

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
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Connecticut Department of Agriculture
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WORKSHOP DRILLS AGENCIES ON PREVENTING, RESPONDING TO ANIMAL DISEASE OUTBREAKS “People want to let their kid run up and kiss the animals.”

By Steve Jensen, Office of Cmsr. Steven K. Reviczky

(HARTFORD, CT) - The biggest challenge in preventing and responding to an outbreak of animal disease on a farm may not be presented by poultry or livestock, but by people.

That was the underlying theme of a daylong workshop held at the State Capitol complex this week by several state and federal agencies that was designed to foster better planning, cooperation and communication between all those involved in a disease response.

Participants included the CT Dept. of Agriculture (DoAG), the CT Dept. Of Emergency Services and Public Protection's (DESPP) Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), CT Dept. of Health, CT Farm Bureau, UCONN Extension and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture/APHIS Veterinary Services (VS).

The Monday workshop was in part prompted by a significant increase in farms seeking to diversify their revenue streams by offering “agritourism” events that often include visitors interacting with livestock.

More than 50 people became ill in the spring of 2016 after being exposed to *E. coli* during visits to a Lebanon goat farm where they came in contact with the animals during weekend open-houses that included witnessing the birthing of kid goats and petting and being photographed with the animals.

Several children developed a severe kidney condition called hemolytic uremic syndrome, which required hospitalization and dialysis as part of their treatment.

Biosecurity



The incident spotlighted the need for farms to employ strict measures to warn visitors of the potential risk of contracting animal disease, to advise people who touch animals not to eat or put their hands in their mouths after doing so, and to provide and encourage the use of hand-washing stations.

Dr. Frederic Cantor, a veterinarian and Emergency Coordinator for USDA/APHIS VS, said at the workshop that much of the public is likely unaware of the risks that interacting with livestock at such events can carry.

“People want to let their kid run up and kiss the animals,” he said. “It makes the challenge of disease control a little harder.”

Henry Talmage, Executive Director of the CT Farm Bureau, said the growing popularity of having people mingle with livestock on farms does not appear to be a short-term trend.

“Things are changing - there are a lot of new people in agriculture and a lot of new people in agriculture with animals,” Talmage said at the workshop. “And this is an opportunity that is not going to go away.”

The workshop used the state's 139-page Avian Influenza Monitoring and Response Plan as a template for a potential response to a variety of other animal diseases. The avian-influenza response plan was created over a decade ago, and last updated after an outbreak of the disease in the Midwest during

(Continued on Page 3)

USDA WHOLESALE CUTFLOWERS

September 26, 2017. \$/pack as noted

	LOW	HIGH
AGERATUM, NENG, /BN, L	7.50	7.50
AGERATUM, PA, /BN, L	7.50	7.50
AMRNTHS,HNG,XL,NENG,/BN	17.50	17.50
AMRNTHS,UPRT,XL,PA, /BN	8.50	8.50
BELLS OF IRELAND,CA, /BN, L	8.50	8.50
BUPLEURUM,CA, /BN, LONG	8.50	8.50
CELOSIA, CA, WHEAT,/BN, L	8.50	8.50
CELOSIA, PA,PLUMOSA,/BN,L	8.50	8.50
CORNFLOWER, CA, 25/BN, XL	15.00	15.00
CRASPEDIA, CA,10/BN, L	7.50	8.50
DAHLIA, 5/BN, NENG, LGE, L	10.00	10.00
DAHLIA, 5/BN, PA, LGE, L	10.00	10.00
FEVERFEW, CA, /BN, LONG	8.50	10.00
GLAD,STD,CA,10/BN, LONG	15.00	15.00
GOMPHRENA, PA, /BN, LONG	10.00	10.00
LAVENDER, PA, PER BN, LNG	10.00	10.00
LAVENDER, CA, PER BN, LNG	9.50	10.00
LILY, ASIA, NENG, 10/BN, LNG	13.50	13.50
LISISANTHUS,NENG,10/BN,XL	18.00	18.00
QUN ANNE LACE, CA, /BN,L	8.50	8.50
MARIGOLD, NL, /BN, LONG	10.00	10.00
PRIVET BERRY, CA, /BN, L	8.50	8.50
ROSE HIPS, PA, 10/BN, LONG	10.00	10.00
PEONY, CA, /STEM, LONG	7.00	7.00
RUDBECKIA, PA, PER BN, L	8.50	8.50
RUDBECKIA, NENG, /BN, L	10.00	10.00
SCABIOSA, PA, 10/BN, L	13.50	13.50
SEDUM, NENG, /BN, L	12.00	12.50
SEDUM, PA, /BN, L	8.50	8.50
SNAPDRAGON, CD, 10/BN, XL	12.50	13.50
STOCK, CA, 5/BN, LONG	6.50	7.50
SUNFLOWER, MA, 5/BN, LONG	10.00	12.50
SUNFLOWER, NENG, 5/BN, XL	6.50	7.50
SUNFLOWER, NENG, 5/BN, L	5.00	5.00
SUNFLOWER, PA, 5/BN, LONG	6.50	6.50
SUNFLOWER, NJ, 10/BN, L	6.50	7.50
TWEEDIA, CA, /BN, LONG	12.50	12.50
YARROW, YLW, CD, /BN, L	8.50	8.50
ZINNIA, NENG, /BN, LONG	8.00	10.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.21	1.35
LARGE	1.18	1.32
MEDIUM	.87	1.00

