

# Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, June 26, 2019

## CONNECTICUT GROWN SHELLFISH

*Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation*

Connecticut residents are well aware of our farms, but generally don't think about our thriving industry that farms under the water.

Our state has 50,000 acres of leased shellfish beds across Long Island Sound, which produces millions of fresh oysters, clams, and other shellfish for locals and visitors to enjoy, especially at your picnics and barbecues to celebrate the 4th of July.

According to the Connecticut State Register and Manual, the Eastern oyster was designated as the State Shellfish by the General Assembly in 1989. The oyster, which is a bivalve mollusk, thrives naturally in Connecticut's tidal rivers and coastal embayments and is cultivated by the oyster industry in the waters of the Long Island Sound.

Oysters were consumed in great quantities by Connecticut's native American inhabitants, and early European settlers found oysters to be a staple and reliable food source. The first colonial laws regulating the taking of oysters in Connecticut appeared in the early 1700's.

Oyster farming developed into a major industry in the State by the late 19th century. During the 1890's, Connecticut held the distinction of having the largest fleet of oyster steamers in the world.

Today, Connecticut's oyster industry continues to thrive. Thousands of bushels of these delicious Connecticut Grown mollusks are marketed throughout the country annually. Of all the shellfish species associated with the Connecticut shoreline, the oyster is by far the best known for its colorful history, continued economic importance and esteemed reputation for quality.

Connecticut restaurants are a great place to enjoy fresh Connecticut shellfish prepared for you. Go to <http://www.ctvisit.com/>

[dine/seafood](#) to for a list of Connecticut seafood restaurants that are guaranteed to please—from the freshest catch of the day to clam chowder and oysters on the half shell.

Connecticut is home to several festivals that celebrate oysters including the Milford Oyster Festival and the Norwalk Oyster Festival.

The 45th Annual Milford Oyster Festival will be held in Downtown Milford on August 17, 2019. About 30,000 oysters, all harvested in Milford waters, are expected to be sold during the festival. For more information about the Milford Oyster Festival go to <https://milfordoysterfestival.com>.

The Norwalk Oyster Festival will held September 6 – 8, 2019 at Veterans Memorial Park in Norwalk. A host of national, local and regional musical acts will perform continuously throughout the weekend on several stages throughout the festival area. The festival offers a range of activities and entertainment that the whole family will enjoy. For more information go to <http://www.ctvisit.com/events/norwalk-oyster-festival>.

Connecticut shellfish are also available to buy and enjoy at home through grocery stores and fish markets.

A lot of Connecticut farmers' markets now offer seafood,

including shellfish. Go to <https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3260&q=398996> for a listing of Connecticut farmers' markets and find a market near you that offers shellfish. For more information about how to shuck an oyster go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jxz2O2qWnoY>.

There is an old myth that says you should only eat oysters during months that include the letter "R". This myth may have originated as a practice to avoid health hazards associated with shipping raw seafood in an age before refrigeration.

Modern refrigeration and Con-



*Fresh Connecticut Grown oysters on the half shell.  
Photo courtesy of Coppins Island Oysters, Norwalk, CT.*

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**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**

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

XTRA LARGE	.74	.93
LARGE	.68	.82
MEDIUM	.40	.53

**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	105.00	111.00
Select 2-3	97.00	104.00
<b>SLAUGHTER HEIFERS</b>		
Choice 2-3	103.50	105.00
Select 2-3	99.00	103.00
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing</b>		
breakers 75-80% lean	60.50	65.50
boners 80-85% lean	60.00	66.00
lean 88-90% lean	52.00	57.50
<b>CALVES - Graded bull</b>		
No 1 100-105 lbs	90.00	127.00
No 2 80-85 lbs	55.00	85.00
No 2 90-95 lbs	60.00	85.00
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled &amp; Shorn</b>		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-88 lbs	182.00	190.00
90-99 lbs	167.00	202.00
100-138 lbs	150.00	190.00
Choice 1-2		
51-58 lbs	165.00	185.00
60-69 lbs	155.00	190.00
70-79 lbs	162.00	185.00
80-89 lbs	160.00	185.00
Choice 2-3		
92-99 lbs	157.00	180.00
103-119 lbs	135.00	170.00
<b>SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight</b>		
<b>SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1</b>		
40-49 lbs	135.00	150.00
50-59 lbs	150.00	185.00
<b>SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1</b>		
100-149 lbs	185.00	215.00
150-199 lbs	210.00	240.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1</b>		
100-149 lbs	210.00	240.00
150-199 lbs	260.00	325.00
200-249 lbs	330.00	360.00

