

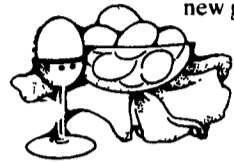


MARCH 20-26, 1995

VERNAL EQUINOX, MARCH 20.

**OF EGGS AND SEASONS**

The vernal equinox occurs at 9:14 P.M. EST on March 20 this year. At that time, the Sun crosses the equator, moving from the Southern Hemisphere to the Northern Hemisphere. This first day of spring signifies harmony and balance in nature as the days are briefly equal to the nights before the longer days of spring arrive. Eggs, an ancient symbol of fertility and new life, figure in many spring rituals. The ancient Chinese may have originated the custom of egg balancing. An old legend says that fresh eggs will stand upright, unsupported, on their "fat" ends at the time of the equinox. In 1984, thirty dozen eggs reportedly balanced for 15 minutes in New York City. Those who take part in the ritual are said to have good luck in the new growing season.



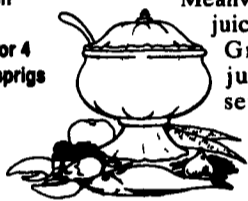
*Don't say that spring has come until you can put your foot on nine daisies.*

**TIP OF THE WEEK**

Clean and disinfect kitchen brushes occasionally by washing them in the dishwasher on the top rack.

**CRAB AND TOMATO BISQUE**

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup flaked crabmeat
- 1 cup tomato juice
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley, or 4 parsley sprigs



Melt butter in a saucepan; add flour and blend. Add milk and cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Add seasonings and crab and simmer for a few minutes. Meanwhile, heat tomato juice in another pan. Gradually add hot juice to soup and serve immediately, garnished with parsley.

Makes 4 servings.

**The OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS**



*As are the wind and weather at the equinox, so will they be for the next three months.*

*If near the equinoxes it blows in the day, it generally hushes towards evening.*

*March rain spoils more than clothes.*

**Special Offer:** Handy chart full of interesting weather proverbs. Send \$3 to Weather Chart, Dept. UF, The Old Farmer's Almanac, Box 520, Dublin, NH 03444.

**Westminster Livestock**

Hagerstown, Md. March 14, 1995

Report supplied by auction

SLAUGHTER COWS: 118 HEAD, 1.00 HIGHER. UTILITY 40.00-44.50; HIGH DRESSING 45.00-47.00, FEW TO 49.00; CANNERS 37.00-41.00; SHELLY 37.00 DOWN.

BULLS: 13 HEAD. YG#1 1200-1600 LBS. 52.25-55.00; YG#2 46.00-52.00. FED STEERS: 50 HEAD. HIGH CHOICE AND PRIME 1150-1400 LBS. 70.00-72.75; AVG. CHOICE 67.00-70.00; LOW CHOICE 62.00-66.50; HIGH CHOICE HOLSTEINS 1300-1500 LBS. 61.25; LOW CHOICE 1100-1250 LBS. TO 57.00.

FED HEIFERS: 25 HEAD. 2 HEAD CHOICE TO PRIME 1250 LBS. 70.75-73.00; CHOICE 1000-1200 LBS. 65.00-66.75; SELECT TO LOW CHOICE 58.00-62.00.

VEAL CALVES: 122 HEAD. CHOICE 250-350 LBS. 88.00-98.00; GOOD 63.00-80.00; CULLS 85-120 LBS. 50.00-60.00; WEAK/ROUGH 40.00 DOWN.

FARM CALVES: HOLSTEIN BULLS #1 95-120 LBS. 100.00-110.00; #2 80.00-100.00; 80-90 LBS. 65.00-90.00; HOLSTEIN HEIFERS FEW 85-90 LBS. 140.00-200.00; 75-80 LBS. 125.00-180.00; BEEF X BULLS TO 137.00.

BUTCHER HOGS: 50 HEAD. US#1&3 220-260 LBS. 35.50-36.00; #2&3 34.00-35.00; 300-400 LBS. 27.00-32.50.

STOCK CATTLE: 259 HEAD, ACTIVE BIDDING. STEERS MEDIUM AND LARGE FRAME 200-400 LBS. 72.00-85.00, HOLSTEINS 57.00-65.00; 400-600 LBS. 68.00-79.00; 600-800 LBS. 60.00-69.00; 800-900 LBS. 58.00-64.00, HOLSTEINS 49.00-50.00.

