



Connecticut Department of Agriculture

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F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner  
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Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

### FERAL CAT AND LOW INCOME PROGRAMS SCHEDULED TO RESTART IN FY 2010

By Frank L. Ribaud

Director, Animal Population Control Program (APCP)

Plans are underway for the restart of the feral cat and low-income programs for fiscal year 2010, which are part of the agency's Animal Population Control Program (APCP). The APCP has provided vaccination and sterilization benefits to more than 60,000 municipal pound animals, feral cats and pets owned by low-income Connecticut families since 1995. The feral cat program will begin its' fourth year and the low-income program is in its' second year.

"Though many services are being cut statewide because of today's economy, the Department is still committed to providing 10% of APCP income to pets from low-income Connecticut residents and 10% to non-profit organizations, which help spay/neuter feral cat colonies," said F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Because the allotted amounts are fixed to the program's income, the level of new benefits won't be realized until some time after July 1st, 2009. Last year, \$54,000 was provided for each program (\$108,000 total) and it is hoped that this amount will increase for 2010. Dog license surcharge revenue makes up 65% of the APCP budget. Hence, the more dog tags sold annually in Connecticut, the larger the level of benefits to all three phases of the APCP.

For fiscal year 2009, 675 vouchers were provided to eleven Connecticut non-profit organizations to help sterilize feral cats and 554 vouchers were issued to pet owners who qualified under the low-income program. We hope to have an outcome report available by the Fall of 2010. Applications for both programs will be available sometime in July and can be received either through the mail or downloaded from the agency's web site at [www.ct.gov/doag](http://www.ct.gov/doag).

### JUST FOR KIDS! - FIND THE THREE "MOST WANTED" LADYBUGS

The USDA's Science for Kids website is getting kids interested in putting their investigative skills to work to help identify some "most wanted" ladybugs that have nearly disappeared in the United States.

The three ladybugs are: 1) *Coccinella novemnotata*, also known as the nine-spotted ladybug or C-9; 2) *Adalia bipunctata*, the two-spotted ladybug; 3) *C. trifasciata*, the three-banded ladybug. All of these ladybugs have unusual markings that are somewhat similar: black spots or

bands. For pictures that can be used to help identify these ladybugs, go to <http://hosts.cce.cornell.edu/ladybeetles>.

If you find any of these ladybugs, children are being asked to capture them alive, and then release them. But before turning them loose again, they can be put into a freezer for five minutes to slow them down. While in a slowed-down state, pictures can be taken, but please don't forget to release the ladybugs! The pictures can be uploaded to the Lost Ladybug Project at <http://treadwell.cce.cornell.edu/ladybeetles/>, which is a collaborative effort between the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), South Dakota State University and Cornell University.

Ladybug species, particularly these three, seem to have begun disappearing over the past few decades. And ladybugs are our friends! They eat pests like aphids that destroy trees, garden plants and farm crops.

So kids can help scientists in the Lost Ladybug Project. They're asking for help from anyone who can send in photos of ladybugs. Scientists can look at the photos and identify the species. Then they can learn how many are actually out there.

Here's a great opportunity to become a citizen scientist. And anyone can do it at almost any age! Young people are already participating. In fact, it was an 11-year-old girl and her 10-year-old brother who found a *C. novemnotata* in 2006, near their home in Arlington, Virginia. This was the first sighting of the nine-spotted ladybug in the eastern United States in more than 14 years. It proved the species was not extinct. This is extremely valuable information.

Ladybugs come in many species and many of them came to the United States from other countries. Some of the species that have always been in the U.S. are the ones that are disappearing. The imported ladybugs may not be as good as our ladybugs at protecting plants from pests. Scientists are worried about this, plus they worry that these invading ladybugs might be crowding out the ones that are disappearing.

There are other reasons that scientists think might be possible reasons for the disappearances, such as development crowding them out or pesticides killing them.

