

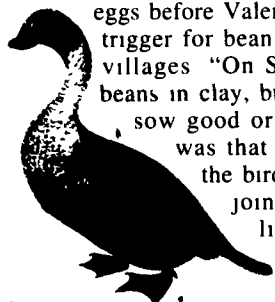


FEBRUARY 9-15, 1998

FULL SNOW MOON, FEB. 11.

## How to Tell a Good Goose

Most of us associate Valentine's Day (February 14) with hearts and romance, but some old-timers used it as a gauge of their goose's productivity. "On Valentine's Day, will a good goose lay; if she be a good goose, her dame well to pay, she will lay two eggs before Valentine's Day." It was also a trigger for bean planting in some English villages. "On St. Valentine's Day, cast beans in clay, but on St. Chad (March 2), sow good or bad." Another old belief was that "On Valentine's Day, all the birds of the air in couples do join." So I guess there was a little romance in with the husbandry.



*Love is a smoke raised with the fume of sighs.*

— William Shakespeare

## TIP OF THE WEEK

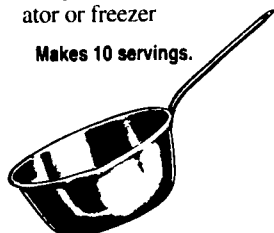
Check your chimney for creosote build-up by looking in a mirror held just inside the opening when the fire is out.

## PEPPERMINT CHOCOLATE SAUCE

6 ounces semisweet chocolate  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons peppermint extract  
1 cup water

tly about 10 minutes, until the sauce thickens. Serve over ice cream, fruits (pears or berries are good), cake, or brownies. Keeps well in the refrigerator or freezer.

Makes 10 servings.



## THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



*After a rainy winter, a plentiful summer.*

*Winter thunder bodes summer hunger.*

*On Valentine's Day, set thy hopper (seed-basket) by mine.*

*Red clouds in the east, rain the next day.*

**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 [www.almanac.com](http://www.almanac.com).

## Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa.  
Feb. 2, 1998

CATTLE 501...PDA...COMPARED TO LAST WEEK'S SALE...SL. STEERS 1.00-2.00 LOWER, SL. COWS STEADY TO STRONG WITH SPOTS 2.00 HIGHER, SL. BULLS 3.00-5.00 LOWER...SUPPLY INCLUDED 116 SL. STEERS AND HEIFERS, 282 SL. COWS, 21 BULLS AND 82 FEEDER CATTLE. SLAUGHTER STEERS: FEW HIGH CHOICE AND PRIME 1200-1400 LBS. 64.00-65.75, CHOICE 1215-1465 LBS. 58.00-65.50, COUPLE 1540 AND 1655 LBS. 60.00 AND 60.25, SELECT 55.00-62.75, STANDARD 49.00-57.00.

HOLSTEINS: FEW CHOICE 1320-1455 LBS. 55.00-56.75, FEW SELECT 49.75-54.25, STANDARD 43.50-48.75.

HEIFERS: FEW HIGH CHOICE AND PRIME 1145-1330 LBS. 63.75-65.50, CHOICE 1145-1350 LBS. 58.00-64.25, SELECT 55.25-61.00, STANDARD 42.00-54.25.

COWS: BREAKING UTILITY AND COMMERCIAL 37.75-42.25, ONE AT 44.00, CUTTER AND BONING UTILITY 33.25-40.75, CANNER AND LOW CUTTER 26.00-37.00. SHELLS DOWN TO 20.00.

BULLS: YG#1 1470-2130 LBS. 44.25-52.50, ONE AT 54.00, FEW #2 1075-1625 LBS. 40.50-42.75.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS FEW MED. AND LARGE FRAME #1 305-515 LBS. 78.00-94.00, 690-915 LBS. 56.00-65.00, MED. AND LARGE FRAME #2 500-990 LBS. 51.00-58.00; HEIFERS MED. AND LARGE FRAME #1 300-510 LBS. 62.00-73.00, ONE LOT AT 78.00, 645-915 LBS. 56.00-65.00, FEW MED. FRAME #2 300-340 LBS. 44.00-69.50, LARGE FRAME #2 495-925 LB. HOLSTEINS 42.00-55.00, ONE LOT AT 64.00; BULLS FEW MED. AND LARGE FRAME #1 420-865 LBS. 53.00-73.00, FEW LARGE FRAME #2 255-465 LBS. 52.00-67.00.

CALVES: 377...VEALERS STANDARD AND GOOD 75-125 LBS. 34.00-35.00, UTILITY 60-85 LBS. 15.00-23.00.

FARM CALVES: HOLSTEIN BULLS

10.00-12.00 HIGHER...#1 HOLSTEIN BULLS 90-125 LBS. 80.00-120.00 BULK OF SALES 95.00-115.50, #2 80-130 LBS. 33.00-85.50, 70-80 LBS. 25.00-35.00; FEW #1 HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 90-105 LBS. 62.50-127.50, #2 85-95 LBS. 37.50-50.00; FEW BEEF CROSS BULLS AND HEIFERS 80-100 LBS. 37.50-82.50.

HOGS: 28...SOWS 1.00-3.00 HIGHER. SOWS US#1-3 355-435 LBS. 34.00-39.50, 500-640 LBS. 31.00-35.50.

BOARS: FEW 500-670 LBS. 16.00-16.50.

FEEDER PIGS: 68...SLAUGHTER, UTILITY 40-75 LBS. 10.00-22.00 PER HEAD.

