

Agricultural Report

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



Wednesday, September 18, 2019

CONNECTICUT GROWN APPLES

Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

There is nothing better on a crisp autumn day than the taste of a fresh Connecticut Grown apple.

Apple season is fully upon us and growers across the state have been reporting a good apple crop for 2019—much better than 2018.

The season has been running a little behind schedule at many orchards due to the long, hot summer, but the recent arrival of cool nights will bring the desired color and flavor to the apples before harvest.

“Timely rains early in the summer, and a cooler, drier late August and early September have made for excellent fruit quality,” said Jon Bronzi of Deercrest Farm. “This year’s crop is much nicer all around over last years, especially in varieties like Macoun and Honey Crisp,” said Jon.

Deercrest Farm grows 27 varieties of apples on about 50 acres in Glastonbury, CT. Apple varieties include Honey Crisp, Macoun, Gala, and Courtland, which Jon describes as the quintessential New England apple.

Connecticut farmers grow more than 60 varieties of apples in orchards across the state. Many farmers offer consumers the opportunity to buy fresh Connecticut Grown apples directly from their farm stands.

Plan your Connecticut orchard visits using the Apple Growers brochure, Apple Growers listing by county, and the Apple Varieties and Their Uses brochure available on the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Marketing/Marketing/Find-a-Farmer>.

Fresh Connecticut Grown apples are also available for retail and wholesale purchase at the farmers' market at the Hartford Regional Market located at 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT. The greatest selection of vendors and products can be found early on Saturday

mornings, May through October. Go to <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/ADaRC/ADaRC/Farmers-Market-at-the-Hartford-Regional-Market> for more information about the Hartford Regional Market.

Apple picking is a quintessential New England activity the whole family can enjoy.

Midseason varieties like Gala, Honeycrisp, and McIntosh are ready for picking at many Connecticut orchards. Go to the Connecticut Apples website at <https://www.ctapples.org/pick-your-own> for a listing of Connecticut orchards that offer the opportunity for customers to pick their own apples.

Doug Bussa of Bussa Orchards in Glastonbury said the flavor of this year’s apple crop has been excellent and in general the apples are a larger size.

“The late varieties are lighter than the early varieties.

Probably due to early season rain affecting the pollination of the late varieties, but the lighter load on the late varieties mean larger size,” said Doug. “Some customers like larger apples for baking and processing—one apple is a pound and a half.”

For more information about Connecticut apples including apple recipes and tips for the handling and storage of fresh apples visit the Connecticut Apples website at <https://www.ctapples.org>.

In addition to pies, muffins, and applesauce Connecticut Grown apples also make excellent cider.

Deercrest Farm makes unprocessed, raw cider from their own Connecticut Grown apples starting the first week of September until New Year’s Eve.

“People love the cider,” said Jon. “Especially the purists that appreciate raw cider.”

Deercrest Farm uses all varieties of apples to get the sweet-sour taste just



Photo courtesy of Deercrest Farm, Glastonbury, CT.

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	.88	1.13
LARGE	.82	.96
MEDIUM	.47	.60

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.55	1.61
LARGE	1.38	1.49
MEDIUM	.95	1.09
SMALL	.69	.79

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Choice 2-3	95.00	120.00
Select 2-3	121.00	135.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	54.00	60.50
boners 80-85% lean	54.00	60.00
lean 88-90% lean	42.00	49.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
81-89 lbs	205.00	210.00
92-95 lbs	200.00	220.00
100-148 lbs	160.00	210.00
Choice 1-2		
60-66 lbs	185.00	220.00
70-76 lbs	177.00	205.00
80-89 lbs	180.00	200.00
Choice 2-3		
90-99 lbs	167.00	195.00
100-143 lbs	150.00	190.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Per head/ Est. weight		
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
50-59 lbs	135.00	160.00
60-69 lbs	150.00	165.00
70-79 lbs	165.00	185.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
100-149 lbs	165.00	210.00
150-175 lbs	220.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-149 lbs	200.00	235.00
150-190 lbs	250.00	310.00

DAIRY CATTLE

New Holland, PA. Price per animal.

