



Agricultural Report

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



Agriculture, Groceries

Steve Jensen, Editor
 Wednesday, March 26 2014

DOAG PREPARING TO HELP NEW GENERATION OF FARMERS GET STARTED

By Steve Jensen, Office of DoAg Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

LEBANON – The milkers in the grassy pastures and the free-range pigs and chickens roaming the grounds at state-owned Savin Farm have a pretty good view of the enormous lake that dominates this 575-acre property.

“It sure is a nice spot for a cow to live,” said current tenant Kim Abell, who runs M & K Dairy with her partner Mike Shaw on 160 acres leased under the state’s Farmland Preservation Program. Set in the rolling hills along Roger Foote Road and Norwich Avenue, Savin Farm was purchased by the state in 1993 to protect it from development.

Plans are now underway to begin laying out smaller farm units to beginning farmers looking to hone their skills before moving on to a place of their own.

“One of the most challenging parts of starting a farm in the Northeast can be the price of buying land,” Joseph Dippel, who has worked with DoAg’s farmland-preservation program for 27 years, said during a recent visit to the Reserve. “We want to use this place as an incubator to help new and beginning farmers get established.”

DoAg also plans to continue to expand non-farming public uses of the Reserve, where fishing, canoeing and limited hunting are currently allowed. Funding has been approved to build a pavilion overlooking the lake that will accommodate agriculture-related educational activities.

“The Reserve is a great demonstration of how state lands like this can be in active agricultural production and at the same time offer compatible recreational opportunities for the public,” said DoAg



Kim Abell ticks off the names of some of her cows feeding in a barn at the state-owned Lebanon Agricultural Reserve, where she lives and runs a dairy under DoAg’s farmland-preservation program

Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky. “It really benefits the entire area and we are looking forward to seeing the Reserve used to its full potential.”

The farm was previously owned by Abraham Savin, a farmer and contractor who excavated the 70-acre lake for gravel that his A.I. Savin Construction company used for building roads, including portions of nearby Route 2.

The state bought the property after a private developer’s plans to build dozens of homes and a golf course there fell through when the real-estate market bottomed out, allowing the state to acquire it at an attractive price.

It is part of more than 5,000 acres of protected farmland in Lebanon, where a total of about 10,000 acres are under production – the most of any Connecticut community. The area is known for its prime soils, and the protected acreage was accomplished

through various agreements with the state, the town and other preservation groups.

Savin Farm became part of DoAg’s Farmland Preservation Program in 1993, and over the years portions have been leased to various farm operations, usually two at a time. M&K Dairy now shares space with Cushman Farms, a member of The Farmer’s Cow.

Just up the road is Beltane Farm, where goats whose milk produces a variety of artisan cheeses are being raised on 22 acres soon to gain protected status.

(Continued on Page 3)

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

	LOW	HIGH
LETTUCE,bstn,12/4oz,CT	15.00	
17.00		
MACHE,3lb,PA	12.00	
12.00		
PEPPR,bll,YEL,11lb,DR	22.00	
26.00		
PEPPR,bll,rd,11lb,MX	18.00	
20.00		
RHUBARB,10lb,MI	33.00	
33.00		
TOMATO,12lb,vnpr,ME	24.00	
25.00		
TOMATO,chrtry,5lb,,ME	14.00	
15.00		

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

	Low	High
49-54 220-300 lbs	92.00	95.50
300-400 lbs	90.00	94.00
45-49 220-300 lbs	82.00	87.00
300-400 lbs	82.00	89.00
Sows,US1-3 300-500 lbs	74.00	79.00
500-700 lbs	75.00	79.00
Boars 300-700 lbs	23.00	25.00

