



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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor  
 Wednesday, March 6, 2013

**UPDATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*by Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner*

The [Governor's Council for Agricultural Development](#) has been very busy this past year.

Starting at the beginning of January 2012, after enactment of [Public Act 11-189](#), the council and its 15 members have been hard at work to develop recommendations on ways to increase the percentage of consumer dollars spent on Connecticut-grown fresh produce and farm products, and on the development, diversification, and promotion of agricultural products, programs, and enterprises in the state.

Its first step was to undertake the creation of Connecticut's first-ever, holistic strategic plan for agriculture, *Grow Connecticut Farms*, which incorporates the myriad food and non-food sectors of this diverse industry.

After looking at other states' efforts on agricultural planning, borrowing the best ideas and tailoring them to Connecticut's unique landscape, the council reached out to hundreds of agricultural stakeholders throughout the state for input.

Information was gathered between May and October 2012 through 55 in-depth interviews, 232 completed online surveys, and four regional listening sessions.

Through this outreach and feedback, the council identified 10 priority areas for further study. Seven of these were addressed during the council's first day of topic-focused meetings in November 2012. These included:

- Farm-to-institution channels
- Infrastructure
- Marketing
- Consumer education/training
- Input costs
- Labor
- Regulatory environment

Additional stakeholders and experts in these areas were invited to brainstorm and begin to develop suggestions for the council to consider in the cultivation of its first set of recommendations to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

Seven recommendations pertaining to these specific topic areas were made, adopted, and included in the *Grow Connecticut Farms* first annual report, completed at the end of 2012.

The agency is coordinating with Governor Malloy's office on the presentation and release of that report.

The remaining three priority areas will be the focus of a second day of meetings to be held later this month. These topic areas are as follows:

- Farmland resources
- Producer education/training
- Food security and urban agriculture

Ideas and suggestions from these meetings will be deliberated by the council, which will then make additional recommendations to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for potential inclusion in *Grow Connecticut Farms*.

*(continued on Page 3)*

**CONGRESSMAN COURTNEY REAPPOINTED TO HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE**

U.S. Representative Joe Courtney recently was reappointed to the House Agriculture Committee after his request for a waiver was granted by congressional leaders.

Mr. Courtney was originally appointed to two committees in the 2013 Congress: Armed Services and Education and Work Force. House members are generally limited to serving on two committees.



In 2011, Representative Courtney became the first congressman from Connecticut to serve on the House Agriculture Committee in 100 years, quickly becoming a strong and effective voice for Connecticut farm families in Washington. His reappointment is good news for agriculture in Connecticut and the region.

**WHOLESALE BERRIES  
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
BLACKBERRY, 12/6oz, MX	18.00	20.00
BLUEBERRY, 12/6oz, FL	14.00	14.00
BLUEBERRY, 12/6oz, CH	20.00	22.00
GOOSEBERRY, 12/5oz, CB	29.00	29.75
STRAWBERRY, 8/1lb, FL	12.00	15.00
STRAWBERRY, 8/1lb, CA	20.00	20.00
STRAWBERRY, 12/1pt, FL	15.00	16.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

March 4, 2013

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

49-54	220-300 lbs	61.00-64.00
	300-400 lbs	62.00-65.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	53.00-57.00
	300-400 lbs	55.00-59.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	47.00-50.00
	500-700 lbs	54.00-58.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	17.50-18.50

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, March 4, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	28.00	35.00
61-75 lbs.	50.00	60.00
76-90 lbs.	64.00	75.00
91-105 lbs.	100.00	105.00
106 lbs. & up	108.00	115.00
Farm Calves	125.00	135.00
Starter Calves	42.00	45.00
Veal Calves	110.00	140.00
Open Heifers	75.50	110.00
Beef Steers	104.00	108.00
Beef Heifers	69.00	81.50
Feeder Steers	75.00	87.00
Stock Bulls	85.00	107.00
Beef Bulls	80.00	108.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	1 at	40.00
Butcher Hogs	1 at	46.00
Goats each	95.00	300.00
Kid Goats	25.00	32.50
Canners	Up to	72.50
Cutters	73.00	76.50
Utility Grade Cows	77.50	83.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	8.00	29.00
Chickens each	4.00	27.00
Ducks each	7.00	13.00
Feeder Pigs	12 at	70.00ea
Lambs	95.00	230.00
Sheep	145.00	155.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

