

# Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, July 3, 2019

## LOCAL CONNECTICUT MEATS TASTE GREAT ON THE GRILL

*Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation*

The summer months are great for grilling. Make your next barbeque a success by serving local Connecticut meats.

Connecticut is home to a growing beef agricultural industry. According to the USDA Census of Agricultural, sales of Connecticut Grown beef increased 20% from 2012 to 2017 with more than \$11,700,000 of sales in 2017.

Many of Connecticut's beef producers sell grass-fed or pasture-raised beef. Some Connecticut producers offer weekly or monthly "farm shares" of beef for sale at a set price, and some even offer delivery.

A list of Connecticut beef producers is available on the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) website at <https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?q=412836>. Connecticut producers of chicken, lamb, pork, and goat are also listed.

One Connecticut producer who has taken it to the next level by offering fully cooked meals made from their own Connecticut Grown beef, chicken, and pork products is Stone Gardens Farm in Shelton, CT.

Fred and Stacia Monahan founded Stone Gardens Farm in 1998, after expanding from a roadside vegetable stand where they sold vegetables and flowers. The couple steadily grew their business, planting more varieties of vegetables on mostly leased land.

Today, the Monahan's grow a variety of seasonal produce as well as raise grass-fed beef, pork, and poultry, which are processed and sold directly to customers.

The farm also runs a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, where customers pay for a share of the farm's produce harvest at the beginning of the year in exchange for a weekly box of veggies throughout the growing season.

In 2018, the Monahan's were awarded a \$45,000 DoAg Farm Transition Grant to pay for a portion of the cost associated with a project to construct a commercial kitchen and craft butchery on their farm.

The DoAg grant funded project is

part of a larger project that has transformed the Monahan's farm business from a roadside stand into a full service market that offers hot and cold foods prepared by a chef in the new commercial kitchen, using meats and vegetables grown on the farm.

One of the reasons the Monahan's decided to expand their farm business was to close the gap between the raw foods they produced and the prepared food foods their customers wanted.

"People are so busy these days. I was hearing from customers they don't have enough time to prepare a meal," said Stacia. "Now they can get our farm fresh food and we can process it for them."

The farm stand at Stone Gardens Farm is part of a new 4,000 square-foot, barn-style building that also includes a produce wash area, walk-in cooler, root-crop storage area, and the DoAg grant funded commercial kitchen and craft butchery.

"If we didn't get that grant we probably wouldn't have finished the kitchen," said Fred. "We bring stuff in right here into the wash area from the field and into the retail stand, coolers, or kitchen and people love it."

Stone Gardens Farm's Chef Matthew Gallo said he likes working with the fresh meats and produce.

"If you start with good product, especially the stocks, it comes out really great," said Matthew.

Like all good things, the bone broth takes time.

"A couple hours for chicken broth, four hours for pork.

You can let a beef broth go almost all night, twelve hours," said Matthew. "That's what people like."

"Matty makes the best bone broth, because we have quality to work with," said Fred. "We make real strong stuff."

In addition to Chef Gallo, the Monahan's hired a butcher, and a food quality officer as part of their farm business expansion.

Having complete control over the processing of their meats and vegetables—from the time the animal is born



Connecticut Grown ribeye steak.  
Image courtesy of Stone Gardens Farm, LLC.

