

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Wednesday, June 27, 2018

FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation

There are 114 farmers' markets in Connecticut and in 2018 more than 90% are participating in the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)s administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg).

DoAg administers two separate nutrition programs at authorized Connecticut Farmers' Markets—the Connecticut Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) FMNP and the Connecticut Senior (S) FMNP.

Both programs provide low-income individuals with checks for the purchase of fresh Connecticut Grown produce and cut herbs directly from farmers at FMNP authorized farmers' markets from July 1 to October 31. Eligible seniors can also use their SFMNP checks to purchase Connecticut Grown honey at FMNP authorized farmers' markets.

These nutrition programs were introduced to Connecticut farmers' markets in the late 1980s when Connecticut was chosen as one of 10 pilot states to offer the FMNP. The first year was a success, and the program has continued to grow in size and in popularity since.

The FMNPs benefit eligible seniors, as well as women, infants, and children, who are considered "nutritionally at risk," by providing a supplemental source of funding to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables.

The programs also promote agricultural diversification by stimulating the demand for fresh Connecticut Grown fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets.

The WIC FMNP is a Congressionally authorized program jointly funded by the

State of Connecticut and the United States Department of Agriculture – Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS)'s Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC, and the State of Connecticut. WIC FMNP was established by Congress in 1992.

WIC FMNP funds are provided to eligible individuals in the form of checkbooks. Each eligible recipient receives a book of five \$3 WIC FMNP checks, per market season, for a total of \$15 per individual. For example, a family with three eligible individuals would receive a total of \$45.

Farmers at authorized farmers' market are certified to accept FMNP checks for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables. Farmers then deposit the FMNP checks directly into their bank account at any Connecticut financial institution (bank, savings and loan, credit union, etc.) by appropriately endorsing each check.

To be eligible to accept FMNP checks, a Connecticut farmer must grow the majority of products the farm offers for sale at an authorized farmers' market. An individual engaged in the buying and reselling of farm products, who grow less

than 50% of the items sold by the farm/business at an authorized farmers' market, is not eligible for FMNP certification.

An on-farm site visit is required for the initial certification of a farm. The site visit includes a review of the FMNP rules and regulations, and a tour of all production areas associated with the farm.

The farmer is required to submit a crop plan which summarizes the farms' fruit, vegetable, and/or honey production, and sign a Letter of



*The Old State House Farmer's Market in downtown Hartford, CT.
Photo courtesy of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.*

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

Table with 3 columns: Egg size, Low price, High price. Rows include XTRA LARGE, LARGE, MEDIUM.

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

Table with 3 columns: Egg size, Low price, High price. Rows include XTRA LARGE, LARGE, MEDIUM, SMALL.

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER COWS, breakers, boners, lean.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER STEERS, Hi Ch/Prime, Choice, Select.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS, Hi Ch/Prime, Choice, Select.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER HEIFERS, Choice, Select.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include CALVES - Graded bull, No 1, No 2, No 3.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER LAMBS, Markets: Choice and Prime.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER EWES, 120-160 lbs, 160-200 lbs, 200-300 lbs.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER KIDS, 40-60 lbs, 60-80 lbs, 80-100 lbs.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES, 80-130 lbs, 130-180 lbs.

Table with 3 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES, 100-150 lbs, 150-250 lbs.

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

Table with 3 columns: Hog type and weight, Low price, High price. Rows include Slaughter Hogs, Sows, Boars, Feeder Pigs.

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per small square. June 22, 2018.

Table with 3 columns: Hay type, Low price, High price. Rows include Grass Hays-Good, Grass Hays-Fair, Barley-Supreme.

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

Table with 4 columns: Product, Low price, High price. Rows include ALFALFA SPROUTS, APPLE, BEANS, BLUEBERRIES, BOK CHOY, CABBAGE, CHINESE CABBAGE, COLLARDS, CORN, CUKES, CUKE, DANDELION GRNS, EGGPLANT, ENDIVE, ESCAROLE, KALE, KOHLRABI, LEEKS, LETTUCE, MACHE, MESCLIN MIX, PARSLEY, PEPPERS, PEPPER, PEPPER, PEPPER, PEPPER, RADISHES, SPINACH, SPINACH, SPINACH, SQUASH, SQUASH, SWISS CHARD.

