

The OLD FARMER'S THIS WEEK WITH ALMANAC

APRIL 21-27, 1997

FULL PINK MOON, APRIL 22.



FEAST OF SAINT MARK

San Marco, the patron saint of Venice and protector of the fields, has his festival on April 25. Early spring peas, cooked with a creamy rice terrine or risotto-style rice, called "risi e bisi," have become the specialty of the day, along with "bisi col persutto," or peas with prosciutto. If your spring peas aren't ready, you could observe National Arbor Day instead, also celebrated on April 25. Whether you eat peas, plant peas, or plant trees, however, tip your hat to Saint Mark all the same in hopes of fertile soils and a bountiful year.

If you have once planted a tree . . . you have always in it a peculiar interest.

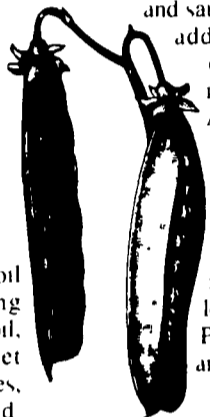
- Alexander Smith

TIP OF THE WEEK

Remove winter wraps from tree trunks now. Left on, they may harbor insects.

RISI E BISI

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup white rice
- 1 cup petite frozen or fresh peas
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoon grated Parmesan



Add cooked rice to onion and sauté briefly, adding more olive oil, if needed. Add peas and cook until just warm. Turn off heat, stir in the parsley and the Parmesan, and serve. **Makes 4 servings, as a side dish.**

Sauté onion in olive oil and set aside. Bring chicken broth to a boil, add rice, cover, and let simmer about 20 minutes, until liquid is absorbed.

The OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



Rain on St. Mark's Day (Apr. 25) betides ill for fruit crops.

It's bad luck to point at a rainbow.

A rainbow at morn, put your hook in the corn; a rainbow at eve, put your head in the sheave.

When April blows her horn (thunders), it's good for both hay and corn.

Mercer Livestock

MERCER, PA
APRIL 15, 1997

CATTLE 541... PDA ...Compared with last week's sale...slaughter steers steady to .50 higher, cows .50 to 2.00 higher.
STEERS: High Choice and Prime 1100/1450 lbs. 68.50-71.75, Choice 1075/1525 lbs. 64.00-69.50, Select 55.50-65.25, Standard 46.75-55.00.
HOLSTEINS: High Choice and Prime 1175/1500 lbs. 61.50-65.25, Choice 1150/1550 lbs. 54.60-61.75, Select 49.25-54.00, few Standard 43.50-49.50.
HEIFERS: few High Choice and Prime 1125/1400 lbs. 66.00-69.85, Choice 990/1325 lbs. 62.50-68.00, Select 55.00-62.10, Standard 42.25-53.75.
COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 40.00-46.00, few to 47.25, Cutter and Boning Utility 34.75-41.00, Canner and Low Cutter 32.00-36.50. Shells down to 21.00.
BULLS: Yield Grade No. 1 1200/1900 lbs. 46.50-55.50, No. 2 1225/2100 lbs. 37.50-46.50.
FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: Medium Frame No. 1 350/775 lbs. 53.50-70.00, few Large Frame No. 1 425/570 lbs. 64.00-71.00, Large Frame No. 2 475/950 lbs. 43.00-49.00, few Medium Frame No. 2 575/800 lbs. 51.00-52.00; HEIFERS: few Large Frame No. 2 400/825 lbs. 42.50-48.50, Medium Frame No. 1 350/575 lbs. 52.00-62.00, Medium Frame No. 2 300/775 lbs. 40.00-50.00; BULLS: few Large Frame No. 1 600/800 lbs. 61.00-71.00, Medium Frame No. 1 365/675 lbs. 58.00-65.00, Large Frame No. 2 375/875 lbs. 30.00-41.00, Medium Frame No. 2 375/900 lbs. 46.00-56.00.
CALVES 115...VEALERS: Standard and Good 75/110 lbs. 25.00-35.00, Utility 60/85 lbs. 10.00-26.00.
FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 90/125 lbs. 60.00-82.50, No. 2 90/145 lbs. 34.00-50.00, few No. 2 Holstein heifers 75/120 lbs. 30.00-102.50. Few beef cross bulls and heifers 85/145 lbs. 32.00-88.00.
HOGS 38...BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-3 245/275 lbs. 51.00-53.00, US 2-3 240/270 lbs. 47.50-49.50.
SOWS: few US 1-3 345/475 lbs. 44.00-47.00.
FEEDER PIGS 0...NO MARKET TEST!
SHEEP 1...NO MARKET TEST!
GOATS 18...Couple Medium 49.00, Small Kids 5.00-13.00. --- per head.

Belleville Livestock

BELLEVILLE, PA
APRIL 16, 1997

CATTLE 300... SUPPLIED BY THE AUCTION .
COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 38.50-43.25, Cutter and Boning Utility 32.00-38.00, Canner and Low Cutter 29.00-31.75. Shells down to 22.00.
BULLS: Yield Grade No. 1 1100/1500 lbs. 48.00-50.00, No. 2 1000/1800 lbs. 42.00-49.00.
FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: 55.00-63.00; HEIFERS: 40.00-54.00; BULLS: 48.00-56.00.
CALVES 87...VEALERS: Standard and Good 85/110 lbs. 25.00-32.00, Utility 50/80 lbs. 17.00-24.50.
FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 95/110 lbs. 45.00-71.00, No. 2 90/120 lbs. 35.00-56.00.
HOGS 54...BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-2 230/260 lbs. 51.75-53.00, US 1-3 230/260 lbs. 50.60-51.60.
SOWS: US 1-3 400/600 lbs. 47.00-49.60.
BOARS: 200/500 lbs. 34.00-39.50.
FEEDER PIGS 110...US 1-3 20/30 lbs. 20.00-37.00, 30/80 lbs. 38.00-65.00. --- per head.
SHEEP 34...SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice 80/100 lbs. 95.00-110.00, 40/75 lbs. 115.00-154.00.
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 25.00-37.00.
GOATS 50...Large 64.50-77.00, Medium 45.00-63.00, Large Kids 45.00-57.00, Small Kids 12.00-42.00. --- per head.

