



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



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503
 Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor
Wednesday, February 23, 2011

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCES REGIONAL FARM-TO-SCHOOL GRANT

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky announced today the Northeast Regional Steering Committee of the National Farm-to-School Network has been awarded a \$250,000 USDA Cooperative Agreement Contract to expand and coordinate farm-to-institution work throughout the six-state region (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont). In collaboration with many New England partners including the New England Governors Commission on Agriculture, American Farmland Trust, and Franklin County Community Development Corporation, the organizations that make up the Northeast Steering Committee will be tackling distribution, processing, state-level organizing, and regional coordination.

Projects will include expanding processing of local foods at the Western Massachusetts Food Processing Center and starting a new processing project, the Real Food Institute, in Mid-Coast Maine. Project partner Kids First in RI will work closely with the vendor that delivers fresh produce to schools in all six New England States through the Department of Defense Fresh Program to develop a model distribution system for local foods that creates more transparency in the supply chain from farmer to consumer.

The grant is focused on what will it take to get New England's colleges, schools, hospitals, and other institutions to buy and serve food grown in New England. A partnership of farm-to-school and farm-to-institution professionals from the six-state region is taking concrete steps to provide the infrastructure that will help to change the food system.

A series of "learning communities" will be established to identify roadblocks and opportunities for increasing institutional purchasing of local products as well as documenting the most successful new strategies.

"The steering committee is thrilled to have raised these funds but we hope to raise an additional \$750,000 to truly fulfill the work that needs to be accomplished to continue to connect local farms to our local schools and other institutions," said Dana Hudson of Vermont, Northeast Regional Project Coordinator.

Judy Canales, USDA Rural Development Director of Business Programs/ Renewable Energy programs, toured the Western Massachusetts Food Processing Center recently to see how the regional food system collaboration works. She described the \$250,000 grant as "seed money."

Commissioner Reviczky said, "I look forward to the regional effort to create more markets for our Connecticut farmers. This is a significant and underutilized market, and we hope to expand the use of CT Grown products, like produce, milk, and beef. We need to overcome the barriers, and help our schools buy farmers' products, and ultimately expanding production. We are also excited to look at extending their seasonality by exploring processing and preserving products for winter sales to these same institutions."

With annual school food expenditures for the six New England states at \$149.8 million, the economic opportunity for New England agriculture is significant. If local schools purchased only 5% of local foods, that would increase New England agriculture economy by \$7.5 million ... 20% would be \$29.9 million.



UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT OFFERS PERENNIAL PLANT CONFERENCE

The University of Connecticut is sponsoring the annual "Perennial Plant Conference—A Conference for the Professional Horticulturist." The conference will be held at the Lewis B. Rome Commons on the University of Connecticut Storrs campus on Thursday, March 10, 2011.

This all-day educational conference will address a wide range of topics focusing on herbaceous perennial production, sustainable landscape design and retail marketing. Topics were selected to appeal to professional landscapers and designers, nursery and greenhouse producers, and retail garden center operators. Concurrent educational sessions feature nationally recognized speakers from both the industry and academia.

Featured speakers at the 2011 conference include:

- Matt Horn, owner of Matterhorn Nursery, Spring Valley NY, on How to Promote, Sell and Install Sustainable Landscapes and Sustainability and How to Position Your Garden Center and Landscape Design Build Firm for Success.

- Vincent Simeone, horticulturist, garden writer and lecturer from Oyster Bay NY, on Great Flowering Landscape Shrubs.

- Stephanie Cohen, horticultural consultant and lecturer from Collegeville PA, on New and Underused Perennials.

