

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

M. Jodi Rell, Governor
F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director

CONNECTICUT
GROWN



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

2010 CT SPECIALTY FOOD PRODUCT AWARDS

by Linda Piotrowicz, Agricultural Marketing Representative

The CT Specialty Food Association (CSFA) held its ninth Product Awards Competition on Thursday, February 18, 2010, at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville. Two hundred thirty-seven specialty food items from Connecticut-based manufacturers, or products manufactured in Connecticut, were entered into 20 categories with hopes of receiving the prestigious honor of CSFA Product Award Winner 2010. A complete list of winners appears below.

A panel of 30 judges consisting of local media personalities, food writers, and chefs from the CT Department of Agriculture's Farm-to-Chef Program scored products on overall taste, originality, variety, and flavor. Each judge was assigned to specific categories, responsible for evaluating an average of approximately 30 different products.

Categories included beverages, confections, dairy, gift packs, gluten-free, pasta sauces, savory condiments, snack foods, and a dozen others. The wide array of products featured fine chocolates, ice cream sauces, pestos, pickles, hot teas and coffees, flavored seeds, breads, and much, much more.

"It is always amazing to see the diversity and quality of fine foods made by producers right here in Connecticut," said Tricia Levesque, CSFA Director. "This competition showcases the best of the best in the state. Not only are these products perfect for everyday meals and parties, they also make wonderful gifts. Who wouldn't be delighted to receive a package filled with such fabulous gourmet foods?"

"Purchasing products from Connecticut companies also fuels our local economy and helps create jobs here in our state, which is more important now than ever before," Ms. Levesque continued. "It really is a win-win for everyone – consumers get the best quality foods available and Connecticut companies stay strong."

Consumers looking for CT specialty food products can visit www.ctfood.org and ask for them at local markets and grocers. The Connecticut Creative – A General Store in Hartford and Well Baskets in Newtown offer a selection of CT specialty foods and CT-themed gift baskets featuring numerous CT specialty food items and can ship baskets anywhere in the country.

CSFA is a subdivision of the CT Food Association and is a non-profit organization that represents small food businesses based in the state. The CT Department of Agriculture attends CSFA meetings and provides information to the organization as appropriate. To learn more, visit www.ctfood.org or email ctfood@ctfood.org.

2010 CSFA PRODUCT AWARDS COMPETITION WINNERS

2010 PRODUCT OF THE YEAR

The Purple Pear by Tina, Willington, CT
Buttered Almond Cream

OUTSTANDING BARBECUE SAUCE

1st Place - Gourmet Conveniences, Ltd., Litchfield, CT
Sweet Sunshine Sauce – Sweet

2nd Place - RGN Sales, Inc., Coventry, RI
Rich's Sweet Heat

3rd Place - The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT
Sweet Tomato Grilling Sauce

OUTSTANDING BEVERAGE

1st Place - Willoughby's Coffee & Tea, Branford, CT
Sumatra Mandheling French Roast Organic Coffee

2nd Place - Willoughby's Coffee & Tea, Branford, CT
Super Keemun Hao Ya "A" Tea

3rd Place - Willoughby's Coffee & Tea, Branford, CT
English Breakfast Tea

OUTSTANDING BREAD

1st Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT
Zucchini Nut Bread

2nd Place - Wave Hill Breads (New England Bread Company, LLC),
Wilton, CT

Three Grain Pain du Campagne – Country Bread

3rd Place - Wave Hill Breads (New England Bread Company, LLC),
Wilton, CT

Three Grain Petit EPI

OUTSTANDING CONFECTION, BAKED FOOD, COOKIE OR CRACKER

1st Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT

Pear Cranberry with Walnut Crumb Pie

2nd Place - Willoughby's Coffee & Tea, Branford, CT
Chocolate Covered Coffee Beans

