*

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is pleased to release the third annual edition of *Connecticut Grown* magazine, which showcases the growth and evolution of agriculture.

The magazine, which is funded through sales of advertisements that appear in it, is produced by DoAg in collaboration with Farm Flavor Media, a division of Journal Communications Inc., which produces similar publications for many states across the country showcasing the positive contributions of agriculture.

Distribution to a variety of agricultural organizations and businesses, as well as municipal libraries, town halls, and other outlets ensures that these stories reach a wide audience.

To request copies of the magazine please call 860-713-2503 or email Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov. The publication is also available online at www.ctagriculture.com.

Agriculture is a \$4 billion industry in our state, and we have handpicked a few stories that highlight our hardworking farm families, their passion for continually improving the farm, adapting and incorporating new scientific knowledge, and the changing demographics on the farm. We also reveal the challenges farmers overcome, how they do it, and how the state has assisted in the growth of the industry.

Following are excerpts from some of the magazine's articles:



The cover of the 2019 edition of Connecticut Grown Magazine features Jennifer Syme (far right) who runs Syme Family Farm in Broad Brook with her husband and daughters.

CONNECTICUT WOMEN LEAD THEIR FAMILY FARMS INTO THE FUTURE

Jennifer Syme of Broad Brook probably doesn't look like the stereotypical image that comes to mind for the average consumer when they think of a farmer.

But the 46-year-old wife and mother of two is the co-owner and operator of Syme Family Farm, a diverse business that grows and sells vegetable and herb plants, cut flowers, hanging baskets, mums, pumpkins, Christmas trees, wreaths and fresh eggs from their 100 laying hens. Her husband, Bill, works full time off the farm.

Syme is one of many Connecticut women who are leaders on the farm in various sectors of agriculture. Nationally speaking, one in three farm operators today is female.

HELP FOR HEMP - NEW ASSOCIATION STRIVES TO BUILD HEMP INDUSTRY

A brand-new association aims to revitalize Connecticut's rural economy with

hemp, a crop now allowed to be grown under federal law that had been previously prohibited in the United States for more than 70 years. To fully legalize cultivation, the state needs to pass legislation allowing for the growing of hemp and submit an enforcement plan to the USDA. That process is underway.

(continued on Page 3)

HEMP GROWER AND PROCESSOR INFO MEETINGS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture will be hosting informational meetings for potential growers and processors of hemp:

- **May 23, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Norwich UConn Extension Office**
- **May 29, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Torrington UConn Extension Office**

During this meeting a review of the applications and license agreements, guidance on compliance with the new law, and reporting forms will be reviewed. RSVP's are not required. Questions can be directed to 860-713-2502 or AGR.Hemp@ct.gov. Additional information on the Connecticut Hemp Research Pilot Program can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/hemp.

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	112.50	118.50
Select 1-2	103.00	104.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	61.00	68.00
boners 80-85% lean	58.00	66.00
lean 88-90% lean	53.00	57.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 100-105 lbs	120.00	142.00
No 2 90-95 lbs	90.00	117.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-89 lbs	227.00	250.00
90-98 lbs	220.00	245.00
100-128 lbs	225.00	260.00
155-170 lbs	170.00	185.00
Choice 1-2		
50-58 lbs	210.00	255.00
60-68 lbs	215.00	260.00
70-79 lbs	210.00	240.00
80-89 lbs	205.00	235.00
Choice 2-3		
90-99 lbs	205.00	235.00
100-145 lbs	180.00	222.00
182-188 lbs	152.00	160.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Choice 2-3		
100-145 lbs	120.00	130.00
153-180 lbs	100.00	135.00
200-238 lbs	100.00	132.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
35-39 lbs	135.00	160.00
40-49 lbs	165.00	185.00
50-59 lbs	285.00	220.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
90-99 lbs	200.00	230.00
100-149 lbs	215.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
115-149 lbs	275.00	335.00
165-199 lbs	325.00	385.00
200-249 lbs	365.00	430.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
BARROWS AND GILTS		
U.S. 1	220-298 lbs	61.00 66.00
	300-341 lbs	70.00 80.00
U.S. 2	230-281 lbs	47.00 52.00
	300-388 lbs	53.00 61.00
Sows, US 1-2		
	425-455 lbs	50.00 57.00
	502-567 lbs	44.00 62.50
	626-665 lbs	55.00 60.00