**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	10.50	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	6.50	8.50
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	22.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	27.00	27.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, 1 1/9 BU	85.00	85.00
RHUBARB, 20 LBS, CRT, L	33.00	34.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8- 1 QT	38.00	39.00
TOMS, GHS, 25 LB, S-M	22.00	22.00
TOMS, GHS, ON VINE, 11 LB	14.00	14.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 12 10-OZ	24.00	25.00

**SHIPPED IN**

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 64	31.00	31.00
APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 125	19.00	18.00
APPLE, JONAGOLD, NY, XFCY, 125	24.00	24.00
BEANS, FAVA, NJ, 1 BU	30.00	32.00
BEANS, GREEN, NJ, 1 BU	40.00	40.00
BEETS, RED, NJ, BNCH 12S	17.00	18.00
BEETS, GOLD, NJ, BNCH 12S	22.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, GA, 12-1 PT	18.00	21.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 2 BU	33.00	33.00
BROCCOLI, CTN, CA, 14'S	17.00	22.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NJ, 50 LB	15.00	18.00
CABBAGE, RED, NJ, 50 LB, M/L	18.00	22.00
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	24.00	26.00
CUKE, PICKLES, GA, 150-200	36.00	40.00
EGGPLANT, GA, 1 1/9 BU, MED	12.00	14.00
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
SQUASH, ZUC, NJ, 1/2 BU, S	14.00	20.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, GA, 1/2 BU, S	20.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, MIXED, NJ, 24'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	34.00	38.00
CARROTS, CA, 25 LB LOOSE	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LONG SEEDLESS, CRTN	16.00	16.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	26.00	26.00
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 - June 24, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	30.00
76-90 lbs.	35.00	40.00
91-105 lbs.	45.00	50.00
106 lbs. & up	55.00	60.00
Farm Calves	65.00	70.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	70.00	120.00
Feeder Heifers	70.00	107.50
Beef Heifers	75.00	117.50
Feeder Steers	65.00	100.00
Beef Steers	76.00	120.00
Feeder Bulls	80.00	110.00
Beef Bulls	66.00	81.00
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	40.00	60.00
Lambs each	50.00	200.00
Goats each	55.00	220.00
Kid Goats each	45.00	165.00
Canners	up to	61.00
Cutters	62.00	66.00
Utility Grade Cows	67.00	71.00
Rabbits each	5.00	28.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	10.00	17.00
Pigeons each	4.00	10.00

**DAIRY CATTLE**

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

<b>FRESH/MILKING COWS</b>		
APPROVED	1100.00	1600.00
MEDIUM	750.00	1075.00
<b>BRED HEIFERS:</b>		
APPROVED	775.00	825.00
<b>SPRINGER HEIFERS:</b>		
SUPREME	1175.00	1325.00
APPROVED	950.00	1200.00
<b>OPEN HEIFERS</b>		
APPROVED	200.00	250.00
MEDIUM	200.00	325.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT**

Price per ton, small squares. June 24, 2019

<b>ALFALFA/ GRASS</b>		
SUPREME	400.00	450.00
PREMIUM	325.00	345.00
GOOD	230.00	265.00
<b>GRASS HAYS</b>		
GOOD	290.00	310.00
FAIR	240.00	265.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

<b>SLAUGHTER HOGS</b>		
<b>BARROWS AND GILTS</b>		
US 1 210-295 lbs	66.00	84.00
US 1-2 218-299 lbs	55.00	64.00
301-340 lbs	58.00	67.00
US 2-3 264-296 lbs	52.00	57.50
<b>SOWS</b>		
US 1-2 423-495 lbs	40.00	49.00
<b>SOWS</b>		
US 2-3 365-385 lbs	28.00	34.00
410-496 lbs	32.00	38.00



(continued from Page 1)

necticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg)'s Bureau of Aquaculture inspection and regulatory programs have made shellfish safely available to consumers year-round, including the summer months.

DoAg's Bureau of Aquaculture consistently maintains monitoring programs as an early warning system.

DoAg collaborates with partner agencies, like the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to respond to any potential events before they occur.

Recreational shellfishing (or clamming or clam digging) is a fun sport and great way to get out into nature and enjoy the state's waterfront environments. Recreational shellfishing in Connecticut is limited to approved areas.

