

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, October 30, 2019

HEMP HARVEST AND UPDATE

Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

The first year of growing hemp in Connecticut has been a success, with additional growth expected in this exciting new industry for years to come.

Legislation authorizing the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) to establish and operate a hemp research pilot program was signed by Governor Ned Lamont on May 9, 2019 - just in time for Connecticut hemp growers to plant for the 2019 growing season.

October traditionally brings the end of the growing season to Connecticut, and with it comes hemp harvest. Growers have been busy harvesting and drying their first hemp crops across the state.

"Harvest was very good," said Joe DeFrancesco III of J. DeFrancesco & Son, Inc. who grew about three-and-a half acres of hemp in Northford. "The plants did extremely well for me."

"It was an amazing harvest this year," said Mike Goodenough of D & G Agricultural Technologies in Eastford. Mike grew his own plants and provided assistance with seed sourcing and harvesting for other Connecticut hemp growers this year.

Mike said this year was exceptional in terms of moisture, temperature, and sunlight for growing outdoor hemp and cautions farmers to be aware that not every year will have such favorable conditions.

"Every season is very different," said Mike. "This was a good year, so be ready."

By mid-October, approximately 60% of growers had submitted their pre-harvest samples and started the harvest process. Pre-harvest samples are required to

demonstrate the level of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in the plant is less than 0.3% by dry weight.

Mike said that of the 13 growers that he worked with this year only one acre came out "hot"—with THC levels above 0.3% by dry weight. Testing multiple times prior to harvest may help growers avoid being surprised by high levels of THC on the official pre-harvest sample.

In its first year, DoAg's Connecticut Hemp Research Pilot Program licensed 95 agricultural businesses to grow hemp covering more than 345 acres.

Most growers started out small, with hopes of increasing the amount grown next year.

It has been a learning year for many licensed hemp growers in the state. A few growers have previous experience growing hemp in other states, but for most Connecticut licensed hemp growers, it's their first time growing the crop, which hasn't been legally cultivated in the state since 1937.

A few of the problems encountered in the first year include theft of plants, sourcing of certified seed, clones or propagules; as well as plant disease and pest resistance.

In September, DoAg received three reported incidents of theft from licensed hemp growers in Simsbury, North Stonington, and Redding, Connecticut. Additional hemp thefts have been reported in Easton, East Windsor, and New Milford.

DoAg reminds the public that while hemp plants look like marijuana, hemp is not an intoxicant. The 2018 Farm Bill redefines hemp as



Connecticut Grown hemp.

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a raw agricultural commodity provided the THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) content is not more than 0.3% on a dry matter basis. THC is the psychoactive compound found in cannabis plants.

Growers who experience a theft or disturbance of plants are required to report to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture by contacting the agency at 860-713-2502 or AGR.Hemp@ct.gov, as well as the local police department.

Sourcing of hemp seeds was a problem for many growers early in the season. An earlier start next season should provide Connecticut hemp growers a better chance of sourcing the best quality seeds available.

While hemp is resilient to many pests and diseases, it is susceptible to some fungal diseases including gray mold, powdery mildew, and fusarium root rot. A relatively dry growing season may have spared Connecticut farmers from these fungal diseases in 2019.



Connecticut Grown hemp drying in a greenhouse.

Some hemp growers also encountered problems finding local businesses licensed to extract the cannabidiol (CBD) from their crop.

Businesses interested in making hemp products like CBD oils, CBD infused products, hemp oil, hemp seed, hemp fiber, and other hemp products must apply for a separate permit from the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). For more information about DCP's Manufacturer of Hemp Consumables License go to <https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Drug-Control-Division/Drug-Control/Hemp-Manufacturing> or email dcp.hemp@ct.gov.

DoAg, in partnership with UConn Extension, will be hosting Hemp Listening Sessions for growers, processors, and manufacturers in the beginning of December to discuss issues and concerns after the first year of the program. There will be presentations from growers on their hemp research and DoAg will present 2019 production numbers. This will also be a great opportunity for growers to connect with other growers, processors, and manufacturers.

