



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

F. Philip Prelli, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director

CONNECTICUT
GROWN



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

THE LOCAL MEDIA'S GROWING SUPPORT OF CT AGRICULTURE

By Linda Piotrowicz, Marketing Representative

Just a few short years ago, it would have seemed inconceivable that the local farmer would be elevated to celebrity status. Yet today, the farmer as local hero has become a common theme, a result of the efforts of many people and organizations to raise public awareness of the importance of local food and the men and women who produce it.

As public interest in CT Grown has grown over the past several years, so has that of the media. The CT Department of Agriculture has been fortunate to have established an extraordinary working relationship with area newspapers, magazines, and radio and television outlets. These journalists have grown to view farming as serious news, worthy of serious attention and time.

Thanks to this cooperative effort, the state's consumers have gleaned a better understanding of how food is produced and why CT Grown food is better for their health, their families, their environment, and their community. They have come to appreciate the difference in quality between fresh food that has been harvested in the past 24 hours and product that has spent weeks in transit and on a shelf.

Through countless articles, interviews, and programs arranged with assistance of the Department of Agriculture's Marketing Bureau, Connecticut residents have been provided the opportunity to see and hear from the men and women in their communities who grow and raise this food, to learn about their families and their values, and to consider—even possibly begin to comprehend—the reasons why these intelligent, educated folks work so hard when the odds seem stacked against them and the risks so high.

This season, for example, "The Corner," hosted by Phil Mikan on WDRC 1360 AM radio, dedicated every other Tuesday's show to local farming. This daily program often features government officials and community leaders, but two Tuesdays a month, Phil interviewed a wide variety of farmers to reveal the importance of the work that is performed day in and day out, without fanfare, to produce quality produce, meat, seafood, cheese, wine, and other farm products. Phil often could be heard commenting, "I never knew..." or "I had no idea we had this in Connecticut!"

WTIC NewsTalk 1080 AM's popular "Mornings with Ray and Diane" show took a closer examination of 15 of the state's farmers' markets, highlighting a different one each Tuesday morning as their featured

"Farmers' Market of the Week." Ray and Diane talked with each market master to learn more about what makes his or her market unique and what products and vendors the public could find from week to week as the market season progressed.

"Ray and Diane" cohost Diane Smith profiled several farmers' markets and local agribusinesses on "Positively Connecticut," a quarterly television program produced by CPTV. Diane took viewers to farmers' markets in Hartford, West Hartford, Mystic, and Westport; to the Firebox Restaurant in Hartford; to Gouvea Vineyard in Wallingford; and to other agricultural destinations during her travels to showcase the people and places of our state.

"Afternoon Drive with Colin McEnroe" on WTIC NewsTalk 1080 AM welcomed numerous agricultural guests for extended interviews and discussions about the importance of local farms and CT Grown foods. Colin regularly encouraged his listeners to shop at farmers' markets and support local farms, and did the same through his weekly column in the Sunday Hartford Courant and daily blog on www.Courant.com.

"CT Outdoors," a weekly program hosted by Suzanne Thompson on WLIS 1420 AM and WMRD 1150 AM radio, gave airtime to chefs Mark Shadle, Drew McLachlan, and Jonathan Rapp, all passionate users of CT Grown ingredients, as well as the state's Farm-to-Chef and Farm-to-School Programs.

WTIC NewsTalk 1080 AM's new Saturday program, "Greener Living," devoted a considerable amount of time to discussions of food and farm products, in addition to general sustainability issues. Host Dr. G. provided listeners with updates on what was in season, where farmers' markets could be found, and insight into community supported agriculture.

While CT Grown topics traditionally have been limited to the food or living sections of print media, this season The Hartford Courant, Journal Inquirer, New London Day, and other major state newspapers featured agriculture in their business, environmental, state, and local news sections, as well as prominently covering CT Grown ingredients of all types—common and unusual—in their respective food sections. The New York Times dedicated an unprecedented number of column inches to CT farms and their caretakers. The Wall Street Journal ran a story about Farm-to-School programs around the country, including Connecticut's own.