Whatever the reason, kids can help by grabbing a camera and becoming a citizen scientist/detective to help solve part of the mystery.

*From an article By Don Comis, Agricultural Research Service Information Staff*

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.**

May 11, 2009

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

EXTRA LARGE	64-69
LARGE	63-37
MEDIUM	54-56

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT, May 11, 2009

Live animals brought the following average  
prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	20.00	24.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	30.00
76-90 lbs.	35.00	40.00
91-105 lbs.	43.00	45.00
106 lbs. & up	47.00	50.00
Farm Calves	52.50	120.00
Started Calves	28.00	32.00
Veal Calves	65.00	87.50
Open Heifers	67.50	85.00
Beef Heifers	57.00	75.00
Feeder Steers	77.50	87.50
Beef Steers	48.00	57.00
Stock Bulls	57.50	90.00
Beef Bulls	55.00	58.00
Replacement Cows	1 @	725.00
Boars	1 @	5.00
Sows	30.00	41.00
Sheep each	40.00	107.50
Lambs each	57.50	155.00
Goats each	55.00	200.00
Kid Goats each	30.00	120.00
Canners	Up to	49.50
Cutters	50.00	52.00
Utility Grade Cows	53.00	55.50
Rabbits each	6.00	29.00
Chickens each	5.00	17.00
Ducks each	8.50	18.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION,  
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009**

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
<b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	51.50-56.00	56.50-59.50	48.00-50.50
Boners	80-85% lean		
	49.00-54.00	56.00-57.00	44.00-47.50
Lean	85-90% lean		
	45.00-50.00	50.50-54.50	37.00-45.00
<b>SLAUGHTER BULLS:</b>	Yield Grade 1		
	1035-1495 lbs		60.50-67.00
	1535-2280 lbs		57.00-64.00
<b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS:</b>	Wooled & Shorn		
	Choice & Prime 2-3		
	60-70 lbs		156.00-166.00
	70-80 lbs		150.00-164.00
	80-90 lbs		146.00-160.00
	90-110 lbs		144.00-156.00
<b>SLAUGHTER EWES:</b>	Good 2-3		
	90-110 lbs		64.00-76.00
	110-130 lbs		50.00-62.00
	120-160 lbs		46.00-58.00

**FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

**NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5lb	11.00	11.00
APPLE CIDER, 4/1 gallon	15.00	15.00
APPLES, McIntosh 80ct xfcy	26.00	26.00
APPLES, McIntosh 80ct fcy	19.00	19.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10lb bag	5.00	5.00
CHIVES, 1/lb 12/bunch	6.00	6.00
FIDDLEHEADS, 5lb New England	3.00	3.50
POTATOES, Russet 50lb	12.50	12.50
SQUASH, Acorn organic 35lb	32.00	32.00
SQUASH, Delicata organic 35lb	37.50	37.50

**SHIPPED IN**

ARRUGULA, 4/5bu 24's NJ	14.00	15.00
ASPARAGUS, 28lb lge WASH	44.00	46.00
BEANS, green bu FL	14.00	15.00
BLUEBERRIES, 4.4oz/12ct lge FL	18.00	20.00
CABBAGE, 50lb Green NY	11.00	11.00
CARROTS, 48/1lb med/lge CA	16.00	17.00
CILANTRO, 1/2 crate 24's NJ	11.00	11.00
CIPOLINOS (Onion), 10lb bag NY	18.00	18.00
COLLARD GREENS, 12-16's NJ	10.00	10.00
CUCUMBERS, 1-1/9bu med FL	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9bu med FL	10.00	13.00
LETTUCE, Green Leaf 24's CA	18.00	19.00
LETTUCE, Boston 24's NJ	13.00	13.00
LETTUCE, Romaine 24's CA	15.00	18.00
MESCULIN, Mix 3lb CA	6.00	6.50
ONION, Vidalia 40lbs jbo GA	19.00	20.00
PEA, Snow 10lb GU	12.00	12.00
PEPPER, Green lge 1-1/9 bu FL	7.00	8.00
PEPPER, Jalapeno 1/2 bu FL	12.00	13.00
PEPPER, Long Hot 1-1/9bu FL	12.00	12.00
POTATOES, Long White 50lb CA	20.00	20.00
RADISHES, 2dz bunched NJ	13.00	13.00
RHUBARB, 20lb OREGON	24.00	24.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/ 1lb med-lge CA	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 11 lbs ME	14.00	14.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

