

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Ned Lamont, Governor
Bryan P. Hurlburt, Commissioner-Designee



Wednesday, April 24, 2019

PASSPORT TO CONNECTICUT FARM WINERIES CELEBRATES 15TH YEAR OF GROWTH

Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

When Connecticut's first farm winery, Hopkins Vineyard in Warren, CT, opened in 1979, they were in uncharted territory. Founders Bill and Judy Hopkins faced opposition and neighbors who thought they were crazy to think they could grow grapes in Connecticut.

"We did a lot of research on what varieties to grow and learned through trial and error at the beginning," said their daughter, Hilary H. Criollo, who is the current owner and president of Hopkins Vineyard.

She readily points out that new wineries today have a wealth of information to draw from that were not available in 1978, when the Connecticut Farm Winery Act was passed.

Ten years later, the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council was established. Since 1988, the council has been working hard to educate current and future farm wineries, and to ensure that Connecticut residents and visitors to the state know all about the farm wineries.

In 2006, the Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries program was developed to promote and encourage visitors to Connecticut farm wineries.

Today, the Passport Program works cooperatively with 40 licensed farm wineries throughout the state and the Connecticut Wine Festival.

The Passport Program is run by the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council under the administrative authority of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

In recent years, the council has annually distributed more than 60,000 passports through participating farm wineries and business sponsors.

This year, the Passport Program will offer the printed edition and is also launching an online app for winery enthusiasts to download to their mobile device. This will

make it easier than ever to participate in the program.

In- and out-of-state visitors can participate at no cost by picking up a passport at a participating farm winery on or after the first Friday in May. Participants collect stamps at each winery until the program ends the first Sunday in November. This year, the program will run from May 3 until November 3, 2019, with a prize drawing on December 5, 2019.

To encourage participation, the Passport Program has partnered with various Connecticut businesses to offer more than 60 prizes, including chauffeured limousine trips by Gateway Limousine and overnight stays at LaQuinta by Wyndham in Danbury, CT.

By obtaining a minimum of 12 stamps, passport participants are eligible for the drawing, which also includes two bottles of wine from each participating winery, a custom hand-made wine backpack, and the coveted prize of a two-week trip for two to Spain.

In addition, incentives are being offered to encourage participants to download and use the mobile app. The first 1,000 users to sign up will be entered to win one \$250 gas card. The first 100 app users to obtain the minimum of 12 stamps will receive a free ticket to the 2019 Connecticut Wine Festival, organized by the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association, to be held on Sunday, July 21, 2019.

The Passport Program has seen tremendous growth in the number of participating wineries and interest from visitors thanks to social media promotions, and support from wineries and business sponsors.

According to UConn's 2015 Economic Impacts of Connecticut's Agricultural Industry report, sales at farm wineries increased by more than 100% between 2007 and 2015.

All licensed Connecticut farm



The 2019 Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries will be available at participating farm wineries beginning May 3, 2019.

(continued on Page 3)

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.63	.79
LARGE	.57	.71
MEDIUM	.48	.61

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.35	1.59
LARGE	1.27	1.49
MEDIUM	.91	1.01
SMALL	.72	.82

