

Land O'Lakes Buys Purina Mills

ARDEN HILLS, Minn. — On Thursday, Land O'Lakes completed its acquisition of Purina Mills, Inc. (Nasdaq: PMIL), at the cash price of \$23 per share of Purina Mills stock.

Purina Mills will become part of the consolidated business operated by Land O'Lakes Farmland Feed LLC.

Jack Gherty, Land O'Lakes president and chief executive officer, said the acquisition addresses ongoing feed industry trends.

"Through this acquisition, we are building the economics of scale and critical mass necessary to compete in the consolidating

feed industry," he said.

The combined organization's annual feed sales are expected to total approximately \$2.5 billion.

In a release, it was noted, through the new structure, Land O'Lakes Farmland Feed and Purina Mills dealers will be served through separate, brand-dedicated sales and marketing groups, with the expanded organization delivering additional value through increased efficiency in production, distribution, and research and development.

Land O'Lakes Farmland Feed President Bob DeGregorio will lead the combined company.

National Retail Egg Purchases

Atlanta, GA
October 10, 2001
Report Supplied By USDA

Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending October 12, 2001 will decrease by 11 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending October 05, 2001 were 268,136 cases which was 1 percent above the prior week and 7 percent above estimates.

Cases purchased present week: Cartonized 235,249, up 4% from previous week; Loose total 32,887, down 14%; Total 268,136, up 1% from previous week.

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

PDA Hosts Graded Feeder Cattle Sales

HARRISBURG, (Dauphin Co.) —The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) is hosting Fall Graded Feeder Cattle Sales at locations across the state to enable beef producers to readily market their stockers and feeders.

Cattle will be sold in uniform lots according to USDA grade, weight, sex and breed or color. Some sales will not accept cattle with dairy breeding, yearlings, bulls or cattle with horns. Cattle that have been dehorned should be healed. Castrated males should be healed and guaranteed against stags.

Personnel from the Livestock and Fair Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Market Development, will grade the cattle for frame size and muscle thickness, using USDA feeder cattle grading standards. The cattle will be sold in uniform lots according to grade, breed, weight, sex and color.

Sale locations and dates follow:

• **BEDFORD COUNTY:** Bedford Cattlemen's Association Fairgrounds, Bedford County Fairgrounds — Sat., Oct. 20 - 1:00 p.m. Cattle Received: Fri., Oct. 19, 2001 - 8:00 - 2:00 p.m. Estimated headage: 250. Contact: Dave Miller (814) 623-2321 or Ed Wolfhope (814) 733-4307.

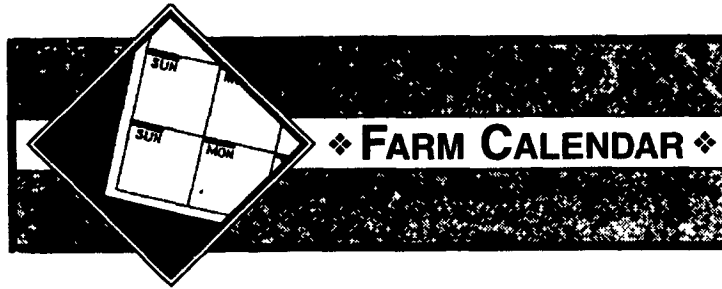
• **INDIANA COUNTY:** Indiana Farmer's Livestock Market, Homer City — Sat. Oct. 13 - 7:00 p.m. Cattle Received: Sat., Oct. 13 - 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Estimated headage: 400. Contact: Becky Lipsi (724) 397-4087; sale barn: (724) 479-2600.

• **MIFFLIN COUNTY:** Central Pa. Livestock Co-op Feeder Calf & Yearling Sale at Belleville Livestock Auction, Belleville — Fri., Oct. 19 - 7:00 p.m. Cattle received: Fri., Oct. 19 - 7:00 a.m. - noon. Estimated headage: 300 to 350 Contact: James Conner (717) 726-3055; Brian Glick (717) 935-2146; sale day: (717) 935-2146.

• **SNYDER COUNTY:** Middleburg Livestock Auction, Middleburg — Fri., Nov. 2 - 7:00 p.m. Cattle received: Fri., Nov. 2 - 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Estimated headage: 300 to 400. Contact: Larry Benfer (717) 837-5638 or Clarence Shirk (717) 656-8793. sale barn: (717) 837-2222.

• **WESTMORELAND COUNTY:** Westmoreland County Cattlemen's Association, Westmoreland County Fairgrounds, Greensburg — Sat., Oct. 20 - 6:30 p.m. Cattle received: Sat., Oct. 20 - 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Estimated headage: 200. No cattle with horns, dairy breeding or bulls will be accepted. Contact: Dustin Heeter (724) 837-1402 or Conrad Dovovan (724) 593-6230.

Additional information about these sales is available by calling Mark Butcher, Livestock and Fair Division, PDA Bureau of Market Development at (717) 787-5319; or www.pda.state.pa.us.



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Friday, October 19

A Crab Odyssey and International Crabapple Symposium, Ohio Ag Research and Development Center, (330) 263-3761.

Uniontown Poultry and Farm Show, thru Oct. 21.

Nutrient Management and Plan Workshop, Western Maryland 4-H Camp, Bittinger, Md., 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Lamb Pool, Troy Sales Barn, sale 3 p.m., (570) 998-1505.

Pa. State Grange Annual Convention, Ramada Inn, Altoona, thru Oct. 23.

University of Delaware Friends of Agriculture Breakfast, Modern Maturity Center, Dover, Del., 7:15 a.m.

State-Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Belleville Livestock Auction, 7 p.m.

Friends of Agriculture Breakfast Series, Modern Maturity Center, Dover, Del., (302) 831-2512.

Saturday, October 20

New York State Sheep and Wool Festival, Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, N.Y., 8 a.m.-5 p.m., (914) 756-2323.

Adams County Holstein Club Annual Meeting, Community Firehall, York Springs, 6:30 p.m.

Pa. Brown Swiss Association meeting, Bonanza Restaurant, Carlisle, 11 a.m., (717) 993-8995.

Pa. State-Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Bedford Cattlemen's Association, Bedford County Fairgrounds, 1 p.m.

Pa. State-Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Westmoreland County Cattlemen's Association, Westmoreland County Fairgrounds, Greensburg.

Sunday, October 21

Zone II Hunter Finals Horse Show, Farm Show Complex, (716) 377-4986.

9th Annual N.E. Regional Natural Colored Sheep Show, in conjunction with New York State Sheep and Wool Festival, Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, N.Y., (914) 756-2323.



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570-784-7731

WITMER'S INC.
Columbiana, OH
330-427-2147

HERNLEY'S FARM EQUIP., INC.
Elizabethtown, Pa.
717-367-8867

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