PLANT CONFERENCE CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.
February 22, 2010

Prices To Retailers, Sales To Volume Buyers,
USDA Grade A and Grade A, White Eggs In
Cartons, Warehouse, Cents Per Dozen

EXTRA LARGE	104-107
LARGE	103-106
MEDIUM	91-93

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, February 21, 2010 - Live animals
brought the following average prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	30.00
76-90 lbs.	35.00	40.00
91-105 lbs.	42.50	45.00
106 lbs. & up	47.50	50.00
Farm Calves	55.00	65.00
Started Calves	30.00	45.00
Veal Calves	70.00	97.50
Open Heifers	75.00	85.00
Beef Heifers	81.00	99.00
Feeder Steers	75.00	90.00
Beef Steers	78.00	110.00
Beef Bulls	67.00	74.00
Feeder Pigs each	20.00	60.00
Lambs each	85.00	140.00
Goats each	90.00	210.00
Kid Goats each	36.00	67.50
Canners	Up to	62.50
Cutters	63.00	66.00
Utility Grade Cows	67.00	71.50
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	5.00	20.00
Ducks each	10.00	31.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

ORGANIC FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

APPLES, Fuji 88ct WA	46.25	46.25
APPLES, Gala, 88CT xfcy WA	46.75	46.75
ARRUGULA, Baby Type 12's GA	18.25	18.25
AVOCADOES 48 MX	53.25	53.25
BOK CHOY 20lb, FL	42.25	42.25
CARROTS, 25lbs jbo CA	16.00	19.00
CAULIFLOWER, 12ct CA	38.50	38.50
CELERIAC, 25lb CA	25.50	25.50
CILANTRO, 30's CA	27.25	27.25
LEMONS, 140 ct CA	35.50	35.50
LETTUCE, Red Leaf 24ct CA	34.75	34.75
MESCULIN mix, 3lb CA	12.50	12.50
GREEN BEANS, bu FL	59.00	59.00
PEARS, D'Anjou U.S. #1 90ct WA	39.50	39.50
PEPPER, Red grnhouse 11lb MX	29.25	29.25
PINEAPPLE, 7c5 MX	25.75	25.75
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb FL	35.25	35.25
TOMATOES, Plum 25lb	29.25	29.25

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, February 21, 2010

Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
Premium White	65-75% lean	
70.50-74.00	75.00-77.00	-----
Breakers	75-80% lean	
66.00-70.00	70.00-72.00	64.00-65.00
Boners	80-85% lean	
62.00-66.00	67.00-70.00	58.00-59.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 4-one gallon	18.00	18.00
APPLE CIDER, 9 half-gallons	20.00	20.00
APPLES, Empire 80ct, xfcy	20.00	22.00
APPLES, Macintosh US#1 96ct	13.00	14.00
APPLES, Red Delicious, 12/3lb, xfcy	18.00	18.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10lb film	4.50	5.00
LETTUCE, Boston, Greenhouse 12/4oz	14.00	16.00
POTATOES, Round white 10lb bag loose	2.00	2.20
POTATOES, Russet, 10/5lb	11.00	11.00
TOMATOES, Cherry 5lb flat, on vine	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 15lb flat	34.00	34.00
SHIPPED IN		
ARTICHOKES, 36ct CA	28.00	28.00
ASPARAGUS, 11lb lge MX	25.00	26.00
BEANS, Green Handpick 30lb FL	26.00	28.00
BLACKBERRIES, 12/6oz MX	20.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12/6oz CHILE	16.00	16.00
BROCCOLI, 14ct FL	14.00	15.00
CABBAGE, Green med 50lb GA	18.00	20.00
CARROTS, 48-1lb CA	24.00	28.00
CORN, 4 1/2dz FL	21.00	24.00
CUCUMBERS, 1 1/9bu med MX	32.00	36.00
GRAPEFRUIT, Red 40ct FL	12.00	13.00
GRAPES, Thompson 18lb CHILE, LGN	24.00	28.00
LEEKS, 12's MX	20.00	24.00
LEMON GRASS, 30lb CA	70.00	70.00
LETTUCE, Red leaf 24ct AZ	32.00	36.00
NECTARINES, 2-layer 40's CHILE	22.00	22.00
ONION, RED, 10lb med	3.50	5.00
PEAS, Sugar Snap 10lb GU	15.00	18.00
PEACHES, 40ct CHILE	15.00	15.00
PEPPER, Cubanellas, 1 1/9bu, lge FL	42.00	44.00
PEPPER, Green bell, 1-1/9bu xl FL	38.00	44.00
RASPBERRIES, 12/6oz lge CA	48.00	48.00
SQUASH, Green 1/2bu med FL	28.00	30.00
SQUASH, Yellow, 1/2bu med FL	26.00	30.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb FL	14.00	16.00
SWISS CHARD, Mixed color, 12's CA	20.00	20.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

