C O N N E C T I C U T W E E K L Y



Connecticut Department of Agriculture M. Jodi Rell, Governor F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503 Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor Wednesday, December 15, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . .

CONNECTICUT VEGETABLE AND SMALL FRUIT GROWERS' CONFERENCE

The University of Connecticut, the USDA, and the CT Ag Experiment Station will host the annual Connecticut Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers' Conference from 9:00 AM - 3:15 PM at the Tolland County Agricultural/ Extension Center in Vernon, CT on Thursday, January 20, 2011. This will be your last chance to obtain Pesticide Applicator Re-certification Credits



for the current year (2010). There will be 3.5 hours of re-certification credits available. Registration is \$30 and includes lunch and coffee/donuts. There is no pre-registration necessary. Registration at the door for the trade show and conference starts at 8:00 AM and the educational talks start at 9:00 AM.

This conference usually attracts about 150 of your fellow growers. Come and socialize with them and see why they find this conference entertaining as well as educational.

- * Trade Show (opens at 8:00 AM, continues during break & lunch)
- * Welcome Jiff Martin, Sustainable Food Systems, UConn Extension
- * CT Agricultural Business Management Guide Joe Bonelli, UConn Extension
- * Phytophthora Moves to Beans Jim LaMondia, CT Ag Experiment Station
- * Spice up Your Market with Novel Cucurbit Varieties -
- Brent Loy, UNH
- * Solving the Cover Crop Puzzle Steve Groff, Cedar Meadows Farm, Holtwood, PA
- * Pre- and Post-Harvest Considerations for Maximum Quality in Squash– Brent Loy, UNH
- * Raspberry Pruning and Training Nate Nourse, Nourse Farms, Whately, MA
- * High Tunnels: Strategies for Long Term Tomato Production -Steve Groff, Cedar Meadows Farm
- * Winter Moth: a New Destructive Blueberry Pest Heather Faubert, URI Extension
- * Mixed Vegetable Production on Stone Garden Farms Fred & Stacia Monahan, Stone Garden Farms, Shelton, CT

* Moving to Deep Zone Tillage – Jude Boucher, UConn Extension Directions: Exit 67 off I-84, North on Rt. 31 to intersection with Rt. 30, 1/10 mile east on Rt. 30.

The University of Connecticut is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Please call two weeks prior to this event if special accommodations are needed.

For more details contact Jude Boucher (860 875-3331, jude.boucher@uconn.edu).

DOAG JOINT VENTURE GRANTS

The Department of Agriculture will accept applications for the CT Grown Joint Venture Grant Program from January 1 through January 31, 2011.

This popular program offers matching funds for marketing projects that use the CT Grown logo or slogan. Eligible projects include signage, advertisements, billboards, brochures, websites, etc. This competitive program is open to producers and agricultural nonprofits. Awards will be announced in February 2011.

The guidelines, application, and state forms can be downloaded from the Department of Agriculture website, www.ctgrown.gov, click on Programs and Services, then CT Grown Joint Venture Grants. You can also call 860-713-2503 to have a copy of the information emailed to you.

ANNUAL PRODUCT AWARDS COMPETITION

The CT Specialty Food Association's Annual Product Awards Competition will be held on Thursday, 2/17/11, at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville. This year's categories include many that are farm friendly, such as cheese; certified organic product; CT Grown product; CT wine; fruit or vegetable; jam/honey/syrup/ sweet topping; meat/pate/fish; and more. Contact Tricia at 860-677-8097 or tricia@ctfoodassociation.org for a complete list of categories, competition guidelines, and/or registration forms. Registration deadline is 2//7/11.

FARM-TO-CHEF ANNUAL MEETING

The 2011 Farm-to-Chef Annual Meeting will be held from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on Monday, 1/31/11, at the Saybrook Point Inn and Spa. All existing and potential new FTC members are encouraged to attend this fun and productive day of presentations, discussion, networking, and, of course, CT Grown food. There is no charge to attend but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by midnight on Monday, 1/17/11. Register on Survey Monkey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RHHHW32.



NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.		METROPOLITAN AREA			
December 13, 2010	FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES		U.S.D.A.		
Prices To Retailers, Sales To Volume Buyers,	NEW ENGLAND GROWN	NEW ENGLAND GROWN		NEW YORK PRICES	
USDA Grade A and Grade A, White Eggs In Cartons, Warehouse, Cents Per Dozen	APPLE CIDER, 4- one gallon	13.00 14.00	WHITE TO RET		
	APPLE CIDER, 9 half-gallons	15.00 15.00	For 1		
EXTRA LARGE 126-129	APPLES, Cortland 64ct xfcy APPLES, Cortland 12/3lb fcy	22.00 22.00 14.00 14.00	Grade A	,	
LARGE 124-128 MEDIUM 87-89	APPLES, Empire , 80ct xfcy	23.00 24.00	December		
	APPLES, Macintosh 80ct US#1	14.00 15.00	EXTRA LARGE	133-137	
MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION	APPLES, Macintosh 96ct ,xfcy	21.00 23.00	LARGE	131-135 94-98	
Middlefield, CT, December 13, 2010	APPLES, Macintosh 12-3lb 2-1/2" fcy	14.00 15.00	MEDIUM Above quotation		
Live animals brought the following average price	APPLES, Pink Lady, 100ct xfcy CRANBERRIES, 24/12oz	30.00 30.00 38.00 40.00	CARTON sale		
per cwt.:	CURRANT, Black, frozen fruit per lb	1.60 2.20			
Bob Calves: Low Hig	CURRANT. Black, juice 6/64oz	13.00 14.25			
45-60 lbs. 15.00 20.0	PARSNIPS, 25lb bag	21.00 21.00	P		
61-75 lbs. 25.00 30.0 76-90 lbs. 32.50 35.0		1.75 2.00			
91-105 lbs. 40.00 45.0		10.00 11.00 10.00 11.00	6.0	HTT	
106 lbs. & up 50.00 55.0		10.00 11.00			
Farm Calves 57.00 60.0	SQUASH, Blue Hubbard 50lb	13.00 14.00			
Started Calves 20.00 22.0	SQUASH, Buttercup 1-1/9 bu	10.00 12.00		-	
Veal Calves 60.00 110.0 Open Heifers 60.00 100.0		10.00 12.00	PENNSYLVA		
Open Heifers 60.00 100.0 Beef Heifers 60.00 68.0		.20 .25 11.00 11.00	HAY RE		
Feeder Steers 65.00 73.0		11.00 11.00 14.00 14.00	Week ending Dec		
Beef Steers 42.00 54.0	TOMATOES Greenhouse 15lb flat	26.00 26.00	Hay and Straw M		
Stock Bulls 65.00 87.5	TURNIP. White Cape 1-1/9bu	23.00 23.00	Pennsylvania. Al		
Beef Bulls 47.00 72.5 Boars 1 @ 57.5			by dealers at the	arm and per ton. Premium	
Feeder Pigs each 35.00 90.0	BRUCCULI 14CLAZ	32.00 32.00	Alfalfa	170.00-210.00	
Sheep each 85.00 120.0	BEAN, Green nanopicked bu FLA	35.00 36.00	Mixed Hay	140.00-160.00	
Lambs each 85.00 195.0		11.00 12.00 40.00 42.00	Timothy	140.00-150.00	
Goats each 55.00 155.0	CLEMENTINES 516 CA	4.50 5.00		Good	
Kid Goats each 55.00 85.0 Canners Up to 52.5	CUCUMBERS, 1 1/9 bu med FL	28.00 30.00	Alfalfa Mixed Hay	110.00-140.00 120.00-140.00	
Cutters 54.00 58.0	GARLIC, JUID CAL	58.00 60.00	Timothy	120.00-140.00	
Utility Grade Cows 59.50 65.5		30.00 30.00 22.00 25.00	liniouty	Fair	
Rabbits each 3.00 14.0	MUSHROOM 4 at basket white med_lan PA	8.00 8.50	Alfalfa	100.00-110.00	