Once the listening sessions are scheduled, the time and location of the hemp listening sessions will be posted on the DoAg website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG>.

DoAg has also licensed five hemp processors in Connecticut. For more information about growing hemp visit DoAg's Connecticut Hemp Research Pilot Program website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Regulatory/Regulatory/Hemp-Home-Page>, call 860-713-2502 or email AGR.Hemp@ct.gov.

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

59-R. Compost, screened & unscreened Top Soil, Mulch. Pick up at any of our 3 yards. Supreme Forest Products. Southington, Harwinton, West Hartford. Please call 860-485-1636

60-R. E.R. Hinman Since 1830. Producing fine Native Hardwoods & Softwood. Rough sawn, planed, kiln dried lumber. Native Hemlock for your out building needs. For the Farmer, Contractor, Homeowner. Please call 860-673-9170

66-R. Beautiful winter squash, Acorn, Butternut, Kabocha, by the box or bin East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pickup

68-R. Christmas greens, wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Great for fund raisers. 203-457-1344

70-R. Tractor, Mower, and Snow plow to be sold as a unit. Tractor is a 1958 Massey Ferguson model 65 with splitter valve conversion and dual hydraulic remotes. Tires 15.5x28. Loaded with rim guard and complete with tire chains. Tractor has 4 cyl Continental gasoline engine approximately 50 horse power. 8 1/2 ft western snow plow with hydraulic angel unit. Mower is John Deere model 5 sickle bar unit concerted to 3 P.H. All units in very good condition. \$5,500 firm. Call 860-423-6748

71-R. Lynn Blackmer, Nationwide Farm Master Certified Agent, Woodstock, CT. Any type of farm-large or small, hobby or commercial. Discounts for being CFBA member for those who qualify. Cell: 860-377-8947. Early morning, during day, evening or weekend appointments available

75-R. 1,000+ hemp plants for sale to licensed growers. 4" pots (cherry blossom). Call 203-623-2694

76. 1940 John Deere B. Complete overhaul, new paint, tires, excellent condition. Too many new parts to list. Best reasonable offer 860-668-7917

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

74. Running Gator wanted. Reasonable priced. Call leave message 203-259-0380. Will call back

MISCELLANEOUS

65-R. Connecticut Greenhouse Co. Installation, maintenance and fabrication of greenhouses, cold frames and NRCS high tunnels. 12' to 30' wide by any length. Designed and manufactured in CT, a farmer owned and operated business. Maintenance parts, supplies and custom plastic. www.ctgreenhouse.com or call Toby 203-654-1595

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.73	1.00
LARGE	.67	.81
MEDIUM	.58	.71

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.60	1.75
LARGE	1.42	1.56
MEDIUM	.96	1.09
SMALL	.69	.79

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Choice 2-3	109.00	112.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	48.00	54.50
boners 80-85% lean	48.00	53.50
lean 88-90% lean	41.00	47.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
100-135 lbs	175.00	195.00
Choice 1-2		
70-77 lbs	195.00	220.00
83-89 lbs	185.00	210.00
Choice 2-3		
90-99 lbs	170.00	195.00
100-137 lbs	150.00	182.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight		
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-49 lbs	145.00	155.00
50-59 lbs	150.00	160.00
70-79 lbs	175.00	190.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
125-149 lbs	170.00	200.00
150-180 lbs	190.00	245.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-149 lbs	220.00	265.00
150-199 lbs	275.00	350.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH/MILKING COWS		
SUPREME	1400.00	1650.00
APPROVED	1100.00	1425.00
MEDIUM	800.00	1075.00
SPRINGER COWS:		
APPROVED	900.00	1425.00
MEDIUM	750.00	950.00
BRED HEIFERS		
APPROVED	650.00	875.00
MEDIUM	400.00	625.00
SPRINGER HEIFERS:		
APPROVED	850.00	1300.00
MEDIUM	700.00	825.00
OPEN HEIFERS		
APPROVED	175.00	350.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
BARROWS AND GILTS		
US 1 283-299 lbs	62.00	68.00
US 1-2 200-295 lbs	54.00	64.00
US 1-2 300-373 lbs	54.00	63.00
SOWS		
US 1-2 435-481 lbs	43.00	47.00
US 1-2 505-575 lbs	38.00	40.00

