

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

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



Vol. 92, No. 8

August 2008

Poultry Industry Suffers Economic Blows

Hi folks! This is my time of year when the fairs and festivals are ongoing. Fruits, vegetables and flowers are at the height of the growing season, and we get to see the finest specimens at fair exhibits across the state. One of the benefits of visiting many of these fairs each year is the opportunity to see the improvements that have been made to accommodate fairgoers. The Interstate Fair and Exposition in Mineral Wells has two new livestock barns and a horse barn and both facilities were full. The FFA and other groups are encouraging youth to become involved in agriculture through the opportunity to raise an animal for auction. This is good for agriculture education, and I'm happy the WVDA can contribute some funds to complement their efforts. I encourage the Legislature to make even greater funding available for these programs, and would like for us to acquire and develop more grant appropriations for youth and urban agriculture activities. These events are doing a great job of promoting agritourism, as people are becoming more and more interested in agriculture. Agritourism is also a real contributor to West Virginia's economy.

The energy challenge the nation is facing is affecting all sectors of our economy. This was very apparent to me when Anna Lee and I vacationed with our family at Myrtle Beach. The lack of traffic on the highway going down and at the beach was obvious. I noticed many of the vacation homes in the area were for sale or vacant during the prime season. With no crowds on the beach, we had plenty of open space to enjoy the sun and water.

Unfortunately, all things are not well in the poultry industry either. LP gas that is necessary to heat the houses to raise young chicks has more than doubled in price. This was a factor in the industry not being in the best of financial condition coming out of the winter months. Even more discouraging, the major companies have suffered millions of dollars in losses. Companies have reduced production and taken one full cycle out of growing poultry in a given house. This is causing further financial problems for the growers. It would have

been better for companies to do this in the winter instead of the summer when the need for supplemental heat is less.

On July 23, I invited poultry companies and state government officials to meet with me in Moorefield to explore what can be put in place in the future, especially the winter months, to keep the growers in business and the companies viable. This is extremely important. If we don't have the poultry production, we will lose the processing facilities which employ approximately 2,000 workers in West Virginia.

All avenues will be explored to assist West Virginia's number one agriculture industry, and we will look at alternative heating sources. There has been research and some success in burning poultry litter, but the process is expensive. The forest industry may profit the most, as it appears that wood byproducts may be the source of heat that could reduce heating costs by 40 percent.

Celebrate National Farmers' Market Week
August 3-9, 2008

For more information on farmers' markets, visit www.wvagriculture.org.

We are also looking at what other states are doing and to see whether we should offer grants and other incentives for the industry and growers to make a conversion to other types of heat sources. We'll keep you informed on this issue. Again, it is extremely important to keep this industry viable.

In other disturbing poultry news, the Greenbrier County area has one of the world's largest turkey breeding farms, owned by Huntsville, Alabama-based Aviagen Turkeys. This facility produces a heritage stock that provides nearly all the turkeys that we enjoy in the marketplace. Unfortunately, the breeder recently had a fire which destroyed one of their houses. The burned house contained some 1,200 tom turkeys used for breeding purposes. The barn contained a large number of turkey eggs ready for shipping or incubation. Thankfully, the other houses were not damaged.



Gus' View . . .

Speaking of forestry, it is getting a considerable amount of new interest for both the environmental aspects as well as the heating opportunities through the utilization of waste products. I recently attended a symposium of Changing Forest Ownership Patterns and training on stewardship for consulting foresters. It was very interesting to see their approach and where they fit into the overall resource pattern. Land ownership patterns are changing in West Virginia which has an effect on forest management. More and more people are recognizing the importance of forestry as we live in an ever-changing environment. We must have forest legacy and the ability to preserve forestland so it will not become a commercial pitfall as we have seen in the Eastern Panhandle with the loss of thousands of acres of forestland and productive farmland. About half of our fruit industry is gone as well.

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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.