FRESH/MILKING COWS		
APPROVED	825.00	1275.00
MEDIUM	600.00	850.00
BRED COWS		
APPROVED	875.00	1125.00
SPRINGER COWS:		
APPROVED	900.00	1200.00
BRED HEIFERS		
APPROVED	800.00	975.00
MEDIUM	475.00	725.00
SPRINGER HEIFERS:		
APPROVED	950.00	1250.00
OPEN HEIFERS		
APPROVED	510.00	585.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
BARROWS AND GILTS		
US 1 200-275 lbs	62.00	82.00
US 1-2 210-298 lbs	58.00	66.00
US 2-3 304-340 lbs	58.00	67.00
SOWS		
US 1-2 333-347 lbs	18.00	25.00
428-488 lbs	28.00	36.00
501-590 lbs	28.00	35.00

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	28.00	28.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 88	30.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, 100	29.00	29.00
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
BEANS, ROUND GREEN, 1 BU	16.00	18.00
BEANS, FLAT GREEN, 1 BU	30.00	30.00
BEANS, WAX, 1 BU	24.00	26.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BROCCOLI, CROWN CUT, 20LB	24.00	26.00
CAULIFLOWER, CRT, 9S	14.00	18.00
CAULIFLOWER, CRT, 12S	15.00	17.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	20.00	20.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	22.00	22.00
COLLARDS, CTN, 12S	13.00	16.00
CORN, BI-COLOR, 5 DZ	12.00	14.00
CORN, ORN, INDIAN, 20-3S	40.00	45.00
CORN, ORN, INDIAN, MINI, BU	25.00	25.00
CUCUMBER, 1 1/9 BU	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, 1 1/9 BU, MED	8.00	11.00
GOURDS, ORN, 1/2 BU	21.00	24.00
KALE, CTN, BNCH, 12'S	13.00	15.00
PUMPKIN, HOWDEN, PA, 24" BIN	285.00	385.00
PUMPKIN, MINI, 1/2 BU	18.00	20.00
RADISHES, RED, BNCH 24S	13.00	15.00
SQUASH, BNUT, 1 1/9 BU, M	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, ZUCCHINI, 1/2 BU, S	10.00	15.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, 1/2 BU, S	16.00	20.00
TOMS, FIELD, 20 LB, CRT, L	12.00	12.00
TOMS, VINE RIPE, 11 LB FLT, L	13.00	13.00
TOMS, VINE RIPES, 25 LB, M	20.00	20.00
TOMS, VINE RIPES, 25 LB, L	25.00	25.00
TOMS, CHERRY, 12- 10 OZ	24.00	25.00

SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

APPLE, FUJI, NY, XFCY, 64S	31.00	31.00
APPLE, FUJI, NY, FCY, 125S	19.00	19.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 64S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 80S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, GNGR GLD, NY, XFCY, 88S	32.00	32.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 125	18.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, FCY, 138	18.00	19.00
BEETS, RED, NJ, 12S, BNCH	16.00	18.00
BEETS, GOLD, NJ, 12S, BNCH	16.00	18.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NJ, 50 LB	9.00	13.00
CABBAGE, NAPPA, NJ, 10-12'S	20.00	25.00
CABBAGE, RED, NJ, 50 LB, M/L	16.00	24.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, NJ, 40 LB	16.00	20.00
CARROTS, CA, BUNCHED, 24	21.00	23.00
CUCUMBER, PICKLE, NJ, 1 1/9 BU	34.00	36.00
ONION, RED GLOBE, ID/OR, 25 LB	11.00	12.00
ONION, YELLOW SPANISH, 25 LB	13.00	14.00
PEPPERS, LONG HOTS, NJ, 1 1/9	18.00	22.00
PUMPKIN, HOWDEN, PA, 36" BIN	185.00	225.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, PA, 24" BIN, M	220.00	230.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, PA, 36" BIN, M	240.00	260.00
SQUASH, ACORN, GA, 1-1/9, M	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, NJ, 1-1/9, M	20.00	22.00
SWEET POTATOES, NC, 40 LB	28.00	32.00
TURNIPS, GA, PRPL TOP, 25 LB	14.00	18.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - September 16, 2019

