

# Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

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



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
November 1, 2016



**Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky joined Governor Dannel P. Malloy and other state and local officials at a New Britain reservoir last week to announce that Connecticut is under a Drought Watch for the first time and to urge residents to conserve water.**

## ***STATE'S FIRST-EVER DROUGHT WATCH ISSUED, RESIDENTS, FARMERS ASKED TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE WATER USE WHEN POSSIBLE***

After a drought watch was issued last week for the first time ever in Connecticut, Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky and other state officials are advising residents and farmers to be mindful of their water consumption and to limit unnecessary water usage when possible.

Paired with historically warm temperatures, precipitation in Connecticut ranged from 60 percent to 73 percent of normal conditions between June and September.

Drinking water reservoirs have continued to decline, and average levels statewide were at less than 80 percent of normal as of the end of September, with some reservoirs less than half full.

Statewide, average precipitation is about 25 inches below normal over the past three years. The Drought Watch applies to counties in western and central Connecticut, including Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, and Torrington Counties.

The Drought Watch – a step in severity above a drought advisory that had been in effect since June –

was issued by the Connecticut Interagency Drought Workgroup, which is requesting residents, businesses and local governments in these counties to voluntarily reduce their water use by around 15 percent.

The Drought Advisory announced in June will remain for New London and Windham Counties, where residents, businesses, and local governments are asked to reduce usage by around 10 percent.

“While we can’t control the weather, we can control our own personal usage of water,” Gov. Malloy said at a news conference announcing the Drought Watch held at one of the City of New Britain’s municipal reservoirs, which is at about one-third its normal level. “This situation calls on all of us to employ a common-sense approach to preserving water.”

Commissioner Reviczky said the drought’s impact on the state’s nearly 6,000 farms varied widely, depending on location and whether certain farms are equipped with some form of irrigation.

***(Continued on Page 3)***

**LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY**

Avg. Dressing

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	54.00	59.00
boners 80-85% lean	52.00	59.00
lean 88-90% lean	50.00	55.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	100.00	104.50
Choice 2-3	96.0	102.50
Sel 1-2	91.00	96.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	92.00	96.00
Ch 2-3	85.00	90.00
Sel 1-2	79.00	84.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	97.00	102.00
Ch 2-3	92.00	98.00
Sel 1-2	85.00	90.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 120-128 lbs	75.00	75.00
No 1 94-118 lbs	90.00	101.00
No 1 90-92 lbs	72.00	72.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
50-60 lbs	210.00	220.00
60-70 lbs	197.00	217.00
70-80 lbs	180.00	207.00
90-110 lbs	172.00	190.00
110-130 lbs	150.00	170.00
110-130 lbs	155.00	177.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	77.00	102.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	105.00
160-200 lbs	55.00	90.00
200-300 lbs	50.00	72.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	175.00	200.00
130-180 lbs	210.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	235.00	240.00
150-250 lbs	270.00	290.00
150-250 lbs	320.00	340.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION**

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	50.00	56.00
	300-400 lbs	49.00	55.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	45.00	49.00
	300-400 lbs	38.00	40.00
Sows, US 1-3	400-500 lbs	26.00	31.00
	500-600 lbs	28.00	32.00
Boars	200-350 lbs	21.00	30.00
	350-700 lbs	10.00	12.00

**VT RETAIL BEEF PRICES**

Grass Fed Beef - price per lb.