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.

October 14, 2008

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

EXTRA LARGE	110-114
LARGE	108-112
MEDIUM	96-98

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, October 13, 2008

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	22.00	28.00
61-75 lbs.	30.00	36.00
76-90 lbs.	37.00	53.00
91-105 lbs.	54.00	58.00
106 lbs. & up	60.00	65.00
Farm Calves	55.00	66.00
Started Calves	32.00	35.00
Veal Calves	74.00	122.50
Open Heifers	63.00	95.00
Feeder Steers	67.00	93.00
Stock Bulls	65.00	76.00
Beef Bulls	1 @	1062.50
Replacement Heifers	1 @	1175.00
Sows	1 @	37.00
Feeder Pigs each	40.00	60.00
Sheep each	30.00	75.00
Lambs each	50.00	175.00
Goats each	65.00	120.00
Kid Goats each	27.50	130.00
Canners	Up to	49.50
Cutters	50.00	52.00
Utility Grade Cows	53.00	60.00
Rabbits each	4.00	50.00
Chickens each	5.00	20.00
Ducks each	6.00	15.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction. Due to the malfunction of the Auction's scale, some livestock was sold by the dollar. The Auction's staff apologizes for the inconvenience.

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, October 13, 2008

SLAUGHTER COWS: Bulk/High/Low Dress

Breakers 75-80% lean

52.00-55.00 55.00-57.00 50.00-52.00

Boners 80-85% lean

49.00-52.00 52.00-52.50 47.00-49.00

Lean 85-90% lean

46.00-49.00 49.00-50.50 42.00-46.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2

1030-1575 lbs 67.00-72.00

1600-2290 lbs 58.00-62.50

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3

50-60 lbs 122.00-126.00

60-70 lbs 126.00-132.00

70-80 lbs 118.00-129.00

80-90 lbs 118.00-136.00

90-110 lbs 108.00-114.00

110-130 lbs 104.00-114.00

130-150 lbs 96.00-98.00

150-200 lbs 88.00-100.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLES, Cortland Totes 8-5lb bags	25.00	25.00
APPLES, Empire 80ct exfcy	30.00	30.00
APPLES, Red Del. fancy 2-3/4 min	22.00	24.00
APPLES, Honeycrisp 80ct exfcy	48.00	48.00
APPLES, Macoun exfcy bu 96ct	36.00	36.00
APPLES, Mcintosh 12 - 3lb bags	22.00	24.00
APPLES, Mcintosh 80ct exfcy	30.00	30.00
BEANS, Cranberry Type bu	30.00	30.00
BEANS, Green bu hand-picked	16.00	18.00
BEANS, Pole type bu	20.00	20.00
BROCCOLI, 14CT	13.00	15.00
BROCCOLLI, Cut Crown 20lb	20.00	22.00
CABBAGE, Green 50lb	7.00	8.00
CABBAGE, Green Organic 45lb	28.00	28.00
CORN, 5DZ	12.00	14.00
CORN, Ornamental 20/3's mini	14.00	15.00
CORN, Ornamental 20/3's	26.00	28.00
CORN STALKS, bundle	2.25	4.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9bu med	12.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Green Leaf 24ct Organic	30.00	30.00
PEARS, Bosc 2-1/2" min 4/5bu	24.00	26.00
PEARS, Red D'Anjou 4/5bu	25.00	27.00
PEPPERS, Cubanelles turning red lge 1-1/9	12.00	12.00
PEPPERS, Turning Red 1-1/9 bu	7.00	8.00
PEPPERS, Green xlge 1-1/9 bu	10.00	12.00
PEPPER, Ajies 1/2 bu	16.00	16.00
POTATOES, 10lb bag	2.50	2.50
POTATOES, Round White Chef 50lb	15.00	16.00
PUMPKINS, Howden 36in bin med-lge	150.00	175.00
PUMPKINS, Pie Type 36bin	175.00	200.00
PUMPKINS, Sugar 1-1/9 bu	12.00	14.00
SQUASH, Acorn 1-1/9 bu med/lge	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Butternut 1-1/9 bu med-lge	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Yellow 1/2 bu sm-med	13.00	14.00
SQUASH, Zucchini 1/2 bu med	10.00	12.00
TOMATOES, 20lb box	12.00	12.00

