

The <http://www.wvagriculture.org/> Market Bulletin

Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner
Janet L. Fisher, Deputy Commissioner Steve Hannah, Deputy Commissioner

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Strawberry Festival Kicks Off Busy Summer Season

I can now officially proclaim the West Virginia Fairs and Festivals season is under way! On May 14, I performed my annual duty of crowning the Strawberry King at the 67th Annual West Virginia Strawberry Festival. The king and queen of this year's festival are natives of Upshur County. Queen Lindsay Weaver is the daughter of Susie Miller and Andy Weaver of Buckhannon. She is presently attending West Virginia Wesleyan College and will graduate with degrees in accounting and sociology. The pageantry surrounding Lindsay and her court is evidence of the support and resources available in Central West Virginia for this event.

The King, Matthew Tolliver, was born and raised in Upshur County and is a graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College. In 2004, he began raising strawberries with the help of his parents, Stacey and Patricia Tolliver, the WVU Extension Service in Upshur County, and his predecessor, Donnie Tenney. The May 12 issue of *The Record Delta* highlights Matthew's success in implementing new technology and his striving to grow earlier maturing berries. He used a raised-bed system, black plastic for weed control, and this past year he also experimented with an underground heating apparatus. Matthew has been the leader in forming a group of young farm individuals to grow strawberries as an industry for the Festival and local consumers.

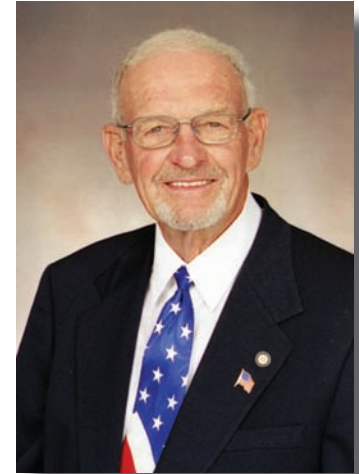


Above (l-r): Chef Clayton Sherrod (Alabama), Chef Dale Hawkins (West Virginia), United States Ambassador to Canada David Wilkins, Chef Robert Waggoner (South Carolina) at United States Consulate residence in Toronto, Canada, promoting southern United States fruits and vegetables and tourism as part of a Southern United States Trade Association (SUSTA) and Travel South promotion. Look for the July *Market Bulletin* issue for details.

Anna Lee and I returned to Buckhannon the following Saturday for the Festival parade, which was Saturday's main event. This was one of three parades, and several other entertainment events ongoing during this grand festival. The support for fairs and festivals was very apparent, as the streets were crowded with fair-goers. I believe it was one of the largest crowds I have seen at a parade in Buckhannon. I congratulate the organizers of this event. If you are inclined to visit one of the county's other events, the Upshur County Fair will be held July 18-20, at Rock Cave.

I was on hand when a milestone was achieved in West Virginia's efforts to seek relief from flooding. The City of Beckley held a dedication of the Little Whitestick Creek Project on May 16 to mark the completion of the Piney Creek Watershed Project, which also includes the Soak Creek Channel Project and Cranberry Creek Channel Project. I complimented Mayor Emmett Pugh for the City's perseverance on this project that started back in the 1960s. The City now has the protection needed to keep homes and businesses safe from being flooded on a regular basis. In fact, one of Beckley's major business thoroughfares where a mall is located was once soggy marshland. Today it is a bustling business metropolis.

I estimate the partnership efforts of the West Virginia Conservation Agency (WVCA), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Raleigh County Commission, City of Beckley, Southern Conservation District, and many delegates and senators have spent in excess of \$50 million on various flood control projects. Unfortunately, Senator Robert Byrd was not in attendance to receive his due credit for securing the matching funds for both the City of Beckley and the necessary state funds. These funds were administered through the West Virginia State Conservation Committee (WVSCC), WVCA, and Soil Conservation Districts. Congressman Nick J. Rahall attended the dedication as both representative and spokesperson for Senator Byrd. Congressman Rahall has been a staunch defender and partner in the conservation programs and other renewable resource programs for West Virginia. The NRCS, under the direction of Kevin Wickey, State Conservationist, has also been an excellent partner and supporter of the Little Whitestick Creek Project.



Gus' View . . .

Raleigh County and other areas in the state have been ongoing recipients of assistance and encouragement from the WVSCC, which I serve as chairman. It has been an honor to serve on this committee through the years to correct flooding and public water supply problems across the state. To see the progress made has been worth our efforts.