3rd Place - Kathie's Kitchen, LLC, Newtown, CT
Mucha Superseedz

OUTSTANDING DAIRY

1st Place - Cato Corner Farm, LLC, Colchester, CT
Black Ledge Blue Cheese

2nd Place - Cato Corner Farm, LLC, Colchester, CT
Bridgid's Abbey Cheese

3rd Place - Cato Corner Farm, LLC, Colchester, CT
Bloomsday Cheese

OUTSTANDING FROZEN FOOD

1st Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT
Australian Beef Pie

2nd Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT
Quiche Lorraine

AWARDS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.
March 1, 2010

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

EXTRA LARGE	108-110
LARGE	104-108
MEDIUM	91-93

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, March 1, 2010

Live animals brought the following
 average prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	30.00	32.00
76-90 lbs.	35.00	40.00
91-105 lbs.	45.00	50.00
106 lbs. & up	55.00	75.00
Farm Calves	90.00	125.00
Started Calves	22.00	28.00
Veal Calves	60.00	85.00
Open Heifers	58.00	75.00
Feeder Steers	45.00	87.50
Beef Steers	55.00	70.00
Stock Bulls	62.50	82.50
Beef Bulls	58.00	60.00
Replacement Cows	1100.00	1500.00
Feeder Pigs each	45.00	85.00
Sheep each	50.00	80.00
Lambs each	45.00	85.00
Goats each	65.00	140.00
Kid Goats each	75.00	115.00
Canners	Up to	50.00
Cutters	52.00	57.00
Utility Grade Cows	58.00	60.00
Rabbits each	7.00	32.00
Chickens each	4.00	24.00
Ducks each	4.00	17.00

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, March 1, 2010

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	52.00-54.00	-----	47.00-48.50
Lean	85-90% lean		
	43.00-47.50	48.00-49.50	38.00-42.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS:			
Yield Grade 1	1405-2160 lbs		58.50-61.50
Bullocks:	915-1480 lbs		66.50-70.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn			
Choice and Prime 2-3			
	50-60 lbs		166.00-180.00
	60-80 lbs		155.00-174.00
	80-90 lbs		148.00-166.00
	90-110 lbs		144.00-162.00
	110-130 lbs		136.00-150.00
	130-150 lbs		132.00-145.00
Choice 2-3			
	40-60 lbs		134.00-146.00
	60-80 lbs		132.00-150.00
	90-110 lbs		116.00-132.00
	110-130 lbs		108.00-122.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh			
	120-160 lbs		66.00-82.00
	160-200 lbs		58.00-70.00
	200-300 lbs		52.00-62.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Empire bu 2-1/2 up no grade	10.00	11.00
APPLES, Fuji 88ct fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLES, Gala fcy 100 ct	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Red Delicious 120ct fcy	14.00	14.00
POTATOES, White Round 50lb	9.00	9.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 11 lbs on vine lg	21.00	25.00
TURNIPS, Purple Top 25lb	12.00	12.00
SHIPPED IN		
APPLES, Granny Smith Organic us exfcy,80ct	45.00	45.00
ASPARAGUS, 28lb lge MX	30.00	30.00
CANTALOUPEs, 12ct HON	16.00	18.00
ARTICHOKES, 30ct CA	35.00	35.00
BEANS, Green bu handpicked FL	55.00	56.00
BEETS, 12's TX	15.00	16.00
CABBAGE, green 50lb lge NY	11.00	11.00
CAULIFLOWER, 12ct AZ	23.00	23.00
CELERIAC, 20lb CAN	18.00	18.00
CUCUMBER, 1 1/9bu med MX	32.00	32.00
DAIKON, 1-1/9 bu FL	26.00	26.00
EGGPLANT, Greenhouse 11lb sm CAN	25.00	25.00
GARLIC, Elephant 10lb CA	30.00	33.00
GRAPES, Flame 18lb lge CHILE	26.00	28.00
GRAPEFRUIT, Red 40ct FLA	13.00	15.00
HORSERADISH, 5lb MIZZ	12.00	12.00
LEMONS, 115ct AZ	23.00	24.00
LETTUCE, Boston 12/4oz greenhouse TENN	14.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Iceberg, 24ct AZ	19.00	20.00
NECTARINES, 48-50 CHILE	20.00	21.00
OKRA, 1/2 bu sm-med MX	35.00	35.00
ONION, Yellow 50lb med NY	13.00	14.00
ORANGES, Navel 88's CA	17.00	18.00
PEACHES, 44ct CHILE	16.00	18.00
PEAS, English bu Organic MX	60.00	60.00
PEPPER, Bell Green xl FL	36.00	36.00
RHUBARB, 10lb greenhouse MICH	28.00	30.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb lg CA	20.00	21.00
TOMATOES, 5x6 FL	40.00	42.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

