



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503
Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor
Wednesday, December 10, 2008

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES NEW LOW-INCOME SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

By Frank L. Ribaud, Director, Animal Population Control Program
The Department of Agriculture (DOAG) recently announced the start of a new program, which intends to further reduce the surplus companion pet population in Connecticut. The new program is part of the agency's Animal Population Control Program (APCP), which plans to help low-income citizens by providing vaccination/sterilization vouchers for their owned pets. The expansion is the result of the 2007 passage of Public Act No. 07-105; titled An Act Concerning the Expansion of the Animal Population Control Program.

Connecticut residents, who qualify for one of six low-income programs as outlined by the new legislation, will need to complete and submit a Low-Income pet sterilization application to the APCP. Approved individuals will be eligible to receive up to three (3) vouchers per household per year. The APCP will dedicate 10% of its FY 2008 income to the new program, which is expected to be between \$40,000 and \$60,000.

The APCP has provided vaccination/sterilization benefits to more than 50,000 municipal pound pets since the program's inception in 1995, which has helped to reduce euthanasia by 50% and the number of impounded pets by one-third. Also for the third year in a row, the program has provided benefits to approved non-profit organizations for the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats. More than \$130,000 has been provided to help approximately 1600 feral cats receive benefits.

For more information about the new Low-Income or Animal Population Control programs, please call (860) 713-2507, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or go to the agency's web site at www.ct.gov/doag.

USDA'S INTERIM FINAL RULE AMENDS COMPOSITION, RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Notice of 60-day Public Comment Period on Rule
Published in Federal Register

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist for Connecticut, Douglas Zehner, has announced the release of the interim final rule for State Technical Committees. The rule amends requirements regarding the composition and responsibilities of these advisory committees nationwide.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) expands agricultural and forestry involvement in the committees, expands the committees' authority to review local working groups' efforts to address state program priorities, and requires the Secretary of Agriculture to standardize committee operations nationwide. The interim final rule is available for public comment and can be found at the following websites: NRCS national webpage (www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farbill/2008/interimrules.html), www.regulations.gov (keyword state technical committee), and the Federal Register (http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getpage.cgi?position=all&page=71521&dbname=2008_register).

Public comments must be submitted by Jan. 26, 2009. Comments will be used to revise the interim final rule, which establishes policy for State Technical Committees. USDA will publish a final rule that will address public comments.

"As State Conservationist for NRCS," said Zehner, "I chair the advisory State Technical Committee in Connecticut. Members include agricultural producers and other federal, state, Tribal and non-profit organization professionals that represent various disciplines in the soil, water, wetland, plant, forestry and wildlife sciences. The committees meet regularly and advise me and other USDA officials on technical considerations related to implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Grasslands Reserve Program, and Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program."

"The committee advises me on other technical matters, technical guides, criteria for evaluating projects, cost-share and incentives payment levels, and measures related to achieving a program balance regardless of agricultural sector or farm size, as well. They also make recommendations on strategies to reach underserved customers," said Zehner.

"The committee accepts recommendations from subcommittees, including local working groups, as we establish natural resource priorities for Connecticut," Zehner said.

Mailed comments on the interim final rule can be submitted to the Director of the Conservation Technical Assistance Programs Division, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 6015-S, Washington, D.C. 20250-2890.

MORE FINAL RULE ON PAGE 4

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.

December 8, 2008

Prices To Retailers, Sales To Volume Buyers,
USDA Grade A and Grade A, White Eggs In
Cartons, Warehouse, Cents Per Dozen

EXTRA LARGE	114-118
LARGE	113-117
MEDIUM	82-84

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, December 8, 2008

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	24.00	32.00
61-75 lbs.	34.00	38.00
76-90 lbs.	39.00	42.00
91-105 lbs.	44.00	46.00
106 lbs. & up	48.00	50.00
Farm Calves	53.00	62.00
Started Calves	26.00	34.00
Veal Calves	53.00	85.00
Open Heifers	46.00	68.00
Beef Heifers	47.00	65.00
Feeder Steers	45.00	74.00
Beef Steers	47.00	76.00
Stock Bulls	42.00	74.00
Beef Bulls	48.00	64.00
Replacement Heifers	1 @	1025.00
Boars	6.00	38.00
Sows	32.00	35.00
Feeder Pigs each	60.00	62.50
Sheep each	45.00	80.00
Lambs each	65.00	155.00
Goats each	70.00	132.50
Kid Goats each	55.00	80.00
Canners	Up to	42.75
Cutters	43.00	47.75
Utility Grade Cows	48.00	51.75
Rabbits each	6.00	16.00
Chickens each	5.00	23.00
Ducks each	3.00	7.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

