

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, April 3, 2019

WELCOME FROM COMMISSIONER BRYAN P. HURLBURT

Bryan P. Hurlburt, Commissioner

It is an honor to have been nominated by Governor Lamont to serve as the next Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, and to serve you, the state's farming families, in this role.

For years, I have been discussing the essential roles agriculture plays in Connecticut. Its nearly 6,000 farms employ more than 21,000 people, represent 440,000 acres of scenic lands, and contribute \$4 billion to the state's economy. The Department of Agriculture plays a vital role in supporting this industry, and I am eager to use agency's tools to help strengthen and grow agriculture further.

Over the course of my career, I have had different roles within this industry. As a state representative, I worked to open new markets and streamline statutes to promote agriculture.

At the USDA Farm Service Agency, I oversaw federal programs that support farm operations, including risk management, low-interest direct and guaranteed loans, and direct-farm support programs.

While directing the CT Farm Bureau, I worked on the protection of current agricultural programs, the creation of a legal hemp program, and the streamlining of laws around on-farm agri-tourism operations.

In all of these roles, I have been able to visit many farms, understand the industry's challenges, and seek out ways to strengthen Connecticut's agricultural economy.

This new role as commissioner will draw from all of that previous work and promises to be another exciting position in which I can serve Connecticut's agricultural community.

I look forward to working with the hard-working men and women farmers, Department of Agriculture employees, and with our partner organizations to create a strong and diverse marketplace for our producers. Thank you for what you do and I look forward to working with all of you.



Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner, Bryan P. Hurlburt.

“Connecticut has a vibrant farming community – the products they produce are world-class and we want to help support the continued growth of this important sector of our state’s economy,” Governor Lamont.

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.88	1.04
LARGE	.82	.96
MEDIUM	.69	.75

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.65	1.95
LARGE	1.61	1.89
MEDIUM	1.16	1.25
SMALL	.83	.94

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS

Choice 2-3	117.00	121.50
Select 2-3	110.00	117.50

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS

Choice 2-3	113.00	118.00
Select 1-2	108.00	113.00

SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing

breakers 75-80% lean	53.00	58.50
boners 80-85% lean	50.00	56.50
lean 88-90% lean	40.00	45.00

CALVES - Graded bull

No 1 94-118 lbs	170.00	187.00
No 2 112-128 lbs	165.00	172.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3

80-90 lbs	240.00	260.00
110-130 lbs	180.00	220.00
130-150 lbs	182.00	200.00
150-200 lbs	150.00	180.00

Choice 1-2

40-50 lbs	220.00	240.00
60-70 lbs	220.00	245.00
70-80 lbs	210.00	235.00
80-90 lbs	215.00	237.00

Choice 2-3

90-100 lbs	187.00	225.00
100-130 lbs	175.00	205.00
130-150 lbs	160.00	180.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3

80-120 lbs	60.00	90.00
120-160 lbs	55.00	85.00
160-200 lbs	45.00	85.00
200-300 lbs	45.00	80.00

SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1

40-60 lbs	155.00	175.00
60-80 lbs	180.00	205.00
80-100 lbs	210.00	230.00

SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1

80-130 lbs	175.00	210.00
130-180 lbs	190.00	235.00

SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1

100-150 lbs	225.00	260.00
150-250 lbs	270.00	355.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS

52-56	200-300 lbs	48.00	55.00
	300-350 lbs	52.00	56.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	39.00	48.00
	300-350 lbs	39.00	48.00