The WVDA Animal Health Division, directed by Dr. Joe Starcher, had the opportunity in early May to showcase the programs of this division. Dr. Starcher and staff hosted the Southern Animal Health Association (SAHA) in Charleston. There were 70 participants from 14 states and Puerto Rico, which included state and federal veterinarians, animal health regulatory personnel and WVDA meat inspection officials. The meeting participants toured the state and had the opportunity to view the WVDA's emergency response equipment.

The WVDA Animal Health programs are recognized nationally as being proactive and visionary. The division is proud of its Emergency Response Task Force which protects the well-being of the livestock and poultry industries, as well as humans. *continued on page 2*

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WVDA MISSION STATEMENT . . . The mission of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture is to protect plant, animal and human health and the state's food supply through a variety of scientific and regulatory programs; to provide vision, strategic planning and emergency response for agricultural and other civil emergencies; to promote industrial safety and protect consumers through educational and regulatory programs; and to foster economic growth by promoting West Virginia agriculture and agribusinesses throughout the state and abroad.

Gus View ... continued from page 1

The West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame has chosen individuals from agriculture and forestry for enshrinement into this historical organization. These individuals have devoted their lives and careers to renewable resource industries in our state.

The 2008 Enshrinees into the Hall of Fame are: Rush Butcher of Nicholas County, James Kinsey of Taylor County, Sam Tuckwiller from Greenbrier County, French Armstrong of Upshur County, Robert Keiling Raleigh County, and David McCurdy of Mason County.

The Annual Enshrinement Banquet will be held June 21, at Jackson's Mill. The reception is at 5 p.m., at the Hall of Fame building, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. in the dining hall. Tickets are \$30 each and can be purchased from:

Brenda Aldridge, WVU Extension Service, 304-293-5691
Sherry Barnette, W.Va. Forestry Association, 304-372-1955
Randy Dye, W.Va. Division of Forestry, 304-558-2788; 304-558-3446
LeVera Gillum, W.Va. Farm Bureau, 304-472-2080
Denise Hunnell, WVU Davis College, 304-293-2395
Robin Gothard, WVDA, 304-558-3200, ext.1320

Honeybees are back in the news, as much research is ongoing to help beekeepers sustain their colonies. We have had a beautiful spring and reports from the field indicate there should be no shortage of food for honeybees this year, as the flowering plants are loaded with pollen. Our worries now are new diseases and pesticide drift, and old enemies like parasitic mites. A survey commissioned by the Apiary Inspectors of America noted 36.1 percent of the nation's commercially managed hives have been lost since last year, mostly due to collapse disorder, in which bees abandon hives. Staff informs me that we weren't hit that hard, but I appreciate the support we've received on replacing lost hives and our preventive efforts against disease that have helped us.

The news is bad in reference to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a fatal neurological disorder found in deer in Hampshire County. The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources found 11 deer that tested positive for the disease this spring. The mystery is that the only affected deer are in a small pocket of Hampshire County and the disease has not been found in other areas of the state.

The Farm Bill has been passed by Congress. All indications are it will be vetoed by the President, but there appears to be enough support to override the veto. This is a good Farm Bill, and it's a shame controversy on minor points may delay the programs from becoming available to the farm community and individuals needing government assistance. Two-thirds of the funding is associated with government food programs and other assistance programs. On the farm side, thank goodness more attention is being paid to the development of specialty crops, conservation and environmental programs. One of special interest to me – and one I'm most proud of after 40 years of supporting – is that small state meat slaughtering and processing plants should be recognized for their adherence to USDA regulations and be permitted to sell their finished meat products across state lines. This could not come at a better time, as more people are looking for locally slaughtered and processed meats. I think this will add encouragement for further development and expansion in the local industry.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that school districts in the U.S. spent an average of \$9,138 per student in fiscal year 2006. In the South, only two states, Virginia and West Virginia spent more than the national average. Of the 10 states spending the least on public education, five are found in the South. Nationally, school districts pay teachers \$5,636 per pupil. I personally think we are doing a lot of good things here in the West Virginia school system, and I would like for us to step up our efforts to include more agriculture and conservation science classes in the curriculum.

During my recent travel around the state, I've had the chance to talk with people I normally don't get to hear from regularly. One comment I received was that I wrote more about West Virginia State University (WVSU) Extension Service and not about the Extension Service at WVU in my column. I'm very proud of both of these two universities and hope their activities complement each other. My staff works closely with WVU Extension in marketing of specialty crops, livestock, and many other areas. I'm happy to see that Dave Miller, former WVDA Deputy Commissioner, and now WVU Extension Service Associate Provost and Director, has developed an informative publication *WVU Extension Works*.

