

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

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



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
January 26, 2016



CITIES, TOWNS, NON-PROFITS FUNDING AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS WITH FARM VIABILITY GRANTS

Improvements and promotion of farmers' markets, expansion of school and community gardens, preservation of farmland and installation of a composting facility are among the projects being funded by Department of Agriculture grants recently awarded to more than a dozen municipalities and non-profit organizations across the state.

The Farm Viability Grant program is aimed at helping municipalities and agricultural non-profits create infrastructure to sustain and enhance agriculture in their communities with the help of matching grants of up to \$49,999.

"Over the years, this grant program has been very successful in helping our cities and towns accomplish projects that support farming, growing healthy food and connecting residents with agriculture in a number of ways," Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "I urge municipal leaders and non-profit organizations with agricultural missions to consider the Farm Viability program and join us in the continued growth of Connecticut farms and agriculture."

Grant funding is available through the Community Investment Act, which receives a fee generated by the recording of documents on municipal land records.

The most recent round of grants were awarded to:

BETHANY – \$4,192 to add 30 raised beds to the current 19 in its community garden created last year in Pole Hill Road Park. The garden is aimed at helping seniors improve their diets with healthy fresh vegetables. Raised and wheelchair-accessible beds are available to seniors at a discounted fee of \$15 a year, and more than half the beds were rented and tended by seniors

last season. Gardeners last year also donated more than 360 pounds of produce to local food pantries and others in need.

The grant will help purchase lumber, hardware, fencing and standpipes with spigots to bring water to the garden.

COVENTRY - \$34,605 to help fund the town's management transition of the former Coventry Regional Farmers' Market, to be re-launched this season as the Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead.

Funds will be used to continue and enhance the weekly market's aggressive promotional efforts, which have regularly attracted between 2,500 and 4,000 customers.

Approximately 60-percent of the customers are from out of the immediate area, and the town's goal is to expand the customer base by targeting local residents, those in older age brackets and with a variety of income profiles, including those participating in Farmer's Market Nutrition Programs.

DANBURY - \$27,133 to promote a downtown farmers' market started seven years ago by the Danbury Farmers' Market Community Collaborative (DFMCC), comprised of more than 30 community leaders and with the goal of fostering downtown economic development, agricultural viability, and to provide equitable access to fresh food for all in the Danbury area.

Marketing will be targeted at a 375-unit rental housing community opening across the street from the market site, which is expected to become home to 500-650 young professionals. Organizers also are changing the market day from Friday to

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	76.00	81.00
boners 80-85% lean	75.00	80.50
lean 88-90% lean	72.00	78.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	128.00	132.00
Choice 2-3	121.50	127.50
Sel 1-3	117.50	120.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 2-3	115.00	121.00
Ch 2-3	109.00	115.00
Sel 2-3	101.00	108.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	122.00	128.50
Ch 2-3	120.00	125.00
Sel 1-3	n/a	n/a
CALVES Graded bull		
No 1 94-128 lbs	161.00	181.00
No 2 80-128 lbs	150.00	159.00
No 3 72-130 lbs	117.00	131.00
Utility 90-110 lbs	65.00	80.00
FRESH COWS		
Supreme	2100.00	2350.00
Approved	1675.00	2050.00
Medium	1300.00	700.00
Common	850.00	1275.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
80-90 lbs	210.00	225.00
90-110 lbs	205.00	227.00
110-130 lbs	177.00	195.00
130-150 lbs	147.00	167.00
150-200 lbs	120.00	155.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	90.00	105.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	115.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	105.00
BUCKS		
160-200 lbs	85.00	100.00
200-300 lbs	80.00	97.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.		
80-100 lbs	200.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1, by head, est.		
80-130 lbs	210.00	225.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1		
150-250 lbs	350.00	365.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA., HOG AUCTION

All prices per cwt.

