



DEC. 30, 1996-JAN. 5, 1997

TWELFTH NIGHT, JAN. 5.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Among the various superstitions surrounding the advent of the new year is the nearly mandatory practice of noise-making at midnight on New Year's Eve. Now looked upon as mere revelry, it once was considered protection against evil spirits, who would be scared off by all the noise. Whistling, however, is strictly taboo, to whistle is to converse with the devil or invite him in. Sailors, actors and actresses, and miners are particularly cognizant of the ill luck associated with whistling. On board ship, whistling is thought to raise a storm. In the theatre, it is believed to close the show prematurely. For miners, it is a sign of alarm.



A whistling girl and a crowing hen, Always come to no good end.

TIP OF THE WEEK

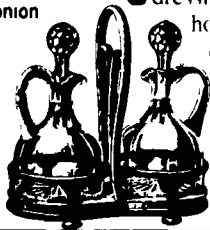
To reduce gas caused by eating beans, use the hot soak method. Bring them just to a boil, then let soak 4 hours and discard water. Add fresh water and cook.

BLACK-EYED HOPPIN' JOHN SALAD

(It is considered good luck to eat black-eyed peas on New Year's Day.)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 2 cups cooked rice | 1/4 teaspoon dried basil |
| 2 cups cooked black-eyed peas (or one 16-ounce can) | 1/8 teaspoon black pepper |
| | 1/8 teaspoon cayenne |
| | 1 bay leaf |
| 1/2 pound ham, cubed | |
| 1 cup chopped carrots | |
| 1/2 cup chopped celery | |
| 1/2 cup chopped onion | |
| 1/4 cup chopped parsley | |

Combine all ingredients and marinate salad in dressing for at least an hour. Rice and peas can be combined while still hot. Refrigerate. Remove bay leaf before serving. Makes 8 servings.



THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



If grass looks green in Janiveer, 'twill look worsen all the year.

If there is no wind on New Year's Day, the summer will be dry; if there's a good breeze, there will be rain enough for a decent crop.

Got a Question? Every day the editors of *The Old Farmer's Almanac* answer a question on the Internet. All questions are archived there as well. Go to <http://www.almanac.com>.

New Wilmington Livestock

NEW WILMINGTON, PA
DECEMBER 23, 1996

CATTLE 143... PDA ... Compared with last Monday's sale...slaughter cows 1.00 to 4.00 higher.

COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 33.00-38.00, Cutter and Boning Utility 25.00-33.75, Canner and Low Cutter 21.00-25.00. Shells down to 15.00.

BULLS: One Yield Grade No. 1 1375 lbs. 36.75, No 2 1050/1985 lbs 29.50-35.50.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: few Medium Frame No. 1 325/475 lbs. 42.00-46.00, few Large Frame No 2 240/565 lbs 10.00-20.00, Medium Frame No 2 200/475 lbs 20.00-32.00; HEIFERS: few Medium Frame No. 1 440/480 lbs. 38.00-46.00, Medium Frame No 2 200/475 lbs 20.00-33.00.

CALVES 162... VEALERS: Standard and Good 75/125 lbs. 15.00-24.00, Utility 50/80 lbs 5.00-10.00.

FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 100/125 lbs. 69.00-72.50, 90/95 lbs 54.00-62.00, No. 2 90/130 lbs. 20.00-49.00; few No 1 Holstein heifers 90/105 lbs. 95.00-100.00, No 2 75/110 lbs 25.00-75.00.

HOGS 243... Barrows and gilts steady to .75 lower.

BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-2 220/260 lbs. 52.85-55.50, few to 57.25, US 1-3 220/260 lbs. 51.00-53.00, US 2-3 220/280 lbs. 48.85-50.35.

SOWS: US 1-3 545/570 lbs. 50.00-50.50, few 2-3 300/350 35.00/4.00.

BOARS: 215/470 lbs. 35.00-38.00.

FEEDER PIGS 48... US 1-3 20/30 lbs 10.00-15.00, 30/40 lbs 20.00-26.00... per head.

SHEEP 22... SLAUGHTER LAMBS: few Choice 90/125 lbs. 85.00-100.00, 50/75 lbs 117.50-122.50.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 25.00-42.50.

