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SHERIFF'S SPECIAL UNIT

ON A ROLL

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Going Bananas!!

By BOB PLYLER
Editor

Now that everyone is into the tax season, the term auditor strikes fear in even the most hardy soul. But take heart, not all auditors are out to put you in jail. We found one that doesn't work for bananas but works with bananas . . . she's a banana auditor.

By the title you would think Marian (Bunny) Morgan would spend hours sitting around counting, "one banana, two bananas, three bananas, four" but you would be wrong. She is actually employed by the Chiquita company as a green-quality control person.

All those luscious yellow bunches in your grocery cart are there because of people like her.

Her job, actually a part-time position, starts at Food Lion corporate headquarters in Salisbury. There she opens the shipping cartons carefully looking at each banana for proper color, smooth, unbroken or damaged skin.

From the tropics to the grocer, shipping temperature is important. Picking a fruit at random, she checks the temperature, much the same way mothers have become accustomed to doing with small children.

With an acceptable visual inspection and with the temperature within range, Bunny Morgan's approval helps the shipment move to its final destination, your grocer's display.

Bananas probably came from southeast Asia and date back to the year 327 B.C. During the boom years of the ivory and slave trade, travelers carried the roots to Africa, from there to the Canary Islands. When the Spanish came to the new world, so did the banana.

If you could have been a visitor to the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition you could have bought a banana, wrapped in foil for ten cents, which in today's money would be at least two dollars.



Yes, We Have No Bananas ? Marian (Bunny) Morgan, a banana auditor for Chiquita company, is shown bunched up.
Staff Photo - Bob Plyler

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