



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

M. Jodi Rell, Governor
F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY (AS OF JUNE 22)

by Melanie Attwater-Young, Legislative Liaison

The 2009 regular legislative session adjourned, as scheduled, on June 3rd. As of the writing of this document (June 22, 2009) no budget, tax package or bonding have been passed. However, there has been several mitigation plans to stop the current gap for FY ending June 30th, 2009.

The Public and Special Acts below, passed this legislative session, are pertinent to the agricultural community or to subject matter under the purview of the Department of Agriculture (DOA). For the specific language for each Act you may use the Connecticut General Assembly website as a resource at <http://www.cga.ct.gov> or call contact the Department of Agriculture at (860) 713-2500 for assistance.

Public Act 09-2, An Act Concerning Deficit Mitigation Measures for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009 – (was passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Rell on February 25, 2009)

Section 1 reduces the DOA's category of "Other Expenses" by \$3,518 and also reduces by \$619, the shellfish monitoring program for the bacterial disease known as "Vibrio". This Public Act reduces the DOA's budget reductions by a total of \$4,137.

Section 24 of the Act appropriates \$4 million dollars to the dairy farmers of Connecticut for a one-time grant to support Connecticut's ailing dairy industry. (See Public Act 09-229 below for companion implementing legislation) (Effective date: April 1, 2000)

Public Act 09-9, An Act Renaming the State's Shellfish Research Vessel the "John H. Volk" - This Act renames the vessel used by the Department of Agriculture for research that helps maintain a strong shellfish industry in Long Island Sound. This vessel docks at the Bureau of Aquaculture office in Milford. For at least 20 years, the existing vessel (previously called the "Yankee Oyster") and any subsequent vessel that meets the same description must be name the "John H. Volk." (Volk was Bureau of Aquaculture Director for 21 years.) If the current vessel is removed from state service, the next most prominent vessel by size and use must also be named the "John H. Volk" until the state acquires a larger and more prominent research and surveying vessel (Effective date: upon passage).

Public Act 09-52, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Invasive Plant Council - Prior to the enactment of this law, a previous ban on adoption of municipal ordinances expired on October 1, 2005. This law reinstates said ban by prohibiting, from July 1, 2009 to October 1, 2014, municipalities from adopting ordinances regulating the retail sale or purchase of invasive plants. It allows such plants to be moved for specific purposes and makes other changes in invasive plant laws.

Current law bars people from importing, moving, selling, buying, transplanting, cultivating, or distributing any of 81 invasive plants. The changes

in current law enacted removes water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) from the existing list of invasive plants. It allows people to (1) move any of the remaining 80 plants for research, eradication, or educational purposes and (2) cultivate them only for research. It also bars anyone from moving (except for eradication, research, or educational purposes) importing, selling, transplanting, buying, cultivating (except for research purposes), or distributing any of the reproductive portions of a listed invasive species, including seeds, flowers, roots, and tubers.

The Act also essentially prohibits state agencies, departments, and institutions from buying an invasive or potentially invasive plant, but allows state agencies to transport these plants for educational, research and eradication purposes.

Under current law, director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station may prohibit or regulate the transportation of plants and plant material liable to carry dangerous pests and enforce other provisions of the law concerning plant and insect disease and infestation. The Act additionally authorizes the director or his designee to inspect nurseries and nursery stock for violations of the invasive plant laws. It also authorizes the agriculture commissioner to inspect pet shops for violations of the invasive plant laws. By law, the commissioner may issue orders to correct unsatisfactory conditions. (Effective date: July 1, 2009)

Public Act 09-173, An Act Authorizing Districts to Maintain Water Quality in Lakes, State Land Where Hunting is Permitted, the Establishment of A Marine Waters Fishing License and the Taking of Shellfish in Westport – This Act does the following: 1) creates a recreational saltwater sport fishing license (Effective date: June 15, 2009) and established associated fees for such license; 2) requires the funds generated from this new license to be used strictly for fish and game preservation and related activities (Effective date: upon passage); 3) prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection from reducing the amount of state land available for hunting without providing for an equal amount of land for hunting elsewhere in the state (Effective: upon passage); 4) allows towns, by vote of residents to establish a special taxation "district" with the ultimate goal of maintaining water quality in lakes, current law allows for the establishment of various "special districts" for the purposes of taxation, this Act adds lake water quality maintenance to the list of others reasons to establish such districts (Effective: October 1, 2009); and 5) eliminates prison as a potential penalty for illegally taking shellfish from the shores, beaches and flats at "Saugatuck Shores" in Westport an increases the fine for such illegal activity from \$25 to \$75 (Effective date: upon passage).

