McMillan’s Message
Commissioner
John McMillan

Reflecting on 2016, Looking Ahead to 2017

As we end 2016 and start the New Year, it’s important to reflect on the accomplishments of our department that made this past year. Employees in each section work consistently to serve the farmers and consumers of this state each day. Just a few to highlight for this past year, our Plant Industry Section staff spent this summer conducting citrus disease and spent the fall combating Emerald ash borer. Just a few to highlight for this past year, our Plant Industry Section staff spent this summer conducting citrus disease and spent the fall combating Emerald ash borer.

On a daily basis, inspectors from numerous sections are out in the field collecting samples of food, feed, seed, fertilizer, petroleum and various other products, bringing them to their respective labs for testing. We have inspectors who collect blood and tissue samples from animals as well, and those are sent to one of our four diagnostic labs across the state for testing. These tests are an important safeguard to protect our livestock industry. Our agency is here to serve farmers and consumers and our staff takes great pride in professionally executing this task.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the hardship this past year’s drought placed on Alabama agribusinesses. Little or no rainfall in some cases from early summer to December created severe drought conditions. Our staff, through cooperation with our stakeholders, worked to put together a hay listing page on our website to make it easier to locate available hay. The goal of the hay listing page is to put the hay producer and livestock producer in direct communication. We continue to meet with our stakeholders on a regular basis to address the many challenges the drought has created for all livestock producers. The rain received in the month of December.

Students at Dalraida Elementary School in Montgomery enjoy sweet, delicious Alabama grown satsumas.

“’It’s exciting for students to see exactly where in Alabama the satsumas are grown and to be able to see the person who worked so hard to grow this delicious fruit, it’s truly ‘their farmer,’” said Don Wambles, director of the Alabama Farm to School Program. The ultimate goal is not only for students to have a better understanding where their food comes from and make that connection, but to also lay the groundwork for lifelong healthy eating.

This December’s distribution of satsumas was the largest delivery to date. There were 8,000 cases, totaling 320,000 pounds of satsumas grown by Alabama farmers served in school lunchrooms.

Public Notice: By Alabama Pork Producers and National Pork Board

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2018 National Pork Producers (Pork Act) Delegate Body will take place Feb. 7, at 1 p.m., in conjunction with a Board of Directors meeting of the Alabama Pork Producers Association in the State Boardroom of the Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center at 300 Tallapoosa Street in Montgomery, during the Alabama Farmers Federation’s Commodity Organization Meeting. All Alabama pork producers are invited to attend.

Any producer who is a resident of the state, at least 18 years old, is a producer of porcine animals or its representative, and has paid all assessments due, may be considered as a delegate candidate and/or participant in the election. All eligible producers should bring with them a sales receipt proving that hogs were sold in their name and the checkoff deducted. For more information contact: Alabama Pork Producers, P.O. Box 11000, Montgomery, AL 36191-0001; 334-612-5181; email ghall@alfafarmers.org.

(continued on page 8)
**CATTLE**

Also have a few commercial bulls. Call drought sale price. Free ballcap & Star5 Gentle Santa Gertrudis, 22 mos., polled, Pleasant Hill Rd., Guntersville 35976 ea., hand fed, gentle. Keith Mahan 1237 jhall@ara.com Kathy Hall 5722 Co Rd (Blount)
drought price $1,000/up. 205/456-1468

tion, all vaccinations, LBW, free delivery, heifers, guarantee black & polled calves, gous polled breeding age bulls and young Limousin homozygous black and homozygous polled. Reg. Angus bulls looking for work, range 2-5 yo, great EPDs, $2,000/up. Rick Esneault rick@cfarms.com (Steele)

Registration Anz-Angus heifers, 10 mos., gentle, ready to breed, sell all for $10,800. Kenneth Sconyers 191 Sconyers Rd., Clio 36047 334/315-8927 (Lowndes)

Rifters are LBW, EPDs & parentage confirmed of Mitty in Focus & New Design 878, all are LBW, EPDs & parentage confirmed by DNA Genemax, $1,600. George Gibb 426 8th St., Altona 33183-3205 (St. Lucie)