HEIFERS: 200-400 LBS. 60.00-75.00, HOLSTEINS, 5 HEAD, TO 105.00; 400-600 LBS. 55.00-66.00; 600-900 LBS. 53.00-62.00.

BULLS: 200-400 LBS. 75.00-96.00; 400-600 LBS. 60.00-74.00; 600-800 LBS. 57.00-66.00; 800-900 LBS. 52.00-55.00.

LAMBS: 30 HEAD, STRONG DEMAND. CHOICE 95-120 LBS. 86.00-93.00; 70-90 LBS. 99.00-108.00; 50-70 LBS. 98.00-103.00.

SHEEP: 30 HEAD 25.00-32.00; YEARLINGS TO 50.00.

GOATS: 34 HEAD, PRICES HIGHER. LARGE 63.00-85.00; MEDIUM 40.00-70.00; SMALL 22.00-40.00.

PIGS AND SHOATS: FEW OFFERED. BY THE HEAD, 20-30 LBS. 13.00-16.00. SOWS: 35 HEAD. 300-500 LBS. 27.00-29.50; THIN 23.00-25.00; 500-700 LBS. 32.00-35.00. BOARS: 10 HEAD, 300-600 LBS. 22.00-23.25; THIN 19.00-21.00.

**Keiter's Livestock Auction MIDDLEBURG, PA**

March 14, 1995

CATTLE 490... PDA ...Compared to last Tuesday's markets...steers mostly .50 to 2.00 lower, Holsteins steady to 1.00 lower, cows mostly .25 higher. STEERS: Choice 1150/1450 lbs. 66.50-70.00, three head 72.00, Select and Choice 65.00-66.50, Select 60.50-66.50. HOLSTEINS: Choice 1150/1350 lbs. 60.75-64.50, few Select 56.25-60.00, few Standard 47.50-53.50. HEIFERS: Choice 1000/1350 lbs. 64.00-70.00, few down 61.75, few Select Holstein 57.00-57.75. COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 42.75-45.75, few 47.25, Cutter and Boning Utility 41.25-45.00, few early sales 46.75, Canner and Low Cutter 36.25-41.25. Shells down to 31.00. BULLOCKS: Choice 1150/1350 lbs. 55.00-58.00, one 63.00, few Select 50.50-52.50. BULLS: Yield Grade No. 1 970/1935 lbs. 47.25-56.00. FEEDER CATTLE: Steers: few Medium Frame No. 1 390/800 lbs. 59.00-75.00, few Large Frame No. 2 750/790 lbs. 54.50-55.50; Heifers: few Medium Frame No. 1 385/650 lbs. 47.00-63.00; Bulls: few Large & Medium Frame No. 1 350/875 lbs. 55.00-65.00.

CALVES 216...VEALERS: Standard and Good 75/100 lbs. 55.00-60.00, few Utility 55/85 lbs. 40.00-50.00. FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 85/125 lbs. 85.00-112.50, No. 2 75/120 lbs. 60.00-75.00, few 80.00; No. 1 Holstein heifers 80/140 lbs. 140.00-177.50, No. 2 70/110 lbs. 85.00-145.00. Beef cross bulls and heifers 75/100 lbs. 100.00-140.00.

HOGS 570...(03/3 & 14/95)...Bulk of supply sold on Monday and reported by the auction. Barrows and gilts steady. BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-2 230/260 lbs. 40.75-42.00, US 1-3 220/260 lbs. 38.50-40.75, US 2-3 220/265 lbs. 36.50-39.00. SOWS: US 1-3 325/450 lbs. 26.00-29.00, 450/530 lbs. 30.00-32.50.

FEEDER PIGS 201...US 1-3 30/50 lbs. 25.00-34.00, few lots 65/80 lbs. 37.00-43.00. --- per head.

SHEEP 79...WOOLED LAMBS: few Choice 85/110 lbs. 69.00-86.00. NEW

CROP LAMBS: Good and Choice 30/55 lbs. 77.00-110.00. SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 28.00-46.00.

GOATS 11...Few Large 51.00-63.00, few Small Kids 20.00-34.00. --- per head.

