



# THE MARKET BULLETIN

Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner

Janet L. Fisher, Deputy Commissioner

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Visit the WVDA's web site at: <http://www.wvagriculture.org/>

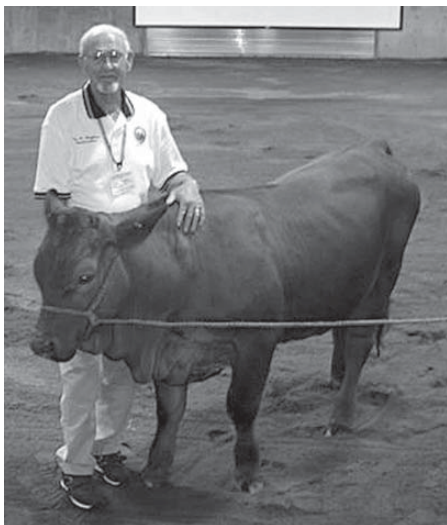
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## Recent Rains Dampen Production

It is surprising for me to see the weather pattern repeating itself. This spring's weather is characteristic of the wet weather we experienced last season. It is unfortunate for many folks, as the rains have caused considerable flooding and damage across the state – especially in southern West Virginia.

The weather has also created many problems for farmers ranging from the inability to get crops in the ground, a loss of crops in low-lying areas and standing crops of orchard grass, timothy and wheat maturing with no way to harvest until the rain subsides. The hay crop, like last year, is going to be overly mature with much lower feeding value. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) will again offer a testing program for hay harvested this year. The testing will give



Commissioner Douglass with "Peggy Sue," a cloned 1 ½-year-old heifer who was presented by Georgia University staff at the SASDA meeting in June.

farmers a better idea of how much protein supplement will be needed for their livestock.

On a positive note, the rain is keeping everything green. In fact, during a recent trip to Louisiana, I couldn't believe how green and pretty the landscape was, which is something I hadn't noticed in the past.

Here at the WVDA, we have been busy with the annual meeting of the Livestock Auction Markets Association. The number one topic of discussion was how the livestock identification program was going to impact the markets, especially the cost for the electronics associated with the reading of livestock ear tags. Unfortunately, all the answers are not available at this time, as the USDA continues to make necessary decisions for the program. An increase in volume of livestock and sales at the markets was reported at the meeting. The livestock sales volume has shifted from the South Branch Valley to central West Virginia. The Buckhannon Livestock Market now ranks number one in volume, closely followed by Weston and the South Branch Stockyards at Moorefield. Security measures was another important topic discussed at length with the market managers.

We have been busy this month working with the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services to develop and set priorities for agricultural rapid response efforts. The Department has been allotted \$1.3 million for homeland security purposes. We are initializing plans for a rapid response mobile lab, which will have the capabilities for disease and contaminant detection in plant, livestock and food. The plan also includes: a portable incinerator,



### Gus' View . . .

a trailer with fencing and gear to corral cattle for inspection, and a portable TV surveillance unit to use at events such as the State Fair, to ensure the security of the animals. The plan also calls for considerable training and appropriate emergency equipment to protect workers in sensitive situations. This training and equipment will be a cooperative effort between the Department of Agriculture and WVU Extension Service, USDA agencies, and the W.Va. Office of Emergency Services. The rapid response equipment will help protect the health of our livestock, poultry and the human population by ensuring food safety.

It was a pleasure to renew acquaintances and friendships with the folks in Union, Monroe County, as they celebrated their 50th Anniversary Farmers Day celebration. There was a tremendous turnout despite a rainy day. The "old-timers" told me this was typical weather during the celebration. During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet with the folks heading up the Union Rescue Squad. The Squad leases a building from the Department and they have done a great job remodeling this facility to provide an assembly hall, as well as housing the various units of the emergency squad.

