

# Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

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



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
July 2, 2014



**Jim McCaw tedding hay on the historic Lebanon Town Green, the only one in Connecticut still used for agriculture by him and other property owners abutting the mile-long expanse. McCaw recently decided to convey his farm's development rights to the state under DoAg's Farmland Preservation Program.**

## **PROTECTION OF FARMS TO BE ACCELERATED THROUGH DOAG'S FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

*By Steve Jensen, Office of DoAg Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky*

The fire that burned their dairy barn to the ground on the third day of summer 2000 effectively ended the milking operation that had been in the McCaw family since 1959.

Owner Jim McCaw turned to raising hay and a few dozen beef cattle as he and other family members debated the long-term fate of the 158-acre farm abutting the historic Lebanon Town Green.

Over the years, attractive offers from homebuilders and even a golf course developer drifted in and out. But late last month, the family decided that they would keep the farm in production forever by selling its development rights to the state under an agreement with the town and the Department of Agriculture's (DoAg) Farmland Preservation Program (FPP).

The main motivation for the decision was to prevent houses from sprouting up in the crop fields, and to leave the timeless vista from the Green unspoiled.

"I always thought it would be a shame to see rooftops out here in the fields," McCaw said this week as he finished up harvesting the season's first cut of hay, including about 10 acres grown on the Green itself.

Under a centuries-old agreement, property owners along the Green are given cultivation rights to the hay grown there. The town's allegiance to its rich agricultural history is also evidenced

by its partnership in several FPP transactions, including McCaw's.

The farm was once owned by Jonathan Trumbull Jr., son of Connecticut's Revolutionary War Governor, who also served as Gen. George Washington's secretary during the war and later became governor himself.

The McCaw property is one of six across the state that have been protected this year under the FPP, which soon will reach milestones of 300 preserved farms encompassing 40,000 acres since its inception in 1978.

The program allows farmers to convey development rights to the state, but still own and work the land. Owners also may convey their land to others, but a permanent deed restriction assures the property will remain only in agriculture.

DoAg Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said he is accelerating use of the program with the goal of protecting approximately 30 farms over the next two years. Reviczky recently reached an agreement with federal agricultural officials that gave DoAg access to \$8 million in reimbursement funds from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**(Continued on Page 3)**

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

		Low	High
49-54	200-300 lbs	85.50	91.00
	300-400 lbs	76.00	81.00
54-58	200-300 lbs	92.00	97.00
	300-400 lbs	82.00	86.00
Sows,US1-3	300-500 lbs	60.00	68.00
	500-700 lbs	71.00	74.50
Boars	400-720 lbs	39.00	43.00

**PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS**

Lancaster, PA, per cwt. June 18

		Low	High
Gr US 1	WT 20-40	310.00	360.00
	WT 50-75	235.00	250.00
	WT80-100	175.00	175.00
GR. US 2	WT20-50	285.00	330.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT, June 23, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	46.00	52.00
61-75 lbs.	60.00	72.00
76-90 lbs.	195.00	205.00
91-105 lbs.	210.00	215.00
106 lbs. & up	220.00	225.00
Farm Calves	230.00	240.00
Starter Calves	50.00	60.00
Veal Calves	90.00	155.00
Open Heifers	150.00	152.50
Beef Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Heifers	110.00	115.00
Feeder Steers	145.00	150.00
Stock Bulls	145.00	150.00
Beef Bulls	128.00	130.00
Boars	1 at	10.00
Sows	1 at	84.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	85.00	320.00
Kid Goats	60.00	175.00
Canners	up to	107.00
Cutters	108.00	111.00
Utility Grade Cows	112.00	115.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	40.00
Chickens each	3.00	30.00
Ducks each	2.00	20.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Lambs	100.00	250.00
Sheep	40.00	90.00