WVSU Extension Service is a relatively young program and serves the citizens of western and southern West Virginia. They, too, have developed the publication *Land-Grant Quarterly*. Both publications are excellent.

All the rain we've had in May has kept it wet on our farm. We've lost some seed planted so we're waiting for dry weather and will try planting again. Anna Lee is busy preparing for us to go to Dayton, Ohio, over the Memorial Day holiday. Our grandson, Kyle, will graduate from high school, and we sure are looking forward to this event.



West Virginia Farmers' Market Association is Born

by Tom McConnell, WVU Extension Farm Management Specialist

With demand for local farm products growing faster than supply, a group of farmers has formed the West Virginia Farmers' Market Association (WVFMA) to address the problems and opportunities faced by the estimated 40 farmers' markets, as well as those of on-farm markets. These markets allow families to share their farm fresh products with the public in a setting close to home, reducing wear and tear on the environment, on the produce and on the farmer. Furthermore, a recent West Virginia University (WVU) study revealed that these venues contributed \$3.2 million to the state's economy!

The WVFMA was formed with guidance from the WVU Extension Service and the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences and through a West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) Specialty Crops Grant.

The WVFMA held their first membership meeting this past February at the West Virginia Small Farm Conference in Morgantown where directors were selected, a grant was conceptualized, and groundwork was laid for the year ahead. This work includes addressing market issues, such as risk in the form of personal and product liability. The WVFMA also hopes to improve communications within the state farmers' marketers network and its support agencies and organizations. By working closely with the WVDA and WVU Extension Service, the group has developed a contact list of over 400 farmers and the personnel who support them. This will allow for a targeted mobilization of producers to seize the great opportunities that lie before the West Virginia local food movement.

Goals of the WVFMA are to share resources; coordinate issues related to farmers' markets throughout the state, and promote activities that help establish, operate and expand farmers' markets throughout West Virginia.

If you would like to join the organization and have web access, a membership form can be downloaded from the just-launched website www.wvfarmers.org. The WVFMA also plans to stay in touch with farmers and marketers through the publication of a newsletter which will be available in hard copy or electronically, with the latter preferred. Membership information will also be provided in. For more information, contact Tom McConnell, 304-293-6131 or Susan Sauter, 304-379-7800.

Sign Up to Begin for the 2009 Gypsy Moth Suppression Program

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) and the West Virginia University Extension Service announced that landowners in Barbour, Berkeley, Braxton, Brooke, Doddridge, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jefferson, Lewis, Marion, Marshall, Mineral, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, Ritchie, Taylor, Tyler, Tucker, Upshur, Webster and Wetzel Counties may sign up for the 2009 Cooperative State-County-Landowner Gypsy Moth Suppression Program beginning July 1, 2008 at county extension offices.

Brochures containing answers to questions about the gypsy moth, the 2009 Gypsy Moth Suppression Program, as well as egg mass survey applications, are available at WVDA field offices located in Elkins (304-637-0290), Inwood (304-229-5828), Morgantown (304-285-3133), Moorefield (304-538-2397), and New Creek (304-788-1066), as well as from your local county extension agent. Much of this same information can be downloaded from the WVDA website (www.wvagriculture.org).

A landowner living in one of the above counties that has a problem with gypsy moth may want to participate in the 2009 program. To sign up for an egg mass survey, contact the county extension agent in the county where your property is located and leave your name, address and phone number to obtain an egg mass survey application.

The completed application must be submitted by August 31, 2008.

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Farming Remains a Difficult Financial Proposition in West Virginia

Although some news reports might lead the public to believe that America's farmers are currently reaping a financial bonanza, West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass says that is hardly the case.

"Between rising grocery prices, the debate over federal farm subsidies and the rising price of corn due to increased ethanol production, many people might think that farmers everywhere are in great financial shape," said Commissioner Douglass.

"That is really not the case for the vast majority of farmers in West Virginia and throughout the country. Most farm families rely on off-farm income to make ends meet, and are powerless to affect the prices they receive for the food they produce."

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) research shows that farmers continue to receive a decreasing share of consumer dollars, despite what consumers may be spending in the grocery store.

