



APRIL 30-MAY 6, 2001

MAY DAY OR BELTANE, MAY 1

FLORAL TELEGRAPHS

Best you hastily gather your May-basket flowers without a thought, consider the age-old "language and sentiment" of your blooms. In 1847, Thomas Miller wrote *The Poetical Language of Flowers* to instruct flower gatherers everywhere. In 1874, another volume, this one by Captain Marryat, was published, called *The Floral Telegraph*. In short, both books translated bouquets. Some spring flowers to consider include anemones, which herald spring; buttercups, which promise riches; white clovers, for happiness; crocuses, for youthful glee; and daisies, for innocence. It's tempting to add daffodils to your May baskets, but they spell regret with their drooping heads. May's lilies-of-the-valley indicate the return of a lost love.

The Flowery May, who from her green lap throws / The yellow Cowslip, and the pale Primrose.

-John Milton (1608-1674)

TIP OF THE WEEK

To keep slugs away from tender transplants, surround the stems with eggshells, ash, or grit.

RHUBARB CUSTARD PIE

- 2 cups diced rhubarb
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1-1/2 cups light cream
- 4 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 unbaked piecrust



Preheat oven to 375°F. Beat cream, eggs, and vanilla together. Pour rhubarb puree into pie crust, then pour the custard mixture over that. Bake for 30 minutes or until set.

Makes 8 servings.

Combine the first three ingredients in a saucepan and cook for about 10 minutes, to make a puree.

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

THE OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



A snowstorm in May is worth a wagonload of hay.

The dews of April and May / Make August and September gay.

Go Back in Time
For replicas of the 1801 and 1901 editions of the Almanac, send \$5 to The Old Farmer's Almanac, Dept. 01R, P.O. Box 520, Dublin, NH 03444; call 800-895-9265, ext. 220; or visit www.almanac.com/go/01r.

Morrison's Cove Livestock Hay

Martinsburg, Pa.
Report Supplied By Auction Monday, April 23, 2001
Hay—Straw—Grain
ALFALFA: 75.00-117.50.
TIMOTHY: 60.00.
MIXED HAY: 32.50-75.00.
ROUND BALES: 30.00.
LARGE SQUARE BALES: 50.00.
STRAW: 50.00-65.00.
REEDS CANARYGRASS: 120.00.
AUCTION EVERY MON., 12:30 P.M.

Middleburg Hay

Middleburg, Pa.
Report Supplied by Auction Tuesday, April 24, 2001
HAY: 38 LOTS, TOTAL 50.
ALFALFA: 3 LOTS, 40.00-170.00.
MIXED HAY: 19 LOTS, 42.50-162.50.
TIMOTHY: 7 LOTS, 27.50-75.00.
ROUND BALES: 3 LOTS, 14.00-20.00.
ORCHARDGRASS: 6 LOTS, 50.00-72.50.
STRAW: 3 LOTS, 90.00-107.50.
EAR CORN: 7 LOTS, 67.50-75.00.
OATS: 2 LOTS, 2.25-3.30 BU.

Corn Belt Feedstuffs

St. Joseph, Mo.
April 24, 2001
Report Supplied By USDA
CORN BELT FEEDSTUFFS: Wholesale Bids. Truck or Rail dollars per ton.
FOR THE WEEK: Feedstuff prices remain steady with concerns of planting conditions and weather forecasts favoring more soybeans than corn to be planted this year. Corn and soybean meal prices continue to struggle with added pressure to ingredients markets. Annual springtime inventory adjustments should be complete and buying interests could pick up later in the month. Wheat bids were mixed with poor demand and prices increasing due to

mill shutdowns that occurred over the Easter weekend.

SOYBEAN MEAL: 44 percent rail bids steady to 2.00 higher at 147-150.00. 48 percent rail steady to 2.00 higher at 157-159.00. Truck 44 percent 1.00 higher at 152-155.00; 48 percent 1.00 higher at 157-163.00 per ton.

CORN BY-PRODUCTS: Gluten Feed 21 percent, Interior Points, steady to 3.00 lower at 47-57.00; Chicago steady to 3.00 higher at 53-58.00. 60 percent Gluten Meat, Interior points 5.00 lower at 220-230.00; Chicago steady at 230-240.00; Rail hominy feed Central Illinois Points, steady to 2.00 lower at 46-50.00; trucks steady to 2.00 lower at 48-52.00. Crude corn oil .85 higher at 14.25-14.75 cents per lb.

