



# Agricultural Report

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



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503  
Linda Piotrowicz, Editor  
Wednesday, July 4, 2012

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

### MANAGING FARM WOODLOTS

By Jeffrey S. Ward, Chief Scientist, CAES Dept. of Forestry & Horticulture

Approximately 150,000 of Connecticut's 1,400,000 acres of privately owned forest are part of a family farm. In addition to providing amenities such as riparian protection, privacy, and wildlife habitat, these forests, if properly managed, can provide a periodic source of income to offset land ownership costs, including insurance and property taxes. Farm woodlots can also supply rough timber for outbuildings, fence posts, and firewood for heating. More recently, interest has grown in using woodlots for silvopasture—grazing under managed forests.

Since the early 1980s, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) has been developing practical solutions for sustainable forest management. Our research has focused on innovative practices that maintain forest productivity and health. In addition, we are currently investigating the impacts of, and potential solutions for, non-native insects and diseases, invasive weeds, and deer browse damage.

Forests are dynamic ecosystems, not dioramas. Change happens. Management decisions implemented today, including no management, influence a forest for decades. Unmanaged forests gradually become dominated by late succession species such as sugar maple and beech as the larger oaks grow old, senesce, and die. Forest management is a process of favoring the trees and other vegetation that provide the products and amenities important to the landowner by removing unhealthy trees and undesired vegetation. Forest management may include a commercial harvest if that fits with landowner objectives.

Active forest management provides not only an opportunity to generate income, but to also shape the future composition and productivity of the forest. Good forest management has the same guiding principle of good agriculture—responsible land stewardship. Good forest management ensures a sustainable, renewable flow of tangible (products) and intangible benefits such as connections with past and future generations. Correctly executed, harvesting to improve a stand will reduce the proportion of undesirable stems and species while improving the growth of desirable stems and species. Correctly executed, a regeneration harvest will increase the abundance of desirable young stems if the deer population is not too high.

So how should you manage your forest? The first step is to contact a forester. In Connecticut, only a certified forester who has passed a rigorous state examination can legally provide advice on how to manage your forest and help make your objectives a reality. For a list of private certified foresters or to arrange a visit by a CT-DEEP service forester, you can call the CT-DEEP, Division of Forestry at (860) 424-3630 or go to: [DEEP: Cooperative Landowner Assistance](#) for direct contact information of the local service forester. For information on studies mentioned in this report, please email the author at [jeffrey.ward@ct.gov](mailto:jeffrey.ward@ct.gov).

A certified forester can assist with mapping your forest stands and can suggest options when you create a prioritized list of objectives. There can be separate objectives for different forest stands or parcels. Forests can be managed for a wide range of products and services including, but not limited to, timber, firewood, nature preserve, visual barriers, hiking, silvopasture, hunting, stream protection, aquifer recharge, bird watching, mushrooms, maple syrup, witchhazel, dust control, forest herbs, smokewoods, decorative floral products, edible nuts, and pine straw.

Developing a management prescription (plan) requires an inventory to determine what is present on your forest. The forester can complete the inventory or provide information on how you can complete an inventory. The inventory will serve as a guide in determining which of your goals are feasible depending on the amount you are willing to invest in the stand.

There is no "one-size fits all" management prescription because initial forest conditions vary widely from stand to stand and each owner has distinct, often multiple, management objectives. Some objectives can be used as a tool to achieve other objectives in your forest. For example, harvesting dying, poorly formed, or low-value species for firewood can concentrate growth on higher quality timber species; increasing native shrub density along streams for bird watching can reduce non-point movement of sediment and fertilizer from fields into riparian areas. Research conducted by CAES scientists has shown that controlling infestations of an invasive shrub, Japanese barberry, can dramatically lower the risk of exposure to ticks infected with the agents for Lyme disease—an important consideration if your woodlot is used for hunting or livestock grazing.

