



Connecticut Department of Agriculture

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



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Jessey Ina-Lee, Editor

Wednesday, December 22, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

BUREAU OF AQUACULTURE UPDATE

submitted by David Carey, Director, Bureau of Aquaculture

The Bureau of Aquaculture has been invited to be a part of a water quality protection group being brought together by the Green Village Initiative (GVI), a Fairfield County-based grassroots nonprofit environmental organization. GVI has convened their first meeting of groups actively involved with water quality protection in the shoreline region of CT, including the coastline from Norwalk to Bridgeport, along Route 95 then north to Route 84, including the watersheds from the Norwalk River to the Pequonnock. The goal of this group is to encourage the groups to find ways to help one another, discuss joint initiatives, and provide grant writing and funding support for impactful, feasible joint initiatives. The group's first meeting was held on December 13, 2010 and was well-attended by representatives from a number of state and town agencies and other non-profit groups, including Dick Harris from Harbor Watch/River Watch, a non-profit that has won Agriculture Viability Grants for the past several years for their pollution source tracking work in the Norwalk River watershed and neighboring areas. Also at the meeting were Alicia Mozian, Director of Westport Conservation, Mark Cooper, Director of the Westport-Weston Health District, and Alexis Cherichetti, Environmental Director for the City of Norwalk, just to name a few. The Bureau of Aquaculture works closely with many of these organizations to identify and work on finding solutions to pollution source problems.

To date, the groups involved have worked to identify point sources of pollution and getting them remediated; initiating improved manure management at Fairfield County Hunt Club; separating sewer and runoff pipes in some communities; initiating Westport-Weston Health District regulation requiring septic inspection upon increasing house size or adding a pool; improvement in inland wetland regulations and enforcement; and making free boat pump-out stations available to the public. Future project ideas include processing the data that has been and is being collected by Harbor Watch/River Watch to see trend lines for advocacy, possible legislative change, locating hot spots and prioritizing resources. The group hopes to initiate DNA testing of bacterial content in polluted rivers/streams, with the same goals. Mark Cooper of the Westport Weston Health District is awaiting a proposal from the New Haven Agricultural Station for a DNA testing program. The group will also pursue grass roots education initiatives to get one or two communities/neighborhoods to clean up a stream or river by working together to implement best practices for water quality: educating each other and taking action to reduce pesticide use, being aware of contaminants to runoff, fixing failed septic systems, etc.

If successful, this could be a model for advocacy about residential water protection that we could spread to other areas, neighborhood by neighborhood.

The Bureau looks forward to sharing information and identifying areas where we can work together with these other organizations to bring about improvements in water quality by improved pollution source assessment, increased local awareness about water quality issues, improved local regulations pertaining to water quality issues, etc. Since the Bureau is out on the shore collecting water quality samples year-round for assessment of the shellfish growing areas, Analysts develop an in-depth understanding of the areas that are either showing improvement or declining water quality, and during shoreline survey work are frequently identifying and initiating correction of pollution sources found to be impacting shellfish beds. Declining water quality in CT's most productive shellfish areas has become one of the most important threats to the shellfish industry. We look forward to this new group coming together to find solutions to the water quality issues, all working together with one common goal of creating tangible improvements, increased awareness of water quality issues, and better regulation and management.

DOAG JOINT VENTURE GRANTS

The Department of Agriculture will accept applications for the CT Grown Joint Venture Grant Program from January 1 through January 31, 2011.

This popular program offers matching funds for marketing projects that use the CT Grown logo or slogan. Eligible projects include signage, advertisements, billboards, brochures, websites, etc. This competitive program is open to producers and agricultural nonprofits. Awards will be announced in February 2011.

The guidelines, application, and state forms can be downloaded from the Department of Agriculture website, www.ctgrown.gov, click on Programs and Services, then CT Grown Joint Venture Grants. You can also call 860-713-2503 to have a copy of the information emailed to you.



ANNUAL PRODUCT AWARDS COMPETITION

The CT Specialty Food Association's Annual Product Awards competition will be held on Thursday, 1/17/11, at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville.