*(continued on Page 3)*

**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**

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

XTRA LARGE	.72	.91
LARGE	.66	.80
MEDIUM	.38	.51

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

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

XTRA LARGE	1.16	1.49
LARGE	1.06	1.39
MEDIUM	.78	.89
SMALL	.69	.79

**LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK**

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

<b>SLAUGHTER STEERS</b>		
Choice 2-3	102.00	118.00
Select 2-3	103.00	105.00
<b>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS</b>		
Choice 2-3	108.00	110.50
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing</b>		
breakers 75-80% lean	61.00	65.50
boners 80-85% lean	59.00	65.50
lean 88-90% lean	49.00	55.50
<b>CALVES - Graded bull</b>		
No 1 100-105 lbs	80.00	112.00
No 2 80-85 lbs	55.00	60.00
No 2 90-95 lbs	55.00	80.00
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled &amp; Shorn</b>		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-88 lbs	190.00	232.00
90-97 lbs	195.00	225.00
100-145 lbs	180.00	240.00
Choice 1-2		
50-58 lbs	190.00	217.00
60-68 lbs	180.00	215.00
70-79 lbs	180.00	210.00
80-89 lbs	175.00	205.00
Choice 2-3		
90-96 lbs	175.00	202.00
100-145 lbs	150.00	195.00
<b>SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight</b>		
<b>SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1</b>		
50-59 lbs	165.00	185.00
60-69 lbs	180.00	195.00
<b>SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1</b>		
115-149 lbs	195.00	225.00
150-180 lbs	220.00	255.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1</b>		
130-149 lbs	245.00	260.00
150-199 lbs	275.00	305.00

**BOSTON MARKET CUT FLOWERS**

Wholesale price \$/ unit as listed

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

ALLIUM, Gigantum/ stem	2.00	2.50
CALLA, White/ stem	5.00	5.00
CORNFLOWER/ BNCH 10's	7.50	7.50
FOXGLOVE, BUNCH	12.50	12.50
LISIANTHUS, BNCH 10's	20.00	20.00
PEONY, BNCH 10's	20.00	20.00
SNAPDRAGON, BNCH 10's	12.75	15.00
SUNFLOWER, BNCH 5's	7.50	8.75
SUNFLOWER per stem	1.00	1.00

**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, RED DEL, XFCY, 80	24.00	24.00
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	24.00	24.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	28.00	28.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, 1 1/9 BU	75.00	80.00
RHUBARB, 20 LBS, CRT, L	34.00	35.00
SQUASH, ZUCCHINI, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	22.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8- 1 QT	36.00	37.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	22.00	22.00
TOMS, GHS, ON VINE, 11 LB	13.00	13.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 12 10-OZ	24.00	25.00

**SHIPPED IN**

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 64	24.00	24.00
APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 125	19.00	19.00
APPLE, JONAGOLD, NY, XFCY, 125	24.00	24.00
BEANS, GREEN, NJ, 1 BU	24.00	24.00
BEETS, RED, NJ, BNCH 12S	16.00	18.00
BEETS, GOLD, NJ, BNCH 12S	22.00	24.00
BLUEBERRIES, GA, 12-1 PT	16.00	20.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 2 BU	33.00	33.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, CA, 14'S	17.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NJ, 50 LB	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, RED, NJ, 50 LB, M/L	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, NAPA, GA, 50 LB	24.00	28.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	22.00	24.00
COLLARDS, NJ, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	13.00	16.00
CUCUMBER, NJ, 1 1/9 BU, MED	34.00	35.00
CUKE, PICKLES, GA, 150-200	30.00	32.00
EGGPLANT, GA, 1 1/9 BU, MED	12.00	15.00
KALE, NJ, CTN, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	13.00	16.00
KOHLRABI, NJ, 1 3/5 BU, 12'S	13.00	16.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, NJ, 24S	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, RDLF, NJ, 24S	16.00	20.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LBS	6.50	8.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, NJ, CTN, 60'S	25.00	26.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, NJ, CTN, 60'S	24.00	26.00
SPINACH, SAV, NJ, 1.3 BU, LSE	20.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, MIXED, NJ, 12's	18.00	18.00

**BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC**

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, WA, XFCY, 80'S	35.00	35.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 45 LB CRT	26.00	26.00
CABBAGE, RED, 45 LB CRT	36.00	36.00
CARROTS, CA, 25 LB LOOSE	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LONG SEEDLESS, CRTN	14.00	14.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	25.00	25.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LB	9.50	10.00
MUSHROOMS, WHITE, 12-8 OZ.	17.00	17.00
SQUASH, ZUC, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SQUASH, YEL, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT - July 1, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	27.50	30.00
76-90 lbs.	32.50	35.00
91-105 lbs.	37.50	40.00
106 lbs. & up	42.50	50.00
Farm Calves	n/a	n/a
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	75.00	160.00
Feeder Heifers	70.00	110.00
Beef Heifers	70.00	88.00
Feeder Steers	87.50	110.00
Beef Steers	85.00	96.00
Feeder Bulls	110.00	122.50
Beef Bulls	77.50	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	80.00	115.00
Sheep each	90.00	150.00
Lambs each	60.00	280.00
Goats each	95.00	370.00
Kid Goats each	75.00	240.00
Canners	up to	65.00
Cutters	66.00	69.00
Utility Grade Cows	70.00	73.00
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	4.00	10.00
Pigeons each	5.00	8.00

**DAIRY CATTLE**

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

<b>FRESH/MILKING COWS</b>		
APPROVED	1000.00	1350.00
MEDIUM	675.00	975.00
<b>BRED HEIFERS:</b>		
APPROVED	825.00	1100.00
<b>SPRINGER HEIFERS:</b>		
SUPREME	1175.00	1300.00
APPROVED	900.00	1200.00
<b>OPEN HEIFERS</b>		
APPROVED	150.00	175.00
MEDIUM	100.00	135.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT**

Price per ton, small squares. June 24, 2019

<b>ALFALFA/ GRASS</b>		
PREMIUM	340.00	340.00
GOOD	265.00	265.00
<b>GRASS HAYS</b>		
GOOD	300.00	300.00
FAIR	170.00	235.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

<b>SLAUGHTER HOGS</b>		
<b>BARROWS AND GILTS</b>		
US 1 206-284 lbs	61.00	68.00
US 1-2 258-297 lbs	55.00	61.00
301-328 lbs	56.00	59.00
US 2-3 208-298 lbs	43.00	56.00
<b>SOWS</b>		
US 1-2 349-396 lbs	31.00	38.00
525-590 lbs	31.00	36.00
600-670 lbs	32.00	36.00



(continued from Page 1)

and seed planted to the time it's ready to eat—allows the Monahan's greater control over the quality of the final product.

"We worked with other people, but came to the realization that partners are for dancing only," said Stacia. "It's really difficult to have that same vision and quality control."



Stacia, Tom, and Fred Monahan of Stone Gardens Farm sell fresh Connecticut Grown meats and produce from their farm store, located at 83 Saw Mill City Road, Shelton, CT.

Controlling the process also gives the Monahan's the opportunity to reduce waste to a minimum.

"We grow the vegetables and the meat. What we can't sell and don't use goes to the pigs," said Stacia. "We take their manure to grow the vegetables. There's no waste."

The Monahan's grow about 60 acres of vegetables and raise about 50 beef cows, and 30 pigs. They have been selling farm raised thanksgiving turkeys for 18 years and sell chicken.



Chef Matthew Gallo making soup from Stone Gardens Farm's own bone broth and fresh vegetables grown on the farm.

Another reason the Monahan's decided to expand was to keep the farm viable for the next generation.

"Our kids were growing up and they actually wanted to stay in the family business," said Stacia. "But with the little farm stand shack we couldn't sell the volume needed."

Fred and Stacia's son, Tommy recently graduated from high school and now works on the farm full-time. Tommy has been working with DoAg to obtain a license to operate a small poultry slaughter facility at the farm under the Connecticut Small Poultry Processor Inspection Program.

Stone Gardens Farm now processes 50-150 chickens per week which are sold whole at the farm store and through a chicken CSA.

Tommy said he likes working on the farm despite the 60-70 hour work weeks. "It keeps you out of trouble," said Tommy.

