



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
 Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503
 Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor
 Wednesday, August 31, 2011

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

REPORT STORM DAMAGE TO DOAG

The CT Department of Agriculture is collecting information about storm-related damage to farms in the state. This information will be used to prepare reports for Governor Malloy, and the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, if needed, and may be used to seek federal assistance if the extent of the damage warrants. If you incurred damage to your livestock, crops, equipment, or buildings, please complete and return the report form on DoAG's website, www.ct.gov/doag.

ANALYSIS OF COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS AT CAES: 136 YEARS OF PRODUCT SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

By Jason C. White, PhD, Chief Scientist, CAES Dept Analytical Chemistry

One of the original product safety programs within the Department of Analytical Chemistry at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) involves the analysis of commercial fertilizers to ensure label compliance.

Inspectors from the Agricultural Commodities Division of the Department of Agriculture in Hartford collect the products from vendors and distributors, and those samples are then delivered to the Analytical Chemistry Department at CAES for chemical analysis against label information.

What is particularly noteworthy about this program is that its inception can be traced back 136 years to the formation of CAES itself. In 1875, after petitioning by Samuel William Johnson, a professor of agricultural chemistry at Yale University, the Connecticut State Legislature appropriated \$2800 annually for a two-year period to establish The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. The mandate of the new Experiment Station was to provide the Connecticut farmer with scientific information as required and to conduct experimental research in agriculture. The initial location of this institution was in a laboratory provided free of charge on the campus of Wesleyan University in Middletown.

At the May 1, 1876, meeting of the Committee of the Trustees of Wesleyan University, the Preliminary Report of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station stated that "the need for a fertilizer control system was so pressing and so vital to the interests of a considerable portion of the farmers of the state that it seemed absolutely necessary to turn the first efforts in this direction. Accordingly, analyses of fertilizers sold in the state were undertaken..."

Attached to this preliminary report was Circular Number 4 of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station which was entitled "Commercial Fertilizers." After a presentation of these results at the meeting, it was "resolved that all fertilizer sold in the state should be sold under guarantee of their composition as determined by analysis at the station." And so began a 136-year-old product safety program for determining the composition and label accuracy of commercial fertilizers in the State of Connecticut.

By law, all fertilizers are to contain a minimum or maximum of the guaranteed nutrient value as expressed on the label. The analytes of interest are varied but some of those of concern in 1876 are still determined today. The original 1876 study reported findings on over 60 different fertilizer products for moisture, sand, organic content, ash, and various forms of phosphorus and nitrogen. Current samples are analyzed by methods and guidelines described in the Official Methods of Analysis and the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials, respectively.

Our most recent Station Bulletin was published in 2010 and describes the analytical results of 109 fertilizers. Analytical findings for macronutrients include nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium levels; the results are presented so as to facilitate a direct comparison of the label claim and our findings. We also now use inductively coupled plasma-optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES), a technique not available in 1876, to determine the levels of key micronutrients such as boron, calcium, cobalt, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, sodium, sulfur, and zinc.

In the 2010 bulletin, we report that 16% of the samples were deficient in macronutrients: 5% in nitrogen, 5% in phosphorus, and 6% in potassium. As part of our program, if a sample is found to be deficient in a particular analyte, that sample is always reanalyzed and the final result is expressed as an average of the two findings.

Not all samples we receive are analyzed for micronutrients; the Department of Agriculture inspectors provide guidance for these determinations. In the 2010 report, 51 of the received samples were analyzed for micronutrients and 39% were found to be deficient in at least one analyte. Electronic copies of all CAES station bulletins, including the 1876 Circular Number 4 and the 2010 fertilizer report, can be found at our website (<http://www.ct.gov/caes>).