Slaughter Ewes Utility 1-2: Thin Fleshed		
	120-160 lbs	56.00-74.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, estimated weights.		
Kids:		
	40-60 lbs	90.00-114.00
	60-80 lbs	110.00-138.00
	80-100 lbs	134.00-156.00
	100-120 lbs	144.00-164.00
Nannies/Does:		
	80-130 lbs	106.00-120.00
	130-180 lbs	118.00-128.00
Bucks/Billies:		
	100-150 lbs	168.00-182.00
	150-250 lbs	90.00-215.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon March 1, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	50.00-51.50
	270-300 lbs	50.00-52.00
	300-350 lbs	50.50-51.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	48.50-50.00
	270-300 lbs	48.00-50.00
	300-350 lbs	47.00-48.50
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	44.00-48.00
	500-600 lbs	58.00-62.00
	600-700 lbs	61.00-66.00

METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
 Grade A eggs on:
March 1, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	114-118
LARGE	112-116
MEDIUM	98-102

Above quotations based on
 CARTON sales to retailers.



PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

Week ending Feb 26, 2010

Hay and Straw Market for Eastern Pennsylvania. All hay prices paid by dealers at the farm and per ton.

	Premium
Alfalfa	205.00-230.00
Mixed Hay	195.00-240.00
	Good
Timothy	137.00-182.00
Straw	120.00-185.00

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAIL REPORT

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores in the Northeast

Week of February 26, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound unless otherwise stated.

VEGETABLES

Asparagus	1.49 - 2.99
Broccoli	.98 - 2.49 per bunch
Carrots, Baby organic	1.66 - 2.00 1lb bag
Cucumbers	.67 each
Lettuce, Iceberg	.99 - 1.50 each
Mushrooms, White	1.00 - 2.00 8oz pkg
Onions, Sweet, Yellow	.99 - 1.69
Peppers, Bell green	1.28 - 1.28
Peppers, Bell red	.99 - 2.99
Potatoes, Russet	1.45 - 3.00 5lb bag
Squash, Zucchini	1.00 - 1.59
Tomatoes	1.28 - 2.99
Tomatoes on the vine	1.77 - 2.99

FRUITS

Apples, Red delicious	.99 - 1.49
Avocados, Haas	.99 - 1.50 each
Cantaloup	1.50 - 2.50 each
Grapes, Green/Red	.98 - 2.99
Honeydew	2.50 - 3.99 each
Lemons	.33 - .75 each
Mangoes	.99 - 1.50 each
Nectarines	1.50 - 2.79
Oranges, Navel	.20 - 1.00 each
Peaches	1.58 - 2.79
Strawberries	1.99 - 3.99 16oz pkg

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Bee-keepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, 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.

12-R. Hay – excellent 1st cut round, plastic wrapped bales \$40. 2nd cut \$50. 2nd cut squares \$5. Lebanon 860-886-0716.

14-R. Hay 4x5 round bales, stored in barn, \$50. p.u. Hereford heifer spring calf \$450. Standard donkey 6 mo. old jack \$450. Pygmy goats, young, 3 males, 1 female. International 1850 bucket loader attachment \$400. Call 860-537-1974.

17-R. Hedge rows, drainage ditches, fence lines or any other hard to reach areas getting overgrown? We have the solution. An excavator mounted tree/brush mower capable of mowing 8"-12" diameters flush to the ground. Also Fecon mower mounted on Trac Skidsteer. Call for brochure or machine location to observe working or free demonstration on your site. (860) 875-0280 or visit Burkeridge.com Commercial Mowing Division.