Since 1954, the percentage of consumer dollars received by farmers has fallen from 37 percent to 20 percent in 2004. During roughly the same time frame, the percentage of Americans' disposable income spent on food has fallen from 18 percent to 10 percent.

Put another way, today's farmer receives 90 cents on an \$8 steak, 11 cents on a \$2.50 loaf of bread, eight cents on a \$3.50 bag of potato chips, and another eight cents on a \$5 box of cereal.

Plus, a breakdown of total farm income shows that, in most cases, off-farm income accounts for half or more of the total farm income.

When broken down by commodity, beef cattle operations alarmingly show no on-farm income, meaning those producers are merely breaking even. The general livestock category actually shows negative on-farm income, meaning those producers would be out of business if not for off-farm income.

"Consumers must realize that food does not come free from the farm. Production costs continue to rise, while the farmer's share continues to drop," said Commissioner Douglass. "I invite anyone who thinks farming has become a cash machine to take \$150, bury it in the yard, and hope the weather cooperates, because that's what corn farmers do for every acre they plant."

This past summer, farmers' prayers were not answered. Drought destroyed much of the state's corn and hay crop, taking this winter's expected livestock feed with it.

"Consumers presently are enjoying a generous supply of beef due to stressed selling, but will feel the impact of the drought in coming years. However, farmers will bear the brunt of the loss, due to lost opportunities and expenses associated with rebuilding their inventories," Commissioner Douglass said.



Above: Governor Joe Manchin, III, WVDA Deputy Commissioner Steve Hannah and Commissioner Gus Douglass chat during a reception at the Governor's Mansion prior to the State FFA Ham, Bacon and Egg Show and Sale in Charleston March 10.



Left: Allison Robinson shows off her prize-winning ham during the Cabell-Lincoln FFA Show and Sale at the Pullman Plaza Hotel in Huntington March 6.



Right: An unidentified FFA member displays a ham to bidders during the State Show in Charleston as auctioneer Ron Morrison pleads with the crowd for a higher bid in the background.

USDA Recognizes West Virginia for Premise Identification Progress

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently recognized the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) for being one of a handful of states that has crossed the 50 percent threshold in registering agricultural premises, based on figures from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA-NASS).

NASS' West Virginia Field Office estimates the number of West Virginia livestock farms at 17,670 out of a total of 21,200, and the WVDA's Animal Health Division has registered 9,029 of those premises. Nationwide, nearly 450,000 premises have been registered. West Virginia currently ranks 12th overall in the country in the percentage of premises registered.

"I believe this is an important milestone in a critical program for the future well-being of agriculture in West Virginia and the United States," said West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass. "The progress we have made registering premises is a credit to the tremendous effort made by the staff of the Animal Health Division. Many of the states ahead of us were able to gather premise information from producer organizations that already had a large amount of data collected. Our program was started basically from scratch."

Commissioner Douglass noted that the program is voluntary, although he strongly recommends anyone with a premise that might be visited by farm animals to register – including fairgrounds, feed stores,

meat-processing facilities and veterinary hospitals and offices.

"The sole purpose of this program is to protect our agricultural industries, communities and food supply," he said. "It may seem like something small to have such importance, but multiply it by the thousands of premises in West Virginia, and we can have a much better handle on the situation in the event of a disease outbreak."

Premises are defined as locations where livestock are present, or may be present for a particular time. For example, a premise can be a large farm with hundreds of cattle, a small farm with a few goats and chickens, auction markets or fairgrounds. All create prime opportunities for diseases to circulate among animals.

Premise registration is simple and requires only the most basic information about the premise: Name, address (and/or physical location), phone number, and types of animals, so that operators can be notified of health issues regarding specific types of animals.

For more information or to register your premise, call WVDA's Animal Health Division at 304-558-2214 or visit www.wvagriculture.org.

See page 11 for the Premise/Farm Identification Form.

WHAT'S COOKIN'

June 2008

Lewisburg Market Receives WVDA Grant

In 2008, the Lewisburg Farmers' Market received a grant from the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) for educational events throughout the season. Located in downtown Lewisburg, the Market operates on Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., May through October.

The Market offers diversity of locally grown produce, fruit and flowers, as well as meat, eggs, breads and much more from more than 20 vendors.

On Saturday, June 21, Dr. Barry Crutchfield, entomologist with the WVDA's Plant Industries Division will be at the Lewisburg Farmers' Market for a day of fun with bugs. He will be on site for insect identification, and to make recommendations to local home gardeners. Children will be invited to participate in a "Hunt - A - Bug" Contest, an educational game about common insects, with prizes.