Help is available in the Division of Forestry for those who are interested in forest preservation. Other good news is that the new Farm Bill addresses the needs of forestry owners. Quoting from the July 2008 *Forestry Notes*, "The new Farm Bill improves the opportunities for forest landowners to participate in the Environmental Quality Incentive Program by making it explicit that forest management practices are compatible with environmental quality and serve to optimize environmental benefits. It affords forest landowners cost-share assistance to forest resources damaged in natural disasters. It also outlines a state-based process for developing assessment and planning to identify critical forest resource areas and address threats to those areas. In addition, the bill improves the coordination of programs and actions at the federal level related to the national conservation priorities for forests." With about 75 percent of West Virginia forested, this is a great opportunity for you folks out there.

Interestingly, the South East Dairy Farmers Association's Washington Report commented on the positive side of the USDA-led report on the impact of climate change on agriculture. There is expected to be an increase in productivity in young forests because of elevated carbon dioxide levels and a food crop growing season that

AUCTIONEER INFORMATION

UPCOMING SEMINARS

October 20

Sponsored by West Virginia
Auctioneers Association

5:30 p.m. Registration; 6:00 p.m. Seminar

Charleston House Holiday Inn
Charleston, W.Va.

Contact Joe Hise, 447-4444 or 740/310-8282

*Day before auctioneer exam

Special attention will be given to those
preparing for the test

FALL AUCTIONEER AND APPRENTICE AUCTIONEER EXAMS

Tuesday, October 21

Contact Sandy Marinacci at 558-3550.

NEW! Beginning with the September *Market Bulletin*, we will be starting a section called "Agriculture Mail Bag." We invite you to ask your questions and voice your concerns.

The topics will be published in this section.

Questions should be emailed to: marketbulletin@ag.state.wv.us or mailed to:
WVDA, Market Bulletin, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E, Charleston, WV 25305

is 10 to 14 days longer already in many areas of the world. The report also notes the trend toward more efficient water usage in agriculture is expected to help relieve the impact of climate change on availability of water for food production.

New challenges are on the horizon for United States waters. A *Daily Mail* editorial from May 2008 remarked on the 60th anniversary of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact, the state of the region and the nation regarding water pollution. We have been monitoring their activities in comparison to the Chesapeake Bay Basin Compact. They are recognizing the same challenges that the Department has been dealing with in the Potomac watershed. The editorial notes that this group is recognizing the newest pollutant is one that people know little about – prescription medications. Not all the medication people and animals take is absorbed. The excess flows into the sewage stream, and in trace amounts, into the water supply. Alan Vicory, executive director of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact, told the Huntington *Herald-Dispatch* that "Pharmaceuticals weren't on the radar screen 30 years ago." Here in the WVDA, we're endeavoring to keep up with the new sciences to deal with the problems. We have considerable experience to contribute that will be of benefit to the Ohio River Basin.

Following my interest in science, I enjoy reading the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council's *NABC News* quarterly publication. The spring issue published an article from the chair of the council on the ever-changing science of biotechnology. Agricultural biotechnology has gone from the margins of being a farming discipline that developed the technologies for genetic modification of single traits to looking at human aspects. The article notes, "...the second human dimension to agricultural biotechnology and its expanding role revolves around students and education. Agricultural biotechnology is more and more an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. It is about farming, about chemistry, about physics, about economics, about energy, and about many

other things that underpin the new uses of farm products." I often marvel at how science and technology have advanced here at the WVDA from when I joined the Department 40 years ago.

The WVDA and the Cabell-Wayne Beekeepers hosted the Heartland Agriculture Society's seventh conference. This was the first time a national conference of beekeepers has been held in West Virginia since the 1950s. Approximately 300 people attended. Circuit Judge Dan O'Hanlon was one of the main influences in getting the conference held here and promoting the bee industry in the state. I'm happy to say it appears West Virginia has dodged the bee fatalities that have occurred across the country. Fortunately, we were provided funding from the Legislature to provide corn syrup to beekeepers to help feed the bees through the winter months. We also distributed 3,000 queens to improve the hybrid level of bees bred here. Unfortunately, the conference coincided with personal commitments and I was unable to join the group, but I'm pleased with the positive comments and reports I've received from staff and beekeepers.