Newborn calves, most are dairy crossbred. (Jerkshire/Otter & Norwegian Red, will also have some Angus/Angus/Angus crosses. $1500-$1700-2157 (Clarendon)

Brangus/Angus & beef cows, 15 mos., $850/up. John Hines 4105 Ruckman Rd., Calhoun 35040-6209 (Calhoun) 256/381-2281 (Clarke) 877-252-9883 (Macon)

Reg. Angus heifers, 18 mos., grandson of Mitty in New Design & 878, all are LBW, EPDs & parentage confirmed. Reg. Black Angus, $1,500/up. Ken McMillan mcm1@pellcityvets.com (Montgomery)

Chester Hicks 24100 Prophecy Ln., Springville 205/467-8465 (Blount)

Effective May 1, 2017, the price for the subscription to Alabama Farmers and Consumers Bulletin will increase to $22.95 (tax included) for 2-years/24 issues or $12.95 (tax included) for 1-year/12 issues. Please choose one:

ALABAMA FARMERS AND CONSUMERS BULLETIN

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Alabama Farmers and Consumers Bulletin P.O. Box 3336, Montgomery, AL 36109-0336
CATTLE
Reg. Limousin bulls, LBW, black & red, 16 mos. – 28 mos. EPGs, $1,750-$2,000; 2 proven sires, 3 to 4 yrs, $1,500 ea., performance records on all. Richard Beard Jr. 3109 Glenoaks Farms Rd., Trussville 35717 205/655-8682 (Jefferson)
11 mos., $1,250/300-156 (Frisco)
Foiled Charleston bull, 16-22 mos., tested negative for ready, $2,000-$3,000. David Latham 334/328-4745 (Montgomery)
Rear 5 proven Brahman bulls, 10 mos.; $1,000 ea. Also Reg. Brahman bull weaner, top bloodline for $0, born 5-22-2014. 1460 Co Rd 114, Vennom 35779 205/973-6094 (Calhoun)
Reg. Texas Longhorns raise sale, great genetics in colorful broccoli cows, heifer, bull & steer calves, easy keepers, $700/up. C. C. Lipston www.blackandbluequarterhorses.com 251/965-3600 (Baldwin)
FARM LABOR WANTED
Want mature, settled man/woman for misc. farm maintenance $17/hr. Salary & mfg. benef., PT/FT. James Smith 770-608-3928 (Calhoun)
HAY & FEEDING GRAIN
Well fertilized barn cured & stored 4x5 net wrapped round bales of Bahia, $40/bale. Located Old Hwy 63 & W Pk Rd., Linden, MS. 601-656-7115 (Mississippi)
5 hay, mixed timothy grains, tenneses & sprouted, $4.50/bale. 256/526-9252 or 256/347-5048 (Cullman)
Alfalfa hay Western proven, heavy 50¢/lbs., leafy, fine stem, 15.5%/bale (20 bale minimum), discount on 100 bales or more; Pimped Alfalfa Orchard grass $1.25/bale. 3x3x1 Alfalfa premium 1000+ lbs. $159 ea.; Cow Alfalfa also available 3x8 bags; Richard Beard Jr. 8109 Glenoaks Farms Rd., Trussville 35717 205/655-8682 (Jefferson)
EGG & POULTRY
Pharaoh Quail $2/up; Chickens starting at 6” dia. down to ground, clear land of overgrown brush. Custom hand clearing, cut & grind trees. All types fencing, barn building & repair, tractor shed & chicken coop, $285,000. for livestock, organic garden, fenced, in-ground irrigation, $10,000. 334/996-8207 (Dallas)
FARM FOR SALE
Want to farm 750+ ac. soybeans, cotton, hay, $3,500/ac. C.L. Gamble 205/529-5999 close to Cahaba River, located in Talladega pines, 500’ north of Potato Patch Creek & age totals 2,600’, approx. 34 ac. hardwood tree farm, 2,000’+ gravel road that has a slab, fenced, in-ground irrigation, $10,000. 334/996-8207 (Dallas)
10 ac. wooded $75,000, 2 miles off I-85, hunting, 2 ponds, cross fenced, $1.3 million. 334/996-8207 (Dallas)
Want to farm 10 ac. homestead in McCalla, 3BR/2BA home w/CH/A, F/P, separate 2 car garage, cattle/horse ranch, 2,200 sq. ft. 2BR/2BA custom build, located near Foley, $140,000. 205/712-8239 (Dale)
Want to farm 500 ac. cotton, peanuts, hay, $1,200/ac.; One Black Angus Baldie heifer, 9 mos., $800. 1850 Co Rd 1145, Vinemont 35179 205/655-7682 (Jefferson)
256/460-1576 (Franklin)
5 Reg. Black Angus heifers, 11 mos., $1,200 ea.; One Black Angus Bale heifer, 11 mos., $1,500. 205/655-1976 (Frisco)
Ricky Odom 3168 Myers Rd., Incubator holds 41 eggs, turner, used only
HORSES & MULES
Old type Morgan filly foaled May 2, 2016 (raf), will be color tested for black, stands 3’6”, Carol Potts 256/482-3953 (Morgan)
Sorrel getting quarter horse, 16 mos., Big Horn saddle, $1,200 for both. Call 205/712-8239 (Pickens)
Custom hand clearing, cut & grind trees. All types fencing, barn building & repair, tractor shed & chicken coop, $285,000. 334/322-8496 (Fayette)
10 acre homestead in McCalla, 28x28 brick rancher/waewrmt, carpet & back porch, waitress, waiting area, fenced, for livestock, organic garden, fenced, in-ground irrigation, $10,000. 334/996-8207 (Dallas)
17+ acre homestead in Holly, 3BD/2BA house, fenced, in-ground irrigation, $100,000. 334/996-8207 (Dallas)
MACHINERY
2014 JD 6140, 100 hp, 5,600 hrs., CHA, like new tires, used daily, $2,500. Darrell Johnson Jr. 334/347-2657 (Chambers)
2007 JD 6150 215hp, belt drive, turbo, 4 cyl, 1 apprentice hrs, many extr., shed kept, $140,000. 334/242-2477 (DeKalb)
COMBINED FARMERS & CONSUMERS BULLETIN
ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS

Should you need to make changes to a notice that has been submitted, please call 251-473-6269 ext. 123 and leave a detailed message, including the name associated with the notice.

Alabama Farmers & Consumers Bulletin
Phone: 251-473-6269 x 123 (20 WORD LIMIT FOR ALL UNPAID NOTICES)
Fax: 334-240-7169
Email: afcb@agi.alabama.gov

 Alabama Farmers & Consumers Bulletin, Notice Dept., PO Box 3336, Montgomery, AL 36109-0336

TRUCKS & TRAILERS
2010 Lune Wolf Trailer 16’ w/3000 lb. w/amps, stamps, keep, like new, $1,650. Ron Dennis, 256/301-0220 (Cullman)

syntax: $30/half gallon. Seed cane also available for $.50 to $.75/lb.

SWINE
Purebred Relief, Berkshire, Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire boars & gilts, boars $300/ up, gilts $200/up, will work for any situation or operation. Nye-Farmer Relief Program. To obtain official USDA ear tags, contact the USDA Veterinary Services Area Office at 1-866-USDA-TAG.

Sheep & Goats
All sheep and some classes of goats offered for sale or exhibition must be identified with official USDA ear tags for the National Scrapie Eradication Program. To obtain official USDA ear tags, contact the USDA Veterinary Services Area Office at 1-866-USDA-TAG.

SYRUP HONEY & BEES
Cane juice and cane syrup for sale. Syrup is $3/half gallon. Seed cane also available for $ 5 to $75/bale. Earl Stokes 334/484-3027 (Coffee)

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TRUCKS & TRAILERS

1. Only those ads which pertain to agricultural or forestry products and to those items employed in the actual growth, harvesting and disposal of such products will be accepted.

2. Ads should be typed or printed. Those ads that are not legible will not be published.

3. Ads must be limited to 20 words. This does not include name, address or phone number.

4. Ads must include name, address, city, zip code, area code/phone number and county, no “Farm Names or Work Names/Addresses.”

5. Paid subscribers can submit more than one advertisement per category per month but each advertisement is still limited to 20 words.