Public Act 09-180, An Act Preserving Certain Horse Trails – Requires the Department of Environmental Protection to allow or continue to allow

MORE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY ON PAGE 3

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.

July 6, 2009

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

EXTRA LARGE	64-65
LARGE	60-64
MEDIUM	51-53

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, July 6, 2009

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
76-90 lbs.	14.00	15.00
91-105 lbs.	16.00	19.00
106 lbs. & up	20.00	29.00
Veal Calves	85.00	155.00
Beef Heifers	57.00	73.00
Feeder Steers	50.00	80.00
Stock Bulls	60.00	67.50
Beef Bulls	45.00	55.00
Replacement Cows	1,100.00	1,350.00
Replacement Heifers	90.00	550.00
Feeder Pigs each	No	47.00
Lambs each	50.00	115.00
Goats each	52.50	122.50
Kid Goats each	47.50	67.50
Canners	Up to	44.00
Cutters	45.00	47.00
Utility Grade Cows	48.00	50.50
Rabbits each	5.00	17.00
Chickens each	4.00	18.00
Ducks each	5.00	16.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2009**

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Premium White	65-75% lean	55.25-57.75	52.00-53.00
Breakers	75-80% lean	52.00-54.50	55.50-56.25
Boners	80-85% lean	48.00-51.50	45.00-47.50
Lean	85-90% lean	44.00-48.00	48.50-50.00
		39.00-43.50	

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1

1015-2625 lbs 57.00-63.50

Bullocks: 735-1250 lbs 65.00-69.50

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3

50-60 lbs	130.00-138.00
60-70 lbs	125.00-146.00
70-80 lbs	126.00-140.00
80-90 lbs	122.00-142.00
90-110 lbs	121.00-134.00
110-130 lbs	124.00-136.00

Choice 2-3

40-50 lbs	116.00-134.00
50-60 lbs	120.00-131.00
60-70 lbs	118.00-132.00
70-80 lbs	118.00-134.00
80-90 lbs	110.00-128.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5lb	11.00	11.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10lb bag	5.00	5.00
BEANS, green bu CT	20.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, fiber/net pt 12/1pt	25.00	25.00
BLUEBERRIES, clamshell-12/1pt	20.00	20.00
CHERRIES, Bing 20lb	45.00	45.00
CHIVES, 1/lb 12/bunch	6.00	8.00
CILANTRO, 1/2 crate 24s	12.00	12.00
CORN, 5dz	20.00	22.00
GREENS, Mustard Crate	12.00	13.00
LETTUCE, Boston greenhouse 12/4oz	12.00	12.00
MINT, 1/2 bu	10.00	10.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb	21.00	21.00
PEACHES, 1/2bu 2 1/2 up	25.00	25.00
PEAS, English bu CT	30.00	30.00
PEAS, Snow 10lb CT	12.00	12.00
PEAS, Sugar snap 10lbs CT	15.00	15.00
POTATOES, Russet US one 50lb	12.00	12.00
SQUASH, Green 1/2 bu sm-med	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Yellow 1/2 bu med	11.00	14.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 20lbs lge	25.00	26.00

SHIPPED IN

ARRUGULA, 3lb NJ	13.00	13.00
BEETS 24ct SC	14.00	14.50
CABBAGE, green 50lb med DEL	12.00	14.00
CANTALOUPE, 9 ct AZ	15.00	16.00
CUCUMBERS, 1-1/9 bu med NJ	22.00	22.00
CUCUMBERS, Pickles bu med NJ	26.00	30.00
GREENS, Kale crate NJ	11.00	12.00
LETTUCE, Green Leaf 24's NY	8.00	9.00
LETTUCE, Red Leaf 24's NJ	8.00	13.00
NECTARINES, 25lb 64sz CA	20.00	22.00
ONION, Vidalia 40lbs jbo GA	24.00	25.00
ROMAINE, 24 ct NY	8.00	9.00
SPINACH, 4lb NY	8.00	9.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

**SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection
1, sold by the head, estimated weights.**

Kids: 30-40 lbs	48.00-52.00
40-50 lbs	50.00-64.00
50-60 lbs	64.00-82.00
60-70 lbs	78.00-93.00
70-80 lbs	93.00-106.00
80-90 lbs	95.00-112.00

Nannies/Does:

80-130 lbs	74.00-90.00
130-180 lbs	82.00-102.00

Bucks/Billies:

100-150 lbs	95.00-120.00
150-250 lbs	122.00-150.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon July 6, 2009

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

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	39.00-43.00
45-49	220-270 lbs	38.00-40.50
	270-300 lbs	36.00-38.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	18.00-22.00
	500-700 lbs	30.00-32.00

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

NEW YORK PRICES

WHITE EGGS

TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
Grade A eggs on:

July 6, 2009

EXTRA LARGE	69-73
LARGE	67-71
MEDIUM	58-62

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.

NEW BEDFORD

WHALING CITY SEAFOOD

DISPLAY AUCTION

SEA SCALLOPS LANDINGS &
PRICES IN 1,000 LBS

DATE 7/6/09 - PRICES INCLUDE
DEALERS FEES

SPECIES SEA SCALLOPS
LBS MIN HIGH

U/12 CHANNEL	0.5	700	700
U/10	1.1	800	800
10/20	0.8	615	655
20/30	2.6	650	675
U/10 GEORGES	2.2	845	845
10/20	30.0	645	700
U/10 MID ATL	0.2	765	765
U/12	2.3	710	710
10/20	2.8	615	615
20/30	8.1	25	640

NEW BEDFORD

WHALING CITY SEAFOOD

DISPLAY AUCTION

FISH LANDINGS & PRICES IN
1,000 LBS & \$/CWT

DATE 7/6/09 - PRICES INCLUDE
DEALERS FEES -

1/0 MEANS LESS THAN 100lb
LBS MIN HIGH

SPECIES	LBS	MIN	HIGH
COD LGE		1.9	118
MKT		15.4	62
SCRD		1.2	72
MIXED 1/		0.0	37
GILLNET LGE COD		0.1	133
MKT		1.9	82
SCRD		0.1	72
HADDOCK		9.7	107
HADDOCK SCR		34.9	62
POLLOCK LGE		13.7	72
MEDIUM		36.8	59
SCRD		4.9	62
WOLF		0.4	46
CUSK		0.1	43
HAKE SOW		0.3	265
LGE		0.8	99
MED		0.2	64
SML		0.1	45
OCN PRCH		1.9	37
YELLOWTAIL LGE		1.2	221
SML		0.2	200
DABS LGE		0.0	212
MED		0.1	189
SML		0.9	152

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. CT. Christmas Tree Growers, CT. Sheep Breeders and CT. Bee-keepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, 1-877-267-8323, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com.. 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, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com., 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.

50-R. Registered Scottish Highland cattle, smaller size, nearly miniature in frame size. \$400 to \$1,000. 860-599-3759.

76-R. Rough Sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing. 203-788-2430.

78-R. Hardwood tomato stakes, tobacco lath, horse fence, beams, rough lumber. Call 860-873-9774. Staehly Products Co.

99-R. Battery powered price computing scales with state compliance, battery powered cash registers, livestock truck scales. 1-800-403-5919.

101-R. Rough lumber; parts for Grimm hay tedders. Sylvan Tetrault 860-684-3458.

105-R. Hedge rows, drainage ditches, fence lines or any other hard to reach areas getting overgrown? We have the solution. An excavator mounted tree/brush mower capable of mowing 8"-12" diameters flush to the ground. Call for brochure or machine location to observe working or free demonstration on your site. (860) 875-0280 or visit Burkeridge.com Commercial Mowing Division.

106-R. John Deere tractor for sale, 3140, 4x4, w/cab, low hrs, \$19,500 obo. Good Condition. 203-671-1534.

