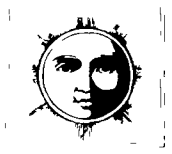
December 22–28 **THIS WEEK WITH** 2003

The Old Farmer's Almanac

DECEMBER 23
New Moon

DECEMBER 23, 24
Best days to begin logging

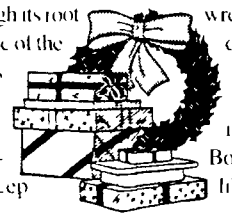


DECEMBER 24, 25
Best days to start new projects

DECEMBER 25
Christmas

Constancy at Christmas

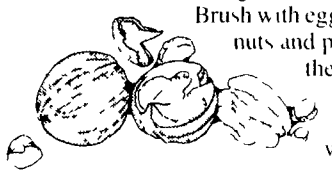
In the language of flowers **boxwood** (*Buxus sempervirens*) denotes constancy. Though its root system is shallow, it is one of the evergreens that shows good longevity as long as you don't plant it in a climate prone to extremes such as the Deep South or northern zones. Cuttings of the boxwood plant are traditional for wreaths, topiary, and other indoor greenery such as ropes and swags—another good reason to cultivate plenty of it in your outdoor landscape. Boxwood is slow-growing but likes to be pruned.



Cinnamon Diamonds

1 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar
1 egg yolk
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 cups flour
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 egg white
3/4 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350°F. Cream butter and brown sugar; beat in egg yolk and vanilla. Stir together flour and cinnamon and add to creamed mixture. Pat into an ungreased 10x15-inch baking pan. Brush with egg white. Sprinkle with nuts and press them lightly into the top. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes. Cut into diamonds while still warm. **MAKES 2 DOZEN.**



WIT AND WISDOM FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

- *If Christmas Day on Thursday be a hardy winter ye shall see.*
- On Boxing Day (Dec. 26) remember postal carriers, delivery persons, and others who make daily life a little easier.
- For good luck, jingle silver coins when you glimpse a crescent Moon.

FOR RECIPES, GARDENING TIPS, AND WEATHER FORECASTS, VISIT

www.almanac.com

Eighty-Four Livestock Auction

Eighty-Four, Pa.
Monday, December 15, 2003
Report Supplied By Auction

CATTLE 152 (SUPPLIED BY THE AUCTION)

COWS Breakers 75-80% lean 48.00-56.00, Boners 80-85% lean 41.00-48.00, Lean 85-90% lean 30.00-41.00.

BULLS Yield Grade 1 1625-2155 lbs. 50.50-59.00.

FEEDER CATTLE STEERS Medium and Large 1 300-455 lbs. 92.00-107.00; 500-700 lbs. 82.00-89.00, Medium and Large 2 250-405 lbs. 76.00-92.00, 600-990 lbs. 68.00-83.00, HEIFERS Medium and Large 1 270-435 lbs. 76.00-89.00; 500-700 lbs. 74.00-82.50, Medium and Large 2 300-450 lbs. 67.00-77.00.

CALVES 153 (All calves sold per cwt) VEALERS Standard and Good 75-100 lbs. 37.00-80.00, Utility 55-90 lbs. 24.00-40.00. FARM CALVES No. 1 Holstein bulls 90-115 lbs. 110.00-135.00, 80-85 lbs. 110.00-120.00, No. 2 85-125 lbs. 75.00-110.00, No. 1 Holstein heifers 85-120 lbs. 250.00-400.00, No. 2 85-95 lbs. 115.00-180.00.

Beef cross bulls and heifers 80-115 lbs. 90.00-150.00, 140-300 lbs. 72.00-89.00.

HOGS 22 BARROWS AND GILTS 40-45% lean 220-280 lbs. 38.00-43.00.

FEEDER PIGS 0 - no market test!

SHEEP 313 SLAUGHTER LAMBS High Choice and Prime 105-135 lbs. 75.00-110.00, Choice 40-45 lbs. 150.00-180.00, 55-75 lbs. 100.00-135.00, 80-100 lbs. 95.00-105.00, Good and Choice 65-95 lbs. 90.00-110.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP 45.00-60.00, Yearlings 60.00-85.00.