6. Non-paid subscribers can submit one advertisement per category per month but each advertisement is still limited to 20 words.

7. Ads for the classified section will not be accepted from dealers, merchants or commercial establishments.

8. Ads must include name, address, city, zip code, area code/phone number and county, no “Farm Names or Work Names/Addresses.”

9. Ads which are to be repeated must be submitted for each issue.

10. Land advertised/wanted must be minimum of 10 acres or more. Ads will not be accepted from dealers or persons selling land.

11. Only those ads which pertain to agricultural or forestry products and to those items employed in the actual growth, harvesting and disposal of such products will be accepted.

12. Instructional material cannot be advertised in the Bulletin.

13. Ads will be accepted for agricultural work only. Ads for household, nursing or companionship will not be accepted.

14. Ads to exchange one item for another item will be accepted only when both items are being exchanged relate to agriculture. Ads for cars, boats, mobile homes, etc., will not be accepted as an exchange for agricultural items.

15. Prices must be included with all items offered for sale. Price ranges may be used in certain ads; for example, due to age, weight, etc. cattle can be advertised as $1,200-$1,500.

16. We will only advertise birds listed in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) book. Notices from poultry dealers, order buyers or persons selling on commission cannot be accepted. Please note: Psittacine birds and pigeons are NOT listed in the NPIP book. Any questions concerning the NPIP should be directed to the Poultry Unit at 334/240-7255 ext. 4.

Advertisements in the Bulletin are published on a first come, first serve basis. It is the advertiser’s advantage to submit their items as soon as possible. While the Bulletin does not assume responsibility for transactions resulting from the use of this publication, all means of preventing fraud will be exercised. Misrepresentation will result in the revocation of all privileges. For questions concerning the guidelines, please e-mail afcb@agi.alabama.gov.
**Waterproof Thinsulate Pigskin Gloves** $19.95

**Winter Fleece-Lined Elkskin Gloves** $19.95

**Hi-Yield Dormant Spray**
- Use around fruit trees.
- Corrects deficiency causing deformation of fruit. Prevents and corrects rosette on pecans. 4 lb. bag.

**Zinc Sulfate**
- #21524AM, AFC #07734. Use around fruit trees. 10 lb. bag.

**OVERALLS**
- Loose cut for extra comfort.

**The 2017 Old Farmers Almanac**
- The original Almanac. Often imitated, never equaled. North America's oldest weather forecast, planting tables, zodiac secrets and a blend of facts and fun. AFC #618010
- 6 for $59, 1 for $6.99

**Two Old Goats Arthritis & Fibromyalgia Essential Lotion**
- Tackles your toughest aches, pains and swelling muscles while moisturizing the skin without greasiness or strong medical odor. 2 oz. AFC #07017TWO
- 4 for $18.99, 1 for $4.99

**SIMPLY SOUTHERN TELEVISION SHOW**
- Dedicated to agriculture and rural living, the show explores Alabama's backroads and backroads to find the people who cultivate the state's food, flavors and futures. Presented by Alabama Farmers Cooperative and Alabama Farmers Federation with contributing sponsors Bostone Plants and Allfarm Insurance.
- Visit us on Facebook at Simply Southern TV
**McMillan's Message**

CONTINUED...

has helped, but it still has not replenished the major rainfall deficits across the state. We will continue to do all we can with the resources available to us to help Alabama farmers through this drought situation.

Looking forward to the New Year, I anticipate many opportunities under a new administration in the White House. I am certain the Trump administration will eliminate burdensome regulations that will remove the government from the backs of our businesses. Farmers will be able to get back to producing a crop rather than worrying about the federal government. I believe President Trump and a Republican controlled Congress will also address tax reform, including the estate tax, and take much needed action on repairing our nation’s infrastructure. We are excited to work together with our counterparts in Washington and around the country to make the future for Alabama’s farmers and consumers more prosperous than ever before.

In the months to come, we plan to help you get to know each member of our board and industries. We will begin a monthly spotlight featuring each member of our board and their unique perspectives on Alabama agriculture. May you all have a blessed 2017.