19-R. First cut 4x5 round bales \$40 p.u. First cut square bales \$4.50. For information call 203-265-4588.

25-R. Honeybees for sale, 3lb packages scheduled March 27 and April 26; 5 frame nucs April 10, Riverside Apiaries, 860-295-8972.

31-R. NH 316 baler w/mod. 75 kicker, electric controls \$7,500. JD 1219 Haybine, stub guards, hyd. tongue \$3,900. Haywagon \$1900. Kuhn GF452T tedder \$1900. NH hay rake, old, \$900. 150 gal. Mueller M self-contained bulk tank \$2,500. Small 2" DeLaval pipeline, complete w/pump, wash sink and receiver jar \$2,500. 860-951-8021.

33-R. 1987 Ford 350 diesel platform truck – good running condition, almost new tires \$2,200. Phone 203-906-9306.

36-R. 4 foot EMC 3pt hitch rotary mower \$300. James Fazzone 203-250-6677.

37-R. Somers 3.3 acre business zoned with 960 SF bldg and 9000 SF of greenhouse space. Zoned for many business uses. \$239,900 Clint Charter, Wallace-Tustin Realty, 860-558-3908.

38-R. Hay – 1st cut \$5.00 per bale. Special quantity discounts. No delivery. Stebner Farm, Lebanon, 860-423-9310.

39-R. Farmall 140 with full set of cultivators/Cole side dresser available. Farmall 140 with snow plow. Farmall Super A (late model) with full set of cultivators, side dresser available. Farmall Cs wide or narrow front ends with cultivators. Kasheta power equipment Company 860-528-8421.

40-R. KMW loader off of Zetor 5211 tractor. Best offer. 860-861-4238.

42-R. Pioneer Forecart for use as a training cart or for pleasure driving. Excellent condition. \$ 1,450.00 Contact: Tom 860-885-8299

43-R. Draft Horse Harness made by Yonie:Two stainless steel hame style draft horse harnesses. Excellent condition. \$1,800.00/pair Contact: Tom 860-885-8299.

45-R. Corn silage in silo with unloader good for smaller quantities in Bristol, CT. Call evenings 860-635-1379.

WANTED

35-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 1-800-806-1664.

41-R. For Lease: Preston, Rt 164, easily accessible farm property, buildings, etc. For more information 860-889-0598.

44-R. One or two bottom trailer plow wanted or 3ph. Telephone 860-354-4659.

510-R. Producers Wanted: Connecticut Farm-to-Chef is a free program that helps connect local culinary professionals with producers and

distributors of CT Grown products. Informational newsletters, workshops, networking, promotions and other opportunities are provided to members as part of the program. Additional Connecticut producers and distributors are needed for this popular and expanding program. Please help us get your product into the hands of local chefs! Contact Linda at the CT Department of Agriculture, Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov or 860-713-2558, for more information.

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.

AWARDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

3rd Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT
Chicken Pot Pie

OUTSTANDING GLUTEN FREE

1st Place - Gilbert's Gourmet Goodies, Sandy Hook, CT
Apple Crumb Pie

2nd Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It – Medium Beet Horseradish

3rd Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It – Hot Beet Horseradish

OUTSTANDING GIFT PACK

1st Place - The Purple Pear by Tina, Willington, CT
Two & Four Box Dessert Topping Gift Pack

2nd Place - Sweet Maven's, LLC, East Hartford, CT
Biscotti Jar (Valentine's Day)

3rd Place - Ola! Foods, LLC, Redding, CT
Ola! Granola Gift Jars

OUTSTANDING HERB, SEASONING OR SPICE BLEND

1st Place - Passage Foods, Collinsville, CT
Pad Thai

2nd Place - El's Kitchen, Inc., Weston, CT
Moroccan Lamb Spice Rub

3rd Place - Passage Foods, Collinsville, CT
Red Thai Curry

OUTSTANDING HORS D'OEUVRE

1st Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It – Hot Beet Horseradish

