

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
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Connecticut Department of Agriculture
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DOAG TRAINING READIES LOCAL OFFICERS TO HANDLE HORSES

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

With one of the highest per-capita horse populations in the nation, it seems inevitable that a town animal control officer in Connecticut is eventually going to be called on to deal with one in some sort of emergency.

But many local officers do not have horse-handling as part of their regular training. That is why the Dept. of Agriculture (DoAg) offers a free course designed to prepare them to respond to calls ranging from how to catch one gone loose to recognizing signs of neglect or disease.

"The animal control profession has become much more than just dealing with dogs," said Ray Connors, Supervisor of DoAg's Animal Control Division. "This kind of training gives municipal animal control officers the skills to react to any situation involving horses and other large domestic animals."

DoAg animal control officer (ACO) Barbara Godejohn started with the very basics during a course last week at the Second Company Governor's Horse Guard facility in Newtown, attended by about 10 ACO's from towns across western Connecticut. She is also a Lieutenant in the Horse Guard, and has nearly three decades of equine experience.

"When you approach a horse you don't want to come right at them directly," she said, slowly sidling up to the left shoulder of Custer, a stocky bay Mustang who is part of the Horse Guard herd. "You want to put yourself a little bit sideways so you're not so threatening."

Godejohn's next lesson was how to capture a horse with a lead line. Custer was having none of it, however, and scampered away to another part of the paddock.

So out came the best horse-lure there is – the feed bucket.

"If you get one loose out on the highway, they usually respond to a bucket," Godejohn said, especially one filled with sweet feed that is like candy to a horse.

With no feed immediately at hand, she demonstrated another trick – putting a rock in the bucket and shaking it around so it sounds like it contains food.

Custer was eventually reeled in and calmly cooperated as the officers lined up to take their turn looping a purple lead line around his head, earning him a biscuit treat when the lesson ended.

The ACOs also learned how to use a portable "pocket halter," that can be kept on hand and placed on a horse after it has been captured. The pocket halter controls the horse by its nose, which is extremely sensitive.

"This works on every size horse," Godejohn said, relating how she had used one the previous weekend when DoAg seized two horses being neglected in Middlefield.



DoAg Animal Control Officer Barbara Godejohn (second from left above) teaching local officers how to use a lead line to capture a horse as part of a training course that also included classroom instruction (below).



(CONTINUED ON PG. 3)

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

		Low	High
49-54	200-300 lbs	83.50	88.50
	300-400 lbs	78.00	82.00
54-58	200-300 lbs	89.00	93.00
	300-400 lbs	83.50	85.50
Sows,US1-3	300-500 lbs	69.00	71.00
	500-700 lbs	72.00	75.00
Boars	400-720 lbs	46.00	52.00

PA GRADED FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt. May 21

		Low	High
GR US 1	WT 15-25	340.00	400.00
	WT 25-35	300.00	330.00
	WT35-40	245.00	270.00
GR US 2	WT20-20	410.00	410.00
	WT25-25	280.00	300.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, June 2, 2014

Bob Calves:	Low	High
45-60 lbs.	65.00	75.00
61-75 lbs.	115.00	170.00
76-90 lbs.	210.00	215.00
91-105 lbs.	220.00	230.00
106 lbs. & up	235.00	240.00
Farm Calves	245.00	300.00
Starter Calves	60.00	70.00
Veal Calves	115.00	250.00
Open Heifers	100.00	137.50
Beef Steers	110.00	129.00
Beef Heifers	94.00	125.00
Feeder Steers	137.50	140.00
Stock Bulls	120.00	140.00
Beef Bulls	110.00	126.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	140.00	330.00
Kid Goats	90.00	155.00
Canners	up to	107.50
Cutters	108.00	111.00
Utility Grade Cows	112.00	118.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	24.00
Chickens each	3.00	23.00
Ducks each	5.00	13.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Lambs	50.00	220.00
Sheep	80.00	145.00

EASTERN, PA, HAY

average price per ton

	PREMIUM	GOOD
ALFALFA	285.00-335.00	200.00-250.00
MIXED	225.00-235.00	150.00-200.00
TIMOTHY	200.00-260.00	150.00-200.00
MULCH		50.00-75.00
STRAW		80.00-160.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
RHUBARB,20LB	35.00	35.00
ASPARGUS,28LB	58.00	60.00
TOMATOES 25LB LG	21.00	22.00
TOMATOES 12LB XL	20.00	21.00