GOATS 54 (All goats sold by the head with weights estimated) Kids Selection 1 20-40 lbs. 30.00-50.00, 40-60 lbs. 55.00-70.00, 60-80 lbs. 68.00-80.00. Selection 2 20-40 lbs. 15.00-25.00. Nannies 70-100 lbs. 45.00-60.00. Billies 70-100 lbs. 60.00-77.00, 100 lbs. and over 80.00-92.00.

Morrison's Cove Livestock

Martinsburg, Pa.
Report Supplied by Auction
December 15, 2003

CATTLE 128 HEAD

STEERS CHOICE 86.00-90.00, GOOD 78.00-82.00.

HEIFERS CHOICE 85.00-88.00, GOOD 72.00-80.00.

COWS UTILITY AND COMMERCIAL 46.00-57.00, CANNER AND LOW CUTTER 20.00-44.00.

BULLOCKS GOOD & CHOICE 55.00-68.00.

BULLS YG+N1 52.00-62.50.

FEEDER CATTLE STEERS 52.00-75.00, BULLS 55.00-68.00, HEIFERS 53.00-80.00.

CALVES 112 HEAD CHOICE 75.00-85.00, GOOD 65.00-80.00, STANDARD 20.00-50.00, HOLSTEIN BULLS 90-130 LBS. 80.00-140.00, HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 90-130 LBS. 150.00-440.00.

HOGS 80 US+N1-2, 42.00-43.00, US +N 1-3 32.00-38.00.

SOWS US +N1-3 20.00-33.00.

BOARS 8.00-21.00.

FEEDER PIGS 18 HEAD US +N1-3 20-50 LBS. 10.00-30.00.

SHEEP 14 HEAD CHOICE LAMBS 110.00-120.00, GOOD LAMBS 100.00-110.00, SLAUGHTER EWES 35.00-110.00.

GOATS 40.00-120.00 EACH.

Dewart Livestock

Dewart, Pa.
Report Supplied By Auction
Monday, December 15, 2003

STEERS 64.00-95.50

HEIFERS TOO FEW TO QUOTE

GOOD COWS 40.00-51.50

CANNERS AND CUTTERS 30.00-40.00

BULLS 50.00-59.00

VEAL 90-190 LBS. 100.00-490.00, 70-90 LBS. 60.00-100.00

HOGS NONE

SOWS 31.00

FEEDER PIGS 22.00-25.00 FA

Lebanon Valley Livestock

Fredericksburg, Pa.
Report Supplied By PDA
December 16, 2003

CATTLE 107...(PDA)...Compared with last week's sale..sl. steers and heifers not tested, sl. cows were 1.00 to 2.50 lower.

HEIFERS: one Select 2 78.50.

COWS: Breakers 75-80% lean 54.00-60.00, average 57.06, Boners 80-85% lean 47.00-53.75, average 50.58, Lean 85-90% lean 37.75-46.25, average 41.47. Shells 35.25 and down.

BULLS: one Yield Grade 1 1580 lbs. 58.75. Yield Grade 2 1090-1235 lbs. 50.00-57.50.

FEEDER CATTLE: BULLS: one Large 3 635 lbs. Holsteins 42.50.

CALVES 127...VEALERS: Standard and Good 75-120 lbs. 40.00-65.00, Utility 60-100 lbs. 10.00-37.00. FARM CALVES: Holstein bulls sold 10.00 higher with better demand for No. 2 quality calves, Holstein heifers active and firm...No. 1 Holstein bulls 95-120 lbs. 120.00-160.00, few to 172.00, average 143.22. 85-90 lbs. 115.00-122.00, No. 2 80-120 lbs. 80.00-120.00, weaker calves to 60.00, average 90.62; No. 1 Holstein heifers 85-100 lbs. 330.00-400.00, average 376.67, No. 2 80-90 lbs. 100.00-200.00, average 154.00.

HOGS 18...Sows were steady.

SOWS: 1-3 415-500 lbs. 25.00-28.00, couple to 33.00, 500-695 lbs. 29.50-32.00, Medium 325-465 lbs. 14.00-20.00.

FEEDER PIGS 0...NO MARKET TEST!