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

Kids:	40-50 lbs	84.00-102.00
	50-60 lbs	94.00-112.00
	60-70 lbs	108.00-126.00
	70-80 lbs	118.00-132.00
Nannies/Does:	80-130 lbs	80.00-96.00
	130-180 lbs	102.00-114.00
Bucks/Billies:	100-150 lbs	124.00-142.00
	150-250 lbs	136.00-154.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION**

Mon May 11, 2009

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

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	37.00-41.00
	270-300 lbs	39.00-42.00
45-49	270-300 lbs	33.00-36.00
	300-350 lbs	32.00-34.50
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	30.00-34.50
	500-700 lbs	48.50-51.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	9.00-10.50

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

**NEW YORK PRICES**

**WHITE EGGS**

**TO RETAILERS**

For 1 dozen,

Grade A eggs on:

May 11, 2009

EXTRA LARGE	72-76
LARGE	70-74
MEDIUM	61-65

Above quotations based on  
CARTON sales to retailers.

**NEW BEDFORD  
WHALING CITY SEAFOOD  
DISPLAY AUCTION**

SEA SCALLOPS LANDINGS &  
PRICES IN 1, 000 LBS  
DATE 5/11/09 - PRICES  
INCLUDE DEALERS FEES  
SPECIES SEA SCALLOPS

	LBS	MIN	HIGH
U/10 CHANNEL	0.8	860	875
10/20	12.2	630	645
U/10 GEORGES	0.1	795	795
U/12	0.1	715	715
10/20	0.3	625	625
10/20 ELEPHANT TRUNK1/		0.0	590 590
10/20MID ATL	35.1	610	620
U/10 DELMARVA	3.9	865	875
U/12	9.3	775	780
10/20	4.4	675	675

**NEW BEDFORD  
WHALING CITY SEAFOOD  
DISPLAY AUCTION**

FISH LANDINGS & PRICES IN  
1,000 LBS & \$/CWT  
DATE 5/11/09 - PRICES  
INCLUDE DEALERS FEES

SPECIES	LBS	MIN	HIGH
HADDOCK 1/	0.0	224	224
HADD SCR D	0.1	139	139
JIG MKT COD	0.3	317	317
SCR D	0.3	303	303
GILLNET MKT COD	0.1	313	313
SCR D	0.1	212	232
COD LGE	0.0	240	240
MKT	2.7	284	296
SCR D	0.8	232	232
YELLOWTAIL LGE	13.8	82	147
SML	3.8	82	134
DABS LGE	0.2	62	192
MED	0.5	76	130
SML	2.3	62	152
SAND DABS	0.2	45	45
GREYSOLE LGE	0.1	717	717
MED	0.2	817	817
SML	0.9	303	350
FLUKE JUMBO	0.0	232	232
SELECT	0.1	312	312
MED	0.0	212	212
LEMONSOLE	0.2	267	297
MIXED GEORGES BB	5.4	174	273

## 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, 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.

3-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.

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.

66-R. Freeman 3000 front end loader with controls. Came off John Deere 630. Best offer. 860-354-6310.

69-R. Four bar John Deere side delivery rake, excellent condition. 860-767-1257.

70-R. Bred Angus & Shorthorn cows, due May and October, A.I. breeding, reasonably priced. 860-889-2294.

72-R. Spring Chicken Sale - Alabama Greys, Italian Reds, Connecticut Whites. Call 860-608-1226 for more information.