This year's categories include many that are farm friendly, such as cheese;

certified organic product; CT Grown product; CT

wine; fruit or vegetable; jam/honey/syrup/sweet topping;

meat/pate/fish; and more. Contact Tricia at 860-677-8097 or tricia@ctfoodassociation.org

for a complete list of categories, competition guidelines, and/or registration forms. Registration deadline is 2/7/11.

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.
December 20, 2010

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

EXTRA LARGE	126-129
LARGE	124-128
MEDIUM	87-89

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 4-one gallon	13.00	14.00
APPLE CIDER, 9 half-gallons	15.00	15.00
APPLES, Cortland 80ct, us#1	13.00	14.00
APPLES, Red Delicious,12/3lb ,xfcy	18.00	18.00
APPLES, Macintosh 96ct ,xfcy	21.00	21.00
APPLES, Macintosh 12-3lb 2-1/2" fcy	17.00	18.00
APPLES, Pink Lady, 100ct xfcy	30.00	30.00
CURRANT, Black, frozen fruit per lb	1.60	2.20
CURRANT, Black, juice 6/64oz	13.00	14.25
LETTUCE, 12/4oz Boston, greenhouse	14.00	16.00
PARSNIPS, 25lb bag	25.00	25.00
POTATOES, 10lb bag	1.75	1.75
POTATOES, 50lb,sz a	10.00	11.00
POTATOES, White 10/5lb	10.00	11.00
SQUASH, Acorn 1-1/9 bu med	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Blue Hubbard 50lb	13.00	14.00
SQUASH, Buttercup 1-1/9 bu	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Butternut 1-1/9 bu	10.00	12.00
SQUASH, Butternut, 10lb peeled,per lb	.60	.60
TOMATOES, Cherry 5lb flat ,on vine	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 25lb loose	14.00	14.00
TOMATOES, Greenhouse 15lb flat	28.00	28.00
SHIPPED IN		
ARUGULA, 4lb med FLA	18.00	18.00
BEAN, Green handpicked bu FLA	48.00	50.00
BROCCOLI 14ct AZ	24.00	26.00
CABBAGE 50lb, green med FLA	17.00	18.00
CARROTS, 50lb jbo CAN	11.00	12.00
CAULIFLOWER, 12ct AZ	20.00	22.00
CLEMENTINES, 5lb CA	4.00	4.00
CORN, 41/2 dz FLA	24.00	24.00
CUCUMBERS, 1 1/9 bu med FLA	34.00	38.00
GARLIC, 30lb CA	60.00	60.00
GRAPEFRUIT, 32ct FL	19.00	20.00
LETTUCE, green leaf 24ct AZ	17.00	19.00
MUSHROOM 4 qt basket,white,med-lgn PA	8.00	8.50
ONION, 50lb,yellow med NY	14.00	14.00
PEPPER, bell green xl FL	17.00	20.00

METROPOLITAN AREA U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES WHITE EGGS TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
Grade A eggs on:
December 20, 2010
EXTRA LARGE 133-137
LARGE 131-135
MEDIUM 94-98
Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.



PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

Week ending December 20, 2010
Hay and Straw Market for Eastern
Pennsylvania. All hay prices paid
by dealers at the farm and per ton.

	Premium
Alfalfa	170.00-210.00
Mixed Hay	140.00-160.00
Timothy	140.00-150.00
	Good
Alfalfa	110.00-140.00
Mixed Hay	120.00-140.00
Timothy	120.00-140.00
	Fair
Alfalfa	100.00-110.00
Mixed Hay	100.00-110.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, December 20, 2010

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	10.00	12.00
61-75 lbs.	12.50	15.00
76-90 lbs.	20.00	22.00
91-105 lbs.	25.00	30.00
106 lbs. & up	35.00	42.50
Farm Calves	45.00	50.00
Veal Calves	55.00	105.00
Open Heifers	74.00	100.00
Beef Heifers	52.00	63.00
Feeder Steers	62.50	76.00
Beef Steers	58.00	96.50
Stock Bulls	60.00	110.00
Beef Bulls	58.00	60.00
Hogs,Barrows and Gilts each	95.00	145.00
Feeder Pigs each	47.50	50.00
Sheep each	65.00	125.00
Lambs each	65.00	215.00
Goats each	95.00	195.00
Canners	Up to	54.50
Cutters	55.00	59.00
Utility Grade Cows	60.00	64.50
Rabbits each	5.00	19.00
Chickens each	3.00	19.00
Ducks each	8.00	21.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

