Market Bulletin

Bob Odom, Commissioner

For a list of State Fair activities, see page 10

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Our reporter has a fear of heights. On this excursion, he found that the going up and floating along high above Baton Rouge was a snap. It was the coming down that sent his heart rate soaring.

Up, Up and Away

By Sam Irwin
Louisiana Market Bulletin

The balloons were returning to Baton Rouge, I read with mild interest in the newspaper.

I had experience with balloons before, in 1990, at the national championship held at the State Fairgrounds in Baton Rouge. I was a vendor then, trying to sell Louisiana music to the hordes of culturally deprived tourists who I just knew to be in dire need of some *zydeco* and a full-blast Cajun injection.

I soon learned most people are too sleepy to spend a bunch of money at 6 a.m. when the balloon flights take off.

I did see some amazing sights back then: hundreds of lighter than air balloons ascending to the heavens in a mass lift-off in the cool Louisiana dawn; traditional shaped dirigibles and non-traditional vessels shaped like books, trucks, Halloween characters and one in the guise of good old Uncle Sam floating impossibly over Airline Highway; the eerie balloon glow along the shores of the Mississippi River.

It was all very impressive, something to be remembered, something to tell the grandkids.

Fast forward to 2003 to the second floor of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry building, Market Bulletin office.

Organizer George Richard is enthusiastically pumping my hand.

"Oh yeah, we got a balloon competition here again. It's called the Pennington Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Hot Air Balloon Championship. It's at Pennington Research Center. Next week! We want everyone to come out. Come see the balloons!"

I'm thinking, *OK, he wants some publicity. Might be a cool story, but how am I going to sell my boss that this is connected with agriculture or forestry? Besides, every journalist in town is going to do something about this.*

"Come out next Thursday for press day. You'll get to fly in a balloon."

Fly in a balloon? I'm there! "Oh, boss? It's definitely something we have to cover!" Woo hoo! He bought it!

I excitedly announced to my wife that night, "Honey, I'm going up in a hot-air balloon!"

"That's nice, dear," she said. "What about your fear of heights?"

Oh, that.

I once handcuffed myself to the balcony seat railing at the Orpheum Theatre in New Orleans so I wouldn't fall off. I also gave up free New Orleans Saints playoffs tickets because they were on the upper deck. *If you knew how I feel about Saints football. OK, so that's a bad example.*

"Well," I replied, "I'll just jump off that bridge when I come to it."

"Don't you have to be there like at five in the morning?"

Another bridge. "I'm sure I can do it."

"Yes, dear," she said.

It is the night before my early morning balloon excursion and that silly 5th Dimension song keeps playing in my head. I can't turn it off and I'm reluctant to write about it for fear of starting the music again. Oh, it's too late. *Up, up and away, in my beautiful, my beautiful ballooooon.*

The alarm clock blares at 5 a.m. urging me to get up. I quickly check the Weather Channel because there is lightning in the sky. The radar shows scattered thundershowers. I don't think we're going to fly in this weather. A quick thought of Ben Franklin flying a kite in a thunderstorm. Mumbling what a tiny voice in my head thinks may be my final goodbye to my wife, I head out to the Pennington site with a sinking feeling that I'm going to be the only one stupid enough to show up this early. As I arrive, local TV personality Leo Honeycutt has just finished an introductory welcome to the assembled pilots, support crews and media.

Bleary eyed, I find my way over to the snack table and pick up a couple of sugar doughnuts and chocolate milk. I recall reading somewhere that sugar is good to consume

See Praying to St. Christopher, page 2

Pilot Kevin Herschman eyes the horizon (top left, clockwise). Dad Mike Herschman begins the skin inflation process with a small cool fan before the propane burner takes over. "It happened," The Advocate balloon snagged in a water oak's branches. A balloon's-eye view of the mass lift-off at Pennington Field.

Praying to St. Christopher

Continued from page 1

before going up in a hot air balloon.

