



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
 Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, February 27, 2013

PREVENTION THROUGH PREPAREDNESS

by Jason Bowsza, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

The blizzard of February 8-9, 2013, was by all counts a devastating storm, and one that will be remembered as one of the most severe winter-weather instances that Connecticut has ever faced. Throughout the storm and until Governor Dannel P. Malloy and his team deemed it appropriate, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture had staff in or available to the state Emergency Operations Center, providing information and updates for state-coordinated response efforts.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC), located in the William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford, is the state's response-coordination nexus during disasters and emergencies. The facility has work stations for representatives from state agencies, public utilities, and charitable organizations, along with as state-of-the-art communications equipment and technologies that allow the EOC team to work quickly and efficiently both internally and externally with first responders and local EOCs throughout the state.

It is at the state EOC that Governor Malloy meets with the state's emergency-response team and provides regular briefings to media representatives in a specially equipped press room designed to allow for the dissemination of critical, timely information to the public. Governor Malloy has been faced with numerous statewide emergencies during his time in office and has coordinated the state's response from the EOC with extreme skill and leadership, no matter what the specific circumstances. His most recent example was the February 8-9 blizzard.

Much of the blizzard's damage to the agricultural community was centered on greenhouses and hoop houses. To put this storm's toll in perspective, one can look back on the winter of 2010-11, during which about 500 agricultural

structures suffered significant damage. In this most recent and historic storm, more than 300 structures experienced partial or complete collapse—more than half of the entire 2010-11 winter's damage—in just one snow event!

Now that most people have dug out and much of the snow has receded, the work of rebuilding those damaged buildings begins. With that in mind, there are resources available at the state and federal level to help.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s [Farm Service Agency](#) (FSA) has several assistance programs that may be appropriate and beneficial. Many affected farmers likely would be eligible for FSA's [Microloan Program](#), which involves a simple one-page application. This may be the best and most accessible relief program for damaged hoop houses and other agricultural structures. Applicants who qualify for the FSA microloan can receive up to \$35,000 to be used broadly. Microloans typically carry a low annual interest rate (as low as 1.25% as of the writing of this article), and generally are repaid within a 12-month period, or when the commodities produced by the grant recipient are sold at market.

FSA also offers eligible applicants an [Operating Loan Program](#).

These loans may be for as much as \$300,000, with rates as low as 1.125% as of the writing of this article. Farmers who sustained heavy damage may look toward this program as a potential source of relief. Operating loans typically are repaid over seven years.

FSA's loan programs are available to producers who do not qualify for loans available through commercial lenders. For more information on these programs, call FSA at 860-871-4091.



David Zemelsky (right) shows Commissioner Reviczky a collapsed structure at Star Light Gardens in Durham

(continued on Page 3)

**GREENHOUSE GROWN PRODUCE
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
CUCMBR,Sdlss,12ct,MX	10.00	10.00
CUCMBR,Prsn,20lb,MX	22.00	25.00
EGGPLNT,5kg,SP	24.00	25.00
ENDIVE,8lb,CA	26.00	28.00
MACHE,3lb,PA	12.00	12.00
PEPPER,Rd bli,11lb,MX	15.00	18.00
RHUBARB,6kg,NT	40.00	40.00
STRAWBRRY, 8-1lb, MX	18.00	18.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

February 25, 2013

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

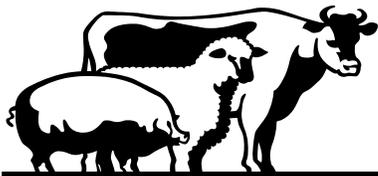
49-54	220-300 lbs	64.00-68.00
	300-400 lbs	66.00-70.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	60.00-64.00
	300-400 lbs	55.00-60.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	44.00-47.50
	500-700 lbs	55.00-57.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	16.00-18.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, February 25, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	30.00	35.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	55.00
76-90 lbs.	125.00	130.00
91-105 lbs.	140.00	145.00
106 lbs. & up	146.00	155.00
Farm Calves	170.00	172.50
Starter Calves	38.00	45.00
Veal Calves	100.00	145.00
Open Heifers	67.50	75.00
Beef Steers	85.00	91.00
Beef Heifers	75.00	80.00
Feeder Steers	85.00	105.00
Stock Bulls	95.00	105.00
Beef Bulls	91.00	112.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	20.00	34.00
Goats each	120.00	270.00
Kid Goats	20.00	40.00
Canners	Up to	74.00
Cutters	75.00	80.00
Utility Grade Cows	81.00	84.50
Replacement Heifers	1018.00	1366.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	18.00
Chickens each	5.00	21.00
Ducks each	9.00	15.00
Feeder Pigs	40.00	65.00
Lambs	95.00	180.00
Sheep	105.00	140.00



