



# Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner  
 Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503  
 Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor  
**Wednesday, March 14, 2012**

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

### USDA'S NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM

(From USDA's [website](#))

#### WHAT IS ORGANIC?

Organic is a labeling term that indicates that the food or other agricultural product has been produced through approved methods. These methods integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. Synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, irradiation, and genetic engineering may not be used.

#### HOW ARE ORGANIC PRODUCTS OVERSEEN?

The National Organic Program regulates all organic crops, livestock, and agricultural products certified to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) organic standards. Organic certification agencies inspect and verify that organic farmers, ranchers, distributors, processors, and traders are complying with the USDA organic regulations. USDA conducts audits and ensures that the more than 90 organic certification agencies operating around the world are properly certifying organic products. In addition, USDA conducts investigations and conducts enforcement activities to ensure all products labeled as organic meet the USDA organic regulations. In order to sell, label, or represent their products as organic, operations must follow all of the specifications set out by the USDA organic regulations.

#### HOW DO I KNOW IF MY FOOD IS ORGANIC?

Look at the label. If you see the USDA organic seal, the product is certified organic and has 95 percent or more organic content. For multi-ingredient products such as bread or soup, if the label claims that it is made with specified organic ingredients, you can be confident that those specific ingredients have been certified organic.



#### WHAT ABOUT OTHER LABELS?

There are other voluntary labels for livestock products, such as meat and eggs:

- **Free-range.** This label indicates that the flock was provided shelter in a building, room, or area with unlimited access to food, fresh water, and continuous access to the outdoors during their production cycle. The outdoor area may or may not be fenced and/or covered with netting-like material. This label is regulated by the USDA.
- **Cage-free.** This label indicates that the flock was able to freely roam a building, room, or enclosed area with unlimited access to food and fresh water during their production cycle.
- **Natural.** As required by USDA, meat, poultry, and egg products labeled as "natural" must be minimally processed and contain no artificial ingredients. However, the natural label does not include any standards regarding farm practices and only applies to processing of meat and egg products. There are no standards or regulations for the labeling of natural food products if they do not contain meat or eggs.
- **Grass-fed.** Grass-fed animals receive a majority of their nutrients from grass throughout their life, while organic animals' pasture diet may be supplemented with grain. Also USDA regulated, the grass-fed label does not limit the use of antibiotics, hormones, or pesticides. Meat products may be labeled as grass-fed organic.
- **Pasture-raised.** Due to the number of variables involved in pasture-raised agricultural systems, the USDA has not developed a labeling policy for pasture-raised products.
- **Humane.** Multiple labeling programs make claims that animals were treated humanely during the production cycle, but the verification of these claims varies widely. These labeling programs are not regulated.

#### PROTECTING ORGANIC INTEGRITY

- 30,000 on-site inspections per year by certifying agents to monitor compliance with USDA organic standards.
- Certifying agent audits to ensure appropriate monitoring
- Residue testing program to verify that prohibited pesticides aren't being applied to organic crops.
- Robust compliance and enforcement activities.
- Issue-based investigations (e.g. country- or commodity-specific).

**WHOLESALE PEPPERS SHIPPED IN**

	Low	High
AJIES, 1/2bu, DR	32.00	35.00
ANAHEIM, 10lb, NC	14.00	16.00
CHERRY HOT, 1/2bu, DR	32.00	39.00
CUBANELLES, 1-1/9bu, FL	16.00	18.00
FINGER HOT, 1-1/9bu, FL	20.00	20.00
FRESNO, Grn, 10lb, MX	40.00	40.00
HABANERO, Rd, 8lb, DR	16.00	18.00
LONG HOT, Rd, 11/9bu, FL	16.00	20.00
POBLANO, 1/2bu, MX	16.00	18.00
RED BELL, 15lb, MX	13.00	15.00
SERRANO, 10lb, NC	16.00	18.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

