

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, January 30, 2019

LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

Jason Bowsza, Chief of Staff, Commissioner's Office

Each year, the Connecticut General Assembly meets to discuss the state budget, and to propose other changes to state statutes that may be necessary.

This year also brings new leadership in the executive branch under Governor Ned Lamont, and soon will include a new commissioner at the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg).

After many years of service to the department, the state, and Connecticut's agricultural community, long-time Commissioner of Agriculture Steven K. Reviczky retired at the beginning of the new term. The Department wishes Commissioner Reviczky a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement with his lovely wife, Jill.

Both the new legislature and the new governor were sworn into office on January 9, 2019.

In odd-numbered years, the legislative session runs from January to June, and the legislature is tasked with formulating a new biennial budget.

In even-numbered years, the session runs from February to May, and the legislature makes any adjustments to the budget that may be required.

The new session brings opportunities for legislative proposals that will benefit production agriculture in Connecticut.

At the top of that list this year is hemp. Under the 2018 Farm Bill, the cultivation of hemp is legal under certain, very specific conditions.

Producers need to operate under a state enforcement plan submitted by the state Department of Agriculture to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for their review and approval in consultation with the United States Department of Justice. That plan needs to

include a number of components:

- An ability to maintain relevant information about land on which hemp is produced in the state
- A procedure for testing hemp for appropriate levels of THC (less than 0.3% by dry weight)
- A procedure for the effective disposal of hemp that tests in excess of the allowable THC threshold
- A procedure for conducting annual inspections of hemp producers in the state, at the point of planting and of harvest, at a minimum
- And a certification to USDA that the state has appropriated adequate resources and personnel to carry out the objectives of the state enforcement plan.

The last point is critically important. DoAg needs to affirm to the federal government that adequate staffing levels are available to carry out the program, or the number of approved growers/harvesters will be severely limited.

DoAg believes that there is opportunity to stand up a hemp program in Connecticut that allows for Connecticut producers to diversify into a new crop, but in order to do that, the specific requirements of the federal government need to be followed.

Absent that approved state plan, administered through DoAg, it would still not be legal to grow hemp in Connecticut.

There are other issues under consideration that would boost agriculture in Connecticut, as well.

Bills have been introduced that would create a more level playing field for farm wineries, farm breweries, farm cideries, and even a farm meadery.

Legislators have expressed interest in transferring regulatory responsibility of honey and maple pro-

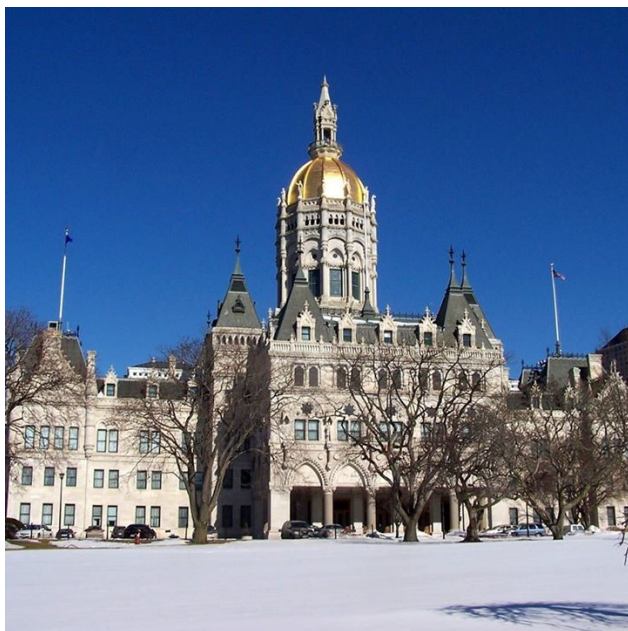


Photo courtesy of Connecticut General Assembly, Committee for Legislative Staff Internships.

