

# Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

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

CONNECTICUT  
GROWN



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

### ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL REPORT REVEALS MORE CATS THAN DOGS STERILIZED IN 2009

By Frank L. Ribaldo, Director,

Animal Population Control Program (APCP)

For the first time since the APCP was implemented in 1995, more cats were sterilized than dogs in FY 2009 (1836 cats/1699 dogs). "As we continue to control the surplus dog population in Connecticut, we are seeing a natural shift in providing more benefits to impounded municipal cats, feral cats and felines owned by low-income CT residents", said F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner of Agriculture. The goal of the Department of Agriculture's Animal Population Control Program (APCP) is to reduce the overpopulation of surplus dogs and cats in Connecticut. The goal of reducing the overpopulation of cats and dogs and immunizing animals placed through the program significantly impacts the local public health and safety agenda.

For fiscal year 2009, the APCP saw 5,397 (2726 dogs/2671 cats) animals adopted. Benefits were provided for 3535 (1,699 dogs/1836 cats) pets for a 66% overall sterilization compliance rate. Of that total, 39 pets (34 dogs/5 cats) were found to be previously sterilized. In addition, 7,070 pre-surgical vaccinations were issued, of which one-half were rabies vaccines.

The APCP has its own dedicated account and receives no money from the state's general fund. Revenue is received from the following: annual surcharge on Connecticut dog licenses (\$2.00 sterilized/\$6.00 unsterilized), the \$45 mandatory voucher fee, proceeds from the sale of the "caring for pets" commemorative license plate and donations. Dog license surcharge fees are collected by municipalities and forwarded to the Department of Agriculture on an annual basis. Deposit fees are sent in quarterly and revenue from pet plate sales are deposited weekly by the DMV into the agency's APCP account. For fiscal year 2009, \$495,350 was received from dog license surcharge revenue, \$215,223 from the \$45 program adoption fee, \$39,540 from the DMV for the sale of the "caring for pets" commemorative license plate for a total of \$750,113. The program provided benefits for 3535 pets for a total payment of \$414,435 to 220 participating veterinary practices. The monthly average payment to practices was \$34,536 and the average benefit for cats/dogs including two coincident vaccinations (\$20 per pet) is \$117. In addition, \$2925 was paid out as \$45 adopter refunds for 65 pets that were either previously sterilized, returned to the pound or humanely destroyed. Administrative costs totaled \$187,177 for an overall program expense of \$601,612.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) provided \$39,540 for 2009, from the sale of the "caring for pets" commemorative license plate. Of the 463 plates sold, 274 (\$9,590) were the off the shelf type, 36 (\$1,980) re-makes, 153 (\$8,415) vanities and \$19,555 were received from 1,955 biennial renewal fees. More than \$500,000 has been deposited into the APCP

account since the unveiling of the plate in 1998. The "caring for pets" plate has maintained its popularity with Connecticut drivers and is still second in sales to only the Long Island Sound.

The Department also provided feral cat grant funds for the third year in a row to Connecticut based nonprofit organizations for the purpose of providing vaccination and sterilization benefits to feral cats. Vouchers were awarded during the Fall of 2008 with a sterilization completion date of March 31, 2009. The average benefit per cat is \$80. Vouchers (676) were issued to twelve non-profit organizations and 97% (654) were used. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of the ferals caught were female and forty-three percent (43%) were male.

The APCP also recorded data from its' first Low-Income program. Public Act 07-105 allows the program to set aside up to 10% of income for the pets of low-income residents. To be eligible, recipients must be CT residents and on one of six public assistance programs listed with the Department of Social Services (DSS). For FY 2009, 555 vouchers were issued and 284 were used for a 51% sterilization rate. Vouchers were issued for 72 male dogs (36 neutered), 108 female dogs (42 spayed), 144 male cats (86 neutered) and 231 female cats (120 spayed). In addition, 543 presurgical vaccinations were issued.

As the APCP continues to see a decrease in the population of dogs and the start of an impact into the surplus cat population, further evaluation and a possible increase in benefits to both the low-income and feral cat portions of the program need to be considered.

