



Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, December 4, 2013

PLANT GRANTS: EVIDENCE OF A NEW ERA

Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner

“Agriculture is a significant industry in Connecticut,” Governor Dannel P. Malloy told attendees of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association’s 94th annual meeting last month. “And quite frankly, I don’t understand why you were ignored for so long.”

The contributions of Connecticut’s \$3.5 billion agricultural industry and its 28,000 employees are not being ignored, and, in fact, have received considerable interest over the past few years. Among the most visible demonstrations of recent attention has been the response to damage from 2013’s severe weather through the creation and distribution of the first-ever Production Loss Assistance Needed Today (PLANT) Grants.

Starting with an historic blizzard in February, followed by drought in May, severe flooding in June, and then tornadoes in July, this year has presented Connecticut’s farmers with a series of serious weather-related challenges. While farmers are resilient by nature and accustomed to dealing with Mother Nature’s whims, even the toughest among them found blow after blow after blow wearing heavily on their near-infinite optimism and resourcefulness.

Governor Malloy watched these trials unfold and became increasingly concerned. He visited some of the hardest-hit farms over two weeks in June to get a closer look and deeper understanding of what they were facing. Recognizing the gaps in federal crop insurance programs for small, diversified farms, Governor Malloy realized the state could and should help.

Taking immediate action, standing in a flooded field on Fa-

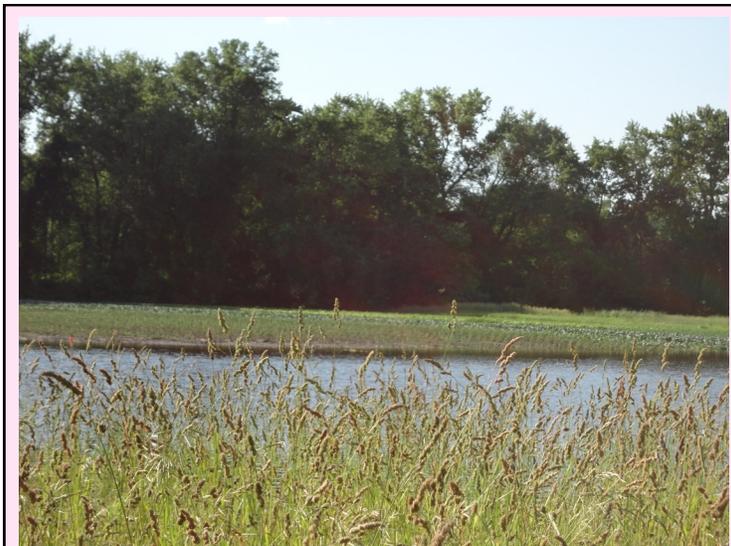
ther’s Day, he directed the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg), in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to create and administer the unprecedented multi-million-dollar PLANT Grant Program. His directive was clear: be quick, be thorough, and be effective.

DoAg and DECD designed the PLANT Grant to help Connecticut farmers replace things lost during weather events in 2013 that would not be covered by insurance. The grant did not cover losses incurred before the beginning of the year, and did not cover lost income. The intention was to help repair or replace damaged crops and equipment and keep those farmers growing and providing for Connecticut’s residents.

With an application deadline set for July 1, the program was formally announced June 23, and with the help and partnership of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association (CFBA), applications were quickly distributed.

Connecticut was then struck by two tornadoes in early July, leading Governor Malloy to extend the deadline two weeks so tornado damage could be included in the program.

As soon as the July 15 deadline passed, DoAg began considering the 274 applications, which asked for a total of nearly \$14 million in assistance. After each was carefully examined by Commissioner Reviczky and two other DoAg staff members, requests of more than \$50,000 were forwarded to DECD for an additional review.



One of the flooded farms Governor Malloy toured on Father’s Day

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**WHOLESALE CUT FLOWERS
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
GARDENIA,3s	15.00	15.00
GERBERA,stm	1.25	1.25
LILIES,Asiatic,bnch	10.00	12.50
LILIES,Casa blnc,bnch	25.00	27.00
LILIES,Siberia,bnch	20.00	20.00
SNAPDRGN,bnchd10	8.00	8.50

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

	Low	High
49-54	220-300 lbs	70.00-75.00
	300-400 lbs	80.00-85.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	63.00-69.00
	300-400 lbs	70.00-77.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	73.00-78.00
	500-700 lbs	74.00-79.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	15.00-18.00