(continued on Page 4)

**WHOLESALE FRUITS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE,P.Red,xfcy,100ct	27.00	30.00
APPLE,Mac,US1,120ct	17.00	18.00
APPLE,G Gold,US1,100	19.00	19.00
GRAPE,Concord,8/1qt	25.00	25.00
PEACH,25lb,2 1/2min	22.00	22.00
PEACH,23lb,white	26.00	26.00
PEAR,Bart,4/5bu	27.00	28.00
NECTARINES,24lb	26.00	26.00
PLUM,Prune,1/2bu	28.00	30.00
PLUM,Red,1/2bu	28.00	30.00
MUSKMELON,EA	1.25	1.50
HONEYDEW,ea	2.00	2.50
WATERMELON,15-19lb	3.50	4.00
WATERMELON,Sbaby,ea	2.00	3.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION
August 29, 2011**

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	68.00-69.00
	270-350lbs	68.00-71.00
	300-350lbs	n/a
45-49	220-270lbs	n/a
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	67.00-69.00
	500-700 lbs	70.00-74.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	34.50-35.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Middlefield, August 29, 2011**

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt. Sales will be held Labor Day

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	20.00	23.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	28.00
76-90 lbs.	30.00	35.00
91-105 lbs.	40.00	44.00
106 lbs. & up	48.00	52.00
Farm Calves	55.00	72.50
Veal Calves	97.50	100.00
Open Heifers	85.00	97.50
Feeder Steers	70.00	90.00
Starter Calves	22.00	26.00
Stock Bulls	60.00	70.00
Lambs each	65.00	175.00
Goats each	45.00	100.00
Kid Goats each	35.00	55.00
Canners	up to	65.50
Cutters	66.00	70.00
Utility Grade Cows	72.00	77.00
Rabbits each	3.00	30.00
Chickens each	5.00	70.00
Ducks each	5.00	7.00
Sheep	105.00	135.00

**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

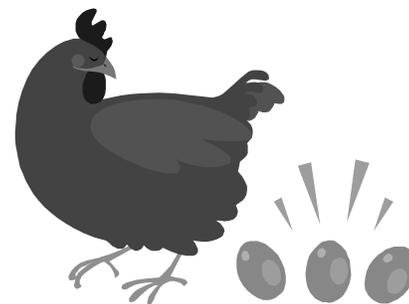
	Low	High
BEANS,Cranberry,bu	40.00	40.00
BEANS,Green,bu	20.00	22.00
BEANS,Wax,bu	20.00	20.00
BEETS,12s	12.00	14.00
BROCCOLI,Cut crown,20lb	15.00	16.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	13.00	14.00
CABBAGE,Green,50lb,box	12.00	14.00
CABBAGE,Red,50lb,box	16.00	16.00
CABBAGE,Savoy,1-1/9bu	16.00	17.00
CAULIFLOWER,9ct	12.00	12.00
COLLARDS,12-16s	12.00	12.00
CORN,5dz	14.00	16.00
CUCUMBERS,bu	18.00	22.00
CUCUMBERS,PckIng,1/2bu	12.00	12.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu	12.00	15.00
KALE,crtn,bnchd	10.00	12.00
OKRA,1/2 bu	24.00	24.00
ONION,Green,bunches 12s	12.00	12.00
PEPPER,Bell,1-1/9bu,Sntn,Ig	9.00	10.00
PEPPER,Bell,1-1/9bu,xl	9.00	14.00
PEPPER,Cubanelle,med,bu	14.00	15.00
PEPPER,Jalapeno,1/2bu	12.00	12.00
POTATOES,50lb,chef	18.00	18.00
POTATOES,Round white,50lb,A	19.00	19.00
POTATOES,50lb,Russet,90ct	22.00	22.00
SQUASH,Buttrnt,1-1/9bu,sm/med	13.00	15.00
SQUASH,Green,1/2bu,sm/med	12.00	14.00
SQUASH,Yellow,1/2bu	12.00	14.00
TOMATOES,20lb,xl	16.00	1.00
TOMATOES,Cherry,12/1pt	10.00	10.00
TOMATOES,20lb,Ig	14.00	20.00
TOMATOES,25lb,med	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES,grape,12/1pt	12.00	14.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Monday, August 29, 2011

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80%lean		
	68.00-72.00---	73.50-77.00----	64.00-68.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	63.00-66.00—	69.00-77.00 ----	58.00-59.00
Lean	85-90% lean		
	59.00-64.00 ---	64.00-68.50---	52.00-58.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1			
	1090-1880 lbs	88.50-92.00	
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Holstein Bull Calves: Number 1			
	95-125 lbs	120.00-135.00	
	90 lbs	—100.00-115.00	
Holstein Heifers: Number 1			
	85-105 lbs	220.00-310.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	40-60 lbs	174.00-210.00	
	60-80 lbs	168.00-185.00	
	80-90 lbs	170.00.00-185.00	
	90-110 lbs	157.00-173.00	
	110-130 lbs	149.00-164.00	
	130-150 lbs	138.00-153.00	



WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	193-200
LARGE	186-197
MEDIUM	113-124

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA
August 29, 2011**

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, warehouse, centers per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	136-156
LARGE	129-143
MEDIUM	85-98

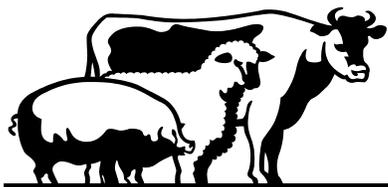
VIRGINIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

August 29, 2011

Hay market for Harrisonburg, VA. All hay prices paid by dealers at the farm and per ton.

Alfalfa	sm. square, 45-55lbs
Premium	8.20-8.30 per bale
Mixed Grass	sm. round, under 1,000lbs
Good	36.00-50.00 per bale
Straw	large square n/a per bale

Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
40-60 lbs	158.00-177.00
60-80 lbs	156.00-177.00
80-90 lbs	157.00-172.00
90-110lbs	148.00-163.00
110-130lbs	144.00-155.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-160 lbs	78.00-93.00
160-200 lbs	84.00-99.00
200-300lbs	76.00-84.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160 lbs	62.00-76.00
160-200 lbs	n/a
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
Kids: 30-40 lbs n/a	
40-60lbs	68.00-104.00
60-80lbs	101.00-123.00
80-90lbs	118.00-132.00
90-100lbs	130.00-134.00
100-110lbs	141.00-149.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs 108.00-113.00	
130-180 lbs 118.00-124.00	
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs 142.00-158.00	
150-250 lbs 146.00-160.00	



ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or contact Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 or Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov for more information.

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 electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. 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.

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

130-R. Battery powered price computing scales \$328.00. Cash registers \$280.00. Repair, calibration and rental scales of all types available. 800-403-5919.

156-R. High quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-Concolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Commercial grades available also. Hartikka Tree Farms (800)508-5099 www.treeman2.com

161-R. Rye straw, livestock hay, not for horses. Square or round bales. 203-484-0664.

163-R. Pequea #818, metal sides Hay Wagon, \$2,200. 20 bundles sisal 9,000 ft. Baler twine \$25/each. IH #2100 Loader \$450. 203-623-2956

165. Loader, Farmhand F-16, trip bucket, fits many '40s to '60s tractors. Operator & parts manual included. \$450.00 OBO, 860-872-0334.

WANTED

166-R. Have idle food manufacturing equipment for jams/pickling, etc.? Call me. Stan 203-723-8144.

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.

CT AG ED FOUNDATION FREE WORKSHOPS

Free, online professional development workshop for educators working with students grades 2-4 will be held 10/19/11 and 11/16/11. This CT Ag in the Classroom project is sponsored in part by a USDA-NIFA 2010 Ag in the Classroom Enhancement (ACE) Grant to develop and pilot an online workshop model for teachers using Project Food, Land & People materials along with state and national agriculture materials. We are looking for classroom teachers to pilot as a test group the Ag Earth Workshops and extend an invitation to you to participate. Please contact Susan Quincy at susan.quincy@ct.gov for a registration form.

CT DEPT OF AG LEGISLATIVE REPORT: 2011 SESSION

H.B. 5472 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING LOCAL AND REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL COUNCILS

PA 11-188, signed 7/13/11, effective 10/1/11

This bill explicitly authorizes a municipality to establish a local or regional agricultural council. (Some municipalities currently have similar entities.)

It also requires a local conservation and development plan to recommend the most desirable use of land in the municipality for agriculture purposes and to include it on a map showing this and other proposed land uses. Under current law, the uses include residential, recreational, commercial, industrial, conservation, and other purposes. By law, in preparing the plan, a planning commission or one of its special committees must consider agriculture protection and preservation.

By law, a municipal land use board must make zoning regulations giving reasonable consideration for their impact on agriculture.

The bill specifies the definition of agriculture. Provisions were added concerning (1) local conservation and development plans and (2) zoning regulations.

Under the bill, the legislative body of the town, or the board of selectmen where the town meeting is the legislative body, must vote to establish a council. Two or more towns can agree to form a regional council by a vote of their legislative bodies.