It's State Fair of West Virginia time. Here in the WVDA we are busy with preparations for your enjoyment and education in areas where we hope to complement the efforts of the farm community. I'll move my office to the Fair from August 8-16 to conduct business meetings and meet with folks who don't get a chance to come to my Charleston office.

I'll be getting my motor home ready soon, and hope I can meet Anna Lee's requirements to live in it for the run of the Fair. The word I get from Anna Lee is that we will have sweet corn, tomatoes, green beans and cabbage maturing in the garden that week. I claim I'm not guilty of that timing – the spring rains caused the delay. For sure, I'll be busy on our return home. I hope you all are having a good summer and can make it to the fair. If you do, drop by the office and say hello to Anna Lee and me.



Manage Farm Fuel Use to Manage Production Risk

Tom McConnell, WVU Extension Specialist - Farm Management

Farmers must adopt energy saving practices to reduce production costs. The recent news report that America's automobile drivers have begun to reduce their use of gasoline is the first indication that people are changing their behavior toward the use and conservation of energy. Below I've listed a few fuel saving tips that each of us should consider.

Experts agree that a 300-gallon storage tank can lose 120 gallons of fuel each year from evaporation. You can reduce that to 15 gallons by keeping the tank in the shade, painting the tank white, and by using a pressure relief vacuum cap. Recently, many farmers have found that a lock on the tank and the careful choice of parking places for tractors can reduce fuel lost by thief.

Properly functioning tractor thermostats can reduce energy efficiency as an engine running at 100 degrees instead of the recommended 180 degrees will use 25 percent more fuel.

Shopping around for fuel can yield some money saving results.

Correct tire pressure can rob fuel too, as a 6 psi deficit tire pressure can reduce fuel efficiency by 3 percent per tire. Although not fuel exactly, putting a timer on the engine block heater can save up to \$250 annually in electricity expenses. Most engines require only 1-2 hours of heating rather than the common all night method, to warm up to starting temperature.

Farm Fuel, cont. on page 12

What's Happening to the White Oak and Yellow Poplar Trees?

Sherri Hutchinson – Assistant Director – WVDA Plant Industries Division

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture has been receiving reports of damage to white oak and yellow poplar trees. White oak foliage is turning brown due to jumping oak gall wasp and yellow poplar leaves have lots of odd shaped, patchy-looking areas from feeding damage by the yellow poplar leaf-mining weevil. In some areas of the state, the damage is heavy enough for residents to spot the discoloration on the trees as they drive down roads.

Jumping oak gall wasp – This tiny wasp, *Neuroterus saltatorius*, lays eggs on buds in the spring that cause the formation of small, button-shaped galls on the under sides of the leaves. The first generation completes its life cycle by mid-May. The second generation reaches the gall stage by June. The young galls are green and turn brown as they mature and each gall has a single immature wasp inside. When mature, the galls fall off the foliage leaving small pits in the undersides of leaves where they were attached. The galls drop to the ground where pupation

occurs. Second generation adults overwinter inside the galls and emerge the following spring. The wasps are very tiny (1.0-1.5 mm long) and do not sting.

Lightly infested trees have discolored foliage. Severely infested foliage turns brown and may prematurely drop from the trees. The trees might put out a second set of leaves, but regardless, defoliation this early in the season will stress the trees and retard growth.

Once the galls have formed, control measures are not effective or necessary. Small yard trees or nursery trees could be sprayed in mid-May next year with a systemic insecticide labeled for such use, but this is not practical in a forested situation.

Yellow poplar leaf-mining weevil – This weevil, *Odontopus calceatus*, feeds on the buds and foliage of yellow poplar, sassafras, and magnolia. The weevils are small (often referred to as “flying ticks” by individuals trying to describe them) and dark colored. Damage occurs when adult weevils feed

on leaves causing rice-sized patches where part of the leaf tissue has been chewed off, when females lay eggs in the mid-ribs of the leaves, and when the immature grubs mine between the upper and lower leaf surfaces. Light infestations cause unsightly foliage, but heavy to severe infestations may result in premature defoliation. Young, newly planted trees with heavy leaf loss may have growth loss and twig dieback, especially during periods of drought. Since large, established trees normally retain enough of their foliage throughout the growing season that damage is considered cosmetic.