MIDLINGS: Northwest steady to 4.00 lower at 42-40.00; buffalo steady at 45-50.00 per ton.

ALFALFA PELLETS: Toledo, Ohio 17 percent dehydrated, steady at 133-140.00 and 15 percent sun-cured steady at 125-135.00 per ton. Toledo meat 17 percent, steady at 135-142.00. 15 percent, steady at 130-137.00 per ton.

DISTILLERS DRIED GRAINS: Central Illinois 3.00 to 4.00 lower at 87-94.00; Chicago 2.00 to 5.00 lower at 90-98.00; Lawrenceburg steady at 100.00. Nebraska steady to 5.00 higher at 95-110.00. Minneapolis steady to 5.00 lower at 80.00 per ton.

BREWERS DRIED GRAINS: Newark, New Jersey, steady at 80.00. Williamsburg, Va., steady at 65.00.

Mercer Livestock Auction

Mercer, Pa.
April 25, 2001
Report Supplied By USDA
TUESDAY CATTLE 290, CALVES 70, HOGS 96, SHEEP 0, GOATS 0.
LAST TUESDAY CATTLE 290, CALVES 70 HOGS 96 SHEEP 0, GOATS 0
CATTLE: Compared to last Tuesday's auction; Choice slaughter cows

sold 2.50- 6.00 higher. Other classes were not well tested.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: Choice 2-3 few 1040-1430 lbs 76.00-82.25. Select 1-3 69.00-79.00. Standard 1-2 few 65.00-66.00.

HOLSTEIN STEERS: High Choice 2 individual 1415 lbs 72.00. Choice 2-3 few 1335-1430 lbs 67.25-68.75. Select 1-2 few 63.00-66.00. Standard 1-2 few 55.50-58.50.

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Choice 2-4 950-1275 lbs 75.25-81.00. Select 1-3 67.50- 77.85. Standard 1-2 54.25-65.00.
SLAUGHTER COWS: Breakers 75-80 percent lean 47.00-53.00, individual up to 55.00. Boners 80-85 percent lean 42.00-49.50. Lean 85-90 percent lean 39.00- 47.50. Shells down to 34.75.

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1 1105-1675 lbs 58.75-63.50. Yield Grade 2 few 1005-1695 lbs 47.00-58.00. Bullocks: Choice 3 individual 1195 lbs 70.25.

FEEDER STEERS: Medium and Large 1 350-600 lbs 85.00-100.00. Medium 2 300-600 lbs 71.00-87.50. Large 2 370-605 lbs 66.00-70.00.

FEEDER HEIFERS: Medium 1 200-300 lbs 66.00-101.00; 300-450 lbs 90.00-91.00. Medium 2 300-550 lbs 70.00-81.00. Large 1 500-650 lbs 80.00-96.00. Large 2 600-850 lbs 63.00-68.00.

FEEDER BULLS: Medium 1 350-550 lbs 88.00-97.00. Medium 2 350-700 lbs 69.00- 90.00. Large 2 few 400-760 lbs 55.00-65.00.

VEALERS: Standard and Good 75-100 lbs 35.00-57.50. Utility 50-80 lbs 20.00- 41.00.

RETURNED TO FARM: Holstein bulls Number 1 85-115 lbs 175.00-195.00. Number 2 80-120 lbs 90.00-160.00. Holstein heifers Number 1 few 870-110 lbs 315.00- 395.00. Number 2 individual 76 lbs 255.00. Beef type bulls and heifers couple 61-116 lbs 140.00-175.00.

BARROWS AND GILTS: PERCENT LEAN WEIGHT PRICE 49-54 200-280 lbs 47.00-47.50 45-50 220-280 lbs 45.25-46.75

SOWS: US 1-3 Few 319-565 lbs 36.00-43.00 Medium Few 290-360 lbs 29.00-31.00

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24th Annual Shalom Christian Academy Dutchfest

May 4 & 5, 2001

Friday Evening

- Food Concessions • Craft Show (5:30-9 pm)
- Winross Truck & Toy Auction (6:30 pm)
- Heifer Auction (7 pm)
- Longaberger Basket Auction (7 pm)
- Sports Memorabilia Sale (7:30 pm)

Saturday • 7 am

- Breakfast (7-9:30 am) • Craft Show (8 am-3:30 pm)
- General Auction Begins (9 am)
- Quilt & Wallhangings Auction (1:30 pm)
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