

THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

FEB. 19-25, 1979

Fair warning, snow and storming.

Start seedlings now for slow starting vegetables (onions, celery, beets). Washington's Day Feb 19 (holiday except in Fla., Kan., La., N.M., and N.C.) Last quarter of the moon Feb 19. Average length of days for the week, 10 hours, 55 minutes. Salk vaccine first given Feb 23, 1954. *If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything (Mark Twain)*



Ask the Old Farmer: My grandmother used to grow beans she called "Jacob's Cattle." I've never seen them in seed catalogs. Can you tell me where to find them? R.C., Schenectady, N.Y.

Jacob's Cattle is a bean brought to this country by German settlers. It's not available through commercial seed companies, but you can find it through one of several non-profit seed exchanges dedicated to preserving heirloom vegetable varieties. Details on these organizations, plus other gardening information, can be found in the Old Farmer's Almanac Gardener's Companion, which you may purchase by sending \$2 to OFA Gardener's Companion, Depot Sq., Peterborough, N.H. 03458.

Home Hints: Keep an old windshield wiper in your car and use it when moisture condenses on the inside of the window.

OLD FARMER'S WEATHER FORECASTS

New England: Cloudy and cold to start, expect northeaster with heavy snow for remainder of week.

Greater New York-New Jersey: Week begins with snow, changing to sleet, freezing rain for last of week.

Middle Atlantic Coastal: First of week brings snow, changing to rain, light showers for rest of week.

Piedmont & Southeast Coastal: Heavy rains; then milder with some sun and scattered showers.

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Leesport Auction

Leesport, Pa.
February 14, 1979

CATTLE 208. Compared with last Wednesday's market; Choice No. 2-4 975-1300 lbs. slaughter steers 66.00-68.25, Good 64.00-66.35, few Standard 62.00-64.00. Few Choice slaughter heifers 62.25-65.75, few Good 62.25-64.00. Utility & Commercial slaughter cows 53.25-56.75, few to 57.50, cutters 53.00-55.25, Canner & low Cutter 48.00-52.00, few Shells down to 40.50. One Choice slaughter bullock at 69.50, few Good to low Choice 66.00-68.50. Few Yield Grade #1 1300-1650 lbs. slaughter bulls 60.35-66.50. Few Choice 325-780 lbs. feeder steers 71.50-80.00; few Good 630-770 lbs. feeder heifers 60.50-65.00.

CALVES 152. Choice vealers 101.00-121.50, Good 93.00-123.00, Standard & Good 90-110 lbs. 86.00-95.00, 70-85 lbs. 76.00-85.00, Utility 50-90 lbs. 60.00-75.00. Farm calves, holstein bulls 90-120 lbs. 95.00-127.00; holstein heifers 90-140 lbs. 90.00-135.00.

HOGS 292. US No. 1-2 190-240 lbs. barrows & gilts 57.75-58.10, No. 1-3 200-270 lbs. 56.85-57.75, lot No. 1-3 185 lbs. 57.50. US No. 1-3 350-550 lbs. sows 46.50-49.25. Boars 39.00-43.00.

FEEDER PIGS 113. All prices cwt. US No. 1-3 30-50 lbs. feeder pigs 81.00-107.00, Lot No. 1-3 139 lbs. 139.00 at 49.00, Utility 25-45 lbs. 70.00-91.00.

SHEEP 18. Choice 50-110 lbs. wooled slaughter lambs 70.00-79.00. Few slaughter ewes 37.00-43.00.

Market courtesy of PDA.

Livestock market and auction news

Western Maryland Market

Western Maryland Stockyards, Inc.
Hagerstown, Md.
February 13, 1979

BUTCHER - CATTLE: Light run due to bad weather. Fat Steers few offered; Good \$60.00-63.50; Standard 57.00-59.50; Heifers standards to 57.60; Cows Medium run to \$1.00 higher: Good Cows several 54.00-56.00, few 56.00-57.25; Standard & Utility \$51.00-53.50; Cannery \$50.00-52.50; Shelly \$50.00-Down; Bulls strong demand; Top \$64.00, Bulk 57.00 to 62.00.

BUTCHER HOGS: Mostly steady. Top Hogs 54.35; Bulk 200-225 lbs. 54.00-54.35, 230-260 lbs. 53.00-54.00; 170-190 lbs. 51.00-52.50; Heavy Weights none; Sows to 49.00, Bulk 43.00-46.00.

