



Agricultural Report

Agrivolution, Groton

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
Wednesday, January 8, 2014

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES ANNUAL UPDATE

Linda Piotrowicz, Office of the Commissioner

The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development has presented its 2013 findings and recommendations to Governor Dannel P. Malloy.

The council's December 2013 update summarizes the council's second year of work on Grow Connecticut Farms, the strategic plan for Connecticut's \$3.5 billion agricultural industry, and includes 12 recommendations to further develop, diversify, and promote agriculture in the state.

"Farming and agriculture represent about 28,000 jobs in the state and are an important part of Connecticut's heritage, economy, and quality of life for residents," said Governor Malloy. "It's an industry with real growth potential, and I'm eager to review these recommendations to the Department of Agriculture on ways to realize that potential. In the coming year, I will continue visiting farms throughout the state to see examples of ingenuity and innovation and figure out how we can further encourage and support smart, creative advancement of the industry."

Excerpts from the council's update follow.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This update is the second installment from the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development (GCAD) on *Grow Connecticut Farms*, the first-ever holistic, long-range, strategic plan for Connecticut agriculture.

It begins at the end of the council's [December 2012 report](#), which can be found at www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com.

During 2012, the council amassed an enormous amount of input from hundreds of Connecticut farmers and other agricultural stakeholders on the challenges and opportunities they have experienced in the industry. This input served as the foundation for the GCAD's first set of recommendations to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

December 2013 Update:
Revelations and Recommendations

GROW CONNECTICUT FARMS
Developing, Diversifying, and Promoting Agriculture

A Project of the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development
www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com

The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development has issued its 2013 update. It will be seeking additional input from farmers and other stakeholders at a meeting on January 29, 2014. See www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com for details.

(presented in the December 2012 report) and its priorities and work for 2013.

As 2012 came to a close, progress on the council's first set of recommendations was already underway, including the introduction of a number of legislative initiatives addressing the GCAD's priority issues. An overview of successful legislation from the 2013 session of the Connecticut General Assembly is provided in Section 6.

The GCAD organized in early 2013 into 12 working groups to focus on specific topic areas. Each group took on an assignment for the remainder of the year as follows:

- **Farm-to-Institution A** (public K-12 schools and state institutions): Examine procurement procedures and contracts and develop strategies for inclusion of more Connecticut Grown farm products in those contracts.
- **Farm-to-Institution B** (private K-12 schools, higher education, healthcare facilities, and corporate foodservice): Examine procurement procedures and contracts and develop strategies for inclusion of more Connecticut Grown farm products in those contracts.
- **Farm-to-Institution C** (restaurants): Examine Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-38b\(d\)](#) regarding "Certified Farm Fresh Restaurants" and make recommendations for implementation of a workable program.
- **Consumer Education and Training**: Develop an implementation strategy for GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 7, "Establish a bridge between the state departments of Agriculture and Education through a dedicated agricultural education coordinator, and develop ways to integrate agriculture into Connecticut's K-12 curriculum."

(continued on Page 3)

**WHOLESALE GREENHSE PRODUCE
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
CUCMBR,prsn,20lb,DR	34.00	35.00
LEEK,5kg,NT	16.00	19.00
PEPPR,bl,rd,11lb,MX	18.00	22.00
PEPPR,bl,ylw,1 ¹ / ₉ bu,CN	18.00	22.00
RHUBARB,6kg,NT	55.00	55.00
TOMATO,chrry,8/10oz,MA	27.50	28.50
TOMATO,hrm,10lb,CN	22.00	25.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

	Low	High
49-54	220-300 lbs	65.00-69.00
	300-400 lbs	n/a
45-49	220-300 lbs	62.00-66.00
	300-400 lbs	n/a
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	39.00-42.00
	500-700 lbs	65.00-74.00
Boars	300-700 lbs	n/a

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.