*continued on page 2*

**It's fast and convenient . . .**

# Phone Call Leads Agriculture Officials to Illegal Snails

State and federal agriculture officials picked up the first two Giant African Land Snails (GALS) discovered in the state so far, following a phone call from a woman who suspected she had been given two of the animals at a yard sale in Pennsylvania.

"I congratulate the Plant Industries and PPQ staffs, respectively, for working together so efficiently to quickly respond to this call," said Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass. "It pleases me greatly to see this level of cooperation between state and federal agencies."

The discovery was credited to public outreach conducted by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture Plant Industries Division (WVDA-PID) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA-APHIS-PPQ) office in Ripley.

"We received a phone call last week from a Preston County woman who said she was looking at photos on the Department's webpage when she realized she had two Giant African Land Snails," said Gary Gibson, assistant director of WVDA-PID. "PID and PPQ both had personnel in the area, so both agencies responded to the report."

USDA Malacologist Dr. David G. Robinson later positively identified the snails as GALS. GALS have been used in classrooms because their large size makes them easy for children to study. They are also sold at flea markets and swap meets as pets.

However, the snails are considered serious agricultural pests because they can grow up to eight inches long, are voracious eaters, and can fertilize their own eggs. They can also transmit encephalitis to humans through parasites they harbor. They

are illegal to possess in the United States, but State and federal agricultural officials trying to locate the prohibited snails are currently working under an amnesty program where individuals who report having the snails, and voluntarily relinquish them, are not prosecuted.

"We simply want to find out where they are and deal with them in the appropriate fashion," said Gibson. "Most people who have them don't know they are illegal or the dangers associated with them. They buy them at a flea market or yard sale as a novelty-type pet and never think twice about them being an invasive species."

The snails, two terrariums and several eggs that had been laid are currently being held at the Department of Agriculture. PID has arranged to clean and return the terrariums to the owner.

## Gus' View...

*continued from page 1*

During my travels, I also visited Moorefield to meet with the companies operating poultry and turkey enterprises in West Virginia. The future of the poultry industry had appeared promising until Pilgrim's Pride revealed plans to close its Virginia turkey processing plant, negatively affecting 19 West Virginia turkey growers. Considerable effort is underway to develop a grower cooperative so they might continue their operations. A feasibility assessment has been conducted by the turkey growers in West Virginia. This assessment may have paved the way to provide the necessary operating funds for the grower cooperative. The WVDA will continue to monitor this situation and look for means of complementing their efforts to keep these farms as viable enterprises.

The Southern Association of State Department's of Agriculture (SASDA) met in Atlanta, Georgia, in June. Georgia Agriculture Commissioner and President of SASDA, Tommy Ervin, served as host of the meeting. The agenda was information-filled, covering livestock and poultry health, bio-terrorism, food safety, and

foreign animal diseases. I was impressed with the presentation by staff at Georgia University on their genetic modifications and cloning research. A cloned 1½-year-old heifer named "Peggy Sue" was presented to the group as an example of their cloning research. We were also pleasantly surprised by a guest speaker, Teddy Gentry, of the music group Alabama. Teddy has been recognized as an innovative farmer with his grass-fed beef. He spoke to the group regarding "Grazefest Alabama" to be held September 12, 2004, in Montgomery, Alabama. This program will promote everything from the best grasses for plant food, to selection of beef for the program. I understand the first cookbook for grass-fed beef will be available at this event. I will keep you informed about this event as we will try to have a representative from the WVDA attend.

During the SASDA meeting, I served as chairman of the Resolutions Committee, which considered seven very important resolutions. The majority of the seven resolutions dealt with plant health and invasive plants that are serious threats to the livestock industry. Another area for consideration was a veterinary medical resolution. This resolution would require veterinary students utilizing student loans to be required to work three years in the rural, large-animal practice in order to have their loan forgiven. I introduced a resolution re-

questing that the USDA, together with Congress, fully fund Wildlife Services so they may respond to the coyote threat across the country. The problem continues to grow, resulting in higher damages to the farming community. Unfortunately, reports of coyote stalking young children are causing great concern, too. As the human population is being threatened, I anticipate we will see action from both USDA and Congress.