111-R. 67 Massey Ferguson 2135 w/MF 100 loader, continental Z134, 540, 3ptw/draft control, new rubber. 203-457-1667.

115-R. Round 4x4 hay bales, dry, silage grass, alfalfa. Tightly plastic wrapped starting at \$45. 860-884-2889.

116-R. Hay for sale – off meadow in Lebanon. Round bales \$45. 860-886-0716.

117-R. Grass fed white Galloways for sale. The ultimate cattle breed for grass only performance. 860-886-0716.

121-R. Krone & Massey Ferguson Haying Equipment, Tedders, Rakes, Square and Round Balers, Disk Mowers and much more! Easy financing Available 0% on most equipment. Big Boy's Toys, LLC, Pomfret Center, CT 860-928-9778. www.BIGBOYSTOYSLLC.NET

122-R. Two creep feeders for sale, 6 ft. long, 900 lb capacity. Built to last by Frey Brothers, kept inside, no rust. \$600 each. 203-788-0978.

126. Hay, 1st cutting from last year. 400+ Bales \$5.00 per bale picked up in East Windsor, Del. Available

John Deere Hammer Mill for Feed, Belt Driven. Call Ralph Winn 860-550-5138

127-R. New 4-wheel hay rake, 3PH, never used - \$550. Call 860-274-8473.

130. Hardi Comby sprayer (160 gal) 3 pt hitch – excellent condition. Also irrigation pipe (40ft lengths). 860-653-3837.

131. J.D. tractor 4230 with bushhog – Leland with bucket – 95 box truck diesel. 860-301-1809.

132. White-faced Hereford feeder cattle. 860-668-2920.

133-R. Brush hog #306 heavy duty rotary mower, good condition. \$1,500. Hale irrigation pump, excellent \$1,250. 203-623-2956.

WANTED

104-R. Ever think of leasing your land? What if you could retain full use for farming? Established waterfowling group seeks land for seasonal use. Dedicated to wildlife conservation and habitat development. Exceptional references available from other Connecticut farmers. Contact Ken (860) 912-6109 or kperry.mjsullivan@snet.net

120-R. Wanted Hay Land - Prefer close to Ellington/South Windsor, CT but will consider travel for larger acreage. Also, looking for rye grass for straw. 860-559-3009

128-R. Discbine wanted, 3ph or tow behind. Working or non-working condition. Call 860-274-8473.

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.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FROM PAGE 1

equine use of 7 trails located in certain state parks and forests. The Act does not prohibit other recreational uses of said trails. The trails are located in: Larkin State Park, Airline State Park, Hop River State Park, Moosup Valley State Park, Huntington State Park, Natchaug State Forest, and Cockaponset State Forest (Effective date: upon passage).

Public Act 09-195, An Act Concerning Local Shellfish Commissions – Current law requires local shellfish commissions to prepare and periodically update a shellfish management plan which must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture (DOA). This Act clarifies current law by requiring such updates be made in writing to the DOA. As such, this change to current law makes updates to local shellfish management plans subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Current law allows for towns, cities or boroughs to establish a shellfish commission or join with other towns in establishing such a commission (Effective date: July 1, 2009). The Act also makes very specific changes regarding the transfer of an active commercial fishing license issued by the DEP (Effective date: upon passage).

Public Act 09-228, An Act Concerning A Pet Lemon Law and the Release of Rabies Vaccination Records to Animal Control Officers – Current state law allows for any consumer who purchases a dog or cat from a pet shop, if, within 15 days of the purchase of such animal, the animal dies or becomes ill that consumer may be eligible for, in the case of death of the animal, replacement of the animal or reimbursement of the full cost of such animal. In the case of illness, the consumer, under current law, may be reimbursed for up to \$200.00 in costs associated and with such illness. Such illness or death caused by an illness must be documented by a licensed veterinarian as being present at the time of sale. The Act extends time frame within which a consumer may act in the case of death caused by an illness or an illness that existed at the time of sale, from 15 days to 20 days, increases the medical costs from \$200.00 to \$500.00 and spells out that the veterinarian may be a veterinarian of the consumer's choosing.

