

# Agricultural Report

Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor  
Wednesday, September 25, 2013

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CONNECTICUT YANKEE FARM WOMAN

Nancy Kalal, Cranberry Meadow Farm

Morning coffee and newspaper. Check the weather forecasts. My day starts like everyone's, but then I head out to feed and scoop poop of pigs, beef cattle, oxen, and chickens.

Rock & Roll, my oxen team, are waiting for breakfast of half a bale of hay, so they're served first. The finishing steers are second and get hay and grain. The growing steers are third and also waiting at their gate for the grain. Next are chickens--they get water and feed. The last are the pigs. They eat anything.

While all the diners are busy eating, I get busy scooping poop into the back of the Gator for dumping onto the compost pile.

Finally, the last morning chore is to bleach and fill water tanks.

Now I am free to take a shower, if I haven't already done so, and have breakfast with Tom, my husband, who is a master gardener and whose love is the growing of vegetables and fruit. He also handles the farm's equipment repairs, haying and fencing, beekeeping, and listening to me b@#%!

Tom is a jack of all trades. For instance, he designed and built the yoke for Rock & Roll. Today's project is to plan and build a big cage to prevent the hawks from getting at the chickens and the chickens from getting into the garden and pecking the acorn squash patch.

All this is followed by the usual household duties of washing



Rock & Roll and Nancy Kalal of Cranberry Meadow Farm head out to practice backing up and parallel parking, using a yoke designed and built by Tom Kalal.

dishes, dreaming up supper, making the bed, doing laundry, and other routine cleanup stuff.

Every day is different. I just put up 15 pints of peaches from Tom's favorite tree. We are constantly saving our produce for year-round consumption, which certainly does help to keep grocery bills at a minimum.

Often I am invited to a school or a historical society, or groups ask to come to the farm to learn about sustainable agriculture and the use of oxen in agriculture today. In much of the world oxen are pivotal to the survival of humans for their food production.

For thousands of years oxen have been used with the same

design yoke that is used today. We depend upon them for their strength, their intelligence, and for their manure, which is critical to the success of the farm.

The team of Rock & Roll is one of the most famous in the state. They like humans. They like the smells and the attention that humans give them.

Rock & Roll respect my leadership and know that I would keep them safe from harmful situations. I respect the potential damage that they could inflict if I did not respect our partnership.

Although they weigh in at about 2,600 pounds each, they are not menacing in the slightest.

(continued on Page 4)

### CWAR ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST

*This week's issue features two winners in the Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report's essay and poetry contest. Congratulations to winning authors Kate Bogli and Nancy Kalal.*

*Essays and poems of up to 1,250 words about life as a Connecticut farmer may be submitted to [Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov](mailto:Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov) at any time. This is an ongoing contest.*

*Submissions must be original and may not have appeared in other publications. Winning entries may be edited for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or clarity as deemed appropriate. Winning authors will not be paid but will be credited upon publication.*

*Writers of all ages and levels of experience are encouraged to enter. Teachers are encouraged to use this as a class project.*

**WHOLESALE PEPPERS  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
BELL,grn,1-1/9,lg	14.00	14.00
BELL,grn,1-1/9,md	8.00	9.00
BELL,grn,1-1/9,xlg	15.00	16.00
BELL,suntn,1-1/9,lg	8.00	10.00
CHRRY,ht,1/2bu	16.00	16.00
CUBNELL,1-1/9,md	10.00	12.00
CUBNELL,rd,1-1/9bu,lg	20.00	20.00
JALPNO,1/2bu	14.00	16.00
PBLANO,1 1/9 bu,lg	16.00	18.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

49-54	220-300 lbs	69.00-74.00
	300-400 lbs	75.00-79.50
45-49	220-300 lbs	68.50-71.00
	300-400 lbs	68.50-71.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	76.00-79.00
	500-700 lbs	82.50-85.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	n/a

**PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS**

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.  
August 21, 2013

Gr US 1-	wt 20-30	110.00	130.00
	wt 30-50	100.00	125.00
	wt 50-60	100.00	120.00
Gr US 2	wt 20-30	100.00	115.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, September 16, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	28.00	40.00
61-75 lbs.	50.00	55.00
76-90 lbs.	65.00	70.00
91-105 lbs.	72.50	77.50
106 lbs. & up	82.50	85.00
Farm Calves	95.00	110.00
Starter Calves	45.00	50.00
Veal Calves	94.00	118.00
Open Heifers	70.00	95.00
Beef Steers	76.00	90.00
Beef Heifers	89.00	91.00
Feeder Steers	70.00	107.00
Stock Bulls	60.00	87.00
Beef Bulls	93.00	104.50
Boars	one at	.02
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	48.00	195.00
Kid Goats	20.00	54.00
Canners	up to	86.50
Cutters	87.00	90.00
Utility Grade Cows	91.00	94.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	45.00
Chickens each	4.00	25.00
Ducks each	9.00	18.00
Feeder Pigs	38.00	46.00
Lambs	75.00	215.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
APPLE,crtand,12/3lb,fcy	22.00	24.00
APPLE,gala,8/5-lb,tote,	25.00	25.00
APPLE,gala,bu	24.00	25.00
APPLE,hnycrsp,bu	48.00	55.00
APPLE,mcn,bu	30.00	35.00
APPLE,mcntsh,xfcy,96ct	26.00	26.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	17.00	17.00
CABBAGE,grn,12ct	12.00	12.00
CIDER,4/1gal	16.00	16.00
COLLARD,12s	12.00	14.00
CORN,5dz	8.00	14.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu,md	10.00	14.00
GRAPE,cncrd,8/1qt	22.00	24.00
KALE,12s	12.00	13.00
ONION,grn,24s	16.00	16.00
PARSNIP,25lb	24.00	24.00
PEACH,wht,25lb	18.00	20.00
PEACH,ylw,25lb	16.00	18.00
PEAR,bosc,3/5bu	26.00	30.00
PEAR,brtltt,4/5bu	24.00	30.00
PEAR,rd d'anj	26.00	32.00
PLUM,prn,24lb	26.00	26.00
PLUM,rd,20lb	26.00	26.00
SQUASH,dlcata,1/2bu	18.00	18.00
SQUASH,grn,fcy,1/2bu	10.00	12.00
SQUASH,grn,md,1/2bu	6.00	8.00
SQUASH,ylw,fcy,1/2bu	10.00	12.00
SWISS CHARD,12s	14.00	16.00
TOMATO,chrry,12/1pt	14.00	18.00
TOMATO,fld grwn,20lb	16.00	20.00
TOMATO,grp,12/1pt	10.00	16.00
TOMATO,hrlm,gnhs,10lb	28.00	32.00
TOMATO,plm,25lb	16.00	20.00
TOMATO,plm,cn25lb	10.00	10.00

**PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY**

September 20-23, 2013

Average Dressing

<b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>		
breakers 75-80% lean	77.25	81.00
boners 80-85% lean	73.75	78.00
lean 88-90% lean	68.75	73.00
<b>CALVES graded bull</b>		
No.1 95-120lbs	132.00	146.50
No 2 95-120lbs	117.75	138.00
No 3 80-120lbs	65.00	94.25
<b>SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr</b>		
High dressing	100.25	107.00
Avg.dressing	92.25	97.00
Low dressing	83.75	94.25
<b>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS</b>		
HiCh/Prm3-4	122.00	124.75
Ch2-3	119.00	121.00
Sel2-3	113.00	114.50
<b>SLAUGHTER STEERS</b>		
HiCh/prm3-4	125.00	126.75
Ch2-3	120.50	124.25
Sel2-3	115.50	119.25
<b>SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS</b>		
HiCh/prm3-4	106.75	111.25
Ch 2-3	102.75	106.50
Sel1-3	96.00	100.75
VEALER 60-120lbs	16.00	51.25
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3</b>		
40-60lbs		n/a
70-80lbs	155.00	172.00
80-90lbs	152.00	155.00
90-110lb	144.00	152.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3: md flesh</b>		
100-120lbs	54.00	66.00
120-160lbs	54.00	70.00
Bucks		n/a
<b>SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est. wt.</b>		
40-60lbs	105.00	130.00
60-80lbs	120.00	148.00
80-100lbs	142.00	162.00
100-120lbs	166.00	170.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130lbs	130.00	142.00
130-150lbs	155.00	188.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	158.00	187.00

**EASTERN PA GRAIN**

September 23, 2013

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	N/A
CORN	4.48
OATS	3.30
SOYBEANS	12.67
WHEAT	6.69

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

Per doz., USDA Grade A/Grade A white in cartons  
(volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.18	1.22
LARGE	1.16	1.20
MEDIUM	.96	1.00

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

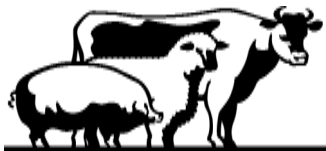
Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons  
(delivered)

XTRA LARGE	1.70	1.80
LARGE	1.53	1.73
MEDIUM	1.17	1.27



**WHOLESALE SEASONAL ITEMS  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
CORN,ornmntl,20/3s	35.00	35.00
CORN,stalks	5.00	5.00
PUMPKIN,cndrll,xl,36"bin	285.00	285.00
PUMPKIN,jbo,hwdn,36"bin	180.00	200.00
PUMPKIN,lg,pie,36"bin	240.00	260.00
PUMPKIN,mini,1/2bu	16.00	17.00
PUMPKIN,pie,24"bin	175.00	200.00
PUMPKIN,pie,1-1/9bu	18.00	18.00
SQUASH,acrn,1-1/9bu,md	15.00	18.00
SQUASH,bttrnt,1-1/9 bu,lg	15.00	18.00
SQUASH,kbch,1-1/9, bu,md	18.00	20.00



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, 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.