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 58.00-69.00

50-60 lbs 66.00-76.00

60-70 lbs 86.00-90.00

Nannies/Does: 50-80 lbs 76.00

80-130 lbs 64.00-78.00

Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs 94.00-175.00

150-250 lbs 152.00-162.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

FOR Mon October 13, 2008

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

Percent Lean Weight Price

49-54 220-270 lbs 58.00-60.00

270-300 lbs 55.00-58.00

300-370 lbs 52.00-53.00

45-49 220-270 lbs 55.00-58.00

270-300 lbs 52.00-55.00

300-370 lbs 49.00-52.00

40-45 220-270 lbs 52.00-55.00

270-300 lbs 49.00-51.50

Sows: US 1-3 300-500 lbs 47.00-51.00

500-700 lbs 51.00-53.25

Boars: 300-700 lbs 14.00

POLL MED	0.6	112	112
SCRD	0.0	67	67
CUSK	0.0	39	39
HAKE LGE	0.2	174	174
MED	0.4	113	113
SML	0.0	37	37
OCN PRCH	0.4	100	114
DABS LGE	0.0	144	144
MED	0.1	138	138
SML	0.5	78	78
SAND DABS	0.0	68	68
GREYSIOLE MED	0.1	812	812
SML	2.8	244	314
LEMONSOLE	0.6	233	288
LGE GEO BLACKBACKS	3.5	229	243
MIXED GEORGES BB	2.9	189	208
BLACKBACKS CHAN LGE	0.1	203	203
SML	0.2	142	142
YELLOWTAIL LGE	10.0	114	127
SML	1.2	118	120
MONKTAIL LGE	4.6	351	385
SML	6.0	330	333
SKATE WINGS	18.7	37	54
SML	0.1	34	34
MONK LIVERS	1.9	220	405

METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES

WHITE EGGS

TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,

Grade A eggs on:

October 14, 2008

EXTRA LARGE 118-122

LARGE 116-120

MEDIUM 105-109

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.

NEW BEDFORD WHALING CITY SEAFOOD DISPLAY AUCTION

SEA SCALLOPS LANDINGS &
PRICES IN 1,000 LBS

DATE 10/14/08

SPECIES SEA SCALLOPS

LBS/ MIN/ HIGH

U/10 GEORGES 1.7 915 915

U/12 4.7 765 815

20/30 17.5 675 730

NEW BEDFORD WHALING CITY SEAFOOD DISPLAY AUCTION

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

DATE 10/14/08

SPECIES LBS MIN HIGH

HADDOCK 0.3 188 188

HADD SCR D 13.3 82 100

COD LGE 0.9 216 224

MKT 5.4 143 206

SCR D 3.9 100 146

POLLOCK 1/ 0.0 92 92

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.

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.

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.

123-R. Battery powered price computing scales with state compliance, battery powered cash registers, repair of all types of scales. (800) 403-5919.

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

211-R. Hay for sale: \$7 per bale – second cut. Pick up in Guilford. (203) 640-9928.

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

215-R. Premium honey, cut comb and bees' wax candles. If you want the best, I have it. Willie's Honey. (860) 824-0638.