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June . . . A Time to Honor West Virginia Dairy Farmers and Beekeepers!

By Jean Smith, Director, Marketing and Development Division

Spring has sprung and during the month of June summer will arrive. The seasons seem to be flying by! June, of course, is Dairy Month, which gives us the perfect opportunity to thank our West Virginia dairy farmers for all of their hard work! Milk and all dairy products are excellent sources of calcium and provide a good amount of Vitamin D which helps us to have strong and healthy bones.

Enjoy this month's recipes which honor the dairy industry and the West Virginia beekeepers who also work hard to produce a great variety of honey and honey products.

~ Bon Appetit!

✂ Recipes ✂

Cobb Salad

*Recipe Courtesy of The American Dairy Association
Recipe Created by 3-A-Day™ of Dairy*

Dressing:

- 2 cups fat-free plain yogurt, divided
- 4 large basil leaves
- ¼ cup parsley, stems removed
- 2 tablespoons chopped chives
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon honey
- ⅛ teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 2 tablespoons fat-free mayonnaise
- ½ teaspoon salt (optional)
- ¼ teaspoon additional pepper (optional)

Salad:

- 8 cups chopped romaine lettuce (1 small head)
- ½ cup halved cherry or grape tomatoes
- ¼ cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1 cup diced cucumber
- 2 slices cooked turkey breast, cut into strips
- 2 tablespoons bacon bits
- 1 egg, hard boiled and chopped
- 1½ cups shredded Colby or Colby Jack cheese

Dressing: Place 1 cup of yogurt, basil, parsley, chives, lemon juice, honey and ground pepper in blender or food processor, cover; pulse until smooth (dressing will be green in color). Pour yogurt mixture into medium bowl; stir in remaining yogurt and mayonnaise until just blended; refrigerate until ready to serve.

Note: Dressing may be prepared up to 2 days ahead and stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Salad: Place lettuce at bottom of bowl and sprinkle tomatoes, onion, cucumber, turkey, bacon bits, egg and cheese on top. Just before serving, pour dressing over salad; toss lightly.

✂ Recipes ✂

Spicy Honey Lemon Chicken

*Honey Cook Off
West Virginia Beekeeper's Association Spring Meeting*

First Place

*Lloyd Postlethwait and Chuck Cienawski
Marion County Beekeepers Association*

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 2 boneless chicken breasts, split | ½ cup honey |
| ½ cup honey to coat chicken | ½ cup chicken broth |
| ½ cup honey roasted peanuts, chopped fine | 2 tablespoon ground cumin |
| 1-2 lemons | 1 teaspoon salt |
| | 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper, to taste |

Coat chicken pieces with honey, then coat with peanuts. Grill 3-4 minutes on each side, depending on thickness of chicken. Transfer chicken to baking dish or iron skillet.

Grate lemon to get 2 tablespoons peel. Squeeze lemon to get ¼ juice. Mix lemon peels and juice with honey, broth, cumin, salt and cayenne.

Pour half of sauce over chicken; bake at 350° for 25-30 minutes. Heat remaining sauce to thicken and pour over chicken to serve.

✂ Recipes ✂

Date Nut Balls

*Honey Cook Off
West Virginia Beekeeper's Association
Spring Meeting*

Second Place

*James & Debbie Copenhaver
Eastern Panhandle Beekeepers*

- 1 stick butter or margarine
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup honey
- 1 8-ounce package chopped dates
- 2 tablespoons light rum
- 2 cups Rice Krispies
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- ½ cup coconut
- Confectioner's sugar
- Graham cracker crumbs

Melt butter; cream in sugar and honey. Add dates; cook until gooey.

Add rum; let cool. Add Rice Krispies, pecans and coconut. Roll into balls, then roll balls in Confectioner's sugar or graham cracker crumbs.

3rd ANNUAL RECIPE CHALLENGE AT STATE FAIR OF WEST VIRGINIA

Sunday, August 10, 2008

Visit www.statefairfowv.com for more details and application. Deadline to register is July 12.

Fayette Co. Farmers' Market

Open Saturdays, 7:30-11:30 a.m.
Fayetteville, W.Va.

Contact Laura Ketchum, 574-6027 or
laurak@suddenlink.net.

Marlinton Farmers' Market

Saturdays

First Avenue
Marlinton, W.Va.

Contact 799-6083 or 799-6416.

