

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

M. Jodi Rell, Governor
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Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director

CONNECTICUT
GROWN



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

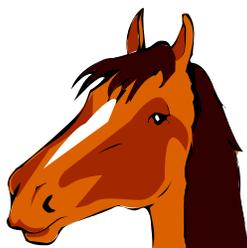
DEPARTMENT'S RESCUED HORSES AND MULES CONSIGNED TO UCONN SALE

by Raymond Connors, Supervisor, State Animal Control Division

The Department of Agriculture has announced the upcoming sale of a group of rescued animals consisting of twenty three horses and two mules. The animals are consigned to the University of Connecticut's Annual Spring Horse Auction and Tack and Equipment Tag Sale to be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Horse Barn Hill Arena. The sale preview will begin at 10:00AM and the auction at 1:00PM.

The Auction and Sale are held by the University of Connecticut College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the benefit of the Equine Science Program in the Department of Animal Science. It is a student organized event with faculty supervision. John Bennett, the Barn Manager, selects one Senior and one Junior to work on the event during the spring semester. Other student volunteers are assigned horses weeks in advance leading up to the sale to prepare them for the sale. The Tack and Equipment Sale held on Auction day features various vendors selling everything from used boots and breeches to horse trinkets and saddles.

The rescued and rehabilitated animals that the Department is consigning to the UConn Auction have been cared for at the Department's large animal rescue barn located at the Gates Correctional Facility in Niantic, CT. The rescue barn built in 2003 is a cooperative effort of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Corrections. The animals, all of which



have been seized as a result of evidence of animal cruelty and neglect, are cared for daily by Department of Agriculture staff and residents at the Gates Correctional facility. Combinations of 169 horses, mules and don-

keys have been rehabilitated at this facility since its opening. The Animal Science Department of UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has been an important partner in finding good homes for the rehabilitated animals. The staff and students have taken a genuine interest in the animals as shown by their cooperation and dedication at each sale that has been held since 2003.

The animals consigned to the sale have been at the rescue barn for some time and are completely rehabilitated back to a healthy condition. The horses and the mules have current vaccinations, health certificates, negative Coggins tests and each has a microchip (LifeChip®) for identification purposes. All records will be available to interested parties. Although all of the animals are healthy, some are not sound and these will be shown to the viewing attendees as horses for adoption in need of good homes.

For more information regarding the Department's animals contact Linda Wenner at (860) 713-2506 or visit the auction website at www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/equine/horsesale.htm. On this website you will find information and photos on all of the rescued animals.

For general information regarding the UConn Annual Spring Horse Auction and Tack and Equipment Tag Sale, you may go to the website or contact UConn at (860) 486-2034.

BEAUTIFUL EARTH: NOFA NHHN HERB AND GARDEN CONFERENCE

The Northeast Organic Farming Association New Hampshire Herbal Network (NOFA NHHN), is organizing the 1st Annual Spring Herb and Garden Conference, titled Beautiful Earth, which will be held on Saturday, May 22nd 2010. The day-long conference will be symbolic of the rebirth and renewal of Spring, in celebration of the plenty that blooms during this time of year and the outpouring of natural resources available after the long winter months.

The Beautiful Earth: NOFA NHHN Spring Herb and Garden Conference will be held at the Pine Hill Waldorf School in Wilton, NH in the Monadnock Mountains. Registration information can be found at website at www.nofanh.org.

The conference will feature some of New Hampshire's top herbalists, gardeners, farmers, retailers, crafters, artisans and trades people who support organic growing methods, ecologically friendly products, local food, sustainable agriculture, natural medicine, and community awareness.

The event will be geared toward the whole family and to all interest levels. There will be a nature-based activity and learning tent for children, a petting zoo, booksellers, natural toys, a garden walk, scavenger hunt, nature craft making, interactive children's music and fairy face painting. Participants will enjoy guided nature walks and learn how to identify plants in the wild. Workshops including herbal product making, healing with herbs, organic gardening, flower essences, permaculture, sustainable agriculture are on the agenda. Prizes will be raffled throughout the day and there will be a Silent Auction table with many gift items donated by Vendors and Sponsors.