52-56	250-280 lbs	38.00	46.00
	280-320 lbs	51.00	60.00
Sows 1-3	400-500 lbs	30.50	33.50
Boars	400-600 lbs	4.00	4.00

NEW HOLLAND FEEDER PIGS

January 20, 2016

US 1-2			
	20-30 LBS	150.00	155.00
	30-40 LBS	130.00	130.00
US 2-3			
	20-30 LBS	120.00	150.00
	30-40 LBS	155.00	155.00
	40-50 LBS	80.00	115.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5LBS	14.00	14.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4OZ	16.00	16.50
APPLES,CORTLAND,#1, 100	19.00	19.00
APPLES,HNYCRSP,XFCY,80,88	68.00	68.00
APPLES,EMPIRE,120/140, #1,BU	18.00	18.00
APPLES,MACS,FNCY, 80, 88	18.00	18.00
APPLES,MACS,FNCY,120, 140	18.00	18.00
APPLES,MAC,#1,CELLPK,120	18.00	18.00
APPLE,MACS,FCY,12-3LB,2-1/2"	15.00	16.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEETS,RED,ORGANIC, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
BRUSSELS SPROUTS, 25 LBS	38.00	38.00
PARSNIPS, MED, 20 LBS	19.00	23.00
POTATO,FINGERLING, 20 LB	20.00	20.00
POTATO, RSST, #1, 50 LBS	11.00	14.00
POTATO RND WHT,10LB BAG	2.00	2.00
POTATO, YLLW, #1, CHEF,50LB	14.00	14.00
PUMPKINS, PIE, 1-1/9	11.00	15.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, 36" BIN	190.00	230.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CTN, 24	15.00	17.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9	10.00	12.00
TOMS, GHSE, CHERRY,8-10 OZ	14.00	17.00
TOMS,GHSE,ONVINE,MD,11LB	22.00	26.00
TOMATO, GHSE, LOOSE, 25LB	16.00	20.00
TOMATO,HEIRLM,GHSE, 10LBS	24.00	28.00
TURNIP,PRPLTP, ORG, 25LBS	11.00	12.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLE,FUJI,ORG,XFCY,WA,80	74.00	74.00
APPLE, GALA, XFCY, WA, 100	45.00	48.00
APPLE, MAC XFCY, NY, 100	26.00	26.00
APPLE,RED DEL,ORG,XF,WA,72	45.00	45.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NY, 50 LBS	10.00	11.00
CUKE,GHS,CAN,PERSIA,20LBS	32.00	34.00
GARLIC, COLOSS,CA, 30 LBS	60.00	65.00
GINGER ROOT, 10 LBS	20.00	21.00
KALE, GA, CRATES, 12 BNCH	12.00	13.00
LEMONS, CA, ORGANIC, 75	35.00	35.00
LETT,ROM,CA,ORG,12-24.2 OZ	30.00	32.00
MACHE, GHSE, PA, 3 LBS	12.00	12.00
MESCULIN MIX, RED,CA, 3LBS	6.00	6.50
MINT, FL, 1/2 CRT, 12 CT	10.00	14.00
MUSHROOM,ENOKI,PA,12-3.5OZ	18.00	19.00
MUSHROOM, OYSTER,PA,3 LBS	13.00	13.25
MUSHRM,SHITAKE,PA,LG,3LB	14.00	15.00
ONIONS, BOILERS, SM, 25 LBS	7.00	7.00
ONIONS, YELLOW, NY, 50 LBS	14.00	14.00
ONIONS, YELLOW, NY, 10-5LB	17.00	17.00
ONIONS, RED PEARL	15.00	17.00
ONIONS,WHITE PEARL,12-10OZ	15.00	17.00
OREGANO, FL, 1 LB BAG, 12	8.00	9.00
PARSNIPS, MED, MI,18-1 LB	20.00	22.00
PEARS,D'ANJ,ORG,#1,WA,80	62.00	62.00
PEPPR,BELL,ORG,GHS,ISR,5LB	32.00	32.00
POTATO, RSST, #1, ID, 70-90	18.00	18.50
RHUBARB,GHSE, NLD, 5KG	54.00	54.00
SQUSH,BTNT,PLD,NY,12/20OZ	18.00	18.00
STRAWBS, FL, 8-1LB	30.00	30.00
SWT POT, MS, 40 LBS	14.00	16.00
SWISS CHARD, CA, 12	16.00	20.00
TARRAGON, FL, 1 LB BAG, 12	10.00	10.00
TURNIP TOPS GRNS, GA, 12	13.00	15.00
WNTRCRSS,GHS,ORG,PA,2.2LB	13.00	16.00
SUNFLOWER, LGE, PA, 5	6.50	7.50
SUNFLOWER, LGE, NE, EACH	.85	1.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, January 25, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	42.00	50.00
61-75 lbs.	85.00	100.00
76-90 lbs.	110.00	112.50
91-105 lbs.	115.00	117.50
106 lbs. & up	120.00	122.50
Farm Calves	125.00	127.50
Starter Calves	52.00	55.00
Veal Calves	n/a	n/a
Open Heifers	55.00	80.00
Beef Heifers	113.00	120.00
Feeder Steers	80.00	110.00
Beef Steers	106.00	127.00
Stock Bulls	n/a	n/a
Beef Bulls	95.00	105.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	.01	.02
Sows	.05	18.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	5.00	35.00
Sheep	130.00	180.00
Lambs	125.00	240.00
Goats each	140.00	335.00
Kid Goats	100.00	125.00
Canners	up to	78.00
Cutters	79.00	84.00
Utility Grade Cows	85.00	90.00
Rabbits each	5.00	10.00
Chickens each	5.00	35.00
Ducks each	5.00	16.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.44	1.60
LARGE	1.38	1.52
MEDIUM	1.20	1.33

