



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
 Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, March 27, 2013

AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY GRANTS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Ron Olsen, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation

Grants are an integral component of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Connecticut Grown Program and have been well utilized since their inception in 2005. These annual grants help finance on-farm improvements and fund many programs that support and promote Connecticut agriculture.

A total of 214 Agricultural Viability Grants totaling \$6.3 million have been awarded for projects having a combined total budget of \$16.3 million.

Funding is not limited to production farmers; non-profit organizations and municipalities also are eligible.

Agricultural Viability Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and matching funds must be supplied by the recipient. Grantees may receive up to \$49,999 in matching funds and have one year to complete their projects.

Recipients fall into one of two grant subcategories: the Farm Transition Grants (for producers and agricultural co-ops) or the Farm Viability Grants (for municipalities and agricultural non-profits). Each subcategory has a dedicated fund.

These grants have been made available through Public Act 05-228, *An Act Concerning Farmland Preservation, Land Protection, Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation*, also known as the Community Investment Act.

This landmark legislation protects and preserves Connecticut for future generations by funding municipal open space grants, farm viability and preservation projects, historic preservation and new and existing affordable housing programs, and new infrastructure to support and promote Connecticut agriculture.

This funding is generated from a \$40 fee collected by municipal clerks for recording documents into land records.

A few shining examples of wisely spent Farm Viability dollars are grant-supported projects undertaken by Harbor Watch in Westport, The Community Farm of Simsbury, and Massaro Farm CSA in Woodbridge.

Harbor Watch is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission of protecting and re-establishing the biological integrity of coastal waters and freshwater streams. It accomplishes this goal by testing water quality throughout Fairfield County, locating and sourcing pollution discharges, and analyzing the worst impacts.

Harbor Watch's Farm Viability Grant enabled the hiring of five employees along with the purchase of laboratory supplies and equipment to aid in the surveys.

Continued monitoring of these waters is important not only for recreational purposes but also for the commercial shellfish businesses that operate here.

Harbor Watch supplies affected towns with reports that have been used to stop pollution discharges and fix problems at the source. Their excellent work has been cited by both state and municipal agencies.

The Community Farm of Simsbury, another 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is an example of how partnerships can thrive during uneven economic times.

This town-owned farm was home to an organic dairy business until 2008. A partnership was formed between the town of Simsbury, the Ethel Walker School, and Hartford's Billings Forge Community Works to create the Community Farm of Simsbury, which became responsible for management of the farm by leasing 77 acres, 38 of which are tillable.

(continued on Page 3)



Harbor Watch monitors this storm drain outfall into Norwalk Harbor

**WHOLESALE LETTUCE
U.S. GROWN**

	Low	High
BOSTON,24ct,AZ	15.00	18.00
GREEN LF,24ct,AZ	15.00	18.00
ICEBRG,Wrpdd,24ct,AZ	30.00	35.00
MESCLUN,3lb,AZ	6.00	7.00
OAK LF,Rd,2.5lb,AZ	10.00	12.00
ROMAINE,24,AZ	30.00	36.00
ROMAINE,12/18oz	28.00	36.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

March 25, 2013

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

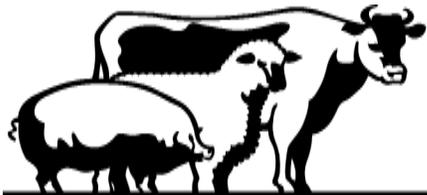
49-54	220-270 lbs	55.50-57.00
	270-400 lbs	53.00-56.00
45-49	220-300 lbs	53.00-55.00
	300-400 lbs	n/a
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	53.00-53600
	500-700 lbs	63.50-68.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	n/a

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, March 25, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	42.00	50.00
61-75 lbs.	75.00	90.00
76-90 lbs.	100.00	110.00
91-105 lbs.	120.00	125.00
106 lbs. & up	130.00	135.00
Farm Calves	145.00	180.00
Starter Calves	45.00	55.00
Veal Calves	85.00	167.50
Open Heifers	72.50	140.00
Beef Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Heifers	80.00	105.00
Feeder Steers	80.00	100.00
Stock Bulls	82.00	106.00
Beef Bulls	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	one at	40.00
Goats each	40.00	250.00
Kid Goats	25.00	115.00
Canners	Up to	75.00
Cutters	76.00	79.00
Utility Grade Cows	80.00	83.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	28.00
Chickens each	6.00	25.00
Ducks each	23.00	33.00
Feeder Pigs	50.00	70.00
Lambs	55.00	220.00
Sheep	50.00	145.00



WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	Low	High
APPLE,Fuji,12/3,fcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE,Gala,125ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Gld del,72ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Mac,12/3,fcy	24.00	24.00
APPLE,Rd del,100ct,fcy	24.00	24.00
BEAN SPRT,10lb	6.00	6.00
LETTUCE,Bibb,12/4oz	13.00	16.00
POTATOES,Chef,50lb	10.00	10.00
POTATOES,Rd,10/5lb,A	14.00	14.00
POTATOES,Rsst,90ct	10.50	11.00
RUTABAGAS,50lb	13.00	14.00
TOMATOES,11lb,on vine	22.00	23.00
TOMATOES,loose,25lb	17.00	17.00

