

Last Week 2471 1633  
Last Year 3304 1754

**CATTLE:** Compared to last week's closing prices, slaughter steers closed weak to .50 lower. Slaughter heifers were not well tested. This week's market started out fully steady and then dropped on Tuesday. Some strength was evident at the close, although sales were very spotty throughout the week. Volatility was the case for most all of the beef markets this week, except for boxed beef prices which were steady to firm. Slaughter cows ended the week mixed, after a sharp drop at mid-week. The 75-85 percent lean cows closed steady to 1.00 lower. Lean cows from 85-90 percent finished .50-1.50 higher with increased strength on Thursday. Slaughter bulls closed 1.00-2.00 lower. This week's supply included 47 percent slaughter steers, 6 percent slaughter heifers, 36 percent slaughter cows, 6 percent bulls and the balance were feeder cattle.

**SLAUGHTER STEERS:** High Choice and Prime 2-4 1140-1485 lbs 60.75-65.25, few Charolais X 2 1230-1350 lbs 65.00-66.50. Choice 2-3 1025-1490 lbs 59.00-62.75, high dressing 1-2 62.50-66.50. Select and low Choice 2-3 1120-1500 lbs 55.00-61.75; 1500-1740 lbs 51.25-58.00. Select 1-3 1070-1510 lbs 50.75-57.85.

**HOLSTEIN STEERS:** High Choice and Prime 2-3 1325-1615 lbs 54.10-56.50. Choice 2-3 1130-1680 lbs 51.85-55.00. Select and low Choice 2-3 1080-1630 lbs 49.50-53.75. Select 1-2 1040-1590 lbs 46.50-52.00. Few Standard 1-2 42.00-45.50.

**SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:** Few high Choice and Prime 2-4 1200-1300 lbs 61.35-62.50. Choice 2-4 1060-1270 lbs 57.75-60.50. Select and low Choice 2-3 965-1415 lbs 54.50-58.00. Heiferettes: Choice 3-4 1060-1380 lbs 51.25-57.00. Few Commercial and Standard 2-4 950-1300 lbs 48.00-52.00.

**SLAUGHTER COWS\*:** PERCENT LEAN WEIGHT BULK LOW DRESSING Breakers 75-80 pct lean over-1400 lbs 37.50-42.25 36.00-39.25 Boners 80-85 pct lean over-1200 lbs 34.50-41.50 33.00-35.75 Lean (Hi-Yield) 85-88 pct lean over-1200 lbs 33.50-38.50 33.00-35.50 Lean 88-90 pct lean over-1000 lbs 30.75-37.75 28.00-34.50 Lean (Light-Wt) 85-90 pct lean 750 -1000 lbs 29.50-35.25 \*Over 95 percent of supply consisted of Holstein cows.

**Leesport Livestock**

Leesport, PA  
Wednesday, July 22, 1998  
No Report Available By PDA  
Report Supplied by Auction

**CATTLE 542...SUPPLY INCLUDED 52 SL. STEERS AND HEIFERS, 79 SL. COWS, AND 20 FEEDER CATTLE.**  
**SLAUGHTER STEERS: CHOICE 2-3 TO 61.75, FEW SELECT 1-3 58.00-60.00, STANDARD 1-2 47.00-51.00.**

**HOLSTEIN STEERS: HIGH CHOICE AND PRIME TO 59.00, STANDARD 40.00-47.00.**

**HEIFERS: FEW CHOICE 2-4 1105-1131 LBS. 56.00-59.25, SELECT 1-3 54.00-57.00.**

**COWS: BREAKING UTILITY AND COMMERCIAL 2-4 37.00-39.75, CUTTER AND BONING UTILITY 1-3 30.00-35.00, CANNER AND LOW CUTTER 1-2 17.00-30.00.**

**SHELLS DOWN TO 8.00.**

**BULLS: HOLSTEINS 44.00-49.75.**

**CALVES: 157...VEALERS 90-110LBS: TO 78.00; HEIFER CALVES 1.00-1.35.**

**HOGS: 18...BARROWS AND GILTS 33.50-34.50.**

**BOARS: ONE LOT 255 LBS. 13.50.**

**FEEDER PIGS: 140...PER HEAD 12.00-28.00.**

**SHEEP: ...SLAUGHTER LAMBS CHOICE 50.00-70.00, HEAVIES TO 80.00 AND UP.**



I recently attended the national meeting of the American Society for Horticultural Science and was able to collect a great deal of information about the production of fruit and vegetable crops. Over the next few months I intend to pass that information on to the readers of this column.

**Watch Soil Moisture Levels**  
As I wrote last month, the hot temperatures that we are having now can have dramatic effects on the yield and quality of your fruit and vegetable crops.