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.66	1.78
LARGE	1.62	1.74
MEDIUM	1.05	1.17
SMALL	.65	.75

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	54.00	63.00
	300-400 lbs	51.00	55.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	44.00	55.00
	300-400 lbs	61.00	63.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	35.00	37.00
	500-820 lbs	32.00	42.50
Boars	675-1000 lbs	2.00	5.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLE, GALA, LOOSE	24.00	25.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, TRYPK, 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, TRYPK, 88	28.00	28.00
APPLE,MAC,US FCY,TRYPK 80	30.00	31.00
APPLE, MAC, FCY, TRYPK, 80	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,US FCY,TRYPK 88	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC,USFCY,TRYPK 100	21.00	21.00
APPLE,MAC, NG, LOOSE	20.00	21.00
APPLE,CORTLAND,XFCY, 72	30.00	30.00
APPLE,CORTLAND, NG, LOOSE	18.00	25.00
APPLE,GINGRGOLD,BU,LOOSE	20.00	20.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP,FCY,TRAY,72	36.00	36.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP,FCY,TRAY,80	36.00	36.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP,FCY,TRAY,88	36.00	36.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP, NG, LOOSE	50.00	50.00
APPLE,MACOUN, NG, LOOSE	28.00	28.00
APPLE, MUTSU/CRISPIN, NG	20.00	22.00
APPLE,PAULA RED,BU, LOOSE	20.00	20.00
BEANS, CRANBERRY, BU	38.00	40.00
BEANS, GRN, HNDPKD, BU	16.00	28.00
BEANS, WAX, BU	25.00	28.00
BEETS,GOLD,12 BN/CRATE,S-M	24.00	24.00
BROCCOLI, BUNCHED, 14	20.00	22.00
BROCCOLI, CROWN CUT, 20 LB	17.00	21.00
BRCCOLI,CRWNCT,TRIM,20 LB	20.00	24.00
CABBAGE, GREEN, M-L, 50 LBS	14.00	14.00
CABBAGE, RED, M, 50 LBS	18.00	18.00
CARROTS, S-M,10-5 LB FILM	14.00	14.00
CARROT, L, 25LB SACK,LOOSE	10.00	11.00
CAULIFLWER,WHITE, JTPK, 9	14.00	14.00
CAULIFLWER,WHITE, JTPK, 12	15.00	15.00
CIDER, 4- 1 GALLON	21.00	22.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	22.50	25.00
COLLARDS,CRATE, BNCHD, 12	13.00	13.00
CORNSTALKS, 5 BUNDLES	7.00	8.00
CORN, 5 DOZ	10.00	12.00
CRANBERRIES, M, 24-12 OZ	27.00	27.00
CRANBERRIES, M, 25 LBS	33.00	33.00
KALE, BUNCHED, 12	13.00	13.00
ORNMENTL CORN, 3/BN, 20	40.00	50.00
ORNMENTL GOURD, 20 LBS	15.00	15.00
ORNMENTL GOURD, SHEL, 1/2BU	22.00	24.00
ORNMENTL GOURD,SHEL, BU	32.00	35.00
PARSNIP, M, 20LB FILM, LOOSE	25.00	26.00
PARSNIP, M, 20LB FILM, 18-1LB	26.00	27.00
POTATO,RUSST, #1, 50 LBS, 70	22.00	24.00
POTATO,RUSST, #1, 50 LBS, 80	20.00	21.00
POTATO,RUSST, #1, 50 LBS, 90	18.00	19.00
PMPKIN,BIGMACK,JBO, 36"	200.00	225.00
PMPKIN,BIG MACK,S-XL,36"BIN	175.00	200.00
PMPKIN,HOWDEN,JBO, 36"	200.00	225.00
PMPKIN,HOWDEN,L-XL,36"BIN	175.00	200.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, M-L, BUSHEL	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, ACORN, M-L, 1-1/9	16.00	23.00
SQUASH, BTRRNUT, M-L, 1-1/9	14.00	20.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, M, 1-1/9	22.00	24.00
SQUASH, GREY, S, 1/2 BU	20.00	22.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, M, 1-1/9	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, SPAGHET, M, 1-1/9	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, S-M, 1/2 BU	8.00	12.00
STRAW BALE, STD, PER BALE	8.00	10.00
STRAW BALE, MINI, PER BALE	6.00	6.00
SWISS CHARD, MXD, 12/CRATE	15.00	15.00
TOMATOES, JBO, 20 LBS	16.00	16.00
TOMATOES, XL, 20 LBS	12.00	12.00
TOMATOES, XL, 25 LBS	18.00	18.00
TOMATOES, PLUM, L, 20 LBS	18.00	18.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - September 25, 2017