Aust. Shephard female, Blue Merle, 2-3 yrs., excel. w/people, used on horse farm, \$100. Linda Hoover, 6424 Wadesville Rd., Bellville, 26133; 863-8495, legacyacreswv@yahoo.com.

Great Pyrenees pups, see parents, \$200; steel I-beams, 20" tall/32" long, \$100/ea. Woodrow Lee, RR 1, Box 520, Farmington, 26571; 825-6108.

Great Pyrenees pups, 3rd generation of working protectors, \$175/males, \$225/females. Robbie Matheny, 591 Badgley Fork Rd., Mineral Wells, 26150; 615-0361; mathenyboergoats@gmail.com.

Fleece, natural/white, \$9/lb.; roving, \$16/lb. Chris Mayfield, HC 80, Box 36, Harrisville, 26362; 643-4308.

Blue Heeler pups, pure, see parents, \$95. Bill Monroe, HC 69, Box 217, Friendly, 26146; 758-2030.

The Harrison Co. Development Authority is putting together a booklet on farmers' markets. If you would like your market listed, contact 304-623-3596.

Fish for pond stocking: bass, 4"-5", \$1.75; 5"-7", \$2.25; blue gill & hybrid bream, 3"-5", 90¢, ½-½ lb., \$2.60; 4"-5" yellow perch, \$1.25; 6"-7" channel cats, 85¢; grass carp, 8"-10", \$12.50, 10"-12", \$13.50; 3"-5" koi, \$5; fathead minnows, \$13/lb. Mike Nardella, 309 John St., Clarksburg, 26301; 783-5025.

Tank, 275 gal. w/metal cage, delivery avail., \$100 ea. Roger Naylor, 209 Denison Rd., Upperglade, 26266; 226-3246.

Rabbits: Cal. meat bunnies, healthy, delivery avail., \$25. Hope O'Toole, 595 Luther Heishman Rd., Baker, 26801; 897-7373; donkeymom@hardynet.com.

Great Pyrenees pups, raised w/goats, \$150. Johnny Peregó, 1714 Woodward Terrace, Huntington, 25705; 412-0190.

Farrowing bldg, holds 2 sows, on skids, inside/outside runs, \$1,500; hay elevator, electric motor, \$250. Louis Roy, Rt. 1, Box 85-11, Philippi, 26416; 457-2593.

Cherries, pick your own: sweet, \$.70 lb., sour, \$.60 lb. Kenneth Ruggles, HC 60, Box 36, Levels, 25431; 492-5751.

Trailer, frame, 10x40 w/floor/wheels/tires, \$250. Frank Stafford, 440 Hite St., Morgantown, 26501; 292-8088.

Round bale feeder, \$200 or trade for set of plows. Chris White, 603 Left Freemans Crk. Rd., Camden, 26338; 269-7694.

Trailer, '81 Phillips, 2 horse w/dressing rm., new floors/mats/carpets/paint/lights, \$2400/obo. Missy Woodrum, RR 1 Box 27B, Greenville, 24945; 832-6569, kfsaanens@aol.com.

MISCELLANEOUS WANTS

Goat hauling box & milk bucket; cheese molds;

Annual Agriculture Field Day

Aug. 23, 2008

Preston Co. at Dave Miller's

Contact Cindy Martel, 469-9738;

cmartel@ag.state.wv.us or Carrie Stemple,
WVU Extension-Preston Co., 329-1391.

small-medium round bale hay, close to Fayette Co. Darlene Falbo, HC 65, Box 35, Ansted, 25812; 658-4585.

Welsh Corgi pups & young adults. Norma Mcneely, Rt. 2, Box 68A, Ronceverte, 24970; 645-6855; norma.mcneely@mail.mln.lib.wv.us.

Hay to cut/cut on shares in Pleasants Co. area. Mike Parsons, 100 Franklin Dr., St. Marys, 26170; 684-3745; pwoollybooger@phreego.com.

Old barn log structures, oak/chestnut lumber. Roger Patterson, RR 2, Box 89, Second Creek, 24974; 667-4119.

Watch for Us!

Today in Agriculture, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's monthly 30-minute TV show, is shown on Suddenlink (formerly Charter) Channel 17 in Kanawha, Putnam, Cabell & Fayette Counties. Show times are Wednesdays, 11 a.m., 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.; Thursdays, 5 a.m. and Saturdays, 5 p.m.

