



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor
Wednesday, December 21, 2011

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

USDA NAMES FIVE NEW NOSB MEMBERS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has appointed five new members to the National Organic Standards Board. The following representative seats, whose five-year terms begin January 24, 2012, will be filled by qualified members of the organic industry, as listed:

Handler: Harold V. Austin, IV. Mr. Austin is currently the Director of Orchard Administration for Zirkle Fruit Company, an organic tree fruit grower and shipper. He is also a member of the Washington State Department of Agriculture's Organic Advisory Board, the Northwest Horticultural Council's Science Advisory Board, and Washington State University's Leadership Team. He has been a leader in the organic tree fruit industry for years and has had broad exposure through the marketing segments following produce from the farm to the marketplace.

Producer: Carmela Beck. Ms. Beck is the National Organic Program Supervisor and Organic Certification Grower Liaison for Driscoll's, an organic berry producer. She is a member of the CCOF Government Advisory Council, the Organic Trade Association Mexico Task Force and Latinas in Agriculture. She brings along extensive knowledge and experience with organic certification. Her familiarity with California agriculture in particular, where much of U.S. organic produce grows, will enhance the knowledge base of the board.

Environmentalist: Tracy Favre. Ms. Favre is the Chief Operating Officer for Holistic Management International, an international non-profit group whose mission is to educate about how to manage land sustainably. She has 17 years of experience working with municipal and industrial clients on watershed management projects as an environmental engineering consultant. She also authors technical articles for industry journals and serves as a subject matter expert.

Consumer/Public Interest: Jean Richardson, Ph.D. Dr. Richardson is Professor Emerita of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Geography at the University of Vermont. She is also a

maple syrup producer, organic inspector and independent contractor for matters relating to rural development, agriculture and the environment. She has served on the board of directors of the Vermont Natural Resources Council, Northwest Medical Center, and the National Wildlife Federation. She was also appointed by President Clinton to represent the United States on the NAFTA Commission for Environmental Cooperation. She brings to the board an extensive background in public policy and work in sustainable development in addition to her understanding of organic agriculture as a result of her work as an organic inspector.

Scientist: Andrea (Zea) Sonnabend. Ms. Sonnabend is the Policy Specialist and Organic Inspector Specialist for CCOF, an organic certifier based in California. She has served on the board of the Organic Materials Review Institute, the Organic Seed Alliance, the International Organic Inspectors Association, and the California Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Advisory Council. She has extensive scientific knowledge and experience with materials used in organic production and handling. Formerly, she served as a technical advisor to the National Organic Standards Board from 1993 to 1995.

Authorized by the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.), the NOSB is responsible for making recommendations about whether a substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or handling; assisting in developing standards for substances used in organic production; and advising the Secretary on other aspects of the Act's implementation. The 15-member Congressionally-mandated advisory board comprises four organic producers, two handlers, three environmentalists, three consumer advocates, a scientist, an organic retailer, and an organic certifier.

As the agency responsible for overseeing the NOSB, the Agricultural Marketing Service ensures that membership accounts for the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA and, to the extent practicable, encourages membership to include individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

**WHOLESALE FRUITS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE,Cort,88 ct xfcy	23.00	24.00
APPLE,Cort,80ct,xfcy	25.00	25.00
APPLE,Cort,72ct,xfcy	25.00	25.00
APPLE,Fuji,2-1/2,bu	14.00	16.00
APPLE,Gala,125ct,fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLE,Gld Del,2-1/2in,bu	12.00	12.00
APPLE,Hnycsp,72ct,xfcy	46.00	46.00
APPLE,Hnycsp,64ct,xfcy	46.00	46.00
APPLE,Mac,140ct,US 1	16.00	16.50
APPLE,Mac,80ct,fcy	18.00	19.00
APPLE,Rd Del,2-1/2in,bu	14.00	16.00
CIDER,9 1/2gal	18.00	18.00
CIDER,4-1gal	16.00	16.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