ORGANIC FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

APPLES, Fuji 88 ct WA	40.00	40.00
APPLES, Red Del 80ct xfcy WA	38.00	38.00
BEETS, 25lb med CAN	37.00	37.00
BROCCOLI, 14ct CA	40.00	40.00
GRAPEFRUIT, 32ct FL	38.00	38.00
CARROTS, 25lbs CA	28.00	28.00
CELERY, 24ct CA	43.00	43.00
COLLARD green 24ct CA	39.00	39.00
LEMONS, 140ct CA	39.00	39.00
MESCULIN mix, 3lb CA	8.00	8.50
MUSHROOMS, White 10lb lge	23.00	24.00
ONION, 50lb jbo WA	38.00	40.00
ORANGE, 72ct Navel CA	41.00	41.00
PEAR, Bosc 4/5bu 90ct WA	42.00	42.00
PEPPER, red greenhouse 11lb SP	60.00	60.00
PINEAPPLE, 7ct CR	20.50	24.50
POTATOE 70ct, Russet ID	47.00	47.00
SPINACH, Baby 4lb Flat CA	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES, 15lb,greenhouse CAN	53.00	53.00

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, December 20, 2010

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers	75-80% lean	
57.00-59.00	59.50-61.50	-----

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

Boners	80-85% lean	130-150 lbs	164.00-170.00
	54.00-57.00	57.50-59.00	-----
	54.00-57.00	57.50-59.00	-----
Lean	85-90% lean	40-60 lbs	182.00-202.00
	49.00-53.00	53.00-56.00	44.50-48.50
	49.00-53.00	53.00-56.00	44.50-48.50
Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1		60-80 lbs	174.00-186.00
	1170-1805 lbs	90-110 lbs	167.00-177.00
	1170-1805 lbs	64.00-67.00	
Bullocks: 855-1165 lbs		67.00-72.00	
Calves: All prices per cwt.			
Holstein Bull Calves: Number 1			
	95-120 lbs	110.00-124.00	
	90 lbs	80.00-90.00	
Number 2	95-120 lbs	90.00-110.00	
	85-90 lbs	50.00-65.00	
Holstein Heifers: Number 1			
	90-115 lbs	160.00-165.00	
Number 2			
	85-95 lbs	85.00-110.00	
Slaughter Lambs: Non-Traditional Markets:			
Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3			
	40-60 lbs	198.00-220.00	
New Crop		255.00-285.00	
	60-80 lbs	192.00-210.00	
New Crop		222.00-235.00	
	80-90 lbs	190.00-202.00	
	90-110 lbs	180.00-200.00	
	110-130 lbs	175.00-185.00	

	130-150 lbs	164.00-170.00
	Woolled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
	40-60 lbs	182.00-202.00
	60-80 lbs	174.00-186.00
	90-110 lbs	167.00-177.00
Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:		
Slaughter Goats: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on estimated weights.		
Kids: 40-60 lbs		94.00-114.00
60-80 lbs		112.00-134.00
80-100 lbs		130.00-142.00
100-120 lbs		134.00-152.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs		120.00-135.00
130-180 lbs		136.00-150.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs		178.00-190.00
150-250 lbs		205.00-222.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon December 20, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	54.00-56.00
	270-350 lbs	55.00-58.50
45-49	220-350 lbs	51.00-54.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	48.00-52.00
	500-700 lbs	54.00-57.00
Boars:	250-700 lbs	26.00-28.00

ADVERTISEMENT

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.

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

188. Rye straw, seedless strawberry grade - \$5.00 per bale. Call 860-289-5188 or 860-289-5055.

199-R. Hay - excellent 1st cut, plastic wrapped round bales \$40. 860-886-0716.

207-R. Hay for sale, 1,500 bales @ \$3.50 per bale. Call for more information at 203-206-1344.

