



Agricultural Report

Agrivolution, Groton

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
Wednesday, January 29, 2014

THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS FEBRUARY 5

George E. Krivda, Jr., Legislative Program Manager, Office of the Commissioner

There shall be a regular session of the General Assembly on the . . . Wednesday following the first Monday of February in the even-numbered years, and at such other times as the general assembly shall judge necessary . . .

All regular and special sessions of the General Assembly shall be held at Hartford . . .

The General Assembly shall adjourn each regular session . . . in the even-numbered years not later than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in May . . .

In the even-year session the General Assembly shall consider no business other than budgetary, revenue and financial matters, bills and resolutions raised by committees of the General Assembly and those matters certified in writing by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President Pro Tempore of the Senate to be of an emergency nature.

--Connecticut General Assembly [Session Scheduling Rules](#)

The next session of the Connecticut General Assembly commences on Wednesday February 5, 2014, and promises to be exciting as usual.

While it may seem overwhelming to those unfamiliar with it, there really is nothing scary or mysterious about Connecticut's legislative process.

The General Assembly operates in an extraordinarily transparent manner and provides citizens with some useful tools to follow along from home or the farm throughout the entire session.

First is an information-packed website that serves as a convenient, readily accessible window on activities at the Capitol.

From www.CT.gov, click on "Legislative" from the menu (or go directly to www.cga.ct.gov if you prefer) and a plethora of choices await.

The [Citizen Guide](#) is a great place to start. It provides a wealth of general information about the Capitol, House of Representatives, Senate, and the legislative process.

The [Legislative References](#) link offers glossaries of abbreviations and acronyms as well as terms and definitions that make following the process easier. Then identify your specific legislators and find out how to contact them through the [House](#) and [Senate](#) links.

The [Session Information](#) link takes you to more useful tools, including daily bulletins that enable you to determine events happening at the Capitol during the week. You can even sign up through the [Bill Tracking](#) link to receive notice when the proposals you care about most move through the process.

Another excellent resource is the [Connecticut Network](#) (CT-N). It provides access to unbiased information about state government

deliberations and public policy events through its noncommercial television and webcast coverage.

Managed and operated by the [Connecticut Public Affairs Network](#), a not-for-profit company committed to strengthening civic engagement in the Constitution State, CT-N television is available on basic or expanded basic cable in most areas. (It is working toward full statewide availability.)

It also offers both live and on-demand video coverage of Capitol and related events through its website, www.CT-N.com.

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The screenshot shows the website interface with several key elements highlighted by green arrows and boxes:

- Navigation Menu:** Includes 'Quick Search', 'Broadcast Media', 'Statutes', 'Committees A - H & I - Z', 'Staff Offices', and 'Commissions'. A 'Bill Tracking' link is also visible in the top right.
- Search and Information Links:** A box on the left contains links for 'Search', 'Session Information', 'House', 'Senate', 'Legislative References', and 'Citizen Guide'.
- Calendar:** A calendar for January 2014 is displayed, with the 5th of February highlighted.
- Legislation Effective Dates:** A section at the bottom right indicates the '2014 Regular Session' convenes on February 5, 2014, and adjourns on May 7, 2014.

The Connecticut General Assembly's website, www.cga.ct.gov, offers a wealth of tools to follow along with the legislative session from home or the farm.

**WHOLESALE GREENHSE PRODUCE
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL**

	Low	High
CUCMBR,prsn,20lb,DR	38.00	38.00
LEEK,5kg,NT	16.00	19.00
PEPPR,bl,rd,11lb,MX	18.00	22.00
PEPPR,bl,ylw,1 ¹ / ₉ bu,CN	18.00	22.00
RHUBARB,6kg,NT	43.00	43.00
TOMATO,12lb,vnrrp,ME	26.00	27.00
TOMATO,25lb,lg,ME	20.00	20.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

	Low	High
49-54 220-300 lbs	63.00	68.00
300-400 lbs		n/a
45-49 220-300 lbs		n/a
200-400 lbs	60.00	63.00
Sow; us1-3 300-500 lbs	52.00	56.00
500-700 lbs	59.00	62.00
Boars 300-700 lbs	17.00	18.00

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.

