

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
February 21, 2018

FDA FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT



GROWING INTO THE FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT

Mark Zotti, Bureau of Regulatory Services

A lot of attention has been given to the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) passed by the United States Congress in 2011—for good reason. One of FSMA's primary objectives is to shift the food safety system activities from a reactive to a preventative system. One example of this shift will affect some of the state's produce farms.

As of Friday, January 26, 2018, fruit and vegetable growers with food sales over \$500,000 are subject to rules for growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of fruits and vegetables under FSMA's Produce Safety Rule (PSR). The PSR only covers produce that is commonly consumed raw and sold for human consumption. Other farm products may be subject to other rules under FSMA including Preventative Controls for Human Food, Preventative Controls for Animal Food, and the Sanitary Transportation Rule.

These new requirements have caused quite a stir. The Department of Agriculture (DoAg) has assumed an active role in addressing these concerns and working to prepare farms for the required compliance dates. DoAg representatives have been busy attending meetings, leading discussions, answering questions, and accepting feedback around the state regarding FSMA and specifically the PSR.

DoAg maintains the belief that regulation through education is the best way to reduce the risk for microbial contamination. No farm wants anyone to get sick. Educating farms of the best practices will achieve FSMA's goal of having a food safety system that focuses on prevention.

The PSR is likely one of the largest challenges facing fruit and vegetable growers in a very long time. At the same time, it presents opportunities for improved market access. It is a

game changer and DoAg is committed to sharing what the agency knows with the industry to ensure that Connecticut farmers are educated and prepared for complying with the new requirements.

DoAg's engagement isn't limited to activities within the state. DoAg is in constant communication with other state departments of agriculture throughout the Northeast and nationwide in the development of produce safety programs that align with the PSR.

What's next? This past January was the first of the compliance dates. Over the next three years, farms whose sales of fruits and vegetables covered by the federal rule exceed \$25,000 may be subject to some provisions of the PSR. Exemptions allow farms selling the majority of their produce to "qualified end users" to not be subject to inspections.

At a glance, the main components of the PSR are water quality, biological soil amendments, sprouts, domestic and wild animals, worker health and hygiene, and equipment tools and buildings. It is important to note that the PSR does not cover all produce. Certain crops are not covered by the rule because they are identified as rarely consumed raw.

With the enactment of Public Act No. 17-208 the Connecticut legislature and Governor Malloy designated DoAg as the state agency responsible for enforcing the PSR. This legislation provides DoAg with the statutory authority needed to adopt and enforce the federal rule and by doing so DoAg has entered into a multi-year cooperative agreement with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The cooperative agreement with FDA provides funding for activities and resources needed to educate the state's pro-

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.34	1.48
LARGE	1.28	1.42
MEDIUM	.97	1.10

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.63	2.72
LARGE	2.64	2.72
MEDIUM	1.62	1.75
SMALL	.77	.87

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	54.50	60.50
boners 80-85% lean	55.00	60.50
lean 88-90% lean	49.00	54.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	123.00	127.00
Choice 2-3	118.00	123.00
Select 1-2	108.00	117.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 112-130 lbs	100.00	110.00
No.1 90-100 lbs	122.00	132.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	205.00	212.00
110-130 lbs	170.00	185.00
150-200 lbs	140.00	150.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
120-160 lbs	90.00	100.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	85.00
200-300 lbs	77.00	80.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	125.00	125.00
40-60 lbs	165.00	215.00
60-80 lbs	175.00	210.00
80-100 lbs	175.00	200.00
100-120 lbs	185.00	215.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	220.00	220.00
130-180 lbs	220.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	220.00	255.00
150-250 lbs	185.00	235.00

USDA WHOLESALE HERBS

February 20. \$/pack as noted. Grown in USA.