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**STUDY REVEALS REASONS BEHIND FOOD WASTE**

By PAUL HOLLIS

Auburn University

The cost of food waste in America is estimated at a staggering $160 billion annually, with some reports stating that U.S. producers and consumers together waste more than 30 percent of our total food supply.

Exploring some of the reasons for this wasteful behavior was the premise of a recent study published in the journal *Food Quality and Preference* by Auburn University and Cornell University researchers. They found that date labels, such as "Use by" and "Sell by," shape how consumers value certain products and their willingness to waste those products.

"When consumers see certain date labels on foods, they predict that they will waste more of the food's value relative to other date labels," says lead author Norbert Wilson, professor in the College of Agriculture’s Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Auburn. “Additionally, the size and the date of the product influences expectation of food waste.”

Previous research conducted at Harvard University has looked at how consumers waste food because of different understandings of what date labels mean, Wilson says.

For the study, Wilson and fellow researchers conducted an experimental auction of breakfast cereal, salad greens and yogurt with 200 participants in Ithaca, New York. Participants said how much they were willing to pay for each item and how much they expected to consume. Participants saw different package sizes and dates but were asked to explain their willingness to waste those products.

It wasn’t surprising, Wilson says, to discover that if a product’s expiration date is further out in time, people are less likely to waste it.

"It was interesting that people have different ideas of how much of a product they would waste given the size of the product," he says. "If they saw a large size of the product versus a small size, they still thought they’d waste more of the large product even though, based on the date, they had plenty of time to consume it. The size really shaped their perception of how they were going to waste the product.”

The key takeaway from the study, Wilson says, is that people are very responsive to package size and dates and even the product itself, and their willingness to waste products changes based on that information.

In future research, Wilson wants to look at the underlying reasons behind the decisions people make about food waste and what, specifically, is motivating these decisions.

Other authors of the study—funded by the Auburn University College of Agriculture—include Bradley Rickard, Rachel Saputo and Shuay-Tsyr Ho, all of Cornell University.

Food Quality and Preference is a leading journal focusing on food science, sensory processing, and consumer behavior. Wilson says lead author Norbert Wilson, professor in the College of Agriculture’s Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Auburn. “Additionally, the size and the date of the product influences expectation of food waste.”

**Satsumas in the Classroom**

CONTINUED...

Hands-on gardening is growing agriculture education in two Alabama schools, thanks to grants provided by the CHS Foundation, Collinsville High School (CHS) and Pinecrest Elementary School (PES) each received $500 toward Agriculture in the Classroom projects for the 2016-2017 school year.

The grants are funded by charitable gifts from CHS Inc., and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization. Fifteen schools across the U.S. received grants.

CHS’s project is Edible Education: Help Our Garden Grow, in which students grow herbs for pizzas served at school. CHS is located in Collinsville in DeKalb County.

Fruits and vegetables take center stage in PES’s project, The Vegetation Station at 5, in which produce from the school garden makes its way to students’ plates in the cafeteria.

Alabama Ag in the Classroom (ATIC) Chairman Kim Ramsey applauded these schools for teaching students agriculture in unusual ways.

“Educating students about where food comes from will measurably impact their view of agriculture and food production,” Ramsey said. “We’re so proud of these two schools and the benchmark they’re setting for other Alabama schools.”

Alabama ATIC is an interdisciplinary educational program promoting ag literacy for teachers and students for grades K-12. Find more information at www.alabamaitc.org.

**Two Schools Receive Ag Grants**

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**McMillan's Message**

CONTINUED...

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Livestock Auctions

Cattle Auctions
Alabama Livestock Auction Inc.
Uniontown
Tuesday, 11 a.m.
334-628-2351

Arab Livestock Market Inc.
Arab
Tuesday, 10 a.m.
256-856-4212

Ashville Stockyard Inc.
Ashville
Monday, 11:30 a.m.
205-594-2531

Clay County Livestock Inc.
Lineville
Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
256-354-2276