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	40.00	45.00
61-75 lbs.	50.00	55.00
76-90 lbs.	56.00	59.00
91-105 lbs.	60.00	64.00
106 lbs. & up	65.00	70.00
Farm Calves	72.50	76.00
Starter Calves	32.00	35.00
Veal Calves	135.00	140.00
Feeder Heifers	60.00	120.00
Beef Heifers	70.00	91.00
Feeder Steers	66.00	92.00
Beef Steers	74.00	107.00
Feeder Bulls	69.00	97.00
Beef Bulls	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	55.00	70.00
Sheep each	125.00	145.00
Lambs each	60.00	185.00
Goats each	50.00	345.00
Kid Goats each	145.00	230.00
Canners	up to	59.00
Cutters	60.00	63.00
Utility Grade Cows	64.00	67.00
Rabbits each	4.00	15.00
Chickens each	3.00	20.00
Ducks each	7.00	15.00

Open Monday, Columbus Day, October 9th.

LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted.

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	58.00	62.00
boners 80-85% lean	55.00	60.50
lean 88-90% lean	50.00	55.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	106.00	113.50
Choice 2-3	104.00	107.00
Select 1-2	98.00	104.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	94.00	94.00
Choice 2-3	87.00	88.00
Sel 1-2	82.00	86.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	105.00	110.00
Choice 2-3	103.00	105.00
Sel 1-2	82.00	86.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 104-130 lbs	60.00	60.00
No 1 90-102 lbs	68.00	75.00
FEEDER STEERS - Medium and Large 1		
300-400 lbs	140.00	147.00
400-500 lbs	127.00	155.00
500-600 lbs	120.00	145.00
600-700 lbs	110.00	140.00
700-800 lbs	108.00	137.00
800-900 lbs	110.00	132.00
900-1000 lbs	97.00	110.00
1000-1100 lbs	92.00	93.00
1100-1200 lbs	80.00	90.00
1200-1300 lbs	88.00	96.00

(Continued from Page 1)

2014/15 that led to the depopulation of more than 50 million chickens there, but never reached the East Coast.

In the event of a major outbreak of disease in Connecticut, many of the agencies participating in the workshop would activate under an "Incident Command" headed by DoAg.

Dr. Bruce Sherman, a veterinarian and Director of DoAG's Bureau of Regulatory Services, said the workshop was a necessary and effective tool in reading for the real thing.

"A successful response to a disease outbreak requires a lot of coordination between local, state and federal agencies, industry stakeholders and private organizations," he said.

Workshop participants ran through a response scenario based on a hypothetical outbreak of Avian Influenza at a fictional farm, Willvale Farm.

The 50-acre farm had a flock of about 300 chickens, ducks and geese, as well as seven milking goats and seven beef cattle. Four of the chickens were found positive for Avian Influenza when going through state-required testing before being shown at an agricultural fair.

The farm and a designated surrounding "control area" were placed in quarantine to control the movement of animals, equipment and animal products to and from the farm, where about 200 chickens were subsequently euthanized.

Beyond the animal aspect of the hypothetical response, workshop participants said it is often a bigger challenge to regulate the movement and behavior of people on and off the farm in order to limit spread of the disease through contaminated clothing, equip-

-ment or vehicles.