BOSTON SHIPPED IN

Price Range. Per unit.

Table with 4 columns: Product, Low price, High price. Rows include ASPARAGUS, BEANS, BEETS, BLUEBERRIES, BOK CHOY, CABBAGE, CHINESE CABBAGE, COLLARDS, CORN, CUKES, CUKE, DANDELION GRNS, EGGPLANT, ENDIVE, ESCAROLE, KALE, KOHLRABI, LEEKS, LETTUCE, MACHE, MESCLIN MIX, PARSLEY, PEPPERS, PEPPER, PEPPER, PEPPER, PEPPER, RADISHES, SPINACH, SPINACH, SPINACH, SQUASH, SQUASH, SWISS CHARD.

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

Table with 4 columns: Product, Low price, High price. Rows include BLACKBERRIES, BLUEBERRY, BLUEBERRY, CABBAGE, CARROTS, CUKES, EGGPLANT, KALE, LETTUCE, MESCLIN MIX.

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - June 25, 2018

Table with 4 columns: Livestock type, Low price, High price. Rows include Bob Calves, 45-60 lbs, 61-75 lbs, 76-90 lbs, 91-105 lbs, 106 lbs. & up, Farm Calves, Starter Calves, Veal Calves, Feeder Heifers, Beef Heifers, Feeder Steers, Beef Steers, Feeder Bulls, Beef Bulls, Replacement Cows, Replacement Heifers, Boars, Sows, Butcher Hogs, Feeder Pigs, Sheep, Lambs, Goats, Kid Goats, Canners, Cutters, Utility Grade Cows, Rabbits, Chickens, Ducks.

BOSTON MARKET CUT FLOWERS

Wholesale price. \$/unit listed.

Table with 4 columns: Flower type, Low price, High price. Rows include ASTER, ASTILBE, BUPLEURUM, DELPH, IRIS, LARKSPUR, PEONY, QU AN LACE, SCABIOSA, SUNFLWR.

DAIRY REPLACEMENT CATTLE

New Holland Sales Stables - New Holland, PA For Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Table with 4 columns: Cattle type, Low price, High price. Rows include FRESH COWS, SUPREME, APPROVED, MEDIUM, SPRINGING COWS, BRED COWS, SHORT BRED COWS, SPRINGING HEIFERS, BRED HEIFERS, SHORT BRED HEIFERS, OPEN HEIFERS.

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Agreement with DoAg agreeing to abide by all rules and regulations of the FMNP.

Once a farm has been approved to participate in the FMNP program by DoAg the farm will be issued a FMNP certification number, a farm-specific endorsement stamp which enables FMNP checks to be deposited, and a FMNP certified farmer poster for display at all authorized markets.

After the initial certification, farmers are required to be recertified every three years. For recertification farmers must attend a group meeting to review the FMNP rules and regulations, sign a Letter of Agreement, and submit a crop plan.

Any farmer accepted and certified mid-certification cycle will be certified for the remainder of the current three-year cycle.

In the future, recertification will be required by certified farmers in 2021, 2024, and 2027.



Farmer's Market in Hartford, CT.
Photo courtesy of the Hartford Courant.

DoAg collaborates with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, 23 local WIC offices, and over 200 senior coordinating agencies for implementation of the two FMNPs.

Local WIC offices receive FMNP vouchers from DoAg and distribute the WIC FMNP checks to all eligible recipients during the months of July, August and September.

The SFMNP is similar in most respects to the WIC FMNP. Seniors who are at least 60 years of age with an annual income that does not exceed 185% of the poverty guidelines and are enrolled in other means testing programs are eligible to participate. Disabled individuals under the age of 60 are also eligible if they live in housing where congregate nutrition services are offered. Connecticut SFMNP is funded through the USDA-FNS and the State of Connecticut.