July appears to be an extremely busy month. I look forward to seeing many folks as I travel around the state to visit various events including the Brooks Hill Community Fair in Buckhannon, July 23-25, 2004 Canon Envirothon at W.Va. Wesleyan in Buckhannon, July 26, and the Poultry Festival in Moorefield, July 26-31.

I am looking forward to spending some time with the family during a brief vacation we have planned for the beach. This appears to be my last opportunity to spend time with them for awhile, as I look at my commitments to you. I jokingly make reference to how conservation-minded I am when people ask about my garden. The garden is certainly green . . . with a tremendous amount of grasses and weeds. It has just been too wet to till. I'm certain it will dry up one of these days. Have a great July 4 celebration!



information at your fingertips . . .

# Douglass, Producers Pushing for Renewal of Specialty Crops Grant Program

Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass renewed his call for Congress to fund the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, currently under consideration by the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development and Related Agencies.

Money from the program has been used in the past to assist industry organizations, independent agribusinesses and farmers' markets throughout West Virginia. Money from the program also funded West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) participation in international food shows, which have been very successful at promoting West Virginia Grown products outside the state.

"This has been one of the most valuable federal agriculture programs in West Virginia," said Commissioner Douglass. "The state has received so much benefit from so little an expenditure of tax dollars. I'm very concerned that this program may be cut." Commissioner Douglass also noted the explosive growth of specialty crop imports from foreign countries. Since 1997, imports increased 39 percent while equivalent U.S. exports increased only 6.5 percent. WVDA distributed 40 individual grants last year worth nearly \$600,000 to a wide variety of agriculture-based businesses and enterprises.

Of the activities that were funded, 68 percent were related to marketing, 16.7 percent were educational and 10 percent were aimed at improving facilities or production.

Farmers' markets received a large portion of the funding, and most markets used the money for advertising and improving their physical facilities. In Buckhannon, "the funding provided through the Specialty Crop Grant allowed for the addition of a restroom facility, electric and improvements to parking . . . It was through these efforts that the Upshur County Farmers' Market was able to sustain local support for this community development project," WVU Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources Jennifer Ours-Williams wrote to Commissioner Douglass.

"These Specialty Crop funds were critical to the development of these two successful projects and numerous others across the state. Additional funding would greatly benefit the continued development of these grass roots specialty crop projects. These types of agricultural projects can have dramatic local economic impacts..." wrote Extension Specialist Richard Zimmerman.

At Flying W Farms in Burlington, W.Va., owner Richard Woodworth used Specialty Crop Grant money to build a commercial kitchen that benefits numerous small agribusinesses in that area.

**Specialty Crops**, *continued on page 4*

## Ag & Forestry Hall of Fame to Honor Six

Six stalwarts of agriculture and forestry in West Virginia will be honored with enshrinement in the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame. This year's enshrines are Harold G. Burke, Maurice L. Allman, the late George D. Curtin, Sr., William N. Grafton, the late Harry Lee Kesterson, and Edward W. Rock (complete bios to be included in future *Market Bulletin* issue).

The group will be honored at the Hall of Fame's annual banquet, to be held Saturday, July 10, at WVU Jackson's Mill in Weston, W.Va. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling any of the following:

- Brenda Aldridge, WVU Extension, (304) 293-5691.
- Sherry Barnette, West Virginia Forestry Association, (304) 372-1955.
- Randy Dye, West Virginia Division of Forestry, (304) 558-2788.
- Robin Gothard, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, (304) 558-3200.
- Denise Hunnell, WVU Davis College, (304) 293-2395.
- Bob Williams, West Virginia Farm Bureau, (304) 472-2080.

Enshrinement in the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame is reserved for those individuals, businesses, organizations, institutions and foundations who have made outstanding contributions to the establishment, development, advancement and improvement of the agricultural, forestry and family life of West Virginia.