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

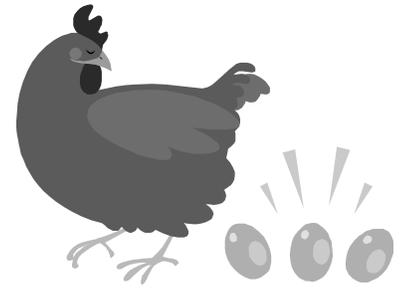
	Low	High
APPLE,Fuji,100ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Fuji,88ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Gala,125ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Gld del,72ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Mac,80ct,fcy	28.00	28.00
APPLE,Mac,80ct,US1	26.00	26.00
APPLE,Mac,120ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Rd del,100ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Rd del,72ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
BEAN SPRT,10lb	5.50	6.00
CIDER,4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER,9/.5gal	27.00	27.00
PARSNIPS,25lb	21.00	21.00
PARSNIPS,18/1lb	21.00	21.00
POTATOES,Rd,10/5lb,A	13.00	14.00
POTATOES,Chef,50lb	10.00	10.00
POTATOES,Rsst,90ct	10.50	11.00
POTATOES,Yllw,50lb, B	13.00	14.00
SQUASH,Bttrnt,1-1/9	11.00	12.00
TOMATOES,5lb	14.00	16.00
TOMATOES,loose,25lb	22.00	22.00
TOMATOES,11lb,flats,XL	25.00	25.00



NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

February 25, 2013

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	74.00-78.00	78.50-81.50	69.00-73.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	72.00-76.00	76.50-79.00	68.00-71.50
Lean	88-90% lean		
	70.00-74.50	75.00-78.50	61.00-69.00
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves			
No.1	90-130lbs	135.00-150.00	
No.2	90-120lbs	120.00-140.00	
No.3	95-120lbs	90.00-110.00	
SLAUGHTER BULLS Yield Grade 1			
	900-1975lbs	95.00-99.00	
HOLSTEIN HEIFERS			
No.1	90-115lbs	110.00-125.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Trad. Markets			
Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	50-60lbs	202.00-215.00	
	60-70lbs	207.00-232.00	
	70-80lbs	187.00-217.00	
	80-90lbs	185.00-212.00	
	90-110lbs	186.00-198.00	
	110-120lbs	168.00-192.00	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown eggs in cartons, delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.51-1.61
LARGE	1.39-1.50
MEDIUM	.99-1.10

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

February 22, 2013

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	1.01-1.17
LARGE	.95-1.09
MEDIUM	.80-.93

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY

February 25, 2013

Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	6.90-7.41
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	7.15-8.50
Oats No 2 (per bu)	4.00-4.90
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	13.80-14.61
Ear Corn (per ton)	200.00-215.00



Woolled & Shorn Good & Choice 3-4	
60-70lbs	185.00-195.00
80-90lbs	170.00-180.00
90-110lbs	160.00-183
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-150lbs	78.00-82.00
160-200lbs	50.00-73.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
90-110lbs	60.00-76.00
110-160lb	54.00-74.00
160-200lbs	50.00-73.00
Bucks	120-150lbs 80.00-88.00
	180-200lbs 62.00-70.00
	200-250lbs 70.00-74.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by the head, est. wt.	
40-50lbs	95.00-125.00
60-80lbs	150.00-170.00
80-90lbs	160.00-164.00
120lbs	170.00-170.00
Nannies/Does:	110-120lbs 157.00-177.00
	130-150lbs 145.00-187.00
Bucks/Billies:	110-140lbs n/a
	130-150lbs n/a
	150-200lbs n/a
Sel. 2	120-130lbs 164.00-166.00

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-258 for more information.

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, 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.