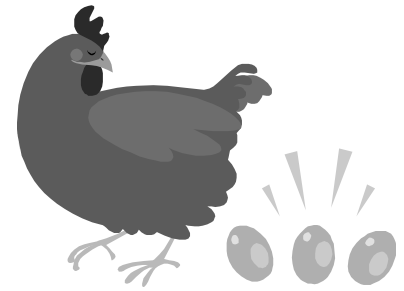
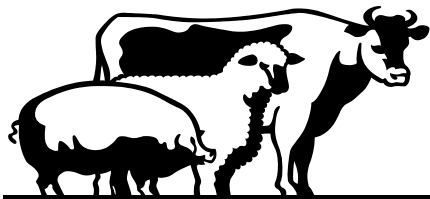
	Low	High
APPLE, Fuji, 100ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Empr, 88ct, xfcy	32.00	32.00
APPLE, Gala, 125ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Gld del, 72ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Mac, 80ct, fcy	28.00	28.00
APPLE, Mac, 80ct, US1	26.00	26.00
APPLE, Mac, 120ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Rd del, 100ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Rd del, 72ct, fcy	24.00	24.00
BEAN SPRT, 10lb	5.50	6.00
CIDER, 4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER, 9/.5gal	27.00	27.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb	21.00	21.00
PARSNIPS, 18/1lb	21.00	21.00
POTATOES, Rd, 10/5lb, A	14.00	14.00
POTATOES, Chef, 50lb	10.00	10.00
POTATOES, Rsst, 90ct	10.50	11.00
POTATOES, Yllw, 50lb, B	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, Bttrnt, 1-1/9	10.00	12.00
TOMATOES, 5lb	14.00	16.00
TOMATOES, loose, 25lb	23.00	23.00
TOMATOES, 11lb, flats, XL	25.00	25.00



**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

March 4, 2013

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	74.00-78.00	79.00-82.00	68.00-73.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	73.00-77.00	78.00-81.00	68.00-73.00
Lean	88-90% lean		
	69.00-74.00	75.00-79.00	65.00-69.00
<b>CALVES: All prices per cwt.</b>			
Graded Bull Calves			
No.1	95-135lbs	135.00-145.00	
No.2	95-130lbs	120.00-135.00	
No.3-	80-130lbs	75.00-100.00	
<b>SLAUGHTER BULLS Yield Grade 1</b>			
	925-2190lbs	92.00-98.00	
<b>HOLSTEIN HEIFERS</b>			
No.1	85-115lbs	100.00-120.00	
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Trad. Markets</b>			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	50-60lbs	202.00-215.00	
	60-80lbs	192.00-212.00	
	80-110lbs	182.00-210.00	
	110-130lbs	179.00-189.00	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND  
SHELL EGGS**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.51-1.61
LARGE	1.38-1.49
MEDIUM	.99-1.09

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

March 4, 2013

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

EXTRA LARGE	1.12-1.16
LARGE	1.10-1.14
MEDIUM	.95-1.09

**PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY**

March 4, 2013

Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	6.90-7.41
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	7.15-8.50
Oats No 2 (per bu)	4.00-4.90
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	13.80-14.61
Ear Corn (per ton)	200.00-215.00



<b>Wooled &amp; Shorn Good &amp; Choice 3-4</b>	
40-60lbs	235.00-245.00
60-70lbs	226.00-238.00
80-100lbs	226.00-238.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh</b>	
90-120lbs	82.00-90.00
120-160lbs	72.00-87.00
160-200lbs	62.00-88.00
<b>Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh</b>	
110-160lb	50.00-72.00
160-165lbs	68.00-76.00
Bucks 150lbs	54.00
170-lbs	90.00
200-250lbs	50.00-60.00
<b>SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by the head, est. wt.</b>	
40-50lbs	115.00-137.00
50-60lbs	130.00-160.00
60-80lbs	166.00-167.00
80-100lbs	172.00-205.00
Nannies/Does: 110-125lbs	154.00-187.00
130-150lbs	175.00-197.00
Bucks/Billies: 120-140lbs	235.00-239.00
150-160lbs	272.00-300.00
Sel. 2 120-130lbs	172.00-228.00



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### 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).

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

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

5-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.