**Mercer Livestock Auction MERCER, PA**

March 14, 1995

CATTLE 266... PDA ...Compared with last Tuesday's market...all steers steady, cows 1.50 to 2.50 higher. STEERS: Choice 1000/1480 lbs. 66.00-72.00, Select 58.00-65.75, Standard 50.00- 60.25. HOLSTEINS: Choice 1175/1480 lbs. 61.00-65.50, few Select 55.00-59.75. HEIFERS: Choice 1050/1410 lbs. 65.00-70.50, few Select 59.25-62.00, few Standard 50.00-56.50. COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 42.00-47.00, Cutter and Boning Utility 37.50-43.50, Canner and Low Cutter 32.00-38.25. Shells down to 30.00. BULLS: few Yield Grade No. 1 1165/2085 lbs. 49.25-52.75, No. 2 1270/2235 lbs. 43.00-48.85. FEEDER CATTLE: Heifers: few Medium Frame No. 1 350/675 lbs. 52.00-64.50; Bulls: few Medium Frame No. 1 450/625 lbs. 62.00-71.00.

CALVES 99...VEALERS: Standard and Good 70/105 lbs. 35.00-52.50, Utility 55/70 lbs. 20.00-30.00. FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 90/120 lbs. 100.00-122.50, No. 2 85/125 lbs. 70.00-92.50; No. 1 Holstein heifers 90/110 lbs. 155.00-177.50, No. 2 70/105 lbs. 65.00-150.00. Beef cross bulls and heifers 75/115 lbs. 90.00-145.00.

HOGS 170...Barrows and gilts steady. BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-2 230/260 lbs. 38.00-39.00, US 1-3 215/270 lbs. 35.10- 37.50, few 170/210 lbs. 28.00-33.00. SOWS: couple US 1-3 320 & 330 lbs. 29.00 & 35.00. BOARS: one 340 lbs. 22.50.

FEEDER PIGS 0...NO MARKET TEST!

SHEEP 12...SLAUGHTER LAMBS: few Choice 98/130 lbs. 64.00-74.00. SLAUGHTER SHEEP: few 18.00-56.00. GOATS 0...NO MARKET TEST!



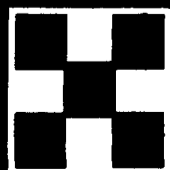
**WANTED**

**Finishing Contracts**

- 2200 Head Facilities
- 60 Miles From Lancaster Or Harrisburg
- Single Source P.I.C. Feeder Pigs

**Sow Contracts**

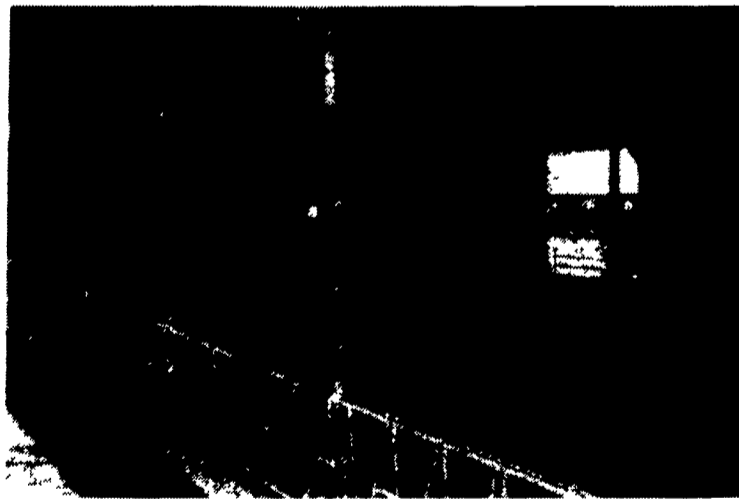
- 300 Sows and Up



**PURINA MILLS**  
800-873-5300

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Lauden Farms - Halifax, PA**



Maternity, springer and treatment area building.

**FEATURING:**

- All New 500 cow freestall dairy complex
- Waffle Slats In Freestall Areas
- Maternity, Springer, and Treatment Area
- Surge Auto Flow™ 2x5 Parlor



**AGRI-INC.** The Construction Professionals

151 E. Farmersville Road, Ephrata, PA 17522  
(717) 354-4271

Serving The Agriculture Industry For Over 25 Years

Let Our Experience Work For You For All Your Farm Building Needs, Large Or Small