March 12, 2012

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

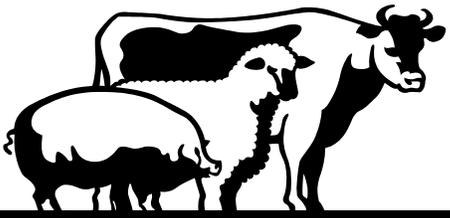
49-54	220-350 lbs	65.00-70.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	N/A
	N/A	N/A
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	54.50-58.00
	500-700 lbs	57.50-59.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	30.00-32.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, March 12, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	45.00	60.00
61-75 lbs.	110.00	125.00
76-90 lbs.	130.00	140.00
91-105 lbs.	150.00	175.00
106 lbs. & up	180.00	187.50
Farm Calves	195.00	210.00
Veal Calves	75.00	145.00
Open Heifers	75.00	125.00
Beef Steers	105.00	127.00
Feeder Steers	100.00	127.50
Starter Calves	55.00	70.00
Stock Bulls	95.00	103.00
Beef Bulls	90.00	117.00
Sows	n/a	
Goats each	75.00	250.00
Kid Goats	50.00	160.00
Canners	Up to	83.50
Cutters	84.00	88.00
Utility Grade Cows	89.00	105.00
Rabbits each	15.00	32.00
Chickens each	6.00	40.00
Ducks each	10.00	13.00
Feeder Pigs	40.00	80.00
Lambs	145.00	155.00
Sheep	130.00	135.00
Butcher Hogs	95.00	105.00



**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
ALFALFA SPRTS, 5lb	11.00	12.00
APPLE, Cameo, bu	18.00	18.00
APPLE, Empire, 125ct, us1	16.00	16.00
APPLE, Mac, 100ct, US1	17.00	17.00
APPLE, Red del, 88ct, xfcy	22.00	22.00
BEAN SPROUT, 10lb	4.50	5.00
CIDER 4/1gal	14.50	16.00
PARSNIP, 25lb	24.00	24.00
POTATOES, Rnd, wh, 50lb	12.00	14.00
POTATOES, 10lb	2.65	3.00
SQUASH, Bttrnt, 1/9bu, lg	18.00	20.00
TOMATOES, Chrry, 5lb flat	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, Grnhs, 12lb, xl	27.00	30.00

**SHIPPED IN**

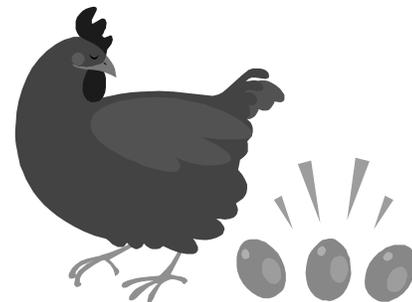
	Low	High
ASPARAGUS, 11lb, MX	15.00	17.00
BEAN, Grn, rmd, bu, FL	18.00	20.00
BLACKBERRY, 12/6, MX	24.00	27.00
BLOOD ORANGE, 44ct, CA	24.00	24.00
CANTALOUPE, 12ct, HD	15.00	16.00
CARROTS, 50lb, lse, CA	18.00	19.00
CILANTRO, 30S, TX	12.00	13.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9, md, FL	16.00	20.00
GINGER, Thai, 30lb, FL	105.00	120.00
LEEEKS, 12s, SC	18.00	20.00
LETTUCE, Rmn, 24, AZ	13.00	16.00
NECTARINES, 40ct, CL	14.00	17.00
ONION, Red, 25lb, NY	7.00	8.00
PEPPER, green, 1-1/9, med-lg, FL	17.00	17.00
RHUBARB, 10LB, Grnhs, MI	32.00	33.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb, CA	15.00	18.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

March 12, 2012

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	83.00-88.00	89.00-94.00	79.00-81.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	79.00-83.00	83.50-86.00	72.50-77.00
Lean	88-90% lean		
	73.00-77.00	78.00-80.00	66.00-71.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1</b>			
	900-1835 lbs	93.00-98.50	
<b>CALVES: All prices per cwt.</b>			
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1			
	80-120 lbs	220.00-250.00	
	114-128 lbs	N/A	
	Number 2	75-135 lbs	190.00-200.00
	Number 3	95-120 lbs	170.00-190.00
Holstein Heifers: Number 1			
	90-105 lbs	200.00-260.00	
Number 2			
	70-90 lbs	120.00-180.00	
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:</b>			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	40-60 lbs	280.00-295.00	
	60-80 lbs	217.00-251.00	
	80-90 lbs	205.00-221.00	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	141-151
LARGE	138-149
MEDIUM	105-116

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

March 12, 2012

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

EXTRA LARGE	102-106
LARGE	100-104
MEDIUM	77-81

**PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN REPORT**

March 12, 2012

Grain market for eastern Pennsylvania.

