

State livestock dealer's license pulled on brucellosis charges

PLAINFIELD — J. Richard Zimmerman, Plainfield, will have his Livestock Dealers and Brokers License suspended for one year, effective April 17, 1981, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Zimmerman, under state law, has until that date to submit to the hearing examiner any exceptions to the findings of the Ag Department's Hearing Board.

Zimmerman said Friday morning he thinks he will file an exception to the Board's findings.

"It is a little false, the things they say," he said.

He said he would wait until his

lawyer prepared a brief before talking further, but indicated he will meet the April 17 deadline for filing an exception.

The case revolves around interstate transportation of cattle without proper health certificates for brucellosis.

The hearing Board said that sometime between March and May 31, 1980 Zimmerman purchased a cow bearing an eartag identification number 51ABT7829.

The cow bearing that ID number originated in Maryland. It had a negative brucella test on November 15, 1979 in the herd of

Glen Eaves, Woodsboro, Maryland.

However, the hearing Board said, Maryland Department of Agriculture officials did not issue any interstate health certificate for the transportation of the cow, nor could Zimmerman produce any such certificate or interstate movement records for the cow.

Then, on May 31, 1980 veterinarian R.B. Weber conducted tuberculosis and brucellosis tests on 33 cows owned by Zimmerman, at Zimmerman's request, including the cow with ID number 51ABT7829.

On June 3 the record of brucellosis test results for the May 31 test indicated that cow 51ABT7829 had a positive brucella reaction and it was declared a Brucellosis reactor.

Sometime after May 31 and on or before June 6, nine cows from the Zimmerman herd were shipped to Green Dragon Auction in Ephrata.

Eight of the animals were sold and one subsequently was returned to Zimmerman's farm and slaughtered in his butcher shop. Zimmerman said he does not maintain identification records on animals he slaughters in his shop.

On June 12 an Order of Special Quarantine was hand-delivered to Zimmerman and also was posted on his farm.

The Quarantine included all the animals tested on May 31 and 28 additional animals which were tested May 15. The reactor animal and eight other cows could not be located on the farm at that time, but Zimmerman helped the health authorities trace the missing cattle.

The hearing Board said Zimmerman delivered the nine animals to Green Dragon after the tests were taken by Dr. Weber, but before he received the results of the test.

The Board said Zimmerman knew he was required by state law and state regulations to have the results of the May 31 test before he could sell the tested animals.

Records obtained from the Green Dragon Auction can not establish if the reactor cow was sold at auction on June 6 or whether it was returned to Zimmerman's farm and subsequently slaughtered on the farm.

Officials of the Agriculture Department returned to Zimmerman's farm twice more, once in early July and again in early August, and were able to identify or account for all animals previously quarantined.

The suspension of Zimmerman's License 00766 will remain in effect until April 16, 1982 unless Zimmerman successfully overturns the decision of the Board —CH

Dauphin seedling sale deadline extended

HARRISBURG — The Dauphin County Conservation District this week announced an extension for placing orders for their 1981 annual seedling sale. The deadline for placing orders has been extended from Monday, April 6 to the following Monday, April 13.

Duayne Forsberg, Resource Specialist with the Conservation District, encourages interested individuals to place a pre-paid order before the April 13 deadline. This year a limited quantity of trees will be available for direct cash sales on April 25. However, certain species may not be available for direct sales.

To guarantee receiving your desired specie, Forsberg suggests placing an order before the supply of that specie is exhausted.


Information and prices can be obtained by contacting the Dauphin County Conservation

District at 75 S. Houcks Road, Suite #305, Harrisburg, PA 17109 or call their 24 hour "evergreen" line at 717/652-7073.

Seedlings will be available for pick-up on Saturday, April 25th between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Colonial Park Plaza, inside the former Food Fair Store in southern Dauphin County and at Lykens Valley Plaza in Elizabethtown in northern Dauphin County.

These trees are three and four year old bareroot seedlings. Four species of coniferous trees averaging 12 inches in height and six species of deciduous trees averaging 20 inches in height are available.

The tree species are douglas fir, blue spruce, white pine, norway spruce, red oak, white flowering dogwood, white ash, black walnut, Russian olive and scarlet maple.



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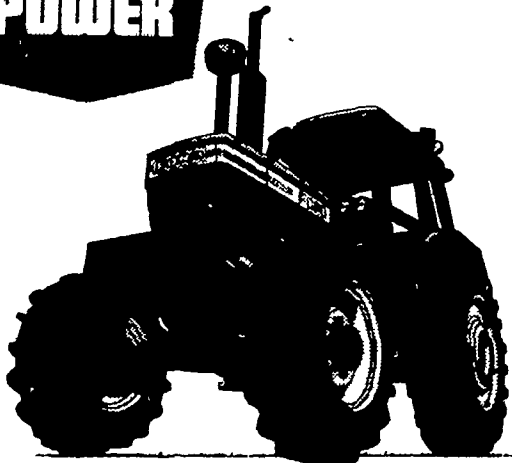
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