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.

79-R. Spring lambs available. Shropshire and Romney. Live weight priced. Burlingame Farm, Killingly. 860-774-5975.

80-R. Turkey Poults available immediately- Black Spanish heritage breed. Fed organic feed from hatching.- 2007 John Deere 5103 utility tractor, excellent condition, 550 one owner hours, shed kept. - John Deere Model 45 7 foot grader blade - Lilliston 2 row spider wheel cultivator - Lilliston 4 row spider wheel cultivator - 4 rolls of 5' black plastic mulch for mulch layer - 5000 Tomato stakes 5 and 4 foot - Certified Organic Potting Soil and Plant trays. 860-633-6601.

84-R. Case IH 8430 round baler - \$7,000. Case IH 8420 round baler - \$6,500. IH 2-row 3pt hitch row cultivator - \$700. Hesston 7' haybine. NH BR730 baler can bale wet hay \$11,500. NH Tandem axle manure spreader - \$3,000. NH 575 baler with thrower - \$13,500. NH 311 baler with thrower - \$6,500. JD 336 baler - \$3,500. JD 328 baler with kicker - \$6,500. New and used metal kicker wagons. New 4-star Pequea 4-star tedder - \$6,000. New Morra 4-star hydraulic fold tedder - \$4,500. NH 4-star hydraulic fold tedder - \$3,500. New 11' Pequea rotary rake - \$6,000. JD 5320 1500 hrs forward reverser. JD 5420 and 6200 - \$15,000 each. JD 4020 side console p/s \$11,500. MF 375 tractor new motor - \$6,500. Brillion 10' seeder - \$3,750. IH 450 3-bottom 3pt hitch plow. Several 710 and 720, 4 and 5 bottom plows. 203-530-4953.

85-R. 1994 Ford L8000 tandem 16foot high side dump, diesel automatic, good tires, good silage truck. 860-984-8989 or 860-535-2822.

86-R. 2001 International 4700 - 16ft heavy duty dump, air brakes, DT 466 diesel, new brakes. 860-984-8989 or 860-535-2822.

87-R. Worthington 7-foot, 3-gang reel type, tow behind lawn mower. In excellent mechanical condition, including 6 new tires. \$600. Call 860-778-6070.

88-R. Hardi Comby sprayer (160 gal), 3 point hitch - excellent condition. Also irrigation pipe (40 ft lengths). 860-653-3837.

90-R. Steers ½ or whole. You pick up at slaughter house. Call 203-530-4953.

### WANTED

20-R. Wanted: Land to Lease/ Rent - Small, outdoor recreational club seeks lease of land. Possible long term arrangements. References available. Leave message 860-303-5252.

67-R. Wanted: Farm land to lease. 1-5 acres. Litchfield, Washington, Roxbury, New Milford, Bridgewater or Brookfield. Experienced farmer will keep tidy organic farm/garden with 4 bee hives. Call 860-946-7079.

71-R. Two 21L-24 tractor tires; used chain and sprockets for John Deere 550A dozer. 860-673-6100.

75-R. Interested in purchasing/leasing 1-3 acres of farmable or pasture land in North Central CT. for small vegetable growing operation. Please contact Kim 860-688-6020.

89-R. 14.9 x R30 tractor tire. Call after 5:00 pm. 860-349-1513.

### 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 with Century 21 Alaimo & Corrado at (860) 648-6902 or www.winwithWINN.com.

### FUNDING FOR NEW ORGANICS INITIATIVE ANNOUNCED: \$50 MILLION IN FUNDING AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE

TOLLAND, CT— Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist for Connecticut Douglas L. Zehner today echoed Agriculture Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan's announcement of \$50 million (nationwide) for a new initiative that will meet the Obama Administration's promise to encourage more organic agriculture production. Funding for the initiative is being made available as part of NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

"Assisting organic producers is a priority," said Zehner. "The objective of this initiative is to make organic food producers eligible to compete for financial assistance through the EQIP Program."