December 19, 2011

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

49-54	220-270 lbs	68.00-71.00
	270-300	68.00-70.50
	300-400lbs	70.00-72.50
45-49	220-270lbs	63.00-64.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	58.00-60.00
	500-700 lbs	55.00-59.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	31.50-32.50

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, December 19, 2011

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	18.00	22.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	55.00	60.00
91-105 lbs.	70.00	75.00
106 lbs. & up	80.00	85.00
Farm Calves	92.50	102.50
Veal Calves	65.00	115.00
Open Heifers	55.00	100.00
Feeder Steers	71.00	110.00
Starter Calves	25.00	32.00
Stock Bulls	72.50	95.00
Lambs each	135.00	230.00
Goats each	95.00	165.00
Kid Goats each	57.00	120.00
Canners	up to	65.00
Cutters	66.50	70.00
Utility Grade Cows	71.50	74.25
Rabbits each	5.00	22.00
Chickens each	6.00	36.00
Ducks each	3.00	26.00
Sheep	62.00	170.00
Feeder Pigs	65.00	130.00
Butcher Hogs	one at	90.00

**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
ALFALFA SPROUTS,5lb	11.00	12.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS,12-4oz	12.00	12.00
BEAN SPROUTS,10lb	4.50	5.00
CRANBERRIES,24-12oz,film	32.00	34.00
PARSNIP,25lb	24.00	25.00
POTATOES,Rnd,wh,chef,50lb	13.00	14.00
POTATOES,10lb	2.25	2.60
SQUASH,Bttrnt,1/9bu,lg	14.00	16.00
TOMATOES,Cherry, 5lb flat	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES,Grnhs,on vine,12lb	25.00	25.00

SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
ANISE,24ct,AZ	26.00	30.00
BEANS, Grn,rnd,bu,FL	18.00	20.00
BEETS,12s,NJ	11.00	12.00
BOK CHOY,30lb,AZ	20.00	20.00
BROCCOLI RABE,20lb,CA	38.00	40.00
CANTALOUPE,12ct,AZ	10.00	12.00
CARROTS,50lb,CA	16.00	18.00
CHERRY,Bing,5kg,xl	38.00	41.00
CLEMENTINES,5lb,SP	4.00	4.50
CORN,4doz,FL	18.00	20.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu,FL	16.00	18.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,24,CA	18.00	18.00
ONION,Yel,25lb,NY	6.00	7.00
ORANGES,113ct,CA	17.00	19.00
PEPPER, Grn bell,1-1/9bu,FL	14.00	17.00
RHUBARB ,6kg,Grnhs	40.00	40.00
STRAWBERRIES,8/1,FL	10.00	12.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

December 19, 2011

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers	75-80%lean	68.00-72.00--- 72.50-73.50---63.50---67.50
Boners	80-85% lean	67.00-70.00---71.00-73.00---61.00-66.00
Lean	88-90% lean	60.00-65.00---66.00-71.00---55.00-59.00

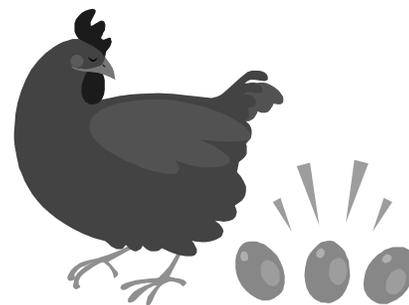
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1
1195-1515 lbs -79.50-84.50

CALVES: All prices per cwt.
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1
95-120lbs - 135.00-152.00

Holstein Heifers: Number 1
90-95 lbs 160.00—180.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:

Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3	40-60 lbs 245.00-305.00
	60-80 lbs 180.00-250.00
	80-90 lbs 180.00-195.00
	90-110 lbs 180.00-192.00
	110-130 lbs 179.00-194.00
	130-150 lbs 170.00-185.00



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	190-200
LARGE	188-198
MEDIUM	123-136

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

December 19, 2011

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, warehouse, centers per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	150-154
LARGE	148-152
MEDIUM	111-115

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN REPORT

December 19, 2011

Grain market for eastern Pennsylvania.

