

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
August 6, 2014



Fiona Hynes nuzzles Fritz, one of the horses at Locket's Meadow Farm in Bethany where she rides and volunteers.

NEW LAW DECLARING HORSES NOT NATURALLY VICIOUS MARKED IN BETHANY

By Steve Jensen, Office of Dept. of Agriculture Cmsr. Steven K. Reviczky



Scuppy, the Milford horse at the center of the CT Supreme Court case that led to the new law

If there was a single ill-tempered horse among the dozens at Locket's Meadow Farm last week, it certainly wasn't apparent to a crowd including the Governor that interrupted the animals' day for a celebration on their behalf.

Dozens of visitors to the rescue farm reached through fences and stall doors to pet horses as Gov. Dannel P. Malloy ceremoniously signed a bill negating a state Supreme Court decision that ruled horses a naturally vicious species.

With horses whinnying behind him at the podium, Malloy said the ruling "simply went too far" and unintentionally would have crippled the horse industry in the state.

"People thought it was a strange thing for a governor to be interested in," he said before signing the bill at a paddock-side table. "But as a guy who grew up riding in Stamford and taking lessons at a farm, I had a special appreciation for the impact this would have on farms in Connecticut. We're a very horse-rich state and we want to make sure than continues."

The chain of events leading to the passage of Public Act 14-54, "An Act Concerning The Liability of Owners and Keepers of Domesticated Horses, Ponies, Donkeys, and Mules," began in 2006 when a young boy was bitten on the cheek by a horse named Scuppy at a farm in Milford.

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MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, Aug. 4, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	65.00	75.00
61-75 lbs.	125.00	150.00
76-90 lbs.	255.00	265.00
91-105 lbs.	280.00	285.00
106 lbs. & up	290.00	295.00
Farm Calves	300.00	320.00
Starter Calves	55.00	58.00
Veal Calves	125.00	260.00
Open Heifers	122.50	177.50
Beef Steers	132.00	163.00
Beef Heifers	117.00	165.00
Feeder Steers	135.00	165.00
Stock Bulls	125.00	177.50
Beef Bulls	134.00	147.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	75.00	120.00
Goats each	50.00	175.00
Kid Goats	50.00	195.00
Canners	up to	116.00
Cutters	117.00	120.00
Utility Grade Cows	121.00	124.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	7.00	26.00
Chickens each	5.00	17.00
Ducks each	5.00	22.00
Feeder Pigs	70.00	98.00
Lambs	50.00	240.00
Sheep	95.00	160.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.38	1.42
LARGE	1.36	1.40
MEDIUM	.98	1.02

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.74	1.84
LARGE	1.71	1.81
MEDIUM	1.26	1.36

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

		Low	High
49-54	200-300 lbs	93.00	97.00
	300-400 lbs	87.00	93.00
54-58	200-300 lbs	96.00	100.00
	300-400 lbs	95.00	95.00
Sows, US1-3	300-500 lbs	72.00	77.50
	500-700 lbs	74.00	79.50
Boars	400-720 lbs	40.50	43.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
BLUEBERRIES CLAM SHELL	24.00	24.00
BLUEBERRIES PULP/NET	30.00	32.00
EGGPLANT, 1 1/9 BU	12.00	12.00
DILL, W/ROOTS, 6'S	60.00	60.00
ARUGULA, 24'S	12.00	12.00
BEETS 12'S	12.00	14.00
BEETS, GOLD, 12'S	18.00	18.00
CARROTS, 12'S	12.00	12.00
CUCUMBERS, SELECT, 1 1/9BU	12.00	12.00
CORN, 5DZ	12.00	15.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, 50IB	8.00	10.00
CABBAGE, RED 50IB	14.00	17.00
BEAN, POLE, BU	20.00	20.00
KOHLRABI 12'S	16.00	16.00
ONIONS GREEN 48'S MED	16.00	16.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, FCY, 1/2BU	8.00	12.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, MED, 1/2BU	6.00	8.00
SQUASH, GREEN, FCY, 1/2BU	7.00	10.00
SQUASH, GREEN, MED, 1/2BU	5.00	6.00
BEAN GREEN, BU, HAND PICK	24.00	26.00
CUKES, SUPER SELECT, 1 1/9	18.00	18.00
BEAN WAX, BU	20.00	22.00
PARSNIPS ,25LBS	21.00	23.00
PARSNIPS 18-11B	23.00	23.00
PEPPER, BELL, GREEN XL	12.00	12.00
KALE, 12'S	12.00	14.00
SWISS CHARD, 12'S	18.00	18.00
BEAN GREEN, MACH PICK, BU	14.00	15.00
APPLES JERSEY MAC BU	30.00	30.00
BLACKBERRIES 12-1/2PT	30.00	30.00
BEETS, CHIOGGA, 12'S	18.00	18.00
CUKES, PICKLES 1/2BU	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES ,20LBS	20.00	24.00
PEACHES 1/2BU, YELLOW, 2 1/2	24.00	24.00
PEACHES 22LB ,WHITE, 2 1/2	26.00	26.00
NECTARINES 22LB BOX	28.00	30.00
PLUM, METHLEY ,20LB	22.00	24.00

WHOLESALE BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Northeast, per. lb.