If you have yellow poplar leaf-mining weevil damage on a small yard tree this year, watch it closely next spring and if approximately 10 percent of the foliage becomes damaged it may be possible to obtain some control with an insecticide labeled for such use. One application may not be enough, so monitor your tree and reapply the material again, if needed. Treatment of large trees is not recommended.

Soybean Rust Survey Updates

Norman Dart – Agricultural Plant Pathologist – WVDA Plant Industries Division

The 2008 plant pathology survey season is well underway in West Virginia. With support from the United States Department of Agriculture, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is surveying for three high-risk plant diseases this growing season. These include Soybean Rust (SBR), Karnal Bunt (KB) and the Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN). All three pose a threat to crop health and in the case of PCN and KB could have major trade implications if introduced on a large scale throughout the state. In this article, we'll give you an update on our SBR survey efforts and the disease outlook for this season. In following *Market Bulletin* issues we'll update you on the other two surveys.

Soybean rust caused by *Phakopsora pachyrhizi* is a foliar disease which has impacted soybean production in Asian countries for decades and has more recently spread to South Africa and South America. SBR has only been found in the U.S. since November of 2004. Before this introduction, North America was the only continent that produces soybeans where SBR had not been introduced. The main cultivars of soybean grown in the U.S. are thought to be very sus-

ceptible to SBR. Fortunately, the disease can be controlled with fungicides so the impacts of the disease can be mitigated until resistance is bred into cultivars that are well suited for North America.

Soybean rust is an obligate parasite which needs a living host to survive. In North America, after soybean fields are harvested Kudzu is thought to serve as the alternate host that allows the rust to overwinter in southern states such as Florida and Louisiana. In more northern states such as Ohio and West Virginia, Kudzu dies down during the winter killing the pathogen. Spores of the pathogen must spread north via winds each growing season making it harder for SBR to infect plants early enough in the growing season to have an impact on crops in a state as far north as West Virginia.

Although SBR has never been detected in West Virginia, the disease is new to North America and plant pathologists are still uncertain of how far and fast it can spread north in a given season. In 2007, soybean rust spread as far North as Virginia and as of July 2008, SBR has been detected in spore traps on the Virginia-West Virginia boarder. As of

July 10, infected plants have only been observed as far north as southern Georgia. The WVDA is working hard to ensure that if this disease does take hold in West Virginia this season that it is detected early enough for growers to respond. Early symptoms of SBR appear as yellow to brown flecking on leaves in the lower canopy. The lesions look like several other diseases such as bacterial leaf blight and Septoria leaf spot. The key to distinguishing SBR from other diseases is looking for volcano-shaped pustules on the lower surface of the leaves which can be seen with a magnifying glass under a trained eye.

Currently, the WVDA is monitoring nine soybean fields in Wood, Boone, Berkeley, Jefferson and Hardy Counties and one Kudzu plot in Boone County for SBR. You can see a map of the Counties being surveyed in West Virginia and find links to diagnostic guides on the national SBR website: <http://sbr.ipmPIPE.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>.

If you find SBR-like symptoms in your soybean field contact the WVDA's state plant pathologist at (304) 558-2212 to schedule a field visit.



Recipes as Sweet as Honey

By Jean Smith, Director, Marketing and Development Division

August is the month for many fresh fruits and vegetables and, of course, fairs and festivals. Our entire Department will be very involved in the State Fair of West Virginia, August 8-16. Please stop by the Gus R. Douglass Annex Building and attend the WVDA Homegrown Garden Party. The 2008 State Fair of West Virginia's theme is "West Virginia's Biggest Garden Party!" For more information on this event, visit their website at www.statefairwv.com.

Also, during August, the West Virginia Honey Festival will be held at the Parkersburg City Park the weekend of August 23. This event features many great educational exhibits and truly honors the West Virginia Honeybee, which is our official state insect. Don't forget – one out of every three bites of food that we consume has been made possible by a honeybee. Not only do they provide great honey, they are also responsible for the pollination of many crops that feed not only humans, but also animals that in turn become a food source for us. The annual Honey Baking Contest will be held Saturday, August 23 in the Pavilion at the Parkersburg City Park. There are categories for non-professional bakers from ages 8 and older. Categories include: Cookies, cake, pie, candy or party mix, sweet breads/rolls, yeast rolls or bread machine bread. At least 25 percent of sweetening used must be honey. For a complete set of rules, contact our office at 304-558-2210.

