


THIS WEEK WITH ALMANAC

MARCH 25-31, 2002

EASTER, MARCH 31

EASTER-EGG CHICKENS


The Araucana breed of chicken is a dual-purpose (meat or egg) fowl that lays a blue-green egg. The Araucana is sometimes called the "Easter egg chicken," which is actually an Araucana mix and not a recognized breed; the mongrel type is easier to find, and its egg color is more variable. If you plan to dye eggs for Easter, however, the white eggs of breeds such as the Ancona, California White, Leg-horn, and Minorca hens are your best bet, although the brown eggs of the Rhode Island Red, White Rock, Golden Comet, New Hampshire Red, and Plymouth Rock are fine, too!



A hen is only an egg's way of making another egg.

-Samuel Butler, English novelist and satirist (1835-1902)

The OLD FARMER'S WEATHER PROVERBS



If hens roost earlier than usual, rain is on the way.

A rainy Easter betokens a good harvest.

Expect rain if hens spread and ruffle their tail feathers.

TIP OF THE WEEK

☞ Puncture the end of an egg with a pin so that it will be less likely to crack while boiling.


ORANGE DESSERT OMELET

3 large eggs, divided
2 to 3 tablespoons sugar
3 tablespoons frozen orange-juice concentrate
1 tablespoon butter
fresh orange slices, as garnish

Beat the yolks with the sugar, then add the orange flavoring. Beat whites separately until stiff. At medium-high heat, melt butter in a nonstick omelet pan or skillet. Gently fold

the whites into the yolk mixture, then pour the mixture into the warm pan or skillet. Do not stir as it cooks. After 1 minute, fold omelet and place on a warmed dinner plate. Arrange garnish, and serve.

Makes 4 servings.



For recipes, gardening tips, and weather forecasts, visit www.almanac.com go ul0203

Leesport Livestock Auction

Leesport, Pa.
March 20, 2002

Report Supplied By USDA

CATTLE 214...(PDA)...(Supply included 84 steers & heifers, 100 cows, 3 bulls and 24 feeder cattle...Compared with last week's sale...steers mostly steady, cows steady, heifers .50 to 1.00 lower, bulls steady to 1.00 higher.

STEERS: Choice 2-3 1130-1470 lbs 70.50-74.50, Select 1-3 62.75-70.00, one Standard 1-2 61.25.

HOLSTEIN STEERS: High Choice and Prime 2-3 1335-1490 lbs 64.75-66.00, Choice 2-3 1310-1550 lbs 59.00-63.50, Select 1-2 55.00-59.00, few Standard 1-2 49.00-53.25.

HEIFERS: Choice 2-4 1120-1340 lbs 68.00-70.75, Select 1-3 62.00-67.75, one Standard 1-2 56.00.

COWS: Breakers 75-80% lean 42.50-46.50, one 49.75, Boners 80-85% lean 40.25-46.50, one 48.25, Lean 85-90% lean 39.75-44.75. One Shell 38.50.

BULLOCKS: couple Select 1-3 63.00 & 66.00.

BULLS: few Yield Grade 1 1040-1530 lbs 58.00-65.50, one Yield Grade 2 1135 lbs 59.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: Medium and Large 1 680-915 lbs 63.00-74.00, Large 3 270-365 lbs Holsteins 55.00-75.00, 610-865 lbs Holsteins 55.00-67.00; HEIFERS: one Large 1 200 lbs 142.50, couple Medium 1 780 & 865 lbs 51.00 & 64.00; BULLS: couple Large 1 955 & 960 lbs 61.00 & 63.00, couple Medium 2 955 lbs 57.00 & 58.00, one Large 3 405 lbs Holstein 65.00, couple 640 & 840 lbs Holsteins 47.00 & 53.00.

CALVES 176...Vealers steady. VEALERS: one Good 135 lbs 110.00, Standard and Good 70-125 lbs 40.00-60.00, Utility 50-100 lbs 20.00-40.00.

FARM CALVES: Holstein bulls 10.00

to 15.00 lower, Holstein heifers steady..No 1 Holstein bulls 90-120 lbs 120.00-147.50, No 2 80-120 lbs 70.00-125.00; No 1 Holstein heifers 90-120 lbs 470.00-580.00, No 2 70-105 lbs 100.00-370.00.

Beef type bulls and heifers 85-110 lbs 100.00-200.00.