TENDERLOIN	15.00	28.00
BONELESS DELMONICO	10.00	22.69
BONE-IN RIBEYE STEAK	12.75	17.00
NY STRIP	13.50	24.25
PORTERHOUSE	12.00	22.75
T-BONE	12.00	20.50
FLANK STEAK	6.00	15.00
SKIRT STEAK	6.65	15.00
LONDON BROIL	7.00	12.00
SHORT RIBS	4.50	11.75
RIB ROAST	12.00	17.00
SIRLOIN TIP ROAST	7.00	16.50
BOTTOM ROUND ROAST	4.05	12.00
BRISKET	5.88	13.75
HAMBURGER	4.50	9.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLE, CORTLAND, XFANCY, 72	31.00	31.00
APPLE, CORTLAND, XFANCY, 80	30.00	32.00
APPLE, CORTLAND, XFANCY, 88	31.00	31.00
APPLE, CORT, CTN, LOOSE	26.00	30.00
APPLE, HNYCRISP, XFNCY, 72	65.00	70.00
APPLES, HNYCRISP, XFNCY, 80	65.00	70.00
APPLES, HNYCRISP, XFNCY, 88	65.00	70.00
APPLE, HNYCRISP, CTN, LOOSE	55.00	55.00
APPLES, MCINTOSH, LOOSE	25.00	26.00
APPLE, MC, FCY, 2-1/2MIN, 12-3LB	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, FANCY, 120, 140	19.00	19.00
APPLE, MACOUN, CTN, LOOSE	35.00	35.00
APPLE, MACOUN, XFNCY, 72	36.00	36.00
APPLE, MACOUN, XFNCY, 88	34.00	34.00
APPLE, MACOUN, XFNCY, 100	32.00	32.00
BEANS, CRANBERRY, BU	45.00	45.00
BEETS, GOLD, LOOSE, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
BEETS, RED, LOOSE, 25 LBS	6.00	7.00
BROCCOLI, CROWN, TRIM, 20 LB	12.00	14.00
BROCCOLI, BUNCHED, 14	11.00	14.00
CABBAGE, 50 LBS	12.00	15.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, 50 LBS	15.00	15.00
CAULIFLOWER, FLTJKTPAK, 9	12.00	14.00
CAULIFLOWER, FLTJKTPAK, 12	16.00	16.00
CHIVES, 1 LB BUNCHED 12	10.00	11.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	21.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	22.50
COLLARDS, BUNCHED, 12	12.00	14.00
CRANBERRIES, 24-12 OZ	27.00	28.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9, FANCY	15.00	15.00
EGGPLANT, CHINESE, 1/2 BU	24.00	25.00
EGGPLANT, THAI, 20 LBS	15.00	16.00
KALE, BUNCHED, 12	12.00	15.00
LEEKS, CTN, BNCHED, 12 BN	18.00	18.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LB, LOOSE	20.00	21.00
PARSNIPS, 18-1 LB	21.00	23.00
PEPPERS, GREEN, FAIR, 1-1/9	8.00	8.00
PEPPERS, GREEN, 1-1/9	12.00	15.00
PIE, SMALL, 1-1/9	15.00	16.00
PIE, SMALL, 24" BIN	150.00	175.00
PIE, M-L, 36" BIN	250.00	300.00
RADISHES, 24 BUNCHES	13.00	14.00
SQUASH, ACORN, BTTNT, 1-1/9	12.00	15.00
SQUASH, ACORN, BUTNT, /LB	.90	1.25
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9	12.00	12.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9	12.00	18.00
TOM, GHSE, CHRRYONVINE, 5 LB	10.00	10.00
TOMATO, GHSE, CHRY, 8-10 OZ	20.00	24.00
TOMATO, GHSE HEIRLM, 25 LB	23.00	25.00
TOMATO, GHSE, VINERIPE, 25LB	15.00	15.00
TURNIPS, PURPLE TOP, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
TURNIP, WHITE CAPE, 1-1/9	32.00	32.00

**WHOLESALE NORTHEAST POTATOES**

\$ per unit.

RED, 50 LBS	15.00	15.00
RUSSET, #1, 50, 60	13.00	14.00
RUSSET, #1, 50, 60, 70	13.00	14.50
RUSSET, #1, 80	13.00	14.00
RUSSET, #1, 90	13.00	14.00
RUSSET, #1, 100, 120	11.00	12.00
WHITE, RND, CHEF, 50LB	11.00	12.00
YELLOW #1, CHEF, 50LB	16.00	17.00
YUKON GOLD, 50 LBS	20.00	20.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT - October 31, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	35.00	40.00
61-75 lbs.	50.00	53.00
76-90 lbs.	55.00	57.50
91-105 lbs.	58.00	61.00
106 lbs. & up	62.00	65.00
Farm Calves	67.50	70.00
Starter Calves	45.00	50.00
Veal Calves	90.00	130.00
Open Heifers	95.00	103.00
Beef Heifers	103.00	108.00
Feeder Steers	82.50	105.00
Beef Steers	70.00	78.00
Stock Bulls	80.00	120.00
Beef Bulls	79.00	82.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	n/a	n/a
Sheep each	90.00	240.00
Lambs each	115.00	210.00
Goats each	95.00	230.00
Kid Goats each	155.00	320.00
Canners	up to	59.50
Cutters	60.00	63.00
Utility Grade Cows	64.00	68.00
Rabbits each	3.00	14.00
Chickens each	4.00	12.00
Ducks each	5.00	13.00

**NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA**Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white  
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.70	.88
LARGE	.64	.78
MEDIUM	.52	.65

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**Per doz. Grade A brown in  
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.17	1.27
LARGE	1.07	1.19
MEDIUM	.69	.80
SMALL	.51	.59

**USDA- NATIONAL TURKEY PARTS**Bulk meat & frozen unless noted. \$ per lb. as of  
October 31, 2016. Domestic trading only.

