

Agricultural Report

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, May 12, 2010

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

2010 FARM-TO-CHEF HARVEST CELEBRATION WEEK UPDATE

With the passing of the April 30, 2010 deadline for pre-applications, the CT Department of Agriculture has released the list of participants for its first-ever Farm-to-Chef Harvest Celebration Week, to be held September 26 – October 2, 2010.

A total of 74 businesses have signed up to provide a special Farm-to-Chef menu showcasing CT Grown ingredients during that week. CT wines also will be offered by venues that normally serve alcohol. (Complete guidelines can be found at http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/farm_to_chef_files/FTC_2010_Harvest_Celebration_Week_Guidelines.pdf.)

Participants will be posted on the Department of Agriculture's website; Farm-to-Chef menus, prices, and the farms from which ingredients are sourced will be added to the site this summer as details are finalized. The Department also anticipates offering special incentives to consumers who try offerings at multiple locations.

"The enthusiasm has been amazing," said Linda Piotrowicz, Farm-to-Chef Program Manager for the CT Department of Agriculture. "Because we have never done anything like this, along with the fact that we have no advertising budget, I was unsure how many businesses would sign on. But the response has been overwhelming. Word has been spread throughout the state by Farm-to-Chef members, local foodies, and the media. It has been remarkable to see kinetic energy move this whole thing forward."

One reason Farm-to-Chef Harvest Celebration Week has sparked so much interest among the culinary crowd, speculates Piotrowicz, is that in addition to its focus on ultra-fresh, seasonal, local ingredients, it allows for more flexibility than fixed-price restaurant weeks, which have become extremely popular among diners in recent years.

"Farm-to-Chef members spoke up when we first began planning," said Piotrowicz. "They made it clear that they wanted more freedom in creating their Farm-to-Chef menus and setting prices. In fact, we had quite a lively discussion about it at our March meeting. In the end, we took a vote, and then revised the guidelines to allow participants greater creativity."

As a result, the public will have an opportunity to visit a wide variety of venues while enjoying Farm-to-Chef Harvest Celebration Week. In addition to an abundance of diverse restaurants, there are schools, corporate dining services, caterers, prepared food counters, farms, a hospital, and a farmers' market that have joined in. Two particularly notable participants are J. Foster Ice Cream and Tschudin Chocolates, who will come up with special treats that feature CT Grown ingredients that week.

"I can't wait to see what they come up with!" Piotrowicz exclaimed.

Following is a complete list of participants, sorted by county.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Bloodroot Vegetarian Restaurant, Bridgeport	leFarm, Westport
Boxcar Cantina, Greenwich	Skinny Pines, LLC, Easton
Brownson Country Club, Shelton	Stamford Yacht Club, Stamford
Catch A Healthy Habit Cafe, Fairfield	Sugar & Olives, Norwalk
Chartwells Wilton High School, Wilton	Unquowa School, Fairfield
Green Gourmet to Go, Bridgeport	White Silo Farm & Winery, Sherman

HARTFORD COUNTY

The Angry Olive Italian Bistro, Rocky Hill
 Bricco Trattoria, Glastonbury
 Ferme Farm-to-Table Restaurant, Avon
 Firebox Restaurant, Hartford
 Grant's Restaurant and Bar, West Hartford
 J. Foster Ice Cream, Avon, CT and Simsbury
 The Kitchen @ Billings Forge, Hartford
 Lincoln Culinary Institute, Hartford
 Matthews, Unionville
 Max Amore Ristorante, Glastonbury
 Max Burger, West Hartford
 Max Downtown, Hartford
 Max Fish, Glastonbury
 Max-a-Mia Restaurant, Avon
 Max's Oyster Bar, West Hartford
 Mulberry Street, Manchester
 OPorto Restaurant, Hartford
 Peppercorn's Grill, Hartford
 Restaurant Bricco, West Hartford
 Trumbull Kitchen, Hartford

LITCHFIELD COUNTY

Bantam Bread, Bantam
 Miranda Vineyard, Goshen
 New Milford Hospital Cafe, New Milford
 The Pantry, Washington Depot
 New Morning Natural and Organic, Woodbury
 The White Hart, Salisbury

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Alforno Trattoria, Old Saybrook
 The Copper Beech and Brasserie Pip, Ivoryton
 It's Only Natural Restaurant, Middletown
 Fox Hopyard Golf Club, East Haddam
 Perk on Main, Durham
 River Tavern, Chester
 Saybrook Point Inn & Spa, Terra Mar Grille
 Old Saybrook
 Tschudin Chocolates & Confections, Middletown
 Wesleyan University, Middletown

NEW HAVEN COUNTY

3B Ranch d/b/a Northford Naturally Grown, Northford

MORE FARM-TO-CHEF ON PAGE 4

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES U.S.D.A.