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.
November 20, 2013

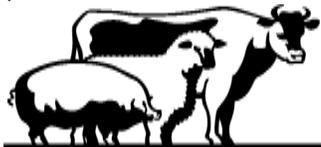
	Low	High
Gr US 1-	wt 15-25	215.00 240.00
	wt 30-40	180.00 240.00
	wt 40-50	120.00 130.00
	wt 50-60	112.00 117.00
	wt 60-80	60.00 76.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, November 18, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	22.00	25.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	50.00	52.50
91-105 lbs.	55.00	62.00
106 lbs. & up	70.00	75.00
Farm Calves	100.00	140.00
Starter Calves	24.00	28.00
Veal Calves	100.00	145.00
Open Heifers	100.00	110.00
Beef Steers	95.00	104.00
Beef Heifers	115.00	118.50
Feeder Steers	102.50	115.00
Stock Bulls	92.50	120.00
Beef Bulls	92.00	96.00
Boars	one at	50.00
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	80.00	115.00
Goats each	80.00	270.00
Kid Goats	165.00	200.00
Canners	up to	81.50
Cutters	82.00	85.00
Utility Grade Cows	86.50	89.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	3.00	15.00
Chickens each	3.00	12.00
Ducks each	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	34.00	50.00
Lambs	30.00	160.00
Sheep	45.00	95.00



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
ALFALFA SPRT,5lb	14.00	14.00
APPLE,crtnd,fcy,12/3lb	17.00	20.00
APPLE,crtnd,xfcy,80ct	24.00	24.00
APPLE,empr,xfcy,80ct	24.00	26.00
APPLE,hnycrsp,fcy,80ct	28.00	30.00
APPLE,mcn,8/5-lb,tote	22.00	22.00
APPLE,mcn,xfcy,96ct	20.00	24.00
APPLE,mcntsh,12/3lb,2 1/4"	18.00	20.00
APPLE,mcntsh,no1,140ct	16.00	17.00
CIDER,9 1/2gal	18.00	18.00
COLLARDS,12s	12.00	14.00
CRANBERRY,24/12oz	33.00	36.00
KALE,12s	10.00	12.00
PARSNIP,18/11lb	23.00	23.00
PARSNIP,25lb	22.00	22.00
POTATO,10lb	2.25	2.50
POTATO,rd,50lb	11.00	11.00
POTATO,szA,50lb	10.00	13.00
RUTABAGA,50lb	15.00	16.00
SQUASH,acrn,lg,1 1/9bu	16.00	17.00
SQUASH,acrn,md,1 1/9bu	12.00	14.00
SQUASH,bttrnt,md,1 1/9bu	15.00	18.00
SQUASH,bttrnt,sm,1 1/9bu	12.00	15.00
SQUASH,kbcha,1 1/9bu	21.00	21.00
SQUASH,spghtti,md,1 1/9bu	20.00	20.00
TURNIP,prpl,25lb	8.00	10.00
TURNIP,wht,bu	20.00	22.00

SHIPPED IN

CILANTRO,60s,TX	30.00	30.00
NAPPA,50lb,NJ	20.00	20.00
ONION,10lb,yllw,NY	3.35	3.50
SWT POTATO,40lb,NJ	20.00	20.00



**RETAIL BEEF, USDA
NORTHEAST U.S. MAJOR SUPERMARKETS**

Prices per pound

	Low	High
BOTTOM ROUND,roast	2.59	4.49
BRISKET	4.49	4.99
GROUND,80-89%	3.19	3.99
LONDON BROIL	2.99	4.29
PATTIES	4.39	4.39
RIBEYE,roast,bone-in	6.99	9.49
RIBEYE,steak	7.99	9.49
SIRLOIN,grnd	3.99	3.99
SIRLOIN,steak tips	4.29	5.99
T-BONE,steak	7.99	9.99
TENDERLION	9.99	13.99

