

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Ned Lamont, Governor
Melody A. Currey, Acting Commissioner



Wednesday, February 20, 2019

CULTIVATION OF KELP IN CONNECTICUT

Shannon Kelly, Bureau of Aquaculture

Kelp is an exciting new farming venture in the Long Island Sound. There are kelp farms in, or proposed in, Greenwich, Stamford, Norwalk, Fairfield, Milford, Branford, Groton, and Stonington.

In Connecticut, licensing and permitting of kelp cultivation is the responsibility of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s Bureau of Aquaculture. Aquaculture by definition is the farming of fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic plants, algae, and other organisms.

Like land plants, kelp, a type of seaweed, converts carbon dioxide into oxygen through photosynthesis and provides food and habitat for other marine organisms.

Kelp is also important to humans. Historically, it has provided food, minerals, medicine, and fertilizer, and it continues to do the same today.

Wild harvest makes up the majority of the seaweed industry, but an ever-increasing amount is produced from aquaculture, especially in China and South America. Kelp is the principal species of seaweed being aquacultured.

In the Northeast, including Connecticut, recent advancements in culture technologies have led to the development of a growing sugar kelp (*Saccharina latissima*) industry.

An excellent dietary source of fiber, vitamin C, vitamin K, iron, calcium, magnesium, iodine, and other trace minerals, kelp can be used dried, powdered, fresh, cooked, and frozen.

In addition to being used as a food source or ingredient, kelp may have other uses in the future such as fertilizer, biofuel, animal feed, or cosmetic ingredients.

Similar to oyster and clam production, cultivation involves harvesting wild kelp blades ready to spawn and then inducing the spawning process in the hatchery/laboratory under controlled temperature, light, and nutrient conditions.

A reliable source of clean seawater is needed to provide the essential mineral components required for the kelp to spawn and attach to spools of thread.

Once the seed has set on the string it can be put out onto longlines in the Long Island Sound.

Kelp is a winter crop that grows from fall to spring. Much of the growth occurs in spring with increasing temperatures and light levels. It is usually "planted" in November or December and harvested in May. Horizontal lines must be removed from the water by June 1.

Because the Long Island Sound is a waterbody shared by many interests, and all must be able to safely use, share, and enjoy this invaluable resource, there is regulatory oversight involving multiple partnering agencies.

The use of any "structure" in the water column (i.e. bottom netting, bottom cage, hanging cage, floating bags, hatchery, upweller, or longline) requires an application submitted to DoAg, which is reviewed by DoAg, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

A Certificate of Operations is needed from DoAg. Other permits may also be needed from DEEP and the USACE before work associated with any structure can begin.

Because the kelp grows on longlines and fills vertical space in the



*Kelp being harvested from a longline in Branford, CT.
Photo courtesy of Connecticut Sea Grant.*

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.10	1.27
LARGE	1.04	1.18
MEDIUM	.81	.94

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.85	1.95
LARGE	1.77	1.89
MEDIUM	1.25	1.39
SMALL	.84	.94

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	117.00	118.00
Choice 2-3	113.00	116.50
Select 2-3	105.00	107.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	113.00	117.00
Choice 2-3	105.00	108.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	53.00	59.50
boners 80-85% lean	50.00	55.50
lean 88-90% lean	41.00	49.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 100- 118 lbs	67.00	75.00
No 2 112- 128 lbs	47.00	57.00
No 2 98- 110 lbs	73.00	77.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3

90-110 lbs	215.00	255.00
110-130 lbs	170.00	225.00
130-150 lbs	140.00	175.00
150-200 lbs	130.00	145.00
Choice 1-2		
60-70 lbs	242.00	275.00
70-80 lbs	230.00	260.00
80-90 lbs	210.00	250.00
Choice 2-3		
90-100 lbs	180.00	215.00
100-130 lbs	135.00	180.00
130-150 lbs	130.00	155.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	100.00	125.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	100.00
160-200 lbs	65.00	95.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	150.00	185.00
60-80 lbs	195.00	220.00
80-100 lbs	225.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	200.00	235.00
130-180 lbs	220.00	260.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	245.00	260.00
150-250 lbs	300.00	375.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	49.00 62.00
	300-350 lbs	53.00 62.00
	350-400 lbs	56.00 60.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	41.00 50.00
	300-350 lbs	48.00 54.00
	350-400 lbs	39.00 47.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	22.00 34.00
	500-700 lbs	26.00 31.00

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, CRTLND, XFCY, 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, XFCY, 88	30.00	30.00
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
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 15LBS, CRTN S-M	10.00	10.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	23.00	23.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB	30.00	30.00

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, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, FCY, 88	19.00	20.00
APPLE, GALA, FCY, 100	18.00	20.00
BRUSSEL SPROUTS, CA, 25 LB	36.00	44.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, M/L	24.00	26.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LB, M/L	34.00	38.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	10.00	12.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	16.00	18.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, GHS, CD, 12-4OZ	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	24.00	24.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 24'S	23.00	24.00
MESCLUN MIX, AZ/CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, SHITAKE, 3 LB CTN	14.00	16.00
ONION, YELLOW, NY, 24- 2 LB, M	16.00	17.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 20- 2 LB	20.00	20.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	22.00	26.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	20.00	23.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	25.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00
TURNIP, PRPL TOP, 25 LB BAG	22.00	22.00