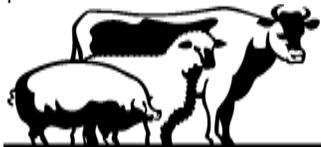
	Low	High
Gr US 1- wt15-20	320.00	320.00
wt 20-40	200.00	260.00
wt 40-50		n/a
wt 40-60	180.00	180.00
wt 60-80		n/a

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, January 27, 2014

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	12.00	16.00
61-75 lbs.	18.00	20.00
76-90 lbs.	25.00	30.00
91-105 lbs.	35.00	40.00
106 lbs. & up	50.00	58.50
Farm Calves	70.00	78.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	125.00	145.00
Open Heifers	110.00	130.00
Beef Steers	110.00	133.00
Beef Heifers	86.00	128.00
Feeder Steers	122.00	135.00
Stock Bulls	100.00	137.50
Beef Bulls	95.00	118.00
Boars	one at	.04
Sows	20.00	25.00
Butcher Hogs	32.50	40.00
Goats each	40.00	275.00
Kid Goats	n/a	n/a
Canners	up to	94.50
Cutters	90.00	94.00
Utility Grade Cows	95.00	99.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	9.00	42.00
Chickens each	3.00	16.50
Ducks each	6.00	10.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Lambs	125.00	150.00
Sheep	n/a	n/a



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
APPLE,fuji,xfcy,80ct	26.00	28.00
APPLE,hnycrsp,fcy,80ct	26.00	28.00
APPLE,mcntsh,12/3lb,fcy	15.00	15.00
APPLE,mcntsh,no1,140ct	16.00	16.00
CIDER,4/1gal	16.00	16.00
POTATO,CHF,50lb	12.00	12.00
POTATO,rd,50lb,sz a	15.00	15.00
POTATO,10lb	2.75	2.75
SQUASH,bttrnt,md,1 ¹ / ₉ bu	18.00	20.00

SHIPPED IN

ANISE,24ct,AZ	28.00	34.00
ARUGULA,2lb,CA	9.00	9.00
BEAN,grn,bu,FL	50.00	52.00
BLUEBERRY,12/1pt,CH	30.00	36.00
CARROT,50lb,jbo,CA	19.00	20.00
CILANTRO,60s,TX	24.00	26.00
DATE,11lb,CA	55.00	55.00
EGGPLANT,1 ¹ / ₉ bu,FL	18.00	20.00
GARLIC,col,30lb,CA	60.00	60.00
JERUSLM ARTCHK,10ct,CA	36.00	36.00
LETTUCE,grn lf,24ct,CA	15.00	19.00
MUSHROOM,oyst,3lb,PA	13.00	13.00
ONION,ylw,50lb,NY	15.00	17.00
ORANGE,nvl,113ct,CA	27.00	29.00
PEACH,48ct,CH	34.00	38.00
STRAWBERRY,8/1lb,FL	26.00	30.00
TANGERINE,80ct,FL	32.00	34.00



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

Prices per pound

	Low	High
BEEF SHORT RIB	4.49	5.99
BONE IN RIBEYE ROAST	7.99	7.99
BOTTOM ROUND ROAST	2.69	4.49
GROUND,80-89%	3.69	4.49
LONDON BROIL	2.99	4.99
NY STRIP STEAK	6.99	6.99
PORTERHOUSE STEAK	5.99	9.99
SIRLOIN STEAK TIPS	4.99	4.99
STEW MEAT	3.69	4.99
T-BONE STEAK	5.99	9.99
TOP ROUND ROAST	4.19	4.99

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

January 24, 2014
Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	83.25	86.25
boners 80-85%	78.00	84.00
lean 85-90%	73.00	78.00
CALVES graded bull		
No 1-95-120lbs	147.25	165.75
No 2 95-120lbs	133.75	153.25
No 3 80-120lbs	92.00	118.75
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr		
High dressing	105.75	111.00
Avg.dressing	96.00	102.25
Low dressing	83.75	91.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3	139.00	144.00
Ch2-3	131.50	134.75
Ch1-3	120.00	128.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm2-3	141.50	146.75
Ch1-3	136.00	140.75
Sel1-2	127.25	131.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm2-3	119.75	125.00
Ch 2-3	111.75	117.50
Sel1-2	112.25	116.75
VEALER 60-120lbs	30.25	62.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs		n/a
60-80lb		n/a
80-110lbs		n/a
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
110-120lbs		n/a
120-160lbs		n/a
160-180lbs		n/a
Bucks 120-160lbs		n/a
170-200lbs		n/a
200-240lbs		n/a
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.		
40-60lb	138.00	172.00
60-80lb	145.00	175.00
80-100lb	160.00	184.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130lbs	169.00	197.00
130-140lbs	167.00	192.00
Bucks/Billies: 130-140lbs	215.00	255.00
140-180lbs	330.00	335.00

EASTERN PA GRAIN

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	3.17
CORN	4.36
OATS	3.63
SOYBEANS	12.85
WHEAT	6.36

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.36	1.40
LARGE	1.34	1.38
MEDIUM	1.28	1.32

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	2.20	2.25
LARGE	2.17	2.20
MEDIUM	1.40	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.