DRUMSTICKS, TOM	.57	.60
DRUMSTICK, TOM, FRESH	.50	.50
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	.27	.29
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	.44	.44
NECKS, TOM	.23	.25
BREAST, B/S, TOM-FRSH	2.15	2.15
THIGH MEAT-FRESH	1.18	1.22

**USDA- NORTHEAST TURKEY RETAIL**

Retail supermarket prices to consumers. \$/lb.

HEN, FROZEN	.58	1.99
TOM, FROZEN	.58	1.99
DRUMSTICKS	.99	1.99
BREAST, BONELESS	4.99	4.99
TENDERS	5.99	5.99
WINGS	.99	1.99

**(Continued from Page 1)**

Some dairy farms have for months been forced to truck in water to supply their herds, Reviczky said, noting that on average a dairy farm can require up to 50 gallons a day per cow.

"Farming is never easy, and this year proves that," he said at the New Britain news conference. "But Connecticut's farm families have done well despite the lack of water."

Reviczky said many vegetable and fruit farms now employ drip irrigation systems, which deliver water directly to the soil and use much less water than a traditional broadcast-spray system.

The Department has grants available to assist farms in converting to drip irrigation.

Unlike a Storm Watch that is issued when bad weather is possible, a Drought Watch means that the state is already experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions.

A decision to issue a Drought Watch is based on an assessment of indicator data monitored by state and federal agencies, including precipitation, stream flows, groundwater levels, reservoirs status, soil moisture, vegetation, and fire danger conditions.

This data is available to the public on the Interagency Drought Workgroup's website:

<http://www.ct.gov/waterstatus/site/default.asp>

While this is the state's first Drought Watch, lower-level Drought Advisories were previously declared in 2002, 2007, 2010, and earlier this year.

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99-R. Lynn Blackmer, Nationwide Farm Master Certified Agent, Woodstock, CT. Farm, commercial, life insurance, and more. Cell: 860-377-8947 to see how Nationwide compares.

The Drought Workgroup consists of state officials from the Dept. of Public Health, Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection, Dept. of Agriculture, Office of Policy and Management, and the Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

It will continue to monitor conditions across the region and will provide updates as needed.

Other officials who spoke at the news conference included Robert Klee, Commissioner of the Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection; Dept. of Public Health Commissioner Raul Pino; Dept. of Administrative Services Commissioner Melody Currey and Erin Stewart, Mayor of New Britain.

Governor Malloy has directed the Dept. of Administrative Services to review and implement areas where water usage among state government facilities can be reduced.

Residents and businesses served by public water suppliers are urged to follow any advice or requests from their supplier and municipalities, as conditions will vary across the state.

Residents and businesses supplied by groundwater wells should be aware of any local ordinances in place regarding water usage restrictions, and should conserve water to reduce the potential stress on their wells, neighboring wells, and on the environment.

To date, 20 water companies have requested voluntary conservation or imposed mandatory restrictions. A continually updated list of these water companies is available on the Department of Public Health's website:

<http://www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp>

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115-R. Screened or unscreened leaf compost in quantities from 5 to 5,000 cubic yards. Also screened topsoil and topsoil and topsoil/compost mix (50/50). We will custom blend on orders over 50 yards. Growers be sure to ask about discount for large volume users. We also carry a full line of landscape mulch, Premium and colored. Supreme Forest Products, Southington, CT 06489. 860-485-1636.