SHEEP 5...SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Good and Choice 85-100 lbs. 80.00.

GOATS 0...NO MARKET TEST!

Mercer Livestock Auction

Mercer, Pa.
December 16, 2003
Report Supplied By PDA

CATTLE 476 (PDA) sl. steers were 3.00 to 5.00 lower, sl. cows were active, steady to 1.00 lower.

STEERS Choice 1-3 1100-1475 lbs. 92.00-99.00, one 101.50, Select 1-2 74.00-91.00, Standard 1-2 57.00-73.00.

HOLSTEIN STEERS few High Choice and Prime 2-3 1265-1490 lbs. 85.00-91.00, Choice 2-3 1060-1505 lbs. 72.00-82.50, Select 1-2 63.00-70.50, few Standard 1-2 52.00-60.00.

HEIFERS Choice 1-3 1000-1400 lbs. 88.50-100.00, Select 1-2 65.00-80.50, few Standard 1-2 57.00-65.00.

COWS Breakers 75-80% lean 52.00-63.50, one 66.50, Boners 80-85% lean 44.00-55.00, Lean 85-90% lean 40.00-48.50, Shells 39.50 and down.

BULLS Yield Grade 1 1050-2000 lbs. 58.00-63.25, Yield Grade 2 1250-2080 lbs. 52.00-72.50.

FEEDER CATTLE STEERS few Medium 1 300-400 lbs. 91.00-95.00, 400-600 lbs. 80.50-90.00, 700-1000 lbs. 71.00-72.50, Medium 2 400-650 lbs. 60.00-66.00. HEIFERS Medium 1 400-600 lbs. 70.00-80.00, 600-850 lbs. 70.00-76.00, Medium 2 200-300 lbs. 59.00-70.00, 400-600 lbs. 51.00-66.00. BULLS one Medium 1 395 lbs. 96.00, Medium 2 350-600 lbs. 56.00-71.00.

CALVES 88 VEALERS Standard and Good 65-90 lbs. 45.00-77.50, few Utility 50-75 lbs. 30.00-40.00. FARM CALVES No. 1 Holstein bulls 90-130 lbs. 125.00-165.00, No. 2 80-135 lbs. 62.50-120.00, couple No. 1 Holstein heifers 95 & 100 lbs. 400.00, few No. 2 60-100 lbs. 60.00-130.00.

Few beef cross bulls and heifers 80-90 lbs. 60.00-125.00.

HOGS 49 BARROWS AND GILTS 45-50% lean 235-275 lbs. 35.00-40.25, couple to 42.50.

BOARS couple 230 & 240 lbs. 12.00 & 22.00.

FEEDER PIGS 4 Few 1-3 50-65 lbs. 10.00-16.00 per head.

SHEEP 2 NO MARKET TEST!

GOATS 1 NO MARKET TEST!

Rogers Community Auction, Inc.

where buyer and seller get together

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Every Friday	Furniture & misc.	1 p.m.
	Produce & Eggs	5 p.m.
	Poultry Barn	6 p.m.

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
FARM EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

1 p.m.	Miscellaneous auction
4 p.m.	Garden tractor auction
5 p.m.	Firewood
6 p.m.	Farm Machinery

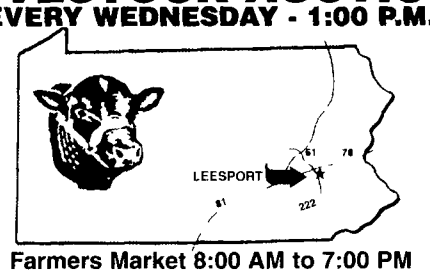
EVERY Wednesday 1 p.m. Hay & Grain Auction

FAMILY OWNED AND MANAGED SINCE 1955

LEESPORT FARMERS MARKET

LEESPORT, BERKS COUNTY, PA 19533 (610) 926-1307

LIVESTOCK AUCTION
EVERY WEDNESDAY - 1:00 P.M.



Farmers Market 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Flea Market 7:00 AM to ??

NOTE: NO LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Christmas Eve - Dec. 24th
There will be a Livestock Auction Wednesday, Dec. 31st

visit our website: www.leesportmarket.com

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