Coffee County Stockyard LLC
New Brockton
Thursday, 1 p.m.
334-897-2540

Cullman Stockyard Inc.
Cullman
Thursday, 8:30 a.m.
256-734-2551

Dothan Livestock Co.
Dothan
Monday, 10 a.m.
334-677-3361

Frisco City Livestock Market
Frisco City
Wednesday, 1 p.m.
251-267-3176

Farmers Cooperative Market Inc.
Opp
Wednesday, 1 p.m.
334-493-4568

Fort Payne Stockyard Inc.
Fort Payne
Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.
256-845-1028

Linden Stock Yards Inc.
Linden
Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.
334-295-8707

Livingston Stockyard
Livingston
Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.
205-652-7411

Mid States Stockyards Inc.
Letohatchee
Tuesday, 10 a.m.
334-227-8000

Montgomery Stock Yards Inc.
Montgomery
Monday, 1 p.m.
334-288-8060

Moulton Stockyard Inc.
Moulton
Wednesday, 11 a.m.
256-974-3133

Northwest AL Livestock Auction
Russellville
Monday, 10 a.m.
256-332-3323

Roanoke Stockyards Inc.
Roanoke
Wednesday, 11 a.m.
334-863-2411

Sand Mountain Stockyard Inc.
Crossville
Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
256-561-3434

South Alabama Livestock Inc.
Brundidge
Thursday, 1 p.m.
334-735-2364

Tennessee Valley Livestock
Association
Florence
Monday, 12 p.m.
256-766-0281

Valley Stockyard Inc.
Decatur
Thursday, 11 a.m.
256-353-7664

Goat Auctions
Central Alabama Goat & Poultry Auction
Clanton
2nd & 4th Saturday
205-287-1647

Clay County Goat & Poultry Auction
Milledgeville
2nd & 4th Saturday, 12 p.m.
256-839-6824

Escambia County Cooperative Inc.
Brewton
Saturday, 12 p.m.
251-867-5111

National Weekly Hog Report

The following are national statistics of hog sales, as compiled by the USDA on Friday, December 16. Early weaned pigs $5 per head higher. All feeder pigs steady to firm on a light receipts. Demand good for light to moderate offerings. Receipts include 52 percent formulated prices. All prices quoted on per head basis with an estimated lean value of 50-54 percent.

Receipts this Week: 91,306
Last Week: 116,570
Last Year: 104,712
50-54 percent.

December 16. Early weaned pigs $5 per head higher. All feeder pigs steady to firm on a 600-1200 2,400 39.00-40.00 39.50 600 or less 538 54.41-54.41 54.41 2,350 42.50-57.00 48.84 600-1200 1,268 40.25-40.25 40.25 1,800 56.00-56.00 56.00 1,200 or more

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ALABAMA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Cattle and calves at reported markets throughout the state for December 2016 totaled an estimated 29,000 head compared to 56,934 head for November 2016 and 31,354 head for December 2015. Compared to last period: Slaughter cows mostly skew to $1 to $3 higher, bulls sold steady to $1 higher. Feeder steers and heifers sold $12 to $14 higher. Replacement cows sold steady. The feeder supply consisted of 26 percent steers, 42 percent heifers and 32 percent bulls.

### Slaughter Cows Breakers 70-80

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<td>1552</td>
<td>46.00-51.00</td>
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### Slaughter Cows Boners 80-85

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<td>1247</td>
<td>57.00-62.00</td>
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### Slaughter Bulls Y.G. 1

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### Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1

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<td>305-345</td>
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### Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1

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<td>210-245</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>120.00-157.00</td>
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<td>255-295</td>
<td>276</td>
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</table>

Source: USDA-AL Dept of Ag Market News Service, Montgomery, AL, David Garcia, OIC / Office 334-223-7488. For more information contact: Montgomery.lpgm@ams.usda.gov.