Firewood and the Emerald Ash Borer

Jody Wilson, Emerald Ash Borer Regulatory Officer, Plant Industries Division

Another summer is upon us which means picnics, fishing, camping, and many other enjoyable outdoor activities. Campfires are often part of these activities and provide people a way to enjoy a relaxing summer evening. It may be difficult to imagine, but the firewood used for these campfires has the potential to seriously damage the beautiful natural resources that we all love. Several species of harmful plant pests can be unknowingly transported on firewood and distributed to new areas. This causes brand new infestation sites and hastens the decline of affected tree species. There is no better example of this than what happened here in West Virginia with emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. This insect was discovered in Fayette County last October in a trap tree near a large campground. It was almost certainly transported to West Virginia in firewood from a known infested area.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a bright, metallic green beetle that feeds only on ash and has killed over 25 million trees since it arrived in the United States from Asia. After finding EAB in our state, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) quarantined Fayette County to regulate the movement of any article capable of artificially spreading EAB. Regulated articles include any ash material (including trees for landscape purposes, logs, branches, stems, roots, etc.) and any species of hardwood firewood. These materials are not to be transported outside of Fayette County with the exception of ash logs which can be moved during the fall and winter with written approval from the WVDA or USDA. Hardwood firewood cannot be moved out of Fayette County at any time. Other states that are infested with EAB also have quarantines that forbid the movement of hardwood firewood from infested areas. The WVDA is encouraging campers to find or purchase firewood locally. This helps to limit the spread of EAB and other harmful insects that may cause significant damage to our state's forests and landscapes.

This summer, WVDA employees will be setting approximately 700 EAB traps across the state. As part of the cooperative effort to trap West Virginia, the USDA/APHIS/PPQ, National Park Service and USDA Fish & Wildlife will also be setting another 400-700 traps. The large, purple traps will be hung in the canopy of ash trees and monitored during the EAB flight season, which is approximately early June to late July. These traps and the watchful eyes of West Virginia residents will help the WVDA determine the extent of the EAB infestation in our state. Signs and symptoms of EAB

include crown dieback, shoots coming from the base of the tree, small D-shaped exit holes, vertical bark splits, serpentine feeding galleries just under the bark, and woodpecker feeding activity. If you witness ash trees exhibiting any of these symptoms, or you would like more information concerning EAB or the West Virginia Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine, contact Jody Wilson at 304-256-6742.

2009 Gypsy Moth Suppression Program Sign Up

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Landowners must provide a 7½-minute topographic map with boundaries clearly marked. The WVDA cannot map your property for you. Topographic maps are available from the United States Geological Survey at 1-800-ASK-USGS or their website at <http://store.usgs.gov>.

The minimum acreage required to participate in the program is 50 contiguous acres of wooded land. If you have fewer than 50 acres, you may contact neighbors and join with them to meet the acreage requirement. Blocks must be made as rectangular as possible in order to be treated properly by aircraft without significant overspray. The presence of electrical transmission lines, communication towers, etc. may prohibit some spray blocks or portions of some spray blocks from being sprayed.

The 2008 landowner costs were \$19.51 per acre for Btk and \$15.26 per acre for Dimilin. However, like all other every day costs, inflation has been driving these costs up, so 2009 costs will be higher. In 2008 a 20 percent cost share on treatments was available from the USDA Forest Service but early indications are that this will not be available for 2009. Additionally, we will be preparing a new aerial application contract for 2009. The total cost depends on the USDA Forest Service cost share, total acres proposed for treatment, and the cost of the insecticide and aerial application.

A final decision to participate in the program must be confirmed by signing a contract and making a deposit to the WVDA by December 7, 2008. A final payment to the WVDA will be required prior to actual treatment. Notification of the deadline for final payment will be by mail.

For more information, contact the WVDA Plant Industries Division's S. Clark Haynes, Assistant Director, 304-558-2212 or Quentin "Butch" Sayers, Gypsy Moth Program Manager, 304-788-1066.



West Virginia
Department of Agriculture
Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner
Janet L. Fisher, Deputy Commissioner
Steve Hannah, Deputy Commissioner

Premise/Farm Identification Form

“The following information will enable the West Virginia Department of Agriculture to obtain a unique farm ID number for you.”