Corn No. 2 6.00-7.00/bushel

Ear Corn 180.00-220.00/ton



Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3

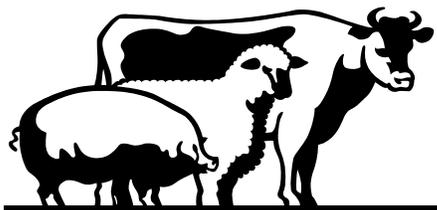
40-60 lbs	203.00-224.00
60-80 lbs	175.00-203.00
80-90 lbs	N/A
90-110lbs	161.00-176.00
110-130lbs	160.00-174.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh

120-160 lbs	91.00 -104.00
160-200 lbs	87.00-103.00
200-300lbs	75.00-90.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160 lbs	78.00-84.00
160-200 lbs	72.00-84.00

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

Kids: 30-40 lbs	92.00-100.00
40-60lbs	90.00-119.00
60-80lbs	116.00-134.00
80-90lbs	131.00-146.00
90-100lbs	141.00-156.00
100-110lbs	150.00-165.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	121.00-136.00
130-180 lbs	124.00-140.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	196.00-211.00
150-200 lbs	253.00-266.00



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, 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, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com, Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. 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.

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

211-R. Good horse hay. Round bales, picked up or delivered. \$45 each. 203-530-4953.

212-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

216-R. Oak tomato or snow stakes, new and used. Heavy duty 1.25' x 4'. New .75 cents. Used (one season) .55 cents. Stacked on pallets, stored under cover. 860-716-3240.

225-R. Mail order business of "Alpine window box ivy geraniums of Europe." Hundreds of (UPS) customers in 48 states for 20 years. 860-342-2374, 888-GERANIUM (437-2648). www.wheelerfarmgardens.com

227-R.. Ford Model 9000 silage truck, tandem 20' body, automatic gate, runs good. \$4,500.00. 860-537-1974.

228-R. 1943 9N tractor, runs. \$1,200.00/BO. 1943 9N tractor, not running, has belly sickle bar, snow plow, rear weight, bucket loader (trip type), rear pulley. Restorable. \$1,200.00/BO. 2 galvanized grain silos. \$1,000.00 each/BO. Jerry 860-334-2995.

230. Pair 12' steel swing gates. Four 14' x 6" x 6" pine beams. Call 860-872-3090.

231. Utility vehicle Bobcat Pioneer 1299 model-electric start, tilt body, nerf bars, lights, bed mat, 351 cc engine 11 hp gas. \$6,200.00 – 860-559-0374 or wegrowall@sbcglobal.net

232. 4 ton trailer Cross Country custom deck over, 14 long x 8 feet wide with a 3 x 8 beaver tail custom trailer-Asking \$1,650.00 – 860-559-0374 or wegrowall@sbcglobal.net

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.

219-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

2012 BEE SCHOOL

The Eastern Connecticut Beekeepers Association will be conducting an introductory beekeeping course for anyone with an interest in bees/beekeeping. People who already have colonies are also invited to attend. Classes will be held at the University of Connecticut's Storrs campus in the W.B. Young Building on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., with registration at 6:00 p.m. on the first evening. Class dates are January 26, February 2, February 9, and February 16, with February 23 reserved as a snow date in the event of a class cancellation. (If UConn is closed due to weather, class will not be held.) \$75 registration fee includes the class book, "The Backyard Beekeeper", the class, and a one year membership in the Eastern Connecticut Beekeepers Association. For more information, go to <http://www.myecba.org>.

