



DECEMBER 13-19, 1999

EMBER DAY, DECEMBER 15.

**SATURNALIA**

In pre-Christian Rome, December 17 to 23 was Saturnalia, a celebration in honor of the planter god, Saturn. Like solstice celebrations, Saturnalia featured great feasting, candlelighting and bonfires, and sustained revelry. Garland, mistletoe boughs, and other greenery (symbolic of renewal) were brought inside or displayed in the streets. Some historians theorize that the December 25 nativity date was intended to draw attention away from these Saturnalia celebrations, which were seen as too pagan. Over the years, however, traditions and customs have blended, creating a greater unity of celebrations.



*Now with bright holly all the temples strow,  
With laurel green and sacred mistletoe.*

John Gay

**TIP OF THE WEEK**

Have on hand a few small baskets of candles, pistachios, or sweets to give as last-minute gifts.

**CRANBERRY RELISH**

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2/3 cup red-wine vinegar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon each ground allspice, coriander, cloves, and nutmeg
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 cups cranberries, washed and picked over
- 2 pears, peeled, cored, and diced

Heat oil and saute the onion, then add vinegar, sugar, spices, and herbs. Simmer until syrupy, about 20 minutes. Add cranberries and pears and simmer another 15 minutes. Serve at room temperature.

Makes 3 to 4 cups



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**THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS**



*If the snowflakes increase in size, a thaw will follow.*

*The more snow, the more healthy the season.*

*If in December a robin sings on the barn, the weather will be very warm.*

*If December be changeable and mild, the whole winter will remain a child.*

**New Holland Sales Stables**

Report Supplied By USDA  
Monday, December 7, 1999

Calves Sheep Goats

Today	173	1176	1616
Last Week	178	435	993
Last Year	226	631	791

**CALVES: COMPARED TO THURS.'S AUCTION, A LIGHT TEST OF VEALERS SOLD 7.00-13.00 LOWER. DEMAND WAS VERY GOOD FOR SLAUGHTER CALVES WITH PRICES RANGING FIRM TO AS MUCH AS 15.00 HIGHER. HOLSTEIN BULLS RETURNING TO FEED SOLD MOSTLY 20.00 LOWER AND HOLSTEIN HEIFERS WERE MOSTLY STEADY.**

**VEALERS: GOOD AND CHOICE 70-110 LBS. 15.00-18.00. STANDARD AND LOW GOOD 60-90 LBS. 11.00-15.00.**

**SLAUGHTER CALVES: GOOD AND CHOICE 200-350 LBS. 100.00-115.00; 350-500 LBS. 55.00-75.00. STANDARD 300-600 LBS. 50.00-60.00.**

**RETURNED TO FARM: HOLSTEIN BULLS 95-125 LBS. 115.00-142.00. PLAINER TYPE BULLS 80-120 LBS. 75.00-122.00, WEAKER CALVES DOWN TO 20.00. HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 80-120 LBS. 250.00-310.00. PLAINER HEIFERS 70-100 LBS. 140.00-250.00.**

**SHEEP: COMPARED TO THURS., SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES WERE 5.00-15.00 HIGHER, DESPITE MUCH HEAVIER RECEIPTS. SLAUGHTER**

**EWES AND AGED SHEEP SOLD FULLY STEADY. SHEEP AND GOAT TRADING IS VERY ACTIVE WITH ETHNIC HOLIDAY DEMAND IN FULL SWING.**

**SLAUGHTER LAMBS: NEW CROP CHOICE AND PRIME 2-3 45-60 LBS. 130.00-175.00. WOOLED CHOICE AND PRIME 2-3 60-80 LBS. 100.00-120.00; 80-100 LBS. 85.00-100.00; 100-130 LBS. 75.00-85.00. GOOD AND CHOICE 1-3 60-80 LBS. 75.00-100.00.**

**SLAUGHTER EWES: GOOD AND CHOICE YEARLINGS AND 2 YEAR-OLDS 45.00-65.00. UTILITY AND GOOD 1-3 30.00-50.00. AGED BUCK 150-300 LBS. 35.00-50.00.**

**GOATS: BY THE HEAD LARGE BILLIES 150.00-170.00, MEDIUM 100.00-150.00. THIN 70.00-100.00; CHOICE AND PRIME MUTTON 70.00-100.00; LARGE NANNIES 60.00-86.00, MEDIUM 40.00-60.00; CHOICE AND PRIME YEARLINGS 60.00-90.00; CHOICE AND PRIME KIDS**

**sks jbo 6.50-7.00 Sweets PE 40 lb ctns col fr cond 13.00 jbo 18.00 Red ID/OR 25 lb sks jbo 6.00-7.00 med 5.00-6.00 NY 25 lb sks jbo 6.00-8.00 mostly 7.00 med 5.00-6.00 ---POTATOES: MARKET STEADY US#1 SZ A WASHED OR BRUSHED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED Russet Burbank ID bld 10 5-lb flmbgs non sz A 9.00-9.50 50 lb ctns 50s 13.00 60s 13.00 70s 13.00-13.50 80s 11.75-12.50 mostly 12.00-12.50 some 11.00 90s 10.75-11.50 mostly 11 50.00-75.00, GOOD 30.00-50.00.**

**Valley Stockyards**

Athens, Pa.

December 6, 1999

Report Supplied By Auction

**HOLSTEIN HEIFER CALVES. 175.00-302.50.**

**BACK TO FARM CALVES: 95-120 LBS. 62.50-152.50, 70-95 LBS. 60.00-135.00.**

**SLAUGHTER CALVES: 10.00-30.00. GRASSERS AND STR. CFS.: 31.00-56.00.**

**FEEDERS: 44.00-72.50.**

**LAMBS: 80.00-105.00.**

**SHEEP: 20.00-40.00.**

**HOGS: 200-250 LBS., 33.00-45.00.**

**SOVS: 23.00-28.00.**

**BOARS: NONE.**

**PIGS, EACH: NONE.**

**HEIFERS: 38.00-50.00.**

**STEERS: 47.50-60.00.**

**BULLS: 37.00-47.75.**

**COWS GOOD: 39.50-39.75.**

**COWS MEDIUM: 25.00-35.75.**

**COWS THIN: 12.00-29.00.**

**CATTLE MARKET ABOUT STEADY.**

**CALF MARKET STRONG.**

**HORSES & PONIES, NONE.**

**GOATS: 45.00-65.00.**

**REAL GOOD LAMB MARKET; NEED LIGHT LAMBS FOR CHRISTMAS.**

**FEEDER SALE 1ST MON. EACH MONTH; DAIRY SALE 3RD THURS. OF EACH MONTH, 7:30.**

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