PREMISE ACCOUNT INFORMATION (Please PRINT All Information)

Business/Farm Name _____
 Primary Contact/Owner _____
 Secondary Contact (optional) _____
 Business/Farm/Owner Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ~ _____ County _____
 Phone _____ ~ _____ ~ _____ ext. _____ Business Home Cell Fax Pager
 Phone _____ ~ _____ ~ _____ ext. _____ Business Home Cell Fax Pager
 E-Mail Address (for confirmation purposes only) _____

BUSINESS TYPE (check one)

- Individual Incorporated Company State or Federal Government Entity
 Limited Liability Company Limited Liability Partnership
 Non-Profit Organization Partnership

OPERATION TYPE (check all that apply)

- Production Unit Clinic Exhibition Laboratory Market/Collection Point
 Non-Producer Participant Port of Entry Quarantine Facility Rendering
 Slaughter Plant Tagging Site

SPECIES AT PREMISES (check all that apply)

- Cattle and Bison Swine Sheep Goats Horses Poultry Deer and Elk
 Llama Emu/Ostrich Aquaculture Rabbits No Species Other _____

Premises Name/Description (example “home place”) _____

Premise Address (physical location, no P.O. Box). Check as appropriate:

- Premise Address is the same as Business/Farm Account Mailing Address on the front.
 Premise Address is unknown. List road name and mileage/direction from nearest intersection.

Premise Address is: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ~ _____ County _____

GPS Coordinates (if known, optional): Latitude _____ ~ _____ Longitude _____ ~ _____

Producer/Contact Signature _____

Signature of Person Completing Form _____

Return Forms To: West Virginia Department of Agriculture
 Animal Health Division
 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
 Charleston, WV 25305-0172

For More Information Contact:
 Melissa Garrett
 304-269-3700
 304-767-5579
mgarrett@ag.state.wv.us

Status of Forms: 1-304-558-2214

Fax To: 1-304-558-2231

THE MARKET BULLETIN

West Virginia Department of Agriculture
Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0170
June 2008

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 80
Charleston, WV 25301

Return Service Requested

Lewisburg Farmers' Market, *continued from page 4*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 10 - MOTHER'S DAY - KIDS ACTIVITY - POT A PLANT FOR MOM. Volunteers with the Greenbrier County Master Gardeners and Market vendors - Market members will donate flower plants and materials. Children through age 12 can select a clay pot and decorate it with markers, then plant flowers in their personalized pot with the help of the Market master and other volunteers. They will learn about the flower and have hands-on experience making a special gift for their moms or grandmothers.

MAY 24 - GREENBRIER VALLEY MASTER GARDENER'S PLANT SALE - The LFM will host the Greenbrier Valley Master Gardeners Special Plant Sale. This is a fund raising activity for this organization. Some LFM members are also Master Gardeners. The Master Gardeners use volunteer hours to help the LFM with their special events throughout the year.

JUNE 14 - FIRE UP THE GRILL - Several local producers offer meats at the Market throughout the season - lamb, beef, pork, goat, and chicken. On this day, they offer samples of their products grilled and prepared in other delicious ways, as well as recipe suggestions. Grill Day is a great time for visitors to the Market to learn about and appreciate the diversity of local meats available, as well as fruits and veggies throughout the season.

JULY 19 - THE GREAT ZUCCHINI RACE - KIDS EVENT - A second annual event. Market vendors donate squash, supplies and artistic accessories, such as wooden toy wheels, markers, stickers, bells, colorful fussy balls, pipe cleaners, feathers, google eyes, etc., to transform their zucchini squash into race cars. Competitors are divided into groups, assigned lanes, and cars are raced down a large platform track. Prizes are awarded to the fastest, funniest and most original "Zucchini Racer" by age group. Lewisburg City Mayor John Manchester will be the MC for the event.

Heritage Award Entries Sought

Farming families are being sought as applicants for the 2008 West Virginia Heritage Award being offered by the State Fair of West Virginia and W.Va. Farm Bureau (WVFB).

The Farming Heritage award will be presented to a family that has strived to maintain its rural lifestyle by contributing to the community, acting as role models, dedicating time to efficient agricultural production, and maintaining the up-keep of their farm through generations.

The winning family will be treated to an award ceremony and luncheon during the State Fair August 14, along with overnight accommodations, free admission, preferred parking and a Natural Stone Sign award with the family's name to be displayed indoors or outdoors. A photo and brief biography of the winner will also be displayed in the Gus R. Douglass Annex during the Fair.

All entries must be in the State Fair office by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 13, 2008.**

For more information or entry applications, contact the State Fair, 304-645-1090, or James Kinsey, WVFB, 800-398-4630 or visit www.statefairfowv.com.

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