The Beautiful Earth Marketplace will have a regional organic farmers market with samples of local food, a plant sale and swap tent, eco-friendly household items, organic clothing, herbal products, soap and candles, jewelry, inspired art, and a whole lot more. There will be food service including standard fare, vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. There will be a baked goods table where the public can donate their homemade goodies to sell.

Volunteers are needed for the day of the event! Contact: Eleanor Moyer, Conference Coordinator, (603) 233-3217 or herbday@nofanh.org

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.
April 19, 2010

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

EXTRA LARGE	82-85
LARGE	80-84
MEDIUM	72-75

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, Ct, April 19, 2010

Live animals brought the following average
 prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	25.00	30.00
61-75 lbs.	40.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	50.00	55.00
91-105 lbs.	60.00	65.00
106 lbs. & up	72.50	75.00
Farm Calves	80.00	90.00
Started Calves	28.00	32.00
Veal Calves	77.50	115.00
Open Heifers	62.50	97.50
Beef Heifers	72.00	84.00
Feeder Steers	83.00	90.00
Beef Steers	72.50	95.00
Stock Bulls	84.00	105.00
Beef Bulls	72.00	87.00
Replacement Heifers	230.00	700.00
Sows	1 @	30.00
Sheep each	60.00	115.00
Lambs each	77.50	160.00
Goats each	85.00	145.00
Kid Goats each	55.00	140.00
Canners	Up to	53.00
Cutters	55.00	57.00
Utility Grade Cows	58.00	60.00
Rabbits each	8.00	25.00
Chickens each	5.00	17.00
Ducks each	6.00	10.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, April 19, 2010

Bulk/	High	/Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
Breakers	75-80% lean	
57.00-62.00	64.00-65.00	52.50-56.50
Boners	80-85% lean	
54.00-58.50	59.00-62.50	51.00-54.00
Lean	85-90% lean	
50.50-53.50	55.50-57.00	45.00-49.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1		
1010-2245 lbs		62.00-66.50
Yield Grade 2	1035-1435 lbs	56.50-59.50
Bullocks:	915-1385 lbs	67.00-72.50
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Choice and Prime 2-3		
40-60 lbs		175.00-198.00
60-80 lbs		174.00-196.00
90-110 lbs		170.00-190.00
130-150 lbs		146.00-160.00
Choice 2-3		
40-60 lbs		162.00-180.00
60-80 lbs		154.00-174.00
90-110 lbs		138.00-154.00
110-130 lbs		126.00-148.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh		
120-160 lbs		50.00-64.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal	15.00	15.00
APPLES, McIntosh, us fcy, 120ct	13.00	14.00
APPLES, Red Delicious 12/ 3-lb bags xfcy	16.00	16.00
CHIVES, 1-lb bag	8.00	8.00
FIDDLEHEADS, per lb	5.00	5.00
POTATOES, Russett 10 - 5lb bags	9.00	9.00
TOMATOES, Vine Ripes 25lb box med ,ghouse	25.00	26.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLES, Fuji us xfcy, 80ct WA	36.00	39.00
ARTICHOKES, 30ct cartons CA	24.00	24.00
ASPARAGUS, 11lb std CAL	21.00	21.00
BEANS, Green bu handpicked FL	21.00	22.00
BEETS, Red 12's TX	14.00	14.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12/4.4oz cups med FL	36.00	36.00
BROCCOLI RABE, 20lb CA	32.00	32.00
CARROTS, 50lbs jbo GA	14.00	14.00
CILANTRO, 24's NJ	12.00	13.00
COLLARD GREENS, 12-16s GA	11.00	12.00
CORN, 4 1/2 dz FL	18.00	20.00
CUCUMBER, 1-1/9bu med MX	20.00	21.00
DANDELION GREENS, 12's NJ	17.00	17.00
HORSERADISH, 5lb MIZZ	12.00	12.00
LEEKs, 12's NJ	14.00	16.00
LETTUCE, Boston 12/4oz greenhouse TENN	14.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Iceberg, 24ct CA	21.00	23.00
MINT, 1/2bu NJ	12.00	12.00
NAPPA, 50lb FL	26.00	28.00
PEAS, English, bu FLA	55.00	55.00
PEAR, D' Anjou, 90ct, us #1 OR	26.00	26.00
PEPPER, Cubanelles 1-1/9 bu FL	50.00	50.00
PEPPER, Bell xlg ,1-1/9 bu Green FL	34.00	36.00
POTATOES, Long White 50lb CA	22.00	22.00
RHUBARB, 10lb greenhouse MICH	24.00	24.00
SPINACH, 1.3 bu Flat NJ	15.00	15.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb med-lg CAL	13.00	15.00
TOMATOES, 5x6 FL	32.00	33.00
TOMATOES, 10lbs heirloom ghouse CAN	36.00	36.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