20-R. Watertown, CT: 73.33 acres of residential zoned land plus a separate parcel containing 1.76 acres. Ideal for a gentleman's farm, horses, camp. 65% rolling meadows of farmland, balance is forest with trails. Alongside the City of Waterbury's massive reservoir and forest holdings. 2 miles from the center of Litchfield Green / close to Washington, CT. Picture book setting. Sale Price: \$1,680,000. Call: Tom Hill III, CCIM/SIOR @ 203-206-8631. www.tomhill.com

22-R. Due to illness, the following new or barely used for sale: New 8 frame beehive, complete, \$150.00. Fransgard logging winch. \$3,000.00. Landpride forward tiller, 5'. \$2,200.00. Lanepride post hole digger. \$1,200.00. Landpride rake, 6', Demco boom sprayer, 110 gal. \$2,200.00. Valby wood chipper, 6'. \$3,500.00. Other used 6' woods brushhog. \$600.00. 5' Woods finish mower. 5' Woods brushhog. \$100.00, for parts. 860-423-1347- house. 617-308-3015 –cell.

23-R. 7 Starline Arches, 50 Starline Stanchions, complete Corner Wheel for Clay Barn Cleaner, Clay Transmission and Motor, 260 feet of Clay Barn Cleaner. Call 860-537-5842 7PM.

24-R. Yearling Hereford Bull For Sale. Dark Red, Good Disposition. \$1,400. Old Beech Farm. 860-693-2052.

25-R. (2) 25X96 greenhouses, bows 4' on center, 4 purlins, still standing you dismantle, \$2,000 each. 3000 gallon aluminum oil tank. \$2,000. 275 gallon tanks, \$75 each. Miscellaneous greenhouse equipment; fans, benches, sprayer, etc. East Windsor, CT 860-268-5931.

WANTED

21-R. Steel wheeled, disk type grain drill, narrow enough to operate between existing 42" corn rows. Tom 860-646-6536.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.



Collapsed structure at Salem Herb Farm
(photo courtesy of Bob Heffernan)

PREVENTION THROUGH PREPAREDNESS

(continued from Page 1)

Additional FSA emergency loan programs could be made available to Connecticut farmers pending a USDA administrative action. Governor Malloy, through the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, is actively encouraging the Connecticut's Congressional delegation to convey to federal officials the severity of the storm's damage and is asking the delegation for help in securing assistance for Connecticut farm families, but it is still unclear when or how quickly these options may be available. Other types of federal disaster declarations and designations for agriculture typically require a total annual crop loss of 30 percent or more—a difficult threshold for Connecticut's agricultural industry to reach during the winter, when production levels are much lower than other times of year.

At the state level, Governor Malloy has asked the Connecticut Department of Agriculture to examine its existing state agricultural grant programs to determine if and how they can be used to help producers recover from this recent storm. The agency hopes to focus its own limited resources quickly and efficiently as allowed by the grant legislation.

For the past year, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture has been actively engaged in a partnership with the Connecticut Farm Bureau through an Agricultural Viability Grant to develop a stronger emergency-preparedness approach for Connecticut agriculture. This collaboration is providing education and outreach to Connecticut agribusinesses so they will be better prepared to respond quickly and effectively during times of natural disaster and infrastructure crises, and to continue operations with minimal interruption.

This emergency-preparedness project includes several ongoing initiatives. The first, and perhaps most self-evident, is the development and distribution of a directory of agricultural emergency contacts, which will help allay confusion and response delays that can arise when a weather-related emergency strikes.

Another ongoing initiative is the recruitment of interested volunteers from across the state who might be available to provide shared resources during times of need. The volunteer network would be able to promptly survey agricultural damage and convey emergencies to Connecticut's response team. This timely assessment would help ensure that the state's agricultural response efforts are effective, efficient, and focused where they can do the greatest good.

Without question, the best thing that anyone can do to prevent significant loss in the future is to have a plan in place before the next emergency arises, and to determine strategies in advance to minimize damage. Infrastructure must be a principle concern in planning. The above emergency-preparedness project is working with knowledgeable agricultural leaders in each of Connecticut's eight counties, identifying processing, storage, and distribution systems; feed and supply systems; and water, transportation, energy, and waste-management systems that are vulnerable, so they can be strengthened before the next disaster occurs.

Planning for future development is central to being prepared. In some cases, structure collapses and damage during this recent blizzard occurred because of insufficient space between buildings to allow a tractor with a snow plow attached to clear snow. Had sufficient space between these buildings existed, some of this damage may have been avoided.

Connecticut has certainly had its share of significant weather events in the last several years, but we as a state continue to handle them with patience, professionalism, and proficiency. By making efforts to rebuild in a strategic and intelligent way, Connecticut will continue to improve its preparedness for whatever comes its way.

DON'T FORGET TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2012 CENSUS

Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in USDA's Census of Agriculture, conducted every five years by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). By law, NASS must keep all individual information confidential.