**EASTERN, PA HAY**

average price per ton

	PREMIUM	GOOD
ALFALFA	205.00-300.00	160.00-160.00
MIXED	205.00-390.00	150.00-195.00
TIMOTHY	200.00-220.00	155.00-400.00
STRAW		100.00-250.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
RHUBARB,20LB	28.00	35.00
ARUGULA,4LB	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES 25LB LG	20.00	21.00
SPINACH,1 1/9BU	12.00	12.50
CHIVES,1LB	8.00	8.00
CORN,5DZ	20.00	20.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1QT	30.00	32.00
CILANTRO,30'S	14.00	14.00
SQUASH,YELLOW,FCY,1/2BU	10.00	16.00
SQUASH,YELLOW,MED,1/2BU	8.00	12.00
SQUASH,GREEN,FCY,1/2BU	10.00	14.00
SQUASH,GREEN,MED,1/2BU	8.00	9.00
PEA,SUGAR,10LB	20.00	20.00
PEA,ENGLISH,BU	45.00	48.00
PEA,SNOW,10LB	20.00	20.00
BROCCOLI CROWNS,20LB	14.50	15.00
DILL,24'S	18.00	18.00
MINT,12'S	8.00	12.00
PARSNIPS ,25LBS	21.00	23.00
RADISHES 1/2BU	18.00	18.00
KALE,12'S	12.00	14.00
BEAN,FAVA,BU	45.00	45.00
LETTUCE,RED LEAF,24'S	12.00	12.00
LETTUCE,GREEN LEAF,24'S	12.00	12.00
ROMAINE,24'S	12.00	12.00
SWISS CHARD,12'S	18.00	18.00

**WHOLESALE CUT FLOWERS  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

CORNFLOWER,BNCHD 25,	7.50	7.50
GERBERA,PER STEM	1.25	1.25
LILIES, BNCH,ASIATIC	12.50	12.50
LILIES,2-4 BLMS,ORIENTAL	20.00	20.00
LISIANTHUS,BNCHD 10	16.50	16.50
PEONY,PER STEM,SEMI-DBL	2.50	4.00
SNAPDRGON,BNCHD 10	13.50	13.50
SNAPDRGON,BNCHD 10 SHRT	7.50	8.00

**USDA WEEKLY RETAIL BEEF PRICES  
NORTHEAST USA, PER LB., CHOICE**

	Low	High
BNIN RIBEYE STEAK	6.99	10.99
STEW MEAT	3.99	4.99
T-BONE STEAK	8.99	8.99
PORTERHOUSE STEAK	8.99	8.99
SIRLOIN STEAK	5.99	5.99
LONDON BROIL	1.99	4.98
FILET MIGNON	15.99	15.99
GROUND BEEF,80-90%	3.69	3.39
TOP ROUND STEAK	3.59	4.99

**PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY**

Average Dressing

	Low	High
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	100.00	104.75
boners 80-85% lean	96.25	100.75
lean 85-90% lean	92.75	97.25
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 95-120	251.25	294.75
No 2 95-120lbs	225.75	259.50
No 3 80-120lbs	170.75	224.25
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	148.00	153.50
Ch2-3	143.00	147.00
Sel1-2	137.50	141.75
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	150.25	154.50
Ch2-3	146.50	149.75
Sel	143.00	145.75
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm2-3	132.50	135.00
Ch2-3	127.00	130.00
Sel2-3	122.50	125.75
VEALERS	41.50	77.75
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	190.00	194.00
50-60lb	182.00	208.00
60-80lbs	n/a	
80-110lbs	181.00	200.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	62.00	74.00
120-160lbs	54.00	62.00
Bucks		
150-200lbs	65.00	82.00
200-250lbs	54.00	74.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est.		
20-40lb	n/a	
40-60lb	132.00	152.00
60-80lb	174.00	205.00
80-100lb	180.00	195.00
Nannies/Does: 100-110lbs	182.00	202.00
130-160lbs	180.00	212.00
Bucks/Billies: 130-150lbs	225.00	285.00
150-190lbs	225.00	290.00

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

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

	1.15	1.19
XTRA LARGE		
LARGE	1.13	1.17
MEDIUM	.99	1.03

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

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

	1.58	1.67
XTRA LARGE		
LARGE	1.53	1.62
MEDIUM	1.27	1.36

## ADVERTISEMENTS 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.

56-R. Tomato stakes, tomato twine, fence boards, custom cut lumber. Staehly Products Co. LLC. 860-873-9774.