The bill permits an agriculture council to:

- Provide information to local farmers and municipal boards and commissions about the benefits of balancing agriculture and other land uses;
- Educate municipal officials about agricultural laws and safety issues;
- Identify grant sources for farmers and municipalities;
- Enable a common understanding of agriculture among all municipal departments;
- Provide information and guidance about agriculture-related zoning issues;
- Support local, regional, and state vocational agricultural programs;
- Provide conflict resolution and advisory services;
- Identify innovative opportunities for agriculture;
- Create a climate that supports agriculture's economic viability in the municipality.

Under the bill, agriculture includes

- soil cultivation;
- dairying;
- forestry;
- raising or harvesting any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including raising, shearing, feeding, caring for, training, and managing livestock, including horses, bees, poultry, fur-bearing animals, and wildlife.

It also includes the:

- raising or harvesting of oysters, clams, mussels, other molluscan shellfish or fish (aquaculture);
- operation, management, conservation, improvement, or maintenance of a farm and its buildings, tools, and equipment, or salvaging timber or clearing land of brush or other debris left by a storm, as an incident to such farming operations;

News and events from local agricultural organizations are published on a first-come, first-served basis as space allows.

Submit concise summaries (150 words maximum) to linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov for consideration. There is no guarantee that submissions will be published.

(continued on Page 4)

**ANALYSIS OF COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS AT CAES:
136 YEARS OF PRODUCT SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE**
(continued from Page 1)

The next logical question involves the agency response to a fertilizer product that is found to not match its label guarantee. In the 1876 Circular Number 4, the authors discuss two fraudulent fertilizer products that, upon analysis, were found to be significantly deficient in nitrogen and other key components for plant growth. The producers of these products were said to be subject to fine and prosecution for violating a state law that required that fertilizers offered for sale be "accompanied by a correct analysis."

Today, the Analytical Chemistry Department returns detailed product results to the Agricultural Commodities Division of the Department of Agriculture with a statement that a particular product is compliant or out of compliance for a specific parameter. The Department of Agriculture has regulatory authority in these matters and may choose to conduct an investigation, levy fines or take other actions as deemed necessary.

I conclude with a letter to Connecticut farmers from the Advisory Committee of the Agricultural Experiment Station in the 1876 Circular Number 4. Because of our partnership with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, these words are indeed as accurate now as they were 136 years ago.

It was stated that "We earnestly advise all buyers of these fertilizers in the state to purchase of those dealers, and those only, who place their wares under the supervision of the station...Ample means for protection against fraud and the securing of good fertilizers at fair prices, are thus offered to us by the station."

CT DEPT OF AG LEGISLATIVE REPORT: 2011 SESSION
(continued from Page 3)

- production or harvesting of maple syrup, maple sugar, or any agricultural commodity, including lumber, as an incident to ordinary farming operations;
- harvesting of mushrooms;
- hatching of poultry;
- construction, operation, or maintenance of ditches, canals, reservoirs, or waterways used exclusively for farming purposes; and
- handling, planting, drying, packing, packaging, processing, freezing, grading, storing, or delivering to storage, market, or a carrier for transportation to market, or for direct sale, any agricultural or horticultural commodity incident to ordinary farming operations, or, in the case of fruits and vegetables, incident to the preparation of such fruits or vegetables for market or direct sale (CGS § 1-1(q)).

By law, the agriculture commissioner is authorized to provide advisory opinions to a municipality, state agency, tax assessor, or landowner at their request on (1) what constitutes agriculture or farming under the statutes and (2) the classification of land as farmland or open space (CGS § 22-4c).

For questions about state agricultural legislation, please contact George Krivda, Legislative Program Manager, at 860-713-2573 or George.Krivda@ct.gov.



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 first-come, first-served 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 check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**

Commissioner	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2500
Marketing & Technology	Robert Pellegrino 860-713-2503
Regional Market	Robert Pellegrino 860-566-3699
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Regulation & Inspection	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
Farmland Preservation	Joseph Dippel 860-713-2511
Aquaculture	David Carey 203-874-2855
FAX NUMBERS	860-713-2516 860-713-2514

Email: Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov
Internet: www.CT.gov/doag

Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, the last week of June, one week in September, and when the Governor closes state offices, for \$20.00 per year by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. **Subscriptions expire annually on NOVEMBER 30.**

**VOL. XCI
No. 34
August 31, 2011**