

Agricultural Report

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



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, October 17, 2012

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

CT CHEESES WIN HIGH MARKS AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE COMPETITIONS

By Wayne Kasacek, Assistant Director, Bureau of Regulation and Inspection

Connecticut made cheeses were well represented at the American Cheese Society Competition, *Festival of Cheese*, held in Raleigh, N.C. on August 4, 2012; the New England Regional Cheese Competition judging, held August 24, 2012 at the Big E; and the [Connecticut Specialty Food Association's](#) eleventh Product Awards Competition, March 8, 2012.

Below are the highlights of how cheeses made here in Connecticut fared at various competitions.

American Cheese Society Competition:

- First place for ricotta made from cow's milk went to [Liuzzi Angeloni Cheese](#) of North Haven.
- Tied for second place was [Calabro Cheese Corporation](#) of East Haven.
- First place for fresh mozzarella under 8 oz. (ovalini, bocconcini, ciliegine sizes), Liuzzi Angeloni Cheese.

New England Regional Cheese Competition:

- [Arethusa Farm Dairy](#) of Litchfield earned a gold award for its Tapping Reeve; a silver for Crybaby; and bronze awards for Fresh Farmer's Cheese with Chives, Camembert, and Europa.
- [Sweet Pea Cheese](#) of Granby received a silver award for its Greek Goat Yogurt Cheese and a bronze for its Plain Crumbled Fresh Feta.
- [Sankow's Beaver Brook Farm](#) of Lyme garnered a bronze award for its pasteurized Soft Fresh Cow Cheese w/Herbs de Provence.

Connecticut Specialty Food Association:

- Cato Corner Farm of Colchester swept the aged cheese category, winning first place for its Bridgid's Abbey, second place for its Aged Bloomsday, and third place for its Dairyere.



Award-winning Connecticut cheeses from Sankow's Beaver Brook Farm (top), Sweet Pea Cheese (lower right), and Cato Corner Farm (lower left)

Connecticut has 24 licensed cheese manufacturers making everything from Italian style standbys to specialty cheeses produced nowhere else. The number of manufacturers and varieties are a sure sign that value-added products such as cheese can be profitable. Indeed, interest in starting cheese-making operations is high with several projects in various stages of planning or construction.

As with any good food production, cheese can be more art than science. Many cheeses evolve over time based on the environment, including where the milk is produced, where the cheese is manufactured, and—if the cheese is aged—the aging environment.

(continued on Page 3)

**WHOLESALE SEASONAL ITEMS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
CORN,Ornmntl,20/3s	25.00	30.00
GOURD,Shllck,1/2bu	27.00	27.50
PMKN,Mini,1/2bu,Orng	16.00	18.00
PMKN,Mini,1/2bu,Wht	17.00	17.00



NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

October 15, 2012

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

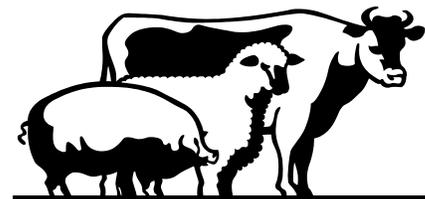
49-54	220-300 lbs	59.00-62.50
	300-400 lbs	59.00-61.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	57.00-58.50
	270-300 lbs	52.00-55.00
	300-400 lbs	47.50-53.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	31.00-34.50
	500-700 lbs	39.50-43.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	12.00-13.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, October 15, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	35.00	40.00
61-75 lbs.	45.00	55.00
76-90 lbs.	75.00	80.00
91-105 lbs.	82.50	85.00
106 lbs. & up	87.50	90.00
Farm Calves	92.50	105.00
Starter Calves	55.00	60.00
Veal Calves	75.00	145.00
Open Heifers	87.50	140.00
Beef Heifers	80.00	120.00
Beef Steers	96.00	122.00
Feeder Steers	94.00	100.00
Stock Bulls	82.50	110.00
Beef Bulls	78.50	90.25
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	65.00	270.00
Kid Goats	75.00	170.00
Canners	Up to	74.50
Cutters	75.00	81.00
Utility Grade Cows	82.50	88.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	7.00	15.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	14.00	27.00
Feeder Pigs	6 at	47.50
Lambs	95.00	210.00
Sheep	85.00	155.00