83-R. Proven breeder 2 year old 7/8 Boer buck throws beautiful, healthy kids every time. \$400.00. 203-494-8408.

85-R. GOATS, Savanna/Boer does. Kiko/Savanna doeling and bucklings. Call 860-537-1974.

89-R. Brillion Seeder 3 PH, 5'6" wide. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cut baled hay. Conveyor for wood, hay or whatever, like new, 20' long. Call 203-843-1771.

90-R. Ford 1979 F350, 43,601 miles. Auto-460-V8. 7x11 Steel Plate body, \$2,500. 860-644-1454.

91-R. JD 4400 Combine with 4 Row Corn Head, \$8,500. JD 435 Round Baler, \$6,000. 860-678-0704, 860-930-3373.

92-R. Equipment for Sale- South Glastonbury Kuhn/Knight side discharge manure spreader, Used for compost only, One owner. JD 6605 Hi-Crop Mudder tractor 4 wheel drive 110 HP 250 hours, Like new. Lilliston 2 row cultivator on tool bar with centering coulter. I&J 4 row S tine cultivator with liquid side dress tanks and crop shields- one owner. Brillion trailer type spike tooth harrow with hydraulic lift. Haines vegetable washer- rebuilt. JD 7000 Maxi-Merge planter- 4 row. New finger pickups and bean cups. Insecticide boxes included. JD model 45 seven (7) foot scraper blade- one owner. JD 444 corn head. Amish built field picking conveyor- hydraulic powered- one owner. Phil Brown apple bin dumper. True Cooler- sliding glass door cooler. Waxed vegetable boxes new on pallets. Two piece Tomato Boxes new on pallets. Cedar fence posts. Galvanized tube gates. Plant trays - 50/72/144 cells new and used. Greenhouse tables- 8x 4 wire covered. Turkey Nesting Boxes- 2 and 4 nest boxes. Farm Stand- movable on skids-8x16 feet. George 860-918-5442 or email inquiries to george.m.purtill@snet.net

94. Deutz Fahr KH 500 2 Row Tetter. Used last year, \$1,700. 203-996-4520.

95. Horse drawn equipment. Plows and cultivators. Ideal for "Lawn Ornaments" 203-509-3742.

96. 2 Black Angus Heifers, 15 months old. Allis Chalmers Backhoe, excellent condition. 203-264-1185.

97-R. Angus-Hereford Cross Heifer, A.I. Sired. Born March 2013. \$1,200. 860-889-2294.

99-R. JD 330 Round Baler nice. 1140 Pequae Rake new, \$6,500. JD 6405 2WD with loader. JD 4520 \$8,500. JD 730 Wide front \$7,500. PTO generators 20,000 KW. NH 575 baler with thrower \$10,000. NH 565 baler. JD 456 Round Baler net wrap silage special. Case IH RBX 442 Round Baler. NH 311 Baler \$4,000. 203-530-4953.

100-R. Farm for sale in Bristol. 13 acres-32X36 barn and outbuildings. 1940 farmhouse with 3 bedrooms. City sewer and well water (city water available). Pasture fenced, 2 brooks. 860-635-1376.

102. Canton-Historic post & beam Colonial on 11 acre mini-farm. Barn and outbuildings. Perfect for horses, livestock & vegetables. \$469,000. Call Clint Charter, 860-558-3908. Wallace Tustin Tetreault Realty.

103. Sickie mower. 6' Dearborn 3pt. Good condition. \$300.00. 860-875-8056.

104. Gravely sickie bar mower. Good condition. \$200.00. 860-875-8056.

105. Gravely Model L. Walk behind tractor. Electric start. Good condition. \$450.00. 860-875-8056.

106. Gravely sulky. Good condition. 860-875-8056.

## DOAG TO ACCELERATE USE OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

(Continued from Page 1)

"Every farm and every farm family is unique," Reviczky said. "But what every one participating in this program have in common is a desire to protect important farmlands in perpetuity, and we are making every effort to help them do just that."