May 10, 2010

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

EXTRA LARGE	67-69
LARGE	63-67
MEDIUM	59-62

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, May 10, 2010

Live animals brought the following average
prices per cwt.:

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	35.00
76-90 lbs.	30.00	45.00
91-105 lbs.	50.00	55.00
106 lbs. & up	60.00	65.00
Farm Calves	70.00	80.00
Started Calves	25.00	38.00
Veal Calves	60.00	120.00
Open Heifers	65.00	95.00
Beef Heifers	60.00	63.00
Feeder Steers	65.00	85.00
Beef Steers	65.00	67.00
Stock Bulls	69.00	80.00
Beef Bulls	70.00	82.00
Replacement Heifers	1 @	650.00
Sows	25.00	26.00
Sheep each	55.00	110.00
Lams each	105.00	140.00
Goats each	80.00	160.00
Kid Goats each	20.00	75.00
Canners	Up to	54.00
Cutters	55.00	58.00
Utility Grade Cows	60.00	63.00
Rabbits each	6.00	24.00
Chickens each	5.00	22.50
Ducks each	5.00	17.00

Provided by Middlesex Livestock Auction.

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

MONDAY, May 10, 2010

Bulk/High/Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers 75-80% lean
59.50-63.00

Boners 80-85% lean
56.50-59.00 60.00-62.00 53.00-55.50

Lean 85-90% lean
52.00-56.00 57.00-59.00 47.00-51.50

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1

1460-2010 lbs 65.50-67.00

Bullocks: 905-1280 lbs 70.00-74.00

high dress 76.00-78.00

low dress 60.00-64.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Choice and Prime 2-3

40-60 lbs 152.00-168.00

60-80 lbs 146.00-164.00

90-110 lbs 140.00-152.00

130-150 lbs 128.00-140.00

Choice 2-3 40-60 lbs 120.00-144.00

60-80 lbs 118.00-136.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Medium Flesh

120-160 lbs 40.00-52.00

160-200 lbs 38.00-50.00

200-300 lbs 35.00-48.00

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

APPLE CIDER, 9 - 1/2 gal	15.00	15.00
APPLES, McIntosh, us xfcy, 96ct	20.00	20.00
APPLES, Red Delicious 12/ 3-lb bags xfcy	16.00	16.00
CHIVES, 1-lb bag	6.00	8.00
FIDDLEHEADS, per lb	4.00	4.00
POTATOES, Russett 10 - 5lb bags	9.00	9.00
TOMATOES, Vine Ripes 25lb box med ,ghouse	24.00	25.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLES, Fuji us xfcy, 88ct PA	26.00	26.00
ASPARAGUS, 28lb CAN	58.00	60.00
BEANS, Green bu handpicked FL	18.00	19.00
BEETS, Red 12's NJ	14.00	15.00
BLUEBERRIES, 12/4.4oz cups med GA	21.00	24.00
BROCCOLI RABE, 20lb CA	34.00	34.00
CILANTRO, 24's NJ	13.00	14.00
COLLARD GREENS, 12-16s NJ	11.00	12.00
CORN, 4 1/2 dz FL	15.00	16.00
CUCUMBER, 1-1/9bu med FL	16.00	18.00
DANDELION GREENS, 12's NJ	15.00	15.00
EGGPLANT, 1-1/9 bu med FL	18.00	22.00
HORSERADISH, 5lb MIZZ	12.00	12.00
LEEKs, 12's NJ	13.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Boston 24ct NJ	14.00	14.00
LETTUCE, Romaine 24ct NJ	13.00	14.00
MINT, 1/2bu NJ	11.00	12.00
NAPPA, 50lb FL	26.00	28.00
ONION, Vidalia jbo GA	34.00	36.00
PEAS, English, bu GA	40.00	40.00
PEAR, D' Anjou, 90ct, us #1 OR	29.00	29.00
PEPPER, Cubanelles 1-1/9 bu FL	50.00	50.00
PEPPER, Bell xlg ,1-1/9 bu Green FL	17.00	18.00
POTATOES, Long White 50lb sz B CA	20.00	22.00
RHUBARB, 10lb WASH	30.00	30.00
SPINACH, 1.3 bu Flat NJ	12.00	12.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8/1lb med-lg CAL	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES, 5x6 FL	28.00	28.00
TOMATOES, 10lbs heirloom ghouse FL	20.00	20.00