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.19	1.36
LARGE	1.13	1.27
MEDIUM	.84	.97

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	1.35
SMALL	.84	.94

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	118.00	120.00
Choice 2-3	113.00	116.50
Select 2-3	107.50	112.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Choice 2-3	82.00	84.50
Select 1-2	78.00	80.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4 individual	113.00	114.00
Choice 2-3	110.00	112.00
Select 1-2	104.00	109.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	55.00	60.50
boners 80-85% lean	48.00	55.50
lean 88-90% lean	43.00	48.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 95-120 lbs	75.00	90.00
No 1 80- 95 lbs	55.00	60.00
No 2 95-120 lbs	50.00	70.00
No 2 90- 94 lbs	40.00	50.00

BELOW PRICING FROM JANUARY 21, 2019

NO UPDATED PRICING DUE TO FEDERAL HOLIDAY

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	180.00	235.00
110-130 lbs	165.00	210.00
130-150 lbs	165.00	192.00
150-200 lbs	162.00	167.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	105.00	125.00
120-160 lbs	100.00	130.00
160-200 lbs	95.00	120.00
200-300 lbs	80.00	90.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	135.00	160.00
60-80 lbs	165.00	190.00
80-100 lbs	180.00	215.00
100-120 lbs	200.00	225.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	185.00	210.00
130-180 lbs	215.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	245.00	260.00
150-250 lbs	275.00	350.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	51.00 69.00
	300-350 lbs	55.00 62.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	38.00 52.00
	300-350 lbs	35.00 51.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	20.00 38.00

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, 88	30.00	30.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 80	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 88	65.00	65.00
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	9.00
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
SQUASH, DELICATA, 1/2 BU, L	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	18.00	20.00
TOMS, GHS, 25LBS, VINERIPE, S-M	18.00	24.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	26.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB	26.00	26.00

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	24.00	26.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, PA, XFCY, 80	36.00	36.00
APPLE, GALA, PA, XFCY, 88	36.00	36.00
BRUSSEL SPROUTS, CA, 25 LB	36.00	44.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, M/L	24.00	28.00
CABBAGE, RED, FL, 50 LB, M/L	36.00	40.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	14.00	18.00
KALE, GA, CTN, BNCH, 12	33.00	35.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, GHS, CD, 12-4OZ	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, AZ/CA, 24	21.00	26.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 24'S	21.00	25.00
MESCLUN MIX, AZ/CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
MUSHROOM, OYSTER, 3 LB CTN	13.00	14.00
ONION, YELLOW, NY, 50 LB, M	16.00	16.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 24- 2 LB	20.00	21.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	22.00	26.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	25.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00
TURNIP, PRPL TOP, MI, 25 LB BAG	13.00	14.00

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	32.00
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 - January 28, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	17.50	20.00
76-90 lbs.	22.50	25.00
91-105 lbs.	27.50	30.00
106 lbs. & up	35.00	42.50
Farm Calves	120.00	175.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	110.00	112.50
Feeder Heifers	75.00	85.00
Beef Heifers	60.00	65.00
Feeder Steers	77.50	90.00
Beef Steers	64.00	105.00
Feeder Bulls	80.00	132.50
Beef Bulls	60.00	72.00
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	70.00	80.00
Sheep each	120.00	150.00
Lambs each	180.00	200.00
Goats each	160.00	275.00
Kid Goats each	40.00	185.00
Canners	up to	54.00
Cutters	55.00	59.00
Utility Grade Cows	60.00	64.00
Rabbits each	5.00	50.00
Chickens each	8.00	60.00
Ducks each	10.00	25.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. January 25, 2019.

ALFALFA/GRASS		
PREMIUM	320.00	340.00
GOOD	260.00	290.00
FAIR	160.00	190.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	370.00	380.00
GOOD	265.00	300.00
FAIR	180.00	230.00
STRAW	295.00	340.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	800.00	1250.00
MEDIUM	500.00	825.00
SPRINGING COWS (7-9 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	850.00	900.00
SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	975.00	1050.00
MEDIUM	525.00	775.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	700.00	1025.00
MEDIUM	400.00	700.00
BRED HEIFERS (1-6 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	600.00	700.00
MEDIUM	400.00	450.00
SHORT BRED HEIFERS: (1-3 MONTHS)		
APPROVED	500.00	650.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	275.00	425.00
MEDIUM	200.00	285.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	325.00	500.00
900-1200 lbs		
APPROVED	500.00	725.00

(continued from Page 1)

duction from the Department of Consumer Protection to DoAg.