Corn, No.2, bu.	6.95-7.27
Ear Corn, ton	200-205
Soybeans, No.2, bu.	12.63-13.07



90-110 lbs	194.00-214.00
110-130 lbs	170.00-188.00
130-150 lbs	161.00-179.00
<b>Wooled &amp; Shorn Choice 2-3</b>	
40-60 lbs	204.00-235.00
60-80 lbs	203.00-208.00
80-90 lbs	193.00-209.00
110-130 lbs	152.00-176.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh</b>	
120-160 lbs	86.00-101.00
160-200 lbs	84.00-100.00
200-300 lbs	69.00-77.00
<b>Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh</b>	
120-160 lbs	85.00-100.00
160-200 lbs	82.00-96.00
<b>SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.</b>	
20-40lbs	82.00-125.00
40-60 lbs	115.00-158.00
60-80lbs	152.00-171.00
80-100lbs	162.00-182.00
100-110lbs	177.00-191.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	160.00-176.00
130-180 lbs	178.00-188.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	195.00-218.00
150-250 lbs	242.00-267.00

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now CT'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](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance--we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800 554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

9-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing 203-788-2430.

10-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.

30-R. 4x5 round bales, \$55.00 p.u. 2nd cut alfalfa square bales, \$5.00. p.u. 860-537-1974.

31-R. Kiln dried sawdust for bedding, excellent for cows and horses. Good rates. Trailer load. Call for price in your area @ 860-974-3853.

33. Kinze, 4 row corn planter, double frame, no till, fertilizer box, excellent condition. \$5,000.00. JD 3970, 2 row corn chopper, new knives, shear bar, bearings, field ready. \$6,500.00. Fargo dump wagon with cover \$3,000.00. 1973 Ford 9000, silage truck, 18' body, auto gate, tandem, runs and looks good. \$4,000.00. JD loader, model 146, quick hitch, \$2,000.00. CAT 922 wheel loader, diesel, new paint and glass, good tires, runs good. \$8,000.00. New culvert pipe. Galvanized, corrugated, 24' long, 52" diam. \$500.00. 860-537-1974.

34. New 8 frame bee hives, complete, 2 deep, 2 medium, , inner and outer covers, screened bottom board, 16 Peirco frames, treated, ready to go, \$150.00 each. "Woodlot," 6.5 acres, perfect for camp, agriculture, hunting, etc. Surveyed, perk tested. Off grid, easy access, in the middle of the woods, \$39,000.00. 860-423-1347.

37-R. Quality 1st cutting hay. \$5.00 per bale. Call any time 860-828-9403.

38-R. Donut machine, barely used, \$1,000.00. Modene propane heater with thermostat and stainless chimney, 150 Btu, \$250.00. refrigerated pastry display case, like new, \$1,900.00. Call 203-925-9746 evenings.

39. I.H. 5 bottom spring reset plow. Large forced air wood stoves with blowers and fabricated shrouds. Complete 28" cider mill. Will grow any amount of tomato plants. 203-266-7721.

35-R. New Krone haying equipment. Rakes, tedders, disk mower, round balers, and more. Massey Ferguson square balers, all steel hay wagons. 0% financing. 860-928-9778. [www.bigboystoysllc.net](http://www.bigboystoysllc.net) Rte 169, Pomfret, CT.

36-R. Used tractors: Allis Chalmers 6080 w/cab, 2 WD, good condition, \$13,500.00. JD 3020 good condition, \$10,500.00. Massey Ferguson 1533 w/cab and backhoe, 600 hours, \$28,500.00. Massey Ferguson, GC2610 tractor, loader, backhoe, 85 hours, \$14,500.00. Ford 8N, nice, \$1,800.00. Much more used equipment. [www.bigboystoysllc.net](http://www.bigboystoysllc.net) Rte. 169, Pomfret, CT. 860-928-9778.

40-R. JD 6310 4x4 640 loader \$26,000.00. NH 575 baler with thrower. NH 311 baler, 315 with throw, JD 336 with kicker, New 17 ft. Morra hydraulic fold tedder, New Pecquea 11ft. rotary rake. JD 660 rake, NH 256, 258 rakes. NH BR 730 round baler, Case IH 6430. Balers IH 710 4 bottom plow, 720, 4and 5 bottom reset plow, JD 1600 4 bottom reset plow, JD 530, 730, B tractors. 203-530-4953.

### MISCELLANEOUS

7-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.

11-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

### SBA OFFERS DISASTER ASSISTANCE TO CT SMALL BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY OCT STORM

Low-interest disaster loans are available to Connecticut small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses, and most private non-profit organizations affected by a major winter storm that occurred on October 29, 2011.

Administrator Mills made the loans available in response to a letter from Gov. Dannel P. Malloy requesting a disaster declaration by the SBA. The declaration covers Hartford County and the adjacent counties of Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, and Tolland in Connecticut, and Hampden in Massachusetts.