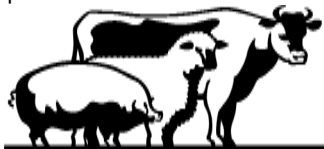
Gr US 1-	wt	Low	High
	20-25	280.00	280.00
	30-40	200.00	225.00
	40-50	175.00	190.00
	50-60		n/a
	60-80		n/a

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, January 6, 2014

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	20.00	22.50
61-75 lbs.	32.50	37.50
76-90 lbs.	40.00	45.00
91-105 lbs.	50.00	52.50
106 lbs. & up	57.50	62.50
Farm Calves	70.00	85.00
Starter Calves	25.00	30.00
Veal Calves	80.00	152.50
Open Heifers	60.00	112.50
Beef Steers	86.00	131.00
Beef Heifers	70.00	94.00
Feeder Steers	90.00	110.00
Stock Bulls	60.00	110.00
Beef Bulls	70.00	95.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	25.00	40.00
Goats each	140.00	205.00
Kid Goats	n/a	n/a
Canners	up to	89.50
Cutters	90.00	93.00
Utility Grade Cows	94.00	98.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	10.00	14.00
Chickens each	3.00	15.00
Ducks each	5.00	9.00
Feeder Pigs	20.00	40.00
Lambs	185.00	205.00
Sheep	100.00	110.00



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
ALFALFA SPRT,5lb	14.00	14.00
APPLE,empr,xfcy,80ct	24.00	25.00
APPLE,hnycrsp,fcy,80ct	26.00	28.00
APPLE,mcntsh,12/3lb,fcy	15.00	15.00
APPLE,mcntsh,no1,140ct	16.00	16.00
CIDER,4/1gal	16.00	16.00
CRANBERRY,24/12oz	34.00	35.00
PARSNIP,18/11b	23.00	23.00
PARSNIP,25lb	22.00	22.00
POTATO,10lb	2.50	2.60
POTATO,CHF,50lb	12.00	12.00
POTATO,rd,50lb,sz b	15.00	15.00
SQUASH,bttrnt,md,1 ¹ / ₉ bu	14.00	15.00
TURNIP,prpl,25lb	10.00	10.00
TURNIP,wht,bu	17.00	18.00

SHIPPED IN

ARUGULA,2lb,CA	9.00	9.00
AVOCADO,32ct,MX	37.00	38.00
BEAN,grn,bu,FL	18.00	20.00
CARROT,50lb,lg,CA	10.00	11.00
CILANTRO,60s,TX	26.00	26.00
DATE,11lb,CA	55.00	55.00
GARLIC,col,30lb,CA	60.00	62.00
JERUSLM ARTCHK,10ct,CA	36.00	36.00
ONION,cplln,10lb,NY	18.00	21.00
ONION,ylw,50lb,NY	12.00	17.00
ORANGE,nvl,113ct,CA	24.00	26.00
STRAWBERRY,8/1lb,FL	22.00	24.00
SWT POTATO,40lb,NJ	20.00	20.00
TANGERINE,80ct,FL	29.00	29.00



**RETAIL BEEF, USDA
NORTHEAST U.S. MAJOR SUPERMARKETS**

Prices per pound, choice

BEEF SHORT RIB	4.19	5.99
BOTTOM ROUND,roast	2.99	3.99
BRISKET	5.99	5.99
FILET MIGNON	13.49	14.99
GROUND,80-89%	3.99	4.29
LONDON BROIL	2.49	4.99
NY STRIP STEAK	3.99	9.99
RIBEYE,roast,bone-in	6.99	8.99
RIBEYE,steak	6.99	8.99
STEW MEAT	3.49	4.99
TENDERLION	9.99	9.99