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, MAC, XFCY, 80S	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88S	31.00	32.00
APPLE, RED DEL, USFCY, 125S	18.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, USFCY, 138S	18.00	19.00
BEANS, ROUND GREEN, 1 BU	24.00	28.00
BEANS, CRANBERRY, 1 BU	40.00	45.00
BEANS, WAX, 1 BU	24.00	28.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BROCCOLI, CRTN, 14S	16.00	22.00
CAULIFLOWER, CRT, 9S	32.00	32.00
CAULIFLOWER, CRT, 12S	32.00	32.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GAL	20.00	20.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GAL	22.00	22.00
CRANBERRIES, 24- 12 OZ BAGS	30.00	33.00
EGGPLANT, 1 1/9 BU, MED	8.00	9.00
POTATOES, RUSSET, 50 LB, #1, 70S	18.00	19.00
PUMPKIN, HRLM MIX, 24" BIN	285.00	300.00
PUMPKIN, WHITE, 24" BIN	285.00	385.00
PUMPKIN, MINI, 1/2 BU	18.00	20.00
RADISHES, RED, BNCH 24S	13.00	15.00
SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, M	14.00	18.00
SQUASH, BNUT, 1 1/9 BU, M	14.00	18.00
SQUASH, BCUP, 1 1/9 BU, M	14.00	18.00
TOMS, VINE RIPE, FIELD 20 LB	11.00	13.00
TOMS, VINE RIPES, 25 LB, GH	18.00	20.00
TOMS, CHERRY, GH, 12- 10 OZ	24.00	25.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 64S	31.00	31.00
APPLE, FUJI, NY, FCY, 125S	19.00	19.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 64S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 80S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 88S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, NY, US ONE, 125S	18.00	18.00
APPLE, PAULA RED, XFCY, 80S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, PAULA RED, XFCY, 100S	26.00	28.00
BEETS, RED, NJ, 12S, BNCH	16.00	18.00
BEETS, GOLD, CND, 12S, BNCH	20.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NY, 50 LB	8.00	10.00
CABBAGE, NAPPA, NJ, 10-12'S	16.00	22.00
CABBAGE, RED, CND, 50 LB, M/L	16.00	22.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, CND, 40 LB	16.00	18.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	20.00	23.00
COLLARDS, GA, CRTN, 12S	13.00	15.00
CUCUMBER, PICKLE, FL, 1 1/9 BU	30.00	36.00
KALE, GA, CRTN, BNCH, 12'S	13.00	15.00
KOHLRABI, CRTN, BNCH, 12'S	18.00	20.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, ID/OR, 25 LB	10.00	12.00
ONION, YELLOW, 50 LB SACKS	13.00	13.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, CRTN, 60S	18.00	20.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LB BAG, LOOSE	26.00	26.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, PA, 24" BIN, M	180.00	200.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, PA, 36" BIN, M	240.00	300.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, BU, 24S	22.00	26.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, PA, 1-1/9, M	20.00	22.00
SWEET POTATOES, NJ, 40 LB	25.00	25.00
SWT POTATOES, NC, WHT, 20 LB	30.00	30.00
TURNIPS, GA, PRPL TOP, 25 LB	14.00	18.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - October 28, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	5.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	20.00	25.00
76-90 lbs.	27.50	30.00
91-105 lbs.	35.00	40.00
106 lbs. & up	65.00	75.00
Farm Calves	100.00	150.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	105.00	135.00
Feeder Heifers	70.00	135.00
Beef Heifers	55.00	70.00
Feeder Steers	115.00	140.00
Beef Steers	78.00	89.00
Feeder Bulls	80.00	115.00
Beef Bulls	60.00	69.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	62.50	67.50
Feeder Pigs each	250.00	1250.00
Sheep each	50.00	195.00
Lambs each	55.00	165.00
Goats each	85.00	280.00
Kid Goats each	70.00	230.00
Canners	up to	49.00
Cutters	50.00	54.00
Utility Grade Cows	55.00	60.00
Rabbits each	5.00	15.00
Chickens each	5.00	22.50
Ducks each	3.00	15.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. October 28, 2019

