



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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, January 2, 2013

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. INKE SUNILA

By the Bureau of Aquaculture

Dr. Inke Sunila has worked for 15 years as the shellfish pathologist at the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Aquaculture, which serves as the lead state agency on shellfish.

Bivalve pathology (the study of diseases in a class of shellfish that includes oysters, clams, scallops, and mussels) may sound like a most boring topic, but it is in fact a complicated tale of ancient organisms originating over 450 million years ago. During those millions of years, bivalves have endured searing heat, icing, desiccation (dehydration) during low tides, pollution, and lack of oxygen. They have been exposed to innumerable parasites and pathogens.

Not surprisingly, bivalves have evolved into genetically complex organisms with over 28,000 genes (humans have only 21,000). Due to their relatively complex anatomy (structure) and histology (tissue make-up), bivalve pathology parallels that of higher organisms and vertebrates.

Diseases in bivalves can be caused by many different types of pathogens, including viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and metazoa. Bivalves have sophisticated immune systems with cells that are able to recognize and destroy foreign invaders, and have mechanisms not present in higher organisms, which have enabled their extremely long existence in the world's oceans.

Bivalves also have a special form of chronic inflammatory response—pearls—which humans prize and wear as jewelry.

During her distinguished career, Dr. Sunila has collected a

comprehensive and international bivalve pathology slide collection. The collection consists of the histological (tissue sample) slides from her last 15 years working in Long Island Sound, prior 10 years working in the Chesapeake Bay, and 10 years of bivalve pathology research in the Baltic Sea.

While collaborating with Dr. Sunila, colleagues from different parts of the world have added to the collection, which is now a valuable resource to students of shellfish pathology.

Shellfish pathology is missing something very important: a textbook on the topic. Shellfish pathology is learned only via internships with more experienced scientists and by attending the lean offering of shellfish pathology classes at various universities.

Dr. Sunila is regarded as a national expert regarding shellfish pathology and is willing to pass the information to the next generation of shellfish pathologists, as it was passed to her. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Aquaculture has

served as a hub for teaching shellfish pathology for years.

Dr. Sunila has taught graduate students and Ph.D. candidates from France, Spain, Canada, Brazil, Finland, Russia, and Pakistan, as well as more locally from UCONN and Southern Connecticut State University. Students provide their own funding and study at the bureau for durations ranging from weeks to months. These collaborations have produced master's theses, Ph.D. dissertations, and numerous scientific articles.

(continued on Page 4)



Dr. Inke Sunila, left, and SeaGrant intern Hillary Kenyon research disease-resistant oysters



**WHOLESALE CUT FLOWERS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
GARDENIA, per blm	5.00	5.50
GARDENIA, 3s	15.00	15.00
LILY, Asiatic, bnchd10s	12.00	12.50
LILY, Siberia, bnchd10s	18.00	20.00
LILY, Casa Blanca, bnchd10s	25.00	27.00
SNPDRGN, bnchd10s	9.00	10.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

December 31, 2012

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

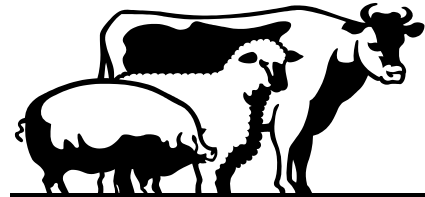
49-54	220-300 lbs	63.00-67.00
	300-400 lbs	68.00-70.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	58.00-62.50
	270-300 lbs	n/a
	300-400 lbs	65.00-67.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	45.00-49.00
	500-700 lbs	52.00-54.50
Boars:	300-700lbs	16.50-17.50

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, December 17, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	30.00	42.00
61-75 lbs.	54.00	60.00
76-90 lbs.	65.50	75.00
91-105 lbs.	80.00	82.50
106 lbs. & up	84.00	87.50
Farm Calves	90.00	95.00
Starter Calves	35.00	45.00
Veal Calves	80.00	157.00
Open Heifers	80.00	125.00
Beef Steers	81.00	119.00
Beef Heifers	78.00	83.50
Feeder Steers	95.00	135.00
Stock Bulls	105.00	135.00
Beef Bulls	90.00	106.00
Boars	5.00	50.00
Sows	35.00	41.00
Butcher Hogs	95.00	102.50
Goats each	110.00	260.00
Kid Goats	70.00	115.00
Canners	Up to	71.50
Cutters	72.50	74.00
Utility Grade Cows	75.00	77.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	40.00
Chickens each	4.00	22.00
Ducks each	5.00	21.00
Feeder Pigs	60.00	100.00
Lambs	105.00	235.00
Sheep	80.00	185.00