101-R. High Quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-Concolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Serbian Spruce. Discounted Commercial Grades available also! Hartikka Tree Farms (800) 508-5099 [www.treeman2.com](http://www.treeman2.com)

108-R. Christmas Trees-Wholesale, CT Grown. Specializing in Fraser Fir. Also Balsam Fir, Douglas Fir, White Spruce. Delivery Available. Dzen Brothers Farm, 860-648-1355.

109-R. 4000 square foot GREENHOUSE FOR SALE. Power ventilation, fans and lights included. Must be removed as soon as possible. \$6,000 or best offer. Call Philip Marcucio at 203-305-1876.

110-R. 1951 Farmall Super C, wide front, belly mower, fast hitch, \$4,500 OBO. 860-377-4094.

111-R. Sharp ER-A410 Cash Register with electronic scale, \$1,200 OBO. 860-377-4094.

112-R. Equipment for Sale--JD 6605 Hi-Crop Mudder tractor 4 wheel drive 110 HP 250 hours. Like new. Lilliston 2 and 4 row cultivators with extra parts. Lely tine weeder- 12 foot with hydraulic fold- mint condition- one owner. 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. Haines vegetable washer- rebuilt. 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. Gandy 8 foot drop spreader. 20 foot Kelly Container Freezer/Cooler with 3 phase convertor- excellent condition. Pequa equipment trailer- 20 foot deckover- 2 owner 10,000 GVW. Amish built field picking conveyor- hydraulic powered- one owner. Phil Brown apple bin dumper. Waxed vegetable boxes new on pallets. Two piece Tomato Boxes new on pallets. Cedar fence posts with rolls of goat/sheep fence. Chevrolet Step Van C20 (inop) perfect for farm markets. Plant trays- 50/72/144 cells new and used. Turkey Nesting Boxes- 2 and 4 nest boxes. George 860-918-5442 or [george.m.purtill@snet.net](mailto:george.m.purtill@snet.net)

113-R. For Sale or seasonal Rent- As seen at the Old Cider Mill. Completely self contained Apple Fritter and Donut making building mounted on heavy duty 4 wheel running gear trailer. Contains everything you need to start making and selling apple/fruit fritters and donuts: from fryer to cash register. Includes trays, oven, sinks, refrigerator, racks, hot water heater and utensils. Simply plug into 220V power or generator and attach a garden hose. Presently located in South Glastonbury. Pictures available upon request. George 860-918-5442 or email [george.m.purtill@snet.net](mailto:george.m.purtill@snet.net)

114-R. Phenomenal Cotoneaster Dammeri Creeping Bearberry. Ground hugging, grows very fast, glossy evergreen 1" leaf, deer proof, sun or shade. Tolerates zero degrees F. Once established no weeds, great for hillsides even gravelly soil. Very big plants. 3 1/4" x 1/2" pot- \$3.75 each. 100 plus: \$3.25. \$3.00/thousand. 7,000 plus: \$19,000. Plant now or repot for next spring sales for \$75,000. Liriope spicata, Creeping Lilyturf, 15" blue spikes, same price. Wheeler Farm, 171 Bartlett St., Portland, CT 06480, 860-342-2374. Call first.

115. Two year old Hereford bulls. \$1,700 each. 9,000 gallon fuel tanks. \$900 each. Moodus. 860-873-8476.

116-R. 2001 ISUZU Dump Truck for sale. 104,000 miles, no CDL required. \$17,000 or best offer. Call Phil Marcucio at 203-305-1876.

117-R. Livestock Headgate. Self catching, heavy construction, like new. \$750. Durham, 860-349-8267.

118-R. Wooden apple boxes 1 1/9 bu, 2000,\$4/each. 1/2 bushel baskets, \$4/each. Call Doug 860-657-4172.

119-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

### 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.

**The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupezki at 860-713-2588 for more information.**

### WORKIN' IN THE HAY FIELD

*Kate Bogli, Maple View Farm*

One sunny June day as the farmers arose,  
Ma said to Pa, "It's time to go mow!"

"The weatherman says there'll be three days more sun,  
so get on that tractor and get some hay done."

He cut down the grass and left it to dry  
then went in for supper, ate strawberry pie.

Next day was Ma's turn. She hooked up the tedder  
to fluff up the grass, which makes it dry better.  
As the tedder tines turned, they kicked up some green.

