



# MAINE DEPARTMENT OF **AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION & FORESTRY**

## Maine Cervid Program

90 Blossom Ln. Augusta, ME 04333 | 207-287-3701

AnimalHealth.AGR@maine.gov | [www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal\\_health/](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_health/)

October 19, 2023

### Updates

#### **New Maine Cervid Program Coordinator**

Taryn Pearson, BVMS, DVM  
90 Blossom Ln  
Augusta, ME 04333

[taryn.pearson@maine.gov](mailto:taryn.pearson@maine.gov)

#### **Tags**

Please make sure we can ID the animal for CWD sampling. Let us know if you need tags. We will send them to you for FREE.

#### **Inventories**

Please make sure your inventory is completed by October 31 for CWD HCP participants.

Dear Maine Cervid Stakeholders,

I wanted to introduce myself as the new Cervid Program Coordinator for the Maine Cervid Program and Assistant State Veterinarian. Prior to holding this position, I was a full-time solo farm animal veterinarian in Acton, Maine for the past ten years. Coming from York County, hopefully some of you can forgive me for being a “southerner” and recognize that I am not from “away”. Jokes aside, I look forward to meeting you.

As a Maine native, veterinary practitioner and farmer I hope that I can help you all navigate and share continued success with participation in the Maine Cervid Program. Many of you recognize how important this program is to us all and how it impacts our local, state and national economy beyond the animals we keep for pleasure or profit.

With increased feed prices, more animal sales/movement, tourism and population growth in our state we are facing some more challenges as Mainers. Like the adage goes, we must adapt and overcome, as a group, and unite to meet these challenges. I am asking for your help in doing this as we work together going forward.

Updates On A Few Housekeeping Points.

- **Licenses**- most of these are caught up but we still have a few stragglers. If you are missing your Cervid Farm license, please

alert the main office and I will personally address it. CLGSA licenses are nearing completion and will be sent out by the end of November. Thank you for your patience.

- **CDW HCP-** CWD is expanding into new herds across the country. Thus far we have been lucky in this area. Let's stay lucky and continue to maximize our participation in this program. This program helps with animal health and commerce. New testing methods are on the horizon, such as the RT-QuIC test for CWD which is exciting!
  - We face logistics challenges as a state in getting samples in a timely fashion which can impact the results we get. I am looking for ideas in helping us tackle this challenge and best use everyone's time and resources.
  - We are working on a training program for CWD sampling anticipated to take place later this fall.
  - Tags- we have had a few hunt tags separated from the parts we sample. This is less than ideal but a function of having a one part ID system for hunt park born animals. The work around for this has been to place a NUES metal tag in the neck hide to help ID trophy animals so we can label the sample and give full credit for the CWD HCP sample. If you need NUES tags and tagger please contact the office and we will send them to you for FREE.
- **Media kits** for social media or hang up on the wall- Love it or hate it, social media is a staple in how many people interact with the world. It is also how most people are choosing to educate themselves on a variety of topics. To promote education/outreach, we are going to include some social media content that can be shared on your social media platforms, at your discretion, to help people understand cervids and the cervid industry focusing on the facts. These will be available for download on the Cervids page of the ME DACF Animal Health website at the start of 2024.

That's all for now. Have a safe and fruitful fall everyone!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Taryn Pearson', written in a cursive style.

Taryn Pearson, BVMS, DVM

ME DACF Deer Program Coordinator