210-R. Forklift - Yale 2,000# capacity, propane, pneumatic tires, \$1,400. (7) Wellmaster greenhouse carts, pneumatic tires \$3,000 all. Dzen Brothers Farm 860-648-1355.

214-R. Reg. Hereford Heifers for sale. www.doublehacres.net or 860-250-3311.

218-R. Pair of black Percherons, geldings, well broke, parade safe and quiet. Hitchwagon for cart for farm use. Harnesses. We will sell individually. Will send pictures. Send self-addressed envelope 6x8 and stamp. Send to: Nutmeg Farms, 70 Lower Butcher Road, Ellington, CT 06029 Phone: 860-871-0171; Cell 860-559-5031.

223-R. Seven month old Hereford bulls and heifers for sale. Old Beech Farm 860-693-2052.

224-R. Round bales mixed grasses, no canary. Pick up or delivered. 203-530-4953.

225-R. JD 6405 2wd with loader. JD 6310 4x4 with loader. JD B, Farmall 300, JD 40 bulldozer. 3 NH balers 575's with throwers. JD 336 with kicker. Rakes, tedders. IH & JD front and rear wheel weights. JD 450B bulldozer. 10 ft Brillion seeder. IH 720 reset plows. 10 ft wheel harrow. 5-ton S.S. fertilizer spreader. 203-530-4953.

WANTED

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

220-R. Looking for stands of red cedar for harvest, any quality, no brush will be left behind. Also seeking hemlock. Charles Leigus 860-301-0673.

226-R. Greenhouse frame for 20' - 40' long greenhouse wanted, width can vary, hoophouse okay. Steel construction or aluminum - used acceptable condition. 860-429-8262.

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.

216-R. Overgrown hedge rows, drainage ditches, fence lines or any other hard to reach areas? We have a solution. An Excavator mounted tree/brush mower capable of mowing 8"-12" diameters flush to the ground. Call for Brochure 860-875-0280.

221-R. Dr Herbert Van Kruiningen has resumed veterinary practice (860-634-4419). Dr VK is a Cornell graduate, who, following graduation taught Large Animal Medicine there for two years, and then worked exclusively with race horses for a summer at Belmont Park. For a number of years, 1970-1983, he had a veterinary practice at his home in Coventry, seeing both small and large animals. He has taught at the Tufts Veterinary School and UCONN for many years, and is the author of Health and Disease Management of Animals, a book that addresses diseases of farm species and horses. Dr VK's practice is limited to farm livestock and equines.

222-R. Ever See a Bronto Eat? Burke Ridge Construction LLC, Mowing Division will be hosting a free demonstration to watch our Brontosaurus and Fecon mowers in action. On January 7 and 8, we will be mowing for Bahler Farms, Ellington, CT. Come out to see what these machines can do, ask questions or talk to our operators. Call: 860-559-3009 or 860-614-4665 for more information. If you are unable to attend but have any questions, do not hesitate to call us.

CAN YOU MAKE MONEY FARMING?

Popular online course 'Markets & Profits' can help you find out

Many people get into farming for the love of it, with little thought to the considerations of how to establish a business that will be viable long-term. Who will buy what you grow, and will they pay enough to sustain you through the long years of hard work it will take to get the business going?

The popular introductory-level online course Markets & Profits: Making Money Selling What You Grow can help you research these topics, providing resources, a cohort of peers to discuss ideas with, and presenters to focus your planning process. The course runs Jan. 20 to Mar 2, 2011.

Taught by experienced CCE educators, the course integrates self-paced weekly activities with real-time webinars featuring guest presenters. Join 25 of your farmer peers in a dynamic learning experience and take your farm planning to the next level.

COST is \$150 - TO REGISTER, or for more details, please visit <http://www.nybeginningfarmers.org/index.php?page=onlinecourse>

A SEMINAR FOR SMALL RUMINANT OWNERS

Featuring how to market your dairy and fiber products

Saturday, January 15, 2011, 9:30-3:00

at Maneeley's, South Windsor, Connecticut

For Goat, Sheep, Llama and Alpaca owners, producing products is not the challenge. Marketing those products is the challenge. Presentations will include: "But I'll make it up in Volume" - "Wholesale, Retail or Both" - "Getting the Word Out" - "Making the Sale" - Followed by a Round Table Discussion with Business Owners

This one-day seminar will provide you with the knowledge and resources with which to market your products and move your business forward.