For a list of Connecticut's recreational shellfishing areas go to <https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3768&q=478084>.

For more information about recreational shellfishing go to <https://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3768&q=478058>.

### 2018 NRCS CIG GRANT ASSISTS CT SHELLFISH

In 2018, Connecticut Sea Grant and the Department of Agriculture were awarded a USDA-NRCS CIG Program grant aimed at shellfish restoration. The project, called the Conservation, Management, and Restoration Priorities and Practices for Connecticut Shellfish, is now in the early stages.

The grant will advance the Connecticut Shellfish Initiative, a stakeholder-based effort to develop a Vision Plan for the future of Connecticut shellfish and shellfisheries.

The first phase involves using spatial data (provided by NRCS' Coastal Zone Soil Survey) to identify areas that are potentially suitable for shellfish restoration and areas that are not.

Coastal soil surveys provide detailed spatial data, chemical and physical properties of the soil, and suitability and limitations of the soil. The data is useful for marine spatial planning, aquaculture, and coastal and near-shore restoration projects for the more than 77,000 acres of shellfish beds located in the waters off Connecticut's coastline.

This proposal specifically addresses Connecticut's CIG Priority for last year, which was Aquatic Resources. It is also aimed to better position restoration practitioners for funding under one of the EQIP's Conservation Practice Standards titled, Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities.

The goal of the CIG is to develop a comprehensive shellfish conservation, management and restoration plan that addresses barriers and recommends high priority projects and practices for Connecticut. This process will engage partners and key stakeholder groups to facilitate permitting and investment in shellfish restoration.



DoAg staff setting up mussel cages to monitor water quality.

## 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

46. New Holland 565 Baler. Like new condition used very little, always under cover. \$12,000. 203-266-0722

### 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

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

### 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

### NUTRITION'S ROLE IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION PRACTICES 2019 WORKSHOP SERIES

UConn Extension is offering a workshop series on pasture management and infrastructure and the nutritional needs of livestock raised on pasture.

A field workshop will be held on Friday, July 19, 2019; 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon at the 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm; 158 Auer Farm Road, Bloomfield, CT. Topics include soil health, weed identification, and forage calculations. Speakers include Dr. Jatinder Aulakh, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES); Jim Hyde, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Dr. Wade Elmer, CAES.

This workshops is part of a 2017-2020 USDA/NESARE Professional Development Program Grant, a joint project among the Universities of CT, MA and RI.

There is no cost to attend the workshop. For more information go to [www.meatsystems.uconn.edu](http://www.meatsystems.uconn.edu) or email [jean.king@uconn.edu](mailto:jean.king@uconn.edu).

## 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 Street, New Haven, CT.

Attendees will learn how to properly monitor and use irrigation water and fertilizers in soilless media.

The early registration fee is \$40 per person. Online registration will end July 9, 2019. For more information call 860-626-6855 or go to <https://greenhouse.uconn.edu/workshop>.

## 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 workshop is part of Connecticut RC&D's Healthy Soils Initiative. In collaboration with partners, this workshop will focus on the basics of silvopasture and agroforestry.

The day will include guest speakers, demonstrations, and field walks in rugged terrain. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Two CEU's from DEEP Forestry Division will be available for this event. The registration fee is \$25 and lunch is included. For additional information and registration go to <https://ctrctd.org/silvopasture-agroforestry-workshop>. For more information, please contact Amanda at [ajohnson@ctrctd.org](mailto:ajohnson@ctrctd.org) or call 860.345.3977 x100.

## NRCS ON-FARM TRIALS AND CIG GRANTS

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications for the National Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Program and On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials.

CIGs are competitive grants that drive public and private sector innovation in resource conservation. CIG projects inspire creative problem-solving that boosts production on farms, ranches, and private forests - ultimately, they improve water quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat

The 2019 National CIG priorities are: increasing the pace and scale of conservation adoption, water quantity, pollinator habitat and urban agriculture. National CIG applications are due July 30, 2019.

Newly authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill, On-Farm Trials supports more widespread adoption of innovative approaches, practices and systems on working lands. On-Farm Trials projects feature collaboration between NRCS and partners to implement on-the-ground conservation activities and then evaluate their impact.

The Soil Health Demo Trial (SHD) component of On-Farm Trials focuses exclusively on implementation of conservation practices and systems that improve soil health. Eligible entities receiving SHD awards agree to follow consistent soil health assessment protocols to evaluate the impacts of practice and system implementation.

For more information go to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig>.



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

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