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	25.00	25.00
PEPPERS, RED, 11 LB, CRT	26.00	28.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 11 LB, CRT	26.00	28.00
PEPPERS, ORANGE, 11 LB, CRT	28.00	30.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	30.00	30.00
POTATOES, RED, 50 LB, #1, SZ A	29.00	29.00
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 - February 18, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	5.00	10.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	50.00
76-90 lbs.	52.50	60.00
91-105 lbs.	65.00	70.00
106 lbs. & up	72.00	77.50
Farm Calves	100.00	140.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	62.50	142.50
Feeder Heifers	72.50	77.50
Beef Heifers	85.00	102.50
Feeder Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	102.50	117.50
Feeder Bulls	60.00	77.50
Beef Bulls	54.00	65.00
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	115.00	130.00
Lambs each	220.00	240.00
Goats each	120.00	275.00
Kid Goats each	85.00	185.00
Canners	up to	59.50
Cutters	60.00	63.00
Utility Grade Cows	63.50	66.00
Rabbits each	15.00	50.00
Chickens each	8.00	40.00
Ducks each	6.00	10.00
Pigeons	5.00	10.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. February 15, 2019

ALFALFA/GRASS		
PREMIUM	340.00	390.00
GOOD	240.00	280.00
FAIR	155.00	200.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	325.00	350.00
GOOD	225.00	280.00
FAIR	175.00	205.00
STRAW	265.00	310.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	800.00	1200.00
MEDIUM	525.00	850.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-9 MONTHS):		
MEDIUM	750.00	1000.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1000.00	1175.00
APPROVED	700.00	1025.00
MEDIUM	325.00	750.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1025.00	1075.00
APPROVED	675.00	900.00
MEDIUM	375.00	575.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
100-300 lbs		
APPROVED	125.00	160.00
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	200.00	360.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	425.00	585.00
MEDIUM	325.00	410.00
900-1200 lbs		
APPROVED	525.00	625.00

(continued from Page 1)

water column, a DEEP Structures, Dredging and Fill permit is also needed.

The Boating Safety Division of DEEP requires danger/info buoys to be placed in the area where the aquaculture structures and mooring tackle are located to make boaters aware of the gear in the water column. Boaters need to stay away from the area so as not to become entangled in, or do damage to, the gear.



Kelp sporophytes being grown on spools at NOAA Fisheries in Milford, CT.
Photo courtesy of NOAA Fisheries.

When the application is received by the USACE the federal agency coordination process begins because kelp gear could entangle birds and/or marine mammals.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is consulted for both essential fish habitat and any endangered species.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is also consulted for endangered species, and the EPA Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act allows for the evaluation of potential impacts to fish and wildlife from proposed water resource development projects.



Close-up image of kelp fronds in a laboratory setting.
Photo courtesy of NOAA Fisheries.

The initial "Public Interest Review" is where the USACE project manager assesses comments received and conducts an initial evaluation of the application including the likelihood of conflicts with marine resources and other public uses.

All of the above coordination processes must be completed before the USACE can issue an authorization for the kelp farm.

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

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11-R. Promix 3.8 CuFt For Sale. BX \$27.45, Biofungicide \$28.35, Picked Up NESEED East Hartford, CT. 860-724-1240.

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13-R. Quality hay for sale. \$4.00/bale. 203-453-9865.
Leave Message

14-R. 1 Rain-Flo 2600 series II mulch layer. Row track, raised bed, drip. Like new \$3,500. Call 203-623-2694

18-R. Work and Live in an Organic Farm-Centered Co-housing Neighborhood. New energy efficient neighborhood in Bethany. www.rockycorner.org

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.

TRUCK SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

The Hartford County Farm Bureau is sponsoring an educational program regarding truck safety and compliance for the agricultural industry. The program will be held Saturday, March 16, 2019, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Nutrien Ag Solutions, 15 Chamberlain Road, Broad Brook, CT.

This educational program will cover what farm vehicles operators need to know to comply with federal and state trucking regulations. Agricultural exemptions, CDL and new Electronic Data Logger (EDL) regulations will be discussed. Representatives from Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the Commercial Vehicle Safety Division of Connecticut DMV will present information and be available to answer questions.

Program content will be both indoors and outdoors with trucks and trailers on-hand to review truck safety. Two CEU's will be available for Connecticut Certified Forest Practitioners. The program is free but registration is required by March 8, 2019. To register call 860 768-1100 or email joann@cfba.org.

HARVEST NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

Harvest New England and the New England State Departments of Agriculture are excited to once again host the Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show.

The conference will be held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center in historic Sturbridge, Massachusetts, on February 27-28, 2019. Twenty- six breakout sessions, two general sessions, a New England Farmers' Market Managers Seminar, and a full trade show with nearly 100 vendors are planned over two days. For additional information and online registration go to www.harvestnewengland.org.

FARM ENERGY WORKSHOP

The Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development Area (CT RC&D) will host a Farm Energy Workshop Monday, March 11, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Bishop's Orchards, 1355 Boston Post Road, Guilford, CT.

The workshop will provide information about ways to save energy and money for farm operations. Connecticut has energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and incentives eligible to farmers. The workshop will include information from Energize Connecticut, and presentations from Litchfield Geothermal, the Connecticut Farm Energy Program, and Independence Solar.

A round table discussion about agriculture in the South Central Region of Connecticut will be held before the workshop from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The event is free and pizza will

be offered. Please register for the workshop by March 8, 2019 by contacting Amanda Johnson at 860-345-3977 or ajohnson@ctrctd.org.

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 20, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the North Lobby and Hall of Flags at the Capitol in Hartford, CT. The snow date is March 21, 2019. Registration and payment to participate in Ag Day is due by Thursday, March 1, 2019. To register for Ag Day at the Capitol go to: <http://ctaginfocouncil.org/index.html>.

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.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



CTGrown.gov

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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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