### CONNECTICUT POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY TWILIGHT MEETING SCHEDULE

1) Tuesday, May 25th at 5:30, Belltown Orchards. This meeting will focus on an introduction to a GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) self-audit followed by a brief meeting and refreshments.

2) Tuesday, June 15th at 5:30, Lyman Orchards. Farm tour highlight will include Cornell Vertical AXIS System, Asia Pear Block, New Peach Blocks and much more followed by a brief meeting and refreshments. Meet at the Labor Camp.

Belltown Orchards - 483 Matson Hill Road, South Glastonbury, CT. For directions please visit their website at [www.belltownhillorchards.com](http://www.belltownhillorchards.com).

Lyman Orchards - Junctions of Rte. 147 and Rte. 157, Middlefield, CT. For directions please visit their website at [www.lymanorchards.com](http://www.lymanorchards.com).

All are welcome. Please email Rick Macsuga from the CT Department of Agriculture at [Richard.Macsuga@ct.gov](mailto:Richard.Macsuga@ct.gov) or call him at 860-713-2544 if you wish to attend.

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

May 17, 2010

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

|             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| EXTRA LARGE | 68-70 |
| LARGE       | 64-68 |
| MEDIUM      | 59-62 |

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT, May 17, 2010

Live animals brought the following average prices  
per cwt.:

|                    | Low   | High   |
|--------------------|-------|--------|
| Bob Calves:        |       |        |
| 45-60 lbs.         | 15.00 | 20.00  |
| 61-75 lbs.         | 22.00 | 24.00  |
| 76-90 lbs.         | 30.00 | 35.00  |
| 91-105 lbs.        | 40.00 | 47.50  |
| 106 lbs. & up      | 50.00 | 55.00  |
| Farm Calves        | 60.00 | 80.00  |
| Started Calves     | 22.00 | 26.00  |
| Veal Calves        | 70.00 | 75.00  |
| Open Heifers       | 70.00 | 100.00 |
| Beef Heifers       | 65.00 | 86.00  |
| Feeder Steers      | 69.00 | 78.00  |
| Beef Steers        | 76.00 | 78.50  |
| Stock Bulls        | 77.50 | 90.00  |
| Beef Bulls         | 65.00 | 96.00  |
| Feeder Pigs each   | 65.00 | 100.00 |
| Sheep each         | 67.50 | 87.50  |
| Lambs each         | 70.00 | 175.00 |
| Goats each         | 70.00 | 130.00 |
| Canners            | Up to | 54.50  |
| Cutters            | 55.00 | 57.00  |
| Utility Grade Cows | 58.00 | 68.00  |
| Rabbits each       | 5.00  | 25.00  |
| Chickens each      | 6.00  | 30.00  |
| Ducks each         | 3.00  | 23.00  |

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

Auction will be held on Memorial Day, Monday,  
May 31, as usual.

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

MONDAY, May 17, 2010

| Bulk/                                       | High/         | Low Dressing  |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <b>SLAUGHTER COWS:</b>                      |               |               |
| Breakers                                    | 75-80% lean   |               |
| 59.50-63.00                                 | -----         | -----         |
| Boners                                      | 80-85% lean   |               |
| 55.00-59.00                                 | 59.50-61.50   | -----         |
| Lean  | 85-90% lean   |               |
| 51.50-55.00                                 | 56.00-58.00   | 45.00-51.00   |
| <b>SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1</b>       |               |               |
|   | 1025-2135 lbs | 63.50-67.50   |
|   | high dress    | 68.50-71.00   |
| Bullocks:                                   | 840-1455 lbs  | 68.50-73.50   |
|   | high dress    | 78.00-87.00   |
|   | low dress     | 58.00-66.50   |
| <b>SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled &amp; Shorn</b> |               |               |
| Choice and Prime 2-3                        |               |               |
|   | 40-60 lbs     | 154.00-167.00 |
|   | 60-80 lbs     | 148.00-174.00 |
|   | 90-110 lbs    | 150.00-166.00 |
|   | 130-150 lbs   | 138.00-156.00 |
| Choice 2-3                                  | 40-60 lbs     | 132.00-150.00 |
|   | 60-80 lbs     | 124.00-143.00 |
|   | 90-110 lbs    | 118.00-136.00 |

**FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

**NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

|  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal                 | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| APPLES, Braeburne, us xfcy, 12/3-lb bag  | 12.00 | 12.00 |
| APPLES, Red Delicious 12/ 3-lb bags xfcy | 16.00 | 16.00 |
| CHIVES, 1-lb bag                         | 8.00  | 8.00  |
| FIDDLEHEADS, per lb                      | 3.00  | 4.00  |
| POTATOES, Russett 10 - 5lb bags          | 9.00  | 9.00  |
| TOMATOES, Vine Ripe 25lb box med ,ghouse | 15.00 | 15.00 |

**SHIPPED IN**

|                                     |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| ASPARAGUS, 28lb NJ                  | 68.00 | 68.00 |
| BEANS, Green bu handpicked GA       | 19.00 | 19.00 |
| BEEETS, Red 12's NJ                 | 12.00 | 15.00 |
| BLUEBERRIES, 12/1-pint NC           | 27.00 | 28.00 |
| BOK CHOY, Baby 30lb NJ              | 22.00 | 25.00 |
| BROCCOLI RABE, 20lb CA              | 34.00 | 34.00 |
| COLLARD GREENS, 12-16s NJ           | 11.00 | 11.00 |
| CORN, 4 1/2 dz FL                   | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| CUCUMBER, 1-1/9bu med FL            | 18.00 | 20.00 |
| DANDELION GREENS, 12's NJ           | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| ESCAROLE, 1.3 bu NJ                 | 14.00 | 14.00 |
| HORSERADISH, 5lb MIZZ               | 12.00 | 12.00 |
| KOHLRABI, 12's NJ                   | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| LEEKs, 12's NJ                      | 13.00 | 13.00 |
| LETTUCE, Boston 24ct NJ             | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| LETTUCE, Red Leaf 24ct NJ           | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| LETTUCE, Romaine 24ct NJ            | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| MINT, 1/2 bu NJ                     | 11.00 | 12.00 |
| NAPPA, 1.3 bu NJ                    | 14.00 | 14.00 |
| ONION, Vidalia jbo 40lb GA          | 30.00 | 32.00 |
| PEAS, English, bu CA                | 40.00 | 45.00 |
| PEACHES, 25lb CA                    | 27.00 | 28.00 |
| PEPPER, Bell xlg ,1-1/9 bu Green FL | 14.00 | 15.00 |
| RADISHES, 1/2bu NJ                  | 13.00 | 13.00 |
| RHUBARB, 10lb. MICH                 | 26.00 | 26.00 |
| SPINACH, 1.3 bu Flat NJ             | 14.00 | 14.00 |
| STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb med-lg CAL      | 12.00 | 16.00 |
| TOMATOES, 5x6 FL                    | 18.00 | 20.00 |
| TOMATOES, 10lbs heirloom ghouse FL  | 20.00 | 20.00 |

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

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

**NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS**

For 1 dozen,  
Grade A eggs on:  
May 17, 2010

|             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| EXTRA LARGE | 73-77 |
| LARGE       | 71-75 |
| MEDIUM      | 67-71 |

Above quotations based on  
CARTON sales to retailers.



**PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT**

Monday May 17, 2010

Hay and Straw Market for Eastern  
Pennsylvania. All hay prices paid  
by dealers at the farm and per ton.

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
|           | Good          |
| Alfalfa   | 110.00-130.00 |
| Mixed Hay | 100.00-120.00 |
|           | Good          |
| Timothy   | 110.00-140.00 |
| Straw     | 90.00-125.00  |

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAIL REPORT**

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores  
in the Northeast

Week of May 14, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound  
unless otherwise stated.