SHIPPED IN

	LOW	HIGH
BEETS,12'S,NJ	16.00	17.00
BEAN,RD grn,bu,GA	18.00	18.00
BOK CHOY,50LB NJ	24.00	24.00
CABBAGE,SAVOY,50LB NJ	26.00	26.00
CABBAGE, NAPPA 50LB NJ	28.00	30.00
CILANTRO 1/2BU,NJ	16.00	16.00
CORN,4dz,FL	17.00	20.00
EGGPLANT, 11/9 BU GA	21.00	22.00
ENDIVE, 11/9 BU NJ	14.00	14.00
KALE,12ct,NJ	16.00	16.00
KOHLRABI,12'S,NJ	16.00	16.00
LEEK,12'S,NJ	18.00	24.00
ONION,VIDALIA,40 IB,GA	19.00	22.00
PEA, SUGAR,10LB,GU	25.00	25.00
PEA,ENGLISH,1 1/9 BU,CA	48.00	48.00
RADISHES 1/2BU,NJ	16.00	18.00
SPINACH,1.3BU,NJ	16.00	20.00
BLUEBERRIES12/1PT,GA	19.00	20.00
CHERRIES,9 1/2 ROWS,CA	89.00	90.00
PEACHES,1/2BU.2 1/2UP,GA	33.00	35.00
STRAWBERRIES,8/1LB.CA	26.00	26.00

WHOLESALE ,GREENS,LETTUCE

	LOW	HIGH
COLLARD GREENS,12'S NJ	13.00	15.00
DANDELION GREENS,12'S,NJ	18.00	20.00
ESCAROLE,1 1/9BU,NJ	14.00	14.00
BOSTON BIBB,24,NJ	14.00	15.00
RED LEAF,24'S,NJ	16.00	17.00
GREEN LEAF. 24'S NJ	22.00	24.00
ROMAINE,24'S,NJ	16.00	17.00
SWISS CHARD,12'S,NJ	16.00	16.00

**USDA WEEKLY RETAIL BEEF PRICES
NORTHEAST USA, PER LB.**

	LOW	HIGH
B/IN RIBEYE STEAK	5.99	14.99
STEW MEAT	3.99	4.98
T-BONE STEAK	9.99	9.99
PORTER HOUSE STEAK	9.99	9.99
SIRLOIN STEAK	5.99	7.99
LONDON BROIL	2.99	5.99
SHORT RIBS	3.99	5.99
GROUN BEEF,80-90%	1.98	3.99
TOP ROUND STEAK	5.99	5.99

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Average Dressing

	Low	High
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	97.05	104.00
boners 80-85% lean	94.00	102.00
lean 85-90% lean	89.00	96.00
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 94-128lbs	230.00	252.00
No 2 94-128lbs	225.00	252.00
No 3 90-130lbs	220.00	250.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	146.00	151.00
Ch2-3	141.50	147.00
Sel1-2	n/a	
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	151.50	154.50
Ch2-3	149.00	151.50
Sel	144.00	149.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm2-3	134.00	138.50
Ch2-3	126.00	133.00
Sel2-3	118.00	125.00
Vealers	n/a	
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
50-60lbs	210.00	227.00
60-70lb	194.00	197.00
70-90lbs	187.00	202.00
90-110lbs	190.00	200.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
90-110 lbs	90.00	100.00
110-130lbs	95.00	112.00
Bucks		
160-180lbs	66.00	92.00
210-230lbs	50.00	102.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.		
20-40lb	n/a	
40-60lb	137.00	170.00
60-80lb	200.00	202.00
80-90lb	220.00	230.00
Nannies/Does: 120-140lbs	177.00	190.00
130-180lbs	n/a	
Bucks/Billies: 145-145lbs	220.00	220.00
160-160lbs	250.00	250.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

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

XTRA LARGE	1.33	1.36
LARGE	1.29	1.33
MEDIUM	1.16	1.18

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

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

XTRA LARGE	1.70	1.80
LARGE	1.64	1.74
MEDIUM	1.39	1.49

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 for more information.

Advertisements of 35 or fewer words for job openings at Connecticut farms may be placed for up to four weeks for free in the report's new CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION SECTION.

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.

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

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.

56-R. Tomato stakes, tomato twine, fence boards, custom cut lumber. Staehly Products Co. LLC. 860-873-9774.

66-R. Used Tobacco netting. Great to cover berry bushes. Please Call 860-683-0266.

68-R. Broiler Chicks 3 weeks, \$5 each. Minimum order, 25 chicks. FOB Willimantic. Call Gary 860-716-9064.

69-R. Receive phone alerts from wireless sensors when your field or greenhouse is too cold or too hot! Visit New England Farm Sensors, NEFarmSensors.org for details.

70-R. PAK Flail SPF Mower, 8' hydraulic offset, \$2,500. Oliver 11' Transport Harrow, \$1,200. DonderoOrchards@cox.net.