Chickens each 5.00 16.0	ONION 50th vellow med NY	13.00 14.00	Mixed Hay	100.00-120.00	
Ducks each 7.00 24.0 Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.	PEPPER, bell green xl FL	13.00 14.00	• • • • • • • • • • • •		
Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices					
NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION	SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets			136.00-160.00	
Mon December 13, 2010 - Hogs sold by actua weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.		Nannies/E		106.00-120.00	
49-54 220-270 lbs 55.50-57.00	50-60 lbs 190.00-204.00 New Crop 220.00-240.00			120.00-130.00 176.00-188.00	
270-350 lbs 54.00-56.00	60-80 lbs 174.00-190.00	Ducks/Dill		195.00-215.00	
45-49 220-350 lbs 51.00-54.00	New Crop 213.00-240.00	ORGANI	C FRUITS AND V		
Sows: US 1-3 300-500 lbs 46.50-49.50 500-700 lbs 50.00-53.00	80-90 lbs 172.00-186.00	APPLES, F	uji 88 ct WA	44.00 44.00	
	90-110 lbs 170.00-180.00		ed Del 80ct xfcy WA	40.00 40.00	
NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION	110-130 lbs 162.00-172.00 130-150 lbs 160.00-166.00		inesap 12/3 PA	39.00 39.00	
MONDAY, December 13, 2010 Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing	Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3	BROCCOL	RIES, 12/4oz CHILE	36.00 39.00 39.00 39.00	
SLAUGHTER COWS:	40-60 lbs 162.00-180.00		JPES, 12 ct,MX	34.75 34.75	
Breakers 75-80% lean	60-80 lbs 160.00-174.00	CARROTS,	, 25lbs,CA	28.00 28.00	
56.00-58.00 59.00-62.00 54.00-55.50	90-110 lbs 154.00-168.00	CELERY, 2		44.00 44.00	
Boners 80-85% lean	SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh 120-160 lbs 104.00-120.00			23.75 25.50	
53.00-55.00 55.50-56.50 49.00-52.50 Lean 85-90% lean	160-200 lbs 100.00-116.00	KIWIFRUIT, 22lb CA LEMONS, 7/10bu 140ct GA		36.50 37.25 41.00 41.50	
49.00-52.50 52.50-54.00 44.00-48.00	200-300 lbs 92.00-98.00	MUSHROOMS, White 10lb Ige		21.00 23.00	
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1	Utility 1-2: Thin Fleshed	MUSHROOMS, Shittake			
1380-2245 lbs 63.00-67.00	120-160 lbs 90.00-102.00 160-200 lbs 90.00-96.00		med/lge PA	22.00 23.00	
Bullocks: 755-1230 lbs 66.00-70.00 Calves: Holstein Bull Calves: Number 1	SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1	ORANGE, 88ct, Navel, CA PEAR, Bosc 4/5bu 90ct WA		42.00 42.00 51.00 55.00	
95-130 lbs 112.00-124.00	sold by the head, on estimated weights.	PINEAPPLE, 7ct,CR		20.50 24.50	
80-90 lbs 60.00-70.00	Kids: 40-60 lbs 80.00-104.00	SPINACH,	SPINACH, Baby 4lb Flat CA		
Holstein Heifers: Number 1	60-80 lbs 108.00-128.00	STRAWBERRIES, 8/1 lb lgn FL		45.00 51.50	
105-125 lbs 100.00-155.00	80-100 lbs 120.00-140.00	WATERME	LON 6ct MX	15.00 15.50	