### Upcoming Ag Events

- **January 1–31** — Registration is underway for the 125th annual Farmers Conference at the Kellogg Conference Center at Tuskegee University in Tuskegee on Feb. 16-17, 2017. Registration for producers is $100, professionals $125 and students $75. For more information visit www. tuskegee.edu/farmersconference or call 334-724-4440.
- **January 1–31** — Registration is underway for the National Goat Conference at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center/Tuskegee University Caprine Research & Education Center in Tuskegee on Feb. 17-19, 2017. Registration for producers is $225, professionals $350 and students $75. For more information contact Nar Gurung at 334-727-8457 or by email at ngurung@mytu.tuskegee.edu.
- **January 4** — The Capital City Master Gardener Association sponsors a free monthly Lunch and Learn. Gardening topics are highlighted during the noon to 1 p.m. sessions at the Armony Learning Arts Center at 1018 Madison Ave., Montgomery. The January topic is What is a Master Gardener, conducted by Mallory Kelley, horticulturist with Alabama Cooperative Extension System. For more information, call 334-270-4133 or visit www.capcitygma. org.
- **January 6, 13, 20 & 27** — Chickens and small animals sale will be held at 7 p.m. at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call 256-839-6824.
- **January 7** — Horse and tack sale will be held at 5 p.m. at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call 256-839-6824.
- **January 7** — The Alabama Sylvac Makers Association meets at 8 a.m. at Golden Corral in Dothan every other month. There is a syrup tasting contest at this meeting, so bring a bottle of syrup for the judges to taste. For more information, call Earl Stokes at 334-494-3037.
- **January 7 & 21** — The East Alabama Goat & Poultry Auction will be held at noon at 1006 Co Rd 474, Woodland, AL 36380. The auction will sell goats, sheep, hogs, cattle and poultry. For more information, call 256-419-8527.
- **January 14 & 28** — Goats, sheep and cattle sale will be held at noon at Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction at 748 County Rd. 91, Goodwater. For more information, call 256-839-6824.
- **January 14 & 28** — The Central Alabama Goat & Poultry Auction will be held at noon at 1403 Kincheon Road in Clanton. Additional livestock and poultry, etc. welcome. For more information, call Jada Myrick at 205-258-8307 or Kathy Holley at 205-351-2039.
- **January 28** — Queen’s Castle Beekeeping Association meets from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 21980 US Hwy 29, Andalusia, AL 36420 to train beekeepers how to be successful. Hive demonstrations occur if weather permits. Bring a covered dished, meat will be furnished. For more information, email OJBees@gmail.com.
- **February 17-19** — The Mobile Area Orchid Society members will display their best orchids and be available to answer questions and provide tips on growing and caring for these exotic plants at Bellingrath Gardens and Home in the Magnolia Café. Vendors will also be selling orchids, supplies and accessories. For more information, visit www.bellingrath.org.

To submit a February event to the Bulletin, send it by email to afcb@agi.alabama.gov before January 12.
ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION ELECTS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS

Jimmy Parnell, of Stanton in Chilton County, was re-elected to a third two-year term as president of Alabama’s largest farm organization during the Alabama Farmers Federation’s 95th annual meeting in Montgomery. Five hundred delegates from all 67 counties voted in the business session.

Parnell, a fifth-generation farmer in the cattle and timber business, said he was humbled the Federation’s delegates are allowing him to serve the organization’s 360,000 members and promote the interests of the state’s top industry.

“I get up every morning excited to go to work,” said Parnell, 52. “I look forward to what the Alabama Farmers Federation is, and will become. I promise you hard work, honesty and an open-door policy.”

Parnell was chairman of the Federation’s State Young Farmers Committee in 1997, served on the Federation’s State Board of Directors from 1999-2008 and was Chilton County Farmers Federation president from 2006-2012. He was unopposed in his bid for re-election.

North Area Vice President Rex Vaughn, of Huntsville in Madison County, and Southeast Area Vice President George Jeffcoat, of Gordon in Houston County, were also re-elected for two-year terms.

Vaughn is a row crop and beef cattle farmer. The North Area covers Blount, Cherokee, Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan and Winston counties.


Additionally, four district directors were elected to three-year terms.

Donald Hodge, a row crop farmer from Madison County, was elected to represent District 2, which covers Limestone, Madison and Morgan counties.

Joe Anders, a row crop farmer from Tuscaloosa County, will represent District 5, which includes Bibb, Fayette, Jefferson, Lamar and Tuscaloosa counties. Anders succeeds Joe Roberts, of Fayette County.

Meador Jones, of Marengo County, was elected District 8 director. He is a cattle farmer representing Choctaw, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Pickens and Sumter counties. Jones succeeds Perry County’s Dan Robertson.