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

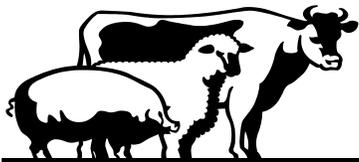
Lancaster, PA, per cwt.March 19

	Low	High
Gr US 1- wt 20-30	290.00	300.00
wt 30-40	240.00	280.00
Gr US 2- wt 15-30	110.00	130.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, March 24, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	50.00	52.50
61-75 lbs.	65.00	120.00
76-90 lbs.	67.50	122.50
91-105 lbs.	65.00	121.00
106 lbs. & up	95.00	130.00
Farm Calves	130.00	170.00
Starter Calves	110.00	127.50
Veal Calves	110.00	140.00
Open Heifers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	116.00	136.00
Beef Heifers	117.50	135.00
Feeder Steers	85.00	120.00
Stock Bulls	110.00	117.50
Beef Bulls	104.00	127.50
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	one at	.70cts
Butcher Hogs	.70cts	.85cts



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
APPLE, empire, exfcy,80CT	20.00	24.00
APPLE, mcntsh,12/3lb,fcy	16.00	16.00
APPLE, mcntsh,80CT FCY	17.00	17.00
APPLE,mcntsh,,96CT FCY	17.00	17.00
APPLE,mcntsh,fcy,100ct	17.00	17.00
CIDER,9½gal	18.00	18.00



SHIPPED IN

ASPARAGUS,28lb,CA	44.00	44.00
BEAN,grn,bu,FL	14.00	16.00
HONEYDEW,5CT,HON	15.00	15.00
BRUSSEL SPRT,25lb,CA	36.00	38.00
CABBAGE,grn,50lb,GA	17.00	19.00
CELERY,2dz,FL	10.00	11.00
CORN,4dz,FL	18.00	20.00
DENDELION GREEN,12s,GA	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT,1½bu,FL	15.00	18.00
JERUSLM ARTCHK,10ct,CA	42.00	42.00
KALE,12ct,GA	18.00	18.00
LEMON GRASS,30lb,CA	40.00	52.00
ROMAINE,24CT,CA	15.00	20.00
ORANGE,nvl,113ct,CA	26.00	29.00
PEACH,44ct,CH	33.00	33.00
PEAR,bsc,80ct,OR	34.00	36.00
PEAR,DANJ, 80CT, OR	30.00	32.00
SWEET POTATO,40lb,LA	22.00	26.00



**WHOLESALE BROILER/FRYER PARTS
TRUCKLOTS**

Prices per pound

	Low	High
BACK/NECK	.16	.18
BREAST,b/s	1.75	1.80
BREAST,w/rib	.92	.93
DRUMSTICK	.48	.49
GIZZARD	.75	.80
LEG	.64	.65
LEG,quarters	.44	.45
LIVER,5lb tub	.55	.60
TENDERLOIN	1.80	1.85
THIGH	.65	.66
WING	1.35	1.36

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:			
breakers 75-80% lean	94.25	98.25	
boners 80-85% lean	89.75	94.50	
lean 85-90% lean	83.00	89.75	
CALVES graded bull			
No 1 95-120lbs	221.25	254.50	
No 2 95-120lbs	199.50	233.00	
No 3 80-120lbs	161.50	216.50	
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr			
High dressing	119.25	124.25	
Avg.dressing	109.25	115.75	
Low dressing	104.50	111.50	
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS			
HiCh/Prm2-3	142.50	150.75	
Ch1-3	141.00	145.50	
Sel1-2	134.25	137.50	
SLAUGHTER STEERS.			
HiCh/prm2-3	141.00	149.50	
Ch1-3	140.75	144.50	
Sel1-2	132.25	136.00	
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS			
HiCh/prm2-3	125.75	128.25	
Ch2-3	121.25	124.75	
Ch1-2	118.75	121.50	
Vealers-60-120lbs	42.75	82.75	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3 HAIR			
40-60lbs	208.00	235.00	
60-80lb	n/a		
80-110lbs	202.00	227.00	
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3			
80-110lbs	100.00	115.00	
100-110	114.00	116.00	
110-120	102.00	110.00	
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est.			
40-60lb	150.00	192.00	
60-80lb	165.00	197.00	
80-110lb	183.00	200.00	
Bucks 130-150lbs	102.00	120.00	
150-160lbs	84.00	90.00	
160-200lbs	72.00	87.00	
Nannies/Does: 90-130lbs	162.00	205.00	
130-150lbs	187.00	225.00	
Bucks/Billies: 130 -150lbs	220.00	335.00	
160-200lbs	235.00	320.00	