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

January 6, 2014

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	80.50	85.00
boners 80-85% lean	75.50	80.50
lean 85-90% lean	68.50	75.50
CALVES graded bull		
No.1 95-120lbs	159.50	173.75
No.2 95-120lbs	135.50	152.25
No.3 80-120lbs	89.50	118.50
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr		
High dressing	117.00	125.25
Avg.dressing	95.50	106.50
Low dressing	90.50	93.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3	130.75	134.25
Ch2-3	n/a	
Ch1-3	126.50	127.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/prm2-3	133.00	134.75
Ch1-3	126.75	130.00
Sel1-2	120.50	123.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm2-3	111.50	113.75
Ch 2-3	102.50	108.25
Sel1-2	91.00	96.00
VEALER 60-120lbs	27.00	52.75
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	295.00	295.00
60-80lbs	216.00	285.00
80-110lbs	200.00	248.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
110-120lbs	130.00	132.00
120-160lbs	90.00	120.00
160-200lbs	78.00	110.00
Bucks		
140-150lbs	n/a	
160-200lbs	58.00	87.00
200-300lbs	72.00	85.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est. wt.		
40-60lbs	137.00	167.00
60-80lbs	155.00	200.00
80-100lbs	205.00	245.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130lbs		
130-150lbs	150.00	182.00
177.00	220.00	
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs		
285.00	360.00	
150-250lbs	400.00	515.00

EASTERN PA GRAIN

January 6, 2014

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	3.03
CORN	4.33
OATS	3.37
SOYBEANS	13.01
WHEAT	6.58

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

XTRA LARGE	1.21	1.25
LARGE	1.19	1.23
MEDIUM	1.09	1.13

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	2.19	2.29
LARGE	2.15	2.25
MEDIUM	1.40	1.50

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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.

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136-R. Quality corn silage, kernel processed, finely chopped. Also 100% Alfalfa balage 4 x 4 bales, delivery available if needed. Burke Ridge Farms 860-559-3009 or 860-748-9336.

137-R. John Deere 3960 Corn Choppers with 2 row heads and 1 grass head. Fargo Silage Dump Wagon. Burke Ridge Farms 860-559-3009.

138-R. Hay, 1st and 2nd cutting. \$6/bale pick up. 860-537-1974.

139-R. JD 4520 tractor, \$8,500. JD 4020 side console, \$11,500. JD 4040 new motor, cab, \$15,000. JD 6310 640 loaders, \$24,000. Case W11 payloader, new motor, \$12,000. New Holland 311, 310, 575 balers with throwers. New Holland 256, 258 hay rakes. New Holland 489, 492 haybine, 203-530-4953.

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141-R. Corn silage stored in corn pit. Augur Farm. 203-530-4953.

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GCAD ISSUES ANNUAL UPDATE

(continued from Page 1)

- **Research:** Assess Connecticut's existing agricultural research infrastructure and develop suggestions for improvement.
- **Food Security:** Develop a workable strategy to increase the supply of Connecticut Grown farm products in supermarkets and other retail stores.
- **Marketing:** Review state statutes (CGS [Sec. 22-38](#) and [22-38a](#)) regarding advertising and promotion of Connecticut Grown farm products and suggest workable components for the comprehensive marketing strategy in GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 2, "Develop and invest in a comprehensive marketing strategy for Connecticut agriculture."
- **Agricultural Business Environment:** Examine the current energy bill and make suggestions for enhancements based on GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 3, "Create an agriculture-friendly energy policy that includes agricultural net metering for power

production and transmission, and qualification of agricultural anaerobic digestion projects for zero-emissions renewable energy credits (ZRECs)."

- **Planning and Coordination:** Develop an implementation strategy for GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 4, "Strengthen the state Department of Agriculture and improve coordination among all agencies regulating agricultural businesses."
- **Agricultural Resources and Investments:** Examine opportunities and develop recommendations for agricultural use of state-owned lands.
- **Agriculture and Food Infrastructure:** Determine specific steps for GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 1, "Study infrastructure gaps and opportunities for the aggregation, light processing, and distribution of Connecticut Grown products."
- **Producer Education and Training:** Develop recommendations for specific statewide initiatives to provide an adequate agricultural workforce based on GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 5, "Perform a comprehensive review of agricultural labor issues and develop initiatives that provide an adequate workforce for Connecticut farm businesses."