(continued on Page 3)

**WHOLESALE PEPPERS SHIPPED IN**

	Low	High
AJIES,20lb,DR	32.00	35.00
ANAHEIM,10lb,NC	16.00	18.00
BELL,Grn,jmb,1-1/9bu,NJ	16.00	18.00
BELL,Rd,11lb,grnhs,CN	16.00	20.00
CHERRY HOT,1/2bu,SC	33.00	33.00
CUBNLL,1-1/9bu,XL,GA	16.00	18.00
FINGER HOT,1/2bu,DR	38.00	38.00
FRESNO,10lb,rd,MX	55.00	55.00
HABANERO,8lb,DR	24.00	25.00
JALAPENO,1/2bu,GA	13.00	15.00
LONG HOT,1-1/9bu GA	18.00	18.00



**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
BEAN,Grn,bu	18.00	22.00
BEETS,12s	12.00	12.00
BLUEBERRY,12/1pt,plp	28.00	30.00
BLUEBERRY,12/1pt,clmshll	22.00	24.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	15.00	16.00
BROCCOLI,Crwn,20lb	16.00	16.00
CABBAGE,Grn,50lb	8.00	10.00
CHARD,Rnbw,12s	15.00	15.00
CHERRY,Bng,20lb	50.00	50.00
CHERRY,Rnr,20lb	60.00	60.00
CHIVES,12s	6.00	8.00
COLLARD,12-16s	10.00	12.00
CORN,5dz	14.00	20.00
CUCMBR,Pcklng,1/2bu	18.00	20.00
CUCMBR,Slct,1-1/9bu	8.00	12.00
CUCMBR,Spr slct,1-1/9bu	14.00	16.00
KALE,12s	10.00	12.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,12/4oz	14.00	16.00
LETTUCE,Grn lf,24ct	10.00	13.00
LETTUCE,Rmn,24ct	10.00	13.00
MINT,12s	10.00	10.00
PEACHES,25lb,2-1/2min	25.00	25.00
PEAS,Englsh,bu	25.00	35.00
PEAS,Snp,10lb	15.00	20.00
PEAS,Snw,10lb	15.00	20.00
PLUM,Erly gld,20lb	30.00	30.00
RADISHES,24s	10.00	11.00
SQUASH,Grn,1/2bu,md	8.00	10.00
SQUASH,Grn,1/2bu,fncy	10.00	12.00
SQUASH,Yllw,1/2bu,md	10.00	12.00
SQUASH,Yllw,1/2bu,fncy	12.00	14.00

**SHIPPED IN**

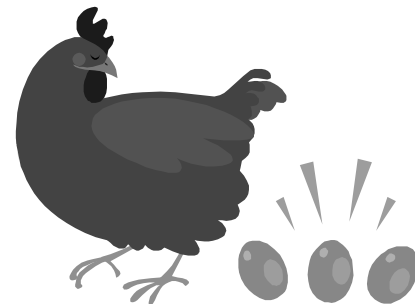
	Low	High
ESCAROLE,1-1/9bu,NJ	12.00	14.00
GRAPES,Flme,18lb,CA	26.00	30.00
NECTARINES,25lb,CA	28.00	28.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

July 2, 2012

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	79.50-84.50	n/a	n/a
Boners	80-85% lean		
	79.00-83.50	84.00-86.50	70.00-76.00
Lean	85-90% lean		
	75.00-79.00	80.00-82.00	69.00-73.50
<b>CALVES: All prices per cwt.</b>			
<b>Graded Bull Calves: Number 1</b>			
	95-125lbs	137.00-150.00	
	85-90lbs	120.00-135.00	
Number 2	95-120lbs	120.00-135.00	
Number 3	95-100lbs	95.00-115.00	
	75-90lbs	70.00-80.00	
Utility:	70-105lbs	50.00-70.00	
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:</b>			
<b>Wooled &amp; Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3</b>			
	50-60lbs	135.00-150.00	
	60-80lbs	124.00-158.00	
	80-90lbs	134.00-140.00	
	90-110lbs	136.00-142.00	
	110-130lbs	138.00	
	150-200lbs	n/a	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.41-1.51
LARGE	1.32-1.40
MEDIUM	.99-1.09

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

July 2, 2012

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

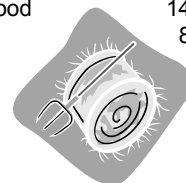
EXTRA LARGE	1.05-1.09
LARGE	1.03-1.07
MEDIUM	.77-.81

**PENNSYLVANIA HAY REPORT**

July 2, 2012

Eastern Pennsylvania, prices per ton.