EASTERN PA GRAIN

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	3.22	
CORN	4.96	
OATS	n/a	
SOYBEANS	14.38	
WHEAT	6.93	
NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA		
Per doz./USDA GradeA/GradeA white in cartons (volume buyers)		
XTRA LARGE	1.59	1.63
LARGE	1.57	1.61
MEDIUM	1.40	1.44

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS
Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons (delivered)

XTRA LARGE	2.23	2.35
LARGE	2.17	2.30
MEDIUM	1.45	1.55

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Weekly 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.

Advertisements of 35 or fewer words for job openings at Connecticut farms may be placed for up to four weeks for free in the report's new **CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION SECTION.**

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

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

27-R. Bally Walk-in-Cooler 18'x24', 11' high, L'il Orb doughnut machine--\$4,500 for both (you must remove cooler from barn) 860-673-3550 days/860-675-3666 until 9pm

29-R. Kinze Corn Planter model DF, 4 row, 30" between rows, double frame, no till, excellent condition. \$5,000. Call 860-537-1974

30-R. DRIED CHICKEN MANURE, best fertilizer for hay lots, by the trailer load. HAY, 1st & 2nd cut square bales. Call 860-537-1974

35-R. 1994 Custom Fab 20' gooseneck aluminum Stock Trailer, new tires, excellent condition, \$8,000. Fargo Silage Dump Wagon, \$1,500. 1000 gallon poly water tank, \$500. John Deere 12' wheel harrow, \$2,000. Pre cast feed bunks, JD grass head, (2) John Deere 3960 corn choppers. Quality corn silage, kernel processed finely chopped. Also 100% Alfalfa baling 4X4 bales, delivery available if needed. Burke Ridge Farms 860-559-3009 or 860-748-9336

36-R. Quality Registered Angus Bulls for sale. Semen tested and ready to work. SAV Iron Mtn 5/16/12, OCC Freestyle 4/11/12, BC Eagle Eye 1/3/12 Sons. Must see! \$3,000 each. 860-896-0888 or 860-748-9336

39-R. 4-Sundair 190,000 BTU Oil fired heaters. Used only 6 seasons. Set up for under-bench heating with 24" poly-tube. List for \$2,350, asking \$1,000 each. 2-Gro-Well oil furnaces, 300,000 BTU. Great for greenhouse or shop area, asking \$900 each. All work fine-replaced with propane heaters. 4-275 gal oil tanks, 2 asking \$275, 2 asking \$150. 42" two speed slant-wall exhaust fan with shutter and 45" and 36" motorized motorized intake louvers: \$800. 24" single speed slant-wall exhaust fan with shutter and 40" motorized intake louver: \$400. Fork for John Deere 4020: \$350. Rear weight box fits most John Deere 3 point hitch: \$250. Delivery available. 860-974-0045

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

37-R. Announcing new Biozyme Dealership for New England. Now available locally VitaFerm, VitaCharge, SureChamp and Conceptaide. Please call 860-896-0888 or 860-748-9336 for details and pricing. Burke Ridge Farms, Ellington/South Windsor

38-R. Farmland Restoration Program Contractor for hire. Large brush/small tree mowing. Excavator, dozer work such as stumping, grading, etc. Visit www.burkeridgeconstructionllc.com or call 860-559-3009.

DOAG PREPARED TO HELP NEW GENERATION OF FARMERS GET STARTED (Continued from Page 1)

Seven more acres there are now being cleared with the help of the state's new Farmland Restoration Program, an initiative begun by Governor Malloy to increase production and add to the state's \$3.5 billion annual agricultural economy. The \$5 million program has drawn nearly 100 applications to restore more than 1,100 acres to cropland and pasture.