Morrison Cove Livestock

Martinsburg, Pa.
April 14, 1997

Report supplied by auction
CATTLE 244. STEERS CHOICE 66.00-71.00; GOOD 62.00-65.00.
HEIFERS: CHOICE 62.00-67.00; GOOD 58.00-61.00.
COWS: UTILITY & COMMERCIAL 37.00-46.00; CANNER & LOW CUTTER 22.00-34.00.
BULLOCKS: 44.00-54.00.
BULLS: YIELD GRADE NO. 1 40.00-57.00.
FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS 45.00-72.00; BULLS 42.00-67.00; HEIFERS 40.00-65.00.

CALVES 107. PRIME, NO MKT. TEST; CHOICE 70.00-80.00; GOOD 60.00-70.00; STANDARD 10.00-35.00; HOLSTEIN BULLS 90-130 LBS. 50.00-70.00; HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 90-130 LBS. 80.00-120.00.
HOGS: 304. US NO. 1-2 52.00-53.00; US NO. 1-3 50.50-52.00.
SOWS: US NO. 1-3 38.00-47.00.
BOARS: 36.00-40.50.
FEEDER PIGS: 2 HEAD. US#1&3 20-50 LBS. 17.00-45.00.
SHEEP: 79 HEAD. CHOICE LAMBS 100.00-120.00; GOOD LAMBS 90.00-100.00; SLAUGHTER EWES 35.00-48.00.
GOATS: 20.00-115.00 EA.
11 LOADS OF HAY. ALFALFA 100.00-192.50; MIXED HAY 91.00-125.00; 1 LOAD OF STRAW 104.00; CORN FODDER 12.00 PER ROUND BALE.

Valley Stockyards

Athens, Pa.
April 14, 1997

Report supplied by auction
HOLSTEIN HEIFER CALVES TO 132.50.
VEAL CALVES TO 70.00.
VEALER BULL CALVES TO 92.50.
SLAUGHTER CALVES 36.00 AND DOWN.
GRASSERS AND FEEDERS 23.00-68.50.
LAMBS TO 155.00.
SHEEP 40.00-55.00.
HOGS, 200-250, 46.00-48.00.
SOWS TO 40.00.
BOARS TO 35.50.
PIGS, NONE0.
HEIFERS, FAT, TO 48.00.
STEERS TO 48.50.
STEERS, FEEDER, TO 67.50.
BULLS TO 48.75.
COWS, GOOD, 36.00-43.75.
COWS, MEDIUM, 30.25-35.75.
COWS, POOR OR SMALL, 29.25 AND DOWN.
CATTLE MARKET STEADY.
HORSES, NONE.
PONIES, NONE.
GOATS TO 105.00.
DAIRY SALE THURS., APRIL 17 AT 7:30 P.M. SMALL DAIRY JERSEYS AND HEIFERS.

WANTED

SOW PRODUCERS

- Existing Farms
- New Construction

WE OFFER:



GUARANTEED PRICE

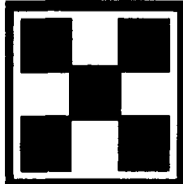
5 to 7 Year Contracts



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2 BEST UNLOADERS ON THE MARKET FOR UNLOADING SILAGE



Ring-drive, dual-auger silo unloader -- Model 8820

- Adapts to single-cable, 3-cable tripod or 3-cable hexapod suspensions
- Ring drive with power transmitted to a gearbox and drive sprocket at the ring.
- A radial pin overload clutch protects the drive system.
- Both augers include ripping teeth that overlap and interlock
- 1/4-inch thick auger flighting
- Giant 28-inch blower with stainless steel blower band
- 4 cupped, cast-iron, swinging paddles with 1" stainless steel pins
- Proven-reliable Patz electrical joint.
- Electrical control panel with ammeter and remote pushbutton station.
- Heavy-duty double-sealed auger gearbox with synthetic gear lubricant.
- COR-TEN® steel frame combines high strength with corrosion resistance. (COR-TEN is a registered trademark of U.S. Steel Corp.)
- Stainless steel auger guard.
- Dual offset wall cleaners.
- All the features you need are standard equipment



Model 98C Gathering-chain Unloader increases Blowing Capacity

- Big blower handles high volumes
- Four impeller blades adjust for close tolerance and efficient blowing.
- Stainless steel blower is available
- Proven clutter-and-claw gathering chain provides high-volume delivery in frozen and hard packed silage.
- Fully automatic unloading because the 98C is self-propelled on the silage without cable support. No winch watching!
- Depth-of-cut control ensures high-volume delivery.
- Automatic self-leveling for uniform silage removal, saving trips up the silo
- All parts go up the chute to install easily anytime.
- For 12 to 30 ft. silos.
- Patz financing offers affordable rates.
- Owners of Patz 61, 66, 98, 98A and 98B unloaders: This bigger blower will fit your unloaders.

Patz

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