72-R. Brand new 16 ft Hay Wagon custom built. Call for description. Also for sale F 200D International 10 Wheeler chassis. Call for details. Rockland Farm, Bolton. 860-324-1602.

73. N.H. 55 Side Delivery. Good Condition. 860-999-3856.

74. JD 4400 Combine with 4 Row Corn Head, \$8,500. JD 435 Round Baler, \$6,000. 860-678-0704 or 860-930-3373.

78-R. Fargo Silage Dump Wagon, \$1,500. 1000 gallon poly water tank, \$500. John Deere 12' wheel harrow, \$2,000. Pre cast feed bunks, JD grass head, (2) John Deere 3960 corn choppers. Quality corn silage, kernel processed finely chopped. Also 100% Alfalfa baling 4X4 bales, delivery available if needed. Burke Ridge Farms 860-559-3009 or 860-748-9336.

79-R. Quality Registered Angus Bulls for sale. Semen tested and ready to work. SAV Iron Mtn 5/16/12, OCC Freestyle 4/11/12, BC Eagle Eye 1/3/12 Sons. Must see! \$3,000 each. 860-896-0888 or 860-748-9336.

80-R. Storage tank-300 gal water, syrup, drain oil, etc. \$125.00. Sunsetter Awning 16' \$400.00. P/U '02, Ford Ranger XLT 6 cyl, auto, PS, PB, AC 80K \$5,500.00. P/U '02 Toyota Tacoma 4 cyl, 4 speed, 4WD PS/PB, 79K \$8,800.00. Farm Gas tanks 300 Gal with pumps \$300.00 ea. 3PT hitch cordwood saw rig \$ 500.00. 860-228-9685, 860-918-8515.

82-R. Goats: Nubian and Oberhasli; does and bucks, ADGA. Born April, 8 weeks ready. Details: 860-873-3531.

84-R. New Holland 565 Baler with drop shoot. Kuhn 1 row tetter like new. New Holland 311 baler. JD 456 Round Baler with net wrap. Case IH 442 Round Baler string tie. JD 6310 4 wheel drive with 640 loader. 203-530-4953.

85-R. GOATS, Savanna/Boer does. Kiko/Savanna doeling and bucklings. Call 860-537-1974.

WANTED

81-R. Got Land? Eastern CT non-profit looking for 50+ acres land/farm in CT Creative Living Community of CT are parents and friends of people with special needs; hoping to create a sustainable, farmstead life experience. 860-375-4313, leave message.

DOAG OFFERS HORSE-HANDLING TRAINING FOR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS (Continued from Page 1)

DoAg, which has seven ACOs on staff, assists local officers in dozens of cases per year. It also operates a large-animal rescue and rehabilitation facility at the York Correctional Institution in Niantic.

Feed is another part of the class, which took the group inside the feed-storage room of the enormous white barn that anchors the Horse Guard facility. Local ACOs might have to know what and how to feed a horse in cases of neglect while awaiting the arrival of a veterinarian or other DoAg personnel.

"You're better off feeding them hay instead of grain - it's easier for them to digest," DoAg ACO Nancy Jarvis said while explaining the difference between various feeds. "And if a horse is emaciated, it took months to get that way so you have to feed it in very small doses. You can't bring it back around in a few days."

Being improperly fed or a sudden change in feed can also lead to a horse contracting colic, a painful and potentially deadly abdominal condition. A horse that is continually lying down is a signal that it might have the affliction, which requires immediate attention.

"Colic is the number one killer of horses," Godejohn told the group during an earlier classroom session. "The horse lies down to try to get away from the pain. So you want to get it up and moving as quickly as possible to increase circulation."

Moving a horse by hand may seem intimidating, but Godejohn demonstrated how easily she can manipulate one by pushing it with her hands on its upper flanks.

"They move away from pressure," she said as she directed a brown gelding named Morgan around the paddock. "I can push this 1,000-pound animal around anywhere I want."

The course also covered obscure details of horse-handling that DoAg's ACOs have learned through many years of experience, such as the type of gloves to wear when handling a horse on a lead line that can quickly burn the hands if the horse bolts.

"You want mule skin gloves," Rich Gegan, a DoAg ACO for 30 years, told the group. "They're also good for catching cats," he added with a chuckle. "You don't get all scratched up."

Gegan also showed the group how to calm a horse by rubbing on its "mother spot" – an area of the neck where mares typically nuzzle their offspring.

During instruction on how to inspect a horse's hooves, Godejohn demonstrated how an uncooperative animal can be made to raise its hoof with a gentle grasp between the ankle and knee.

"If they give you a hard time just squeeze right there," she said as Custer the Mustang responded just as she predicted.