GAP TRAINING OFFERED

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) training will be offered at Tolland County Extension Center on January 25 and 26 and at the New Haven County Extension Center on February 1 and 2. Presented by the UConn Cooperative Extension in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, the GAP School will be comprehensive, providing farmers the tools they need to develop a GAP food-safety program and prepare for a third-party audit. Please contact Diane Hirsch, diane.hirsch@uconn.edu or 203-407-3163, or Candace Bartholomew, candace.bartholomew@uconn.edu or 860-570-9067, for registration information.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM CUT-OFF DATE IS JAN 13

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced that the ranking period cut-off date for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is January 13, 2012.

CSP provides many conservation benefits including improvement of water and soil quality, wildlife habitat enhancements, and adoption of conservation activities that address the effects of climate change. Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland, nonindustrial private forest land, and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

A CSP self-screening checklist, available from local NRCS offices and at www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp, can help potential applicants determine if CSP is suitable for their operation.

For more information, contact your nearest USDA Field Office: Danielson (860-779-0557), Hamden (203-287-8038), Norwich (860-887-3604), Torrington (860-626-8258), Windsor (860-688-7725).

USDA NOTES EXPANSION OF WINTER MARKETS

Agriculture Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan recently announced that the number of winter farmers' markets is increasing. According to the updated National Farmers' Market Directory, since 2010, the number of winter markets has increased 38 percent, from 886 to 1,225. These winter markets also account for nearly 17 percent of the nation's 7,222 operating farmers' markets (Note: The reported number of farmers' markets has been updated since August 2011).

Farmers' markets operating at least once between November and March are considered winter farmers' markets. The top 10 states for these markets are (state, # of winter markets in 2011, # of winter markets in 2010): 1. New York, 180, 152; 2. California, 153, 137; 3. Pennsylvania, 78, 35; 4. North Carolina, 73, 53; 5. Ohio, 50, 34; 6. Maryland, 48, 30; 7. Florida, 46, 31; 8. Massachusetts, 43, 30; 9. Virginia*, 40, 21; 10. Michigan*, 33, 19.

The expanded adoption of hoop house technology, which has enabled many smaller growers to extend their production seasons at low cost, has been a contributing factor to the growth of winter farmers' markets. Hoop houses have allowed growers to produce locally grown products for longer time periods and in colder climates.

USDA provides support to farmers' markets through numerous programs, including AMS Specialty Crop Block Grants Program and Farmers' Market Promotion Program. The agency also sponsors its own indoor farmers' market during the winter months at USDA's headquarters in Washington, D.C. The market features local products such as fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, eggs, honey, herbs, handmade soaps, baked goods and more.

* New to the top 10 list.

ATTENTION FARMERS' MARKET MASTERS

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is creating a list of markets looking for farmers/vendors for the 2012 farmers' market season. The list will be sent out to all farmers/vendors on a monthly basis beginning in January. If you would like your market included on this list contact Mark Zotti at Mark.Zotti@ct.gov or 860-713-2538.

MILFORD AQUACULTURE SEMINAR MAR 12-14

The 32nd gathering of the Milford Aquaculture Seminar will be March 12-14, 2012, at Water's Edge Resort and Spa, Westbrook, CT. The seminar will begin the evening of March 12 with a poster session, followed by two days of technical sessions predominantly focused on shellfish aquaculture.

Registration fees are \$100 per person, \$80 per student, and must be received by February 22, 2012. Registration fees not received by February 22 increase to \$140 per person.

A room rate of \$99 + tax has been arranged; reservations can be made by calling 860-399-5901 and mentioning Milford Aquaculture Seminar, March 2012. The cut-off date for reservations at this rate is Monday, February 13, 2012.

For further information, guidelines for abstract submission, and registration forms, please visit <http://mi.nefsc.noaa.gov/seminarworkshop>. If you have additional questions, please contact Walter Blogoslawski at walter.blogoslawski@noaa.gov or 203-882-6535, or Lisa Milke at lisa.milke@noaa.gov or 203-882-6528.