Since the media event is not part of the competition, only about a dozen of the competitors are present. I am not sure whom I am flying with and I wander around with a blank look on my face waiting for someone to grab me and say, "Would you like to fly in my beautiful balloon?" *That song again!*

Apparently, the word comes down from the safety officials that the weather has moved south and the flight can proceed, but I don't hear anyone say anything dramatic like, "Gentlemen, light your propane tanks," or "Float your balloons." I figure something is up because suddenly the field across the way fills up with giant SUVs and trailers spewing out the enormous, bright multi-colored balloon skins. Wicker passenger baskets are unloaded and I wonder if they are manufactured by Pier One.

Soon the early morning quiet is punctuated with the roar of what sounds like giant crawfish burners heating air and filling up the balloons or "envelopes" with hot air. The noise of the burners is so loud people shout to be heard. Someone directs me to the local newspaper The Advocate's balloon and introduces me to the pilot, 20-year-old Kevin Herschman.

Kevin has wanted to pilot a balloon ever since he first saw the lighter than air vehicles at the first Baton Rouge championships.

Interestingly enough, the Federal Aviation Administration issues balloon pilot licenses to fliers as young as 16.

Boldly, I step into the varnished wicker basket. I find it curious that no one has asked me to sign a liability release.

Kevin tells me, "No matter what, do not get out of the basket until I tell you it's OK." *Note to self: stay in the gondola, especially when it's airborne.*

I note that I will not be able to partake of the champagne, the traditional drink given to first-time fliers, because I don't drink. Wait a minute. My pilot is not even old enough to buy liquor! Let me out of here. *Jane, stop this crazy thing!* Too late. The people on the ground are quickly becoming specks in the landscape.

There is nothing to do now but enjoy the experience.

The huge red and white The Advocate balloon lifts majestically into the air silently urging all of Baton Rouge to read the local gazette.

I am so busy taking pictures that I don't feel any fear. We're in tight quarters in the tiny gondola and I manage to shoot a lot of digital pictures right up Kevin's nose. I later delete all of those.

The downtown skyline, shrouded in the early morning mixture of mist and smog, is barely visible in the west. A southeastern wind gently pushes us up and over Perkins Road toward Our Lady of the Lake Hospital. Young Kevin, a Baton Rouge native, points out that the Lake's balloon is hovering over the hospital. He also tells me he is a third-year history and religion student at Oberlin University in Ohio. There's something comforting about floating over a hospital in a giant balloon with a religion student.

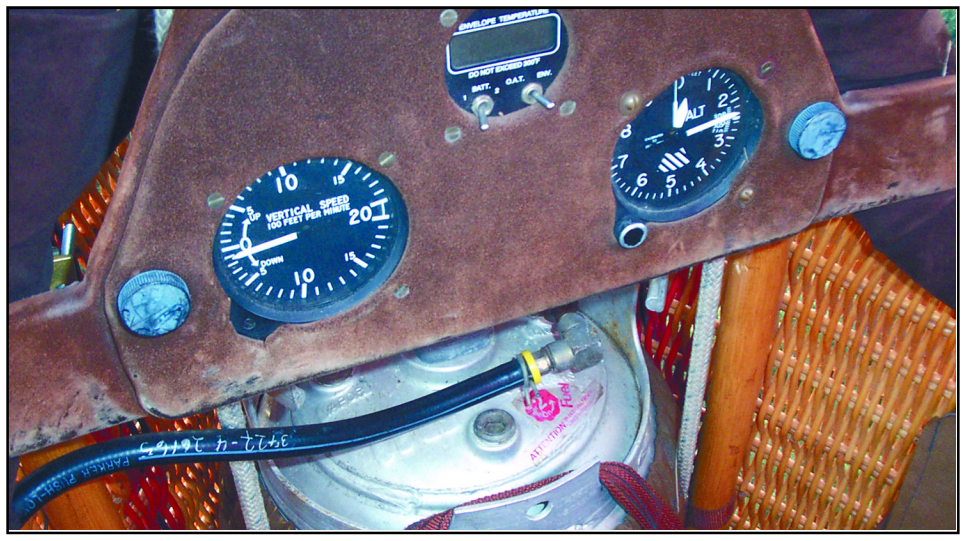
Occasionally blasting the crawfish burners, er, propane burners, Kevin tells me that there are distinctive air currents at different altitudes that move at varying speeds.