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
PRIME 3-4	119.50	124.00
Choice 2-3	113.00	118.50
Select 2-3	111.00	112.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
PRIME 3-4	116.00	122.00
Choice 2-3	112.00	116.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	53.00	58.50
boners 80-85% lean	54.00	58.50
lean 88-90% lean	46.00	51.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 110-118 lbs	120.00	130.00
No 2 80-128 lbs	100.00	130.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
70-80 lbs	217.00	255.00
80-90 lbs	217.00	245.00
110-130 lbs	205.00	235.00
130-150 lbs	180.00	210.00
Choice 1-2		
40-50 lbs	210.00	245.00
60-70 lbs	195.00	220.00
70-80 lbs	190.00	215.00
80-90 lbs	190.00	215.00
Choice 2-3		
90-100 lbs	185.00	200.00
110-130 lbs	160.00	190.00
130-150 lbs	150.00	177.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
120-160 lbs	70.00	90.00
160-200 lbs	60.00	90.00
200-300 lbs	50.00	70.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	160.00	192.00
60-80 lbs	180.00	225.00
80-100 lbs	220.00	240.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	165.00	205.00
130-180 lbs	210.00	245.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	255.00	310.00
150-250 lbs	290.00	365.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	54.00 61.00
	300-350 lbs	56.00 64.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	47.00 56.00
	300-350 lbs	48.00 57.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	42.00 53.00
	500-800 lbs	35.00 50.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, GHS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 80	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 100	26.00	26.00
APPLE, MAC, 125, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1	16.00	17.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 100	22.00	22.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 125	18.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 138	18.00	19.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	14.00	14.00
POTATOES, WHITE CHEF, 50 LB	15.00	15.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	28.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 15 LB, LG	26.00	26.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB	24.00	24.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 100	28.00	28.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 125	26.00	26.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, XFCY, 88	31.00	31.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, CA, 14'S	16.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB	13.50	16.00
CABBAGE, RED, 50 LB, M/L	25.00	28.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	22.00	24.00
CAULIFLOWER, CA, 12's	18.50	21.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	7.00	8.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	14.00	16.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, CA, 24	16.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, CA, 24	16.00	19.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, CA, 24'S	16.00	20.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, SHITAKE, 3 LB CTN	14.00	16.00
ONION, GREEN LEEK, BNCH 12	24.00	26.00
ONION, YELLOW, 24-2 LB	18.00	20.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 24- 2 LB	22.00	24.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	20.00	24.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	26.00	26.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, RED, CA, 24's	18.00	18.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT	30.00	30.00
CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT	36.00	36.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	26.00	26.00
MESCLUN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	9.50
ONION, YELLOW, 50 LB, M/L	32.00	32.00
PEPPERS, RED, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	34.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	34.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	32.00	35.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	30.00	30.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	25.00	25.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB, CRT	13.50	13.50
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB, CRT	35.00	40.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - April 22, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	5.00	12.00
61-75 lbs.	12.50	17.50
76-90 lbs.	18.50	22.00
91-105 lbs.	25.00	32.00
106 lbs. & up	45.00	55.00
Farm Calves	65.00	70.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	95.00	100.00
Feeder Heifers	90.00	130.00
Beef Heifers	55.00	70.00
Feeder Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	76.00	95.00
Feeder Bulls	100.00	127.50
Beef Bulls	75.00	95.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	80.00	100.00
Lambs each	100.00	210.00
Goats each	125.00	360.00
Kid Goats each	110.00	300.00
Canners	up to	61.00
Cutters	62.00	66.00
Utility Grade Cows	67.00	71.00
Rabbits each	6.00	37.50
Chickens each	4.00	24.00
Ducks each	7.00	13.00
Guinea Hens	5.00	16.00
Goose Eggs each	n/a	n/a

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
SUPREME	1350.00	1500.00
APPROVED	900.00	1300.00
MEDIUM	550.00	900.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1150.00	1250.00
APPROVED	675.00	1075.00
MEDIUM	450.00	700.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1050.00	1050.00
APPROVED	600.00	1025.00
MEDIUM	500.00	525.00
SHORT BRED HEIFERS		
APPROVED	575.00	825.00
MEDIUM	275.00	575.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	275.00	535.00
MEDIUM	175.00	325.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	400.00	610.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. April 19, 2019

ALFALFA/GRASS		
PREMIUM	350.00	390.00
GOOD	230.00	340.00
FAIR	140.00	245.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	300.00	370.00
GOOD	240.00	320.00
FAIR	150.00	200.00
STRAW	290.00	340.00

(continued from Page 1)

wineries are required to use a minimum of 25% Connecticut Grown fruit. This year, more than half of the participating wineries are also recognized as a voluntary Connecticut Grown farm winery, which means they use at least 51% Connecticut Grown fruit. Look for the Connecticut Grown logo on the passport pages to see which wineries are voluntary Connecticut Grown farm wineries.

“The Passport Program brings in visitors from Connecticut and the surrounding states that might not normally visit you,” said Criollo. “It gives us the opportunity to introduce them to our wines and gain future fans of Hopkins Vineyard”.



Award winning wines produced by Hopkins Vineyard in Warren, CT..

A Facebook event created at the start of this year for the 2019 passport launch has already reached more than 400,000 people with more than 22,000 responses from those interested in participating.

While the Passport Program has introduced participants to the award-winning wines being grown and produced here in Connecticut, it has also encouraged the wine industry to come together to work as one.