NEW FUNGAL BLIGHT INFECTING BOXWOOD PLANTS

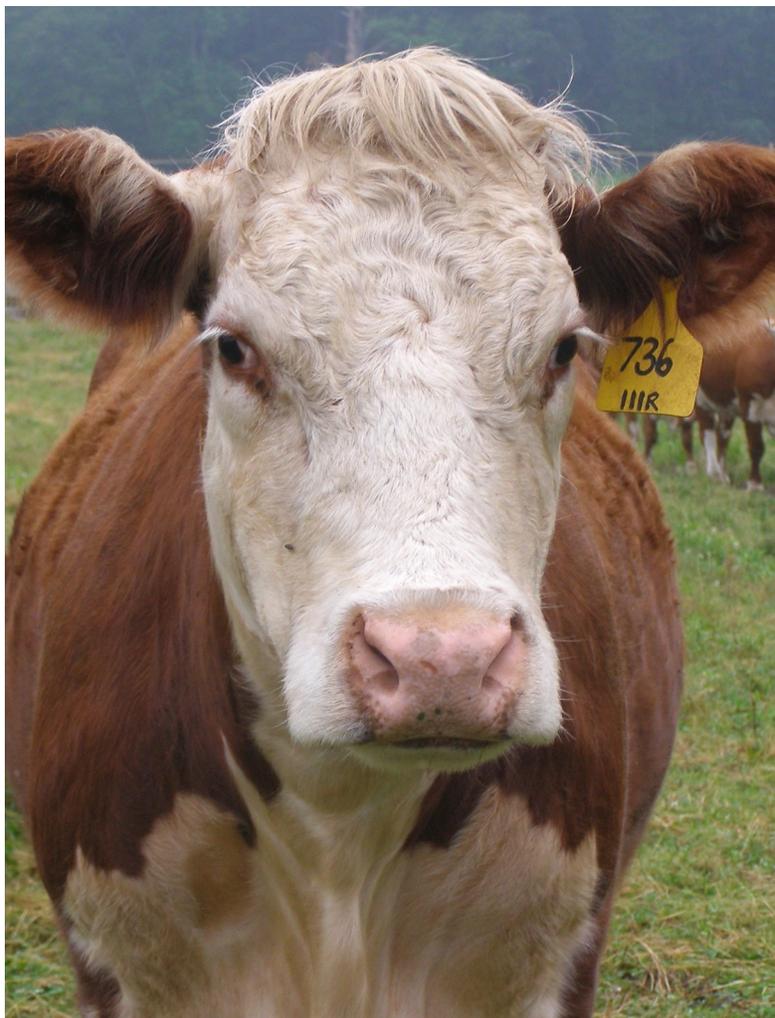
Scientists at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station have discovered that a fungus (*Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum*) new to the United States is killing some boxwood plants in Connecticut. These popular, attractive plants are common landscape ornamentals often used for hedges.

Infected plants were first detected in Middlesex County during October of this year and were subsequently found in Fairfield, Hartford, and New London counties. Although the fungus causes noticeable foliar lesions and stem cankers, early infections can be difficult to detect. Once infected, plants decline rapidly. The unusually high amounts of precipitation received this year and relatively warm temperatures this fall have favored fungal growth. Fungicides currently registered for use are not curative for Boxwood blight.

The virulent fungus mainly attacks *Buxus* species and is a widespread problem in the United Kingdom, other areas of Western Europe, Russia (Georgia), and in New Zealand. It is unknown when or how the pathogen entered the United States or how well the fungus will survive the Connecticut winters. Fungal infections have been confirmed in Virginia and North Carolina.

Regulatory investigations are ongoing in Connecticut and several other states to identify the sources and geographic distributions of the infection. Current research in Connecticut focuses on molecular identification (DNA fingerprinting) of the fungus to hopefully aid in determining the source of infection and identifying a new fungicide that will control the pathogen.

A fact sheet and more information on Boxwood blight is available at www.ct.gov/caes or by calling 203-974-8496.



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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, the last week of June, one week in September, and when the Governor closes state offices. Print subscriptions are \$40.00 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106. **Print subscriptions expire on December 31, 2013.**

VOL. XCI
No. 48
Dec. 21, 2011