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	5.00	10.00
61-75 lbs.	10.50	12.50
76-90 lbs.	15.00	20.00
91-105 lbs.	22.50	25.00
106 lbs. & up	30.00	35.00
Farm Calves	n/a	n/a
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	77.50	135.00
Feeder Heifers	90.00	150.00
Beef Heifers	85.00	90.00
Feeder Steers	75.00	125.00
Beef Steers	75.00	96.00
Feeder Bulls	80.00	117.50
Beef Bulls	70.00	77.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	55.00	62.50
Feeder Pigs each	5.00	22.50
Sheep each	75.00	250.00
Lambs each	110.00	240.00
Goats each	95.00	430.00
Kid Goats each	55.00	225.00
Canners	up to	60.00
Cutters	61.00	65.00
Utility Grade Cows	66.00	71.50
Rabbits each	6.00	18.00
Chickens each	5.00	20.00
Ducks each	6.00	18.00
Turkeys	25.00	30.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. September 10, 2019

ALFALFA/ GRASS		
SUPREME	410.00	410.00
PREMIUM	275.00	285.00
GOOD	100.00	100.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	285.00	345.00
GOOD	190.00	260.00
FAIR	130.00	185.00

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, CRT	22.00	22.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	25.00	25.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3 LB	9.50	10.00
NECTARINES, TRAY-PAC, 56S	44.00	44.00
PEACHES, TRAY-PAC, 48S	44.00	44.00
PEARS, BARTLETT, 4/5 BU	36.00	36.00
PEPPER, RED BELL, 11LB, XL	28.00	28.00
PEPPER, YEL BELL, 11LB, XL	30.00	30.00
PEPPER, ORA BELL, 11LB, XL	32.00	32.00
PEPPER, GRN BELL, 1 1/9BU, XL	45.00	45.00
SPINACH, BABY, 4 LB	13.50	13.50
SQUASH, ZUC, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SQUASH, YEL, 1/2 BU, S-M	20.00	20.00
SWEET POTATOES, #1, 40 LB	38.00	42.00
TOMATOES, GRAPE, 12- 1 PT	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, VINE RIPE, 11 LB.	11.00	11.00

(continued from Page 1)

right. They sweeten with Gala or add Granny Smith for tartness.

"Every batch tastes different," said Jon. "All varieties are mixed together to get the flavor profile right."

Jon said the cider, which is only sold from the Deercrest Farm retail farm stand, located at 3499 Hebron Ave. in Glastonbury, will keep in for three weeks unopened in the fridge.

Visit <https://www.ctapples.org/growers> for a listing for Connecticut orchards that also sell cider. The Connecticut Apples website is sponsored by the Connecticut Apple Marketing Board—an advisory board, which consists of eight Connecticut apple producers representing both large and small acreage, whose mission is to promote the sale of Connecticut apples in Connecticut markets.

The Connecticut Apples website also includes information about apple varieties, apple recipes, and the HardCORE CT Apple and Pear Challenge.



Image courtesy of UConn Extension.

Participation in the 3rd annual HardCORE CT Apple & Pear Challenge is one way to celebrate CT Grown for CT Kids Week this October 7-11, 2019. For more information about the Challenge and a toolbox of resources including teacher materials and apple activities for kids go to <https://putlocalonyourtray.uconn.edu/hardcorechallenge>.

U.S. DOL REMOVES NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT REQUIREMENT FOR H-2A VISA PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) issued a final rule that removes a requirement that farmers seeking foreign guest workers must first advertise open positions in newspapers. The employers would instead be required to post jobs online for 14 consecutive days before requesting workers through the H-2A visa program, according to the regulation.

The updated will ensure that the required mode of advertising jobs is the best and most efficient way of reaching U.S. workers. The final rule, which goes into effect will go into effect Monday, October 21, 2019, says the DOL will advertise all H-2A job opportunities by posting them on the existing DOL electronic job registry at <https://seasonaljobs.dol.gov>.

Farmers have increasingly utilized the H-2A program in the recent years, and the regulation is intended to make it easier to hire the foreign workers.