**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**



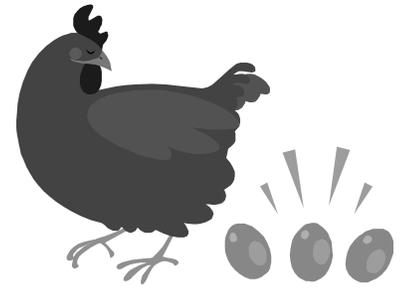
	Low	High
APPLE,Cort bu,2-3/4,xfcy	34.00	34.00
APPLE,Cort,3"min,no grd	26.00	26.00
APPLE,Gala,tote,8/5lb	34.00	34.00
APPLE,Mac,80ct,xfcy	38.00	38.00
APPLE,Mac,80ct,US#1	27.00	27.00
APPLE,Macn, 80 ct, xfcy	45.00	45.00
BEAN,Grn,bu	14.00	16.00
BROCCOLI,Cut,20lb	12.00	14.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	12.00	12.00
CABBAGE,Grn,bx	10.00	12.00
CABBAGE,Grn,24" bin	1.20	1.50
CABBAGE,Rd,50lb	14.00	14.00
CABBAGE,Svy,bx	14.00	14.00
CAULIFLWR,Orng,12ct	17.00	17.00
CIDER,4/1gal	23.00	23.00
CIDER 9 1/2gal	27.00	27.00
CRANBRRY,Erly blk, 24-12oz	32.00	36.00
GRAPE,Cncrd,8-1qt	22.00	24.00
KALE GRNS,crtn,12-16	12.00	12.00
LEEKs,12s	15.00	15.00
PEAR,Bsc,4/5bu	31.00	32.00
PEAR,Sckl,1/2 bu	26.00	26.00
PARSNIPS,25 lb	24.00	24.00
POTATOES,10lb,szA	1.75	1.75
POTATOES,Rsst,90ct	11.00	12.00
POTATOES,50lb Chefs	11.00	13.00
SQUASH,Acn,bu	10.00	12.00
SQUASH,Bi hbbrd,40lb	11.00	12.00
SQUASH,Bttrnt,1-1/9	12.00	13.00
SQUASH,Bttrcp,1-1/9	16.00	18.00
TOMATOES,12lb flat	26.00	26.00
TOMATOES,25lb,xl	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES,10lb,hrlm,xl	32.00	35.00
TOMATOES,Chrry 5lb	13.00	15.00
TOMATOES,vn ripe,11lb	14.00	15.00
TURNIPS,25lb,Prpl tp	8.00	8.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

October 15, 2012

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers 75-80% lean	71.50-75.00	76.00-80.00	68.00-71.00
Boners 80-85% lean	72.00-73.00	74.00-77.50	55.00-64.5
Lean 85-90% lean	64.50-69.50	70.50-75.50	58.00-63.00
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves			
No.1 95-125lbs	105.00-127.00		
No.2 95-125lbs	90.00-107.00		
No.3 90-120lbs	55.00-65.00		
Slaughter bulls	850--1885lb	- 100.00-109.50	
Holstein Heifers No.1	90-100lb	120.00-140.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
50-60lbs	190.00-212.00		
60-70lbs	172.00-196.00		
70-80lbs	172.00-192.00		
80-90lbs	166.00-170.00		
90-110lbs	160.00-172.00		



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown eggs in cartons, delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.59-1.70
LARGE	1.43-1.59
MEDIUM	1.09-1.20

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

October 15, 2012

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

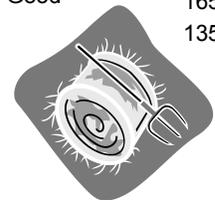
EXTRA LARGE	1.08-1.22
LARGE	1.03-1.17
MEDIUM	.82-.95

PENNSYLVANIA HAY REPORT

October 15, 2012

Prices per ton.