## Remember To File An Acreage Report

West Virginia Farmers are required to file acreage reports for all cropland on a farm to maintain their eligibility for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) payments. In addition, they are also required to make reports for Grain Program Farms, Burley Tobacco Quota Farms, Conservation Reserve Program acreage and crops for which a Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Payment will be requested. Throughout farm program history, compiled acreage data have been used to develop new and better farm programs while providing farmers with valuable statistical data.

The following are reporting dates for West Virginia Farmers:

<u>JULY 15</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 30</u>	<u>JANUARY 2</u>	<u>MAY 31</u>
Corn	Ornamental nursery	Honey	Small Grains
Tobacco	Ginseng	Maple Sap	(Wheat, Oats, Barley)
Soybeans	Aquaculture		
Hay	Turfgrass sod		
Vegetables	Mushrooms		
Fruits, etc.	Christmas trees		
	Floriculture		

*An acreage report filed after a crop-reporting deadline carries with it a late filing fee. Please contact your local Farm Service Agency county office for additional information.*

**more than 5,000 people have done it . . .**

# Migratory Dragonflies in West Virginia Bee Yards?

By Lois E. Swoboda, Entomologist/Black Fly Control Program Coordinator

In recent years, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) has received reports of swarms of dragonflies attacking bee yards in West Virginia and consuming large numbers of worker bees. With the normal food of dragonflies consisting mainly of small flies like mosquitoes and midges, we normally think of them as being beneficial and not having a negative impact on another beneficial insect, but State Apiarist George Clutter received reports in both 2002 and 2003 and actually witnessed attacks on bee yards by dragonflies on several occasions. He stated that the dragonfly swarm was much larger in 2002 — composed of thousands of dragonflies.

Dragonfly swarms frequently attack apiaries in some parts of the deep south and one species of dragonfly native to Florida is commonly known as the “Bee Butcher.” In some areas of Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana and Alabama, attacks on nuptial flights of honeybees can destroy up to 95 percent of the young queens, seriously weakening bee colonies and causing significant economic damage. Reports of dragonflies attacking apiaries in West Virginia are rare. Dragonfly swarms reported here occurred from late July into the fall and thus did not impact nuptial

flights. There is no evidence that dragonfly attacks have a significant impact on the honeybee population of our state, however, reports of swarming dragonflies may be indirect evidence of an interesting natural event, dragonfly swarm migration.

Like birds and butterflies, dragonflies have been observed to migrate, possibly in response to changes in the weather or the reduction in numbers of small flying insects that may follow a sudden drop in temperature. Unlike birds and butterflies, dragonflies do not migrate at a particular time of year and some years may not migrate at all. In the eastern U.S., the common green darner (*Anax junius*) is the dragonfly most commonly seen forming large migratory swarms.

Migratory swarms of dragonflies may consist of millions of insects. Such swarms usually occur between July and October and frequently follow a strong cold front across the eastern states. We know that migratory swarms of dragonflies often make their way south by following rivers, lakeshores and coastlines. Some scientists believe that migrating dragonflies may follow mountain ridges as well, although nobody has been able to confirm this theory.

It is possible that the swarms of dragonflies occasionally reported to attack bee

hives in West Virginia may actually be migratory swarms of common green darners following the mountains south. Common green darners are one of the dragonfly species known to attack bee yards in the Deep South. The dragonflies seen attacking bee yards here have been described as large and green. This is a good description of the common green darner. Common green darners are two and a half to over three inches long. They have clear wings, bright green bodies and blue or purple tails.

So far, nobody has collected a specimen of the dragonflies reported to attack bees in West Virginia. It would be extremely helpful if anyone who sees such an attack occur, or even sees a large swarm of dragonflies passing through the area, could collect a specimen of the insects in the swarm or photograph the insects. Specimens or photographs of swarming dragonflies may be sent to: Dr. Lois Swoboda, WVDA Plant Industries Division, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, WV 25305-0191. Please include an email address or phone number where you can be reached, as well as the location where the dragonflies were seen, the time of day they were seen and the weather conditions at the time of the sighting.