Alfalfa, Premium	275.00-325.00
Alfalfa, Good	160.00-200.00
Mixed Hay, Premium	220.00-325.00
Mixed Hay, Good	160.00-220.00
Timothy, Premium	n/a
Timothy, Good	145.00-200.00
Straw	80.00-160.00



**Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3**

40-60lbs	n/a
60-80lbs	120.00-142.00
80-90lbs	117.00-130.00
90-110lbs	116.00-132.00

**SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh**

120-160lbs	62.00-80.00
150-200lbs	64.00-70.00
200-300lbs	60.00
<b>Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh</b>	
120-160lbs	66.00-72.00
150-200lb	n/a

**SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.**

30-40lbs	n/a
40-60lbs	120.00-154.00
60-80lbs	145.00-168.00
80-90lbs	180.00-182.00
100-120lbs	n/a
<b>Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs</b>	
130-180lbs	139.00-154.00
130-180lbs	160.00-168.00
<b>Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs</b>	
150-250lbs	187.00-192.00
150-250lbs	234.00-260.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

July 2, 2012

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

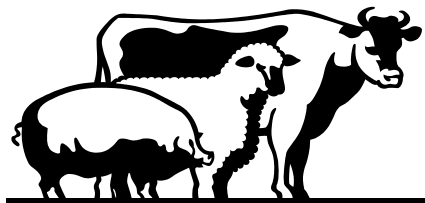
49-54	220-270 lbs	73.50-77.00
	270-300 lbs	75.00-78.00
	300-400 bs	n/a
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	45.00-50.00
	500-700 lbs	48.00-54.00
45-49	500-700 lbs	n/a
Boars:	300-700 lbs	20.00-23.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, July 2, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	42.00	48.00
61-75 lbs.	70.00	85.00
76-90 lbs.	120.00	125.00
91-105 lbs.	130.00	135.00
106 lbs. & up	140.00	147.50
Farm Calves	150.00	180.00
Starter Calves	45.00	55.00
Veal Calves	115.00	160.00
Open Heifers	105.00	110.00
Beef Heifers	82.00	86.00
Beef Steers	94.00	127.50
Feeder Steers	94.00	121.00
Stock Bulls	85.00	130.00
Beef Bulls	89.00	106.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	160.00	185.00
Goats each	60.00	255.00
Kid Goats	80.00	115.00
Canners	Up to	74.75
Cutters	75.00	79.00
Utility Grade Cows	80.00	83.50
Rabbits each	5.00	20.00
Chickens each	4.00	26.00
Ducks each	5.00	24.00
Feeder Pigs	5 at	85.00
Lambs	50.00	230.00
Sheep	60.00	100.00



## 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 860-713-2588 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](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.

68-R. Vicon fertilizer sower. Model # 2219. Very Good. J.D. Model L.A. tractor. Completely restored. Call 860-871-0171. Cell 860-559-5031.

78-R. Tobacco Poles, Used. \$10 each. 12 ft long, good condition: 860-683-0266

83-R. Tomato stakes, trailer decks, fence boards, custom cut lumber, Staehly Products Co. LLC, 860-873-9774

91 Kinkelder Orchard mist sprayer. 50 & 100 gallon tanks. Good condition. 860-564-3615.

98-R. Hoophouse 76' x 26', already taken down. \$3,500 or best offer. Call 860-248-3070 or email [vegetablemanager@earthlink.net](mailto:vegetablemanager@earthlink.net)

101 1995 Dodge Dump Rack Body 4X4 A.T. 6 Cyl Cummins Diesel engine with 9' plow, no reverse. Asking \$4,500. 203-288-9676.

