

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, March 13, 2019

AGRICULTURE DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

Apples, chowder, eggs, ice cream, maple syrup, and potted plants are just a few of the items expected to be on display during Agriculture Day at the Capitol (“Ag Day”) scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2019*, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

More than 45 organizations featuring farmers, agricultural non-profits, producer associations, cooperatives, federal and state agricultural agencies, and Connecticut municipalities are anticipated to be on display throughout the Capitol in the Hall of Flags, North Lobby, and Rotunda. Each display will highlight their work within agriculture while conveying their individual stories of success and challenges.

Organized by the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Ag Day is a celebration of the diversity and success of agriculture in Connecticut. It also offers attendees an opportunity to schedule an appointment with their state representative to discuss the importance of agriculture and educate them on why their support is needed.

Dr. James LaMondia of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and member of CAIC says, “Many legislators do not have direct contact with farmers, agribusiness or the organizations that work with farmers and Ag Day is a great way to demonstrate the impacts that agriculture has on our communities and the Connecticut economy.”

CAIC collaborates with Connecticut’s FFA program to assist with the building of legislator bags while offering students the opportunity to learn first-hand how state government works. Students from Southington High School FFA Chapter also provide corsages for each legislator. Other highlights of the program include the opportunity to tour agricultural displays, sample Connecticut Grown products and the presentations of Outstanding Young Farmer

(OYF), Century Farm, and Journalism awards.

Today’s farmer has become an active citizen, participating in everything from local and state government to civic groups and charitable organizations. The OYF award has been established to recognize outstanding achievements in agriculture as well as community involvement.

CAIC is pleased to announce that the 2019 Connecticut OYF award recipient will be Steve Munno, farm manager of Massaro Community Farm in Woodbridge, CT.

“Steve stood out as someone who not only worked on his own career as the first and to this point, only, manager of Massaro Community Farm, building the CSA program, he helped create a community of farmers to build support for each other and new first generation farmers in his leadership role with the New CT Farmer Alliance. His contributions to the community add to his success as a farmer and role model for other young farmers in Connecticut,” says LaMondia.

Steve is originally from Long Island and is a graduate of Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT.

After graduation in 2001, Steve’s work in field science and wilderness skills education took him to California, where he lived for five years. During this time, Steve began to hone his skills in agriculture.

Always a food lover and longtime supporter of local farms, Steve found his work in the wilderness continually pointed toward the importance of healthy food and its connection to healthy communities and healthy land.

Inspired to be more involved with food and farming, he volunteered with a local farmer for two years before enrolling in the UC Santa Cruz Apprenticeship in Ecological Horticulture.

Upon completion of this Apprenticeship, Steve stayed on for second year at UC Santa Cruz serving as a teacher



*Connecticut’s 2019 Outstanding Young Farmer, Steve Munno.
Photo courtesy of the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council.*

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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	.74	.87