## Specialty Crops, continued from page 3

“The addition of the steam kettle will allow us to process excess produce for other growers and us. This will allow us to take the excess of perishable produce and make a shelf-safe product. Otherwise, these products will have been wasted in the field,” wrote Woodworth.

“These incubator facilities really help to get new businesses off the ground,” said WVDA Marketing Specialist Kellie Boles. “They allow these new companies to test market their products before they sink a lot of capital into a commercial kitchen of their own.”

Woodworth also noted that Flying W paid \$40,000 to local labor in 2002, and that more

than half of the customers at his roadside market come from out of state to shop.

Specialty Crop Grant money is also helping to grow consumer demand for aquaculture products, while at the same time providing a unique educational opportunity for vocational students in Monroe County. “The fish wagon” is a 7 by 14-foot trailer equipped with a griddle, oven refrigerator and freezer, which allows on-site preparation of West Virginia Grown fish.

“The Specialty Crop Grant Program is a win-win program for aquaculture and the state of West Virginia, because it has given us access to money for marketing of our products, education of the public, work-based

educational opportunities for students, and the opportunity to create residual income for our aquaculture farmers,” wrote aquaculture instructor Paul Lovett.

Congress first approved a \$159.4 million specialty crop block grant program in 2001 as a result of poor market conditions experienced by producers due to disease, low prices and a lack of research funding.

Legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives, “The Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2003 (H.R. 3242), would authorize \$470 million for the block grant program. The bill also provides for programs on marketing, research, international trade, pest and disease exclusion and conservation.

**... and we invite you to join them. Sign up today to receive the *Market Bulletin* electronically (details on page 12).**

# The Best of Intentions Can Backfire

By Julie Delabbio, Associate Professor of  
Aquaculture, Bluefield State College

I hope to reduce a serious threat to wild-life and fish in the United States by making readers aware of the dangerous consequences of their actions. Nowadays, many foreign plants and animals (including fish) are being distributed and "introduced" into new lakes, ponds, rivers and streams because of people's ability to move quickly by land and water, and to move far distances. Some of these "introductions" are by accident and some are not. Many people do not realize how destructive these introductions can be on the native surroundings. In many instances, people have good intentions, thinking that they are performing a kindly act by "letting animals go" or enhancing nature by putting new animals or plants into the environment.

Most of you have seen the enormous, devastating impact of kudzu plants. Kudzu is a foreign plant that was brought to the United States with good intentions of controlling erosion on roadsides. There has also been a lot of recent news coverage on the discovery of the "foreign" northern snakehead fish in ponds in Maryland and the subsequent total eradication of every fish in the pond. The current problem arose from the release of two of these fish by a hobbyist when the fish had outgrown the collector's home aquarium. The northern snakehead is considered a significant danger to native fish because it can move across land and is very aggressive towards other fish species. Based on water temperatures alone, the fish can live in all United States fresh waters from Maine to Florida.

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*We have a beautiful state full of natural beauty.  
Lets all work to keep it beautiful.*

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Along with these more devastating examples of introductions gone awry, there are many other non-native animals and plants whose distribution and release have the potential to do much harm. I would like to alert readers to a few things they can do to reduce the spread of foreign animals and plants in West Virginia during the fishing/boating/tourist season in West Virginia.

**1) When you are done fishing, don't release bait into the waterway:**

The release of new animals into a lake or stream can seriously upset the natural balance. Although it does not seem that significant an action when fisherman releases bait into a nearby watershed, it can be.

All kinds of fish and other creatures used for bait and the release of several healthy bait animals, foreign to a waterway, can be quite detrimental. Foreign crayfish are a good example. When introduced to a new area, these animals have been known to eliminate native crayfishes from lakes and streams, harm the natural aquatic vegetation where it is important for fish and reduce the abundance of aquatic insect larvae and other invertebrates.

