



DECEMBER 11-17, 2000

FULL COLD MOON, DECEMBER 11

HALCYON DAYS

It should come as no surprise that "Halcyon" is among the most popular boat names, gracing the sterns of everything from the smallest day-sailer to the largest yacht. The name comes from a Greek legend about the daughter of Aeolus, god of the winds, who was so upset at the loss of her husband in a shipwreck that she threw herself into the sea. According to lore, she was transformed into a kingfisher, called alkyon or halkyon by the Greeks. Around the time of the winter solstice, the bird built its floating nest of sticks and bones upon the seas, and the wind was charmed into a period of tranquility for about two weeks, so that the eggs could be safely incubated. This peaceful time, known as Halcyon Days, is what we wish you throughout the holidays.



We shall get no rest 'till we get to sea.

-Anonymous

TIP OF THE WEEK

If coffee has burned onto the bottom of a pot, cover the burnt area with salt, let it sit, then rinse well.

CREAMED FISH

- 3 tablespoons chopped onion
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1-1/2 cups flaked cooked fish (salmon, tuna, mackerel)
- 1/3 cup grated Cheddar salt and pepper, to taste
- biscuits, toast, or corn bread



Sauté onion in butter, and then blend in flour. Add milk slowly, stirring until thickened. Add fish and cheese, then season. Serve over warm biscuits or toast, or with corn bread.

Makes 4 servings.

www.almanac.com

THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



Wind roaring in the chimney, rain to come.

When soot falls down the chimney, rain is near.



ATTENTION, GARDENERS!

The 2001 Early Spring Gardener's Companion goes on sale on January 9. You can buy it at supermarkets, bookstores, and garden centers. Or to order, call 800-895-9265, ext 220, or visit www.almanac.com/go/uf.

Oklahoma National Stockyards

Oklahoma City, OK
December 6, 2000

Report Supplied By USDA

Compared to last week: Feeder steers steady to 1.00 lower. Feeder heifers steady. Calves steady to 3.00 lower. Demand good for all classes. Quality plain to average with bulk of calves weaned and in medium to thin condition. Feeder cattle in medium to fleshy conditions with several grain feds included. Weigh-ups average to full. Slaughter cows 1.00-2.00 lower with moderate demand. Slaughter bulls 3.00 lower with light demand. Demand continues good for replacement and feeder cows. Total of 635 cows and bulls sold with 50% to packers.

Receipts this week 14,650; last week 7665; last year 8008.

Supply consisted of 45 percent calves and yearlings over 600 lbs; 51 percent calves under 600 lbs; 4 percent cows and bulls. Heifers comprised 39 percent of feeder and calf supply.

Prices follow with weighted average weight and price in parenthesis.

Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1: Calves: 350-400 lbs (373 lbs) 111.00-123.00 (116.95); 400-500 lbs (450 lbs) 104.00-114.50, thin or Fancy 113.25-118.00 (111.53); 500-550 lbs (529 lb) 97.00-103.50 (99.64); 550-600 lbs (580 lbs) 90.50-96.50 (94.27); 600-650 lbs (621 lbs) 91.00-95.00 (93.92); 650-700 lbs (662 lbs) 87.00-94.50 (91.46); 700-760 lbs (740 lbs) 88.00-90.50 (88.65); Yearlings: 500-550 lb thin (519 lbs) 100.00-107.00 (104.10); 600-700 lbs (650 lbs) 93.00-95.50 (95.35); 700-750 lbs (719 lbs) 90.00-

95.25 (93.06); 750-800 lbs (774 lbs) 87.00-93.75, fleshy 84.00-90.00 (89.97); 800-825 lbs (807 lbs) mostly fleshy 86.75-88.50 (86.90); 850-900 lbs (877 lbs) mostly fleshy 80.25-80.75 (80.56); few 945 lbs 80.25.

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1: Calves: 300-400 lbs (350 lbs) 105.50-111.00, Fancy 114.00-118.00 (111.66); 400-500 lbs (450 lbs) 92.25-104.50, Fancy or thin 100.00-114.00 (99.51); 500-600 lbs (550 lbs) 85.25-93.50 (88.86); 600-650 lbs (622 lbs) 86.00-89.75 (87.85); 650-700 lbs (690 lbs) 83.75-84.75 (84.41); Yearlings: 500-600 lbs (550 lbs) 88.25-95.75 (91.38); 600-700 lbs (650 lbs) 86.00-91.50 (88.96); few 700-750 lbs (724 lbs) 83.50-86.50, fleshy 80.00-85.25 (83.72); 750-800 lbs (780 lbs) mostly fleshy 79.25-81.75 (81.15); 800-825 lbs (805 lbs) 79.00-82.50 (82.12); 920 lbs 76.00.

Slaughter Cows: Head %Lean Weight Average Dress High Dress Low Dress Breaker 50 75-80% 950-1525 35.00-38.00 37.25-43.50 33.50-36.00 Boner 68 80-85% 950-1575 35.00-37.50 37.00-41.00 32.00-35.00 Lean 133 85-90% 850-1350 33.00-36.00 35.50-39.00 27.00-32.50 Light 19 85-92% 700-900 24.75-29.00

Slaughter Bulls: Head Weight Average Dress High Dress Low Dress Yield Grade 1-2 19 1300-2150 44.00-46.50 40.00-44.00

Estimated dressed cost at Oklahoma National Stockyards: Lean 74.00, light carcasses 65.85; Boners 72.65; Breakers 69.35. Bulls 81.90.

Replacement Cows: Pretested for bangs, pregnancy, and age Medium and Large 1 Age Weight Months Bred Quality Price 3-5 yr old 950-1275 4-8 months High, blacks 760.00-810.00; Hf-5 yr old 1100-1300 2-4 months High quality

635.00-645.00; 5-8 yr old 900-1275 5-6 months Avg quality 525.00-535.00; 8-10 yr old 950-1200 5-6 months Avg quality 360.00-460.00.

Pairs: Medium and large 1 Age Cow Weight Calf Weight Quality Price 3 yr old 800-950 150-200 Avg, Brangus 770.00-805.00.

Morrison's Cove Livestock

Martinsburg, Pa.

Report Supplied by Auction
Monday, Dec. 4, 2000

CATTLE: 145 HEAD.
STEERS: CHOICE 67.50-74.50, GOOD 65.00-67.00.

HEIFERS: CHOICE 66.00-74.00, GOOD 61.00-65.00.

COWS: UTILITY AND COMMERCIAL 35.00-42.00, CANNER AND LOW CUTTER 18.00-35.00.

BULLOCKS: GOOD & CHOICE 44.00-54.00.

BULLS: YG#1 44.00-51.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS 63.00-85.00, BULLS 60.00-78.00, HEIFERS 51.00-73.00.

CALVES: 105. PRIME, NO MKT. TEST, CHOICE 88.00-95.00, GOOD 68.00-79.00, STANDARD 25.00-60.00; HOLSTEIN BULLS 90-130 LBS. 70.00-140.00, HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 90-130 LBS. 150.00-225.00.

HOGS: 182...US#1-2 37.00-38.50, US#1-3 35.00-36.00.

SOWS: US#1-3 24.50-36.00.

BOARS: 11.00-26.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 58. US#1-3 20-50 LBS. 12.00-22.00.

SHEEP: 96 HEAD. CHOICE LAMBS 95.00-115.00, GOOD LAMBS 90.00-95.00, SL. EWES 34.00-40.00.

GOATS: 55.00-79.00.

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