"I've been flying so much lately, I'm pretty used to them and I'm comfortable with them," he said. "It does get pretty scary when I'm flying high and I realize I am in this little basket above the earth."

I busily click away with my two cameras as we sail across I-12, Airline Highway, Sherwood Forest and Jones Creek.

I do not see my house.

Photo by David Gallent



Kevin goes over the flight plan with our reporter as volunteer chase crew member Nicole Buhler looks on (left). The instrument panel of a balloon is not as sophisticated as the space shuttle's (below). One of the Baton Rouge Fire Department's finest climbs up the ladder to free The Advocate (bottom).

Quieter than a stealth aircraft, we waft over residential areas and gain a bird's-eye view of back yards and swimming pools. I remark that Kevin must surprise a lot of female sunbathers around the pool. He tells me there aren't any sunbathers, male or female, at 7 a.m.

I am struck by the sounds that filter through the air and reach our altitude as we drift. The barking dogs, the squeal of the garbage truck brakes, the laughter of the Coca-Cola men below in the parking lot.

Another sound from the ground is the telephone contact Kevin keeps with his father, Mike, who is driving the chase vehicle.

"Yes, I see you and I'm going to land in the field behind Southeast Middle School."

We descend to tree top level, gently brushing the pecan crowns.

"Some pilots will drag the tree tops to slow their balloons down," Kevin says merrily.

I pray to St. Christopher, the patron saint of virgin balloon riders.

We are approaching the ground. Kevin's crew has scrambled and is waiting to secure the basket. It seems to me we are approaching the ground rather rapidly. *Is this normal?* We strike the ground with a solid thump right next to a stand of water oaks. My knees buckle slightly and I'm glad I have a strong back.

Hmm…the landing was like a good hard crash on my mountain bike out at the Hooper Road trails. Only I'm usually wearing a helmet.

Kevin's crew is right there to secure the basket. He looks up and his face twists into a frown. The Advocate has snagged on the upper most branches of the tree.

I remain in the gondola because I have not been told it is safe to disembark. The crew hangs on to the sides of the basket and Kevin pulls a rope letting the hot air out quickly.

The balloon deflates but it remains trapped.

See Balloons in B.R., page 8

Advertising reaches new heights

CATTLE

No grade sires listed in the interest of better livestock. All dairy cattle 20 mos. of age, beef cattle 24 mos. of age, or pasturient or post pasturient animals of any age offered for sale, except for immediate slaughter, must have valid 30-day negative brucellosis test certificate. Contact La. Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, P.O. Box 1951, Baton Rouge, La. 70821-1951.

REMINDER: Have all of your heifer calves between four and 12 months of age vaccinated against brucellosis. For information contact your local veterinarian, LDAF animal health personnel, your parish Cattlemen's Association or parish Farm Bureau.

Reg. Holstein cow, daughter of Tesk, $700. L. Champagne, Cut Off; (985) 632-3389.

Reg. Char. bulls, $1000/1-up. Ridley Chauvin, Raceland; (985) 537-6954.

Reg. polled pb Char. heifers, excel. EPD's, 8-9 mos., $650/1-up; reg. yrlg. bulls, $825/1-up. Louis Quave, Bush; (985) 886-5557 or Peter Feringa, Covington; (985) 871-0317.

Reg. Char. bulls, 12-15 mos., Budsmydad & Big Sky breeding, cert. herd, $1000/1-up. Stanley Lemoine, Plaquemine; (225) 659-7088.

Reg. Char. bulls, ready for service, gentle, big, stout, clean & tested, Big Sky & Budsmydad breeding, cert. herd, $1500/1-up. Walter Lemoine, Marksville; (318) 253-7939.

Beefmasters, high performing, quality, open, bred, prs. & breeding age bulls, all cattle, of age are classified U1 or U2, cert. herd & merit breeder, $800/1-up. Mel Jackson, Alexandria; (318) 443-0203.

Brangus heifers, exposed to Angus bulls, $700-$750/1. Gary Anderson, Cloutierville; (318) 379-0980.