**The Auction will be open on Monday
through the holidays as usual.**

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008

Bulk/High/Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers	75-80% lean		
	41.00-44.00	44.00-45.75	38.00-41.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	38.00-41.00	41.00-43.00	34.00-38.00
Lean	85-90% lean		
	34.00-38.00	38.00-41.50	30.00-34.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2

1000-1665 lbs	62.00-67.00
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SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3	
50-60 lbs	156.00-164.00
60-70 lbs	150.00-156.00
70-80 lbs	140.00-152.00
80-90 lbs	138.00-148.00
90-110 lbs	137.00-144.00
110-130 lbs	126.00-138.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5lb	10.00	11.00
APPLE CIDER, 9-1/2 gallons	16.00	16.00
APPLES, Cortland 100ct exfcy	22.00	22.00
APPLES, Spenser bu no grade	16.00	16.00
APPLES, McIntosh, Fancy US#1 100ct	17.00	17.00
APPLES, McIntosh 12 - 3lb bags	16.00	18.00
APPLES, McIntosh 80 ct exfcy	24.00	26.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10lb bag	5.00	6.00
BEETS, 25lb organic	26.00	28.00
CABBAGE, Red Organic 40lb	38.00	38.00
CHIVES, 1lb	8.00	8.00
CRANBERRIES, 24/12oz	34.00	35.00
PARSNIPS, 18/1lb	18.00	19.00
PARSNIPS, 25 lbs	20.00	21.00
POTATOES, Russet 5's	11.00	11.50
POTATOES, 10lb	2.40	2.60
POTATOES, Round White Chef 50lb	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, Acorn 1-1/9 bu med/	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Acorn Organic 35lb	29.00	29.00
SQUASH, Butternut 1-1/9 bu med/lg	18.00	19.00
SQUASH, Butternut Organic med	29.00	29.00
SQUASH, Delicate Organic 35lb	38.00	38.00
SQUASH, Spaghetti 30lb Organic	31.00	31.00
TOMATOES, 15lb on vine Greenhouse	17.00	17.00
TURNIPS, White Cape 1-1/9 bu	23.00	23.00
TURNIPS, Purpletop 25lb Organic	32.00	32.00
SHIPPED IN		
ARRUGULA, 3lb bag FL	12.00	12.00
ARTICHOKES, 24's CAL	24.00	24.00
BROCCOLI, bunched 14's CAL	12.00	14.00
CABBAGE, Green 50lb	6.00	8.00
CHERRIES, xl sz CHILE	35.00	39.00
CLEMENTINES, 5lb CA	5.50	5.50
LETTUCE, Iceburg 24's CAL	16.00	18.00
PEPPER, Bell Red Greenhouse 5kg CAN	18.00	18.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are sold by
the head, on estimated weights.

Kids: 30-40 lbs	62.00-82.00
40-50 lbs	70.00-100.00
50-60 lbs	94.00-110.00
60-70 lbs	110.00-130.00
Nannies/Does: 50-80 lbs	64.00-84.00
80-130 lbs	80.00-94.00
Bucks/Billies: 50-80 lbs	134.00-160.00
80-100 lbs	160.00-180.00
100-150 lbs	180.00-194.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon December 8, 2008

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by
hundred weight.

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	47.00-49.50
	270-300 lbs	46.00-49.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	44.00-47.00
	270-300 lbs	41.00-44.00
40-45	220-270 lbs	41.00-44.00
	270-300 lbs	38.00-41.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	40.00-44.00
	500-700 lbs	44.00-48

**METROPOLITAN AREA
U.S.D.A.**

NEW YORK PRICES

WHITE EGGS

TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,

Grade A eggs on:

December 8, 2008

EXTRA LARGE	122-126
LARGE	120-124
MEDIUM	89-93

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.