Alfalfa, Premium	240.00-400.00
Alfalfa, Good	150.00-175.00
Mixed Hay, Premium	235.00-395.00
Mixed Hay, Good	160.00-230.00
Timothy, Premium	240.00-310.00
Timothy, Good	165.00-200.00
Straw	135.00-220.00



110-115lbs	156.00-166.00
Wooled & Shorn Good & Choice 1-3	
50-60lbs	148.00-167.00
60-70lbs	144.00-168.00
70-80lbs	140.00-166.00
80-90lbs	142.00-160.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 1-3: Med. Flesh	
80-150lbs	94.00-108.00
160-190lbs	87.00-104.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
70-150lbs	74.00-94.00
160--190lb	69.00-76.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
45lbs	91.00-96.00
50-70lbs	104.00-136.00
70-80lbs	119.00-150.00
Nannies/Does:120-125lbs 152.00-172.00	
110-125lbs n/a	
130-160lb 154.00-178.00	
Bucks/Billies: 150-170lbs -220.00-250.00	
150-165lbs n/a	

ADVERTISEMENTS

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 860-713-258 for more information.

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, 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.

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.

10-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.

122-R. High Quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-Concolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Discounted Commercial Grades available also! Hartikka Tree Farms (800)508-5099 www.treeman2.com

143-R Rain Flo 2550 plastic mulch layer, auto row trak and double drip asking \$3,300. Rain Flo water wheel planter all options plus extra wheels and spikes and 2 custom wheels, asking \$3,000. IH 450 3btm auto reset plow asking \$3,500, 860-951-8021.

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

150-R Big Bee 6' Rotary Mower, New 2011. Used approx 12 hours. \$650. James Fazzone 203-250-6677.

151. "Angus Steer", Ready for Freezer. 12 month old-\$1,400. 860-848-8612. Ask for John.

153. Generator-Propane Fueled Dayton Model 4W117L 20 KW single phase. Weather protective enclosure. Battery auto start. Asking \$4,350. 860-559-0374 or email wegrowall@sbcglobal.net.

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.

11-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

WANTED

152. Standing Timber Wanted. Hardwoods and Softwoods. Prompt payment/clean job. Call Fog HollowTimber at 860-798-4039.

INVASIVE PLANT SYMPOSIUM OCT 25

The Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group will hold its 2012 symposium October 25, 2012, at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. This conference will address the development of practical solutions and methods for invasive plant management, and detail the actions needed to promote native species, improve natural areas, and benefit wildlife.

All interested people, including municipal staff; nursery, tree and landscape professionals; educators; students; landscape architects; gardening enthusiasts; state and federal employees; and members of conservation organizations are encouraged to attend.

See www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/2012Symposium for more info.

CT CHEESES WIN HIGH MARKS AT COMPETITIONS (continued from Page 1)

All good cheeses do share some things in common: high-quality milk, and control of the manufacturing, curing, and aging.

Those interested in making cheese for pleasure and/or profit can take advantage of many training opportunities.

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture's [Bureau of Inspection and Regulation](#), 860-713-2508, can provide assistance with meeting regulatory requirements. Staff is always eager to help start-up operations with planning for space, design/layout, construction materials/finishes, and equipment needs.

Programs such as the [Farm Reinvestment Grant](#), [Farm Transition Grant](#) and [Farmland Restoration](#) Program are available through the Department of Agriculture's [Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation](#), 860-713-2503.

The University of Connecticut's [Cooperative Extension System](#) can offer, depending on demand, cheese-making workshops and training on the food safety aspects of making cheese.

The [Connecticut chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association](#) and the [Massachusetts chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association](#) offer cheese-making workshops. The [Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese](#) at the University of Vermont regularly has workshops and offers certificate programs. These programs are good introductions to cheese-making and provide a flavor of what it really takes to manufacture cheese for a commercial market.

Finally, the [Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development](#) has committed to be a partner with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, promoting and supporting Connecticut's agriculture industry.