## 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](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://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

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

35-R. Former garden shop and greenhouse, retail store, house, storage barn. 4 acres. Busy road Route 194. \$399,999. 860-648-9017

47-R. Chain link quality fence panels, 6'x6' w/hardware. 180 ft available. \$1800 OBO. Make them to your needs. 860-267-4341

48-R. 1086 International tractor with 6 bottom plow, 12 ft wheel harrow, asking \$15,000. 860-623-4366

### 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](mailto:RyanM01@comcast.net) or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned

45-R. Wanted: STRAW, seed/weed free (cut at flowering) for strawberry mulch. Fort Hill Farm, New Milford 860-350-3158

41. Wanted: retired mechanic needed for small orchard in Cheshire, CT. 2 gas tractors, 2 diesel tractors, and other equipment. Please call 203-213-8833

### MISCELLANEOUS

44-R. Connecticut Greenhouse Company. Installation, maintenance and fabrication of greenhouses, cold frames and NRCS high tunnels. 12' to 30' wide by any length. Designed and manufactured in CT, a farmer owned and operated business. Maintenance parts, supplies and custom plastic. [www.ctgreenhouse.com](http://www.ctgreenhouse.com) or call Toby 203-654-1595

49-R. Attention Hemp Growers: Farmland and Greenhouse space available for sale/rent to licensed growers. Thirty acres of land and 3 acres of greenhouse space. Call Alex @ 203-223-4853 for details

### HEALTHY SOILS WORKSHOP

Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) will offer a Silvopasture & Agroforestry 101 workshop on Wednesday, August 14, 2019; 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The workshop will be held at Hidden Blossom Farm, 18 Old Barrows Road, Union, CT. The registration fee is \$25 and lunch is included. For additional information and registration go to <https://ctrcd.org/silvopasture-agroforestry-workshop>. For more information, contact Amanda at [ajohnson@ctrcd.org](mailto:ajohnson@ctrcd.org) or call 860.345.3977 x100.

## CT NRCS FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR CONSERVATION PRACTICES AT ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS

Are you the owner or operator of an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) or Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) in Connecticut looking for ways to protect natural resources?

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service helps AFO/CAFO owners and operators take voluntary actions to minimize potential resource concerns by providing technical and sometimes financial assistance for the adoption of practices that will protect natural resources.

By applying through the agency's Environmental Quality Incentives Program, owners/operators can address water quality impacts to the state's rivers and streams, as well as control soil erosion. Applicants should already have a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan in order to apply for the practices recommended in it.

Applications are accepted year-round; however, to be eligible for current year funding you must ensure your application is submitted to your local NRCS office by July 26, 2019.

Not sure how to begin? Visit the Getting Started section of the Connecticut NRCS website at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ct/home>. Then establish records and fill out eligibility forms. NRCS staff will need to complete an assessment of resource conditions and practice feasibility prior to making a determination of program eligibility.

To find out more, fill out eligibility forms, or obtain an application, contact your local USDA Service Center: Danielson – (860) 779-0557; Hamden – (203) 287-8038; Norwich – (860) 887-3604; Torrington – (860) 626-8852; Windsor – (860) 688-7725.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE FOR CROP PRODUCERS TO CARRY OUT CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Are you a Connecticut landowner operating a vegetable, nursery, orchard, greenhouse, or other field crop operation who's looking for ways to improve your conservation efforts?

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service is accepting applications through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, under the cropland/hayland subaccount. NRCS offers financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices including erosion control, seasonal high tunnels, conservation irrigation, and no-till and cover crops to improve soil health.

Applications are accepted year-round; however, to be eligible for current year funding you must ensure your application is submitted to your local NRCS office by July 26, 2019.

It's time to find out if you're eligible! Visit the Getting Started section of the Connecticut NRCS website, then establish records and fill out eligibility forms. NRCS staff will need to complete an assessment of resource conditions and practice feasibility prior to making a determination of program eligibility.

To find out more, fill out eligibility forms, or obtain an application, contact your local USDA Service Center.

## CONTAINER PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

UConn is sponsoring a Water and Nutrient Management for Container Production Workshop on Thursday, July 11, 2019; 9:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington St., New Haven, CT. Online registration ends July 9th. For more information call 860-626-6855 or go to <https://greenhouse.uconn.edu/workshop>.

# CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



CTGrown.gov

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**Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2019.**

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**VOL. XCIX  
No. 27  
July 3, 2019**