ANISE, CA, 24 BN/CTN	18.00	18.00
ARUGULA, CA/FL,4LB,LOOSE	12.00	14.00
BASIL, HI, 1 LB, LOOSE	5.00	6.00
BASIL, THAI, HI, 1 LB, LOOSE	6.00	9.00
CHIVES, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN	10.00	10.00
CHIVES, TX, 60 BN	28.00	28.00
CILANTRO, CA, 60 BN/CTN	20.00	22.00
CIPOLINOS, CA, 10 LB MESH	16.00	20.00
DILL, TX, 24 BUNCHES	24.00	25.00
FENUGREEK, TX, 24 BN/CRT	25.00	25.00
HORSERADISH, MI, 5 LBS	12.00	14.00
LEMON GRASS, CA, 30 LBS	37.00	45.00
MINT, FL, 1/2 BU, 12BN/CTN	12.00	14.00
OREGANO, FL, 1 LB	8.00	8.00
ROSEMARY, FL, 1 LB, 12 BN	7.00	10.00
SAGE, FL, 1 LB	8.00	8.00
TARRAGON, FL, 1 LB	10.00	10.00
THYME, FL, 1 LB	8.00	8.00
WATERCRESS, FL, 12s	10.00	10.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLESBoston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4 OZ	16.00	18.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 72	28.00	29.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 80	30.00	30.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 88	30.00	30.00
APPL,CRTLAND,FCY,12-3LB	22.00	22.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 56	24.00	24.00
APPLE, FUJI, US FANCY, 125	20.00	20.00
APPLE, GALA, US FANCY, 88	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GALA, US FANCY, 100	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GALA, #1, 12-3LB, 2-1/2"	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, FCY, 64	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, FCY, 72	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, FCY, 80	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, FCY, 88	24.00	24.00
APPLE, GOLD DEL, #1, 12-3LB	20.00	20.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP,XFY,TRAY100	56.00	56.00
APPLE,MAC, XFCY,TRYPK 72	30.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 80	29.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 88	28.00	31.00
APPLE,MAC,XFCY,TRYPK 100	24.00	24.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 80	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 88	21.00	21.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 64	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 72	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 80	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY 125	20.00	21.00
APPLE, RED DEL, #1, 12-3LB	20.00	20.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEET,CHIOGGA,25 LB,M-L,LSE	14.00	14.00
BEETS,GOLD, 25 LB, M, LOOSE	14.00	14.00
BEETS, RED, 25 LB, M, LOOSE	8.00	9.00
CARROTS, S-M, 25 LB, LOOSE	11.00	11.00
CIDER, 4- 1 GALLON	22.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	26.00	26.00
POTATO,RNDRED,#1,SZA,50LB	12.00	13.00
POTATO,RNDRED,#1,SZB,50LB	14.00	14.00
POTATO,RDWT,#1,NONSZA,50#	14.00	15.00
POTATO,YLLW,#1,CHEF,50LB	15.00	16.00
SQUASH, ACORN, L, 1-1/9	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, ACORN, M, 1-1/9	16.00	16.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, M, 1-1/9	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, M, 1-1/9	16.00	18.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, WAXFANCY, 100	49.00	49.00
APPLE, GALA, WAXFANCY, 100	45.00	45.00
APPLE, RED DEL, WAXFCY, 80	34.00	34.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, 45 LBS	24.00	24.00
CARROTS, 24-2 LB, M-L	29.00	30.00
LETT, RMAINE, CA/AZ, 12-18OZ	24.00	24.00
MESCLIN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	8.00	9.00
MUSHROOMS, PA, 12- 8 OZ	17.00	18.00
SPINACH, BABY, CA, 4 LBS	16.00	16.00
SQUASH, ACORN, M, 1-1/9	34.00	34.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, M, 1-1/9	30.00	30.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, M, 1-1/9	32.00	32.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, M, 1-1/9	36.00	36.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, M, 1-1/9	30.00	30.00
STRAWBERRIES, FL, 8-1 LB	21.00	21.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - February 19, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	35.00	42.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	50.00
76-90 lbs.	55.00	60.00
91-105 lbs.	65.00	70.00
106 lbs. & up	72.50	77.50
Farm Calves	82.50	120.00
Starter Calves	25.00	30.00
Veal Calves	80.00	110.00
Feeder Heifers	77.50	110.00
Beef Heifers	74.00	84.00
Feeder Steers	80.00	130.00
Beef Steers	70.00	110.00
Feeder Bulls	75.00	100.00
Beef Bulls	70.00	79.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	46.00	48.00
Butcher Hogs	67.50	77.50
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	125.00	160.00
Lambs each	160.00	260.00
Goats each	135.00	250.00
Kid Goats each	100.00	230.00
Canners	up to	54.00
Cutters	55.00	59.00
Utility Grade Cows	60.00	64.00
Rabbits each	6.00	50.00
Chickens each	5.00	19.00
Ducks each	8.00	12.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	67.00	75.00
	300-350 lbs	68.00	70.00
	350-400 lbs	63.00	66.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	56.00	66.00
	300-350 lbs	58.00	64.00
	350-400 lbs	58.50	58.50
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	54.00	62.50
	500-650 lbs	59.00	63.50
Boars	400-725 lbs	5.00	8.50

GREYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION

February 15. \$ per lb or as marked.

Muscovy ducks, drakes	1.65	2.05
Manderin ducks, each	28.00	30.00
Leghorn hens, each	2.50	2.50
Peking ducks, each	8.00	8.00
Red fowl, 4-5 lb s	.60	.80
Red fowl, 5-6 lbs	.70	.85
Rooster, Xbred, 7-11 lbs	1.60	1.80
Banty hens, each	4.00	4.50
Broilers	.75	1.10
Laying pullets, each	5.00	5.50
Geese, each	16.00	16.00
Geese, 9-14, each	0.00	15.00
Pigeons, each	4.00	4.10
Pheasants, each	16.00	28.00
Rabbits, 4-6 lbs	2.40	2.60
Rabbits, 6-9 lbs	2.00	2.20

NATIONAL FOWL

February 16. Price cents/lb or as marked. Regional.

WHOLESALE		
LIVE HVY SPENT, SEAST	.07	.09
READY-TO-COOK, MID WEST		
ON ICE, 12/BOX	.80	.86
VAC PACK, 6-9/BOX	.85	.90
HEAVY FOWL, EA, NJ	1.00	6.00
RETAIL		
HEAVY HEN, NE, /LB	.99	.99

Continued from Page 1

duce industry and develop a state-specific produce safety program that aligns with the federal rule. It has allowed DoAg to train personnel, hire additional staff, and develop education/outreach materials. More importantly, it allows DoAg to focus on developing a state produce safety program that will best serve Connecticut's produce industry.

A major portion of the development of a produce safety program is establishment of education, outreach, and technical assistance programs for industry stakeholders. DoAg finalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Connecticut's Cooperative Extension Service to provide education, outreach, and technical assistance to the state's produce industry regarding the PSR.

The PSR requires covered farms to participate in the Produce Safety Alliance Growers Training Course. Interested farms can visit www.foodsafety.uconn.edu for more information on the course offerings. Under the MOU, UConn will perform a farm inventory on the state's fruit and vegetable growers. Information gathered regarding produce safety activities will be shared with industry stakeholders to get a better understanding of the composition of the produce industry in Connecticut.

Beginning this summer, DoAg will offer On-Farm Readiness Reviews (OFRR) for farms participating in the aforementioned grower training course. This will consist of a walk through with DoAg staff and/or UConn staff. During this visit, produce safety practices will be reviewed and suggestions will be made for any observation that does not meet the requirements of the PSR. This visit is intended to prepare participating farms for future regulatory inspection required by the PSR.

The development of a state produce safety program is an extraordinary challenge. Recent regional produce safety meetings with other states have included discussions regarding market access for the small farmer. Small farms not subject to the PSR, or farms exempted from the PSR, may have difficulty selling products to some customers due to limited access to a produce safety compliance program.

Some customers require food safety compliance verification. This began with third party audits (GAP audits) and may shift to include verification of the PSR compliance. DoAg has acknowledged this potential issue and Public Act No. 17-208 allows DoAg to "conduct an inspection of a produce farm that is not subject to the requirements of the federal act upon request of the owner or operator of such produce farm". This provision will allow DoAg to develop an all-inclusive produce safety program that will benefit the entire industry—large and small growers.