Sammy Gibbs, a row crop farmer from Escambia County, was elected to a second term as District 11 director. He represents Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Monroe, Mobile and Washington counties.

Elected to one-year, ex-officio terms on the Federation State Board were Women’s Leadership Committee Chair Nell Miller, of Blount County, and State Young Farmers Chairman Jerry Allen Newby, of Limestone County.

Recipe of the Month

In honor of January as National Soup Month, we turned to “Bay Appetit: A Second Helping of Lower Alabama Dishes,” from the publishers of Mobile Bay Magazine. Coddle is the Irish method of cooking food in a single pot with slow, low heat, according to Ceece Redmond, 2015 president of the Irish Network Mobile Bay Chapter. This dish takes Irish author Jonathan Swift’s favorite recipe and adds an Alabama twist with Conecuh sausage. It may also be prepared in a slow cooker. Cook time is 3 hours.

**Alabama Coddle**

**Ingredients:**
- ½ pound bacon, chopped into medium-sized pieces
- ½ pound Conecuh sausage, chopped into medium-sized pieces
- ¼ pound onion, chopped into medium-sized pieces
- 2 pounds small potatoes, peeled and cut into quarters
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Dried or fresh parsley, to taste
- 1 pint water

**Directions:**

Fry bacon and sausage until browned, but don’t overcook. Drain off excess fat.

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. In a baking dish, layer onions, meats, then potatoes. Lightly salt, pepper and sprinkle with parsley. Repeat layers until all ingredients are used. Top with dusting of pepper and parsley. (Be careful with salt, as the bacon and sausage will also add salt as it cooks.)

Pour in the pint of water and cook on low for 3 hours (or until potatoes are tender). Make sure water level stays at ¼ inch from the bottom as it cooks.

**NRCS 2017 SMALL FARMERS OF THE YEAR**

Russell and Jewel Bean, of Eufaula, have been named the Alabama Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) 2017 Small Farmers of the Year. An award was presented by Alabama NRCS State Conservationist Ben Malone at Tuskegee University in December.

In addition, the Beans have been presented with the USDA’s National Lloyd Wright Small Farmer of the Year Award for 2016. This honor was presented by the National Organization of Professional Black NRCS Employees.

Since 2008, the Beans have made their family operation, S&B Farm, a mainstay in their east Alabama community. An 88-acre property, the Beans manage livestock on 20 acres and plasticulture and hoop houses on additional land. In all, the diverse farm includes cropland, pastureland and forestland.

In addition to their main enterprise of raising goats and growing vegetables, the Beans raise pigs, chickens, cows, ducks and rabbits. The Beans make it work by learning all they could about sustainability and conservation and implementing the knowledge through improvements to their farm.

The Beans also have made it their mission to help other small and beginning farmers. They regularly host training seminars and workshops on their farm and have been instrumental advocates for conservation programs.
It all started on a hot summer day in 1907 when local farmers decided to establish the Brenham Creamery Co. and make butter from excess cream brought in by area farmers.

A few years later, the creamery began making ice cream and delivering it to neighbors by horse and wagon. It was in 1930 that the company changed its name to Blue Bell Creameries after the native Texas bluebell wildflower.

Outside of Brenham, Texas, Blue Bell has a facility in Sylacauga, Alabama.

And although Blue Bell is only available in about 26 percent of the nation’s supermarkets, it ranks as one of the top three, best-selling ice creams in the country. Its products are sold in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

No matter how much the market grows, quality standards never change and are never diluted or compromised. That’s why, people who are lucky enough to live where they can buy Blue Bell Ice Cream, say it’s “the best ice cream in the country.”

Blue Bell Creameries is committed to providing the best ice cream in the country and that includes continuing to offer ice cream in a full half-gallon container with 64 fluid oz of ice cream, despite the industry trend to downsize.

“The half-gallon still provides the best dollar value for ice cream lovers,” said Ricky Dickson, vice president of sales and marketing. “Companies have decreased their carton sizes yet increased the price,” Dickson said.

Dickson added that Blue Bell uses fresh ingredients delivered daily.

For more information, visit www.bluebell.com.