Lean	85-90% lean	
56.00-61.00	-----	52.00-55.50
Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1		
1770-2025 lbs		76.00-79.00
2115-2200 lbs		67.50-71.50
Bullocks: 885-1455 lbs		79.00-82.50
Calves: All prices per cwt.		
Holstein Bull Calves: Number 1		
95-125 lbs		105.00-117.00
85-90 lbs		72.00-90.00
Holstein Heifers: Number 1		
75-115 lbs		150.00-210.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:		
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3		
40-60 lbs		248.00-267.00
60-80 lbs		244.00-258.00
80-90 lbs		232.00-247.00
90-110 lbs		213.00-228.00
110-130 lbs		204.00-219.00
Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3		
40-50 lbs		240.00-250.00
60-80 lbs		218.00-235.00
80-90lbs		206.00-221.00
90-110 lbs		190.00-205.00
110-130 lbs		180.00-194.00
130-150 lbs		172.00-186.00

METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
Grade A eggs on:
February 22, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	111-115
LARGE	109-113
MEDIUM	95-99

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.

NEW BEDFORD - WHALING CITY SEAFOOD DISPLAY AUCTION

FISH LANDINGS & PRICES IN
1,000 LBS & \$/CWT DATE 2/18/11
PRICES INCLUDES DEALERS
FEES - 1/0 MEANS LESS THAN
100 POUNDS

SPECIES	LBS	MIN	HIGH
COD WHALE 1/	0	312	312
LGE	0.2	336	336
MKT	4.8	303	317
SCRD	2.2	296	313
GILLNET LGE COD			
	0.1	333	333
MKT	0.3	316	316
JIG MKT COD	0.1	323	323
SCRD	0.2	303	303
HADDOCK	0.1	367	367
HADDOCK SCR D	0	287	287
POLLOCK	0.2	120	127
MED	0.1	103	103
MIXED	0.1	66	66
HAKE LGE	1.1	103	117
MED	0	102	102
SOW	0.7	113	116

Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh
120-160 lbs 122.00-136.00

Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh
120-160 lbs 78.00-93.00

Slaughter Goats: All goats are Selection 1, sold
by the head, on estimated weights.

Kids: 30-40 lbs 124.00
40-60 lbs 123.00-143.00
60-80 lbs 135.00-155.00
80-90 lbs 152.00-167.00
90-100 lbs 165.00-180.00

Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs 122.00-136.00
130-180 lbs 140.00-155.00

Bucks/Billies: 1 80-100 lbs 179.00-189.00
100-150 lbs 188.00-202.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon February 21, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual
weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	66.50-70.00
	270-300 lbs	66.00-69.00
	300-400 lbs	67.00-70.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	63.00-64.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	46.00-50.00
	500-700 lbs	48.00-53.00
Boars:	300-800 lbs	37.00-39.00

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, 1-888-526-8815, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com.. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com., Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher High Tensile and portable electric fencing for farms, deer control, gardens. 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.

11-R. Hay – excellent 1st cut, plastic wrapped round bales \$40. 860-886-0716.

22-R. Round bales mixed grasses, no canary. Pick up or delivered. 203-530-4953.

29-R. Honeybees for sale, 3lb packages mid-April, Riverside Apiaries 860-295-8972.

33-R. Premium mulches. Natural, dark brown, black and vibrant colors. Call for pricing, orders and delivery. Contact Charles Leigus (860) 301-0673.

34-R. First cut hay, June cut square bales \$4.50 each p.u. 203-265-4588.