Above quotations are based on Boston Terminal Prices

Utility 1-2: Thin Fleshed

120-160 lbs 30.00-45.00

160-200 lbs 25.00-36.00

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

Kids: 50-60 lbs 100.00-115.00

60-80 lbs 116.00-138.00

80-100 lbs 128.00-150.00

100-110 lbs 140.00-156.00

Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs 100.00-115.00

130-180 lbs 116.00-130.00

Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs 160.00-177.00

150-250 lbs 190.00-212.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HOG AUCTION

Mon May 10, 2010 - Hogs sold by actual weights,
prices quoted by hundred weight.

Percent Lean Weight Price

49-54 220-270 lbs 63.00-64.00

270-300 lbs 63.00-64.00

45-49 220-270 lbs 61.00-62.50

270-300 lbs 62.00-62.50

300-350 lbs 55.50-58.00

Sows: US 1-3 300-500 lbs 51.50-56.00

500-700 lbs 59.00-65.00

Boars: 300-700 lbs 25.00-26.00

Asparagus	1.99 - 2.99
Broccoli	1.99 - 2.00 per bunch
Cabbage	0.34 - 0.59
Carrots, Baby organic	1.50 - 2.49 1lb bag
Celery	0.99 - 2.00 each
Cucumbers	0.50 - 1.00 each
Lettuce, Romaine	0.78 - 1.79 each
Mushrooms, White	0.99 - 2.00 8oz pkg
Peppers, Bell green	1.69 - 1.79
Peppers, Bell red	1.98 - 3.99
Potatoes, Russet	1.29 - 3.49 5lb bag
Squash, Zucchini	0.98 - 2.99
Tomatoes on the vine	0.99 - 2.99

FRUITS

Apples, Red delicious	0.99 - 1.99
Avocados, Haas	0.88 - 1.50 each
Cantaloup	1.99 - 2.99 each
Grapes, Green/Red	0.99 - 2.49
Grapefruit, Red	0.40 - 1.00 each
Honeydew	3.49 - 3.49 each
Lemons	0.33 - 0.75 each
Mangoes	0.67 - 1.50 each
Oranges, Navel	0.25 - 1.00 each
Pears, Bartlett	0.99 - 1.69
Strawberries	1.25 - 3.34 16oz pkg

METROPOLITAN AREA

U.S.D.A.

NEW YORK PRICES

WHITE EGGS

TO RETAILERS

For 1 dozen,
Grade A eggs on:
May 10, 2010

EXTRA LARGE	72-76
LARGE	70-74
MEDIUM	67-71

Above quotations based on
CARTON sales to retailers.



PENNSYLVANIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

Monday May 10, 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	140.00-145.00
	Good
Timothy	110.00-140.00
Straw	90.00-125.00

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAIL REPORT

Retail Prices at Grocery Stores
in the Northeast

Week of May 7, 2010

Prices are in dollars per pound
unless otherwise stated.

VEGETABLES

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, 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.

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

75-R. Hay: first-cut \$4.50/bale. Call 860-828-9403.

77-R. Small tie stall milking herd, mostly first calf Holstein heifers, bred back. DMSCC 57,000. 860-355-2962.

78-R. Fertilizer; Fieldworks Agricultural Products, Voluntown, CT. Agricultural grades and custom blends, in bags, bulk bags, bulk and applied. Good blends for vegetables, hay, corn and tobacco and turf. Bulk lime application service. Ag chemicals, corn and forage seed. Organic OMRI certified fertilizer available. Call Paul Peters, Agronomist at 860-428-4846. Farm quantities only. Delivery available.