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE, Fuji 88ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Gala, 100ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Gala, 12-3lb, fcy, 2-1/2"	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Gld del, 100ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Mac, 80ct, fcy	27.00	27.00
APPLE, Mac, 96ct, fcy	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Mac, 12-3lb, fcy, 2-1/2"	21.00	21.00
APPLE, Rd del, 100ct, fcy	25.00	25.00
BEAN SPRT, 10lb	4.50	5.00
CIDER, 4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER, 9 1/2gal	27.00	27.00
LETTUCE, Bstn, 12/4oz	14.00	16.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb	21.00	21.00
POTATOES, 10lb, szA	2.00	2.00
POTATOES, Rd, 10/5lb	14.00	14.00
POTATOES, Rsst, 90ct	11.00	11.00
RUTABAGA, 50lb	13.00	14.00
SQUASH, Acrn, 1-1/9bu	10.00	13.00
SQUASH, Bttrnt, 1-1/9	10.00	13.00
SQUASH, Dlcata, 1 1/9bu	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, Vn ripe, 25lb, gh, loose	14.00	16.00
TOMATOES, Vn ripe, 12lb, gh	26.00	27.00
TURNIPS, 25lb, Prpl top	10.00	10.00

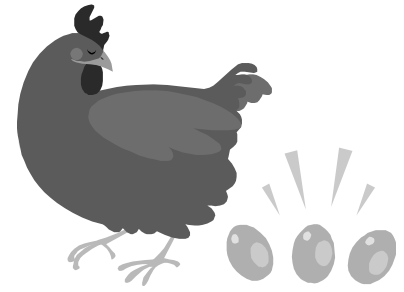


(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

December 31, 2012

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	78.00-82.00	82.00-87.00	72.50-75.50
Boners	80-85% lean		
	74.00-79.00	79.50-81.50	70.00-74.00
Lean	85-90% lean		
	71.00-75.00	77.00-79.00	65.00-70.00
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves			
	No.1 95-125lbs	105.00-120.00	
	No.2 95-130lbs	85.00-100.00	
	No.3- 80-120lbs	60.00-80.00	
	Slaughter bulls 965-1985lb	112.00-117.00	
	Holstein Heifers No.1	90-105lb	90.00-140.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	50-60lbs	202.00-222.00	
	60-70lbs	180.00-212.00	
	70-80lbs	174.00-190.00	
	80-135lb	150.00-192.00	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.69-1.82
LARGE	1.58-1.71
MEDIUM	1.22-1.32

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

December 31, 2012

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

EXTRA LARGE	1.20-1.24
LARGE	1.18-1.22
MEDIUM	1.03-1.07

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY

December 31, 2012

Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	6.92-7.87
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	7.50-9.31
Oats No 2 (per bu)	3.65-4.50
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	13.00-14.02
Ear Corn (per ton)	185.00-215.00



Wooled & Shorn Good & Choice 1-3

50-60lbs	180.00-195.00
65-100lbs	160.00-174.00
110-130lbs	136.00-148.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh

100-105lbs	106.00-110.00
115-155lbs	70.00-100.00

Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh

125-150lbs	70.00-100.00
160-200lb	n/a

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

40-lbs	120.00-150.00
50-60lbs	132.00-158.00
70-80lbs	145.00-170.00
80-90lbs	172.00-192.00

Nannies/Does: 100-125lbs 160.00-170.00

130-140lbs 162.00-172.00

Bucks/Billies: 130-140lbs 215.00-252.00

150-165lbs 216.00-300.00

Selection 2

130-145lbs 180.00-217.00

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.

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.

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.

162. Two New Holland #256 Hay Rakes, Good Condition, \$1,500 & \$1,800. Fast Hitch Carry All Platform for Farmall, \$250. 203-623-2956.

163. Hay, first and second cut, square bales. \$6.00 pu. 860-537-1974.

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.

161-R Five + acres of beautiful prime farmland available in Old Lyme for an experienced organic vegetable farmer, rent-free in exchange for a percentage of the crop. Barn, electric fencing, drip irrigation and access to tractor and other equipment. Inexpensive housing available nearby. Possible assistance available in marketing crops to restaurants, farm markets, CSA's, etc. Call Bill 860-908-7332 or upper-pondfarm@gmail.com

ORGANIC FARMING CONFERENCES JAN 26, MAR 2

CT NOFA's *Getting Started in Organic Farming* conference will run 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on January 26, 2013, at Goodwin Community College in East Hartford. Presentation topics include business management, grants for organic farms, small-scale farm tools, soil fertility, weed management, and CSA administration.