The Act also adds a provision that, if, within six months of sale, any such dog or cat is diagnosed with a "congenital defect" that adversely affects or will adversely affect the health of such dog or cat, at the option of the consumer, replace the dog or cat or refund in full the purchase price of such dog or cat. The Act does not define "congenital defect". The medical costs provision for congenital defects is also set at \$500.00. However, the length of time for a consumer to act upon the congenital defect provision is 6 months rather than a limit of 20 days. The new law also adds a provision that a pet shop licensee shall not be subject to the obligations imposed by this act for the sale of a cat where such cat has been spayed or neutered prior to its sale.

Finally, the new law adds a requirement for a "certificate of origin" of any dog or cat offered for sale by a pet shop. The certificate must contain specific information that is to be included in the document and which must be conspicuously posted not more than 10 feet from the location where a dog is displayed. This certificate must also be submitted by the pet shop licensee, to the DOA not later than two days after the sale of the animal.

MORE LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY ON PAGE 4

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FROM PAGE 3

The Act also prohibits pet shop licensees from purchasing a dog or cat for resale from anyone located outside of Connecticut who does not have a current USDA license and any applicable state agency license. The Act establishes a maximum fine of \$100 for each violation by a pet shop licensee or imprisonment for not more than 30 days for each violation.

Public Act 09-229, An Act Concerning Milk Producers, Milk and Milk Products, Agricultural Not-For-Profit Organizations and the Modernization of Connecticut Fertilizer Law - The Act updates fertilizer law by replacing current law's provisions, which are based on a 1965 recommended model law from the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO), with the most recent AAPFCO recommended version.

The Act also creates an account to assist milk producers and funds it by temporarily increasing from the Act's effective date until July 1, 2011 the fee people pay, from \$ 30 to \$ 40, when filing documents with town clerks. It temporarily decreases the percentage from the total pool of funds generated by this fee that the DEP, the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism will receive that goes to certain programs and temporarily increases the percentage from the same pool amount the DOA receives for various agricultural programs. It requires DOA to use the majority of the funds for the milk producer grant program.

The Act removes nonprofit agriculture organizations as eligible for DOA's farm transition grant program. By law, the program provides matching grants for diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value added agricultural production and sales, and developing farmers' markets and other venues in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state. It adds these entities to those eligible for DOA's farm viability matching grant program. Under current law, farm viability matching grants may be used for (1) local capital projects that foster agricultural viability, including, processing facilities and farmers' markets, and (2) the development and implementation of agriculturally friendly land use regulations and local farmland protection strategies that sustain and promote local agriculture.

The Act also adds to the viability matching grant's purposes the development of new marketing programs and venues through or in which a majority of products sold are state grown.

This Act explicitly prohibits selling, offering to sell, bartering, or exchanging adulterated milk, milk products, or cheese (i. e. dairy products), and related activities. A first violation is an infraction and a second violation within one year is a class A misdemeanor. It exempts production of dairy products for personal consumption or consumption by immediate family members from its prohibitions.

The Act eliminates the DOA commissioner's option to adopt regulations that incorporate by reference the federal Pasteurized Milk Ordinance. It requires instead that all milk dealers processing, handling, storing, distributing, transporting, selling, offering for sale, bartering, or exchanging any dairy product comply with the sanitation, handling, storage, and processing requirements of relevant state milk and milk product laws and regulations.

Special Act 09-8, An Act Concerning the Preservation of State-Owned Agricultural Land - This Special Act requires the Farmland Preservation Advisory Board to review any state-owned agricultural land, excluding Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) land, to evaluate permanent preservation methods and make recommendations for further preservation action. This includes recommendations for (1) a conservation easement or possible transfer of the property's interest and (2) the identification of potential recipients of any resulting conservation easement.

Under the Act, the board may consider preservation methods that would result in an increase in state revenue. The board must consult with the agency that controls the applicable parcel when undertaking its land review. It may consult with (1) the Attorney General's Office to review legal options for permanently preserving each parcel or (2) DEP or federal agencies to help calculate the conservation values for each parcel.

The board must submit its recommendations to the DOA commissioner and the Environment Committee by Jan 15, 2010 (Effective date: upon passage).

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