80-R. 20' Hillboro horse trailer for fifth wheel hitch - \$1,200. Call 203-206-1344 or 860-274-8159.

82-R. Brillion 5' sure stand 3-pt seeder, handles both small and large seeds - \$3,500. John Deere 10' AW disk harrow - \$500. Call 860-485-5461 after 6 p.m.

83-R. Registered Hereford feeder cattle 860-485-5720.

85-R. Tomato stakes, tree stakes, fence boards, custom cut lumber. Staehly Products Co., LLC 860-873-9774.

87-R. 30 bales of hay \$3.50 each. 203-235-63550.

88-R. Old Maple Farm has some well started chicks for sale. Excellent for back yard flocks. 860-599-0792.

89. I.H. 574 with bucket loader. 3pt hitch, 52 pto hp, 1800 hrs. New fuel pump, air cleaner, tune-up, fluids and filters, hydraulic hoses. Rebuilt alternator and starter. \$4,800. 860-828-6460.

90-R. John Deere walk behind mower with sulky 39" cut electric start. Kohler engine 300 hours \$1,350. James Fazzone 203-250-6677.

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

93-R. Registered Hereford bull for sale. 16 months, halterbroke, semen tested \$1,450. Old Beech Farm 860-693-2052.

WANTED

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

91-R. Sickle bar trailer or under tractor mower for Farmall C or H. Telephone 860-354-4659.

94. Pallet forks and grapple forks wanted for Bobcat skid steer loader. Call 860-528-4660.

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.

CONNECTICUT FARM BUREAU HAILS PASSAGE OF FARMS, FOOD AND JOBS BILL

Clears hurdles for some farm-to-consumer sales and helps create jobs

In the final days of the legislative session, both the Connecticut House and Senate unanimously approved a bill dubbed the "Farms, Food and

Jobs Bill," which helps support many of Connecticut's family farms. The Connecticut Farm Bureau, which worked hard to assure the bill's passage, says it means the State is taking a great step forward in helping support the agriculture industry.

"We and many of our farming members are thrilled with the bill's passage and we await Governor Rell's signature," says Steve Reviczky, executive director of the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association. "This bill helps our state's farmers by allowing them to expand the market for their products, helps state consumers by giving them more options to purchase farm-fresh items, and helps create jobs."

Among the accomplishments of the bill:

- **Acidified Foods:** An independent bill colloquially known as "The Pickle Bill" was rolled into the Farms, Food and Jobs bill and allows farmers to sell acidified foods direct from the farm. This means items with a pH of 4.6 or less such as pickles, relishes and chow-chow, can be sold direct to consumers from farms without commercial kitchens that complete a food safety course and have the recipe tested for safety.

- **Poultry :** Farms that raise poultry will be allowed process and sell dressed poultry or poultry products directly to consumers, restaurants, and hotels. The bill grants the State Department of Agriculture the authority to inspect poultry farms and processing to ensure safety. The bill's provisions are limited to farms that produce no more than 5,000 turkeys and 20,000 other poultry annually.

- **Farmers Markets:** Expands the opportunity for farmer's markets across the state, allowing them to be set up as single-day events or as part of happenings such as county fairs.

- **Milk Promotion:** Allows the state's Milk Promotion Board to access part of the federal milk promotion funds for local use, educating state residents about the benefits of milk and funding promotion and research.

"By expanding the opportunities for farmers to sell their products, everyone benefits," says Connecticut Farm Bureau President Don Tuller. "Connecticut agriculture is growing as consumers demand more Connecticut grown products. This legislation greatly improves farmers opportunity to produce and sell their products. When they sell more products, we'll see more jobs created and more revenue come into the state's economy. This bill also helps consumers who want to support local farming by giving them more chances to do so."

"In a tough legislative year, the Farms, Food and Jobs Bill is a truly a bright spot for Connecticut farmers and consumers," Reviczky added

About the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

Since 1919, The Connecticut Farm Bureau Association has provided a strong, clear voice in state agricultural issues. As a non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm families, the Connecticut Farm Bureau is united to find solutions for concerns facing production agriculture in our counties, state and nation. Volunteer leaders and staff work closely with state and federal regulatory agencies and elected officials on issues ranging from economic viability, property rights, taxation, land use planning to labor laws and farmland preservation. For more information visit www.cfba.org.