7-R. REARS 50 Gallon mini-blast sprayer, 3PH, asking \$3,000. REARS Nifty Fifty 3PH Weed Sprayer, asking \$1,500. Both in excellent condition, great for small fruits. Call 860-657-6550 or belltownorchards@snet.net

8-R. Corn silage stored in corn pit. Augur Farm. 203-530-4953.

9. Sutorbilt 7.5 HP vacuum pump \$2,500. Boumatic receiver group and wash controls \$1,500. 1st cutting hay \$5/bale. 2nd cutting hay 6.50/bale. 860-617-7279.

11-R. Kinze Model DF, 4 row corn planter, 30" between rows, double frame, no till, excellent condition, \$5,000. Call 860-537-1974.

14. Bred Heifer. Due late Feb, Hereford/Shorthorn. Bred to polled Hereford. 24 months. \$1,200. 860-354-3556.

15-R. 400 bales 2nd Cutting Hay-mixed grass-weight approx. 50 lbs-hay is in Bristol-no delivery. 860-635-1379.

16-R. Mulch Hay. 40 lb square bales. 860-643-5301.

18-R. 4 row Stanley Seeder, 2 sets of boxes and belts. Recently tuned up, manual included. 860-234-1328.

20-R. Dracena Spikes 48/tray \$17. Geranium-Calliope Burgundy, 50 cents per rooted cutting. Woodland Gardens 860-643-8474.

21-R. Oil-Fired Maple Syrup Evaporator, \$4,990 Negotiable. Fruit and vegetable washing, absorbing and sorter, \$4,500 Negotiable. 860-488-0324

MISCELLANEOUS

10-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.

13-R. \$500/acre. Landowners, I am looking to lease 25+ acres of "A" land for up to \$500 per acre per year. Tell your friends or call Doug at 203-952-8542.

WANTED

12. Wanted: drag or bog harrows, good condition. 203-237-7998.

17. Standing timber wanted, Hardwood/softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 15 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

19-R. Simple pipe frame style plastic mulch layer, either flat or raised bed. 860-234-1328.

THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS FEBRUARY 5 (continued from Page 1)

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, after a daunting review process, is offering the following six proposals for consideration during the upcoming 2014 legislative session:

AN ACT CONCERNING FARM PRODUCT ORIGIN LABELING REQUIREMENTS (Statutory Reference: Sec. 22-38)

This proposal would require all farm products for sale at any of a variety of farm-related markets in Connecticut to be identified by a sign or label with the name and complete business address of the farm where the product was grown or produced.

This measure of transparency will allow consumers to determine exactly where farm products were grown and thus make better-informed purchasing decisions.

Clearly identifying Connecticut Grown farm products and differentiating them from those grown out of state will (1) strengthen the integrity of the Connecticut Grown brand, (2) bolster consumer confidence in that brand, and (3) empower consumers to better support Connecticut farm families and businesses.

Public Act 11-189 required the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development to "make recommendations to the Department of Agriculture on ways to increase the percentage of consumer dollars spent on Connecticut-grown fresh produce and farm products . . . by 2020, to not less than five per cent of all money spent by such residents on food."

Clearly identifying where the product was grown allows customers to make informed choices as to where they would like to direct their own personal resources.

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFIED CONNECTICUT GROWN MARKETS (Statutory References: Secs. 22-38b(b) and 22-38b(c))

This proposal will better align the Connecticut General Statutes with the existing, successful Connecticut Grown Program. It also will remove an obstacle in the establishment of a program encouraging more Connecticut Grown products in food markets.

The present Connecticut General Statute requires that a grocery store (a business that employs 10 or more persons and is engaged in the retail sale of produce, such as fruits and vegetables; meats; poultry; seafood; nuts; dairy products; bakery products; or eggs) continuously stock 15 percent or more of its shelf space for retail produce and dairy with farm products grown or produced in this state in order to call itself a Connecticut Farm Fresh Market.

