



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, May 9, 2012

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

DOAG EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. BRUCE A. SHERMAN

Dr. Bruce A. Sherman is the director of the Bureau of Regulation and Inspection at the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAG). The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (CWAR) sat down recently with Dr. Sherman (BAS) to learn more about his background and his work at the agency.

CWAR: What divisions of DoAG fall under the Bureau of Regulation and Inspection?

BAS: There are seven major ones:

- *Animal Health/Livestock* handles animal and poultry disease surveillance by conducting inspections and testing for diseases, and it assists the State Animal Control Division with animal cruelty investigations.
- The *Dairy Division* is responsible for the milk safety program, which must meet federal standards and is audited regularly by FDA. Among its duties, this division inspects dairy farms and processing plants, collects samples for testing, and takes enforcement actions when necessary.
- The *State Veterinarian's Office* oversees livestock and poultry disease surveillance programs, disease outbreak response plans, animal importation, and works closely with private veterinarians and USDA's Veterinary Services.
- *Agricultural Commodities* licenses, regulates, and tests feed, seed, fertilizer, agricultural liming materials, and soil amendments.
- The *State Animal Control Division* investigates animal cruelty; oversees the Second Chance Large Animal Rescue Facility; assists municipal animal control departments; and inspects kennels, grooming facilities, training facilities, and pet shops.
- *Animal Population Control* provides vaccination and sterilization benefits for companion animals and feral cats.
- The *Licensing Division* annually issues more than 4,000 licenses and registrations for various businesses and products.



Dr. Bruce A. Sherman

CWAR: As bureau director, you must wear a number of different hats. Describe some of them.

BAS: Wearing my administrator hat, I deal with personnel and day-to-day management, among other things. One of the greatest challenges I face is prioritizing and reallocating staff and other resources when a critical situation arises involving cruelty, animal health, or public safety. It sometimes means making difficult decisions about which lower-priority tasks must go undone that day. I find my veterinary background is extremely helpful in this role.

Wearing my regulatory hat, I must deal with legal issues on enforcement and appeals, working closely with the Office of the Attorney General. I've learned a great deal on the job in this area.

CWAR: Is there a "typical" day at work for you?

BAS: No, the job is different every day, which makes it both challenging and interesting. I am never bored.

CWAR: When did you join DoAG? What led you here?

BAS: I came to the agency in 1991, after visiting as a representative for the Connecticut Veterinary Medicine Association (CVMA) to meet with Commissioner Herndon about an issue. Two weeks later, he called CVMA saying the current bureau director was leaving and asked if I would be interested in applying for the position. I wasn't planning at the time to make a career change, but found the opportunity to take on new challenges while continuing to use my training and experience too attractive to ignore. I applied and was selected.

CWAR: What are some highlights of your time with the agency?

BAS: Two come to mind immediately. The first was the construction in 2003 of the Second Chance Large Animal Rescue Facility at the correctional institution in Niantic. The agency has rehabilitated more than 200 horses and other farm animals there with assistance of the Department of Corrections and inmates assigned to the program.

(continued on Page 3)



WHOLESALE LETTUCE SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
BOSTON,24,NJ	14.00	16.00
ICEBERG,24,CA	15.00	19.00
LEAF,Gr,24,CA	17.00	22.00
LEAF,Rd,24,CA	17.00	20.00
LOLLA ROSSA,2.5lb crtn	12.00	12.00
MESCLUN,3lb,CA	5.50	8.00
OAK LF,Gr,2.2lb crtn,CA	10.00	12.00
OAK LF,Rd,2.2lb crtn,CA	10.00	12.00
ROMAINE,24,CA	17.00	22.00
ROMAINE,24,NJ	15.00	15.00



WHOLESALE VEGETABLES NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	Low	High
APPLE,Mac,100ct,fcy	16.00	18.00
CHIVES,12s	7.00	8.00
CIDER,9-1/2gal	18.00	18.00
FIDDLEHEAD,10lb	50.00	60.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,12/4oz	14.00	16.00
POTATO,10lb	3.00	3.00
RHUBARB 20lb	32.00	32.00
TOMATO,Chrry,5lb flat	14.00	14.00
TOMATO,Grnhs,25lb,lg	14.00	16.00

SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
ARUGULA,4/5bu,NJ	14.00	15.00
ASPARAGUS,28lb,lg,CA	60.00	64.00
BEANS,Grn,bu,FL	18.00	20.00
BEETS,12s,NJ	14.00	15.00
BLUEBERRY12/6oz GA	24.00	27.00
CH CABBAGE 1.3bu,NJ	14.00	16.00
CILANTRO,24,NJ	12.00	14.00
COLLARD,12-16s,NJ	12.00	12.00
DANDELION GRN,bu,NJ	15.00	15.00
DILL,24,NJ	17.00	18.00
ESCAROLE,1-1/9bu,NJ	14.00	16.00
KALE,24s,SC	12.00	13.00
LEEKs,12s,NJ	15.00	16.00
LONG BEAN,30lb,CA	54.00	54.00
NECTARINES 2layer,CA	38.00	38.00
ONION,Vdlia,40lb,GA	20.00	23.00
PEACHES,1/2bu,GA	22.00	24.00
PEAS,Englsh,bu,CA	48.00	48.00
PEPPER,Grn,1-1/9,lg,FL	16.00	18.00
SPINACH,24,NJ	13.00	15.00
SWISS CHARD,Rd,NJ	18.00	19.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

May 7, 2012

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

49-54	220-270 lbs	59.00-63.00
	270-300 lbs	58.50-60.00
	300-400lbs	55.00-58.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	40.00-43.00
	500-700 lbs	48.00-51.00
45-49	220-270lbs	56.00-60.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	27.00-28.50

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, May 7, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	45.00	52.00
61-75 lbs.	75.00	100.00
76-90 lbs.	102.00	107.50
91-105 lbs.	125.00	135.00
106 lbs. & up	140.00	145.00
Farm Calves	150.00	165.00
Starter Calves	65.00	74.00
Veal Calves	65.00	135.00
Open Heifers	80.00	132.50
Beef Heifers	84.00	101.00
Beef Steers	85.00	102.50
Feeder Steers	80.00	130.00
Stock Bulls	75.00	120.00
Beef Bulls	90.00	100.50
Boars	30.00	60.00
Sows	32.00	34.00
Butcher Hogs	50.00	65.00
Goats each	125.00	170.00
Kid Goats	45.00	150.00
Canners	Up to	80.75
Cutters	81.00	84.00
Utility Grade Cows	85.00	100.00
Rabbits each	5.00	22.00
Chickens each	4.00	26.00
Ducks each	11.00	19.00
Feeder Pigs	All at	70.00
Lambs	125.00	150.00
Sheep	120.00	150.00

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

May 7, 2012

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers 75-80%lean		
87.00-89.00	98.00-96.50	83.00-84.00
Boners 80-85% lean		
80300-86.00	88.00-93.00	80.00-81.00
Lean 88-90% lean		
76.00-80.00	82.00-86.00	70.00-75.00

CALVES: All prices per cwt.

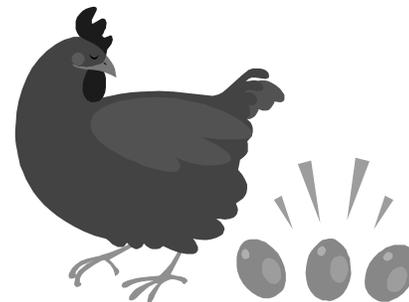
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1		
95-120lbs	245.00-265.00	
80-90lbs	235.00-255.00	
Number 2	95-125lbs	220.00-240.00
Number 3	95-130lbs	160.00-190.00

Holstein Heifers: Number 1
100-115 lbs 190.00-220.00

Slaughter Bulls-845-1960lbs-98.00102.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:

Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3		
40-60lbs	178.00-202.00	
60-80lbs	166.00-190.00	
80-90lbs	174.00-190.00	
90-110lbs	170.00-189.00	



WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	125-135
LARGE	116-125
MEDIUM	104-110

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

May 7, 2012

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

EXTRA LARGE	83-87
LARGE	81-85
MEDIUM	75-79

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN REPORT

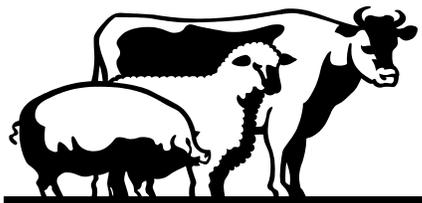
May 7, 2012

Grain market for eastern Pennsylvania.