Each working group invited additional stakeholders with experience and expertise related to its specific assignment to engage in discussion, research, brainstorming, and the development of suggestions for the council's consideration. Details of each group's work are provided in Section 7.

The working groups reported back to the council in August. GCAD members discussed the groups' findings at length, identifying common themes and intersecting issues, and recognizing the need for further review and reflection. A special meeting was set for September to extend the conversation.

Over the next several weeks, members continued to digest and analyze the results of each working group. At September's special meeting, the council resumed its discussion and developed a set of 12 recommendations to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. Many recommendations align with a single group's work, while some are the result of overlapping and/or intersecting challenges and opportunities identified in multiple groups. The recommendations are as follows:

- **Farm-to-Institution A and B:** Modify Connecticut General Statutes [Section 4a-51](#)(b) to include the following: "At least 5 percent of purchases must be Connecticut Grown farm products" and implement a certification process for wholesalers.
- **Farm-to-Institution C:** In Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-38b](#)(d), change the name of the program "Connecticut Farm Fresh Restaurant" to "Connecticut Farm-to-Chef Restaurant" to better align with the Department of Agriculture's existing Farm-to-Chef Program, and work with the agency's Farm-to-Chef advisory group to develop criteria for implementation of a one-, two-, or three-fork restaurant certification within that program.
- **Consumer Education and Training:** Create within the Connecticut State Department of Education a full-time agricultural education coordinator responsible for creating and maintaining a web-based tool kit of curriculum for K-12 educators to use in core subject examples and assignments.
- **Research:** Create an agricultural innovation initiative that is a partnership among Connecticut's private industry, state government, and educational institutions, including both public and private colleges and universities throughout the state.

(continued on Page 4)

GCAD ISSUES ANNUAL UPDATE

(continued from Page 3)

- **Food Security:** Enhance enforcement of Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-38](#)(b), and develop a pilot program to certify Connecticut Grown markets based upon Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-38b](#)(c), changing the program name from “Connecticut Farm Fresh Market” to “Connecticut Grown Market,” to better align with the existing Connecticut Grown Program, and revising the 15 percent stocking requirement to one appropriate for Connecticut Grown production.
- **Marketing:** Conduct research that will enhance the multiyear, state-wide Connecticut Grown marketing and advertising campaign in Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-38a](#).
- **Agricultural Business Environment:** Support on-farm biomass energy projects that do not consume prime and important farmland and explore the carve-out of an AgREC within the LREC system.
- **Agricultural Business Environment and Planning and Coordination:** Improve coordination among all state agencies with involvement in agricultural issues through designation of an agricultural liaison in each.
- **Agricultural Resources and Investments:** Inventory state-owned land and put an additional 4,000 acres into leases with farmers for agricultural production by the end of 2015.
- **Agriculture and Food Infrastructure:** Explore potential at the state-owned Hartford Regional Market for light processing facilities that would enable Connecticut farmers to reduce waste, expand

offerings, and augment income through production and sale of value-added products.

- **Producer Education and Training:** Develop agricultural internship programs through partnerships between Connecticut’s farms and educational institutions—including both public and private colleges and universities—and enhance Cooperative Extension focus on programs that educate farmers about continually changing challenges related to climate, insects, and diseases.
- **Farm to Institution A and B, Food Security, and Agricultural Business Environment:** Assist agricultural producers with Food Safety Modernization Act education and compliance through existing programs; consider development of a new program dedicated to this purpose.

As 2013 wound to a close, the council reviewed its work and recommendations from the past 12 months to determine its top priorities for 2014. It has formed four working groups to focus on the following issues in the months ahead:

- Food Safety Modernization
- Infrastructure and Wholesale Markets
- Producer Education and Innovation
- Marketing

Farmers and other agricultural stakeholders are invited to provide input on these topics January 29 at a meeting at the Capitol. See www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com for details and to reserve a seat (an RSVP is required due to space limitations).



Agrivolution, Groton

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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	Joseph Dippel 860-713-2503
Regional Market	Joseph Dippel 860-566-3699
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
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