	Low	High
BREAST-B/S	2.00	2.06
TENDERLOINS	2.35	2.40
LEGS	.61	.62
LEG QUARTERS	.49	.50
THIGHS	.74	.75
B/S THIGHS	1.31	1.32
WINGS	1.43	1.44
LIVER, 5LB TUBS	.55	.60
GIZZARDS	.75	.80

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Average Dressing

	Low	High
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	107.75	112.75
boners 80-85% lean	102.00	108.25
lean 85-90% lean	95.25	100.75
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 120-128lbs	279.75	313.75
No 2 120-128lbs	258.25	299.25
No 3 100-130lbs	207.00	268.75
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3	158.75	163.75
Ch2-3	153.00	157.25
Sel2-3	145.00	149.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	162.75	166.75
Ch2-3	156.25	161.00
Sel2-3	150.25	154.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	146.50	150.25
Ch2-3	138.75	143.00
Sel2-3	134.75	138.50
VEALERS	48.50	100.50
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
50-60lbs	202.00	207.00
80-90lb	188.00	210.00
80-100lbs	172.00	195.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
110-130lbs	90.00	97.00
130-140lbs	92.00	98.00
Bucks		
150-180.lbs	80.00	84.00
210-250lbs	80.00	88.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel. 1, by head, est.		
20-40lb	n/a	n/a
40-60lb	140.00	157.00
50-70lb	156.00	180.00
70-90lb	154.00	200.00
Nannies/Does: 110-130lbs	160.00	172.00
130-160lbs	152.00	185.00
Bucks/Billies: 130-150lbs	220.00	260.00
150-160lbs	215.00	255.00

PA GRADED FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt. July 2

		Low	High
Gr US 1-	WT 20-40	250.00	385.00
	WT 40-50	225.00	250.00
	WT50-60	200.00	210.00
	WT60-70	225.00	325.00
GR.US 2-	WT20-25	325.00	385.00
	WT25-30	235.00	325.00
	WT30-40	250.00	310.00
	WT40-60	185.00	235.00

EASTERN, PA, HAY

average price per ton

	PREMIUM	GOOD
ALFALFA	195.00-320.00	N/A
MIXED	190.00-400.00	140.00-185.00
TIMOTHY	195.00-320.00	150.00-170.00
STRAW		N/A

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.

100-R. Farm for sale in Bristol. 13 acres-32X36 barn and out-buildings. 1940 farmhouse with 3 bedrooms. City sewer and well water (city water available). Pasture fenced, 2 brooks. 860-635-1379.

108-R. Purebred Katahdin Ram for sale. Great producer, registration papers available, mostly white. \$350.00. 860-354-9069.

110-R. Irrigation Pump on trailer--Yanmar Diesel-liquid cooled-3cyl-21.5hp/Rainbow SBB 4x3x9.5 pump/Primer with 4" SCAN-Kleen Filter, 4" Foot Valve and 170 Feet of 4"HPDE Suction Pipe. Used one season in 2012-excellent condition. Cost new was \$12,400. Reasonable offers considered. Mark after 6pm. 860-977-6948.

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.

WANTED

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

109-R. Help Wanted: Full time, year round position for experienced greenhouse grower to maintain large collection of mostly tropical plants, starting 9/1/2014 in Cheshire, CT. Experience related to pest management, plant nutrition and organizational skills are necessary. A Private Applicators license is absolutely required. No retail, managerial or customer service experience needed. Degree in horticulture not required but highly desired. Understanding of greenhouse systems and equipment necessary. Carpentry, plumbing and electrical abilities are also desirable. Physical ability to lift 50 lbs required and box truck driving capability also a plus. 40 hours minimum per week with overtime expected in peak seasons of April-June and September-November. We are looking for someone with long term potential who is a self-starter, motivated and seeking alternative to traditional growing. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Please contact:

John@gardensatcheshire.com

CAES PRESENTS PLANT SCIENCE DAY 2014

The CT Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) on Wed., Aug. 6 will hold Plant Science Day 2014 at Lockwood Farm, the Station's 75-acre research farm at 890 Evergreen Ave., Hamden. The annual free event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and features a day of scientific inquiry, discovery, and updates on research advances in agriculture, food safety, the environment and public health.