41-R. 48' storage or road trailers, roll up door, good for hay, good shape. \$1,000. ea. del available. Ford LN9000 tandem tractor, cummins diesel, 9 speed, \$4,000. Hereford 3 yrs. old bred to club calf due end of Jan. \$1,000. Hay square bales 1st cut 4.50 & 2nd 5.50 p.u. 860-537-1974.

42-R. 5' PTO snow blower, heavy duty Canadian made, used very little, always under cover, some surface rust – will throw snow 100'. Cost new \$2,400 – Sell \$1,200. 860-423-1347; 617-308-3015.

45-R. Small Brothers 2x6 SS evaporator with steam hood \$1,650. 2x4 SS flat pan \$450. Farmall H for parts. Hay for sale. Call 203-484-0664 or 203-464-9647.

WANTED

8-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 860-662-2412.

43-R. Lyman Orchards in Middlefield, CT is seeking an Orchard Manager. This is a hands-on supervisory position, overseeing crop production, harvesting and distribution at one of CT's largest farms. Vertically integrated marketing channels include PYO, direct retail, and an extensive agritainment component. Applicants should enjoy a fast-paced work environment, focused on exceptional customer service. A comprehensive benefit package is available. Three to five years' managerial and horticultural experience preferred. Interested candidates should forward their resume and salary requirements to John Lyman III, Lyman Orchards, P.O. Box 453, Middlefield, CT 06455. Email: jlyman3@lymanorchards.com.

46-R. Used tobacco netting wanted. Used ¾" PVC water pipe. Call 860-265-3738. Leave message.

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.

100-R. Are you a certified organic producer or transitioning to organic? If so, you may qualify for technical and financial assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program's Organic Initiative, farmers can receive help implementing a variety of conservation practices. Contact your local NRCS Field Office: Brooklyn - 860.774.0224, Ext. 102; Hamden - 203.287.8038, Ext. 101; Norwich - 860.887.3604, Ext. 300; Torrington - 860.626.8258, Ext. 200; Windsor - 860.688.7725, Ext. 118; or visit us at www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov.

101-R. Free spoiled produce for animal feed. Year-round supply. Boxed and Palletized. Call Steve S. 860-286-9999X134.

GREAT RATES FOR YOUR ADS!

AG REPORT ADS ARE ONLY \$3.75 FOR UP TO 15 WORDS! A GREAT VALUE FOR YOUR \$\$\$\$. SEND IN YOUR AD TODAY!

PLANT CONFERENCE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Robert Lyons from the University of Delaware and Longwood Gardens on The Color of the Native Plant Palette and Other Related Thoughts.

- Mike Dobres from NovaFlora, Inc., West Grove PA, on Breeding and Introduction of Hardy Perennials and Shrubs.

- Sharee Solow, landscape designer and horticulturist from Elkins Park PA, on design concepts on movement through the landscape in a talk entitled, Stairway to Paradise.

- John Friel, Marketing Manager for Emerald Coast Growers, Lancaster PA, on Big Stores, Small Plants, Little Choice.

- Bridget Behe from Michigan State University on You're Going to Do What With That? Research-based Perspectives on Consumers, Their Perceptions of the Environment, Recycling Behaviors and Attitudes, and Preferences for Local, Organic, and Sustainably-produced Ornamental Plants.

- Douglas Cox from the University of Massachusetts on Using Organic Media and Fertilizers.

A pre-registration fee of \$80 per person is due by March 3rd. The fee is \$90 per person for late registration after March 3rd and for walk-ins. Please make checks payable to the University of Connecticut and send to Donna Ellis, University of Connecticut, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, 1390 Storrs Road, Unit 4163, Storrs, CT 06269-4163.

Included with your registration: an information packet, lunch, morning & afternoon snacks, free-parking, and an opportunity to meet speakers and purchase autographed books from the Perennial Plant Conference bookstore. One pesticide recertification credit will be offered for attendees from CT, RI, MA, ME, NH, and VT (pending state approval).