Gouveia Vineyards, Wallingford, CT.

Whether it's recommending a nearby winery for the next stamp, sharing their favorite restaurant for a bite to eat, or unique local attractions, the Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries program is creating unique experiences while visitors discover all that Connecticut has to offer.

Participating in the Passport Program? Share your journey through Connecticut's farm wineries with us on social media by using #CTFarmWine and #PassportToCTWineries.

To learn more about the Passport Program and the participating farm wineries, visit www.PassportToCTFarmWine.com or www.Facebook.com/CTFarmWineries.

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 Zyskowski today at 203-444-6553

26-R. First cutting round bales. Wrapped and unwrapped. Delivery available upon request. 203-264-2217

27-R. Pollination services for small scale farms. Call Hilltop Apiaries for information at 860-408-9039

29-R. JD 7000 4-row no till corn planter, monitor, foam markets, light kit, mint condition, \$7,500. JD 1600 3 bottom reset plow. Excellent. \$2,500. Killbros Gravity Wagons with augers. Model 350. \$2,000. Bush Hog 7' #287 very good. \$1,600. Call 860-355-1264. Pictures available

30. 1954 Farmall Super "H" tractor. Live Hyd. Very good cond. \$4,000. Land Roller \$125. Int. wide front end for Farmall M-560 good cond. \$800. 203-848-4582

WANTED

6-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

HIGHER LIMITS AVAILABLE ON USDA FARM LOANS

Higher limits are now available for borrowers interested in USDA's farm loans, which help agricultural producers purchase farms or cover operating expenses. The 2018 Farm Bill increased the amount that producers can borrow through direct and guaranteed loans available through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) and made changes to other loans, such as microloans and emergency loans. Key changes include:

- The Direct Operating Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$400,000, and the Guaranteed Operating Loan limit increased from \$ 1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Operating loans help producers pay for normal operating expenses, including machinery and equipment, seed, livestock feed, and more.
- The Direct Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$300,000 to \$600,000, and the Guaranteed Farm Ownership Loan limit increased from \$1.429 million to \$1.75 million. Farm ownership loans help producers become owner-operators of family farms and improve current operations.
- Producers can now receive both a \$50,000 Farm Ownership Microloan and a \$50,000 Operating Microloan.

Direct farm loans, which include microloans and emergency loans, are financed and serviced by FSA, while guaranteed farm loans are financed and serviced by commercial lenders. For more information on FSA farm loans, visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

DOAG ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FARMERS' MARKET AT THE REGIONAL MARKET

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is now accepting applications for the Farmers' Market at the Regional Market. The 2019 farmers' market season runs from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Stall use agreements are available for periods of three months up to one year.

Applications and information can be found on DoAg's website at https://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/regional_market/2018/Farmers_Market_Application_2019.pdf. For more information or questions, please contact Erin Windham at 860-713-2543 or Erin.Windham@ct.gov.

NRCS CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Connecticut, has announced the availability of funds for competitive grants through the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Program.

The program aims to spark the development and adoption of cutting-edge conservation technologies and approaches for farmers and other landowners.

CIG is a voluntary program intended to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production.

Under CIG, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds are used to award competitive grants to non-

federal governmental or nongovernmental organizations, Tribes, or individuals.

CIG enables NRCS to work with public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adoption of promising technologies and approaches to address some of the state's most pressing natural resource concerns.

Projects may include on-farm pilot projects and field demonstrations and are funded to accelerate the transfer and adoption of promising technologies to landowners to address critical natural resource concerns.

CIG awards are made through a competitive process. Projects may be single or multi-year but may not exceed three years. Projects must involve EQIP-eligible agricultural producers or landowners, and at least 50% of the total cost must come from non-federal matching funds, including in-kind contributions.

Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on June 14, 2019. For more information go to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ct/programs/financial/cig>.

CONNECTICUT GROWN PRICE CARDS

It's that time of year—farmers' markets and producers are gearing up for the season ahead and they need Connecticut Grown price cards.

To order go to www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com. Connecticut Grown price cards are available at no cost.

There is also a limited supply of Connecticut Grown tents available for purchase through the website. For more information call 860-713-2538, or email Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov.



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 Crystal.Morris@ct.gov or call 860-713-2533.

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

Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.

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