SHIPPED IN

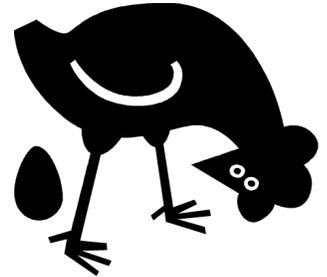
	Low	High
ASPARAGUS,28lb,CA	50.00	50.00
BLUEBERRY,12/6oz,FL	35.00	38.00
COLLARDS,12/16s,SC	12.00	13.00
LEEKS,5kg,grnhs,NT	23.00	25.00
LEMONS,140ct,CA	22.00	24.00



NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

March 25, 2013

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80% lean		
	75.00-78.00	80.00-82.00	70.00-74.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	74.00-78.00	79.00-81.50	68.00-74.00
Lean	88-90% lean		
	71.00-75.00	77.00-78.00	60.00-70.00
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves			
No.1	95-115lbs	190.00-210.00	
No.2	95-125lbs	170.00-190.00	
No.3	95-115lbs	120.00-155.00	
SLAUGHTER BULLS Yield Grade 1			
	955-1675lbs	90.00-96.00	
HOLSTEIN HEIFERS			
No.1	80-110lbs	110.00-140.00	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Trad. Markets			
Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	40-50lbs	160.00-180.00	
	50-70lbs	142.00-165.00	
	80-110lbs	n/a	
	110-130lbs	n/a	



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown eggs in cartons, delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.66-1.75
LARGE	1.52-1.62
MEDIUM	1.13-1.22

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

March 25, 2013

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

EXTRA LARGE	1.48-1.52
LARGE	1.46-1.50
MEDIUM	1.20-1.24

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN SUMMARY

March 25, 2013

Eastern/Central Pennsylvania

Corn No 2 (per bu)	7.62
Wheat No 2 (per bu)	n/a
Oats No 2 (per bu)	n/a
Soybeans No 2 (per bu)	14.40
Ear Corn (per ton)	n/a



Woolled & Shorn Good & Choice 3-4

40-50lbs	200.00-235.00
50-60lbs	170.00-174.00
80-100lbs	n/a
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
90-120lbs	70.00-90.00
120-160lbs	76.00-85.00
160-200lbs	n/a
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
110-120lb	n/a
120-160lbs	42.00-65.00
Bucks	
120-160lbs	50.00-70.00
215-240lbs	40.00-60.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel. 1, by the head, est. wt.	
40-60lbs	70.00-110.00
60-70lbs	97.00-122.00
70-90lbs	114.00-165.00
90-130lbs	120.00-180.00
Nannies/Does: 110-125lbs	110.00-140.00
130-160lbs	130.00-172.00
Bucks/Billies: 130-150lbs	180.00-200.00
150-180lbs	200.00-227.00
Sel. 2	125-150lbs 132.00-180.00

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 for more information.

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-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.

29-R. Best fertilizer to perk up your hay lot! Dry chicken manure, call for delivery, 860-537-1974.

30-R. Krone, Krone, Krone Haying Equipment. Why settle for anything less? Mowers, Tedders, Rakes, Balers and more. 0% for 24 months or 2.25% for 60 months financing on all new Krone equipment. Come see us at scenic Route 169, Pomfret Center, CT. Also at www.bigboystoysllc.net 860-928-9778.

31-R. Round Bales WRAPPED HAYLAGE, 4x4, \$25 and up. 860-234-1605.

34-R. 8 Frame Beehive, complete wood. 2' X 3' Aluminum storm windows, approx. 100, would make a perfect cold frame, \$1.00 each. 860-423-1347 cell 617-308-3015.

35-R. Moldboard plow, 2 bottom, 3 P.H. International, Auto Reset. Extra points. \$975.00. Rotovator, 6 Ft-8 adjustable rotors, extra tines, 3 P.H., \$675.00. Tolland. 715-572-0951 or pumpkinpaul1@aol.com

36 New Holland 315 baler with belt thrower, \$5,000. NH 56 rake \$850. Deutz-Farr Kh 400 hay shaker, \$1,900. All in very good working condition. NH 258 for parts, \$450. Best offer on all. Call Eric 860-617-5688.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-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.

37-R. Hebron: 53.9 acres, Ideal for winery, horse farm etc. Two frontages on Burnt Hill Road, one with driveway. Pond and two streams. Asking \$325,000. 860-872-6637.

HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET NOW FEATURING SPRING AND HOLIDAY PLANTS

The state-owned Hartford Regional Market at 101 Reserve Road features a year-round outdoor wholesale farmers' market as well as numerous wholesale companies.

This week the farmers' market will offer a variety of Easter plants including lilies, tulips, hyacinths, and daffodils, in addition to other spring favorites such as pansies. The farmers' market also has perennials, trees, and shrubs for sale.