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

November 29, 2013

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	78.50	80.50
boners 80-85% lean	74.25	79.00
lean 85-90% lean	69.50	74.00
CALVES graded bull		
No.1 95-120lbs	151.00	170.25
No 2 95-120lbs	140.75	154.00
No 3 80-120lbs	93.50	124.25
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr		
High dressing	100.00	109.00
Avg.dressing	91.50	95.00
Low dressing	82.50	87.25
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3		n/a
Ch2-3		n/a
Ch1-3	122.00	130.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/prm2-3	132.00	133.00
Ch1-3	124.50	128.00
Sel1-2	119.25	121.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm2-3	113.75	117.75
Ch 2-3	106.25	108.75
Sel1-2	107.50	111.00
VEALER 60-120lbs	21.00	54.50
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	168.00	174.00
60-80lbs	178.00	205.00
80-110lbs		n/a
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
110-120lbs	64.00	68.00
120-160lbs	54.00	78.00
160-200lbs	60.00	80.00
Bucks	130-180lbs	56.00 84.00
	160-200lbs	n/a
	200-240lbs	50.00 82.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est. wt.		
40-60lbs	110.00	130.00
60-80lbs	112.00	156.00
80-110lbs	116.00	134.00
Nannies/Does:	90-125lbs	140.00 170.00
	130-150lbs	155.00 172.00
Bucks/Billies:	110-150lbs	235.00 355.00
	150-250lbs	335.00 335.00

EASTERN PA GRAIN

December 2, 2013

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	2.90
CORN	4.14
OATS	3.05
SOYBEANS	12.65
WHEAT	6.37

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz., USDA Grade A/Grade A white in cartons
(volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.63	1.67
LARGE	1.61	1.65
MEDIUM	1.20	1.24

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons
(delivered)

XTRA LARGE	2.14	2.25
LARGE	2.10	2.21
MEDIUM	1.35	1.46

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.

119-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

122-R. Rototiller Maschio Model B, 80" wide. Extra H.D. Rotor speeds, 4 speed gearbox. Weight 975 lbs. Really nice shape. \$4,000. Price negotiable. Home, 203-283-4472. Leave message or cell 203-516-1693.

129-R. Equipment for Sale- South Glastonbury
JD 6605 Hi-Crop Mudder tractor 4 wheel drive 110 HP 250 hours, Like new. Lilliston 2 and 4 row cultivators with extra parts. Lely tine weeder- 12 foot with hydraulic fold- mint condition- one owner. I&J 4 row S tine cultivator with liquid side dress tanks and crop shields- one owner. Brillion trailer type spike tooth harrow with hydraulic lift. Haines vegetable washer - rebuilt. JD 7000 Maxi-Merge planter-4 row. New finger pickups and bean cups. Insecticide boxes included. JD model 45 seven(7)foot scraper blade- one owner. JD 444 corn head. Amish built field picking conveyor - hydraulic powered- one owner. Phil Brown apple bin dumper. True Cooler- sliding glass door cooler. Waxed vegetable boxes new on pallets. Two piece Tomato Boxes new on pallets. Cedar fence posts with rolls of goat/sheep fence. Galvanized tube gates. Chevrolet Step Van C20 (inop) perfect for farm markets. Plant trays- 50/72/144 cells new and used. Greenhouse tables- 8x 4 wire covered. Turkey Nesting Boxes- 2 and 4 nest boxes. Farm Stand- movable on skids-8x16 feet. George 860-918-5442 or email inquiries to george.m.purtill@snet.net.

132. 9 good bows from my greenhouse that went down last winter. It is a 30' wide Clear Span, \$2,000. Also have ground posts, purlins, brackets, probably enough to build a house 30' X 36' if that's what you'd like, \$3,500. It's all down you just need to pick it up. Questions, 860-335-7337.

133. N.H 315 Baler, NH 256 Hayrake, Kuhn GF Tedder, Mayrath Elevator. 860-651-8928.

134-R. New Idea Model 101E 10 ft. lime drop spreader, very good condition, \$950. Paul, 860-350-3158.

WANTED

131-R. 5 or 6 ton used metal grain bin, no junk. 860-354-0649.

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-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

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

AGRITOURISM LISTING OPPORTUNITY ON CTVISIT.COM

The Connecticut Office of Tourism at the Department of Economic and Community Development is now accepting submissions for complimentary 2014 event listings on CTVisit.com. For more info, see www.cultureandtourism.org/cct/cwp/view.asp?a=3933&q=463408 or contact Jean Hebert, 860-256-2739 or Jean.Hebert@ct.gov.

PLANT GRANTS: EVIDENCE OF A NEW ERA

(continued from Page 1)

All applicants also were vetted by the Office of the Secretary of the State and the Department of Revenue Services to be sure the farms were properly registered to do business in the state and had no outstanding tax issues.