\$40/NOFA members; \$50/nonmembers. Beginning farmers (10 or fewer years) can apply for a scholarship at <https://ctnofa.wufoo.com/forms/z7p6p1/> before January 15, 2013.

Get more information at http://ctnofa.org/events/Getting%20Started/2013_getting_started_conference_page.html.

CT NOFA's winter conference will be held March 2, 2013, at Wilton High School and will feature keynote David W. Wolfe, Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future and Cornell University's Department of Horticulture, presenting *Farm and Landscape Management for a Changing Climate*.

More than 50 workshops will be offered. Beginning farmers can apply for a scholarship at <https://nofa.wufoo.com/forms/ct-nofa-winter-conference-scholarship-2013/> before February 15, 2013.

See <http://ctnofa.org/2013winterconference/index.html> for additional information.

CT FARM ENERGY PROGRAM 2013 WORKSHOPS

The Connecticut Farm Energy Program's 2013 workshop schedule includes January 15, 2013, in Torrington and January 29, 2013, in Haddam. Workshops are free to attend but registration at least one week in advance is required. Please call 860-345-3977 or email CTFarmEnergy@aol.com for more information.

STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SOUGHT FOR USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY

U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal is conducting interviews for the position of state executive director for the USDA's Farm Service Administration. This full-time, paid position has a salary range at the GS-15 grade level.

The executive director oversees a staff of 22 and a budget of approximately \$1.6 million. The office is located in Tolland.

Candidates should have a background in agriculture and management. As the USDA's chief official in Connecticut, the executive director must communicate the administration's position on agricultural issues. Position serves at the discretion of the USDA secretary. See job description at <http://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/fsa>.

Anyone interested in this position should submit resume and other documentation by midnight on January 11, 2013, to the Office of United States Senator Richard Blumenthal, 90 State House Square, 10th floor, Hartford, Connecticut, or via email to Matthew LeBeau at matthew_lebeau@blumenthal.senate.gov.

Interviews will be conducted the week of January 21, 2013. Final recommendations will be submitted for the secretary's review by January 31, 2013.

Contact State Director Rich Kehoe or Research Aide and Outreach Organizer Matthew LeBeau at 860-258-6940 with questions.

GROW THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE BY PARTICIPATING IN THE 2012 CENSUS

It's not every day that a walk to your mailbox leads to an opportunity to help shape farm programs, boost rural services and grow your farm future. But for producers across the country, that opportunity will soon become a reality.

The 2012 Census of Agriculture, the only source of consistent and comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation, is being mailed to millions of farmers and ranchers across the United States.

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

Participation is not only a valuable tool for agricultural producers to help shape the future of the industry, it is federal law.

Conducted every five years by USDA's [National Agricultural Statistics Service](http://www.nass.usda.gov) (NASS), the census provides detailed data covering nearly every facet of U.S. agriculture. It looks at land use and ownership, production practices, expenditures and other factors that affect the way farmers do business and succeed in the 21st Century.

"The 2012 Census of Agriculture provides farmers with a powerful voice. The information gathered through the census influences policy decisions that can have a tremendous impact on farmers and their communities for years to come," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "I strongly encourage all farmers, no matter how large or small their operation, to promptly complete and return their census, so they can voice to the nation the value and importance of agriculture."

Farmers should receive a census form in the mail by early January. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2013. Farmers can return their forms by mail or online by visiting a secure website, www.agcensus.usda.gov. Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in the census and requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential.

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.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. INKE SUNILA

(continued from Page 1)

Teaching is a two-way street, and every student who interns at the bureau provides Dr. Sunila new material for study, including information, technical updates, methods, parasites, and lesions, making for a mutually beneficial arrangement.

At the end of January, Dr. Sunila will collaborate with Florida Gulf Coast University, at their request, on a teaching assignment in which a group of students will learn the basics of bivalve pathology. The university will cover all expenses.

Two days of teaching will start with a seminar about factors causing pathological changes in bivalves, followed by categories of pathological changes in bivalves. Each student will be provided with a study slide collection of bivalve pathogens, parasites, and lesions, accompanied by a manual for self-study. During the individual slide reading of the collection, students will learn to independently recognize abnormal characteristics in tissues. Some of the students have already produced histological slides from their own experiments and field sampling. Parasites and lesions will be identified with Dr. Sunila.

Dr. Sunila is a tremendous asset to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, the shellfish industry, and to research and academia both nationally and worldwide. The agency appreciates her excellent work and contributions, day in and day out, and looks forward to her continued service for years to come.



Dr. Sunila in the Bureau of Aquaculture's shellfish laboratory in Milford



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.

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