

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

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



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Sept. 29, 2015



Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky and a group of area farmers stand behind Stacia and Fred Monahan at a press conference held Tuesday at their Shelton farm to mark the passage of a law requiring stricter labeling of products being marketed as Connecticut Grown. The Monahans were instrumental in getting the bill passed in the last legislative session.

EVENT AT SHELTON FARM RECOGNIZES PASSAGE OF NEW CONNECTICUT GROWN LAW

By Steve Jensen, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

SHELTON – Next to fields where they grow 200-plus acres of vegetables for sale at farmers' markets throughout the region, Stacia and Fred Monahan today hosted a ceremony marking passage of a new law that brings increased integrity and scrutiny to use of the Connecticut Grown label.

The Monahans, owners of Stone Garden Farms, advocated for the creation and passage of the bill, which mandates that all produce and value-added farm products sold at farmers' markets as Connecticut Grown must be accompanied by a sign listing the name and address of the farm or business where the product was grown or made.

The event was attended by Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky and more than a dozen farmers who turned out to support the new law, which takes effect Oct. 1.

"The best part about this for me is that you really can make

a difference if you take the time and effort to get involved in government," Stacia Monahan said as she stood at a podium with a sweeping view of crop fields behind her. "Instead of complaining about things not being fair and not going the way you want them to go, you need to get involved and find the people to help you make the change."

The bill was part of the Dept. of Agriculture's legislative package last session, and was passed unanimously by the General Assembly.

Reviczky said the change is intended to ensure the integrity of the Connecticut Grown brand, both for the benefit of consumers and producers.

"It's a great advance," the Commissioner said in his remarks. "It's important for farmers, and it's important for consumers that when they spend their dollars on Connecticut Grown, they're receiving Connecticut grown products."

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PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	88.00	96.00
boners 80-85% lean	88.00	93.50
lean 88-90% lean	81.00	89.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	n/a	n/a
Ch2-3	128.00	136.00
Sel1-3	123.00	132.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	118.00	123.00
Ch2-3	113.00	118.00
Sel1-2	104.00	110.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm	127.00	132.00
Ch2-3	122.00	126.50
Sel2-3	116.00	121.00
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 110-125 lbs	260.00	300.00
No 1 90-110 lbs	275.00	325.00
No 1 80-90 lbs	325.00	360.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional	Markets:	
Ch/Prime 2-3		
50-60 lbs	214.00	214.00
60-70 lbs	232.00	250.00
80-110 lbs	188.00	200.00
110-150 lbs	174.00	182.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
120-160 lbs	80.00	90.00
BUCKS		
160-200 lbs	60.00	137.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.		
No test.		
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel1, by head, est.		
130-180 lbs	200.00	235.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1		
150-250 lbs	325.00	375.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

All prices per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	56.00	61.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00	57.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	47.00	55.00
	300-400 lbs	41.00	48.00
Sows 1-3	300-500 lbs	35.50	38.00
	500-700 lbs	41.50	46.50
Boars	200-300 lbs	28.00	34.00
	400-650 lbs	7.00	9.00

