



JULY 24-30, 2000

NEW MOON, JULY 30.

**STATE OF THE CROPS**

Now the state of the crops is known," says the old lore for mid- to late July. The hot, sultry Dog Days of summer are well underway, and some crops, at least, seem to thrive in the humidity. Dog Days commenced July 3 but do not end until August 11, coinciding with the heliacal (at sunrise) rising of the Dog Star, Sirius. July's Full Thunder Moon (July 16) traditionally marks a period of intense heat, followed by cooling thunderstorms. With luck, those rains do not crush or flood the crops in the field but only nourish them. Now the new Moon brings another weather change. "Abundance depends on sour milk," says the weather lore, suggesting that thunder sours the milk but aids crops.



*Change of weather makes conversation for fools.*

**TIP OF THE WEEK**

In periods of dry weather, water crops very early in the morning.

**GRILLED EGGPLANT**

- 2 cups diced eggplant, skins on
- 1 tablespoon chopped onion
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tomato, chopped

et and piercing the eggplant with a fork  
Makes 4 to 6 servings.



Seal all the ingredients in heavy-duty (or double-thickness) foil, and bake over a charcoal or gas grill for about 1 hour. Test occasionally for doneness by carefully opening the pack-

**THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS**



*Peter and Paul (July 29) will rot the roots of the rye.*

*No tempest, good July, / Lest the corn look rueful.*

*A glaring, sunny morning never comes to a good end.*

**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. See Web site address below.

**Leesport Livestock Auction**

Leesport, Pa.  
Wednesday, July 19, 2000  
Report Supplied By PDA

ATTLE CALVES HOGS SHEEP GOATS WEDNESDAY 229 213 87 20 9  
LAST WEDNESDAY 169 192 108 22 19  
CATTLE: Compared with last Wednesday's auction; slaughter steers and cows sold mostly steady to 1.00 lower. Other classes were not well tested.  
SLAUGHTER STEERS: Choice 2-3 1020-1360 lbs 67.50-70.25. Select 1-3 61.00- 66.50. Standard 2 individual 58.00.  
HOLSTEIN STEERS: High Choice 2 individual 1355 lbs 63.00. Choice 2-3 1160- 1780 lbs 59.50-62.75. Select 1-2 54.00-59.00; Standard 1-2 50.50-54.50.  
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Choice 2-4 1015-1305 lbs 66.00-68.25. Select 1-3 62.00- 65.75. Standard 1-2 48.25-58.50.  
SLAUGHTER COWS: Breakers 75-

80 pct lean 41.50-44.00. Boners 80-85 pct lean 38.00-41.50. Lean 85-90 pct lean 30.00-38.50, mostly 33.00-37.50. Shells down to 20.00.  
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1 couple 1375-1530 lbs 57.25-58.50. Yield Grade 2 individual 1935 lbs 49.50.  
FEEDER STEERS: Large 2 few 685-860 lbs 60.00-71.00. Medium 2 individual 560 lbs 57.00.  
FEEDER BULLS: Medium 1 individual 575 lbs 80.00.  
CALVES: Compared to last week's auction; Holstein bulls returning to the farm sold mostly steady.  
VEALERS: Choice 210-270 lbs 90.00-115.00. Good ind 130 lbs 70.00. Standard and Good 55-100 lbs 35.00-55.00. Utility 55-110 lbs 17.50-40.00.  
RETURNED TO FARM: Holstein bulls Number 1 90-120 lbs 85.00-115.00. Number 2 80-125 lbs 55.00-100.00. Holstein heifers Number 1 80-110 lbs 200.00-260.00. Number 2 70-105 lbs 75.00-180.00. Beef type bulls and heifers 85-140 lbs 85.00-142.50.

BARROWS AND GILTS: 45-50 pct lean One lot 225 lbs 42.00 40-45 pct lean Couple 250 lbs 36.00  
SOWS: US 1-3 individual 415 lbs 34.00  
BOARS: Couple 215 lbs 21.50  
FEEDER PIGS: All sold per cwt. US 1-3 20-30 lbs 110.00-140.00, one lot 160.00 40-50 lbs 97.50-117.50.  
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice few 30-45 lbs 90.0-140.00; few 50-75 lbs 77.00- 121.00; couple 140-150 lbs 80.00-82.50.  
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: Utility 1-3 22.50-40.00. Yearlings few 72.50.  
GOATS: Sold by the head. Billies: Large individual 105.00. Medium individual 58.00. Nannies: Large individual 62.00. Kids: Large few 40.00-48.00.

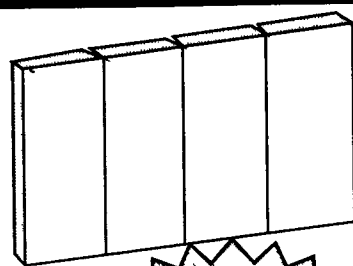


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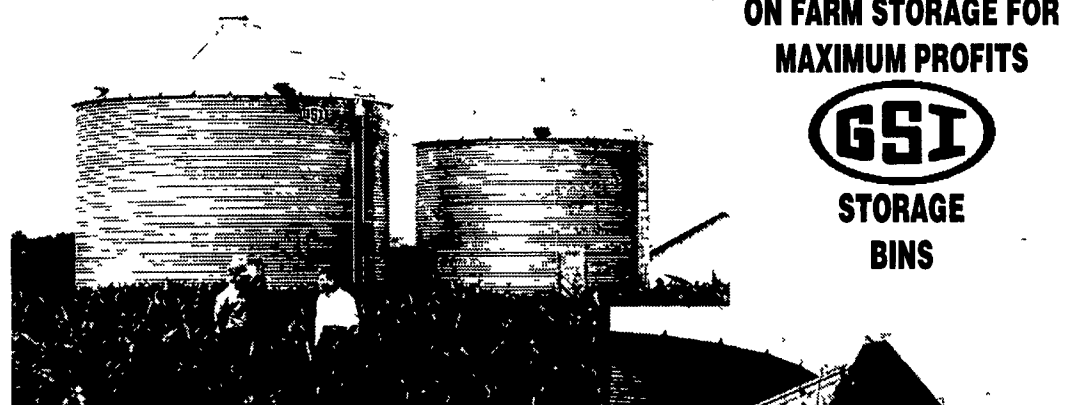
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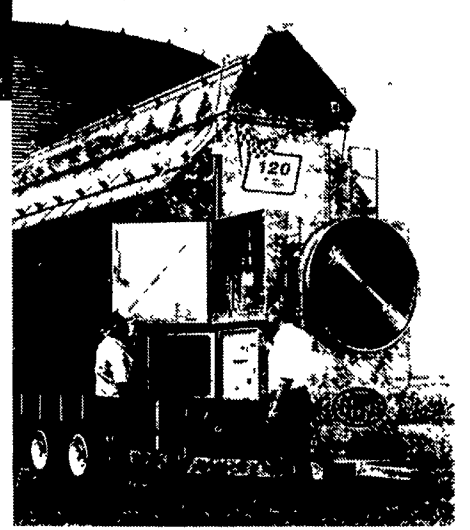
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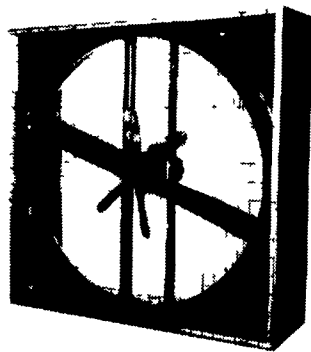
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1 1/2	Belt		GE	5KCR48WN0139T	79.0
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1	Direct		Magnetek	8 181888	70.5

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