You need to be carefully monitoring both fruit and vegetable crops for their water status and be sure to apply water before drought stress can reduce yields and crop quality. Research conducted in Ohio showed that a slight water stress on nursery

stock resulted in a growth reduction of 50% compared to well-watered control plants. The stress applied to the plants did not result in any visible symptoms (leaf wilt, loss of leaf glossiness) so the researchers could not tell the plants were stressed other than through soil moisture measurements.

I had read before that plants can be experiencing water stress without any visible symptoms but this research project dramatically demonstrated this effect. While your fruit and vegetable yields may not be reduced by 50% if your plants are stressed, you should still keep your plants well watered to harvest the largest and highest-quality crop.

**No-Till Vegetables**

There has been greater interest in no-till vegetable production in the US in recent years. The advantages of this system include soil erosion control, labor and fuel savings, improved field conditions following rains, and water conservation due to reduced runoff.

Numerous studies have shown the advantages of this system for the production of both field crops (corn, soybeans) as well as many types of vegetables. However, there are some disadvantages of this system including weed control problems, necessary equipment modifications, delayed maturity of early-spring planted crops, problems with application of soil-applied chemicals, and residual habitat for certain diseases and insects.

I attended a half-day workshop on the use of cover crops in vegetable production and based on that discussion and personal experiences I would encourage more Lancaster county vegetable producers to examine this system for the production of some of the crops on your fields.

Based on the discussions, the no-till system will not be useful for the production of early crops of tomatoes, corn, or melons. There is just no way to warm the soil sufficiently to get the necessary early growth of these crops. However, for late-planted crops, especially pumpkins, I think this system has enough benefits for you to try it. There are a few keys to being successful with a no-till system.

First, you need to obtain a dense, uniformly distributed, weed-free cover crop prior to planting. If you do not have a dense enough stand then you will most likely have weed problems later in the year.

Next - you need to thoroughly kill the cover crop prior to planting and leave a heavy residue. Not killing the cover crop will lead to unwanted competition for water and nutrients.

Third - you need to establish crop plants with a minimum disturbance of surface residue and surface soil. Again - weed problems can arise with too much soil disturbance. And finally - you need to practice year-round weed

control. You need to have either a vegetable crop or a cover crop on the field at all times. Never leave the field fallow to produce a 'crop' of weeds and weed seeds.

I feel that pumpkins are an ideal crop to produce using no-till procedures. The seed is large and easy to establish. Transplants can also be used and they too are easy to establish. Pumpkins are planted later in the season so the soil would have a chance to warm up.

In addition, you do not need to apply soil treatments in order to establish a pumpkin crop. And finally, by planting pumpkins after a cover crop containing some hairy vetch, you should not need to apply any nitrogen fertilizer to produce the crop. Growers who have grown pumpkins in a no-till field with sufficient residue have also told me that the fruit is much cleaner at harvest - an additional benefit to the producer and the buyer.

The best cover crop for pumpkin production would be a mix of both hairy vetch and rye. The vetch will provide nitrogen (as I mentioned earlier) and the rye would produce the long-term residue necessary for season-long weed control. Unsatisfactory results have been obtained with just vetch cover crops for two reasons. First - the residue breaks down too fast and weed control can be a problem.

Second - some growers have had excessive vine growth because the vetch left too much nitrogen in the soil. Straight rye cover crops are not ideal because they do not provide any nitrogen to the soil and may even tie-up some of the nitrogen in your soil while the residue breaks down.

One common problem with a vetch-rye cover crop system is that the cover needs to be established in September in order to get satisfactory growth of the vetch before winter. Many growers do not have a field available at this time to establish the cover crop.

However, with some planning before crop ent you may be able to have the field space available in early fall for cover crop establishment. I strongly encourage you to look into no-till pumpkin production on your farm.

If you are interested in the no-till system and want to see firsthand a farm that is successfully using no-till then you should attend the "Tools for Transition" Farm Field Day at Cedar Meadow Farm in Holtwood on July 29 from 10.00 AM until 3:00 PM

Steve Groff has been using no-till on his farm for 14 years and can provide information and tips for successfully using this system on your farm. Steve has produced both pumpkins and tomatoes using no-till and has been very satisfied with the results. Contact the extension office for additional details on this field day.

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Penn State Cooperative  
Extension 1383 Arcadia Rd., Rm. 1  
Phone (717) 394-6851  
Lancaster, PA 17601-3184 FAX (717) 394-3962



**Beaver Run School Fall Consignment Sale**  
Sept. 5, 1998  
Washingtonville, Montour Co., PA

**Wanted:** Consignments For All Farm Related Items, Antiques, Quilts, Crafts, Furniture and Etc. in Good Saleable Condition.

For Free Advertising Consign by Aug. 15.