VEAL CALVES: Medium run, prices higher! Special formula CFS. 300-330 lbs. \$118.00-124.00. Good-Choice 100.00-127.00; Standard 90.00-100.00; Light calves 75.00-97.00; Weak & Rough 75.00 Down; Farm Bulls to 123.00, Heifers to 137.00.

LAMBS: None.
STOCK CATTLE: Light run, prices higher. 700-900 lbs. Stock Steers \$60.00-80.50 to 69.00; Stock Heifers 55.00-76.00; Stock Bulls Medium to 57.00; Springing Hfrs. to \$620.00.

PIGS AND SHOATS: Light run, prices lower. By the head \$18.00-35.00; By the lb. None.

Results of Farm Bureau's Quality Meat Cow Sale for Tuesday, Feb. 13. 65 Cows. High Yielding & Commercial 55.00-57.60; Utility & Commercial 51.00-55.00; Cutters 50.00-54.00; Cannery & Low Cutters 50.00 Down.

Omaha Cattle

February 15, 1979

CATTLE - Compared previous week's close-closing prices on slaughter steers and heifers were 75-1.00 higher, instances 1.25 higher on steers. Cows were 50-1.00 higher and bulls firm to 1.00 higher.

Fed cattle prices advanced sharply on the initial session in reflection of higher carcass prices late the previous week, and most of the early upturn was maintained on later sessions. Late trading, however was on the cautious side and most buying interests were not particularly aggressive for numbers beyond immediate requirements. Both marketings and the daily rate of slaughter were still of modest proportions. The overall finish of the steer and heifer supply was not par-

ticularly attractive with a large share Good to Average-Choice; mud and yield grade were major price-determining factors. Slaughter steers made up approximately 39 pct of the week's total and heifers 34 pct. Cows comprised 11 pct and feeders 12 pct.

STEERS: Four loads Choice and Prime 3-4 1140-1247 lbs. 65.50. Choice 2-4 1000-1325 lbs. mainly 63.75-65.00, several loads and part loads clean predominately 3 1050-1200 lbs. 55.25-55.50. Mixed Good and Choice 2-3 1000-1250 lbs. 62.75-64.00. Good 2-3 60.00-62.50, holsteins 59.00-59.25.

Average of LS-214, detailed quotations for Choice 900-1100 lbs. steers this week 65.55; Choice 1100-1300 lbs. 64.55. Average weight steers for three days 1142 lbs. as compared 1140 lbs. previous week. Average weight heifers for three days 980 lbs. as compared 978 lbs. previous week.

HEIFERS: Load Choice 3 clean 946 lbs. 64.25 early. Several loads Choice and Prime 3-4 975-1111 lbs. 63.75-64.00. Choice 2-4 900-1050 lbs. 62.00-63.50, occasionally 63.75-63.85; some mostly Choice carrying heavy coating of mud 60.50. Mixed Good and Choice 2-3 850-1025 lbs. 60.50-62.00. Good 2-3 57.00-60.00.

COWS: Utility and Commercial 2-4 50.00-52.50. Cutter 47.50-50.00. Canner and Low-Cutter 43.50-47.50.

BULLS: 1-2 1400-2000 lbs. 56.00-63.00, individual 1 64.00-66.00.

Market courtesy of USDA.

Valley Livestock

Valley Stockyards
Athens, Pa.

Monday, February 12

Reported receipts of 367 calves, 110 cows, 48 hogs, 11 heifers, 4 sheep, 0 lambs, 14 bulls, and 8 steers. Cattle market very active and calf market unsettled.

Heifer calves to 129.00; veals 90.00-114.00; bobs, 90 to 110 lbs. 90.00-110.00; bobs, 80 lbs. and down 68.00-88.00; grassers and feeders 50.00-83.00; lambs, none; sheep 20.00-46.00; hogs, 200 to 250 lbs. 50.00-56.50; sows 42.00-47.00; boars 37.00-42.00; pigs 25.00-50.50; heifers 55.00-71.00; steers, good 60.00-62.00; steers, feeder 60.00-83.00; bulls 57.00-66.00; cows, good 53.00-56.25, some mostly medium 50.00-52.00; cows, poor or small 42.00-46.00; small horses 130.00-190.00; ponies 35.00-65.00; goats 15.00-42.50.

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