**2) Pressure-wash your boating equipment or have a dry-out period if moving between watersheds:**

Clean your trailer, boat, jet skis and gear

if you are quickly moving from lake to lake or to new waterways. These pieces of equipment have been known to be an easy way for introducing foreign plants and animals into new watersheds. Over the past decade, the use of some beautiful recreational waters has been lost or reduced because of the introduction of invasive plants, such as the water hyacinth, brought in by recreational boaters. Usually, if there is a drying out period between traveling to different waterways, this is sufficient to kill attached animals or plants.

**3) Don't take animals and plants from your vacation location back to your home garden.**

Even if these animals and plants don't survive the transport, the dead tissue can be carrying serious diseases or parasites to a new location. It is much safer to buy non-native plants and animals when you get home from reputable local suppliers who can ensure that they are pest free. These suppliers can also tell you the best way to contain your exotic plant or animal so that their release into the native environment is less likely to occur.

If you have an aquaculture-related question that you would like to see answered in this column, please send it to:

**219 Rock St., Bluefield State College  
Bluefield, WV 24701**

Bluefield State College offers a two-year degree program in Commercial Aquaculture.

## Flooding a Setback for Farmers' Market Produce

While victims of past floods continue to wait for assistance to rebuild damaged homes and highways, a less visible loss is taking its toll on the economy of southern West Virginia.

Local farmers and gardeners who supply the Logan Farmers' Market have lost their spring plantings and Johnny Mendez, owner of Johnny's Market at the Logan Farmers' Market, is concerned he will have a difficult time finding the fresh, local produce demanded by his patrons.

"Quite a few of the folks that supply me lost their gardens, or parts of their gardens," said Mendez. "That includes the early stuff - the beans and corn and other popular items."

Mendez added that he lost a large portion of his own garden, which lies along the relatively level creek banks. "I can replant, but I can't make up for lost growing time," he said.

Mendez said he counts on 50-70 different

growers from Logan, Mingo, Boone, Lincoln and Wyoming Counties to supply him throughout the season. Nine have already contacted him to say they have lost substantial portions of their gardens. He estimated that 60 percent of his suppliers have suffered some level of loss due to recent flooding.

It's critical to have as constant a supply of produce as possible, according to Jean Smith, Director of Marketing and Development for the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA).

"Shoppers want local produce, but they also want the convenience of being able to find what they're looking for when they're looking for it. Otherwise, they'll shop at the grocery store," said Smith. "I really encourage anyone who has extra produce in southern West Virginia to call the Logan Market and talk with Manager Joy Vance."

According to Mendez, approximately 90

percent of the growers that supply Mendez are senior citizens who grew up gardening and can now supplement their incomes from what they sell or consign to Johnny's.

Many of their peers will be adding demand for local produce in the coming month as the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) goes into full swing throughout the state. Eligible seniors will be provided with vouchers good for \$20 worth of locally grown produce.

For right now, Mendez will be especially diligent in one of his ongoing job duties - recruiting new producers. "I encourage farmers I know to grow extra produce. I stop and talk to people I see working in their gardens," he said. "It looks like I'll be doing more of that."

To contact the Logan Farmers' Market, call 304-792-7017. Interested growers in other parts of the state can call 304-558-2210 for a list of markets.

# What's Cookin'

## Summer Recipes

by Jean Smith, Director,  
Marketing and Development Division

The month of July brings the arrival of many great summer vegetables! One of my favorites is half runner green beans. Green beans are low in calories and carbohydrates, contain no fat, and contribute a portion of necessary vitamins and minerals for our daily nutrition needs. Enjoy the following recipes using green beans and great summer dessert recipes contributed by two readers . . . thanks, ladies!

— Bon Appetite!