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

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

52-R. Once used pumpkin bins for sale, they are all in good shape \$8 - \$10 each, limited supply. About 1,700 feet of 40 foot 4 inch wade rain pipe .75 per foot. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 for details

59-R. Compost, screened & unscreened Top Soil, Mulch. Pick up at any of our 3 yards. Supreme Forest Products. Southington, Harwinton, West Hartford. Please call 860-485-1636

60-R. E.R. Hinman Since 1830. Producing fine Native Hardwoods & Softwood. Rough sawn, planed, kiln dried lumber. Native Hemlock for your out building needs. For the Farmer, Contractor, Homeowner. Please call 860-673-9170

64-R. Apples for Sale- Macs, Macoun, Cortland. GAP Certified, high quality, priced to sell. Greater Hartford delivery or pick-up at farm. 860-712-2919

66-R. Beautiful winter squash, Acorn, Butternut, Kabocha, by the box or bin East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pickup

67-R. Lynn Blackmer, Nationwide Farm Master Certified Agent, Woodstock, CT. Any type of farm-large or small, hobby or commercial. Discounts for being CFBA member for those who qualify. Cell: 860-377-8947. Early morning, during day, evening or weekend appointments available

68-R. Christmas greens, wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Great for fund raisers. 203-457-1344

69-R. Custom built 48"x72" steel compost/loam/gravel screener. New 212 cc motor. \$1800 OBO. 413-222-8232 or MichaelLizee@gmail.com

70-R. Tractor, mower, and snow plow to be sold as a unit. 1958 M.F. model 65 with splitter valve conversion and dual hydr remotes. Tires 15.5x28. Loaded with rim guard complete with tire chains. Tractor has 4 cyl Cont. gas engine approx. 50 hp. 8 1/2 ft western plow, hydr angel unit. Mower JD mod 5 sickle bar unit concerted to 3 P.H. All units in very good condition. \$5500 firm. Call 860-423-6748

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

MISCELLANEOUS

58-R. Pollination Service, package bees, queens, bee-keeping equipment. Call Mark for information 860-883-3229

65-R. Connecticut Greenhouse Co. 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 or call Toby 203-654-1595

UCONN EXTENSION OFFERS FREE SOIL TEST & HELP WITH CONSERVATION PLANS

UConn Extension is offering farmers help with conservation plans and a free soil test as part of the Long Island Sound Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

Soil tests are an important first step at assessing current soil resource conditions in order to adopt management strategies that promote nutrient retention and cycling within fields saving the producer time and money. Space in the program is limited. For more information call 860-486-7176 or email Katherine.vanderwoude@uconn.edu.

PA 490 EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

The Connecticut Farm Bureau Association (CFBA) is hosting a comprehensive seminar regarding Public Act (PA) 490 for landowners, assessors and municipal leaders on Tuesday Oct. 1, 2019 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the W. J. Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield Street, Wethersfield, CT.

The seminar will provide an overview of PA 490 – Connecticut's current use assessment law for farmland, forestland, and open space land. The program will include tips for applying for, maintaining, and transferring 490 land to avoid tax penalties. Time for questions and answers. Presented by CFBA Executive Director Joan Nichols. The seminar is free for full and part-time CFBA members, \$20 for non-members. To register visit www.cfba.org. To join or renew CFBA membership visit www.cfba.org or call 860-768-1100.

NEW ENGLAND VEGETABLE & FRUIT CONFERENCE

Registration is now open for the 2019 New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference. This conference will take place in Manchester, NH on December 10-12, 2019.

The New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference and Trade Show includes more than 25 educational sessions over 3 days, covering major vegetable, berry and tree fruit crops as well as various special topics. A Farmer to Farmer meeting after each morning and afternoon session will bring speakers and farmers together for informal, in-depth discussion on certain issues. Go to <https://newenglandvfc.org/registration> to register online. For assistance with registration call 207-933-2100 or email mark.hutton@maine.edu. For more information about the conference go to <https://newenglandvfc.org>.

NO-TILL / COVER CROP FARM FIELD DAY

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut (CT NOFA) is hosting a No-Till /Cover Crop Farm Field Day on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Sub Edge Farm, 199 Town Farm Road, Farmington, CT.

The event includes presentations, field demonstrations, a farm tour, and an equipment demonstration of no-till seed drill and roller-crimper. The event includes lunch, networking, and USDA NRCS rainwater simulator demonstration. All farmers are welcome. To register go to <https://ctnofa.org/event/organic-no-till-field-day-at-sub-edge-farm>. For additional information call Amanda at 860-345-3977 ext. 100.



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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