Corn, No.2, bu.	6.64-6.95
Ear Corn, ton	200-200
Soybeans, No.2, bu.	14.03-14.43



110-130lbs n/a	
150-200lbs	124.00-143.00
Woolled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
40-60lbs	170.00-188.00
60-80lbs	168.00-184.00
80-90lbs	170.00-176.00
90-110lbs	131.00-149.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-160lbs	60.00-78.00
160-200lbs	66.00-82.00
200-300lbs	56.00-72.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160lbs	54.00-71.00
160-200lbs	60.00-70.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
30-40lbs	122.00-132.00
40-60lbs	140.00-167.00
60-80lbs	158.00-185.00
80-100lbs	180.00-199.00
110-130lbs	202.00-210.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	162.00-180.00
130-180lbs	167.00-185.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	205.00-236.00
150-250lbs	254.00-268.00



ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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.

10-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.

60-R. Liability coverage for sale of raw milk—call Blumenthal & Donahue for a no obligation quote. 800-554-8049.

63-R. Sawdust, landscape materials, compost. 860-642-7084. blueslopesawdust@hotmail.com

65-R. Belarus 250^a Diesel Tractor. 37 HP with loader, PTO and 3 PH. \$4,750. Case 310 Crawler Loader, 4 cyl Gas. Weighs appr. 3 tons. \$4,000. Commercial 13" S.S. Meat Slicer. \$600. 860-663-1769. 5-9pm

66-R. Balage 2nd cutting. 4X4 bales. Located in Bristol, will load. 860-632-8302.

68-R. Vicon fertilizer sower. Model # 2219. Very Good. J.D. Model L.A. tractor. Completely restored. Call 860-871-0171. Cell 860-559-5031.

70-R. Apple, pepper, tomato sizer, washer, brusher machine. \$3,000.00 negotiable or trade hay equipment. Peter. 203-733-9706.

72-R. Reg. Hereford Bull for Sale., great pedigree, halter broke. Asking \$2250 Call Herb 860-250-3311.

73-R. New Holland 310 baler. Good condition. \$3,000.00. Tel. 860-628-5475.

74-R. Three Angus, one Holstein heifer, two with calf at side, two springing. \$5,000. 860-355-2962.

75. Walk behind garden tractor with land plow, cultivators, spike toothed harrow, snow plow & chains. 860-564-3615

76. Four John Deere 1240 Corn Runner Shoes, \$100. International 2 row tractor corn planter, Field ready, \$300. Pair of 18-4-34, 8 ply tires with 25% tread. \$150/pair. Call 203-269-2449.

77. International Harvester 4 row adjustable corn planter, Model 800, Cyclo Air, with dry fertilizer and herbicide hoppers, \$4,500. New Holland Corn Chopper Model 718 with hydraulic shoot and hydraulic hook ups for a dump wagon. Comes with either a two row or one row head, your choice, \$3,000. Richardton dump wagon, \$3,000. 860-489-5665.

78-R. Tobacco Poles, Used. \$10 each. 12 ft long, good condition: 860-683-0266.

WANTED

79. Tandem Hay Rake Hitch and New Holland or J.D. Hay Rakes in good condition. 203-623-2956.

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.

11-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.

DOAG EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. BRUCE A. SHERMAN (continued from Page 1)

The second involved an avian influenza outbreak at a large egg producing facility that same year. Working with Commissioner Gresczyk, along with the Governor's Office and the producer, we convinced USDA to allow us to vaccinate instead of depopulate the flocks. It was the first time in the country that USDA permitted the use of this strategy for avian influenza in egg-laying flocks. We successfully eliminated the outbreak, which involved more than four million birds.

CWAR: Is farming in your background?

BAS: Yes, I grew up in Woodstock, Connecticut, on a dairy farm that is still operated by my family members. My family also had a milk processing facility and a door-to-door delivery business. In addition, I was a member of 4-H and showed cattle.

CWAR: Why led you to become a veterinarian?

BAS: I have always had an interest in animals. Growing up on a farm, I watched our vet, Dr. Arthur Lipman, with great respect, and I admired his skills and the responsible way he treated the animals and their owners. Dr. Lipman inspired me to go into the field myself.

CWAR: You have an impressive resume. What motivated you to get a master's in public health after you had earned your doctorate in veterinary medicine? Was one pursuit more challenging or more enjoyable than the other?