RIDING LESSONS TO BE OFFERED

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Department of Animal Science will again offer Summer Horse Riding Lessons to the public at the Storrs campus.

Dressage, Hunt Seat, Western & Polo will be taught. Lessons are open to the general public - children who are the age 11 or older and adults. Beginner to Advanced levels will be offered. There will be (4) 3 week sessions during the summer; \$210.00 to \$315.00 per session.

In addition to riding lessons, UConn will offer Trail Riding, Session I May 25 & 27 June 1, 3,8,10, Session II June 21,23,28,30, July 7&9 Session III July 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22. Offered to the Intermediate or higher level rider. Must be 13 years of age or older. The rider may choose Hunt Seat or Western style. Ride the UConn trail system and learn best practices trail riding including how to follow markings.

For registration form, prices and scheduling, please visit the website at www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/summerriding.htm. The first riding session starts 5/10. Registrants are urged to register quickly, the classes fill fast.

FARM-TO-CHEF FROM PAGE 1

- Bespoke, New Haven
 - Chefs a l'Orange Caterers / Treat Farm, Orange
 - Chestnut Fine Foods, New Haven
 - Christopher Martins Restaurant, New Haven
 - Claire's Corner Copia, East Haven
 - Commons - Yale Dining, New Haven
 - Consiglio's Restaurant, New Haven
 - Friends & Company, Madison
 - Heirloom / the Study at Yale, New Haven
 - Host America Corporate Dining, North Haven
 - The Kitchen Table, New Haven
 - Miya's Sushi, New Haven
 - New Haven School Food, New Haven
 - Nini's Bistro, New Haven
 - Scoozzi Trattoria and Wine Bar, New Haven
 - Well on Wheels, Hamden
 - Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven
 - Zinc Restaurant, New Haven
- NEW LONDON COUNTY**
- Kensington at the Norwich Inn, Norwich
 - La Belle Aurore, Niantic
 - Mrs. B's Convenient Cuisine, Norwich
- TOLLAND COUNTY**
- Bush Meadow Farm, LLC, Union
 - Coventry Regional Farmers' Market, Coventry
 - UConn Dining Services, Storrs
 - Zest, Tolland

For more information about 2010 Farm-to-Chef Harvest Celebration Week or the Farm-to-Chef Program, contact Linda Piotrowicz at Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov or 860-713-2558.

SURVEY REPORTS LATEST HONEY BEE LOSSES

Losses of managed honey bee colonies nationwide totaled 33.8 percent from all causes from October 2009 to April 2010, according to a survey conducted by the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Beekeepers identified starvation, poor weather, and weak colonies going into winter as the top reasons for mortality in their operations.

This is an increase from overall losses of 29 percent reported from a similar survey covering the winter of 2008-2009, and similar to the 35.8 percent losses for the winter of 2007-2008.

The continued high rate of losses are worrying, especially considering losses occurring over the summer months were not being captured, notes Jeffrey Pettis, research leader of ARS' Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, Md. ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's principal intramural scientific research agency. The survey was conducted by Pettis and past AIA presidents Dennis vanEngelsdorp and Jerry Hayes. The three researchers said that continued losses of this magnitude are not economically sustainable for commercial beekeepers.

The 28 percent of beekeeping operations that reported some of their colonies perished without dead bees present—a sign of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD)—lost 44 percent of their colonies. This compares to 26 percent of beekeepers reporting such dead colonies in the 2008-2009 winter and 32 percent in the 2007-2008 winter. Beekeepers that did not report their colonies having CCD lost 25 percent of their colonies.

As this was an interview-based survey, it was not possible to differentiate between verifiable cases of CCD and colonies lost as the result of other causes that share the "absence of dead bees" as a symptom. The cause of CCD is still unknown.

The survey checked on about 22.4 percent of the country's estimated 2.46 million colonies. The survey reports only winter losses and does not capture colony losses that occur throughout the summer when queens or entire colonies fail and need to be replaced. Those summer losses can be significant.

A complete analysis of the survey data will be published later this year. The abstract can be found at http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/publications/losses/at_download/file

More information about CCD can be found at www.ars.usda.gov/ccd.

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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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