Sale Committee:

Hosea, John N. and Aaron Hostetler  
717-437-3704, 437-3083, 437-2758

We Sell On Commission  
Bill Wolfe, AU-001035

**Associated Auctioneers**  
3950 D Street, Phila., Pa 19124  
(215) 739-1021 Fax (215) 739-1071

**ABSOLUTE AUCTION**  
ONE MILLION DOLLAR INVENTORY  
Heaters, Air Conditioners and Parts  
Contents of Philadelphia's Largest  
"Carriers" Distributor  
**Wednesday, July 29, 1998**  
10 a.m. On Site

HVAC Equipment, Carrier, Payne, Reznor, Hydrotherm, Mitsubishi, Tetco Air Temp, Frigidaire, and more; 150 Gas & Oil Furnaces, 200 Condensing Units, 600 Window Air Conditioners, Fancoils, Magic Aire, Split Systems Commercial, Heat Pumps, Reznor Refrigerant Specialties, Compressors, Motors & Accessories, Factory Parts, Controls, Installation Material and Supplies, Servicing Material and Replacement Components, Tools, Test Instruments, Meters, Copper Pipe, PVC Pipe, Freon, Building Material Trailer Load, R-19 Insulation, 10 Trailer Loads of Ceramic Tile 4" to 12", 3500' of 12"x12" Marble, 3000' of Oak Hardwood Flooring, 75 PH Exterior Doors, 300 SC Doors, 400 HC Doors, 5000' of Pine Molding, 150 Asst. Windows, Tubs, Toilets, Sinks, Faucets, Large Inventory of Tools, 1000' of Pallet Racking, Forklifts, Cars and Trucks.

**Terms:** \$100.00 Refundable Deposit Required to Bid, 10% Buyers Premium. All Sales Cash or Certified Funds.

**Inspection:** Morning of Sale, 8AM to Start of Sale

**Auctioneers Note:** This Sale is a Contractor's Dream. Never Seen at Auction. Short Notice, Don't Miss It.

**Public Auction Register**

Closing Date Monday 5:00 P.M.

of each week's publication

Internet Sale Register will be updated every Sat. at 2:23 P.M.

**LATE**

WED. JULY 29 - 10AM. Ridge Fire Co., along Rt. 23 btwn. Rt 100 & Phoenixville, PA. Collectors Auction, toys, dolls, stamps, advertising & ephemera. Kathy Maurer, Auct., 610-970-7588.

WED. JULY 29 - 10AM. 3950 D St., Philadelphia, PA. Heaters, air

conditioners & parts. Associated Auctioneers, 215-739-1021.

WED. JULY 29 - 7PM Four States Lvt. Sales, Hagerstown, MD. Brown Swiss Herd Dispersal, 27 reg. Brown Swiss, 2 Jersey & 3 Holsteins. By Richard & Marlene Block. Sale barn 301-733-8120

**BUY - SELL - TRADE**

**13th ANTIQUE HUNTING & FISHING SHOW & SALE**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1998 - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Lancaster Farm and Home Center,  
Arcadia Road, Lancaster Pa.

Take Service Road off Rt 72 South (Manheim Pike) off Rt 30 & Rt. 283, Turn between Jones Pontiac and Conestoga Marine (follow show signs)

Admission: \$3.00 • Air Conditioned

Early Bird Admission \$10.00 - 8 a.m.

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES, SHELL BOXES, OLD LURES, PLUGS, REELS, DECOYS, FISHING RODS, BOOKS, POSTERS, KNIVES, GUNS, TRAPS, PICTURES, RELATED ITEMS, HUNTING & FISHING PATCHES

Free Parking & Good Food Available

Advertised Nationally and Locally

All State, Federal and Local Regulations Apply

Remittance must accompany reservation

Send to Ron Funk, R & S Enterprises,

34 North Vintage Road, Paradise, PA 17562

Information: (717) 442-4279 evenings

\*\*\* DOOR PRIZES \*\*\*

Next Lancaster Show - Saturday, March 6, 1999

**Lebanon Valley Livestock Mkt.**

**Farm Machinery Consignment Sale**

**August 1, 1998 9:00 AM**

1 mile east of Fredericksburg, PA, along Rt. 22

**TRACTORS:** IH1466, JD125 Skid Loader, 154 Cub

**EQUIPMENT:** JD1209 Haybine, 4 Star Tedder, Woods Finishing Mower, MF Sickle, IH 14 Rake, IH 56 Blower, H&S Wagon, IH Round Baler, JD336 Baler w/Thrower, JD 3960 Chopper, Stone Rake, 12 ft. Packer, IH 4 Semi Mount, 3000 Gal Manure Tank.

**LAWN & GARDEN:** White Horse III, JD 111, Bolens 1402, Work Horse, JD 212, Sears 12, JD600 Amt.

**BUILDING MATERIALS:** Doors, Windows, Old Window Glass, Hot Bed Sash

**TERMS:** Cash or Approved Check Day of Sale.

All items must be removed within 5 days of sale unless arrangements have been made.

F.M.I. Call: **Dave 717-866-5783**

**Neil 717-933-4865**

**Brian 215-257-6271**

Auctioneers: **Keith Byers AU-1924-L**

**Gerald Hoover AU-2794**

Any announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed matter.