This month's recipes are from the 2007 West Virginia Honey Festival. ~ *Bon Appetit!*

Recipes

Fruit and Nut Honey Cake

Christopher Cashwell
Williamstown, W. Va.

- 3 cups flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ⅛ teaspoon ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 cups honey
- 1½ cups orange juice
- ¾ cups shelled natural pistachio nuts
- ½ cup walnuts, chopped
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup dried apricots, chopped
- ¼ cup almonds, slivered

Preheat oven to 325°F. Grease two 9x5" loaf pans.

Stir together all dry ingredients in mixing bowl; set aside.

In medium-sized bowl, mix together the next 6 ingredients. Combine with flour mixture, using wooden spoon. Evenly divide batter into two loaf pans. Sprinkle tops with almonds. Bake for approximately 1¼ hours. If after the first hour, the top and sides of cake are browning too quickly, cover pan with aluminum foil. Cake is done when a tester inserted in the center comes out dry. Cool cakes on wire rack. Loosen sides with knife before removing from pans.

See State Fair of West Virginia
Cooking Contest Winning
Recipes in September's
What's Cookin'!

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.

Recipes

Honey Pecan Monkey Bread

Kylee Morrison – Newport, Oh.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4½-5 cups all-purpose flour | ½ cup milk |
| ⅓ cup sugar | ½ cup butter or margarine |
| 2 envelopes Rapid Rise Yeast | 2 large eggs |
| 1 teaspoon salt | 1 cup honey |
| ½ cup water | 1 cup walnuts, chopped |

In large bowl, combine 2 cups flour, sugar, undissolved yeast and salt. Heat water, milk and 5 tablespoons butter until very warm (120-130°F); stir into flour mixture. Stir in eggs and enough remaining flour to make soft dough. Knead on lightly floured surface until smooth and elastic, about 6-8 minutes. Cover and let rest on floured surface for 10 minutes.

Divide dough into 32 pieces; roll into balls. Melt remaining 3 tablespoons butter, dip balls of dough in melted butter. Layer ½ cup honey, ½ cup walnuts and 16 dough balls in bottom of greased 10" tube pan with a non-removable bottom. Repeat layers one time. Top with remaining ½ cup of honey and ½ cup of walnuts. Cover and let rise in warm, draft-free place until doubled in size, about 30-40 minutes.

Bake at 375°F for 35 minutes or until done; covering with aluminum foil during the last 10 minutes to prevent excess browning. Let cool in pan on rack for 10 minutes. Invert onto serving plate.

Recipes

Orange Pecan Bread

Judy Hogsett – Davisville, W. Va.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2¾ cups sifted flour | 1 cup honey |
| 2½ teaspoons baking powder | 1 egg |
| ½ teaspoon baking soda | Rind of 1 orange, grated |
| ½ teaspoon salt | ¾ cup orange juice |
| 2 tablespoons butter | 2 cups chopped pecans |

Sift flour with baking powder, baking soda and salt. In large mixing bowl, work butter until creamy. Stir in honey, unbeaten egg and orange rind. Add flour mixture and orange juice alternately. Mix well after each addition. Stir in pecans.

Pour into greased 9x5x2½" loaf pan and bake at 325°F for 35-45 minutes. Cool in pan for 10 minutes; invert on serving plate.