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, 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	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1	18.00	18.00
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	30.00	32.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	25.00	25.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB	24.00	24.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
BLUEBERRIES, GA, 12-1 PT	24.00	25.00
BOK CHOY, BABY, NJ, 1.35 BU	12.00	12.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, CA, 14'S	23.00	27.00
CABBAGE, NAPA, FL, 1 7/8 BU	26.00	28.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NY, 50 LB	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LB, M/L	22.00	26.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, FL, 40 LB, M/L	18.00	24.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	22.00	26.00
CAULIFLOWER, CA, 12's	36.00	40.00
COLLARDS, NJ, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	15.00	15.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	7.00	8.00
ESCAROLE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 24'S	18.00	18.00
KALE, NJ, CTN, 12'S	17.00	17.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, NJ, 24S	15.00	15.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, NJ, 24S	17.00	17.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, NJ, 24S	16.00	17.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, PORTABELLA, 5 LB	9.00	10.50
ONION, GREEN LEEK, CA, 12S	17.00	21.00
RADISHES, NJ, CRT, BNCH, 24S	16.00	16.00
SPINACH, SAV, NJ, 1.3 BU, LSE	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, ZUCCHINI, FL, 1/2 BU, S	10.00	14.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, GA, 1/2 BU, S	16.00	18.00
SWEET POTATOES, NC, 40 LB	27.00	30.00
SWISS CHARD, RED, CA, 24's	18.00	18.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT	26.00	26.00
CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT	34.00	34.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	16.00	16.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	26.00	26.00
MESCLUN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	10.00
PEPPERS, RED, 11 LB, CRT	30.00	30.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	33.00	33.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	33.00	33.00
SPINACH, FLAT, 4 LB, CRT	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ZUCCHINI, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB, CRT	35.00	40.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - May 20, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	25.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	42.50
76-90 lbs.	47.50	52.50
91-105 lbs.	57.50	67.50
106 lbs. & up	87.50	95.00
Farm Calves	100.00	140.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	80.00	135.00
Feeder Heifers	75.00	107.50
Beef Heifers	69.50	90.00
Feeder Steers	65.00	100.00
Beef Steers	65.00	95.00
Feeder Bulls	75.00	112.50
Beef Bulls	75.50	125.00
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	80.00	170.00
Lambs each	127.50	270.00
Goats each	150.00	290.00
Kid Goats each	122.50	145.00
Canners	up to	63.50
Cutters	64.00	69.00
Utility Grade Cows	70.00	74.00
Rabbits each	4.00	10.00
Chickens each	5.00	55.00
Ducks each	4.00	10.00
Roosters each	10.00	25.00

Auction open Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
SUPREME	1375.00	1450.00
APPROVED	1000.00	1200.00
MEDIUM	600.00	875.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1300.00	1500.00
APPROVED	800.00	1250.00
MEDIUM	575.00	825.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1275.00	1500.00
APPROVED	800.00	1200.00
MEDIUM	575.00	800.00
SPRINGING COWS		
APPROVED	950.00	1125.00
MEDIUM	625.00	925.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
500-599 lbs		
APPROVED	300.00	375.00
MEDIUM	200.00	285.00
620-675 lbs		
APPROVED	400.00	560.00
MEDIUM	300.00	375.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. May 17, 2019

ALFALFA/GRASS		
GOOD	340.00	390.00
FAIR	175.00	240.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	400.00	410.00
GOOD	280.00	310.00
FAIR	165.00	260.00
STRAW	260.00	300.00

(continued from Page 1)

A NEW CROP OF FARMERS

Yoko Takemura and her husband earned nonagricultural degrees and didn't grow up with farming backgrounds. Despite this, the couple will soon be doubling the size of their very own vegetable farm, which they established with the support of programs focused on helping Connecticut's beginning farmers.