Each eligible senior receives six \$3 checks, per market season, which can be redeemed at authorized Connecticut farmers' markets.

The checks are issued to elderly housing facilities, municipal social services, and elderly service nonprofits who have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with DoAg.

Checks are not distributed to individuals by DoAg. To find the most current list of SFMNP check distribution sites please go to www.CTGrown.gov/FMNP.

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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.

29-R. Round hay bales. Large. Unwrapped. 1st cutting. Fertilized grass hay. \$40.00 a bale and up. 203-264-2217.

48-R. Cub Cadet Gas, 100 gallon polyethylene Tank Sprayer, 5 HP Kawasaki engine, 2-wheel trailer. Spray gun 18", electric reel/hose, \$4,100.00. VM 203-592-0554.

49-R. Dahlia tubers – exhibiting/cut varieties. \$6 each. For more information about purchasing and varieties email info@strongfarm.org.

51-R. For sale: Parts for Grimm Hay Tedders. Also, rough lumber. 860-684-3458.

52-R. 20,000 tomato stakes for sale, good condition, \$.25 each. Negotiable for large quantities. Baggot Farms in East Windsor. 860-573-6442.

53-R. 32 acres of rugged timbered land. 10 acres of upland. Remainder is wet land with trout stream. Has deer, turkeys, and small animals. ½ mile (+ or -) from road. Asking \$75,000. 860-889-6568.

54-R. Goat farm out of business – Hanover, CT. All 1 year old equipment. 64 gallon refrigerated bulk tank, bucket milker, 1 HP vacuum pump, goat stands, and headlocks. Call Tracy at 860-608-6219.

WANTED

7-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.

42-R. Interested in purchasing a farm or land in Middlesex or New London County. Call 516-801-0888 .

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

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In 2018 DoAg is administering a SFMNP doubling program at 36 Connecticut farmers' markets. The SFMNP doubling program is known as the Senior Produce and Honey Extra Redemption Endorsement (SPHERE) program.

Funding for the SPHERE program comes through the reallocation of funds originally scheduled for the 2017 SFMNP which was unavailable during the 2017 farmers' market season.

A list of farmers' markets that accept FMNP checks, and markets that offer the SPHERE SFMNP check doubling program is available on the DoAg website at www.ct.gov/doag.

FSMA FOR WHOLESALE PRODUCE BUYERS MEETING

The UConn Extension is hosting a free educational meeting at the Rome Commons Ballroom, 626 Gilbert Road Extension, Storrs, CT on July 17, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for wholesale buyers of fresh produce from Connecticut farms.

This meeting, which is intended for, but not limited to, produce buyers, supply chain managers and/or food safety or quality assurance personnel from distributors, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, institutions, foodservice management companies, and farmers, will be regional in scope, and include buyers from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

The purpose of this meeting is to educate wholesale

produce buyers on what the new Produce Safety Rule (PSR) means to them and also to the region's farmers. Attendees will learn about the FSMA PSR, Preventive Controls for Human Food, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) audits, and other programs.

Speakers at the meeting will include DoAg Bureau of Regulatory Services Director Dr. Bruce A. Sherman, DoAg inspection staff working to implement the PSR, UConn and University of Rhode Island Extension educators, and a panel of local buyers.

The agenda for this event includes the following:

- FSMA Explained - Focus on the PSR related aspects of the Preventive Controls for Human Foods Rule.
- State focused inspection and compliance programs
- Panel discussion - Buyers from a variety of operations will discuss how they address produce safety with their locally sourced fruits and vegetables

The deadline for registration is July 10, 2018. Register for the event is by email to rsvp@uconn.edu. Include the name of each participant, operation/organization name, email address, and phone number in your registration email. Also include if you have any dietary restrictions, or require any special accommodations to participate fully in this event.

For additional information about the event call 203-407-3163 or email Diane Hirsch at diane.hirsch@uconn.edu.

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 Jane.Murdock@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

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

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