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	2.10	2.27
LARGE	2.03	2.15
MEDIUM	1.51	1.68
SMALL	.96	1.06

USDA WHOLESALE EGG PRICES

All prices per dozen or as noted.

Certified Organic		
BROWN, XLG	2.61	3.60
BROWN, XLG, 1/2	1.80	1.95
BROWN, LGE	2.30	3.50
BROWN, LGE, 1/2	1.71	1.91

USDA RETAIL EGG PRICES

CAGE-FREE		
BROWN, LGE	2.99	3.59
OMEGA-3		
WHITE, XLG	2.50	2.99
WHITE, LGE	1.32	2.99
VEGETARIAN-FED		
BROWN, XLGE	2.59	2.99
BROWN, LGE	2.49	2.99

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.

9-R. CT Boot and Shoe offers top quality American Made work boots and shoes. Redwing, Thorogood, and Carolina brands. Free shipping in Connecticut. CT Boot, 33 River Street, Thomaston. Mention this ad to save \$20.00. 860-283-2385.

11-R. 72 x 30 x 12 (high) foot hi-tunnel for sale. Lots of extra parts. 203-387-3055.

12-R. Six hoop houses – 28 x 96. Garage doors also available. Call 203-484-9708.

13-R. Modine Effinity93 propane heater Model PTC-215 for greenhouse. 215,000 BTU, with support kit. In box, never used. \$2,600.00. 203-457-1304.

16-R. Two wood splitters for sale: 48" "Brute" (mfd.'d Ludlow, VT) 3ph-PTO w/table. \$1,800.00. 26" JD #32, 3ph, live hyd. \$500.00. Call 860-267-4341.

WANTED

7-R. Maple Lane Farms is a hydroponic grower of produce for the retail and food service markets. Due to increased demand from our customers, we are seeking greenhouse owners to grow our products on a contract basis. If interested, call 860-227-8786.

10-R. Orange Community Farmers' Market: Vendors Wanted – Bee Products; Cheese Monger; Fruits; Fish & Shellfish; plus, Artisanal Food Products. Market begins June 2016. If interested, please call Paul Grimmer – 203-891-1045.

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-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

8-R. FREE Off grade potatoes for animal feed in East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pick up.

CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

14-R. Lease Opportunity: Fully equipped, actively operating, PYO-Retail-Wholesale fruit orchard in central Connecticut. Thirty groomed acres of apples, pears, peaches, and nectarines with busy country store. An excellent long term opportunity. For more details call 203-213-8833.

15-R. Boulder Knoll Community Farm, Cheshire, looking for Farm Manager for small scale, sustainable 75 shareholder CSA farm. Farm Manager responsible for all aspects of operation. Visit www.friendsofboulderknoll.com/hiring for more info.

VEGETABLE CROP PESTS WORKSHOP

The Fairfield County Agricultural Extension Council will present a workshop on vegetable crop pests on Tuesday, February 16, from 1-4 pm at the Fairfield County Extension Center, 69 Stony Hill Road, Bethel.

The workshop features Jude Boucher of UConn Extension and Joan Allen of UConn's Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture.

The workshop will cover the following vegetable groups: alliums, asparagus, basil, brassica, chenopods, cucurbits, legumes, lettuce, solanaceous, sweet corn, and umbelliferae.

Commercial vegetable crop growers may receive 3 pesticide credits for attending. A registration fee of \$20 can be paid at the door in check or cash. Pre-registration is suggested, to register call 203-297-2249 or visit <http://fcaec.org>

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Saturday, increasing the number of vendors, improving the merchant mix and creating a new stream of customers previously not able to shop at the market due to the day and hours.

ESSEX - \$5,000 to promote the Ivoryton Farmer's Market, which since its launch four years ago on the Village Green has greatly increased its customer base and more than doubled the number of vendors to about 20.

The market is sponsored by the Ivoryton Village Alliance, a group of local business owners, in conjunction with the town of Essex.

Organizers attribute the growth to marketing and promotion of the weekly market, including on social media, and plan to use the grant to purchase a large market banner and distribute posters and flyers in town and surrounding communities.

FARMINGTON - \$15,000 to replace the roof of a vegetable barn at town-owned Sub Edge Farm, which sits on 27 acres of open space and farmland on Town Farm Road purchased by the town in 2002.

The town leases the land and adjacent parcels to Rodger and Isabelle Phillips, who grow heirloom and specialty vegetables, small fruit, flowers, and herbs using sustainable and organic farming methods, as well as raising heritage breed poultry, cattle, sheep, and goats.

The mission of the farm, which runs a 150-member CSA, is to provide the local community with nourishing food, to encourage stewardship of the land, and to strengthen the local economy. Replacing the barn roof is critical for adequate crop storage and proper food safety.

GLASTONBURY/WIND HILL COMMUNITY FARM & LEARNING CENTER - \$5,300 to establish a composting facility at the small non-profit community farm and garden founded in 2010 to promote Connecticut farms, environmental stewardship and healthy lifestyles.

The composting system will allow expansion and more efficient management of working fields, the farm's CSA, and expanded support for the 30-bed community garden.

LEBANON - \$16,000 to procure property appraisals and/or surveys for farmland preservation projects that may not qualify for state-funded programs.

Funds will also be used to support and promote the Lebanon Farmers' Market, and to publish and circulate a town-wide agricultural newsletter that will be sent to all 3,100 residents to inform them of agricultural issues and to reach out to farmers who may be interested in preserving their land.

MYSTIC/ DENISON SOCIETY INC. - \$3,955 to generate increased awareness of the Denison Farmers' market in Mystic, Stonington, Groton and surrounding communities. The project will use print media, direct mail and radio, and the market's social media site will be enhanced with videos taken at the market, held since 2008 at the historic Denison Homestead on the Mystic River.

Organizers also plan to hold events throughout the season such as cooking demonstrations by local chefs, a corn roast, and demonstrations of historical methods of food preparation.

NORTHEAST FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION - \$4,785 to promote five farmers' markets it coordinates in

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Brooklyn, Danielson, Plainfield and Putnam. The marketing campaign in print, radio and Internet is designed to educate residents on the health, financial and community-based benefits of purchasing locally produced agricultural products.