20-R Watertown, CT: 73.33 acres of residential zoned land plus a separate parcel containing 1.76 acres. Ideal for a gentleman's farm, horses, camp. 65% rolling meadows of farmland, balance is forest with trails. Alongside the City of Waterbury's massive reservoir and forest holdings. 2 miles from the center of Litchfield Green / close to Washington, CT. Picture book setting. Sale Price: \$1,680,000. Call: Tom Hill III, CCIM/SIOR @ 203-206-8631. [www.tomhill.com](http://www.tomhill.com)

22-R. Due to illness, the following new or barely used for sale: New 8 frame beehive, complete, \$150.00. Fransgard logging winch. \$3,000.00. Landpride forward tiller, 5'. \$2,200.00. Lanepride post hole digger. \$1,200.00. Landpride rake, 6', Demco boom sprayer, 110 gal. \$2,200.00. Valby wood chipper, 6'. \$3,500.00. Other used 6' woods brushhog. \$600.00. 5' Woods finish mower. 5' Woods brushhog. \$100.00, for parts. 860-423-1347- house. 617-308-3015 –cell.

23-R. 7 Starline Arches, 50 Starline Stanchions, complete Corner Wheel for Clay Barn Cleaner, Clay Transmission and Motor, 260 feet of Clay Barn Cleaner. Call 860-537-5842 7PM.

24-R. Yearling Hereford Bull For Sale. Dark Red, Good Disposition. \$1,400. Old Beech Farm. 860-693-2052.

25-R. (2) 25X96 greenhouses, bows 4' on center, 4 purlins, still standing you dismantle, \$2,000 each. 3000 gallon aluminum oil tank. \$2,000. 275 gallon tanks, \$75 each. Miscellaneous greenhouse equipment; fans, benches, sprayer, etc. East Windsor, CT 860-268-5931.

27-R. Equipment for Sale. JD 6200 Tractor (1994) with 640 loader and 1 yard bucket creeper transmission 5500 hours approx-2 owner tractor; JD 2600 4 bottom semi mounted plow-excellent condition-2 owner; JD 7000 Maxi-Merge planter-4 row. New finger pickups and bean cups. Insecticide boxes included; JD 8200 Grain Drill-excellent condition; JD Post hole digger-little used-one owner; JD Model 45 seven (7) foot scraper blade-one owner; JD 444 corn head; Lely Tine Weeder-12 foot with hydraulic fold-mint condition-one owner; Lilliston 2 and 4 row cultivators with extra parts; I & J 4 row S tine cultivator with liquid side dress tanks and crop shields-one owner; Brillion trailer type spike tooth harrow with hydraulic lift; Gandy 8 foot drop spreader; Kilbros gravity grain box on heavy running gear and hydraulic auger-one owner; Haines vegetable washer-rebuilt; 20 foot Kelly Container Freezer/Cooler with 3 phase convertor-excellent condition; Pequa equipment trailer-20 foot deckover-2 owner; Amish built picking conveyor-hydraulic powered-one owner; Heavy duty highlift forklift 3 point hitch; Phil Brown apple bin dumper; Apple/Squash bins-approx 100; Cedar fence posts with rolls of goat/sheep fence; Chicken coops (2) (8ft by 16ft) on skids; Chevrolet Step Van C20 (inop) perfect for farm markets; Plant trays-50/72/144 cells new and used. Contact George 860-918-5442 [george.m.purtill@snet.net](mailto:george.m.purtill@snet.net).

### WANTED

21-R. Steel wheeled, disk type grain drill, narrow enough to operate between existing 42" corn rows. Tom 860-646-6536.

### MISCELLANEOUS

6-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.

26-R. Hytone Farm is CT's new Hydra-Ram dealer! Whether you need a new machine or parts for your old one, contact us for all your Hydra-Ram manure spreader needs. 860-558-3314 or [hytonefarm1@hotmail.com](mailto:hytonefarm1@hotmail.com).

### UPDATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

*(continued from Page 1)*

Next, the council will split into two subcommittees, (1) Demand, Research, and Education, and (2) Production, Investment, and Infrastructure, and into 12 working groups under those subcommittees.

These working groups, which will begin meeting later this spring, will continue to focus on priorities identified in 2012, refine recommendations, and develop suggestions for additional recommendations. The groups will report back to the full council at quarterly meetings.

Meanwhile, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture is already working on a number of initiatives that dovetail with the council's work to date.

In terms of infrastructure, the department, in collaboration with the Connecticut Marketing Authority, has embarked on two projects to repair and revitalize the Hartford Regional Market. This agriculture and food hub, first built in 1948, has been identified by the council as an opportunity to strengthen the local food system and agricultural economy. While the existing infrastructure has served Connecticut well, it was designed and constructed for a different time.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is working closely with the Department of Construction Services on both projects. The first—installation of a new roof system, scheduled to begin this month—will buy time as we undertake the second project: development and implementation of a master plan that will significantly grow opportunities for the aggregation, processing, distribution, and sale of agricultural products.