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.81	1.95
LARGE	1.73	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	124.00	124.50
Choice 2-3	121.00	123.50
Select 2-3	114.00	120.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	121.00	125.00
Choice 2-3	116.00	119.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	56.00	62.50
boners 80-85% lean	54.00	60.50
lean 88-90% lean	48.00	53.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 100- 118 lbs	127.00	130.00
No 2 94- 110 lbs	132.00	155.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	270.00	300.00
90-110 lbs	250.00	265.00
110-130 lbs	202.00	230.00
150-200 lbs	185.00	195.00
Choice 1-2		
40-50 lbs	275.00	310.00
60-70 lbs fancy	260.00	290.00
70-80 lbs	250.00	272.00
80-90 lbs	232.00	257.00
Choice 2-3		
90-100 lbs	215.00	245.00
100-130 lbs	177.00	210.00
130-150 lbs	155.00	185.00
150-200 lbs	140.00	160.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	100.00	120.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	115.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	100.00
200-300 lbs	70.00	95.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	160.00	185.00
60-80 lbs	185.00	215.00
80-100 lbs	210.00	225.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	195.00	230.00
130-200 lbs	235.00	275.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	245.00	275.00
150-250 lbs	280.00	340.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	47.00 54.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00 60.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	38.00 46.00
	300-350 lbs	36.00 48.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	30.00 35.00
	550-650 lbs	32.00 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, 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, XFCY, 88	30.00	31.00
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, 25 LB, S-M	28.00	28.00
TOMS, GHS, ONVINE, 11LBS, S-M	19.00	19.00
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	31.00	31.00
BRUSSEL SPROUTS, CA, 25 LB	38.00	42.00
CABBAGE, GRN, FL, 50 LB, SACK	18.00	24.00
CABBAGE, RED, 50 LB, M/L	18.00	21.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	23.00	24.00
CUKE, LNG SDLS, CD, GHS, CTN	9.00	10.00
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	28.00
LETTUCE, GRNLF, AZ, 24'S	24.00	28.00
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	17.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, NY, 20- 2 LB	20.00	22.00
PARSNIPS, MI, 20 LBS, M	22.00	23.00
POTATOES, RUSSETT, 50 LB, 70'S	20.00	25.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CA, BNCH, 24	25.00	28.00
SWEET POTATOE, NC, 40 LB CRT	20.00	20.00
TURNIP, PRPL TOP, CTN, BNCH	24.00	24.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, 45 LB, CRT, M-L	35.00	35.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	37.00	37.00
MESCLUN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	9.50	9.50
ONION, YELLOW, 50 LB, M/L	28.00	28.00
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	35.00
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 - March 11, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	10.00	15.00
61-75 lbs.	34.00	37.50
76-90 lbs.	40.00	45.00
91-105 lbs.	47.50	50.00
106 lbs. & up	55.00	60.00
Farm Calves	62.50	100.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	75.00	145.00
Feeder Heifers	72.50	85.00
Beef Heifers	50.00	74.00
Feeder Steers	65.00	95.00
Beef Steers	67.50	92.50
Feeder Bulls	70.00	90.00
Beef Bulls	67.00	70.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	10.00	11.00
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	30.00	55.00
Sheep each	100.00	210.00
Lambs each	140.00	230.00
Goats each	105.00	345.00
Kid Goats each	45.00	315.00
Canners	up to	59.50
Cutters	60.00	64.00
Utility Grade Cows	65.00	69.50
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	27.50
Ducks each	5.00	10.00
Guinea Hens	8.00	15.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH COWS		
APPROVED	700.00	1100.00
MEDIUM	500.00	750.00
SHORT BRED COWS (1-3 MONTHS):		
APPROVED	675.00	950.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1050.00	1225.00
APPROVED	725.00	1025.00
MEDIUM	400.00	700.00
BRED HEIFERS (4-6 MONTHS):		
SUPREME	1075.00	1100.00
APPROVED	625.00	825.00
OPEN HEIFERS:		
100-300 lbs		
APPROVED	160.00	250.00
300-600 lbs		
APPROVED	250.00	325.00
MEDIUM	150.00	225.00
600-900 lbs		
APPROVED	410.00	510.00
900-1200 lbs		
APPROVED	535.00	600.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. March 8, 2019

ALFALFA/GRASS		
SUPREME	450.00	505.00
GOOD	285.00	300.00
FAIR	160.00	205.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	340.00	390.00
GOOD	250.00	340.00
FAIR	230.00	260.00
STRAW	290.00	345.00

(continued from Page 1)

and assistant manager at a small market garden growing a tremendous variety of vegetables, flowers, fruit and perennials.

He then returned to the east coast to work for The Food Project in Lincoln, MA. Steve managed the greenhouse on this 30-acre farm and helped provide for a 400-member CSA, supply food to farm stands in Boston, donate produce to hunger relief organizations, and offer educational opportunities to youth and community organizations in the greater Boston area.

At the end of 2009, Steve came to Massaro Farm to revive the land and bring the fields at Massaro Farm back into production.

Steve will represent Connecticut at the National Outstanding Young Farmer (NOYF) Awards Congress being held in Westbrook, CT, February 6-9, 2020.

Since 2012, four Connecticut OYF nominees have gone on to be NOYF Semi-Finalists. Past NOYF winners from Connecticut include Joe Geremia in 2011 and Joe DeFrancesco in 2016.

The Century Farm Award is given to a farm that has been in family operation for more than 100 years, and has outstanding potential to be a successful business for another 100 years. The recipient is selected annually by the CAIC.

The 2018 winner was Zentek Farm of Cheshire, CT. They were presented with the plaque at Plant Science Day in August 2018 and will be recognized at Ag Day this year.

Zentek Farms can be traced back to 1914 when Pawel and Aniela Zentek, Polish immigrants, put down their roots in Cheshire, CT. They purchased property on Higgins Road to establish a dairy farm and soon began a family that resulted in ten children. Eventually, Pawel and Aniela decided to shift from dairy to agricultural farming.

As Pawel and Aniela's children grew into adulthood and got married, most of them explored different avenues to make a living. Two of their children, Joseph and Stanley, remained bachelors and resided on the farm to continue in the business.

