



JAN. 31-FEB. 6, 2000

NEW MOON, FEBRUARY 5.

**LEAPING THE CENTURIES**

The year 2000 is a leap year, but did you know that 1900 was not a leap year, nor was 1800 or 1700? The last century year to have the 29th day in February was 1600. Most people credit Julius Caesar with the leap year plan when he reformed the calendar system in 46 B.C. In fact, however, a Greek named Sosigenes gave him the idea. By 1582, the accumulated error in the Julian system amounted to about ten days, which were dropped when the Gregorian calendar was introduced. By this system, leap years are those divisible by 4 (as with 1996), but century years must be divisible by 400 to be leap years.



*You can't measure time in days . . . because every day is different.*

- Jorge Luis Borges

**The OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS**



*If there is snow on St. Brigid's Day (Feb. 1), the ditches will be filled with rain, come spring.*

*As far as the Sun shines in at the window on Candlemas Day (Feb. 2), so deep will the snow be ere winter is gone*

*February 2 bright and clear gives a good flax year.*

**TIP OF THE WEEK**

Under-the-bed containers are great for storing bed linens and off-season clothing.

**ONION SOUP WITH MISO**

- 2 tablespoons EACH butter and olive oil, plus extra
- 3 cups sliced yellow onions
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
- 6 cups beef stock
- 3 tablespoons miso
- 2 teaspoons fresh thyme, OR 1 teaspoon dried
- 1 small loaf French bread, sliced
- 4 tablespoons EACH grated Parmesan and mozzarella

Heat butter and olive oil in a large soup pot, add onions and garlic, and sauté until golden. Stir in mustard, beef stock, miso, and thyme. Simmer for 30 minutes, but do not boil. Meanwhile, butter bread and sprinkle with olive oil. Lightly toast the slices. Ladle soup into four bowls, top each with a bread slice, and sprinkle with cheese mixture. Place under broiler briefly to melt cheese.

Makes 4 servings.

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**United Feature Syndicate**

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200 Madison Ave  
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**Oklahoma City Feeder Cattle**

Oklahoma City, OK  
Wed Jan 26, 2000

USDA-OK Dept Ag Market News  
Oklahoma National Stockyards - Weekly Cattle Summary

Compared to last week: Feeder steers and steer calves steady to 2.00 lower with least decline on under 725 lbs. Feeder heifers and heifer calves 2.00-4.00 lower. Demand good for all classes. Large front end supply of slaughter ready cattle next three to four weeks is pressuring prices downward and having a domino effect on the feeder market. Local farmer demand is off some as moisture is needed for wheat and spring grass prospects. Quality average. Feeder cattle in slightly thin to moderately fleshy conditions; calves in thin to medium flesh. Weigh-ups gaunt to average. Slaughter cows and bulls 1.50-2.00 higher. Packer demand good. Impending winter storm slated for midweek through early next week has packers concerned for numbers. Country demand continues good for bred cows and pairs. Total of 420 cows and bulls sold with 35 percent to packers. Receipts this week 11,875; last week 15,662; last year 9,833. Supply consisted of 72 percent yearlings and calves over 600 lbs; 24 percent calves under 600 lbs; 4 percent cows and bulls. Heifers comprised 34 percent of feeder and calf supply. Prices follow with weighted average weight and price in parenthesis.

Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1  
350-400 lbs (375 lb) 107.00-114.50 (111.21); 400-450 lbs (431 lb) 108.00-116.00 (111.94); 450-500 lbs (469 lb) 106.00-111.00 (109.30); 500-550 lbs (530 lb) 96.50-99.25 (97.16); 550-600 lbs

(578 lb) 91.00-97.00 (94.72); 600-650 lbs (632 lb) 89.00-95.50 (91.69); 650-700 lbs (677 lb) 87.25-93.75 (90.09); 700-750 lbs (724 lb) 84.00-92.25 (88.75); 750-800 lbs (777 lb) 81.00-88.75 (84.85); 800-850 lbs (814 lb) 78.00-85.10 (81.56); 850-900 lbs (874 lb) 75.75-82.00 (78.35); 900-950 lbs (926 lb) 75.25-77.35 (76.52); 950-1000 lbs (968 lb) 74.00-77.10 (75.99); Holstein: Large 2: 600-650 lbs (610 lb) 65.00; 750-800 lbs (775 lb) 63.00; 800-850 lbs 61.50-61.75; 850-900 lbs (875 lb) 58.75.

Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1: 300-350 lbs (336 lb) 101.50-104.00 (103.26); 350-400 lbs (372 lb) 93.00-99.50 (95.56); 400-450 lbs (445 lb) 86.00-89.50 (88.14); 450-500 lbs (471 lb) 86.00-91.00 (89.15); 500-550 lbs (526 lb) 83.50-87.75 (85.66); 550-600 lbs (568 lb) 83.25-86.50 (84.67); 600-650 lbs (631 lb) 81.50-86.50 (83.69); 650-700 lbs (671 lb) 80.00-85.00 (82.48); 700-750 lbs (722 lb) 76.50-81.75 (79.26); 750-800 lbs (767 lb) 76.00-78.85 (76.77); 800-850 lbs (811 lb) 73.25-76.50 (75.54); 850-900 lbs (875 lb) 72.50-75.35 (74.06);

Slaughter Cows: Head %Lean Weight Average Dress High Dress Low Dress \*Brk 14 75-80% 975-1475 37.50-39.50 38.50-41.00 \*Bar 36 80-85% 925-1350 37.00-39.50 39.00-43.00 34.00-35.

50 Lean 65 85-90% 875-1325 35.00-38.00 38.50-42.50 30.00-34.50

Slaughter Bulls: Head Weight Average Dress High Dress Low Dress Yield Grade

1-2 20 1500-2200 46.00-49.00 50.00-55.00 43.00-47.00

Estimated dressed cost at Oklahoma National Stockyards: Lean 78.90; Boners 76.50; Breakers 72.65. Bulls 86.50.

Replacement Cows: Pretested for bangs, pregnancy, and age Medium and Large 1 Age Weight Months Bred Quality Price Heifers 950-1100 7-8 months Avg, blacks 700.00-720.00 Heifers 800-1100 5-8 months Avg quality 630.00-700.00 Heifers 750-850 2-4 months Avg quality 540.00-635.00 4-6 yr old 1000-1250 5-7 months High, blacks 710.00-785.00 4-6 yr old 900-1200 5-8 months Avg, blacks 675.00-750.00 5-8 yr old 900-1250 5-7 months Avg quality 525.00-585.00 9-10 yr old 1000-1300 5-8 months Avg quality 450.00-500.00 9-10 yr old 950-1150 2-4 months Avg quality 375.00-480.00

Pairs: Medium and large 1 Age Cow Weight Calf Weight Quality Price 4-6 yr old 800-1050 150-300 Avg quality 710.00-830.00 9 yr old 1000-1200 150-300 Avg, blacks 690.00-710.00 9-10 yr old 850-1050 150-250 Avg quality 575.00-625.00

**George V. Seiple & Son, LLC**

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**CROP MASTER SERIES  
Corn Planter Setup and  
Maintenance Program**

Lynn Hoffman will be presenting the program at our place of business. Lynn is a retired PSU Equipment Specialist. He will be going over different repairs, maintenance and adjustments that should take place when getting ready for planting time. This is a one-day program and is expected to last for approx 4 hrs.

Tuesday, February 01, 2000

Starts at 10:00 a.m.

Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning along with a light lunch.

Please call ahead to Pre-Register by January 28, 2000.

NJ Residents: Warren County Extension Office (908) 475-6503

PA Residents: Northampton County Extension Office (610) 746-1970

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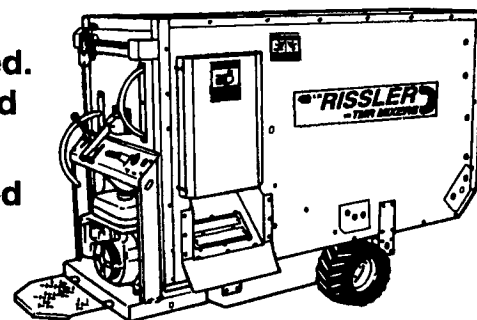
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