"You can restrict the movement of birds but it is very difficult to restrict the movement of people," Sherman said, noting that farms should keep visitor logs during public events that can be crucial in the event of an outbreak.

Cantor agreed.

"We're talking about people coming from a contaminated farm and then going to their local pub or the feed store and then going to another farm," he said.

A major focus was on how the various agencies would get word to the agricultural community and the public in the event of an outbreak in order to gain their cooperation in taking recommended biosecurity measures to limit spread of disease.

While DoAg would be the lead agency in such an event, most public communications likely would be made by the Governor's office through press conferences and releases, as well as social media.

Individual agencies also would contact relevant constituents and stakeholders, including local health officials, through phone calls and email.

How an outbreak may affect a farm's business was also explored in the mock exercise. Dr. Mary J. Lis, State Veterinarian for DoAg, said the Willvale Farm store could possibly remain open during the outbreak to sell non-poultry-related products, provided there are adequate biosecurity measures in place and separation between a potentially-affected flock and the public.

"The goal would be to test these products and get word back to the farmer as soon as possible," Cantor said. "Continuity of business is very important."

A video of the workshop by the Connecticut Network is available at: <http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=14583>

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, 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. 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.

88-R. Beautiful winter squash, Acorn, Butternut, by the box or bin. East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pick up.

89-R. 1/2 bushel apple baskets. Truck load sale: 1,000 or more = \$2 each. 500 or more = \$3 each. Less than 500 = \$4 each. Call Doug 860-657-4172.

90-R. Pumpkins-sugar, face, specialty, prizewinner. Mixed gourds and munchkins. Good stems, spray program. By the bin or trailer load. Dzen Farms, 860-648-1355 or 860-604-3452.

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

91-R. Yorkshire - heritage piglets – 12 to choose from. Ready end of September. \$75.00 each. Suffield. 860-668-2181.

92-R. Round hay bales – 52" x 48" – Tight, triple plastic wrapped, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, dry haylage, grass, alfalfa. 200 available. 860-884-2889.

93-R. Christmas greens: wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fundraisers. We deliver. 203-457-1344.

94-R. For sale: Byron 103 sweet corn harvester. Call 860-670-1275.

95-R. First cut hay bales \$5.00 each. Mulch hay \$3.00 each. Pick up only.

96. For Sale: Black Angus steers – 1 year old – 18 months. Call 860-212-5463.

WANTED

97-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/softwood, especially sugar maple/white oak. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

MISCELLANEOUS

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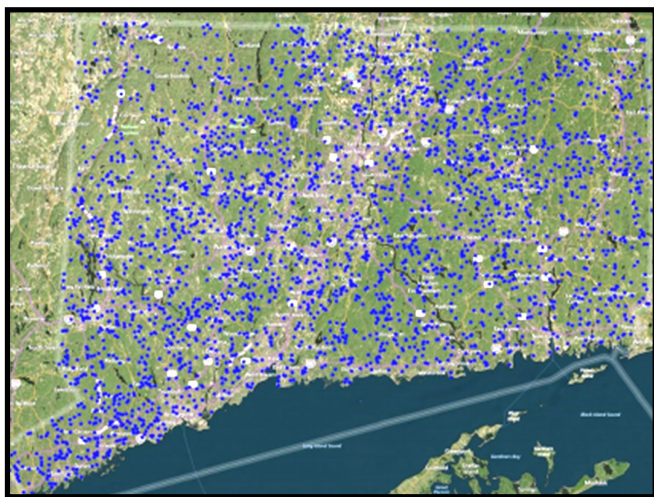
Above left: The Dept. of Agriculture's wine-tasting booth at the Big E in West Springfield, where on this day wine was being served by Sunset Meadow Vineyards in Goshen.

Above right: A group of Connecticut FFA students visit the Dept. of Agriculture's Connecticut Grown store at the Big E, which ends Sunday.

Below left: A map showing about 2,800 backyard chicken operations in Connecticut that was used at a workshop this week on how state, federal and local agencies can work together during a breakout of animal-disease.

Page 1 left: A panel discussion during the workshop.

Page 1 right and below right: Educational graphics courtesy of USDA/APHIS



CHALLENGES WITH AGRITOURISM

- ◆ Farmers want to offer true picture of agriculture and farm-fresh products
- ◆ However, also inviting *risk*
 - Lack of public understanding of a "working farm"
 - Farm equipment, animal behaviors, etc.
 - Public can bring disease to the farm
 - Exposure of visitors to potential pathogens on the farm
 - Through animal contact or food served on-farm



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