103-R 8 ft landscape rake good condition, \$500. Also JF PTO Rake and Tedder, \$1,000 or reasonable offer. 860-675-3707.

105-R Narragansett turkey chicks, \$8 each. Frozen turkeys \$9 lb. Taking orders for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Breeders available \$50 each. Pick up in Colchester, CT. Call 860-303-9780 or 860-537-4773.

106-R Massey-Ferguson farm tractor, 251 XE 4-wheel drive, 53 HP diesel. 2002, 585 hours, always garaged, like new condition, asking \$15,500. Photos available, call Bob at 860-456-3333, Oak Haven Farm Scotland, CT.

107-R Beef Heifers. Some with calves. Others bred. Registered Highland and Gelbvieh mix. Docile, easy keepers. Call Diane days, 860-620-0194, evenings 860-621-6363.

110-R. Used tobacco netting. Great for protecting your blueberry bushes. 860-683-0266.

111-R Registered Hereford Bulls for sale, Top Genetics, Old Beech Farm 860-693-2052

112-R Hale 3" x 4" Pump with intake and discharge, recent rebuild, \$2,600. John Deere 2150, New Loaded Tires, \$6,700. MF, 8 ft transport harrow, \$2,100. Ferguson 6 ft Rotovator, \$1,700. Case/IH Farmall 70 Tractor, 2WD, 70 HP, 13.6 x 38 Radials-625 hours, \$19,900. 860-428-4846, [pumpkinpaul1@aol.com](mailto:pumpkinpaul1@aol.com).

114 Very Good 1<sup>st</sup> cutting hay from 2011. 50-75 bales. \$3.50/bale, you pick up. Coventry, 860-742-0616.

### 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.

113. Pasture Land for rent. 17 acre pasture for summer rental. Fertilized, with pasture shelter and automated drinker. Suitable for cattle or horses. \$500/month. 860-364-5019.

### MANAGING FARM WOODLOTS

(continued from Page 1)

If a commercial harvest is feasible and fits with your management objectives, the forester can assist with marking which trees will be cut, laying out skid trails and roads, writing a contract, addressing regulatory issues (primarily wetland crossings), and putting out a bid to get the highest possible value for your wood. If you are managing your stand as a nature preserve, the forester can provide guidance on controlling invasive plants that might be replacing native species and designing trails that minimize erosion potential.

Ongoing research at CAES and elsewhere has shown there is one all-too-common practice that must be avoided: high-grading or "timber mining". High-grading is often promoted as diameter-limit cutting. Landowners may be mistakenly persuaded that the largest trees are over mature and should be harvested before they die. However, most large trees with thick, healthy crowns will not only survive for decades, but, if the stand is thinned, will grow faster and increase in multiple economic and ecosystem values. Studies completed by CAES have shown that management can increase diameter growth by 40% or more for red oaks ranging from 7 to 115 years old without a loss of stem quality. In oak-dominated stands, it is the poorly growing trees that should be removed until the stand can be properly regenerated.

Studies at CAES found that several problems can arise following high-grading or diameter-limit cutting. First, to achieve economically viable harvests, it is necessary to cut smaller trees with each harvest. This is because there are fewer and fewer large trees after each harvest. Second, diameter-limit cutting reduces stand growth rates by altering the species composition. Lastly, diameter-limit cutting reduces quality as many of the remaining trees have rot or poorly formed stems that are more susceptible to wind, ice, and snow damage. CAES research found that high-grading reduced per acre volume growth by 80% over a 20-year period, and much of the growth was on slower-growing, lower-value maple, birch, and shrubby species.