Eligible entities may qualify for loans up to \$2 million to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. The rates on these loans are 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Eligibility is based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Applications and program information are available by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Applications can also be downloaded from [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. The application deadline is November 29, 2012.

### GOAT/SHEEP PARASITE CONTROL WORKSHOPS

Two goat and sheep parasite control workshops sponsored by the Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center/Kerlin's Morning Star Meadows Farm, UCONN Cooperative Extension System, USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), University of Rhode Island (URI), and Virginia Tech have been scheduled for Connecticut. RSVP to [Joyce.Meader@uconn.edu](mailto:Joyce.Meader@uconn.edu) or 860-774-9600.

Dates and locations:

- Sunday, April 29, 2011, in Falls Village. 10:30 a.m. -2 p.m. at Adamah Goat Dairy, Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, 116 Johnson Road Lunch is \$12/ person (bring cash for cheese/yoghurt purchases).
- Sunday, May 6, 2011, in North Stonington. 1-3:30 p.m. at the North Stonington Community Grange, 21 Wyassup Road; 4-5 p.m. at Kerlin's Morning Star Meadows Farm, 307 Wyassup Road.

Topics will include Integrated Parasite Control In Small Ruminants (Dr. Anne Zajec, Virginia Tech), Introduction to Famacha (Joyce Meader, UCONN), and SARE Grant: "Improving Small Ruminant Parasite Control," (Dr. Katherine Petersson, URI).

### CT FARM LINK PROGRAM SEEKS PARTICIPANTS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has established the Farm Link Program. It is a service to help new farmers find farm land owners with agricultural land, for rent or for sale, which will enable the process of land rental and/or farm transfer to the next generation of farmers. Check the website, [www.farmlink.uconn.edu](http://www.farmlink.uconn.edu). Persons interested in the process can find applications now available on the site or by calling 860-713-2503. The department is encouraging all next-generation farmers and transitioning family farms in Connecticut to participate. For further information, please contact Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588.

### NEW TREE LIST FOR PLANTING NEAR UTILITY WIRES

In response to the tremendous damage to utility infrastructure caused by trees near overhead wires during last year's major storms, the Connecticut College Arboretum and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station have released a new list of trees with relatively low mature heights suitable for planting near street-side utility lines.

The new two-page list updates *Trees and Shrubs for Your Community* by Connecticut College Arboretum Director Glenn Dreyer. The suggested list of more than 40 species and varieties of low trees and tall shrubs, many native to the eastern United States, includes a wide variety of species with significant aesthetic and wildlife values.

"Whether replacing trees lost to last year's storms, or planting a new tree near – but not under – utility lines, towns and homeowners can be confident that trees on this list will minimize tree-related power outages during storms with high winds, snow and ice," Dreyer said.

The list can be downloaded at <http://www.ct.gov/caes/ShortTrees>.

### FREE USDA WEBINARS ON ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS

Two educational webinars on March 14, 2012, will examine finance issues and technology options for installing and maintaining anaerobic digester systems. The free webinars are part of the *Renewable Energy Education Field Day* series—educational programs

to provide farmers, ranchers, landowners and community leaders with information useful in deciding whether to implement a renewable energy technology in their operation.

The webinars are three hours each and will address two critical issues in the decision-making process: financing installation and operation of a digester system, as well as the rate of return on the investment and technology options—what they are and how they are used.

*Financing an Anaerobic Digester System* will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. CST. *Technical Aspects of Anaerobic Digester Systems* will run from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. (Note: these are Central Time, which is one hour behind Eastern Time). There is no charge to attend but registration is required. To register, visit the Farm Foundation, NFP website at <http://www.farmfoundation.org/webcontent/Renewable-Energy-Education-Field-Days-Anaerobic-Digester-Webinars-1752.aspx?z=na&a=1752>.

### 2012 PYO BROCHURE TO BE UPDATED AND PRINTED

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture's [Pick-Your-Own brochure](#) is scheduled for updating and printing again in 2012.

To have your pick-your-own farm included, complete an application and return by March 16, 2012, along with a \$25 check payable to the Connecticut Apple Marketing Board. This fee will help defray printing costs.

Applications can be found on the Department of Agriculture's website at [www.CTGrown.gov/Publications](http://www.CTGrown.gov/Publications) (click on "Commodities Brochures" link near top of page).



**Advertising Rates:** Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses, etc., are counted separately. Print or type copy. Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. 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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