160-200 lbs	46.00-60.00
200-300 lbs	40.00-52.00
Utility 1-2 Thin Fleshed	
120-160 lbs	40.00-58.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on estimated weights.	
Kids:	
40-60 lbs	98.00-115.00
60-80 lbs	120.00-136.00
80-100 lbs	125.00-152.00
100-110 lbs	134.00-158.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	86.00-104.00
130-180 lbs	102.00-120.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs	160.00-178.00
150-250 lbs	172.00-188.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon April 19, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual weights,
 prices quoted by hundred weight.

Percent Lean	Weight	Price
49-54	220-270 lbs	58.25-60.00
	270-300 lbs	57.25-60.00
	300-350 lbs	50.50-54.50
45-49	220-300 lbs	54.50-57.25
	300-400 lbs	48.00-49.50
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	45.00-47.00
	500-700 lbs	54.00-58.00

METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
 Grade A eggs on:
April 19, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	89-93
LARGE	87-91
MEDIUM	80-84

Above quotations based on
 CARTON sales to retailers.



PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

Monday April 19, 2010

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

	Premium
Alfalfa	140.00-150.00
Mixed Hay	140.00-150.00
	Good
Timothy	120.00-140.00
Straw	90.00-125.00

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAIL REPORT

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores
 in the Northeast

Week of April 16, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound
 unless otherwise stated.

VEGETABLES

Asparagus	1.99 - 3.79
Broccoli	.69 - 2.00 per bunch
Cabbage	.39 - .59
Carrots, Baby organic	1.49 - 1.50 1lb bag
Celery	.98 - 2.00 each
Cucumbers	.40 - 0.79 each
Lettuce, Romaine	.99 - 1.29 each
Mushrooms, White	1.00 - 2.00 8oz pkg
Peppers, Bell green	1.69 - 1.69
Peppers, Bell red	1.99 - 3.99
Potatoes, Russet	1.29 - 2.50 5lb bag
Squash, Zucchini	.78 - 1.79
Tomatoes on the vine	1.39 - 2.99

FRUITS

Apples, Red delicious	1.29 - 1.69
Avocados, Haas	.99 - 1.66 each
Cantaloup	.98 - 2.99 each
Grapes, Green/Red	.99 - 2.49
Grapefruit, Red	.33 - 1.00 each
Honeydew	2.99 - 3.99 each
Lemons	.40 - 0.75 each
Mangoes	.75 - 2.00 each
Oranges, Navel	.25 - 1.00 each
Pears, Bartlett	.99 - 1.99
Strawberries	1.49 - 3.49 16oz pkg

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.

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.

12-R. Hay – excellent 1st cut round, plastic wrapped bales \$40. 2nd cut \$50. 2nd cut squares \$5. Lebanon 860-886-0716.

