



MARCH 12-18, 2001

ST. PATRICK, MARCH 17

THE IDES OF MARCH

Anyone who has read William Shakespeare's play named for Julius Caesar probably remembers the ill-fated ides of March, when Caesar was assassinated in 44 B.C. The word "ides" comes from *iduaire* for "to divide," in this case the month. According to the old Roman calendar, the ides fell on the 15th of March, May, July, and October, but on the 13th of the other months. Even after calendar reforms, however, the ides of March retained their ill-repute, probably in part because of the tendency for March weather to "come in like a lion and go out like a lamb." To the Romans, however, the ides of any month were unfavorable, as were the calends (the first of each month, also frequently named in weather lore) and the nones (nine days before the ides).



In beginning or in end, March its gift will send.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Fertilize fruit trees, berries, and perennials now.

SHRIMP AND RICE CASSEROLE

- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1/2 pound cheddar, shredded or grated
- 2 cups cooked shrimp
- 4 eggs, separated
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon onion salt
- 1/4 teaspoon dill weed

Mix rice, cheese and shrimp, reserving a little cheese for the top. Mix egg yolks and milk, then combine this with the shrimp mixture. Add seasonings. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into the rest. Turn into a greased 2-quart casserole. Sprinkle grated cheese on top and bake at 375°F for 30 minutes.

Makes 8 servings.



For recipes, gardening tips, and weather forecasts, visit www.almanac.com.

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THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



On March 15, come sun and swallow.

A dry east wind raises the spring.

If March comes in with adder's head, it goes out with a peacock's tail.

Great Gardens
Handy chart full of time-honored gardening hints. Send \$3 to The Old Farmer's Almanac, Dept. VG, P.O. Box 520, Dublin, NH 03444, or call 1-800-895-9265, ext. 220, or visit www.almanac.com/go/vg.

Middleburg Livestock Auction

Middleburg, Pa.

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Report Supplied By USDA

CATTLE 207, CALVES 248, HOGS 49, SHEEP 3, GOATS 21. LAST WEEK CATTLE 404, CALVES 255, HOGS 219, SHEEP 29, GOATS 30.

CATTLE: Compared to last week's auction; slaughter steers sold 2.00-2.50 higher. Slaughter heifers were 2.50 higher on a light supply. Slaughter cows traded 1.00-2.00 lower, while slaughter bulls were 2.00 lower.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: High Choice and Prime 2-4 1145-1400 lbs 84.75-86.50. Choice 2-3 1130-1420 lbs 80.00-84.00. Select 1-3 73.00-79.75, couple 1-2 80.50-81.25 Standard 1-2 couple 65.00-66.50.

HOLSTEIN STEERS: High Choice and Prime 2-3 1260-1520 lbs 72.00-74.75, with an individual at 76.50. Choice 2-3 1190-1625 lbs 65 50-71 75. Select 1-2 few 59 50-64 50 Standard 1-2 few 49.50-58.50.

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Choice 2-4 1065-1350 lbs 78.50-83.75. Select 1-3 few 70.50-79.50. Standard 2 individual 53.00.

SLAUGHTER COWS: Breakers 75-80 percent lean 44.00-48.75. Boners 80-85 percent lean 41.25-46.50, few low dressing down to 39.00. Lean 85-90 percent lean 35.00-43.50.

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1 1420-1860 lbs 57.25-60.00. Yield Grade 2 few 1215-1460 lbs 54.25-56.50.

FEEDER STEERS: Medium 2 few 375-455 lbs 81.00-90.00. FEEDER HEIFERS: Large 2 Holsteins couple 555-715 lbs 55.00-65.00.

FEEDER BULLS: Medium 2 individual 415 lbs 79.00. Large 3 individual 595 lbs 45.00.

CALVES: Compared to last week's auction; Holstein bulls returning to the farm sold 10.00-15.00 higher, with stronger prices as sale progressed. Holstein heifers were 10.00 higher.

VEALERS: Standard and Good 85-105 lbs 30.00-50.00. Utility 65-85 lbs 10.00-30.00.