The Association hopes to increase customer participation in the farmer's markets by 20-percent over the next three years, as well as increasing the number of participating vendors by 20-percent.

NORWICH - \$42,100 to purchase of a walk-in freezer and industrial food processor that will allow a coalition of schools in Norwich, New London and Groton to increase the purchase and distribution of Connecticut Grown produce.

The schools will share staff time, vehicles, processing equipment and storage space in order to purchase and process at least six Connecticut Grown crops to serve in 27 school cafeterias throughout the school year.

The freezer and food processor will be installed in the processing kitchen at the Mahan Elementary School in Norwich to expand a Farm to School program that began there in 2013.

Funds also will be used to run a marketing campaign in the cafeteria, on social media and home to parents that will highlight Connecticut Grown crops.

SOUTHBURY - \$3,500 for marketing, cooking demonstrations, recipe cards and e-mail service for farmers at the town's farmer's market on the town hall green.

Market organizers say an integral part of the success of the 8-year-old market are popular weekly cooking demonstrations by market manager Sara Blesch, who uses ingredients from the market to create variety of gourmet-inspired dishes.

Samples are given out at the demonstration and accompanied with a corresponding recipe card, and vendors report increased sales on the items that are featured in the demonstration that day.

VOLUNTOWN - \$6,172 to the Voluntown Economic Commission for promotion of the town's farmers' market on Main Street and \$9,235 to the Board of Education to expand and improve gardens tended by students at Voluntown Elementary School.

The school garden, created in 2014, provides students with experience in planning, planting, harvesting and

composting.

Grant funds also will be used to install irrigation and a storage shed at the garden.

WESTON - \$8,531 for improvements at the 42-acre Lachat Town Farm, which offers farming and environmental educational experiences for all ages.

Funds will be used for equipment and materials to create a children's garden at the popular 42-bed community garden, where children will plant and harvest their own crops.

February 12, 2016

12:00 - 4:30pm

Snow date February 26, 2016

Suffield Regional Agriscience Center

at Suffield High School

1060 Sheldon Street

Suffield, CT

Please park on east side of the school.



Hastings Farm, Suffield, CT

Hear from these professionals:

Rachel Murray, CT Field Agent, Land For Good

Cam Weimar, Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture

Bob Parsons, UVM Extension Ag Economist

Kip Kolesinskas, Conservation Consultant

A FREE, interactive workshop designed for Connecticut farmers seeking to better understand the options, resources, and steps to transferring your farm business and/or farmland.

It's never too early—or too late—to plan for your future and the future of your farm. Join us for this free workshop for information on how to transition your farm to the next generation or owner. Learn about estate planning, lease arrangements, preservation options, and more.

Hear first-hand from a Northern Connecticut farmer, Susan Hastings, on her transfer planning efforts for Hastings Farm.

Established farmers and farmland owners of any age, as well as junior generation and beginning farmers are invited to attend. There will be time for individual assistance from professional advisors.

A free light lunch with local fare will be provided.

Come meet, eat and learn with your fellow farmers and farmland owners. **Reserve your seat today** by calling (603)357-1600 or online at landforgood.org/rsvp.

Registration is required.

Reserve your seat by February 8th!

Reserve your seat today at landforgood.org/rsvp

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. For more information contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

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**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**
www.CTGrown.gov 860-713-2500

Commissioner steven.reviczky@ct.gov	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2501
Agricultural Development linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov	Linda Piotrowicz 860-713-2503
Regional Market linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov	Linda Piotrowicz 860-666-3699
Farmland Preservation cam.weimar@ct.gov	Cameron Weimar, Ph.D. 860-713-2511
Regulation & Inspection bruce.sherman@ct.gov	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
State Veterinarian mary.lis@ct.gov	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Aquaculture david.carey@ct.gov	David Carey 203-874-2855
Agricultural Report Editor steve.jensen@ct.gov	Steve Jensen 860-713-2519