**VEGETABLES**

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Asparagus             | 1.48 - 3.49           |
| Broccoli              | 0.98 - 2.59 per bunch |
| Cabbage               | 0.34 - 0.59           |
| Carrots, Baby organic | 1.69 - 2.49 1lb bag   |
| Celery                | 0.98 - 2.00 each      |
| Cucumbers             | 0.33 - 0.67 each      |
| Lettuce, Romaine      | 0.88 - 1.29 each      |
| Mushrooms, White      | 1.50 - 2.50 8oz pkg   |
| Peppers, Bell green   | 1.79 - 1.79           |
| Peppers, Bell red     | 2.99 - 2.99           |
| Potatoes, Russet      | 0.99 - 3.49 5lb bag   |
| Squash, Zucchini      | 0.99 - 1.79           |
| Tomatoes on the vine  | 1.48 - 3.49           |

**FRUITS**

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Apples, Red delicious | 0.98 - 1.69          |
| Avocados, Haas        | 0.88 - 1.66 each     |
| Cantaloup             | 2.50 - 2.99 each     |
| Grapes, Green/Red     | 0.99 - 2.79          |
| Grapefruit, Red       | 0.40 - .40 each      |
| Honeydew              | 4.99 - 4.99 each     |
| Lemons                | 0.33 - 0.67 each     |
| Mangoes               | 0.59 - 1.66 each     |
| Oranges, Navel        | 0.25 - 1.00 each     |
| Pears, Bartlett       | 1.29 - 1.49          |
| Strawberries          | 1.50 - 3.00 16oz pkg |

**SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh**

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 120-160 lbs | 60.00-74.00 |
| 160-200 lbs | 56.00-70.00 |
| 200-300 lbs | 58.00-68.00 |

**Utility 1-2: Thin Fleshed**

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 120-160 lbs | 45.00-60.00 |
|-------------|-------------|

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

|                       |             |               |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Kids:</b>          | 40-60 lbs   | 88.00-116.00  |
|                       | 60-80 lbs   | 112.00-132.00 |
|                       | 80-100 lbs  | 124.00-144.00 |
|                       | 100-110 lbs | 136.00-148.00 |
| <b>Does:</b>          | 80-130 lbs  | 104.00-120.00 |
|                       | 130-180 lbs | 118.00-134.00 |
| <b>Bucks/Billies:</b> | 100-150 lbs | 162.00-178.00 |
|                       | 150-250 lbs | 192.00-210.00 |

**NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION**

Mon May 17, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual weights,  
prices quoted by hundred weight.

| Percent Lean        | Weight      | Price       |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 49-54               | 220-300 lbs | 62.00-64.50 |
|                     | 300-350 lbs | 58.50-60.50 |
| 45-49               | 300-350 lbs | 55.75-56.50 |
| <b>Sows: US 1-3</b> | 300-500 lbs | 51.00-57.00 |
|                     | 500-700 lbs | 58.50-60.00 |

## 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, 1-888-526-8815, 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.

46-R. 300 tomato cages, 4ft tall, steel reinforcing wire, \$3.00 each, Killingworth:860-663-3282

77-R. Small tie stall milking herd, mostly first calf Holstein heifers, bred back. DMSCC 57,000. 860-355-2962.

78-R. Fertilizer; Fieldworks Agricultural Products, Voluntown, CT. Agricultural grades and custom blends, in bags, bulk bags, bulk and applied. Good blends for vegetables, hay, corn and tobacco and turf. Bulk lime application service. Ag chemicals, corn and forage seed. Organic OMRI certified fertilizer available. Call Paul Peters, Agronomist at 860-428-4846. Farm quantities only. Delivery available.

80-R. 20' Hillboro horse trailer for fifth wheel hitch - \$1,200. Call 203-206-1344 or 860-274-8159.

82-R. Brillion 5' sure stand 3-pt seeder, handles both small and large seeds - \$3,500. John Deere 10' AW disk harrow - \$500. Call 860-485-5461 after 6 p.m.

83-R. Registered Hereford feeder cattle 860-485-5720.

85-R. Tomato stakes, tree stakes, fence boards, custom cut lumber. Staehly Products Co., LLC 860-873-9774.

87-R. 30 bales of hay \$3.50 each. 203-235-63550.

88-R. Old Maple Farm has some well started chicks for sale. Excellent for back yard flocks. 860-599-0792.