2nd Place - Artisan C.S.F., Colchester, CT
Lobster Lover's Dip

3rd Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It – Medium Beet Horseradish

OUTSTANDING JAM, HONEY OR SWEET TOPPING

1st Place - The Purple Pear By Tina, Willington, CT
Buttered Almond Cream

2nd Place - Twin Pines Farm, Thomaston, CT
Raspberry Rhubarb Jam

3rd Place - Twin Pines Farm, Thomaston, CT
Raspberry Peach Jam

OUTSTANDING OIL, VINEGAR OR SALAD DRESSING

1st Place - Capa di Roma, East Hartford, CT
Aged Balsamic Vinegar

2nd Place - Stark Naked, Inc., Monroe, CT
Japanese Ginger Dressing

3rd Place - Ariston Specialties, LLC, New Britain, CT
Ariston Pomegranate Balsamic Vinegar

OUTSTANDING PACKAGING OR DESIGN

1st Place - May Cookie Company, Newington, CT
Hearty & Wholesome Oatmeal Cranberry Cookie Mix

Rich & Chewy Chocolate Chip Cookie Mix
Triple Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Cookie Mix

AWARDS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

AWARDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

2nd Place - Bridgewater Chocolate, Brookfield, CT
Cherry Hearts

3rd Place - Cookie Wishes, LLC/Les Oliviers, LLC,
Newtown, CT

Winton Farms Wildflower Honey

OUTSTANDING PASTA SAUCE

1st Place - Frank's Marinara, Amston, CT
NY Style Sicilian Gravy

2nd Place - Frank's Marinara, Amston, CT
Original Marinara Sauce

3rd Place - Chef Silvio's of Wooster St/New Med Foods, LLC,
Guilford, CT

FraDiavolo Sauce

OUTSTANDING PASTA, RICE OR SOUP

1st Place - Boxed Goodes, LLC, Litchfield, CT
Sunny Dahl

2nd Place - Artisan C.S.F., Colchester, CT
Jambalaya Soup

3rd Place - Artisan C.S.F., Colchester, CT
Tortilla Soup

OUTSTANDING PICKLE, RELISH OR TAPENADE

1st Place - The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT
Artichoke Parmesan Tapenade

2nd Place - The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT
Dilled Carrot Tomato Tapenade

3rd Place - The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT
Roasted Vegetable Tapenade

OUTSTANDING PRODUCT LINE

1st Place - Boxed Goodes, LLC, Litchfield, CT
Herbs, Rice, Snacks & Soup

-- TIE --

Twin Pines Farm, Thomaston, CT

Jams, Pickles, Relish & Vinegar

2nd Place - The Olive Oil Factory, LLC, Watertown, CT
Flavored Oils

3rd Place - Gourmet Conveniences, Ltd., Litchfield, CT
Sweet Sunshine Sauce

OUTSTANDING SALSA OR HOT SAUCE

1st Place - Mama Manju's Salsa, Chester, CT
Fandango Mango Salsa

2nd Place - Fresh Trak Foods, LLC, East Granby, CT
Salsa Loca - Just Right

-- TIE --

Giff's Original, LLC, Cheshire, CT

Mango Spice Salsa

3rd Place - Gourmet Conveniences, Ltd., Litchfield, CT
Sweet Sunshine Sauce - Atomic

OUTSTANDING SAVORY CONDIMENT

1st Place - The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT
Gingered Peach Apricot Spread

2nd Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It - Medium Beet Horseradish

3rd Place - Can't Beet It, LLC, South Windsor, CT
Can't Beet It - Hot Beet Horseradish

OUTSTANDING SNACK FOOD

1st Place - Aurora Products, Inc., Stratford, CT
Wizard's Mix

2nd Place - Michele's Pies, Norwalk, CT

Sweet & Spicy Pumpkin Seeds

3rd Place - Aurora Products, Inc., Stratford, CT
Spicy Pub Mix

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