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ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/ Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, 1-888-526-8815, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com.. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com., Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher High Tensile and portable electric fencing for farms, deer control, gardens. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

92-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing 203-788-2430.

188. Rye straw, seedless strawberry grade - \$5.00 per bale. Call 860-289-5188 or 860-289-5055.

199-R. Hay – excellent 1st cut, plastic wrapped round bales \$40. 860-886-0716.

207-R. Hay for sale, 1,500 bales @ \$3.50 per bale. Call for more information at 203-206-1344.

208-R. Goats, boar cross, various sizes & prices. Call 860-537-1974.

210-R. Forklift – Yale 2,000# capacity, propane, pneumatic tires, \$1,400. (7) Wellmaster greenhouse carts, pneumatic tires \$3,000 all. Dzen Brothers Farm 860-648-1355.

214-R. Reg. Hereford Heifers for sale. www.doublehacres.net or 860-250-3311.

218-R. Pair of black Percherons, geldings, well broke, parade safe and quiet. Hitchwagon for cart for farm use. Harnesses. We will sell individually. Will send pictures. Send self-addressed envelope 6x8 and stamp. Send to: Nutmeg Farms, 70 Lower Butcher Road, Ellington, CT 06029 Phone: 860-871-0171; Cell 860-559-5031.

219-R. Beef cow/calf combination for sale. Call Tiffany Farms 860-434-2888.

223-R. Seven month old Hereford bulls and heifers for sale. Old Beech Farm (860) 693-2052.

224-R. Round bales mixed grasses, no canary. Pick up or delivered. 203-530-4953.

225-R. JD 6405 2wd with loader. JD 6310 4x4 with loader. JD B, Farmall 300, JD 40 bulldozer. 3 NH balers 575's with throwers. JD 336 with kicker. Rakes, tedders. IH & JD front and rear wheel weights. JD 450B bulldozer. 10 ft Brillion seeder. IH 720 reset plows. 10 ft wheel harrow. 5-ton S.S. fertilizer spreader. 203-530-4953.

WANTED

35-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 860-662-2412.

220-R. Looking for stands of red cedar for harvest, any quality, no brush will be left behind. Also seeking hemlock. Contact Charles Leigus 860-301-0673.

510-R. Producers Wanted: Connecticut Farm-to-Chef is a free program that helps connect local culinary professionals with producers and distributors of CT Grown products. Informational newsletters, workshops, networking, promotions and other opportunities are provided to members as part of the program. Additional Connecticut producers and distributors are needed for this popular and expanding program. Please help us get your product into the hands of local chefs! Contact Linda at the CT Department of Agriculture, Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov or 860-713-2558, for more information.

511-R. Wanted: Farmers for the CT Farm-to-School - The Farm-to-School Program is a statewide effort designed to incorporate CT Grown fresh fruits and vegetables into local schools cafeteria meals and snacks. This project is intended to be twofold: to support local farms and to offer more nutritious school meals as a result of buying local, fresh, produce. If you are interested in selling to one, several, or to a whole school district of schools (through a wholesaler or direct), call Jane Slupecki at (860) 713-2588 or at Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov

MISCELLANEOUS

7-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-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

216-R. Overgrown hedge rows, drainage ditches, fence lines or any other hard to reach areas? We have a solution. An Excavator mounted tree/ brush mower capable of mowing 8"-12" diameters flush to the ground. Call for Brochure 860-875-0280.

221-R. Dr Herbert Van Kruiningen has resumed veterinary practice (860-634-4419). Dr VK is a Cornell graduate, who, following graduation taught Large Animal Medicine there for two years, and then worked exclusively with race horses for a summer at Belmont Park. For a number of years, 1970-1983, he had a veterinary practice at his home in Coventry, seeing both small and large animals. He has taught at the Tuft's Veterinary School and UCONN for many years, and is the author of Health and Disease Management of Animals, a book that addresses diseases of farm species and horses. Dr VK's practice is limited to farm livestock and equines.

222-R. Ever See a Bronto Eat? Burke Ridge Construction LLC, Mowing Division will be hosting a free demonstration to watch our Brontosaurus and Fecon mowers in action. On January 7 and 8, we will be mowing for Bahler Farms, Ellington, CT. Come out to see what these machines can do, ask questions or talk to our operators. Call: 860-559-3009 or 860-614-4665 for more information. If you are unable to attend but have any questions, do not hesitate to call us.

611-R. The Farm Link Program is a matchmaking service to help new farmers find farm land owners (for rent or for sale) and to aid in the process of land rental and/or farm transfer to the next generation of farmers. A website will be developed to aid linking farm seekers and farm owners. Persons interested in the process can receive applications now available at www. farmlink.uconn.edu or calling the CT Dept. of Agriculture at (860) 713-2503. The Department is encouraging all next generation farmers and transitioning family farms in Connecticut to participate. For further information, please contact Jane Slupecki at (860) 713-2588.

USDA SURVEY TO FOCUS ON FARM LABOR

Concord, NH – How many workers are employed on agricultural operations in New England? Have farm labor jobs and wages been affected by the current economy? These are some of the key questions the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) hopes to shed light on through the January Agricultural Labor Survey.

"Now more than ever, labor issues are a concern in every industry and every community – including New England's agricultural industry and rural communities," explained Gary Keough, director of the NASS New England Field Office. "The Agricultural Labor Survey is very timely because it provides vital data that affect the agricultural labor force and farmers and their bottom lines."