Debbie Gath, an ACO in Torrington who is also dispatched to surrounding towns, said she has no doubt that the skills she learned will come into play on her job, probably sooner than later.

"We're covering more rural towns now so the chances are pretty good that I'm going to be dealing with a horse," she said. "Before today I wouldn't have even known how to put a lead line around one."

ACO Gegan said that while dealing with horses is a complex and nuanced challenge, the first lesson an officer should learn is very simple:

"There's a lot of power in that animal," he said. "The most important thing to know about them? Don't get kicked."

MISCELLANEOUS

10-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.

76-R. Announcing new Biozyme Dealership for New England. Now available locally VitaFerm, VitaCharge, SureChamp and Conceptaide. Please call 860-896-0888 or 860-748-9336 for details and pricing. Burke Ridge Farms, Ellington/South Windsor.

77-R. Farmland Restoration Program Contractor for hire. Large brush/small tree mowing. Excavator, dozer work such as stumping, grading, etc. Visit www.burkeridgeconstructionllc.com or call 860-559-3009.

**FARMERS' MARKETS OPENING
THIS WEEKEND, NEXT WEEK**

• **Bridgeport, Black Rock**

Sat., 9am-1pm
Field at 481 Brewster St

• **Collinsville**

Sun., 10am-1 pm
Main Street, Downtown Collinsville - Town Hall
Parking Lot

• **Coventry Regional**

Sun. 11am-2 pm.
Nathan Hale Homestead
2299 South Street

• **Hartford - Billings Forge**

Thurs., 11am - 2 pm
539 Broad Street

• **Hartford - West End**

Tues. & Fri. 4-7 pm
Tues., Clemens Green, Farmington Ave
Fri., United Methodist Church
571 Farmington Ave.

• **Hebron**

Sat., 9 am-12:30 pm
Church of Hope of Hebron
1 Main Street

• **Lebanon**

Sat., 9 am-noon
Town Hall Green

• **Ledyard**

Wed., 3:30- 6:30 pm
Ledyard Town Center, Fair Grounds

• **Lyme**

Sat., 9:30 am-noon
Ashlawn Farm
78 Bill Hill Road

• **Mystic - Denison**

Sun., noon-3 pm
120 Pequotsepos Road

• **Naugatuck**

Wed., 10 am - 2 p.m.
On the Green, Church Street

• **North Guilford-Dudley**

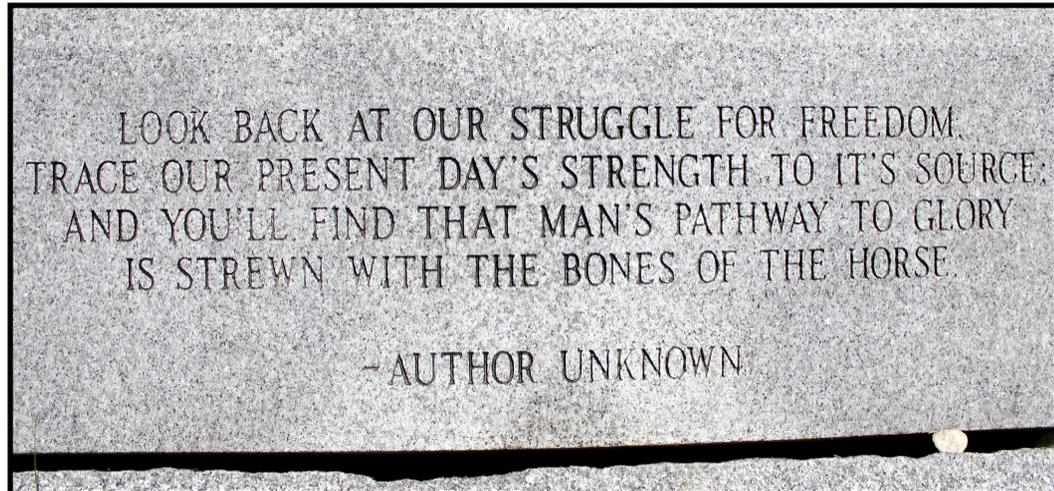
Sat. ,9 am-12:30 p.m.,
2351 Durham Road (Route 77)

• **Torrington**

Tues. 3-6 pm/ Sat. 10 am-1 pm
Torrington Library Parking Lot
12 Daycoeton Place



Above, the Second Company Governor's Horse Guard facility in Newtown, where DoAg recently held a training session for local animal control officers in handling horses. Below, an anonymous tribute to the horse engraved on a marker stone at the facility.



For a complete listing of Connecticut's more than 125 farmers' markets please visit the Department of Agriculture's website at CTGrown.gov

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