BAS: I went back to school after I came to DoAG. So much of the work here deals with public health and I thought it would be helpful to increase my education in that area. Although earning my D.M.V. was a more rigorous and challenging process in many respects, getting my M.P.H. was very interesting. I especially enjoyed the areas of public health law and environmental health.

CWAR: How has your education and previous work experience helped in your role at DoAG?

BAS: My background as a veterinarian has been extremely useful in the agency's animal health programs. Having worked in the private sector—and having owned and operated my own business—has given me an understanding of the wide variety of issues facing our constituents. I feel it has provided me with a better perspective of regulation and enforcement and has made me better at my job.

In addition, working as a large animal vet provided me the opportunity to visit lots of farms in the state and see many different types of farm operations and management practices. This also helps me see issues from the producer's side of the table as well as from the agency's.

CWAR: What career milestones or achievements make you most proud?

BAS: In addition to the construction of the Second Chance Large Animal Rescue Facility and the avian influenza vaccination success mentioned earlier, it would be generally knowing my work helps the viability of the entire agricultural sector and improves consumer confidence in the safety and quality of the agricultural products they are buying here in Connecticut.

CWAR: What skills and qualities do you have that make you well suited to lead the bureau?

BAS: Remaining calm and confident under pressure is critical, although sometimes difficult. Here again, I find my experience as a veterinarian useful. No matter what the day throws my way, I need to be able to prioritize and compartmentalize so that the most important issues are handled effectively and efficiently.

(continued on Page 4)

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or contact DoAG's Marketing Department at 860-713-2503 for more information.

DOAG EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: DR. BRUCE A. SHERMAN (continued from Page 3)

Working in government, everything must be transparent. That fact holds us to a higher standard in many ways. There is no room for error when it comes to laws and regulations

CWAR: You served as acting commissioner for a time. How did that compare to your position as bureau director?

BAS: There were many similarities, including administrative and prioritizing responsibilities. However, as commissioner, the responsibilities were broader because they included DoAG's other bureaus. And instead of reporting to the commissioner, I reported to the governor. It was a great experience and helped me better understand all aspects of the agency and the importance of the different parts working together.

CWAR: What is the hardest part of the job?

BAS: There are a couple of areas I find most challenging. One is the legislative process. We have had some real success recently in this area, but also some disappointments. It can be difficult to convince the right people what's necessary from an agricultural perspective and why it's the best thing for animal health, public safety, and economic viability.

The other ongoing challenge is how to do more with less. Since I came to the agency in 1991, I have seen staff and resources reduced because of state and federal budget shortfalls. At the same time, the agency has been given many additional responsibilities and mandates. Responsibilities have drastically increased in the past two decades while staffing has drastically decreased. It requires an enormous amount of resourcefulness, creativity, and just plain difficult decision-making.

CWAR: What do you find most satisfying about your work?

BAS: There isn't one specific thing; it's a combination of everything, beginning with a dedicated and capable staff. It's gratifying to work on protecting livestock and poultry from disease outbreaks. It's also very fulfilling to investigate and stop animal cruelty. Helping producers problem-solve is something I particularly enjoy and find satisfying.

CWAR: Of the various hats you wear in your job, which one(s) do you enjoy most?

BAS: I really enjoy the animal health work and the relationships DoAG has forged with other state officials. We have excellent collaboration with the New England states and the USDA.

CWAR: In your 20-plus years with DoAG, you no doubt have seen many changes both at the agency and in the industry. What recent advances excite you most and why?

BAS: The advances in nutrition and management of dairy cattle are remarkable. When I first got out of college, it was considered unusual to see a yearly herd production average of 16,000 pounds. Now we have herds averaging 25,000 pounds and more.

There have also been extraordinary developments in technology. If DoAG were given permission to take advantage of the electronic record-keeping systems available now for both office and field work, we could operate much more effectively and efficiently than we do now. I would very much like to see that happen.

CWAR: If you have the opportunity to retire while still young and healthy, how would you spend your time and energy?

BAS: I'm not ready to retire now or any time soon. I still love my job and find it interesting and challenging every day.



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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commissioner	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2500
Marketing & Technology	Robert Pellegrino 860-713-2503
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State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
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Aquaculture	David Carey 203-874-2855
FAX NUMBERS	860-713-2516 860-713-2514

Email: Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov
Internet: www.CT.gov/doag

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