ALFALFA/ GRASS		
PREMIUM	400.00	440.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	370.00	400.00
GOOD	270.00	310.00
FAIR	205.00	260.00
STRAW		
WHEAT	260.00	260.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, WA, XFCY, 80'S	35.00	35.00
BROCCOLI, 20 LB CRTN	10.00	10.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT	23.00	23.00
CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT	31.00	31.00
CARROTS, CA, 25 LB LOOSE	23.00	24.00
CAULIFLOWER, FRTN, 12S	13.00	26.00
GINGER ROOT, 30 LB CRTN	42.00	42.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	25.00	25.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LB	6.50	10.00
ONION, GREEN, CRTN, 48S	10.00	10.00
PEARS, BARTLETT, 4/5 BU	36.00	36.00
PEARS, BOSCH, 4/5 BU	36.00	36.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ZUC, 1/2 BU, S-M	19.00	19.00
SQUASH, YEL, 1/2 BU, S-M	19.00	19.00
SWEET POTATOES, #1, 40 LB	37.00	43.00
TOMATOES, GRAPE, 12-1 PT	14.00	14.00

HACCP FOR MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSORS

UConn Extension is offering a three-day HACCP for Meat and Poultry Processors course, November 13-15, 2019 at the Hartford County Extension Center, Farmington, CT.

This three-day International HACCP Alliance approved Meat and Poultry HACCP course will provide participants with the information they need to prepare a HACCP food safety program and plan for a plant under USDA/FSIS Grant of Inspection.

For information regarding program and registration, please contact: Diane Wright Hirsch at diane.hirsch@uconn.edu or 203-407-3163. To register online, using a credit card for payment go to <https://uconnuecs.cvent.com/foodsafety2019>. Registration materials must be received by November 1, 2019.

SARE PROGRAM SEEKING APPLICATIONS

The Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program is seeking applications for 2020 Farmer Grant projects. Applications are due December 3, 2019.

Farmer Grants provide research funds for commercial farms to explore new ideas in almost any aspect of production, marketing and other topics that influence successful farming in the 12 Northeast states and the District of Columbia. Reviewers look for innovation, potential for improved sustainability, and results that will be useful to other farmers.

Application materials, including instructions and supporting documents, are posted on the Northeast SARE website at <https://www.northeastsare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant/Farmer-Grant>.

FARM VIABILITY GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 12

Grant guidelines and applications for the Department of Agriculture's Farm Viability Grant program are available online and must be submitted by November 12. Grant guidelines and forms can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

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.

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, marketing and promotion for Certified CT Grown farmers' markets, and a host of other efforts that foster agriculture viability.

2019 UCONN BEEF AUCTION

The UConn Department of Animal Science will hold the 2019 UConn Beef Auction on Sunday, November 3, 2019 at the UConn Cattle Resource Unit (Heifer Barn), Horsebarn Hill Road, Storrs, CT 06269. The event is free and open to the general public. Preview of animals begins at 10:00 a.m., the auction will be held at 12:00 p.m. Approximately 25 UConn animals are expected to be auctioned. For more information, an and an animal list go to <http://animalscience.uconn.edu/beef/beefCalfSale.php#>. For additional information, contact Mary Margaret Cole at Mary_Margaret.Cole@uconn.edu.



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