Growing into FSMA will be no easy task. DoAg is excited for the opportunity to lead in keeping Connecticut produce safe for consumers and to serve the produce industry with an "educate before and while we regulate" philosophy. Creating a produce safety program will allow the Connecticut produce industry to remain competitive at local, regional, and national levels. DoAg continues to encourage farms and all industry stakeholders to participate in the training programs being offered and to take advantage of the resources currently available.

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

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or 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.

15-R. Hay for sale. Timothy/orchard grass mix, \$5.00 for first cut, \$6.00 for second cut. Call 860-536-2588. Bulk discounts available.

16-R. Farm stand for rent May and June. 30x30 building with attached greenhouse. Established customer base for annuals, bedding plants and perennials. Contact Alex Arisco @ 203-217-0549.

21-R. Round hay bales – 52" X 48" – Triple plastic wrapped, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, dry, haylage, grass, alfalfa. \$40.00 and up. 860-884-2889.

22. 2002 Dodge 360 cu. In. V-8 motor. 41,000 original miles. Motor is fogged and indoors. \$850.00 or best offer. 203-283-4472 leave message. E-mail: cider-mill5@yahoo.com

WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned

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-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

AG JOB CONNECTION

20-R. Connecticut's two largest hop farms seek a full-time, salaried farm manager. If interested in learning about the qualifications, please send an email to info@ct-hops.com.



FMNP FARMER RECERTIFICATION MEETINGS

All fruit, vegetable, and honey producers currently certified with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) must attend a recertification meeting to maintain the certification required to accept FMNP checks. Below is the list of meeting dates and locations.

- Monday, March 12, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. CT Ag Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven. Consumer Protection will be offering scale certifications before and during this meeting. Farmers are encouraged to bring their scales for the required annual inspection.
- Tuesday, March 20, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. CT Ag Experiment Station, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor.

Please RSVP no later than 24 hours in advance of the meeting to Mark Hood at 860-713-2503 or Mark.Hood@ct.gov.

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL REGISTRATION OPEN

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) invites agricultural non-profits, agricultural producer associations, agricultural cooperatives, federal and state agricultural agencies, and Connecticut municipalities to register for Ag Day at the Capitol. Ag Day will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the North Lobby and Hall of Flags at the Capitol in Hartford, CT. Registration and payment to participate in Ag Day is due by Thursday, March 1, 2018.

CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer and Ag Journalism awards. For more information, contact Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov or register at: <http://ctaginfocouncil.org/index.html>.

FARM WINERY COUNCIL ACCEPTING DONATIONS

The Connecticut Farm Winery Development Council is accepting donations for prizes for the 2018 Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries. For more information, contact Jane.Murdock@ct.gov or call her at 860-713-2588.

RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR WHOLESALE PRODUCERS

March 6, 2018 • 8:00 AM
The Lyceum, Hartford, CT

Join us for One-on-One
Buyer Meetings,
Post-Harvest Handling
Techniques,
FSMA/Produce Safety
discussions and more.

REGISTER BY FEB. 27





COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,
HEALTH AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
EXTENSION



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Risk Management Agency



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
CTGrown.gov

WHOLESALE READINESS TRAINING

Producers are invited to join the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for a wholesale readiness training aimed at exploring intermediary markets and opportunities. Join us to learn about risks and opportunities for wholesale producers, post-harvest handling, and FSMA/ Produce Safety updates, followed by one-on-one meetings with buyers from area retailers and distributors. These one-on-one meetings will provide a structured space for producers to make business connections and create opportunities for sales.

- Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., The Lyceum, 227 Lawrence St. Hartford, CT.

The cost of the program is \$15.00 which includes lunch. Please contact Erin Windham at 860-713-2543 or Erin.Windham@ct.gov to register by Feb. 27, 2018.

EXHIBIT AT THE 2018 BIG E

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is accepting vendor applications for the agriculture booth spaces in the Connecticut Building with the purpose of providing Connecticut farms, small agricultural businesses, and agricultural non-profit organizations the opportunity to market and promote their products and/or service. Applications are available at www.ctgrown.gov and are due by Friday, March 30, 2018. Please call 860-713-2538 or email Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov to receive the application or more participation information.

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact Jane.Murdock@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 450 Columbus Blvd. Suite 701, Hartford CT 06103.

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