Sows, US 1-3

	300-500 lbs	30.00	36.00
	500-850 lbs	32.00	39.00

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	20.00	20.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88	31.00	31.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 100	22.00	22.00
APPLE, MAC, 125, #1	17.00	17.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1	16.00	16.00
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
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	28.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	18.00	18.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB	28.00	28.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 88	26.00	32.00
APPLE, GLD DEL, PA, XFCY, 100	24.00	25.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, FCY, 88	31.00	31.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, AZ/CA, 14'S	23.00	24.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, SACK	17.00	20.00
CABBAGE, RED, 50 LB, M/L	28.00	30.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CAULIFLOWER, AZ/ CA, 12's	18.00	22.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	7.00	9.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	14.00	16.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, AZ/CA, 24	16.00	20.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	16.00	20.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 24'S	16.00	20.00
MESCLUN MIX, AZ/CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, OYSTER, 3 LB CTN	13.00	14.00
ONION, GREEN LEEK, BNCH 12	24.00	26.00
ONION, YELLOW, 24-2 LB	18.00	18.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 24- 2 LB	22.00	24.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	38.00	38.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	22.00	24.50
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	24.00	26.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, 45 LB, CRT, M-L	33.00	33.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	37.00	37.00
MESCLUN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	9.50
ONION, YELLOW, 50 LB, M/L	30.00	30.00
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	32.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	30.00	30.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	26.00	26.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB, CRT	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ACORN, BU, CRT, M	24.00	24.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, BU, CRT, M	28.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOES, 40 LB, CRT	36.00	36.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - April 1, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	40.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	50.00	55.00
91-105 lbs.	60.00	65.00
106 lbs. & up	70.00	80.00
Farm Calves	115.00	140.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	100.00	180.00
Feeder Heifers	110.00	150.00
Beef Heifers	70.00	85.00
Feeder Steers	85.00	160.00
Beef Steers	63.50	82.00
Feeder Bulls	110.00	150.00
Beef Bulls	72.50	137.50
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	145.00	265.00
Lambs each	70.00	260.00
Goats each	145.00	350.00
Kid Goats each	65.00	225.00
Canners	up to	56.50
Cutters	57.00	61.00
Utility Grade Cows	62.00	66.00
Rabbits each	12.00	40.00
Chickens each	7.00	25.00
Ducks each	3.00	13.00
Guinea Hens	n/a	n/a

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	850.00	1250.00
MEDIUM	550.00	825.00
BRED COWS		
APPROVED	775.00	825.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1100.00	1025.00
APPROVED	750.00	1075.00
MEDIUM	500.00	775.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	875.00	975.00
SHORT BRED HEIFERS		
APPROVED	550.00	725.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	310.00	385.00
MEDIUM	250.00	310.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	425.00	675.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. March 29, 2019

ALFALFA/GRASS		
SUPREME	420.00	460.00
GOOD	235.00	310.00
FAIR	160.00	200.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	370.00	440.00
GOOD	250.00	340.00
FAIR	160.00	240.00
STRAW	270.00	305.00

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Connecticut General Assembly meets each winter and spring. In odd-numbered years, such as 2019, the legislature is in session from January to June. During these longer sessions, members formulate a budget for the state and propose legislation on any and every topic that may be of import to the people in their districts or to the State of Connecticut.

In even-numbered years, they meet from February to May, for the purpose of making adjustments to the state's budget. During these shorter sessions, members are limited to introducing bills that impact the finances of the state. However, committees can raise bills dealing with any topic. Legislative proposals affecting the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) generally flow through the legislature's Environment Committee.

As the month of March wraps up, most committees are rushing to pass their bills out of committee to be voted on by the House and Senate. This year, DoAg introduced and is moderating bills covering a number of issues important to the agency, and to agriculture in Connecticut. Following are some of these bills.

Senate Bill 1000, An Act Concerning Apple Assessments

The Connecticut Apple Marketing Board (CAMB) analyzed their budget expenses over the last three years. It determined a baseline of yearly expenditures, less grant-funded projects, spent on marketing and outreach to promote all apple producers throughout the state.

CAMB's promotional efforts are supported by a statutorily implemented assessment paid by each Connecticut apple producer based on self-reported annual harvests.

For the 2017 harvest, 40% of the producers who returned an assessment reported they were exempt from paying any assessment based upon the current assessment thresholds.

An additional 29% reported owing less than \$100, leaving only 30% of Connecticut's apple producers actually funding the outreach and promotional activities benefiting the entire industry.

Based upon the approximately 70 Connecticut orchards which receive an assessment, the \$100 minimum assessment proposed in the bill would more equitably distribute the cost of CAMB's industry-wide promotional efforts and allow CAMB to maintain its successful digital presence through a standalone website, app, and social media, as well as at industry and consumer events promoting Connecticut Grown apples and Connecticut's apple orchards.

House Bill 7297, An Act Concerning Quarantine and Disposal Orders of Animal Control Officers

In large part, this bill reflects a consensus reached after many hours of discussions and debate of an advisory working group representing diverse interests that began its work in September of 2018. Members include DoAg staff, state and municipal animal control officers, veterinarians, animal advocates, a bite victim, and a chief municipal elected officer. The advisory working group was charged with making recommendations to clarify and provide municipal animal control officers with additional guidance and parameters when issuing restraint and disposal orders on biting or attacking animals pursuant to C.G.S. §22-358.