No store other than a store certified as a Connecticut Farm Fresh Market may use such words for promotional and marketing activities.

For practical purposes, "Connecticut Grown" has replaced "Connecticut Farm Fresh" in the marketplace. Continuously stocking (year round) 15 percent of a store's shelf space with Connecticut Grown product is beyond the ability of most grocers.

This proposal specifically requires that in order to call itself a Connecticut Grown Market, a grocery store must dedicate on a year-round basis a minimum of only five percent of its shelf space to Connecticut Grown produce, but during the months of July, August, and September, it must dedicate no less than 25 percent of its retail produce and dairy shelf space to Connecticut Grown farm products.

AN ACT CONCERNING LEASE LESSEE HOLDOVER (Statutory Reference: Sec. 26-194)

Upon the expiration of a state shellfish lease, the lessee currently has the option to apply for a renewal of that lease upon the same terms and conditions as set forth in 26-194.

This proposal renders that renewal option null and void if the lessee is in default in the rent payment or any covenant within the lease up for renewal, within any other state shellfish lease to that same lessee, or within any state shellfish lease to an entity in which that same lessee is a principal or corporate officer.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PILFERING OF SHELLFISH (Statutory References: Secs. 26-225 and 26-226)

This proposal expands the penalty in 26-225 and 26-226 for stealing oysters and creating an injury to an oyster enclosure to include stealing all types of shellfish or creating an injury to all shellfish enclosures on designated or leased grounds.

The Department of Agriculture received input from legislators and regulators encouraging this update so enforcement efforts can be improved.

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S SEED LAW (Statutory Reference: Sec. 22-55)

This proposal updates the current seed law written in 1963 with the Recommended Uniform State Seed Law developed by the Association of American Seed Control Officials.

(continued on Page 4)

THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS FEBRUARY 5*(continued from Page 3)*

The present seed law has become difficult to administer as the terminology, technology, and science have all changed significantly since 1963. Some examples:

- The current law's lack of distinction between cool-season and warm-season grasses makes it difficult for companies supplying turf-type products to comply with its requirements.
- Companies supplying seed for native restoration of natural ecosystems are at a significant disadvantage because the existing law's required germination testing shows their seed to have very low germination rates. This discourages potential buyers even though it is normal for native grass species to take three or more years to germinate.
- Current technology makes it possible to label packages with actual seed counts, which is much more useful information for the consumer than seed weight, but the present law still requires net weight.
- The present law does not allow additional scientifically proven techniques to be used in germination testing.
- The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has received consumer complaints about flower seed packets that have failed to produce any live plants. Flowers, however, are not covered in the present Connecticut Seed Law.
- Consumers could benefit from tree and tree seed labels that include species-specific information about location, elevation, soil type, and climate suitability.

AAC TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE FARMLAND RESTORATION PROGRAM (Statutory References: Secs. 22-6c and 22-6d)

The Farmland Restoration Program came into existence at the direction of Governor Malloy to reclaim farmland that has gone out of production due to encroachment by invasive plants and overgrown conditions.

Changes to Section 22-6c of the Connecticut General Statutes explicitly define "farmland restoration plan," elaborate on what treatments are reimbursable, increase the maximum reimbursement on state and municipal lands to 90% (up to a maximum of \$20,000.00), and allow for monetary and in-kind services for the farmer's contribution.

Changes to Section 22-6d will allow broader reimbursement for fencing under the definition of "agricultural restoration purposes."

These changes will strengthen the program and assist in bringing more land back into production.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture encourages all Connecticut farmers to learn more about, follow along with, and get involved in the state's legislative process. Follow the proposals and consider attending public hearings on issues that matter to you most. Learn how to contact your legislators and/or submit testimony regarding proposals that directly affect your farming operation. Participating is easy and rewarding once you know how.

Questions about the agency's legislative proposals and program, or about the legislative process in general, are always welcome. Please feel free to call the Office of the Commissioner at 860-713-2501 for assistance.



Agrivolution, Groton

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. 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

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The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (**ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340**) is published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106, except for the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas, two other weeks each year, and when the Governor closes state offices. Print subscriptions are \$40.00 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.

Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2015.

**VOL. XCIV
No. 4
January 29, 2014**