Presented by: Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmers Assn. Farm Credit East. More information at: www.cccfeeds.com or phone 800-640-4523 ext 326 - \$50/person includes lunch - RSVP & Registration by January 10

CUTOFF DATE FAST APPROACHING TO APPLY FOR CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Jay T. Mar, State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Connecticut reminds farmers and forestry producers to submit their applications for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). The cutoff for producer applications is January 7, 2011.

"The deadline for submissions was extended to give those eligible more time to fill out the appropriate paperwork, and hopefully allow even more people to participate," said Mar. "But with the holidays fast approaching, January 7, 2011, will be here before we know it. That's why now is a good time to get it submitted." (Although applications are accepted on a continuous basis, a cutoff date is always necessary to consider applications for the current year's funding.)

The program provides many conservation benefits including improvement of water and soil quality, wildlife habitat enhancement, and adoption of conservation activities that address the effects of climate change.

Authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, the program offers payments to producers who maintain a high level of conservation on their land and who agree to adopt higher levels of stewardship. Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland, and nonindustrial forestland. All producers are encouraged to apply.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if CSP is suitable for their operation. It highlights basic information about eligibility requirements, contract obligations, and potential payments, and is available from local NRCS offices or online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/new_csp/csp.html.

For more information, contact your nearest USDA Field Office: Brooklyn - (860) 774-0224; Hamden - (203) 287-8038; Norwich - (860) 887-3604; Torrington - (860) 626-8258; Windsor - (860) 688-7725.

PREDATORY BUGS CAN SAVE CORNFIELDS

By Don Comis, USDA - One of the worst pests of corn in the world, the corn rootworm, may owe its worldwide success partly to its larvae's nasty, sticky blood.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entomologist Jonathan G. Lundgren and his colleagues discovered this recently, working with CABI researchers in Delémont, Switzerland, and Hódmezővásárhely, Hungary. The discovery could lead to development of ways to overcome these defenses as part of sustainable, ecologically based pest management methods.

Lundgren works at the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) North Central Agricultural Research Laboratory in Brookings, S.D. ARS is USDA's principal intramural scientific research agency, and this research supports the USDA priority of promoting international food security. CABI is an international not-for-profit organization that researches natural ways of controlling pests, and they have been helping to lead the effort against corn rootworm's European invasion.

The experiments with CABI are the latest in Lundgren's research on corn rootworm predators. Although rootworms have been a major pest for 100 years, this is remarkably the first comprehensive research program on corn rootworm predators to be conducted.

In lab and field experiments in the United States and abroad, the rootworm larvae's sticky blood caused certain species of predators to quickly back off. The foul-tasting blood coagulated in the predators' mouths, temporarily gluing them shut. Predators repelled by the rootworm larvae's blood included ground beetles and ants.

Wolf spiders, on the other hand, had a hearty appetite for rootworms. When insects such as spiders suck fluids from prey rather than chewing their victims, they may be able to bypass the ability of the blood to stick and linger.

The experiments with CABI involved two years of lab and field experiments, begun in 2007, in the United States and Hungary. In the Brookings laboratory, Lundgren and colleagues offered hungry predators a smorgasbord of rootworm larvae and pupae. In all, they have tested 10 different predator species from Europe and North America.

The results have led Lundgren to research managing crop fields to encourage large and diverse predator populations.

Papers on this research have been published recently in *Biocontrol Science and Technology*, *Ecological Applications*, and the *Journal of Applied Entomology*. Also, a paper is scheduled for publication in *Environmental Entomology*. Read more about the research in the November/December 2010 issue of *Agricultural Research* magazine, available online at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/nov10/predators1110.htm>.

NOTICE!

The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report publishes 48 issues per year with no issues being produced during the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is our 48th issue for the year; therefore, another issue will not be produced until the first Wednesday in January, which will be the 5th.

The staff of the Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report and everyone at the Department of Agriculture would like to wish all of you the happiest of Holidays, and a wonderful, productive New Year!



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.

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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|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
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