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

59-R. Milking Shorthorn heifer calves for 2010 shows, also cow/calf pairs. Airlinefarm@yahoo.com or 860-267-9975.

61-R. For Sale: Hay - First Cut. Square Bales. \$4.00/bale. Call 860.829.1465

63-R. Four Registered Male Llamas for Sale- one Black and white, One Black, Two Brown.Price for all four, \$690.00. Westview Farm, Monroe, Ct.. Bernie @ 203-880-6814.

64-R. Corn silage in Bristol, CT available on weekends. Call 860-635-1379 evenings.

66-R. Reg Hereford Bulls and Bred Cows for sale. Excellent bloodlines. All animals sell with a breeding guarantee and current vaccinations. 860-250-3311.

67-R. Liquidating farm sale: Call Frank for prices, 203 494-1651 or 203 874-7036. 100 ft. Sears hoses, wheelbarrows, oil and gas furnaces, com-

pressor, old fashioned trunk, 3 by 6 steel tables, shade cloths for greenhouses, fuel tanks, 3 and 4 ft. fans, 443 automatic drip systems, drill press, 3 ton jeweler's safe, electric sprayers, 3 miniature horses, 2 registered, gas fork lift, plenty hibiscus.

69-R. John Deere 7000 four-row corn planter with fertilizer harpers and corn monitor. Excellent condition. Planted very little corn. Want a two-row corn planter. Will put toward the price of the four-row planter. 860-859-1965.

70-R. Hereford cow – organic raised, gentle, no delivery. 860-345-4302. Leave message.

73. Black Angus, 3 yearling heifers. 860-806-1156.

74-R. Oliver 1800 diesel tractor with loader. New battery and seat. Runs great! \$5,950. McCormick 6' brush hog \$400. 860-621-8862.

WANTED

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

65-R. 3-pt hitch sickle bar mower, drag disc harrow, cattle head gate. Wettemann Farm 203-457-0777.

71. Suffolk ram wanted to service seven experienced tall Suffolk ewes. 203-888-4066.

72-R. Two-row corn planer wanted – in working order. 860-859-1965.

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.

62-R. Free Alpaca & Llama Fiber- -- From 5 Alpacas and 4 Llamas, Available in May., Call for Details, Westview Farm, Monroe, Ct. Ask for Bernie 203-880-6814.

AGRICULTURAL FACTS

from the University of Connecticut Department
of Agricultural and Resource Economics
2007-2008 REPORT

By Rigoberto Lopez and Christopher Jeffords
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
In Memory of Dr. William "Al" Allen Cowan
(October 4, 1920-April 4, 2009)

Professor Emeritus, Department of Animal Science

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IS ALIVE AND WELL!

In his last Agriculture in Connecticut 2006 report, Al Cowan noted that "Most citizens and even many in agriculture, are not aware of agriculture's diversity, scope and importance" in New England. As this report goes to press, what Al wrote then is still true: "It is dynamic, still evolving and changing...and continuing to make significant contributions to the life of Connecticut citizens."

An important aspect of this contribution is agriculture's economic impact. In 2007, without accounting for differences in the number of farms or land in farms, Connecticut ranks third in New England at \$551,553,000 in total market value of agricultural products sold. Number one is Vermont, Maine is number two. However, Connecticut ranks first in terms of market value per farm and per acre.

Data for 2008 preserves the number three spot for Connecticut in terms of agricultural products sold at \$600,589,000—an increase of \$49,036,000 or 8.9%. Unfortunately, data for land in farms and number of farms were not yet available for 2008. However, it is interesting to note that between 2006 and 2007, land in farms in Connecticut actually increased by more than 5,000 acres and the total number of farms by over 700, with the average farm size remaining at approximately 82 acres—by far consisting of small and medium size family farm operations.

Between 2007 and 2008, Connecticut has seen its net farm income increase by close to 25% - pushing it into the number two spot in New England in terms of ranking based on these statistics. Attesting to the continuing diversity of Connecticut agriculture, the contribution of crops, animals,

and services and forestry to final agricultural output have remained consistent across 2007 and 2008 at 58%, 26%, and 18% respectively.