For more information or to REGISTER ONLINE, visit the website at www.2011perennial.uconn.edu.

Questions? Contact Donna Ellis at (860) 486-6448; email: donna.elis@uconn.edu

STATION SCIENTISTS WILL COVER BASICS IN CHRISTMAS TREE GROWING AT CCTGA'S ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 5, 2011

Five scientists from The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station have been invited to present talks on the basics in growing Christmas trees successfully. Each of the scientists 45 minute presentations, including time for questions, will be especially helpful to those entering this business and will also serve as a refresher to veteran growers.

All of the talks will be given at CCTGA's 51st Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 5 at Snow School in Middletown. The program will start with 8:30 a.m. registration and coffee. A registration fee of \$10 will be charged per member payable at the door.

Members can visit with vendors throughout the morning and during the noon lunch hour. There is a \$15 fee per vendor. To reserve space call Executive Director Kathy Kogut at 203-237-9400.

Prior to the talks, CCTGA President Charlie Langevin will preside at the 51st Annual Business Meeting.

New this year, growers can purchase lunch consisting of hot dogs, salad, chips, soda and ice cream. The price is \$5.00 per person, payable during registration.

The program will conclude with a 15-minute wrap-up session at 2:45 p.m.

Pesticide recertification credits to maintain requirements for pesticide licenses will be available to those growers who attend the morning and afternoon program.

For a copy of the agenda, slate of CCTGA officers and directors proposed for 2011, and a map showing how to get to the Snow School contact Kathy Kogut at 203-237-9400.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY BOOSTS RURAL ECONOMIES

The Connecticut Farm Service Agency provided just over \$5.2 million in assistance to the state's agricultural producers during fiscal year 2010 (FY 2010), October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. According to Marsha B. Jetté, State Executive Director for Connecticut FSA, these funds provide farmers and ranchers with assistance to recover from disasters, implement conservation practices and with commodity price support to insure the well-being of American agriculture. Following is an accounting, by program, of federal farm payments issued in Connecticut during FY 2010:

\$633,029 was issued through the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) program, providing direct payments to eligible producers according to historically-based acreage and yields.

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) program provides crop disaster assistance to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses due to natural disasters. Qualifying producers in Connecticut received just over \$2 million during FY 2010.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary land retirement program available to agricultural producers to help safeguard environmentally-sensitive land. In FY 2010, CRP contract holders in Connecticut received \$16,781 in annual rental payments for doing their part to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat.

Other notable Connecticut program totals for FY 2010 include: \$9,800 for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); \$696,789 for the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program and \$792,802 for the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance (NAP) program; \$27,127 for Emergency Conservation (ECP) program; \$72,234 for Biomass Crop Assistance (BCAP) program; \$38,429 for Grassland Reserve (GRP) program and \$855,336 for Dairy Economic Loss Assistance (DELAP) program.

FSA's Farm Loan programs provide direct and guaranteed loans to purchase real estate or to provide funding for operating expenses. In FY 2010, Connecticut FSA made 23 operating and ownership loans for a total of \$1.6 million in direct loans. Additionally, FSA guaranteed 26 operating and ownership loans for a total of \$7.5 million.

Payments made through FSA's federal farm programs provide a financial boost to rural communities. The economic impact of farm programs reaches local businesses through purchases of equipment and crop inputs, such as seed, fertilizer and fuel. Some economists estimate that once a federal farm program payment is made to a producer, those dollars change hands locally at least seven times.

For consumers who are not directly involved in production agriculture, a safe, affordable and abundant food, fiber and fuel supply are the indirect benefits received through FSA's issuance of federal farm program payments.