UConn Extension Solid Ground Farmer Training guided them in everything from cover cropping and high tunnels to bookkeeping. Farm tours with the Bionutrient Food Association gave them a firsthand look at practices that could be applied to their farm. Farmer networking events and advocacy work through the New CT Farmer Alliance helped the couple find the resources they needed to start their farm.

THE THIMBLE ISLANDS INITIATIVE IS EXPANDING CONNECTICUT'S SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY

Jonathan Waters grew up watching the oyster boats off the coast of Connecticut.

"I was bit by the bug early on," he says. In 1985, he started his own shellfish business harvesting 800 acres annually. After 20 years, he decided to semi-retire, selling off ground and observing as it changed hands before ultimately being acquired by DoAg.

In 2014, a complex deal to purchase the rights to cultivate and harvest 900 acres of shellfish franchise ground situated between the Thimble Islands and the coast of Branford from a private citizen was finalized by DoAg. This opened the door to foster development of new commercial aquaculture enterprises while increasing public awareness and support for local and sustainable aquaculture and public stewardship of the environment.

DOAG WORKS WITH PARTNERS TO PROTECT THE LEGACY OF THE LAND

Bud Wright wanted to preserve his 34-acre farm in Bridgewater in honor of his late wife, Maureen. "We wanted to lead by example," Wright says. "We believed in farming and passing down the farm to the next generation."

Wright partnered with the Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust and applied for permanent protection of his farmland through DoAg's Farmland Preservation Program. The partnership was a success, and DoAg purchased the development rights of Wright's Comanche Hill Farm on July 20, 2018.

UConn DEVELOPS NEW METHODS TO MANAGE SCHOOL TURF

An even field with manicured grass is essential for a fast-paced sporting event, but the health and safety of the players is no game. When a new law limited methods for managing turf on school athletic fields and landscapes, researchers responded with new options to keep youth at play on quality turf.

In 2010, the state of Connecticut banned the use of most lawn care pesticides at public and private schools serving eighth grade students and younger. That left turf managers without some of their usual methods for protecting turf from invasive weeds, diseases and insects.

FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT

The future of agriculture is in capable hands with the next generation of farmers. Winner of the 2018 Outstanding Young Farmer award, Lars Demander is the eighth generation of his family to farm Clover Nook Farm in Bethany, and he is largely responsible for the business's recent growth and expansion.

After earning his master's degree in agricultural and resource economics, Demander returned to his family's century farm with a keen interest in educating the local community on agricultural practices that are often misunderstood – including terms like GMOs, organic farming and animal welfare.

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

36. Female goat kids. 2 months old. Saanen/Boer cross. \$200. Moosup. 860-564-3615 or 860-564-5908

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

AG JOB CONNECTION

31-R. Hop yard in Morris looks for part-time help, people who enjoy back-breaking labor, repetition and sweat. Work includes training, pruning, weeding, maintenance. Hourly pay. Available for two-plus weekdays per week? Contact allyrh@ct-hops.com

GREENHOUSE BIOLOGICAL CONTROL CONFERENCE

Growers of greenhouse crops are invited to learn more about planning and forecasting for success with biological controls, proper identification of aphids and thrips, biological controls at DS Cole, supplemental food and their applications, and grower case studies.

The conference will be held June 19, 2019 at the Jones Auditorium at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington St, New Haven, CT. Five pesticide recertification credits available. The fee for this conference is \$25. The registration deadline is June 14, 2019. To register contact Leanne Pundt at 860-626-6855 or leanne.pundt@uconn.edu.

**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.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
www.CTGrown.gov
860-713-2500

- | | |
|---|--|
| Commissioner
bryan.hurlburt@ct.gov | Bryan P. Hurlburt
860-713-2501 |
| Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation
linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov | Linda Piotrowicz
860-713-2503 |
| Regional Market
linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov | Linda Piotrowicz
860-566-3699 |
| Regulatory Services
bruce.sherman@ct.gov | Dr. Bruce Sherman
860-713-2504 |
| State Veterinarian
mary.lis@ct.gov | Dr. Mary J. Lis
860-713-2505 |
| Aquaculture
david.carey@ct.gov | David Carey
203-874-2855 |

**VOL. XCIX
No. 21
May 22, 2019**