We are thrilled to be in negotiations for this master plan, after a competitive bidding process, with Market Ventures, Inc., a firm with extensive [experience](#) planning for the development of wholesale and public markets in various regions of the United States.

Specifically, the scope of the consultant's charge over a 10-month period will include quantitative and qualitative market research, as well as programmatic and design recommendations. A focus of the work will be to build a solid business case for the regional market looking at all aspects of operation and management, as well as conducting financial analyses and economic impact forecasts. At the conclusion of the master planning process, it is anticipated that there will be a well-structured, implementable vision for the Hartford Regional Market that will serve the State of Connecticut for decades to come.

Another area that has risen high up on the council's priority list is increasing the sale of Connecticut Grown farm products to institutions. Existing ongoing Department of Agriculture initiatives, including the Farm-to-Chef and Farm-to-School programs, have made significant gains in this area in recent years.

The department currently has a legislative proposal to expand existing statutory language for state contracts to include in its provision to allow preference for Connecticut Grown products additional proteins including meat and poultry. In addition, the Department of Agriculture is working with the Department of Administrative Services to make the state purchasing process more conducive to the inclusion of Connecticut Grown farm products.

Stakeholders, through the council, have strongly suggested that further ramping up these programs and efforts could greatly expand consumer demand for Connecticut Grown products and agriculture's contribution to the state's economy. The department will continue to develop and enrich these and similar initiatives.

In conjunction with its ongoing institution-oriented programs, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture has secured funding through a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant and begun a project to assess and analyze institutional demand for Connecticut Grown fruits and vegetables, the state's capacity to grow those crops, and the infrastructure required (both existing and lacking) to provide those items in a form that institutions can readily use.

*(continued on Page 4)*

**UPDATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL***(continued from Page 3)*

Another council priority that has emerged after analysis of stakeholder input is the state's marketing of Connecticut Grown. The council has signaled a desire to sharpen the focus of those efforts, including developing and implementing a comprehensive marketing plan.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has significant statutory authority and obligation in this area and has engaged in various promotional campaigns and projects over time through its marketing unit. The department is currently examining its marketing division and programs to identify opportunities to enhance and strengthen the agency's work in this arena.

Like the Hartford Regional Market, the department's marketing arm has served the state well over the years, but recent advances in technology, shifts in the media landscape, and changes in the means by which consumers seek out information present tremendous opportunities to examine this operation with a fresh, forward-focused set of eyes and develop a strategy that brings Connecticut Grown marketing to a new level.

The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development has had a busy year and 2013 promises to be no different. As the council continues to focus on priorities established through previous and ongoing stakeholder input, and focuses on meeting its statutory charges, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture will continue to listen carefully to the council's analysis of that input and focus the agency's efforts on initiatives that support the council's mission and help to Grow Connecticut Farms.

**SPECIAL NRCS HIGH TUNNEL SIGN-UP PERIOD MAY HELP GROWERS REBUILD AFTER STORM**

Are you an agricultural producer who lost a seasonal high tunnel during the blizzard, or a producer just in need of one for your growing operation?

If so, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) seasonal high tunnel program may be of assistance.

NRCS has announced a special program sign-up period with a batching date of March 15, 2013. (Applications received after that date will be considered for funding for the next cycle.)

For more information, contact your local NRCS field office (Danielson, 860-779-0557; Hamden, 203-287-8038; Norwich, 860-887-3604; Torrington, 860-626-8258; Windsor, 860-688-7725).

**NEW TAX TIP SHEET FOR BEGINNING FARMERS**

Tax time can be daunting, particularly for beginning farmers. A new tip sheet from the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) can provide some help.

"Tips about Farmer Income Tax" stresses the importance of working with a tax professional experienced with farmers, and provides a brief overview of business deductions, what to file as a capital gain, when to use IRS Schedule F or C, depreciation, how the IRS defines a "hobby farm," averaging farm income over a period of years, and farm-vehicle expense deductions.

It also offers a list of resources where beginning farmers can find answers to their general income-tax questions.

The free tip sheet can be downloaded at [www.attra.ncat.org](http://www.attra.ncat.org).



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**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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[www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov) [www.CT.gov/doag](http://www.CT.gov/doag)  
 860-713-2500

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