What's Cookin', continued on page 5

Special Graded Feeder Cattle Sales

Type of Sale	Location	Date	Time	Number of Head	Phone (304)
Y-BB-T	Buckhannon	Aug. 5	9:00 a.m.	600	472-5300
Y-B-T	Weston	Aug. 7	9:00 a.m.	1,000	269-5096
C-T	Weston	Aug. 23	4:00 p.m.	500	269-5096
Y-BB-T	Buckhannon	Aug. 26	9:00 a.m.	600	472-5300
Y-B-T	Weston	Aug. 28	9:00 a.m.	1,200	269-5096
Y	Spencer	Aug. 29	7:30 p.m.	800	927-4817
Y-B-T	E. Panhandle (Riverton)	Sept. 4	1:00 p.m.	800	567-2551
Y -T	Weston	Sept. 6	4:00 p.m.	300	269-5096
CC-T	Jackson's Mill	Sept. 14	10:00 a.m.	400	269-5100
Y-B-T	South Branch	Sept. 17	1:00 p.m.	1,000	538-6050
Y-T	Marlinton	Sept. 19	7:30 p.m.	700	799-6593
Y-C-T	South Branch	Sept. 20	10:00 a.m.	1,000	538-6050
Y-C-T	Greenbrier Valley	Sept. 22	7:00 p.m.	600	647-5833
Y-C	Jackson County	Sept. 23	6:00 p.m.	400	373-1269
C-T	Weston	Sept. 25	9:00 a.m.	1,200	269-5096
C-ST-T	Marlinton	Sept. 26	7:30 p.m.	700	799-6593
C-ST-T	Buckhannon	Sept. 27	9:00 a.m.	1,000	472-5300
C-H-T	Buckhannon	Sept. 30	9:00 a.m.	800	472-5300
Y-C	Jackson County	Sept. 30	6:00 p.m.	400	373-1269
C-T	Weston	Oct. 2	9:00 a.m.	1,200	269-5096
C-QA-B-T-S	Buckhannon	Oct. 3	9:00 a.m.	6,000	472-5300
Y-C-T	South Branch	Oct. 4	10:00 a.m.	1,200	538-6050
Y-C-T	Greenbrier Valley	Oct. 6	7:00 p.m.	900	647-5833
C	Spencer	Oct. 6	8:00 p.m.	700	927-4817
C-T	Buckhannon	Oct. 7	9:00 a.m.	1,000	472-5300
Y-C	Jackson County	Oct. 7	6:00 p.m.	400	373-1269
C-T	Terra Alta	Oct. 8	7:00 p.m.	800	789-2788

- *..... PV= Pre vaccinated calves. Must have a QA tag.
- **..... Wood Co. Beef Calf Pool will be held at Parkersburg Livestock Market. Contact Rocky Peck 422-2395 or Eric Young at 861-0071
- B**..... Board sale
- BB**..... Cattle available both in Barn Board/Tel-O-Auction sale
- C**..... Feeder Calves (dehorned and bull calves castrated)
- CC**..... Club Calves (halter broken and weaned)
- H**..... Heifers Only
- QA**..... Quality Assurance Pre-conditioned and pre-vaccinated calves programs include IBR, PI3, BVD (killed), 7 way black leg, malignant edema, 5 way Lepto, grubicide and worming. Consignment only. Weaned/consignment Source Verified, Producer and Cattle Identified
- S**..... Statewide Board Sale
- ST**..... Steers Only
- T**..... Tel-O-Auction available
- Y**..... Graded yearling cattle

Take in for South Branch Saturday sales is on Friday from 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Check with sales management for additional board sale cattle which may be available at a later date.

Tel-O-Auction available at markets. Contact Phil Osborne. Graded calves available at Weston weekly sales - Saturdays - 4:00 p.m. Other yearling cattle and calves are available at all West Virginia Auction Markets on regular sale days.

Information Contacts:

Dwayne O'Dell, WVDA, 304-558-2211; **Jim Bostic**, WVCA, 304-472-4020; **Dennis Estes**, WVDA, 304-269-3700; **Phil Osborne**, Extension Livestock Specialist, WVU, 304-293-3391.