BOSTON

WHALING CITY SEAFOOD

DISPLAY AUCTION

FISH LANDINGS & PRICES IN

1,000 LBS & \$/CWT

DATE 12/5/08

SPECIES	MIN	HIGH	LBS
HADDOCK	1.5	110	165
HADD SCR D	9.0	76	137
JIG LGE COD	0.1	195	195
MKT	0.7	106	106
SCR D	0.1	92	92
GILLNET LGE COD			
	0.8	170	175
MKT	4.5	101	101
SCR D 1/	0.0	91	91
WHALE COD	0.0	218	218
COD LGE	0.9	170	218
MKT	6.7	99	107
SCR D	0.6	86	87
MIXED COD	1.0	71	80
POLLOCK	3.4	48	50
POLL MED	2.4	48	50
MIXED	0.0	36	36
CUSK	0.1	77	77
HAKE SOW	0.0	248	248
OCN PRCH	0.0	77	77
YT LGE	0.1	212	212
SML	0.8	159	159
DABS SML	0.1	181	181
SAND DABS	0.1	39	39
BB LGE MXD CHANNEL	0.0	170	170
SML	0.3	183	183
GREYSOLE LGE	0.0	1036	1036
MED	0.0	931	931
SML	0.2	365	365
MONKTAIL LGE	0.1	407	407
SML	0.1	330	330
WHOLE LGE MONK	0.0	140	140
MONK LIVERS	0.0	824	849
STAKE WINGS	0.0	51	51
SML	0.1	26	26
WHITING	0.0	58	58
MACKEREL	0.6	49	49

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323 or ddonahue01@comcast.net. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323 or ddonahue01@comcast.net, Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher High Tensile and portable electric fencing for farms, deer control, gardens. Sonpal's Power Fence (860) 491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm (860) 376-2227.

10-R. CT Grown Mesh Bags - The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has CT Grown Mesh Bags for sale. These bags are super strong and exceptionally attractive. The dimensions are 16" l x 5" w x 12" h. They are being sold by the case (40 per case) for \$156.16. For more information or to order, please call (860)713-2503.

209-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, stakes, custom and portable sawing available. (203) 788-2430.

213-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, kissing balls, roping, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. We deliver. (203) 457-1344.

227-R. Connecticut Grown Christmas trees. Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, Blue Spruce available. Buy fresh cut locally grown trees and save on freight. Dzen Brothers Farm (860) 648-1355.

250-R. 8ft Myers power angle snowplow with tire chains. Fits Farmall #544, 656, 666, etc. Factory built. \$900. (203) 265-6012.

257-R. John Deere B \$2,800; John Deere 60 all Restored \$4,800; Massey Ferguson 1260, 4wd, Loader, 895 Hours, \$12,500; New Idea Tedder 4217 \$2,200; Massey Ferguson GC2300 with Loader, 4wd, 400 Hours \$8,000; Allis Chalmers B with Mower \$2,500; John Deere 314 Mower and Snow Plow \$2,200; New Idea Manure Spreader \$4,500; All used equipment in very good condition, can be seen at Big Boy's Toys, LLC. Scenic Rt. 169 in Pomfret, CT. www.bigboystoysllc.net, or phone (860)-928-9778.

WANTED

248-R. Disc mower wanted: six to nine foot cut. Working or needs work. Call (860) 274-8473. Evenings.

254-R. JD 3940, 50, 60 or 70 corn chopper wanted, running or parts. Prefer 3960. Also wanted 1 or 2 point sub soiler. (860) 875-0280.

258-R. Used or new apple bins wanted - 15-20 bushel. Need 4-6 bins. Call (203) 272-6593.

MISCELLANEOUS

7-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.

8-R. Horse properties, Farms and Land. Ralph's the man specializing in all types of Real Estate. With a lifetime of agricultural and business experience he is the best choice to represent both buyers and sellers and make your dreams come true. Call Ralph Winn, Century 21 Alaimo & Corrado at (860) 648-6902 or www.winwithWINN.com.

233-R. We have buyers for land/farms suitable for horses. Can we sell yours? Check our track record at www.HorseCountryRealEstate.net. Patti Brooks 860-442-4237

237-R. Dairy Farmers: Fish Family Farm will pasturize and glass bottle your milk. Call Don Fish (860)646-9745

249. Up to 60,000sf of wholesale greenhouse space in Meriden. Multi truck loading dock. Easy highway access. Only \$1.25/SF. Call Clint Charter, Wallace-Tustin Realty 860-558-3908.

255-R. Hedgerows, drainage, ditches, fencelines, etc. Getting Overgrown? We have a solution. An excavator mounted brush mower with serious attitude. Capable of reaching that hard to get brush. Also, mulches trees 6"-8" diameter. Call for brochure or machine location for observation. (860) 875-0280.

256. Horse Lovers: We have a small farm in Southington for up to five horses. All box stalls, plus a riding rink, and almost 3 acres of pasture. Must have references and supply necessary insurance. Must maintain pasture and trim around fence and keep entire area clean. We reserve the right to refuse anyone who doesn't meet our qualifications. Rent if \$0 except for upkeep work that has to be done. Thomas Putnam (860) 628-0527.

RISK MANAGEMENT PURCHASE REQUIREMENT (RMPR) WAIVER FOR 2009 CROP YEAR

Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs Subject to the Waiver

Marsha B. Jette, County Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in New London today reminded nursery producers that in order to be eligible for certain disaster programs under the 2008 Farm Bill, producers must pay a "buy-in" fee for those crops that currently do not have a crop insurance policy and the sales closing date was August 14, 2008. The deadline to pay the "buy-in" fee is January 12, 2009.