The farmers' market operates daily from 5:00 to 9:00 a.m. and serves farm stands, grocery stores, landscape companies, and garden centers, as well as selling to the general public. Shoppers are advised to arrive early for the best selection, and to bring a wagon for carrying multiple plants, if necessary.

AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY GRANTS

(continued from Page 1)

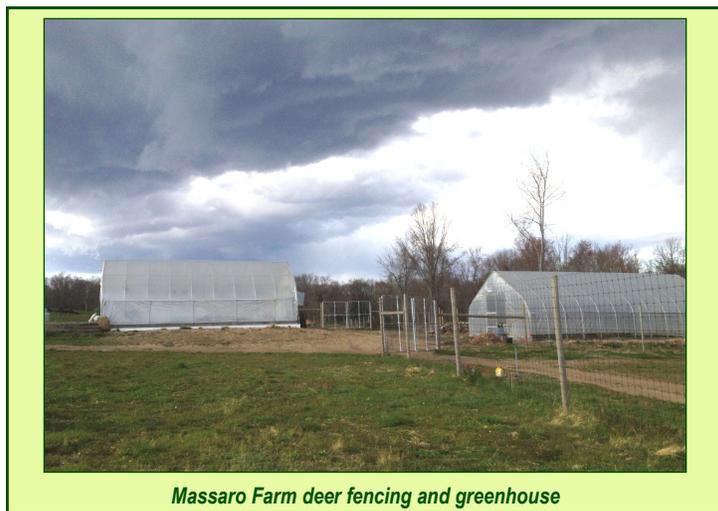
Their Farm Viability Grant has helped to expand and enhance summer and school-year educational programs, augment volunteer opportunities, and establish the farm's Incubator Farmer Program. It has also helped to finance infrastructure, including coolers, root cellar storage facilities, irrigation systems, and barn renovations.

Last year, the Community Farm of Simsbury grew 12,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables that it donated to various social services. Farmers from the Incubator Farmer Program have gone on to establish their own farms or work as managers of existing farms. Educational hands-on programs have been developed for all age groups, supporting school curriculums in math, reading, writing, and social studies. An onsite seasonal farm stand offers the community fresh fruits and vegetables. This project is a prime example of a municipal farm that works.

Massaro Farm began in 1916 as a private family farm. In 2007, 57 acres were deeded to the town of Woodbridge, and in 2008, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Massaro Community Farm was formed to restore the farm. The organization received a Farm Viability Grant to help refurbish the existing old dairy facility and turn it into a central workplace with a sorting area, refrigeration, and storage needed for a working fruit and vegetable farm. Another Farm Transition Grant helped the farm establish a community supported agriculture (CSA) program in 2010 on four acres, with funding used to fence in the entire production area for wildlife protection and to purchase an irrigation system.

In 2010, the farm harvested more than 18,000 pounds of produce, benefiting 125 CSA members. In 2012, the CSA expanded to 155 members, harvesting more than 48,000 pounds of produce on five cultivated acres. This year, the farm is increasing its production area to seven and a half acres and is preparing another acre and a half for future use. In addition, the farm has made weekly donations in season to local hunger relief organizations and has sold to area restaurants. This municipal farm is definitely back into production agriculture as the original owners intended it to be.

Agricultural Viability Grants—both Farm Viability (nonprofits and municipalities) and Farm Transition (producers and co-ops)—are offered annually with applications due the second Friday of each November. For more information, please contact Ronald Olsen at 860-713-2550 or Ronald.olsen@ct.gov, or visit the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's website, www.CTgrown.gov, and click on "Programs, Services, and Grants" at the left of the page.



Massaro Farm deer fencing and greenhouse

JAIME JONES NAMED OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council's 2013 Outstanding Young Farmer Award was presented to Philip Jamison (Jamie) Jones on March 20, 2013, during Agriculture Day at the Capitol in Hartford.

Jamie is a sixth-generation farmer at the 150-year-old Jones Family Farms in Shelton and is responsible for 400 acres of agricultural production that includes pick-your-own fruits and vegetables, Christmas trees, wine grapes, and hay.

He is a member of the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development and chairs its Producer Education and Training working group. In addition, Jamie is president of the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association, a board member of the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council, and first vice president of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association.

The Outstanding Young Farmer Award is presented to an applicant between the ages of 21 and 40 who derives at least two-thirds of his or her income from farming. Candidates are selected on the following criteria:

- achievements in their agricultural enterprises
- involvement in the agriculture industry and their community
- work on soil and water conservation projects

As the Connecticut winner, Jamie will compete nationally at the 58th Annual National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress in Rapid City, South Dakota, February 13-16, 2014.

Congratulations, Jamie, and best of luck in the national competition!



Jamie Jones (center) is the 2013 Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer. Erin Pirro (left) and Commissioner Reviczky (right) presented the award at Agriculture Day at the Capitol



Steve Grant (center) receives the Agricultural Journalism Award for Best Feature Story in a Daily Newspaper from Bob Hefferman and Commissioner Reviczky on Agriculture Day at the Capitol



Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

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