The Census of Agriculture is the only source of consistent and comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation. It provides critical information upon which agricultural policy decisions are made and programs are shaped.

Farmers should have received a census form in the mail in early January. Completed forms were due earlier this month, but farmers who forgot to return their forms can and should do so as soon as possible.

It is imperative that every farmer in Connecticut be counted so Connecticut agriculture has a strong voice in local, state, and federal discussions and is carefully considered in all decisions that affect this industry.

Forms can be returned by mail or online. For more information, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call 888-4AG-STAT (888-424-7828).

The Census of Agriculture is your voice, your future, your responsibility. Participation is not only a valuable tool for agricultural producers to help shape the future of the industry, it is federal law.

Watch Commissioner Reviczky's message about the importance of participating in the 2012 Census of Agriculture at <http://youtu.be/Jf70j-2xgNI>.

CFBA'S FARM BUSINESS CONFERENCE MAR 23

Connecticut Farm Bureau's fourth annual conference, March 23, 2013, in East Windsor, focuses on building and growing a successful farm business by starting with a sound farm business plan.

The program will review key components of a plan, measuring success, using demographics, evaluating market potential, benchmarking, plus considerations regarding labor, liability, farm business entities, and finding funding sources. Farmers of all ages and business stages will benefit from this conference.

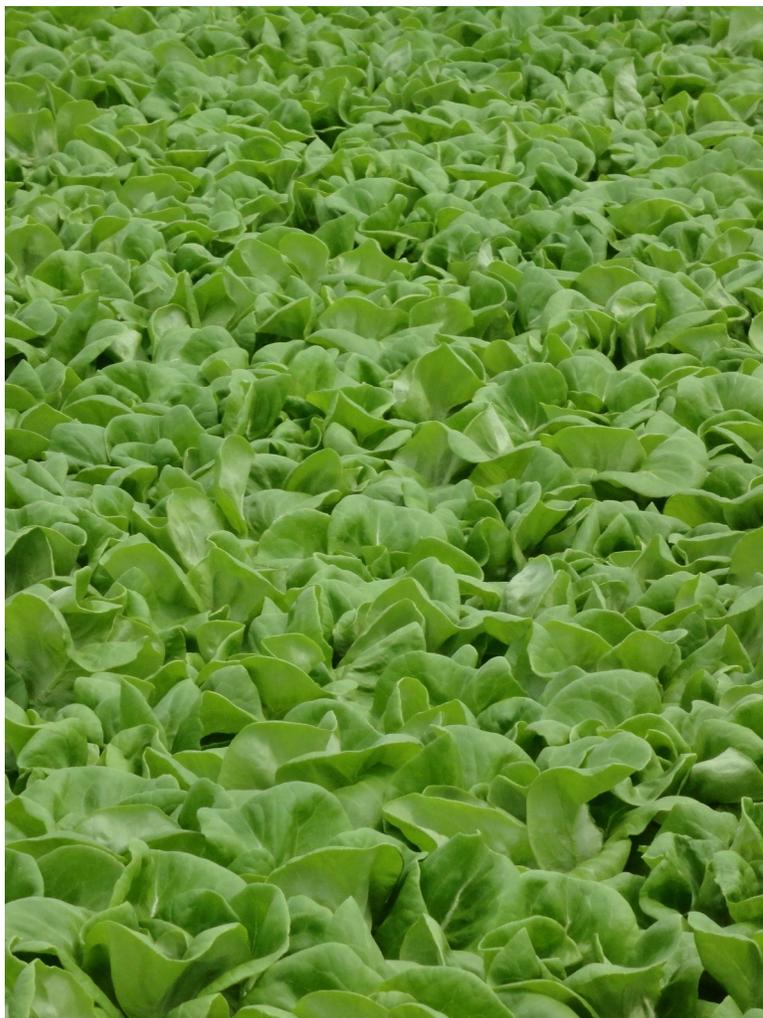
Visit www.cfba.org for conference details and to register, or call 860-768-1100. CFBA Members \$50, non-members \$65 before March 15.

(This program is a cooperative effort of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and Risk Management Agency/USDA.)

REPORT STORM DAMAGE TO FSA

The recent blizzard caused considerable damage to farms across Connecticut. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is again partnering with the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) to assess damage and loss from this most recent severe weather event.

If you have not done so already, please be sure to report any storm damage to the FSA state office at 860-871-4090. The information will inform policy makers and program coordinators on how to best serve the agricultural community.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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