The 2009 Organic Initiative is a nationwide special initiative to provide financial assistance to National Organic Program (NOP) certified organic producers, as well as producers in the process of transitioning to organic production. Organic producers may also apply for assistance under general EQIP.

Under the Organic Initiative, required minimum core conservation practices will be determined by specific resource concerns. These practices include conservation crop rotation; cover crop; nutrient management; pest management; prescribed grazing; and forage harvest management. States must consider using any appropriate practice that meets the resource concern on a particular operation.

Applications received from organic producers or producers in transition to organic farming will be accepted under this initiative May 11-29, 2009. Applications will be ranked at that time.

To assist with eligibility questions, there are two separate National Screening Tools for applicants (one for producers transitioning for the first time and one for certified organic producers transitioning additional land or adding additional conservation practices).

Ranking criteria has been established based on resource concerns that link to the NOP objectives and the core conservation practices.

**MORE ORGANICS INITIATIVE ON PAGE 4**

**MORE ORGANICS INITIATIVE FROM PAGE 3**

Interested producers should visit their nearest USDA Service Center (listed below) to determine eligibility. Additional information on the 2009 EQIP Organic Initiative is available at [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/). Brooklyn Service Center (860) 774-0224, Ext. 102; Torrington Service Center (860) 626-8258, Ext. 200; Windsor Service Center: (860) 688-7725, Ext. 139; Norwich Service Center (860) 887-3604, Ext. 300; Wallingford Service Center (203) 269-7509, Ext. 205

**MAY 27TH - SAVE THE DATE! USDA TO HOLD REGIONAL NAIS LISTENING SESSION AT UCONN**

USDA Secretary Vilsack has announced that USDA will be holding a series of 7 regional listening sessions around the country on the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). One such session will be held on May 27th at the University of Connecticut, Storrs Campus – Bishop Center, One Bishop Circle. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with registration 1 hour prior. The session will provide opportunities for stakeholders to share their concern on issues such as cost, impact on small farmers, privacy, confidentiality and liability.

Check back next week for more details on this session!

**EASTERN REGION MILK REVIEW**

MADISON, WI. May 6, 2009 - NORTHEAST milk production has been steady to slowly increasing toward peak production, is which expected in a few weeks. Even with increasing production, balancing plants are not at a level considered "burdensome". A breakdown in a manufacturing plant in the region has left more milk to be handled else-

where for a few days, but there is adequate capacity available. While CWT herd reduction bid numbers have not been announced, one plant received a higher number of requests for production data from producers prior to the close of bids for this round, than the plant received before the prior round.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC milk intakes vary. Some plants report receiving "tons of milk", to the point of nearing capacity. Other plants report increasing intakes that have not stressed capacity. Some of the plants not being stressed by milk intakes attribute this to cheese plants calling for sufficient milk to ease balancing plant intakes, even with seasonally increasing production.

SOUTHEAST plants are generally receiving more milk than one year ago. Production is close to peaking. Retail sales have been poor, but a major chain began a promotion this week offering a gallon of milk for \$1.99. Pre-sales store orders were heavy, which contributed to reducing manufacturing product runs for the week. Normally idle plant capacity that had been pressed into service in recent weeks to handle intakes, has again been idled.

FLORIDA has been dry and humidity has generally emained low. Production has been near the seasonal peak. Retail sales have been sluggish. Shipments out of the state increased over last week by 41, reaching 198 loads shipped out. Shipments near this level are expected for next week and until higher heat and humidity cause milk production to drop.

CREAM is readily available on spot markets and multiples are predominately near the mid 120's fob, but ranged as high as 132 in rare circumstances. Ice cream production is increasing and calling more cream. Butter production is not following a single theme. Some plants are buying cream to churn, driven by order fulfillment, while others are churning less and selling cream on spot markets.

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