The initial funding recommendations, based on eligible losses defined by program criteria, totaled more than \$8.5 million. This was significantly more than the potential \$5 million approved for the program. Recognizing the intention of the PLANT Grant was to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people, DoAg and DECD established a formula to award approximately 55 percent to approved applicants in good standing.

Again with help and support of CFBA, funding was awarded as quickly and efficiently as possible, while still ensuring due diligence and responsible management of taxpayer dollars.

Success stories have already begun to emerge.

Semkow Farms, a plant nursery in Colchester, suffered the loss of seven of their nine greenhouses as a result of the February blizzard. Combined with the untimely death in July of the farm's proprietor, Frank Semkow, the fate of this farm was in doubt. Because the PLANT Grant has enabled the farm to rebuild, Frank's niece Robia Semkow Kruse made the decision to move her family across the country back to Colchester. She and her son, representing the fourth and fifth generations to work this land, will continue the proud tradition of the Semkow Family.

"Dealing with the passing of a family member is hard enough without having to worry about running a business as well," Semkow Kruse said. "Receiving a PLANT Grant helped fuel my drive to relocate my family from Las Vegas, Nevada, and continue the operation of a farm that has been in my family for four generations. Without the support from the state, this would not be possible. Thank you, Governor Malloy!"

East Hartford's New England Garden Center lost four hydroponic greenhouses as a result of the February storm, incurring more than \$150,000 in damages. The loss potentially ended the farm's exceptional growth from cultivation of hydroponic lettuce and a niche crop of specific peppers highly sought by restaurants.

"The funds from this grant will help us immediately," owner Steve Weinstein said. "By allowing us to replace the damaged equipment and repair the damage to our greenhouses, we will be able to increase our production of peppers and hydroponic lettuce."

"For the past year," Mr. Weinstein continued, "we have been unable to produce enough lettuce to supply our clients. They have been purchasing lettuce from both out-of-state and out-of-county producers. We will soon be in a position to retrieve some of that volume from those producers and add it to our capability, adding revenue and additional staff to our farm."

Kasheta Farms, located in South Windsor and owned by Ed Kasheta, has been in business in the same family since 1905, beginning as a tobacco farm and later expanding into grain corn and sod. The Kashetas were hurt by not only the blizzard in February, but also the June floods, losing more than 100 acres of corn and tobacco.

"We had to replant our fields three times, the last time by hand," Mr. Kasheta reported. "It's so great to have the state be a true partner in Connecticut agriculture. On behalf of our farm and all farmers in Connecticut, we'd like to thank Governor Malloy for his support."

(continued on Page 4)

PLANT GRANTS: EVIDENCE OF A NEW ERA

(continued from Page 3)

The PLANT Grant has provided assistance to as many as 238 farms. Grant awards ranged from as little as \$156 to as much as \$153,000, and have been used for crop replanting, fertilization, top dressing, livestock replacement, feed supplement, farm equipment repair/replacement, farm road repair, greenhouse replacement, infrastructure hardening, and more.

Regrettably, some applicants submitted requests for ineligible expenses such as income loss, non-agricultural production, and claims associated with pre-2013 storms, which could not be funded.

Weather patterns over the last several years and their destruction to the state's agricultural production have clearly demonstrated the need to strengthen farm infrastructure. The PLANT Grant has helped do that. Going forward, DoAg will give particular consideration in all grants it administers to applicants taking proactive steps to ensure that future storms are more effectively weathered.

DoAg is pleased and proud to have had the opportunity to provide a hand up to Connecticut's hard-working farm families during difficult times. This opportunity was a direct result of Governor Malloy's support of the industry.

Just like his Connecticut Grown poultry legislation, Farmland Restoration Program, and other initiatives he has conceived and put into motion, the PLANT Grant is an example of his interest in and commitment to growing a significant and strong agricultural industry that cares for its valuable farmland resources and provides for the residents of Connecticut.



Governor Malloy, left, announcing the PLANT Grant program at a June 23, 2013, press conference. Also pictured, from left, U.S. Representative Larson, U.S. Senator Blumenthal, Commissioner Revczky, and farmer Jim Futtner

HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET REDEVELOPMENT SURVEY OPEN THROUGH DEC 4

The state continues to seek public input on a master plan for redevelopment of the Hartford Regional Market.

The [online survey](#), (available in English and Spanish), is posted at www.CTGrown.gov under "Featured Links" and will remain open through 11:59 p.m., December 4. Thank you for providing feedback.



Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

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