216-R JD 5420 2-wheel drive with rops - \$15,500. 6200 2-wheel drive with rops - \$15,500. Farmall 300 rowcrop - \$2,500. IH 784 with cab - \$10,500. JD 4020 power shift side consol - \$11,500. MF 375 new motor - \$6,500. JD 336 baler. NH 311 baler with thrower - \$6,500. IH 1-row corn chopper - \$1,500. 2 PTO generators. 1 new 8-ton running gear new tires - \$1,600. 2 firedome 3-ton grain bins - \$1,500 each. JD, IH front rear weights. 2nd and 3rd cut alfalfa hay. (203) 530-4953.

221-R. Registered Hereford cattle for sale. Cow-calf pairs, bred heifers, breeding bulls, steers. (860) 693-2052.

222-R. Pumpkins. All sizes. Top quality. Delivery available. Gourds. Paul Peters. Hebron. (860) 428-4846.

223-R. Rye straw seedless strawberry grade, large square bales 45-50 lbs. Please call (860) 289-5188 or (860) 289-5055.

224-R. Kuhn FC 250 Discbine mower conditioner - \$7,500. Kuhn GF 440T Gyro hay tedder - \$2,500. Good condition (203) 265-6012.

226. 2,000 #16, 6-year old Hereford bull for sale, excellent breeder and good disposition. \$1,000 Call (860) 491-3021.

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.

228. Whiteface breeding age heifers, bulls, steers, cow calf pairs. Also, some Brahma and Longhorn cattle. (860) 843-8476.

WANTED

225-R. Wanted: 1-row corn chopper, 16A JD Flail mower, forage wagon. (860) 303-9780.

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.

195-R. Bushiness opportunities Village of Wapping@ Buckland Hills: 20 acre calander scene farm, 27,000 cars per day, yet rural. NNN land leases, %gross. Must have Financial H.P. Strong work ethic. (1) Pony Hay Rides, (2) Home grown Restaurants, (3) Ice Cream Barn, (4) B&B (8bdm) Farm HomeStays, (5) Mini Golf, (6) Farm Market General Store Deli. Hilltop site, 100 mile view for Hotel Convention center. God Bless, I am Bill Krawski, owner, dirt farmer - 130 Buckland Rd. South Windsor, Ct 06074, 860-644-8486 or 860-707-5727.

219-R. 60,000 SF of wholesale greenhouse growing space for lease. Easy access to major interstate highways. Temperature alarm system and back up generator available. Call Clint Charter, Wallace-Tustin Realty 860-558-3908.

220-R. Extra income for farm owners in CT. - \$200 per ten acres is donated to farms for the use of the land for outdoor activities. Details at www.ctwhitetailassociation.com (860) 573-5155.

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS FUNDRAISER

Jack and Mavis Collins, who for decades, have been a pillar of the town of Enfield, the agricultural community and their church, and who have so often been a rock of support to others have recently fallen upon hard times. In early September, two barns at the Collins Powder Hill Farm, accidentally burned down. While no one was hurt, animals were displaced and storage was lost. Machinery and tools were lost as well as the stalls where local 4-H'ers kept their projects. Now, family and friends from Enfield and beyond are coming together to raise funds to rebuild these barns.

On October 25th starting at 6:30pm, family and friends of the Collins family are invited to dinner, a silent auction, and a square dance at the Tolland Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Road in Vernon to raise funds to help rebuild the barns.

There will be a \$10 fee per person collected at the door (children 12 & under free), which will be donated directly to the Collins family.

"Our goal is to raise at least \$5,000 for the Collins family" said Erin Penhall, coordinator of the event. "The Collins' are always the first ones there to help others, now it's our turn to help them."

To find out more information about The Collins Farm Fund, about the evening, and/or to RSVP; to donate to the silent auction and/or make a direct donation to The Collins Farm Fund please contact Erin Penhall at erinpenhall@gmail.com (860)872-2721.