Paul Walter Zentek, named after his grandfather Pawel, began helping his uncles, Joe and Stanley, on the farm. Paul's interest in farming continued to expand as he grew older.

He worked side by side with his uncles and incorporated many new ideas. He continued to farm the land with vegetables, however he also saw the benefits of raising bedding plants and Easter bulbs.

Over the years, greenhouses were constructed on the farm. Presently, the greenhouses cover five acres of farmland. Although raising bedding plants has been a primary focus, Paul continues to farm fifty acres of vegetables each year.

In 1987, an eight-by-ten square foot vegetable stand was built. In 2004, a larger vegetable and flower stand was built to accommodate their growing business. The Zentek Farms stand is best known for its sweet corn.

Today, Paul works the farm with his sons, Benjamin and Joseph, and his brother, Michael. Paul and Donna Zentek hope that the fourth-generation will continue in the footsteps of their great-grandparents, Pawel and Aniela.

Century Farm nominations for 2019 are due by June 1, 2019. For more information about nominating a farm for the Century Farm Award and a complete listing of award recipients visit <http://ctaginfocouncil.org>.

The purpose of the Agricultural Journalism program is to recognize outstanding coverage of Connecticut agriculture by the news media. Nominations may be made by anyone in Connecticut with an interest in agriculture, including the entrants themselves.

If you've never attended Ag Day before, plan on it this year. You won't be disappointed. For more information, please visit www.ctaginfocouncil.org.

*In case of inclement weather, a snow date of March 21 has been scheduled.

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.

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

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.

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.



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Zentek Farms of Cheshire, CT, was presented with the 2018 Century Farm Award during Plant Science Day held at the CAES Lockwood Farm in Hamden, CT on August 8, 2018.

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.

EXHIBIT AT THE 2019 BIG E

The Connecticut Building at the Big E offers a unique opportunity for agricultural businesses, non-profits, and other entities with an agricultural mission to showcase the diversity of Connecticut agriculture. The 2019 Big E is scheduled to run from September 13–29, 2019. Connecticut Day will take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) is accepting vendor applications for the agriculture booth spaces in the Connecticut Building with the purpose of providing Connecticut farms, small agricultural businesses, and agricultural non-profit organizations the opportunity to market and promote their products and/or service. Applications are available at www.ctgrown.gov and are due by Friday, March 29, 2019.

Please call 860-713-2538 or email Rebecca.Eddy@ct.gov to receive the application or more participation information.

GROWING NON-TRADITIONAL CROPS IN CONNECTICUT

The Agriculture Commissions of Bozrah, Franklin, Lebanon, Mansfield, and Tolland will host a Growing Non-Traditional Crops Workshop Thursday, March 28, 2019, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Lyman Memorial High School Auditorium, 917 Exter Road, Lebanon, CT.

The workshop will focus on growing non-traditional crops, such as cultivated and wild fungi, hemp, and grain products.

Speakers will include Ken Metz owner of Chatfield Hollow Farm, Jeff Wentzel founder of Connecticut Hemp Industry Association, Dylan Williams, director of farming operations for US HempCare, and Lou Lipton of Pleasant View Farms.

The event is free and Refreshments will be provided by the Economic Development Commission of the town of Lebanon.

A regional agriculture commission update will be held before the workshop at 6:00 p.m. For more information call 860-345-3977 or email amanda@ctfarmery.org.

POLLINATOR HABITAT CONFERENCE

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station will hold a pollinator habitat conference on March 14, 2019 (snow date March 15, 2019) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT. The focus will be the diversity of pollinator habitats in New England, the diversity of bees living in those habitats, and the range of resources, including nectar, pollen, and nesting resources needed by the bees.

The cost is \$30 if registered in advance (\$40 at the door) and includes lunch and snacks. For more information go to www.ct.gov/caes/pollinators.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact Crystal.Morris@ct.gov or call 860-713-2533.

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

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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
www.CTGrown.gov
 860-713-2500

Acting Commissioner Melody A. Currey

Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation Linda Piotrowicz
 860-713-2503
linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov

Regional Market Linda Piotrowicz
 860-566-3699
linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov

Regulatory Services Dr. Bruce Sherman
 860-713-2504
bruce.sherman@ct.gov

State Veterinarian Dr. Mary J. Lis
 860-713-2505
mary.lis@ct.gov

Aquaculture David Carey
 203-874-2855
david.carey@ct.gov

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