Garden Calendar

— AUGUST —

- 8... Watch for downy mildew
- 13... Take note of new varieties
- 15... Harvest okra pods every other day
- 16... Watch for powdery mildew on pumpkins
... and winter squash
- 18... Seed radishes
- 20... Apply nitrogen to strawberries
- 22... Turn compost
- 23... Seed turnips
- 25... Seed lawn
- 26... Order spring-flowering bulbs

— AUGUST, cont. —

- 27... Seed spinach
- 29... Renovate lawn or reseed bare spots

— SEPTEMBER —

- 1... Dig late potatoes
- 3... Plant crocus
- 4... Seed cover crop
- 5... Turn compost
- 6... Prepare root cellar
- 7... Aerate lawn
- 8... Divide peonies

— SEPTEMBER, cont. —

- 10... Build high tunnel
- 11... Build a cold frame
- 13... Harvest early pumpkins
- 14... Plant hardy evergreens
- 15... Don't let weeds go to seed
- 17... Control broadleaf weeds in lawn
- 18... Plant garden mums
- 19... Harvest colored peppers
- 20... Begin pumpkin harvest
- 25... Repot houseplants
- 26... Water young trees and shrubs
- 30... Bring in hummingbird feeders

THE MARKET BULLETIN

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

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

Return Service Requested

Farm Fuel, cont. from page 2

Proper operation can save fuel, as many farmers realize significant savings by gearing up and throttling down their tractors when they are pulling an implement. We have learned too that there is a significant difference in fuel consumption between tractors and operators.

The adoption of no-till practices can reduce fuel expense and time, too. The final decision

for this tip would be based on what the total expense would be comparing the price of added herbicides versus fuel.

To make sense of the fuel consumption on your operation it is recommended that each manager begin to record usage between tasks and tractors. This could lead to more carefully planned harvesting and tillage methods.

The need to observe, record and manage

fuel usage has never been greater, but like so many other farm decisions measuring, in this case, fuel usage is the first step to managing it.

Please go to the WVU Extension Farm and Risk Management website for more information about energy savings on the farm. To do that, Google search, WVU-ES ANR, from there, choose Risk Management and click energy conservation.

Great Pyrenees 8-mo. pups: females, 2, \$200/ea.; male, 1, \$150. Dorothy Stewart, Rt. 1, Greenbrier, Crk. Rd., Fort Gay, 25515; 272-6422.

Locust post: #1 grade, 5'4"x7', mixed, sharpened, \$3/ea.; #2, \$1.95/ea. Mark Waldo, P.O. Box 9, Buckhannon, 26201; 800-624-3110.

Hand-spinning fleeces: Shetland, Border Leicester, Shetland/Border Cheviot, various colors, good cond., \$10/up. Linda Zinn, Rt. 1, Box 122, Wallace, 26448; 782-3704.

MISCELLANEOUS WANTS

Corn fodder binder. Jack Baisden, Box B, Verdunville, 25649; 752-8539.

Pasture, rent/buy, Braxton Co./Frametown area. Melissa Duely, Progress Rt., Box 67B, Gassaway, 26624; 364-5532; missi_67@hotmail.com.

Potato gardening equip. Roger Flanagan, P.O. Box 6437, Morgantown, 26506; 742-8868; rallenflanagan@yahoo.com.

Pulling harness for 600-lb. lightweight pulling ponies.

Glenn Knox, Rt. 3, Box 222B, Wheeling, 26003; 905-0701.

Reg. Border Collie pup, farm raised, male or female. Harry Mcelfresh, 519 Wolf Run Rd., Belville, 26133; 863-3163.

Cow milker, 1-2, surge type, good cond. Monte McKenzie, HC 65, Box 37B-1, Talcott, 24981; 466-1350; mckenzie@cwv.net.

Goat tote/chariot; tatoo press for 5/more digits; small trailer, hat racks/poly feeders; livestock blow dryer. Norma McNeely, Rt. 2, Box 68A, Ronceverte, 24970; 645-6855.

Flemish rabbits, giants, bucks/does. Suzie Mills, HC 74, Box 65D, Hinton, 25951; 466-0462.

Hay fields to cut, close to Pleasants Co. Mike Parsons, 100 Franklin Dr., St. Marys, 26170; 684-3745; pwoollybooger@phreego.com.

Old barns/log structures, wormy chestnut/oak. Roger Patterson, Rt. 2, Box 89, Second Creek, 24974; 667-4119.

Llama to guard goat herd, halter broke, lead/handle well. Patricia Spangler, Box 264, Fayetteville, 25840; 574-3553.



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