The General Assembly will be considering ways of supporting renewable energy generation without adversely impacting prime farmland by utilizing space along highway rights-of-way, a concept that is very popular in neighboring Massachusetts.

DoAg has a modest legislative package this year, introducing a total of six bills. DoAg is seeking to secure the authority to issue citations to perpetrators who violate agency statutes.

This will be particularly significant in enforcing provisions of Connecticut Grown statutes. By securing such authorization, DoAg will be able to better support farmers who produce and sell their goods right here in Connecticut.

DoAg is also seeking parity among promotional costs concerning Connecticut's apple growers. A very small number of apple growers have been covering the costs of promotional work on behalf of the entire sector.

At the request of the Connecticut Apple Marketing Board, DoAg has submitted legislation that will ensure that each producer pays a nominal cost, as opposed to a select few paying the entire cost associated with the marketing campaigns.

For many years, DoAg has sought the repeal of the herd share statute that was passed in 2015. A bill has been submitted to seek that repeal again this year.

DoAg's opposition to this statute is twofold: it seeks to remove licensing and inspection requirements from a dangerous food source (and a food source that is safe, available and properly inspected through other practices), and because of the ambiguity pertaining to liability that is created by the existing law if someone should contract an illness from the consumption of unlicensed, unregulated raw milk.

There are many legislative concepts that have already arisen that DoAg is watching diligently including issues pertaining to farm labor, the regulation of maple syrup and honey, water rights, and the acquisition of development rights on farmland.

All of these legislative concepts remain under consideration, as the session is just getting underway. Over the coming weeks, these and many other legislative concepts of interest to farmers in Connecticut will be scheduled for public hearings, and the public will have an opportunity to weigh in.

It won't be clear what concepts will ultimately become law until the session concludes at midnight on June 5th, but DoAg will continue to work with stakeholders and partners to advocate for the best interests of farming and agriculture in Connecticut until the gavel falls at midnight.



Photo courtesy of the Connecticut General Assembly.

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.

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

12-R. For sale 2 coolers, working condition, Copeland compressor, single phase 208-230 volts. 19 feet by 20 feet 7 foot 6 inches high \$750. 15 feet by 22 feet 8 feet high \$1,250. Located in East Windsor Conn. Call Glenn (860) 930-4331 or Karl (860) 268-5931.

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

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.



**CONNECTICUT
GROWN**
CTGrown.gov

GROWING WRAPPER TOBACCO RESEARCH MEETING

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station will hold a research meeting regarding growing wrapper tobacco in the Connecticut River Valley.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the East Windsor Scout Hall, 28 Abbe Road, East Windsor CT.

The agenda will include disease, insect, fertility, and risk management as well as pesticide safety information. The meeting will qualify for Connecticut and Massachusetts pesticide applicator re-certification credit.

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.

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.

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>.

TOUR THE CONNECTICUT STATE CAPITOL

Capitol Information and Tours at the Connecticut State Capitol is operated by the League of Women Voters of Connecticut Education Fund and sponsored by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, Connecticut General Assembly.

General tourist information centers are located outside room 101 in the state Capitol and on the first floor, west entrance in the Legislative Office Building.

Self-guided tours are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Self-guided tour booklets about the state Capitol, Capitol statuary and the Legislative Office Building are available at these locations and may be used during regular business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours are not available on state holidays, the day after Thanksgiving, and December 24 through January 1.

Free one-hour guided tours of the state Capitol and Legislative Office Building are available on the following schedule:

- Monday through Friday- 9:15 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 1:15 p.m.
- During July and August- 9:15 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 1:15 p.m., and 2:15 p.m.

Weekday tours leave from the League of Women Voters Capitol Information and Tours desk, first floor, west entrance of the Legislative Office Building, located on Capitol Avenue near Broad Street in Hartford.

Tours may be subject to change. Please call (860) 240-0222 for current schedule. For more information go to <https://wp.cga.ct.gov/CapitolTours>.



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Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.

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VOL. XCIX
No. 5
January 30, 2019