RETURNED TO FARM: Holstein bulls Number 1 90-125 lbs 140.00-182.00, mostly 150.00-177.00; 75-85 lbs 130.00-165.00. Number 2 75-125 lbs 75.00-157.00. Holstein heifers Number 1 95-110 lbs 305.00-390.00. Number 2 70-110 lbs 100.00-250.00.

BARROWS AND GILTS: PERCENT

Some Markets Unavailable Because Of Early Press Deadlines

LEAN WEIGHT PRICE 49-54 Few 245-260 lbs 45.00-47.25 45-50 Individual 240 lbs 34.00 40-45 Few 285-310 lbs 45.50-47.00

SOWS: US 1-3 400-485 lbs 35.00-38.00 Couple 500-545 lbs 38.50-42.00

BOARS: Individual 640 lbs 14 75

FEEDER PIGS: Utility (for slaughter) 150-170 lbs 18.00-27.00/per cwt

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice individual 65 lbs 120.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: Utility 1-3 couple 25.00-45.00.

GOATS: All sold by the head. Billies: Medium individual 50.00. Nannies: Medium individual 67.00. Kids: Large few 22.00-35.00, couple 62.00-77.00. Small 15.00-24.00.

Lebanon Valley Livestock

Fredericksburg, Pa.

Report Supplied By USDA

March 7, 2001

TUESDAY CATTLE 127, CALVES 98, HOGS 36, SHEEP 0, GOATS 0. LAST TUESDAY CATTLE 111, CALVES 116, HOGS 45, SHEEP 16, GOATS 2.

CATTLE: Compared with last Tuesday's auction, slaughter steers and heifers sold mostly steady, instances 1.00 higher. Slaughter cows were 2.00-4.00 lower.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: Choice 2-3 1190-1450 lbs 77.75-82.75. Select 1-3 73.75- 76.25. Standard 2 individual 54.75.

HOLSTEIN STEERS: Choice 2 individual 1335 lbs 62.00.

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Choice 2 individual 1265 lbs 78.75. Select 1-3 Holsteins 56.00-61.75. Standard 2 individual 53.00.

SLAUGHTER COWS: Breakers 75-80 percent lean 44.25-48.00, few up to 51.25. Boners 80-85 percent lean 40.25-

46.75. Lean 85-90 percent lean 35.00-40.25, high dressing up to 42.75.

BULLOCKS: Select 3 individual 64.00.

FEEDER STEERS: Large 1 665-830 lbs 68.00-70.00.

CALVES: Compared to last week's auction; Holstein bulls returning to the farm sold steady to 7.00 higher. Holstein heifers were 15 00 higher in an active trade.

VEALERS: Standard and Good 80-100 lbs 37.00-50.00. Utility 60-90 lbs 20.00-30.00.

RETURNED TO FARM: Holstein bulls Number 1 90-120 lbs 140.00-177.00, 80-90 lbs 122.00-157.00. Number 2 80-120 lbs 115.00-140.00, weaker calves down to 80.00. Holstein heifers Number 1 80-120 lbs 255.00-375.00. Number 2 80-115 lbs 180.00-270.00; 60-75 lbs 95.00-150.00. Beef type bulls and heifers 75-120 lbs 127.00-150.00.

BARROWS AND GILTS: PERCENT LEAN WEIGHT PRICE 45-50 One lot 285 lbs 38.00 40-45 255-310 lbs 31.00-32.00

SOWS: US 1-3 455-620 lbs 30.00-33.00 Medium 280-460 lbs 16.00-26.00

BOARS: Individual 520 lbs 13.00

FEEDER PIGS: All sold by the head. US 1-3 for slaughter 30-65 lbs 34.00-45.00 Utility 85-130 lbs 30.00-35.00

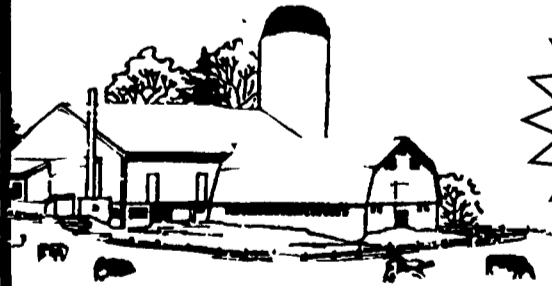
SHEEP: No market test.

GOATS: No market test.



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