APPLY NOW FOR NRCS CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications for financial assistance to help implement conservation practices that improve natural resources on farms, forestland, and wetland areas throughout Connecticut.

The deadline for the first ranking period is November 16, 2012.

Individual practices that have been popular include waste-storage facilities, no-till, cover crops, buffers, prescribed and rotational grazing, nutrient management, and forest stand improvement.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) offers incentive payments to those practicing good conservation who are interested in enhancing those efforts. The application deadline is also November 16, 2012.

For more information, visit www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov/programs or contact your nearest USDA field office.

SNEBA 2012 NOV 10 IN EAST LYME

The Connecticut Beekeepers Association and Wicwas Press will conduct the 2012 Southern New England Beekeepers Assembly from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on November 10, 2012, in East Lyme. In addition to industry speakers, there will be a vendor display and a tea-cup auction, where everyone is invited to donate something of value to support the CBA.

Speakers for 2012 include Dr. James Tew, recently retired Ohio State University Apiculture Extension Specialist; Dr. Joe Latshaw, owner of the the Ohio Queen Program; and Wicwas Press author and lecturer Dr. Lawrence Connor of Michigan.

Early bird registration (before October 22) is \$44 without lunch or \$55 with lunch. After October 22, prices are \$54 and \$65.

Online registration is available at www.wicwas.com. For mail-in registration, see www.sneba.com.

CAUTION URGED REGARDING COMPANIES OFFERING TO ASSIST WITH FDA REGISTRATION

Recently the Connecticut Department of Agriculture became aware of opportunistic firms attempting to persuade farmers that they must register their facilities with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002—even if they are not required to do so. These firms charge a substantial fee to process and submit the registration to FDA.

FDA does require registration by owners, operators, or agents in charge of domestic or foreign facilities that manufacture/process, pack, or hold food for consumption in the U.S. Domestic facilities are required to register whether or not food from the facility enters interstate commerce.

Registration is free and any food manufacturer, distributor, or processor can submit the registration themselves.

For more information on registration go to <http://www.fda.gov/food/guidancecomplianceregulatoryinformation/registrationoffoodfacilities/default.htm> (FDA is registering new firms but as of October 9, 2012, is not accepting renewal of registrations.)

The FDA has issued a notification regarding firms that are soliciting registration services such as FDA Registrar Corporation. The FDA's letter clarifies that private businesses, such as FDA Registrar Corporation, which offer their services to food facilities, are NOT affiliated with the FDA, nor do they act on FDA's behalf.

FDA's letter also reminds owners and operators that they can register, update, or cancel a facility's registration directly with FDA online at <http://www.access.fda.gov>, or by mail, requesting the ap-

propriate form from FDA at 800-216-7331 or furls@fda.hhs.gov.

There is no fee to register a facility with the FDA. The full statement can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodDefense/Bioterrorism/FoodFacilityRegistration/ucm081674.htm>.

Our current understanding is that most farms are exempt unless they process food or the foods they produce in some way. FDA has stated that washing, trimming of outer leaves of, and cooling produce; milking cows; and collecting eggs from chickens are considered part of harvesting.

However, the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 and FDA regulations are very complex documents.

For specific information or questions, contact your trade association or the FDA, 800-216-7331 or 301-575-0156, 7:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Eastern Time, or review the guidance documents on FDA's website.

CSA SCHOOL NOV 28 IN HADDAM

A Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) school will be held November 28, 2012, at the Middlesex County Extension Office.

This day-long workshop will feature various CSA models, as well as tips and tools for operating a CSA. Farmers will talk about traditional, multi-farmer, multi-season, and meat CSAs, offering innovative ideas. A panel of growers with new CSAs will describe what they learned and what pitfalls to avoid. Educational materials will be provided.

For more information, email Jiff.Martin@UConn.edu or Jude.Boucher@UConn.edu, or call 860-875-3331.



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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www.CTgrown.gov www.CT.gov/doag
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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, 2013.

**VOL. XCII
 No. 40
 October 17, 2012**