GOATS 21... Couple Large 95.00 & 112.50, Medium 43.00-60.00, few Small 22.50-50.00. --- per head.

Central U.S. Carlot

Beef Report

December 24, 1996

Report supplied by USDA

USDA NATIONAL CARLOT BEEF REPORT (INCLUDES MAJOR PRODUCTION AREAS IN THE MIDWEST AND TEXAS) AS OF 3 P.M.

COW AND BULL CARCASS FOB OMAHA

0 LOADS REPORTED

COMPARED TO DEC. 16 3 P.M. REPORT: COW AND BULL CARCASSES NOT ESTABLISHED.

UT, BRK 2-4 450 LBS. AND UP, LATEST ESTB. MKT. 52.50 B.

UT, BNG 1-3 400 LBS. AND UP, LATEST ESTB. MKT. 54.50 B.

CUTTER 1-2 350 LBS. AND UP, LATEST ESTB. MKT. 52.00-54.00 B.

BULLS YG#1 500 LBS. AND UP, UNQUOTED.

COW AND BULL CARCASSES CAF WEST COAST

MARKET FOR WEEK ENDED DEC. 20.

UT, BNG 1-3 400 LBS. AND UP, RANGE 55.00.

CUTTER 1-2 350 LBS. AND UP, RANGE 55.00.

BONELESS PROCESSING BEEF/ BEEF TRIMMINGS

54.0 LOADS REPORTED

FRESH 90% 1.00-2.00 HIGHER; 85% AND 75% MOSTLY 5.00 HIGHER; 65% MOSTLY STEADY. DEMAND REMAINS GOOD FOR LIMITED OFFERINGS. FRESH BEEF TRIMMINGS GENERALLY STEADY ON MOSTLY MODERATE DEMAND AND OFFERINGS.

FOB OMAHA BASIS

90% FR, 8 LOADS, RANGE 89.0-90.0 WT. AVG. 89.38.

90% FZ, UNQUOTED.

85%FR, 9 LOADS, RANGE 77.0-83.0,

WT. AVG. 79.33.

85% FZ, UNQUOTED.

75% FR, 1 LOAD, RANGE 71.0, WT. AVG. 71.00.

75% FZ, UNQUOTED.

65% FR, 12 LOADS, RANGE 60.5-61.0, WT. AVG. 60.83.

65% FZ, UNQUOTED.

50% FR, 20 LOADS, RANGE 45.00-46.50, WT. AVG. 46.05.

50% FZ, UNQUOTED.

50% BX, UNQUOTED.

BULL 92-94, UNQUOTED.

FOB EAST TX & OK 90% FR, 4 LOADS, RANGE 89.0, WT. AVG. 89.00.

90% FZ, 85% FR, 85% FZ, 75% FR, 75% FZ, 65% FR, AND 65% FZ, UNQUOTED.

CAF NE AREAS 90% FR, 90% FZ, 85% FR, 85% FZ, 75% FR, 75% FZ, 65% FR, 65% FZ, 50% FR, AND 50% FZ, ALL UNQUOTED.

CAF WEST COAST BASIS WEEK ENDED 12/20/96

90% FR, RANGE 83.0-83.5, WT. AVG. 83.25.

90% FZ, UNQUOTED.

85% FR, RANGE 71.0-77.0, WT. AVG. 73.45.

85% FZ, UNQUOTED.

75% FR, RANGE 67.0, WT. AVG. 67.00.

75% FZ, UNQUOTED.

65% FR, RANGE 59.0-61.75 WT. AVG. 59.84.

65% FZ, UNQUOTED.

50% FR, RANGE 46.0-49.25 WT. AVG. 47.50.

50% FZ, UNQUOTED.

ABCDE AFTER QUOTES REPRESENTS DAYS SINCE LAST ACTUAL MARKET TEST. QUOTES ARE DROPPED AFTER 5 DAYS OF NO TEST OR BEFORE IF THEY NO LONGER REFLECT CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS.

SOURCE: USDA MARKET, DES MOINES, IA.

HAY, STRAW & GRAIN SALES

Hay And Straw Sales Will Start At 10 A.M. Every Wed.

GOOD'S AUCTION

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