Kim and Mike have been at Savin Farm for the past three years, and now produce about 2,000 pounds of milk a day from their 34 dairy cows. They also have about 30 heifers, and 20 pigs that spend most of their time in the woods not far from the cabin-style house where the couple lives with their three children.

Kim grew up in Lebanon, where her father farmed about 30 acres of hay. While Mike also works as a powerline mechanic, she is at the farm full-time, tending to the animals and the tiny retail shop where she sells the "Ladies of Lebanon" product line. The "Ladies," of course, are the dairy herd. They also sell beef, pork and eggs raised at the farm.

"My dream was always to have cows raised out on the grass and we can do that here," Kim said while showing some visitors around.

DoAg's Dippel hopes that many more aspiring farmers will follow in their footsteps through the farm-incubator program planned for a portion of the Reserve.

"This is such a unique resource that we strongly believe it should be used as much as possible to support land-based agriculture in the area," he said. "I can't think of a better place for someone to get started."

A similar incubator program is planned for the 825-acre Southbury Training School Farm in Southbury and Roxbury, which will be transferred to DoAg under 2013 legislation advanced by Governor Malloy.

Anyone interested in more information on DoAg's programs can contact Dippel at 860-713-2530 or joseph.dippel@ct.gov, or Cameron Weimar at 860-713-2552 or cam.weimar@ct.gov.



CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

26-R. Mid-size farm looking for farm manager to assist small fruit and vegetable crop management. Minimum 3 years practical agricultural work experience required- combination of crop and livestock production. 4 year college degree preferred. 860-683-0266

28-R. Farm in Canton offering part-time work Apr-Oct. All positions are learning opportunities! If you want to spend your summer growing food, getting fit, working hard, and feeling great - contact Tara 860-881-2280

31-R. Spring Farm Apprentice Position available mid-April start date. Housing, food and stipend. Learn all aspects of running 200-member CSA Vegetable Farm Share and Grassfed Beef farm business. Learn more at: www.devonpointfarm.com or call 860-974-9004

32-R. Help wanted, seeking farm educator for spring field trips, April - June, Community Farm of Simsbury, educational organic farm in Simsbury, contact Cori Behm, cbehm@communityfarmofsimsbury.org, 860-217-0453, per diem rate, www.communityfarmofsimsbury.org

33-R. Part time summer help experienced with operating New Holland round and square balers, etc. Four Winds Farm, 860-886-0716

AG DAY CELEBRATES FARMING, RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE

The State Capitol was packed with farmers, vendors and a variety of agricultural agencies and advocacy groups March 19 during the annual Connecticut Agriculture Day.

Among the highlights were the naming of Stacia Monahan, of Stone Gardens Farm in Shelton, as Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year, and the recognition of Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry with the Century Farm Award, given to farms that have been in operation for more than 100 years.

Monahan, who raises livestock and vegetables, will now compete in the National Outstanding Young Farmers Program. Connecticut's last four winners - Jamie Jones of Jones Family Farm in Shelton, Russell Holmberg of Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry, Matt Peckham of Elm Farm in Woodstock, and Joe Geremia of Wallingford - finished in the top 10 of the national contest.

The 150-acre Homberg farm was started in the early 1900s and once supplied plants to the estates of wealthy mill owners in the Norwich area. It now grows and sells a variety of fruits, as well as producing fruit wine and hard cider.



Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year Stacia Monahan at the State Capitol during Agriculture Day. She is surrounded by Woodbury FFA members from Nonnewaug High School, from which she graduated in 1996.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Weekly Agricultural Report encourages our subscribers to let us know what's happening on Connecticut's farms. Please send news, story ideas, photos new or old or anything else of interest to the agricultural community to Editor Steve Jensen at steve.jensen@ct.gov, or 860-713-2519.



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