Statistics from the Agricultural Labor Survey are used by USDA and the Department of Labor to establish minimum wage rates for agricultural workers, administer farm labor recruitment and placement service programs, and assist legislators in determining labor policies.

During the last two weeks of January, NASS will contact selected New England farm operators and ask them to provide information on their total number of hired workers, hours worked, and wage rates paid during that week. For their convenience, survey participants have the option of responding online.

NASS will compile, analyze and publish survey results in the quarterly Farm Labor report, to be released on February 17, 2011.

"We strongly encourage participation in this survey. Only farmers can provide the accurate information needed to build the foundation for reliable agricultural labor estimates," said Keough.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Keough. All reports are available on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda. gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS New England Field Office at 1-800-642-9571.

NRCS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS TO RESTORE AND PROTECT FARMLANDS, WETLANDS, AND GRASSLANDS

TOLLAND, CT— Connecticut State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Jay T. Mar has announced the signup period for three of the agency's conservation programs – the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP).

"Applications are currently being accepted for all three programs," said Mar. "However, the cutoff date for this year's funding is February 28, 2011."

FRPP helps protect agricultural lands by limiting non-agricultural uses. NRCS partners with approved state, local, and non-profit entities who arrange for the purchase of development rights through conservation easements on private lands. The entity holds and manages these conservation easements in perpetuity.

WRP offers landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property that have been in agriculture. NRCS provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration and protection efforts. WRP offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection through purchasing conservation easements and/or restoration agreements.

GRP offers landowners and eligible entities the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance grasslands on their property. The program, implemented by NRCS and the Farm Service Agency, helps landowners restore and protect grassland and pastureland. GRP will conserve vulnerable grasslands from conversion to cropland or other uses and conserve important grasslands by helping maintain viable farming operations through purchasing conservation easements or rental contracts.

For more information, visit www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov/programs ,or contact your nearest NRCS Field Office: Brooklyn - (860) 774-0224; Hamden– (203) 287-8038; Norwich - (860) 887-3604; Torrington - (860) 626-8258; and Windsor - (860) 688-7725.

Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059- 8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly (48 issues), except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, when the Governor closes State offices, and two additional weeks, for \$20.00 per year (hard copy - email copies are free) by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

NEW MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE

- CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON CULTURE & TOURISM:
 - Connecticut Tourism Moving Forward 2011
 CCT Marketing Grants Available for 2011
 - Connecticut Tourism Moving Forward 2011

More than 300 culture and tourism representatives participated in the Connecticut Tourism Moving Forward 2011 & CCT Marketing Grant Workshops recently held throughout the state. Thanks to the properties that donated meeting space and all those who made the time to attend and learn about the new CTvisit.com website (launching in early 2011), new Partner Content Management System (CMS) and marketing grant programs offered by the Commission for 2011. The Connecticut Tourism Moving Forward 2011 & CCT Grant Workshop presentation is available for viewing on the Commission's website. Contact Rose, rosemary.bove@ct.gov or 860-256-2725 for more information on CCT's programs and services.

CCT Marketing Grants Available for 2011

CCT's marketing grants program supports statewide marketing opportunities for Connecticut's culture and tourism constituents in order to increase attendance and visitation to Connecticut destinations, increase overnight stays, and extend state and regional branding efforts. Marketing Challenge Grants and Cooperative Marketing Grants are offered for 2011.

- Cooperative Marketing Grants are offered for the following options:
 - New online advertising campaign;

Magazine style free standing insert (FSI), with interactive elements for the spring/summer and fall/winter; and

Out of home billboard advertising.

The guidelines and application materials for these competitive grants are posted on the Commission's website www.cultureandtourism.org. Deadline for applying for a Cooperative Marketing Grant is January 5, 2011 and January 12, 2011 for a Marketing Challenge Grant. Contact Rena Calcaterra, rena. calcaterra@ct.gov or 860-256-2744, for more information.

Advertising Rates: Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers and addresses, etc., are counted separately. **Print or type copy**. Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a firstcome-first serve basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. **Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted**. Remittance with copy required. Make checks or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and mail to: Marketing - Ag Report Classifieds, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

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