90-R. John Deere walk behind mower with sulky 39" cut electric start. Kohler engine 300 hours \$1,350. James Fazzone 203-250-6677.

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

93-R. Registered Hereford bull for sale. 16 months, halterbroke, semen tested \$1,450. Old Beech Farm 860-693-2052.

95-R. Antique 48" circular blade American sawmill \$2,000. Call 860-887-4733 or 860-884-3496.

96-R. Four Registered Male Llamas for Sale- one Black and white, One Black, Two Brown. Great Pets, Easy to keep. Will keep dogs and coyotes off your property. Price for all four, \$620.00. West view Farm, Monroe, Ct... Bernie @ 203-880-6814.

97-R. 1999 Featherlite Model 8120 20'Gooseneck cattle trailer, electric brakes, excellent condition - \$9,000 OBO. 203-265-4588.

### WANTED

35-R. All standing timber wanted. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call New England Timber, LLC at 860-662-2412.

91-R. Sickie bar trailer or under tractor mower for Farmall C or H. Telephone 860-354-4659.

98. Pallet forks and grapple forks wanted for Bobcat skid steer loader. Call 860-528-4660.

### 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.

### CT VEGETABLE GROWERS' TWILIGHT MEETING

Sponsored by the University of Connecticut

Cooperative Extension System and Stone Garden Farms.

Fred & Stacia Monahan invite you (their fellow vegetable farmers) to a twilight meeting at Stone Garden Farms in Shelton, CT on Wednesday evening June 30th, starting at 6:00 PM. Pizza and beverages will be available (free).

Many of you will remember that Fred and Stacia presented a great talk entitled 'CSAs are No Longer Just for Organic Growers' at the CT Vegetable & Small Fruit Growers' Conference in Vernon last January. With Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), customers pay in advance and share the risk of crop failure with the farmer, which in turn allows the farmer to take more risks with their production methods (i.e. use fewer pesticides). In their talk, Fred and Stacia told how their CSA has gone from nothing, to grossing over \$200,000 in just three years. Best of all, rather than competing with themselves by having the CSA steal their best customers away from their stand, they found that they doubled their stand sales on the days members picked up their CSA shares (this year 5 days each week to supply 330 CSA customers). The money that comes in from the CSA in the winter and spring provides all their seed, fertilizer and supply funding to start the season and allows them to bank the money that they earn from other marketing methods (stand, farmers markets, direct sales/orders). They have also found that marketing in this manner means that they get to grow many different vegetables that are impossible to sell to the wholesale commission houses in Hartford, and that those vegetables are much easier to grow than tomatoes and corn (but they grow those too!). If you want to make more money selling vegetables, come see how things are done at Stone Garden Farms and think about opening your own CSA.

Directions from I-95 or Rt. 15 (Wilbur Cross Parkway): Take Rt. 34 to Derby. Turn left onto Main St. (Rt. 34), after 0.5 miles turn left onto Bridge St., after 0.2 miles turn right onto Howe Ave = Rt. 110, after 3.6 miles turn left onto Birdseye Road, we will meet about 0.5 miles down on the right (#162 Birdseye Rd. - watch for twilight meeting sign).

Directions from North coming south on Rt. 8: Take Rt. 8 to exit 14 for Rt. 110/Howe Ave., after 0.2 miles turn right onto Howe Ave. = Rt. 110, after 4 miles turn left onto Birdseye Road, we will meet about 0.5 miles down on the right (#162 Birdseye Rd. - watch for twilight meeting sign).

Directions from Northwest: Off I-84, take exit 11 for Rt. 34, continue on Rt. 34 for about 6 miles, turn right onto Monroe Tpk. = Rt. 111, after 1.7 miles turn slight left onto Barn Hill Road, after 2 miles turn left onto Israel Hill Road, after 0.4 miles turn left onto Leavenworth Road, after 1.3 miles turn right onto Birdseye Road, we will meet about 0.5 miles down on the right (#162 Birdseye Rd. - watch for twilight meeting sign).

### LONGER-LASTING FLOWERS: FRESH IDEAS FROM ARS RESEARCHERS

Tomorrow's fragrant bouquets and colorful potted plants might last longer, thanks to floriculture research by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) plant physiologist Cai-Zhong Jiang. His investigations might help boost the vase life of favorite cut flowers and shelf life of prized potted plants.