In an effort to clarify the provisions within C.G.S. §22-358, it was determined that the existing language pertaining to the quarantine of biting dogs for the purpose of observing any signs indicative of rabies should be moved to C.G.S. §22-359, the provisions of which provide for the control of rabies.

This legislative proposal tightens existing language concerning the killing of an animal while it is in the act of attacking.

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19-R. Planting, cultivating and harvest equipment for vegetables, tobacco and hemp (Italian Checchi & Magli and Mater Macc). Call Griffin Farm Equipment 860-508-2426 or visit www.griffinfarmtools.com

24. International 14 chisel plow- 4 spring reset shanks. Good condition. Call 203-641-1632 or email wkogut@cox.net

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

22. Used Kverneland plow 3 or 4 bottom in working condition. Call 203-641-1632 or email wkogut@cox.net

23. Used Northwest rototiller in good condition. Call 203-641-1632 or email wkogut@cox.net

25. Wanted: More efficient way to harvest and store grass. Must invent new equipment and methods suited to CT. Kevin Blacker kjblacker@sbcglobal.net

LOOKING FOR A CT FARMERS' MARKET?

If you're a farmer in search of a Connecticut Farmers' Market, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yykqo88>. Tell us what Connecticut Grown farm products you grow and what market days you're interested in and we'll share that information with Connecticut farmers' market managers. Please complete the online form by April 19, 2019.

CT GROWN BUYER/GROWER NETWORKING EVENT

Are you looking to expand your wholesale markets? The Department of Agriculture will be hosting a Connecticut Grown buyer/grower networking event on Thursday, April 25, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Middlesex County Extension Center in Haddam, CT. This is your opportunity to discuss your business and products one-on-one with buyers looking for Connecticut Grown products or connect with new suppliers for your business.

To register go to <https://www.cognitofirms.com/CTDepartmentOfAgriculture1/buyergrowermeetingregistrationform>.

Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration must be completed by April 15, 2019. Call 860-713-2543 or email Erin.Windham@ct.gov for more information.

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This proposal also establishes criteria for an animal control officer to consider when contemplating the issuance of a restraint or disposal order. The criteria include the ability of the owner to control the animal, the severity of the injuries, the viciousness of the attack, whether the attack occurred on or off the property where the animal is kept, whether the animal was provoked, and whether the animal was protecting its owner.

In addition this proposal reshapes the way in which appeals of restraint and disposal orders are made. It first requires the municipality in which the attack occurred to meet with the dog owner to attempt to resolve any dispute surrounding an order prior to appealing the order to the commissioner. This proposal preserves the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act right of an aggrieved party to appeal to the commissioner and ultimately the superior court.

Senate Bill 872, An Act Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations for General Government

Governor Lamont's budget makes responsible appropriations to DoAg that will allow the department to continue to meet its public health and safety obligations, and to grow the industry into a commodity area new to Connecticut: hemp. The governor's budget provides for the necessary funding and staff to establish a program that will meet federal requirements recently adopted in the 2018 Farm Bill for the legal cultivation of hemp. Without the necessary resources provided for in this proposal, Connecticut would continue to lag behind 41 other states who have already established hemp cultivation programs.

The governor's budget also brings the Community Investment Act (CIA), which affects DoAg programs, onto the General Fund. These programs support individual producers, non-profits, and municipalities through matching reimbursement grants intended to diversify agricultural production in Connecticut. They also support the acquisition of development rights through our farmland preservation program and bolster the dairy industry in Connecticut. In addition, CIA also supports many of the boards, councils, and commissions housed within DoAg for administrative purposes.

A few other bills DoAg is monitoring are

House Bill 6647, An Act Establishing a Regenerative Agriculture Program

This bill would establish a regenerative agriculture program in the state to improve soil health, conservation, rainwater absorption, drought resiliency and water quality.

Senate Bill 233, An Act Concerning Cottage Food Products and the Production of Honey and Maple Syrup

This bill would retain the regulation of maple syrup and honey production with the Department of Agriculture.

Senate Bill 1061, An Act Concerning the Restoration of Funds to the Community Investment Account

This bill would restore recent funds cut from the community investment account in Fiscal Year 2018

Senate Bill 1063, An Act Establishing a Taskforce to Improve Farmland Availability to Beginning Farmers

This bill would establish a task force to develop recommendations for improving the availability of farmland for first-time farmers.



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