For more information about USDA Farm Service Agency programs, visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR READING PROGRAM

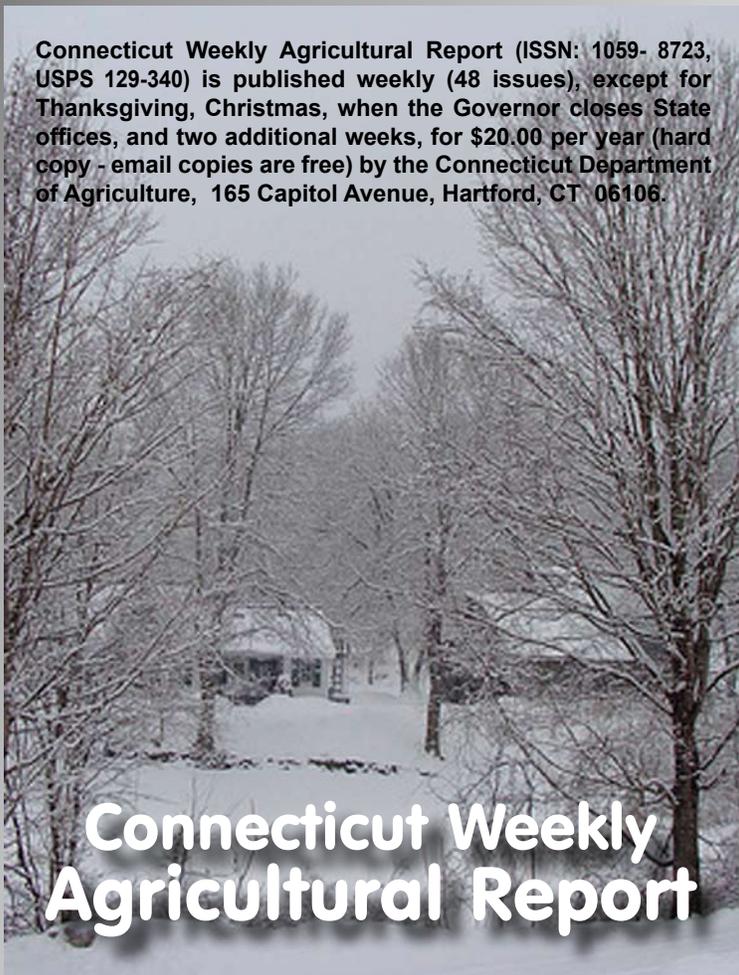
CT Ag in the Classroom would like to invite you to read for the 5th Annual Read Across CT Agricultural Literacy Event. Last year, over 600 books were read to over 18,500 primary and elementary school students throughout the eight counties! This year's book is *The Edible Pyramid Good Eating Every Day*, by Loreen Leedy. Consider participating in this educational event by reading to a primary grade (K-2) classroom in your community during March through November 2011. At the conclusion of the day's activities, the book will be donated to the school library so students and teachers have it to reference throughout the school year. Your involvement would be a tremendous show of public support in your community and provide an agricultural education opportunity for children in your town. They will learn about their food, fiber, floral and fuel systems. Support your industry's important role in their lives. Agriculture has a vital role in our state's economy. Thank you for considering adding the 2011 Agriculture Literacy event to your busy calendar. If you choose to participate in this exciting educational event, please contact Eleanore Provencal via e-mail so she can make further arrangements. The book, resource packet and volunteer reader forms will be provided to you. This statewide reading initiative is funded by a partnership of the Connecticut Agricultural Education Foundation and Farm Credit Northeast Ag Enhancement. Specific questions can be addressed to: Eleanore Provencal, at eleanore@ctaef.org

Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059- 8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly (48 issues), except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, when the Governor closes State offices, and two additional weeks, for \$20.00 per year (hard copy - email copies are free) by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

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- Marketing&Technology Robert Pellegrino (860) 713-2503
- Regional Market Robert Pellegrino (860) 566-3699
- State Veterinarian Dr. Mary J. Lis (860) 713-2505
- Regulation&Inspection Dr. Bruce Sherman (860) 713-2504
- Farmland Preservation Joseph Dippel (860) 713-2511
- Aquaculture David Carey (203) 874-2855
- FAX NUMBERS (860) 713-2516 (860) 713--2514

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Connecticut Weekly
 Agricultural Report

VOL. XCI
 NO. 8
 February 23, 2011