HAY

New Holland, PA - per small square

Grass Hays			
	Premium	300.00	370.00
	Good	260.00	290.00
Alfalfa			
	Good	190.00	220.00
Alfalfa/Grass			
	Premium	270.00	290.00
	Straw	230.00	270.00
Corn Fodder			
	Large Square/Rounds	110.00	145.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLES, CORTLAND, BU, NG	22.00	22.00
APPLES, EMPIRE, XFCY, BU	24.00	24.00
APPLES, GALA, US FNCY, LOOSE	22.00	22.00
APPLES, GALA, XFCY, BU	25.00	30.00
APPLES, GINGRGLD, USFCY	20.00	22.00
APPLES, HONEYCRISP, FCY, BU	45.00	45.00
APPLES, MACINTOSH, FNCY, BU	18.00	20.00
APPLES, MACOUN, BU, NG	28.00	28.00
APPLES, SPENCER, BU, NG	22.00	22.00
BEANS, GREEN, HND PKD, BU	19.00	24.00
BEANS, WAX, HND PKD, BU	20.00	35.00
BEETS, GOLDEN, 25 LB LOOSE	22.00	22.00
BROCCOLI, CRWN CUT, 20LBS	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 50LBS	14.00	16.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, 40 LBS	18.00	20.00
CARROTS, BUNCHED, 24	10.00	10.00
CAULIFLOWER, 12	18.00	20.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GAL	18.00	18.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	20.00	22.00
CORN, 5 DOZ	15.00	16.00
CORN, ORNMENTL, 3/BNCH, 20	40.00	40.00
CORN, STRWB, BLUE, 3/BNCH, 20	28.00	30.00
CORN, STALKS, 10-12/BNCH/EA	3.25	3.25
EGGPLANT, JAPN, 1/2 BU	12.00	15.00
EGGPLANT, PRPLE, 1-1/9	10.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, WHITE, 1/2 BU	12.00	15.00
GRAPES, CONCORD, 8-1QT	25.00	25.00
KALE, 12 COUNT	12.00	19.00
LEEK, 12 BUNCHES	18.00	20.00
LETTUCE, HYDR0PONIC, 12 CT	15.00	15.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LBS	23.00	25.00
PEACHES, 1/2 BU	15.00	20.00
PEARS, BOSCH, 4/5 BU	28.00	30.00
PEARS, SECKLE, 1/2 BU	15.00	20.00
PEPPERS, BELL, GRN, LG, 1-1/9	10.00	18.00
PEPPERS, CHRRYHOT, 25LBS	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, FRYERS, 1-1/9	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, JALAPENO, 1/2 BU	14.00	14.00
PEPPERS, LONG HOTS, 1-1/9	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, RED, 20 LBS	20.00	20.00
PEPPERS, YELLOW, 20 LBS	15.00	15.00
POPCORN BNCHED 20- 3S	28.00	30.00
PLUMS, PRUNE, 1/2 BU	20.00	24.00
PUMPKIN, HOWDEN, 36" BIN, M-L	150.00	200.00
PUMPKINS, MINIS, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, 24" BIN, LGE	150.00	150.00
POTATO, RUSSET, US1, 70/50 LB	13.00	15.00
POTATO, RNDWHT, US1, 10-5LB	12.00	12.00
POTATO, YELLOW, 50 LBS	20.00	20.00
PUMPKINS, FACE, PER LB	.20	.20
PUMPKINS, HOWDN, SM, 1/2 BU	18.00	20.00
PUMPKINS, HWDNWH, 24" BIN	285.00	285.00
PUMPKINS, MINI, 1/2 BU	15.00	16.00
PUMPKINS, PIE, 24" BIN	150.00	175.00
SQUASH, ACORN/BTTNT, 1-1/9	12.00	16.00
SQUASH, GRN, YEL, 1/2 BU	10.00	15.00
TOMATOES, #1, 25 LBS	30.00	30.00
SWISS CHARD, 12 COUNT	15.00	18.00
TOMATOES, CHERRY, 12-1PT	20.00	25.00
TOMATOES, HEIRLOOM, 10LB	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, PLUMS, 25 LBS	15.00	15.00
WATERMELON, 4-5 COUNT	15.00	15.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, September 28, 2015

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	55.00	65.00
61-75 lbs.	125.00	140.00
76-90 lbs.	230.00	235.00
91-105 lbs.	240.00	245.00
106 lbs. & up	250.00	255.00
Farm Calves	260.00	265.00
Starter Calves	50.00	60.00
Veal Calves	125.00	180.00
Open Heifers	130.00	170.00
Beef Heifers	128.00	131.00
Feeder Steers	125.00	140.00
Beef Steers	100.00	135.00
Stock Bulls	155.00	200.00
Beef Bulls	114.00	125.00
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	42.50	100.00
Sheep	130.00	330.00
Lambs	65.00	80.00
Goats each	60.00	220.50
Kid Goats	20.00	37.50
Canners	up to	88.75
Cutters	89.00	92.00
Utility Grade Cows	93.00	97.00
Rabbits each	3.00	15.00
Chickens each	3.00	20.00
Ducks each	2.00	7.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	2.04	2.24
LARGE	1.98	2.12
MEDIUM	1.57	1.70

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	2.68	2.75
LARGE	2.57	2.64
MEDIUM	1.87	1.97
SMALL	1.03	1.13

NE WHOLESALE-ORNAMENTALS

Mums, 6", ea	2.10	2.10
Mums, 9", ea	3.20	3.20
Mums, 12" ea	10.00	10.00
Mum, 12" Hanger, ea	10.00	10.00
Straw, Std Bale, ea	7.50	7.50
Straw, Mini Bale, ea	5.00	5.00

USDA HONEY REPORT

September 22, 2015

RETAIL		
1 LB	9.00	12.00
1 QT	18.00	20.00
WHOLESALE		
Nat/Raw, per lb	2.50	2.80

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. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

96-R. Wooden apple boxes 1 1/9 bu, 2000, \$4/each. 1/2 bushel baskets, \$4/each. Call Doug 860-657-4172.