The diversity of Connecticut agriculture ranges from nursery, greenhouse, turfgrass, dairy cows and goat operations to tobacco leaf, fruit and vegetables, aquaculture, cattle, and horse farms.

Sales of crops and livestock accounted for approximately 73% and 27% of total sales respectively, the largest commodity sectors being the "green" industries (nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod), the dairy industry, and tobacco.

CONNECTICUT RANKINGS IN NEW ENGLAND

First in:

- Pear production
- Broadleaf and shade grown tobacco
- Production and value of production
- Acres harvested and yield per acre
- Market value of nursery, greenhouse, and floriculture sales
- Market value of cut Christmas trees and short-rotation woody crops sold
- Final agricultural sector output from crops (\$394 million)
- Horses per square mile (3rd in the U.S.)

Second in:

- Total value of milk produced per square mile
- Net farm income (2008)
- Total eggs produced and value of egg production
- Corn silage production
- Total value of trout sales
- Number of farms per square mile
- Acres of sweet corn planted per square mile
- Total value of milk produced per cow
- Peach Production

Third in:

- Total milk production and value of milk produced
- Horses per capita

AGRICULTURE FACTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

AGRICULTURE FACTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

As of July 2007, there were over 3.5 million people living in Connecticut, roughly 25% of the total population of New England. For being the second most populous yet second geographically smallest state in New England, Connecticut's agriculture is doing exceedingly well, as illustrated by the following per capita statistics for Connecticut in 2007:

- 1 head of cattle for every 67 people
- 1 milk cow for every 184 people
- 1 hog for every 875 people
- Slightly less than 1 chicken per person
- Around 6 pounds of apples per person
- 1 acre of farmland for every 9 people
- 1 acre of woodland for every 28 people
- \$4.32 of aquaculture products sold per person (based on USDA data)
- \$76.87 of nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod sold per person
- \$20.65 of milk and other dairy products from cows sold per person

The contribution of agriculture goes beyond the farm gate, and it also plays an important non-pecuniary role in preserving open space and the quality of life. In a nutshell, "agriculture is not dead in Connecticut" (Cowan, Connecticut Agriculture 2006). Relying on high value added operations and small and medium family farms, overall, by any measure, agriculture in Connecticut continues to thrive!



ASSESSING ANTIBIOTIC BREAKDOWN IN MANURE

Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientist Scott Yates is studying how oxytetracycline (OTC), an antibiotic that is administered to animals, breaks down in cattle manure.

Livestock producers in the United States often use antibiotics to control disease in their animals, and confined U.S. livestock and poultry generate about 63.8 million tons of manure every year. The drugs are often only partially absorbed by the digestive tract, and the rest are excreted with their pharmaceutical activity intact.

Yates, who works at the ARS Contaminant Fate and Transport Research Unit in Riverside, Calif., found that in controlled laboratory conditions, OTC in cattle manure was degraded more quickly as temperatures increased and as the moisture content in the manure increased. But the OTC breakdown slowed as water saturation levels neared 100 percent. Yates concluded that this slowdown resulted when oxygen levels were not high enough to fuel the OTC biodegradation.

Yates also noted that OTC breaks down more quickly in manure than in soil. Compared to soil, manure has higher levels of organic material and moisture, which support the microorganisms that break down this pharmaceutical.

This laboratory research may be useful in designing studies that evaluate the potential effects of lagoons, holding ponds and manure pits on bacteria and antimicrobial resistance.

Livestock producers also might use the results from this study to maximize the breakdown of organic materials and potential antibiotics in manure by designing storage environments with optimum temperatures and moisture levels.

Results from this study were published in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.

ARS is the chief intramural scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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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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Regulation&Inspection	Dr. Bruce Sherman	(860) 713-2504
Farmland Preservation	Joseph Dippel	(860) 713-2511
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