SHEEP: 11...SLAUGHTER LAMBS FEW CHOICE 65-90 LBS. 94.00-100.00, COUPLE 115 AND 120 LBS. AT 75.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: ONE AT 46.00.

GOATS: 37...BY THE HEAD, FEW LARGE BILLIES 70.00-77.50, ONE LARGE NANNY AT 66.00, ONE MED. AT 57.50, LARGE KIDS 24.00-57.00, COUPLE SMALL AT 15.00 HEAD.

## Westminster Livestock Auction

Hagerstown, Md.  
February 3, 1998

Report supplied by auction

SLAUGHTER COWS: 104 HEAD, 1.00-2.00 LOWER. UTILITY 35.50-40.00; HIGH DRESSING TO 41.75; CANNERS 30.00-35.00; SHELLY 30.00 DOWN.

BULLS: 5 HEAD. YG#1 1200-1950 LBS. 43.00-52.00.

FED STEERS: HIGH CHOICE TO PRIME 1200-1475 LBS. 65.00-66.25; CHOICE #2-3 1100-1450 LBS. 62.00-64.00; LOW CHOICE 57.00-61.50; SELECT 52.00-57.00.

FED HEIFERS: CHOICE 1050-1200 LBS. 60.00-62.25; LOW CHOICE HOLSTEINS 1200 LBS. 46.75.

VEAL CALVES: 152 HEAD. 1 PRIME 256 LBS. AT 94.00; 1 CHOICE AT 56.00; CULLS 3.00-5.00 HIGHER. 85-110 LBS. 27.00-35.00; 60-85 LBS. 20.00-29.00.

FARM CALVES: HOLSTEIN BULLS 500-1500 HIGHER. #1 95-120 LBS. 95.00-115.00, SOME 120.00-125.00; 85-95 LBS. 60.00-99.00; #2 35.00-60.00; HOLSTEIN HEIFERS #1 95-120 LBS. 100.00-135.00; 80-90 LBS. 60.00-90.00; BEEF X BULLS AND HEIFERS 50.00-82.00.

BUTCHER HOGS: NO TOP WEIGHT OFFERED. 1 LOT 272 LBS. T 35.25; 290-325 LBS. 30.00-32.00.

SOWS: FEW 500 LBS. AT 25.25.

BOARS: 350-550 LBS. 15.00-17.50.

STOCK CATTLE: 102 HEAD, GOOD DEMAND. STEERS MED. AND LARGE FRAME 200-400 LBS. FEW TO 87.00; 400-600 LBS. 75.00-85.00; 600-700 LBS. 67.00-73.00; 700-900 LBS. FEW TO 65.00.

HEIFERS: MED. AND LARGE FRAME 300-500 LBS. 63.00-78.00; 500-700 LBS. 56.00-71.00.

BULLS: MED. AND LARGE FRAME 200-400 LBS. 74.00-84.00; 400-650 LBS. 64.00-80.00.

LAMBS: 24 HEAD CHOICE 100-120 LBS. 82.00-92.00, 60-80 LBS. 97.00-120.00.

SHEEP: 18 HEAD. LIGHTWEIGHTS 44.00-63.00; HEAVY 26.00-40.00.

GOATS: 20 HEAD. LARGE 69.00-90.00, 1 AT 137.00; MED.

40.00-70.00, SMALL 20.00-40.00.

PIGS AND SHOATS: 164 HEAD. BULK SOLD BY LB. IN GRADED SALES, BY THE HEAD, FEW LOTS 40-60 LBS. 21.00-30.00, BY THE LB. #1-2 76 HEAD 45-60 LBS. 55.00-60.00, FEW TO 70.00; 56 HEAD 60-75 LBS. 50.00-60.00; FEW 170-200 LBS. 30.00-35.00.

## Dewart Hay & Livestock

Dewart, Pa.

Monday, February 2, 1998

Report Supplied by Auction

STEERS: TOO FEW TO QUOTE. HEIFERS: TOO FEW TO QUOTE. GOOD COWS: 32.00-43.00. CANNERS AND CUTTERS 22.00-32.00.

BULLS: 24.00-37.00. VEAL 130-190 LBS. 80.00-130.00, 90-130 LBS. 25.00-80.00.

HOGS: 35.00. SOWS: 26.00-28.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 15.00-30.00 HEAD. HAY: 60.00-185.00.

STRAW: 74.00-89.00.

WOOD: 35.00-47.50 LOAD.

CORN: 65.00-102.00.

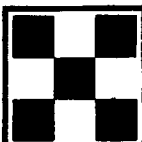
OATS: 1.65-2.40 BU.

## United Feature Syndicate

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## AVAILABLE SPRING '98

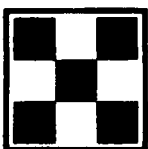


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## SPECIAL

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2:00 p.m.

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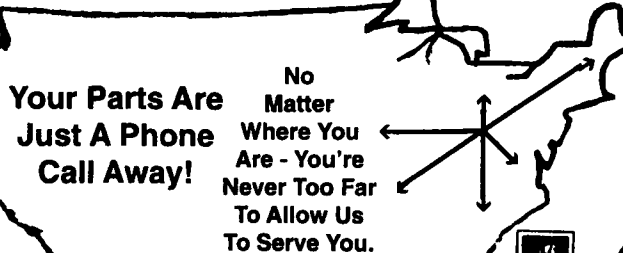
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