Jiang is with the ARS Crops Pathology and Genetics Research Unit at Davis, Calif. He's collaborating with researchers from the University of California-Davis (UCD) and elsewhere.

In ongoing studies, Jiang, UCD colleague Michael S. Reid and co-researchers have shown that spraying low concentrations of a compound known as thidiazuron (TDZ) has significant, sometimes spectacular effects in extending the life of potted plants' leaves and flowers. For example, in tests with greenhouse-grown cyclamen plants, TDZ-treated plants had a significantly longer life than did unsprayed plants, according to Jiang. Leaves of TDZ-treated cyclamen plants took longer to yellow and fall off than those of untreated plants.

TDZ, a synthetic version of a naturally occurring plant compound known as a cytokinin, is not new. But preliminary studies with cut flowers, reported by Reid and co-researchers in 2000, were the first to demonstrate the value of TDZ for a commercial floricultural species--in that case, alstroemeria. The cyclamen experiments conducted by Jiang and collaborators are the first to show the leaf-saving and blossom-boosting effects of TDZ with potted floricultural plants.

**FLOWERS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**AG REPORT ADS ARE ONLY \$3.75 FOR UP TO 15 WORDS! A GREAT VALUE FOR YOUR \$\$\$\$. SEND IN YOUR AD TODAY!**

**FLOWERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

Jiang and colleagues reported some of their TDZ findings in Postharvest Biology and Technology earlier this year, and in Acta Horticulturae in 2009.

Though commercial use of TDZ on cut flowers and potted plants seems promising, the researchers' deeper interest lies in determining precisely how TDZ affects genes and proteins inside the plants.

Read more about this research in the April 2010 issue of Agricultural Research magazine, available online at:  
<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/apr10/blooms0410.htm>.

**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.

**VENDOR APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR TASTE! ORGANIC CONNECTICUT**

Sunday, September 19, 2010  
 10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 at

Manchester Community College, Manchester, CT  
 10th Anniversary - sign up for the best celebration ever!

Vendor applications are now being accepted - call 203-888-5146 or email [ctnofa@ctnofa.org](mailto:ctnofa@ctnofa.org) for details.

NOFA would also like to expand the animal viewing area this year, so if you or your group or farm would like to bring animals, please contact Teresa at the office or by email.

**USDA JUNE SURVEYS TO PROVIDE VITAL DATA ON 2010 FARM PRODUCTION**

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is surveying hundreds of farmers across New England to get a clearer indication of the production and supply of major commodities for 2010.

"With the 2010 growing season now in full swing, we can start to get a fuller picture of how things are shaping up for the agricultural sector. We'll be looking at what crops have been planted, what commodities are in storage and how much livestock is in inventory," said Gary Keough, director of the NASS New England Field Office.

Keough explained that NASS will gather this information through two major mid-year surveys: the June Area Survey and the June Agricultural Survey.

"For the area survey, we visit randomly selected tracts of land and interview the operators of any farm on that land. We collect information on crop acreage - including biotech crops, as well as grain stocks, livestock inventory, cash rents, land values, and value of sales," he said.

"For the agricultural survey, which we also call the 'crop/stocks survey,' we contact producers by mail, phone or personal visit. We ask them to provide information on their total acreage, acres planted to specific commodities - including biotech varieties, and quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on-farm."

This information will be a critical component of several key national reports, including the annual Acreage report and the quarterly Grain Stocks report, both to be released on June 30. Survey data also contribute to NASS's monthly and annual Crop Production reports and various other crop and livestock-related publications, all of which are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

"Especially in these uncertain economic times, farmers and the rest of the agricultural industry need timely, accurate data on the current state of U.S. agriculture," Keough said. "The information collected through our mid-year surveys can help producers, suppliers, traders, buyers, export customers and others to make sound and informed business decisions."

Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059- 8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly (48 issues), except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, when the Governor closes State offices, and two additional weeks, for \$20.00 per year (hard copy - email copies are free) by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

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