Another 350 acres of Lebanon farmland also was protected by the state last month through a joint effort by DoAg, the town and the CT Farmland Trust involving three properties owned and formerly farmed for dairy by the Williams family.

Those transactions bring the total amount of protected farms in Lebanon to 32, covering more than 4,000 acres.

Williams Farm 1 comprises 65 acres and a cluster of agricultural buildings on the north side of Goshen Hill Road. Once the largest working dairy farm in town, the Williams family sold its herd in 2008 and most recently leased the land to a local dairy farmer who keeps a small herd and raises corn and hay.

About 48 acres of the site contain prime and statewide important soils. The property also houses four barns of between 5,000 and 33,000 square feet, two large garages, a workshop, and a concrete silage bunker and silo.

It is adjacent to the 219-acre Szajda Farm that was protected under the FPP in 2011. Directly across Goshen Hill Road is Williams Farm 2, an 88-acre property that is nearly all prime and statewide important soils.

The third Williams property is a 203-acre parcel on the east side of Route 87 near the intersection with Route 207. That site contains about 147 acres of prime and statewide important soils, as well as 28 acres of locally-important soils.

It is also adjacent to the 57-acre Cyr Farm, which was protected by the CT Farmland Trust in 2010. The land has been in agricultural production since the early 1900s, and the northern half was used as a topsoil and gravel mine for many years.

Lebanon First Selectman Joyce Okonuk said protection of both the McCaw and Williams farms is a significant accomplishment that further demonstrates the town's dedication to continuing its extraordinary agricultural legacy.

"These farms are invaluable historical and agricultural resources," she said. "Our entire community should be proud that this collaborative effort will ensure that these properties will continue to be productive and protected from future development."

The other farms protected so far this year under the FPP are:

- **Charter Farm: Egypt Road, Ellington and Somers Road (Route 83), Somers**

The 81-acre parcel straddling the Ellington/Somers line has been farmed by the Charter family since the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Considered to be perhaps the oldest dairy farm in the area, it more recently has been known as Charter Acres Beef, where owners Peter and Verena Charter raise and sell free-range beef, as well as cultivate hay and straw. About 64 acres are prime and statewide important soils.

(Continued on page 4)

## 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.

101-R. Greenhouse space available for lease in Guilford. 75,000 sq. ft. glass houses can divide into 25,000 sq. ft. sections. Excellent access to I-95. Call Tom at 203-885-6885.

## WANTED

86-R. 3 pt hitch fertilizer spreader, pto driven, metal or poly. Please call 203-213-8833.

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



Above, Jim McCaw with some of the 600-pound bales of hay cut from his farm in Lebanon, where (left and below left) hay is still cultivated on the Town Green.

(Continued from Page 3)

The town of Ellington also was a partner in the transaction through a bond authorization approved by voters.

- **Maddox Farm: Maddox Road, Bethlehem**

A 53-acre property, also known as Sun One Organic Farm. It had been in dairy production from the 1890s to the mid-1980s and more recently has grown organic vegetables, herbs and fruit, with a portion leased to another farm to raise hay. Approximately 31 acres are prime and statewide important soils. The site also includes a 2,400 square-foot storage building, a garage, three silos and several small outbuildings. It is the third farm in town preserved under the FPP. Owner Robert Maddox Jr., said in his FPP application that he wants to ensure that “the farm is permanently protected for future generations to use for food production.”

Jim McCaw says he isn’t exactly sure who will take over his Lebanon farm when he finally retires. Two of his grandchildren who are involved in farming in another part of the state might be interested, and there is no shortage of local farmers willing to lease his property to raise crops.

But for now, he will still be busy raising beef cattle and growing hay that he sells to other farmers and to horse owners all over the state.

“I’m 78, and a half-day of work feels like a full day now,” he said with a chuckle. “I’ve done my time. But the plan is to keep doing what we’re doing as long as we can until it’s time for somebody else to take over.”



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