Perhaps the primary inducement for implementing a diameter-limit harvest is that this practice produces the highest immediate payout to the landowner, forester, and logger because only the largest, most valuable trees are removed with no investment in forest improvement. Responsible stewards of the land will shun the short-term, one-time profit of high-grading and diameter-limit cutting by favoring management practices that encourage long-term productivity and forest health. Sustainably managing your woodlots ensures that future generations will continue to enjoy a healthy and diverse forest.

### CT GROWN TENTS

Connecticut Grown tents have come in. The tents are 10'x10' King Canopy frame with the Connecticut Grown Logo on all four sides of the canopy, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sale is limited to farmers only, with a maximum of four tents per farmer. Non-farmers cannot purchase these tents. Cost is \$142.00 per tent, payable by check only, made out to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. Cash cannot be accepted.

Pick-up is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2012, and Thursday, July 5, 2012 at the Hartford Regional Market, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT. A Connecticut Department of Agriculture representative will be under the farmers' market canopy and ready to assist you.

Directions to the Hartford Regional Market: Take exit 27 off 1-91. Go straight off the exit onto Murphy Road and continue straight onto Reserve Road (the Regional Market is approximately 1.1 miles off the exit ramp on the left). Go in the first entrance and proceed straight. The farmers' market pavilion will be on your left.

### SENATOR LIEBERMAN ON THE FARM BILL

Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT) recently joined his Senate colleagues in approving a five-year national farm bill. Despite having reservations about cuts to nutrition programs, he said he supported final passage of the bill because it provides needed financial relief to farmers across Connecticut, includes funding for environmental protection, and takes major steps to rein in excessive payments to large agri-business.

Working with colleagues from New Jersey and Rhode Island, Senator Lieberman modified the bill to guarantee that Connecticut's small cities, towns, and villages will continue to take part in USDA's Rural Development program, which provides loans and grants for business development, water and wastewater improvements, and community facilities.

He cosponsored an amendment offered by Senator John Kerry (D-MA) to extend eligibility for certain USDA emergency loans to commercial fishermen and shellfish producers.

He cosponsored provisions that will ensure farmers receiving crop insurance subsidies continue to be good stewards of the earth and comply with conservation requirements currently in place for those receiving direct payments.

He and the Agriculture Committee Chairwoman affirmed their common view that the Long Island Sound watershed is a perfect example of a potential project to be supported under the new Regional Conservation Partnership Program created in this bill.

He inserted language that will provide equity for the District of Columbia under cooperative forestry programs funded by the McIntire-Stennis Act.

The Farm Bill includes a number of other provisions that will benefit Connecticut's farmers, fishermen, and families.

**Protecting Dairy Farmers:** The bill establishes two entirely new dairy programs, and repeals the existing MILC program. The Margin Protection Program and the Market Stabilization Program will protect dairy farmers' margins while also creating a market stabilization program to reduce uncertainty and protect Connecticut's dairy farmers from price fluctuations.

**Supporting Specialty Crop Producers:** This bill increases Specialty Crop Block Grants from \$55 million annually to \$70 million annually, includes \$200 million over five years for a renewed Specialty Crop Research Initiative, and includes a study of whether a new type of insurance coverage could better protect specialty crop producers against losses due to contamination concern.

**Conserving Natural Resources:** All conservation easement programs will be streamlined under one program, the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program. These and other changes in the bill will not only preserve a larger number of farms in Connecticut, but will address water quality issues in Long Island Sound and Connecticut's many rivers and streams.

**Encouraging Access to Healthy Food:** The bill reauthorizes and expands the existing Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program, which provides competitive grants to improve and expand farmers markets, roadside stands, and community-supported agriculture programs. Grants can also be used to target low-income populations to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables. The bill also supports the expansion of SNAP benefits to be used at local farmers markets.

**Helping Orchards Recover:** The bill contains a provision that will extend Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance to orchards and fruit farms in Litchfield County and Fairfield County that were hit hard by late spring frosts this year.



**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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[www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov) [www.CT.gov/doag](http://www.CT.gov/doag)

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