### Recipes

#### Rhubarb Cake

Submitted by: Maggie Keeler

- 1½ cups light brown sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ cup softened butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup buttermilk or soured milk\*
- 2 cups unbleached flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt

#### Topping:

- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- ¼ cup light brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon cold butter
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ cup chopped walnuts

\*To sour milk, add 1 tsp. vinegar to 1 cup milk. Let sit 5 minutes before using.

Beat sugar, egg and butter together until blended. Add vanilla and milk; stir well.

In another bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt; stir into egg mixture. Fold in the rhubarb. Spoon or pour batter into greased 9x13" pan; set aside.

In small bowl, combine all topping ingredients, except nuts; stir until coarse crumbs form. Sprinkle topping over batter; scatter nuts over topping. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean when stuck in center.

Good served warm for dessert with ice cream or cooled as coffee cake. Makes about 12 servings.

### Recipes

#### Country Style Green Beans and Potatoes

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1½ pounds fresh green beans        | 1 teaspoon salt            |
| 8 slices bacon, quartered or diced | ½ teaspoon pepper          |
| 1 small onion, chopped             | 1½ cups cubed red potatoes |
| 5 cups water                       |                            |

Wash beans. Trim ends and remove strings. Cut into 1½" slices; set aside. Fry bacon in Dutch oven until crisp, remove; set aside. Saute onion in bacon drippings until tender. Add water and bring to boil; add bacon, green beans, salt and pepper and return to a boil. Cover and simmer for 1 hour. Add potatoes; cook until potatoes are tender.

### Recipes

#### Creamy Potato and Green Bean Salad

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| ½ cup mayonnaise              | 3 cups diced potatoes, cooked           |
| ⅓ cup milk                    | 2 cups green beans, cooked              |
| 1 tablespoon prepared mustard | 1 cup celery, sliced                    |
| ½ teaspoon salt               | ½ cup green onions, thinly sliced       |
| ¼ teaspoon pepper             | Garnish with red pepper or black olives |

In large bowl, beat mayonnaise, milk, mustard, salt and pepper with whisk or fork until well blended. Add potatoes, green beans, celery, onions; gently mix until well coated with dressing. Cover and refrigerate for two hours prior to serving. Garnish as desired.

### Recipes

#### Blackberry Cobbler

Submitted by: Jo Raines

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 quart fresh or frozen blackberries | 1 teaspoon lemon juice         |
| 1 pint fresh or frozen blueberries   | 5 slices white bread           |
| 1½ cups sugar                        | 1¼ cups sugar                  |
| 1 20-ounce can blueberry pie filling | ½ cup melted butter            |
| ¼ cup all-purpose flour, divided     | 1 large egg                    |
|                                      | 1½ teaspoons grated lemon rind |

Put berries in medium bowl, sprinkle 1½ cups sugar over them; let stand for few minutes. Stir in pie filling and 2 tablespoons flour. Stir in lemon juice. Spread mixture into lightly greased 11x7" baking dish.

Trim crusts from bread, cut into strips; arrange over berries. Stir together remaining flour, 1¼ cups sugar, melted butter, egg and lemon rind. Drizzle over bread strips. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes.

### Recipes

#### Herb Seasoned Green Beans

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ½ pound fresh green beans           | 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, minced |
| Butter flavored cooking spray       | ⅛ teaspoon garlic, minced           |
| 2 tablespoons celery, minced        | ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper      |
| 2 tablespoons green onion, minced   | ⅛ teaspoon salt                     |
| 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, minced |                                     |
| 2 tablespoons fresh basil, minced   |                                     |

Snap ends from green beans, blanch in boiling water for 3-5 minutes; drain. Rinse with cold water; set aside.

Spray medium skillet with cooking spray. Add minced celery, green onion; sauté until soft. Add all remaining ingredients **except** green beans; cook for 3 minutes.

Add green beans to skillet mixture. Spray green beans with cooking spray. Stir until green beans are well coated with herb mixture, continue to cook until green beans are well heated.