"According to the 2008 Farm Bill, nursery producers in our area that did not meet the crop insurance coverage criteria can "buy-in" or be "waived in" to be eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program," said Jette.

To be considered to have obtained at least the minimum level of insurance under the SURE Program, a producer must obtain a plan of insurance with not less than 50 percent yield coverage at 55 percent of the insurable price for each crop grazed, planted, or intended to be planted for harvest on a whole farm. To be considered to have met RMPR, producers must pay a buy-in fee in an amount equal to the applicable CAT fee for those crops that currently do not have a crop insurance policy on or before January 12, 2009.

The buy-in fee for CAT is \$100 per crop, but not more than either of the following:

- \$300 per producer per administrative county
- \$900 total per producer for all counties.

For more information please visit your local USDA Service Center or FSA County Office. More information on disaster assistance programs is also available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

NORTHEAST SARE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Northeast SARE has launched a new website at nesare.org (please note there is no "www" prefix). The website has a new navigation structure and more resources for applicants and grantees. This new site is actually phase one of a two-phase effort to make information about SARE easier to access and understand. In the coming weeks new content that looks at SARE work on a state-by-state basis will be added.

In the meantime, Northeast SARE hopes you will visit the new site, bookmark it, and let colleagues and others in the community know that the new website had been launched.

LITERACY EVENT FROM CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

The Connecticut Ag in the Classroom in partnership with the American Tree Farm System has put together a program that targets children from second grade thru fourth grade with the book "The Tree Farmer". Partner organizations have provided materials, funding for books and product donations so there is not cost to the school. An envelope will be provided to each classroom teacher participating in this event.

For further information contact the state coordinator Eleanor Provencal at eleanore@ctaef.org.

FINAL RULE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Comments may also be faxed to (202) 720-2998 or emailed to STC2008@wdc.usda.gov.

People with disabilities who are interested in submitting comments may contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600. Comments may also be submitted through Regulations.gov's public comment feature.

For additional information about State Technical Committees, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/StateTech/.

NOTICE!

The Department of Agriculture will be ordering more Connecticut Grown Tents soon. These will be sold on a cost-share basis so the tents will be available for around \$200-\$225 (price to be determined). If you'd like one or more of the tents or if you have questions, please contact Rick Macsuga at (860) 713-2544.

EASTERN REGION MILK REVIEW

MADISON, WI. December 3, 2008 - Plants throughout the East report "decent" demand for bottled milk following the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Two factors cited are stores re-building inventories and schools re-stocking as classes resume. NORTHEAST milk production hit the annual low in late October to mid-November. Throughout the region, the low point of annual production was believed to be slightly below year earlier levels, according to several plant managers. Production has begun to increase, but reportedly is also slightly below increased production levels 1 year ago. MIDDLE ATLANTIC milk production has

been increasing. The increased post-Thanksgiving pull to replenish retail and school inventories has slowed milk going into balancing plants this week. Shipments into the SOUTHEAST dropped from 26 last week, to 0 this week, as farm milk production continues to increase seasonally. A manager commented that this was an interesting week for inward shipments to "zero", considering the higher post-Thanksgiving pull to replenish inventories. Even so, the relative balance is expected to remain smooth for the next couple of weeks, after which the typical shift to shipments out generally begins, sometimes quite sharply as occurred in late 2007, when shipments out jumped from 0 to 167 in the span of 1 week. FLORIDA production continues increasing, even with a record temperature low of 32 degrees Fahrenheit one day and a record Thanksgiving low in the high 30's in areas near Lakeland and Vero Beach. Production increased sufficiently to further reduce weekly shipments out of the state from 66 to 35.

Cream demand is uneven throughout the East. There is little churning except to meet contracts. The strongest current demand seems to be for institutional customers. Retail ordering following Thanksgiving has not yet generated any near finalized concept of what will be ordered for end of year retail holiday inventory. There is a strong "last push" to produce sour cream and egg nog for holiday inventories.

In the Northeast, production has resumed at a large ice cream plant, generating a significant regional demand for cream that is expected to continue through about the end of 2008. While multiples were generally near last week, the top of the range reported this week for cream spot prices significantly increased, driven by localized spot activity and timing that was not a widespread pattern in the region. Condensed skim spot market interest is very weak, motivating plants to dry, even at current prices.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers and addresses, etc., are counted separately. **Print or type copy.** Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come-first serve basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. **Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted.** Remittance with copy required. Make checks or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and mail to: Marketing - Ag Report Classifieds, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

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