The best looking hay that ma had ever seen.  
There was timothy, broome grass, alfalfa, and clover.  
"The animals will love it!" she thought over and over.

The next day 'round noon, she raked it in rows  
to dry one more time as the summer breeze blows.

Then Grandpa came out, his test would not fail.  
With a squeeze of his fist, proclaimed, "Time to bale!"

Pa hooked up the baler, made sure it had twine  
while Ma and the boys all followed behind.

Each bale on the wagon, then up the elevator  
where that delicious hay would wait, stacked, for later.

The animals would need it this winter, that's true  
when frost and deep snow covered pastures they knew.

But for Ma and Pa, three boys, and Gramp,  
summer had just started. There was lemonade, camp!  
They'd make lots more hay: second cutting, more fields  
before the leaves started to fall on their yields.

The barn in the autumn was full of hay by the ton.

The farmers felt proud of the work that they'd done.

The horses would whinny, eating hay in their stalls.

The goats and the cows would echo their calls.

Thanking the farmers for keeping them fed  
all through the winter till new grass pokes its head.

*Maple View Farm in Granby is home to horses, cows, goats, pigs, and chickens, in addition to the farmers who for three generations have lived on and farmed the property. Founded in 1950, the farm has over time been a dairy, provided pony rides, and today continues to board horses, offer horseback riding lessons and summer sessions to kids, and provide food through its farm store.*

*Jason Bogli and his wife, Kate, are committed to caring for their 50 acres so it can be farmed by their own children for years to come.*

**A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CT YANKEE FARM WOMAN***(continued from Page 1)*

Now it is time for a speedy lunch, which is likely to be a tomato from the garden.

Then, for the next two hours, I yoke up Rock & Roll and head out the driveway onto the country road for a practice session backing up and parallel parking, and to keep them comfortable with the sounds and smells of cars, trucks, and tractors.

After our workout, I spend time brushing and pampering them. Like human males, they adore the attention. And I really enjoy being adored by them.

Later, if all goes well, I will try to accomplish a project. Today, for example, I want to clean up the rocks and debris that were left over from the construction of the ramp to the back of the oxen barn that we built last week. We were able to build the ramp from leftover crushed asphalt (from our town's dump) and a few bags of cement. The cost was \$42—as cheap as it gets.

We look to our town dump as a resource for composted leaves, which we mix with our precious composted manure and with seaweed, which is rich in micronutrients. It is always wise to show up at the dump with warm cookies if you want to get past the “no scavenging” sign.

Now it is about two or three o'clock and it is time to start the afternoon chores. We start by picking eggs from the eggmobile—our neighbor's resurrected and rust-eaten horse trailer, recently updated with painted fish, fairies, and flowers on a background of leftover paint. The painters were the neighborhood children. You have to see it to believe it.

Four o'clock has arrived and it is time to feed again. No need for an alarm clock because my boys' bellowing is now echoing from the barnyard. Their sense of time is infallible and they are ready to eat again, right on time. Same routine as breakfast, but no need to clean the water tanks. I just refill them.

Human dinner prep time has arrived. Thanks to my husband's overproduction of veggies, a trip out to his garden yields too many choices. Tonight's menu will be pork chops, with peach salsa over smashed Russian Banana fingerling potatoes, French green beans, and Golden Muree corn on the cob. Dessert will be strawberries from his everbearing plants, with cream.

I will pass up the tomatoes as I am tired of them, having put up 14 quarts two days ago. Before the last batch, there were tomatoes in the form of tomato soup, tomato salsa, stewed tomatoes—you get the idea. Just too much produce.

Dinner is now ready and it is one of my favorite times with Tom. A glass of wine eases us into recounting our progress of the day. Throughout the day are visiting customers. Yesterday, I sold a half a steer for next year, and got the deposit on it. Hurrah! Life is good!

Suddenly the day is over and darkness descends on us all, two- and four-legged creatures. Good night, all!

*[Cranberry Meadow Farm](#) in East Lyme is family owned and operated by Nancy and Tom Kalal.*

*The Kalals raise all-natural beef and pork for health-conscious consumers seeking lean beef produced without growth hormones, antibiotics, or steroids. Cranberry Meadow Farm's animals are raised in a loving, friendly, natural environment, with special attention given to individual nutrition needs.*



Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

**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**

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
www.CTGrown.gov www.CT.gov/doag  
860-713-2500

Commissioner	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2501
Marketing	860-713-2503
Regional Market	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

The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (**ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340**) is published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106, except for the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas, two other weeks each year, and when the Governor closes state offices. Print subscriptions are \$40.00 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.

**Print subscriptions  
expire Dec. 31, 2013.**

**VOL. XCIII  
No. 36  
September 25, 2013**