HOGS 83...Barrows and gilts 1.00 to 2.00 higher, sows 1.00 to 2.00 lower. BARROWS AND GILTS: 45-50% lean 240-270 lbs 29.25-30.75, 40-45% lean 225-315 lbs 27.75-30.25.

SOWS: 1-3 405-485 lbs 22.50-27.25, 505-660 lbs 25.25-29.75.

BOARS: 495-670 lbs 13.50-14.00.

FEEDER PIGS 75...1-3 22 lbs 120.00, 30-38 lbs 75.00-80.00, 50-55 lbs 54.00-60.00. — per cwt.

SHEEP 287...(Special Sheep and Goat Sale)...Slaughter lambs moderate demand. NEW CROP LAMBS: High Choice and Prime 25-35 lbs 197.50-227.50, 40-55 lbs 175.00-190.00, Choice 25-35 lbs 142.50-190.00, 40-55 lbs 110.00-170.00, 60-80 lbs 91.00-120.00. WOOLED LAMBS: Choice 90-145 lbs 47.50-87.50.

FEEDER LAMBS: few Good 20-35 lbs 75.00-90.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 80-200 lbs 30.00-40.00, one 68.00, 250-300 lbs 23.00-35.00, Yearlings 125-150 lbs 48.00-59.00.

GOATS 74...(All sold by the head). One Large Billy 74.00, Medium 32.00-49.00, Medium Nannies 33.00-60.00, one 70.00, Large Kids 49.00-63.00, one 73.00, Small 27.50-52.50, few Wethers 50.00-87.50.

Belknap Livestock

Belknap, Pa.

Report Supplied By USDA

March 20, 2002

CATTLE 109...(PDA).

HOLSTEIN STEERS: Low Choice and Select 998-1170 lbs 59.50-63.00.

COWS: Breakers 75-80% lean 40.00-43.25, Boners 80-85% lean

40.50-47.00, couple to 48.50, Lean 85-90% lean 35.00-40.00. Shells down to 28.25.

BULLS: one Yield Grade 1 1968 lbs 61.25, few Yield Grade 2 1016-1902 lbs 50.00-55.75.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: few Medium 1-2 400-625 lbs 69.00-75.00, Large 2 450-700 lbs 51.00-63.50; HEIFERS: few Medium 1-2 475-600 lbs 60.00-73.00; BULLS: few Medium 1-2 600-750 lbs 61.00-71.00.

CALVES 132...VEALERS: Standard and Good 70-110 lbs 32.50-70.00, Utility 50-80 lbs 15.00-30.00.

FARM CALVES: No 1 Holstein bulls 85-115 lbs 125.00-155.00, No 2 80-115 lbs 70.00-125.00; No 1 Holstein heifers 85-110 lbs 585.00-650.00, No 2 70-115 lbs 165.00-425.00.

Beef type bulls and heifers 70-120 lbs 125.00-230.00.

HOGS 56...BARROWS AND GILTS: 49-54% lean 240-280 lbs 35.00-35.50, 45-50% lean 220-280 lbs 33.00-34.50, 40-45% lean 240-300 lbs 32.00-33.00.

SOWS: one 1-3 514 lbs 34.00, couple Medium 330 & 360 lbs 19.00 & 22.00.

BOARS: few 400-644 lbs 12.00-15.00.

FEEDER PIGS 22...1-3 30-35 lbs 30.00-39.00, 65-70 lbs 60.00-61.00, 85-90 lbs 64.00-66.00, US 3 30-40 lbs 19.00-25.00. — per head.

SHEEP 161...SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice 30-55 lbs 105.00-138.00, few to 165.00, 55-75 lbs 102.00-109.00, 75-100 lbs 101.00-112.50, Good and Choice 20-50 lbs 52.50-90.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 19.00-50.00, Yearlings 62.00-65.00.

GOATS 68...(All sold by the head). Couple Large Billies 86.00 & 91.00, few Medium 39.00-66.00, Large Nannies 39.00-66.00, Medium 24.00-36.00, Large Kids 27.00-42.50, Medium 17.50-40.00, Small 12.00-18.00, few Grain Fed 71.00-89.00.

Morrison's Cove Livestock

Martinsburg, Pa.

Report Supplied by Auction
Monday, March 18, 2002

CATTLE: 126 HEAD.

STEERS: CHOICE 70.50-73.00, GOOD 67.50-70.00.

HEIFERS: CHOICE 69.50-72.50, GOOD 55.00-65.00.