101-R. Christmas Greens: Quality wreaths and roping. Many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

103-R. Manure spreader. New Holland Model 185. Tandem with composite floor. Hydraulic tailgate. Excellent condition. \$5,200.00. Call 203-269-9070.

104. Free range pullets, just starting to lay. \$10.00 each. Ed Binder, Westbrook. 860-399-6407.

105-R. Wholesale apples for sale-Macoun, MacIntosh, Corland, and Red Delicious. Best Prices. Call Mike at 860-712-2919.

106-R. Christmas trees- Wholesale Douglas Fir, 6.5' – 8.5', Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden. 203-248-1018.

WANTED

85-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

99-R. Help Wanted- Greenhouse Manager. Successful, fast-growing hydroponics operation located in Cheshire is currently seeking a qualified individual to join our team on a year round basis. The successful candidate will possess prior greenhouse experience working in a demanding, fast paced environment. This individual will have a strong attention to detail, the ability to prioritize on a daily basis, and management skills necessary to motivate and lead teams of workers on a project basis. In addition, the innate sense of getting plants to grow optimally is essential. Salary is commensurate with experience. If interested, please contact Allyn Brown at alyn@maplelane.com

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-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

97-R. Wanted: Working Orchard Manager and passionate person for family owned orchard in Central Connecticut. We grow apples, pears, peaches and nectarines, for pick-your-own, wholesale and our store. Call for details. 203-213-8833.

102-R. Help wanted, looking for someone for help/partnership for cheese making/ice cream production and distribution of the products in the Storrs, eastern Ct area. Call 860-428-9502.

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Wyman, who presented the Monahans with a copy of the bill, said: "It's important that we protect the work of farmers and the reputation of Connecticut Grown products," Wyman said, "and today we celebrate the legislation that will do just that."

Reviczky credited the Monahans for bringing to the forefront what they saw as unfair competition from farmers who use the Connecticut Grown label on products grown out-of-state.

"They work very hard," Reviczky said. "They turn the soil, they plant the seed, they cultivate and harvest their crops and bring them to market. And there are many, many farmers who work just as hard, and we should give them credit for what they grow."

The new law pertains only to produce or products labeled Connecticut Grown. Products grown or produced in Connecticut or within a 10-mile radius of the point of sale may be labeled as native, native-grown, local, or locally-grown.

The changes in the law will be reflected in Connecticut Grown pricing signs issued free to growers and producers by the agriculture department.

A space for the name and address of the farm or business is now included on the 5-by-7-inch signs, which also bear the Connecticut Grown label and logo.

Producers also may make their own sign containing the required information. The new law increases the fine for violators from \$25 to \$100, and first-time violators will typically receive a warning.

Inspectors from the agriculture department will conduct random checks of farmers' markets for compliance, as well as respond to complaints.

Fred Monahan said he was pleased that the bill not only requires more transparent labeling of products, but increases the authority of the agriculture department to take action against violators.

"It means a lot to us," he said. "It will give us a level playing field at farmers' markets and it means we don't have to compete with someone who's making believe that they did the hard work. Now there's a law and that's a great start."

New pricing signs may be obtained by calling 860-713-2503, or through the following link to the department's website,

[CTGrown.gov:](http://www.ct.gov/doag)

http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/marketing_files/price_card_fillable_order_form.pdf

Complaints about use of the Connecticut Grown label may be directed to the Bureau of Regulation and Inspection at 860-713 2504.



USDA EXTENDS DAIRY MARGIN PROTECTION PROGRAM DEADLINE

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the deadline to enroll for the dairy Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016 has been extended until Nov. 20, 2015.

The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating farmers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

“The fall harvest is a busy time of the year for agriculture, so this extension will ensure that dairy producers have more time to make their choices,” said Vilsack. “We encourage all operations to examine the protections offered by this program, because despite the very best forecasts, markets can change.”

Vilsack encouraged producers to use the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Agency Service (FSA) online Web resource at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool to calculate the best levels of coverage for their dairy operation. The secure website can be accessed via computer, smartphone or tablet.

He also reminds producers that were enrolled in 2015 that they need to make a coverage election for 2016 and pay the \$100 administration fee. Although any unpaid premium balances for 2015 must be paid in full by the enrollment deadline to remain eligible for higher coverage levels in

2016, premiums for 2016 are not due until Sept. 1, 2016. Also, producers can work with milk marketing companies to remit premiums on their behalf.

To enroll in the Margin Protection Program for Dairy, contact your local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Payments under the program may be reduced by a certain percentage due to a sequester order required by Congress and issued pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Should a payment reduction be necessary, FSA will reduce the payment by the required amount.

The Margin Protection Program for Dairy was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer.

Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.



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