**WANTED**

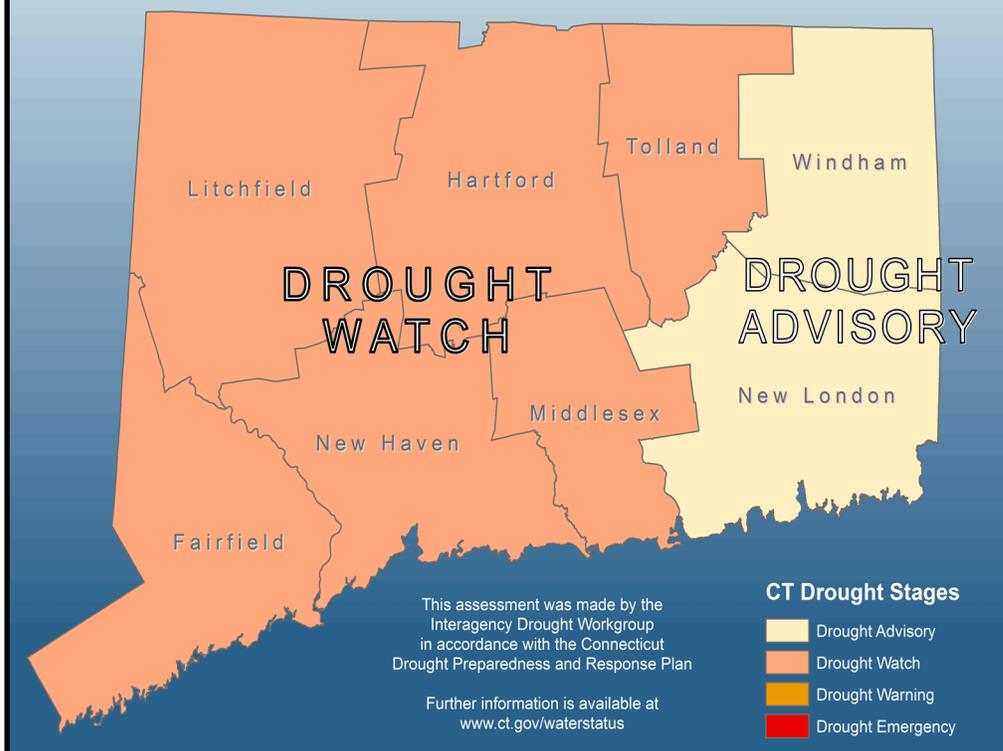
105-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/softwood, especially sugar maple/white oak. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

**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.

111-R. Bulldozing in E. CT. Need water call Don Kemp. Will dig farm ponds any size. Lots of experience. 860-546-9500.

## Connecticut Drought Declarations October 26, 2016



### Listed below are the environmental conditions that, as of October 2016, support the current drought declarations, pursuant to the Connecticut Drought Response and Preparedness Plan:

- **Precipitation:** three cumulative months below 65% of normal
- **Groundwater:** four to five consecutive months below normal
- **Stream Flow:** four out of five months below normal
- **Drinking Water Reservoirs:** criteria not triggered
- **Palmer Drought Severity Index:** -3.0 to -4.0 or less (severe to extreme drought)
- **Crop Moisture Index:** criteria not triggered
- **Fire Danger:** criteria not triggered

### USDA DECLARES CONNECTICUT DROUGHT DISASTER AREA, OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated Hartford, Litchfield and Tolland counties in Connecticut as primary natural disaster areas due to losses caused by the recent drought.

Farmers in Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham counties in Connecticut also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

Farmers in Berkshire, Hampden and Worcester counties in Massachusetts and Dutchess County in New York also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on Sep. 29, 2016, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met.

Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses.

FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Additional information is also available online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

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#### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE [www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov) 860-713-2500

Commissioner <a href="mailto:steven.reviczky@ct.gov">steven.reviczky@ct.gov</a>	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2501
Agricultural Development <a href="mailto:linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov">linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov</a>	Linda Piotrowicz 860-713-2503
Regional Market <a href="mailto:linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov">linda.piotrowicz@ct.gov</a>	Linda Piotrowicz 860-566-3699
Farmland Preservation <a href="mailto:cam.weimar@ct.gov">cam.weimar@ct.gov</a>	Cameron Weimar, Ph.D. 860-713-2511
Regulation & Inspection <a href="mailto:bruce.sherman@ct.gov">bruce.sherman@ct.gov</a>	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
State Veterinarian <a href="mailto:mary.lis@ct.gov">mary.lis@ct.gov</a>	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Aquaculture <a href="mailto:david.carey@ct.gov">david.carey@ct.gov</a>	David Carey 203-874-2855
Agricultural Report Editor <a href="mailto:steve.jensen@ct.gov">steve.jensen@ct.gov</a>	Steve Jensen 860-713-2519