COWS: UTILITY AND COMMERCIAL 38.00-45.00, CANNER AND LOW CUTTER 28.00-40.00.

BULLOCKS: GOOD & CHOICE 55.00-63.50.

BULLS: YG+N1 48.00-55.50.

FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS

60.00-79.00, BULLS 55.00-74.00, HEIFERS 52.00-70.00.

CALVES: 91. CHOICE 90.00-99.00, GOOD 69.00-89.00, STANDARD 25.00-55.00; **HOLSTEIN BULLS** 90-130 LBS. 90.00-135.00, **HOLSTEIN HEIFERS** 90-130 LBS. 125.00-425.00.

HOGS: 138. US+N1-2, 36.00-37.25; US +N 1-3, 32.00-35.00.


SOWS: US +N1-3 25.00-33.00.

BOARS: 13.50-26.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 54 HEAD. US +N1-3 20-50 LBS. 12.00-32.00.

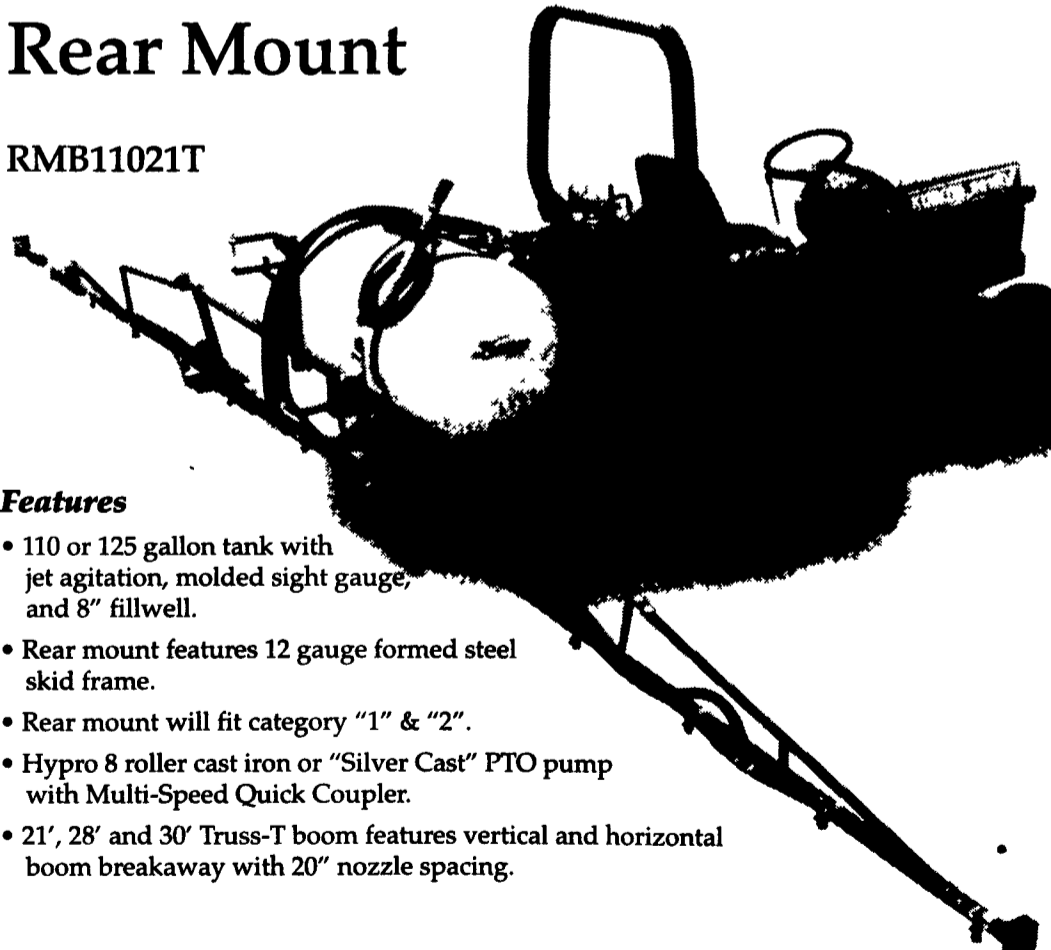
SHEEP: 64 HEAD. CHOICE 80.00-135.00, GOOD LAMBS 65.00-110.00, SLAUGHTER EWES 24.00-32.00.

GOATS: 15.00-105.00 EACH.



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