Donations can be mailed to: The Collins Farm Fund, c/o Tolland Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Road, Vernon, CT 06066

* all donations are considered gifts and are not tax deductible

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

**488 CHERRY HILL RD
MIDDLEFIELD, CONN. 06455**

SAT. OCT 25TH, 2008 @11:00 AM
FALL FEEDER CATTLE SALE

Accepting Consignments:

Friday, Oct 24th From 9:00am – 7:00 pm
& Sat. Oct. 25th, From 7:00 am To 11:00 am

Accepting All Ages, Breeds & Sexes Of Beef Cattle.
All Cattle Fed & Watered For No Extra Cost!
Trucking Available To & From Sale Barn

For More Information Call Lisa Scirpo 860-883-5828
Sales Barn 860-349-3204; Home Res. 860 -346-8550
Fax-860-347-5179; EMAIL: sscirpo35@comcast.net

TERMS OF SALE CASH OR GOOD CHECK -
PHOTO ID REQUIRED
MASTERCARD AND VISA ACCEPTED

LUNCH ROOM OPEN

SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Articles about CT Grown and local agricultural topics and programs appeared in Edible Nutmeg, Nutmeg, INK, and a plethora of other state-wide and regional publications. Time Magazine put the spotlight on CT Grown when it featured the highly acclaimed Dinners at the Farm series and its creators Chefs Jonathan Rapp and Drew McLachlan.

WVIT 30 TV's "News at 11:00 AM" provided viewers throughout the season with regular features on strawberries, blueberries, farmers' markets, apples, and more. WFSB 3 TV's weekend edition of "Eyewitness News" welcomed numerous Farm-to-Chef members to their new kitchen to perform CT Grown culinary demonstrations. Both television stations, along with nearby WTNH-8 TV and WGGB-40 TV, ran a wide variety of farm-related stories during their evening and late-night news broadcasts.

These are just a few examples of the myriad media outlets that supported local agriculture this past season. The Department of Agriculture's Marketing Bureau received calls and emails from journalists on an often daily basis asking for information, updates, and requests for guests, or just "checking in." In fact, so many requests were received that some, unfortunately, could not be filled on short notice.

The media's interest in and appreciation of local agriculture is to be commended. The Department of Agriculture salutes these journalists' efforts to elevate local farmers to the celebrity status that they have deservedly received. Anyone who knows farming knows that nobody works harder than a local farmer. Thanks to the media, the public now is beginning to appreciate the fruit of the local farmers' labors as well.

Next time you hear a radio host talk about agriculture or local food, why not pick up the phone and give the show a call? If you see a story in the paper, zip off a quick email to the person who wrote it. (Au-

thors' email addresses regularly accompany the online versions of the articles.) If your favorite television news program runs a segment on farming or a CT Grown topic, contact the station to let them know how much you liked it. It is only by providing the media with positive feedback that they will know their audience enjoys and appreciates what they are doing.

And if the Department of Agriculture happens to give you a call to see if you are available to appear on one of these programs, consider that it not only would invaluablely benefit both your farm and your industry, it might just make you the next local celebrity!

SAVE THE DATE!!

University of Massachusetts Extension, University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, and Northeast SARE are sponsoring a "Alternative Greenhouse and High Tunnel Crops" conference at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA, Friday, December 12, 2008.

This all day conference will address topics of interest to those with greenhouses and unheated high tunnels. Topics will include: Growing in Greenhouses and High Tunnels; Growing Winter Sprouting Broccoli in Unheated High Tunnels for the Fresh Market; Growing Fresh Cut Herbs and Edible Flowers; Growing and Selling Fresh Cut Herbs; Growing Greens; Salad Greens for High Tunnel Production; Growing and Marketing Ginger Root.

For more information see: <http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/> or Contact: Tina Smith, University of Massachusetts, phone: 413-545-5306 or email: tsmith@umext.umass.edu;

Paul Lopes, University of Massachusetts phone: 508-295-2212 ext 12 or email: lopes@umext.umass.edu or

Leanne Pundt, University of Connecticut, Phone: 860-626-6240, email: leanne.pundt@uconn.edu



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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