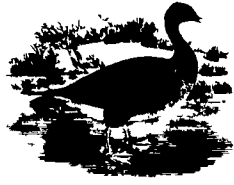


THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

DEC. 16-22, 1985

As the days lengthen the cold will strengthen.

Keep houseplants away from drafty windows Average length of days for the week, 9 hours, 5 minutes First quarter of the moon, Dec 18 (Wed) Baseball star Ty Cobb born Dec 18, 1886 Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol first published Dec 17, 1843 First electric lights lit on Broadway (NYC), Dec 20, 1880 If fools went not to market, bad wares would not be sold



Ask the Old Farmer: My father used to say that he could tell whether a rough winter was in store by the condition of the beets in his garden. He would recite a little ditty, which I can't remember. Can you help? F.E., Pontiac, Mich.
We remember one about onions, nothing about beets. It goes, "Onion skin is very thin, mild winter is coming in. Onion skin is thick and tough, winter will be cold and rough."

Home Hints: Use vinegar instead of turpentine for keeping paint brushes pliable

OLD FARMER'S WEATHER FORECAST

New England: Week begins with snowstorm, mid through end of week clearing and cold

Greater New York-New Jersey: Flurries, cold at week's beginning, mid through end of week cloudy and cold

Middle Atlantic Coastal: Rain, snow mountains at week's beginning, midweek cold, snowy and continued cold through week's end

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Central U.S. Carlot

Beef Report

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Report supplied by USDA

Central U.S. Carlot Beef Report Includes The Major Production Areas In The Midwest, Texas, And Oklahoma. As Of 4:00 P.M.

Compared to Tuesday's 4:00 P.M. report, choice 3 steer carcasses steady, choice 3 heifers \$1.00 lower. Good steers and heifers steady, with yield grade 4's not fully established. Holstein type steers 50 cents lower. Demand light. Trading light. Trading light

to moderate, turning light by mid-afternoon. Supplies moderate.

The gross boxed beef cutout value declined \$.73 to an estimated \$101.98 per cwt, 231 loads boxed cuts reported.

Sales reported on 31 loads of steer and heifer carcasses.

Steer Beef

11½ Loads

FOB Omaha Basis

Choice 3 600-900 lbs. 100.00, steady.

Choice 4 600-900 lbs. 92.00.

Good 2-3 600-900 lbs. 95.00, steady.

Choice 2-3 600-900 lbs. 89.50 (Hols Type), .50 lower.

Good 2-3 600-900 lbs. 84.50 (Hols Type), .50 lower.

Heifer Beef

19½ Loads

FOB Omaha Basis

Choice 3 550-700 lbs. 98.00, 1.00 lower.

Choice 3 500-550 lbs. 96.00-97.00, mostly steady.

Choice 3 400-500 lbs. 94.00-95.00, mostly steady.

Choice 4 500-700 lbs. 92.00.

Good 2-3 550-700 lbs. 91.00, steady.

Gd 2 & Lo 3 600-700 lbs. 93.00.

Steer & Heifer

Primal Cuts

FOB Omaha Basis

6 Loads

Hinds 145-190 lbs. 112.00.

Hinds 120-170 lbs. 109.00-111.00.

Cow Beef

19 Loads

Midwest: Prices steady to 50 cents lower on moderate supplies

Eastern Texas and Oklahoma: Not well established. Few sales steady to \$2.00 lower.

Sales in the Midwest Production Area:

FOB Omaha Basis

Brk Utility 2-3 450/up lbs. 57.00-57.50.

Bng Utility 1-3 400/up lbs. 60.50.

Cutter 1-2 350/up lbs. 65.00-66.00.

Cutter 1-2 400/up lbs. 66.25.

Sales in Eastern Texas and Oklahoma Production Areas:

Bng Utility 1-3 400/up lbs. FOB Plant 64.00-65.00.

Cutter 1-2 350/up lbs. FOB Plant 67.00-69.00.

Boneless Processing Beef/

Beef Trimmings

104 Loads

FOB Omaha Basis

90% Chem Lean Fresh 93.00-

96.00, mostly 94.00-95.00.

85% Chem Lean Fresh 89.00.

75% Chem Lean Fresh 77.00-

77.50.

50% Chem Lean Fresh 46.00-

48.00, bulk 46.00.

Eastern Texas and

Oklahoma

Production Areas

90% Chem Lean Fresh 96.50-

97.00, bulk 97.00.

90% Chem Lean Frozen 100.50.

85% Chem Lean Fresh 91.00.

75% Chem Lean Frozen 80.00.

50% Chem Lean Fresh 47.00.

Bull Carcasses

2 Loads

Bull 1-2 600/up lbs. FOB Omaha 74.00.

Central U.S. Carlot

Pork Report

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Report supplied by USDA

Compared to Tuesday's 4:00 P.M. report Fresh Pork Loins 14-18 lbs. steady to \$2.00 lower, 22 up lbs. steady to 50 cents lower; Picnics 4-8 lbs. firm; Boston butts 4-8 lbs. \$2.00-5.00 higher; Skinned hams uneven, 17-20 lbs. \$3.00-4.00 lower, 20-26 lbs. steady to 50 cents higher; sds bellies steady to firm. Trade and offerings moderate for light to moderate demand.

U.S. No. 2 175 lb. pork carcass cutout value declined \$.52 to \$62.10 per cwt.

Sales reported on 40 loads fresh pork cuts and 5 loads of trimmings

and boneless processing pork.

Fresh Pork Cuts

LOINS, REGULAR: 8 lds. 14-18 lbs. 90.00-94.00 bulk, steady-2.00 lower, 92.00-94.00.

3 lds. 22 & up lbs. 82.00, steady-50 lower.

PICNICS: 1 ld. 4-8 lbs. 48.00, firm.

BOSTON BUTTS: 2 lds. 4-8 lbs. 68.00-71.00, 2.00-5.00 higher.

2 lds. 4-8 lbs. 73.00-75.00, shipped, Dec. 17 & 18.

1 ld. 4-8 lbs. 73.00, frozen.

SKINNED HAMS: 4 lds. 17-20 lbs. 70.00-72.00, 3.00-4.00 lower.

5 lds. 17-20 lbs. 69.00, 1d 68.00 froz., no comparison.

7 lds. 20-26 lbs. 69.50-70.00, steady-50 higher.

BELLIES (Sds, Skin On):

1 ld. 12-14 lbs. 58.00-58.50, steady to firm.

1 ld. 14-16 lbs. 58.00-58.50, steady.

2½ lds. 16-18 lbs. 56.00, steady.

½ lds. 18-20 lbs. 49.00.

Pork Trimmings/Boneless

Processing Pork (Chemical Lean)

1½ lds. 42% Lean Trmgs Fresh 30.00, steady-1.00 higher.

1 ld. 72% Lean Trmgs Fresh 70.00.

2 lds. 72% Lean (Trmgs Froz. 66.25, Tis/Frozen.

Cured and Processed Pork:

Smoked Hams (Water Added)

16-19 lbs. 90.00-94.00.

19-23 lbs. 85.00-91.00.

Picnics: 4-7 lbs. 59.00-64.00. No. 1 Bacon 1 lb. pack 118.00-148.00.

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