The event is open to the public and takes place rain or shine. Highlights include the Century Farm Award, the Samuel W. Johnson Memorial Lecture, and a visit from Gov. Dannel P. Malloy.

For more information call toll-free 877-855-2237 or visit:

CT.gov/CAES or CT.gov/CAES/psd14

NEW LAW DECLARES HORSES NOT VICIOUS

(Continued from Pg. 1)

The boy was trying to pet the horse through a fence when he was bitten, losing a large chunk of flesh. The boy's parents sued the owner of the farm, who later testified that it was the first time Scuppy had bitten anyone in 28 years.

Last year, the Supreme Court unanimously upheld an Appellate Court decision in the case that said a horse belongs to "a species naturally inclined to do mischief or be vicious" and that their owners or keepers are liable for damages if they are proven negligent in failing to prevent injuries by the animals.

In response to the ruling, Malloy's office filed legislation early this year that resulted in the General Assembly unanimously passing the bill that the Governor signed last week.

"This was an example of leadership and getting it right and we thank the Governor for that," Henry Talmage, executive director of the CT Farm Bureau, said at the July 29 event in Bethany.

The Farm Bureau and the Connecticut Horse Council had filed court papers in the case arguing that horses are not inherently dangerous, and therefore their owners should not be held to a higher standard of responsibility.

Talmage said Insurance underwriters around the country were following the situation closely, and if left unchallenged the Supreme Court ruling likely would have meant denial of coverage or steep increases in insurance premiums for horse owners. Of particular concern to insurers, he said, was the potential liability posed by the common practice of passersby stopping at roadside paddocks to pet horses.

"That would have been devastating to the horse industry," Talmage said. "We would have had a mass exodus of horses and horse owners out of the state."

Under the new law, horse owners or keepers have the duty to use "reasonable care to restrain the animal to prevent foreseeable harm if the animal has exhibited behavior in the past that alerted the owner or keeper to the dangerous behaviors of that individual animal."

Before the owner or keeper can be held liable for injuries they cause, the plaintiff must prove that the animal in question "exhibited past behavior that alerted the owner or keeper to that individual animal's dangerous tendencies and that the owner or keeper acted negligently in guarding against injuries that might be foreseeably caused by the individual animal's tendencies."

Dept. of Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Revczky said the Supreme Court ruling could have opened the door to a variety of other farm animals being declared vicious.

"One of my concerns was that this could have presented a very slippery slope for owners of all kinds of livestock," he said. "Where does it stop? Pigs? Goats? Geese? I commend the Governor for initiating and the legislature for supporting this very common-sense law on behalf of our farm families and horse owners."

In his remarks in Bethany, Malloy said he is proud that Connecticut leads New England in the growth of new farms over the past five years.

"We're trying to grow the horse industry here," he said. "What we don't want to do is pass laws or have court decisions that make it more difficult to do just that. "I took this on and I was proud to do it."

Dana Stillwell, co-founder of Greener Pastures horse rescue farm in Salem and editor of the equine newsletter Steed Read, said the Supreme Court ruling was a hot topic for horse owners in the months leading up to the passage of the bill proposed by Malloy.

"All winter that's all I heard," she said. "People were ready to pack up and go. I think this outcome is a huge relief for all horse owners in Connecticut and across the country."

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FARMLAND PRESERVATION CELEBRATION*300 Farms and Growing***September 20, 2014, 11 a.m.– 5 p.m.****Lebanon Green, Lebanon, CT**

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**For event updates, visit our Facebook page:
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Above right, a crowd gathers around a tent at Locket's Meadow Farm in Bethany, where Gov. Dannel P. Malloy signed a bill protecting horse owners from increased liability. Below, two of the farm's residents enjoyed some hay.



**NEW LAW DECLARES HORSES
NOT VICIOUS
(Continued from Pg. 3)**

Watching both adults and children interacting with the horses at the Bethany farm, Stillwell said the scene was evidence of a horse's true nature.

"They're the most healing creatures I know," she said. "They give unconditional love."

Kim Hynes, who with her daughter Fiona rides at Locket's Meadow and volunteers in its therapeutic riding program for disabled people, said declaring horses vicious would have had negative consequences beyond increasing liability and expense for their owners.

"It would have broken every barn girl's heart in the state of Connecticut," she said.

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