(12) Commercial heifers, Char., Braford & Baldy, $550/1 or $6300/all. Sammy Broussard, New Iberia; (337) 364-7681 or (337) 364-0237.

Braford heifers, true 5/8 x 3/8, open, all shots, wormed & gentle, $700/1-up; Brangus bulls, 2 & 3 yrs., $1350/1-up. John Boudreaux, Abbeville; (337) 893-6743.

Reg. horned & polled Hereford bulls, 21 mos., excel. bloodlines & EPD's, well built, thick & deep, ready for service, semen tested, Bogalusa area, $1500/1. William Bell, New Orleans; (504) 864-1565.

(30) Bred reg. blk. Simm. cows & heifers, some to A1 to Black Joker, Legacy, Destiny, most to calve in Oct.-Dec., $750/1-up. Nell Strother, Amite; (985) 747-0789.

Reg. 2 yr. blk. Simm. bulls, good selection, Black Joker, Sac Jet Top, 600U, Black Irish Kansas breeding, $1400/1-up. Gene Strother, Amite; (985) 747-0789.

Simm. & Simbrah bulls, polled, solid colors, all shots & wormed, very gentle, cert. herd, 8 mos.-2yrs., $550-$1150/1. Harold Landreneau, Eunice; (337) 457-0505.

Reg. Char. 3/N/1's, $1200-$1500/1; bulls, 20-24 mos., $1500-$1800/1; heavy-bred cows, $1000/1; open heifers, $700/1. Harry Comeaux, Arnaudville; (337) 662-3270.

Reg. Limousin bull, born 1/11/03, A1 sire, Cane Ridge Blockade, red, halter broke, extremely gentle, great conform., $1000. Brent Deshautelle, Marksville; (318) 253-6495.

Reg. Brangus bull, 1/2/00, shown in 4-H, very gentle, $1500. Dennis Leach, Many; (318) 256-9443.

(2) Simm. bulls, polled, purebred, blk., wh. face, 6 frame, performance proven genetics, cert. herd, 2 yr., $1500; 16 mo., $1200. Louis Wittie, Hammond; (985) 345-6748.

Reg. 3 yr. lineback cow, bred to Char. bull, $750. Stuart Gauthier, Vermillion; (337) 643-6041.

Reg. blk. Angus bull, 18 mos., $900; F1 heifers, halter broke, Char. & blk. Angus, 6 mos., $600. Donald deLaHoussaye, New Iberia; (337) 364-5934.

Reg. Brahman bull, 2 yrs., gentle, wh., very nice, $800. Ronnie Andrus, St. Landry; (318) 838-2289.

(10) Golden cert. F-1 Braford heifers, 6 mos., $675/1. Chad Fontenot, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4177 or (337) 789-1936.

(50) Braford heifers, exposed or bred since April, $750/1. R. V. Lambert, Alexandria; (318) 452-5422.

(4) Gentle Longhorn heifers, exposed to Corriente bull, $1600/all. Chad Peloquin, Kinder; (337) 738-4224.

(3) Young Char., pb bull, 11-13 mos., $700-$800/1. Elvin Lafleur, Ville Platte; (337) 363-2079.

(3) Heavy crossbred cows, 6-7 yrs., avg. weight 1000 lbs., $1650/all. M. Bridges, Kentwood; (985) 229-3806.

Reg. Simm. & Simbrah cattle, heifers, bulls, prs., $550/1-up. B. G. Denton, Jena; (318) 992-4504.

Reg. blk. Angus bull, 17 mos., shown at 2003 LSU livestock show, bloodlines are 9440, Scotchcap & Pine Drive, $2000. Bobby Greenwood, Lafayette; (337) 984-7950.

Reg. polled Hereford bull, scurred, born 9/18/99, TRM bloodlines, proven breeder, calves to show, 1600-1800 lbs., $1250. David Vining, Amite; (985) 748-7648.

Reg. Brangus bulls, breeding age, $975/1-up, Brangus cows & heifers avail. also. Chip Durand. St. Martinville; (337) 394-4008.

Brahman/Holstein heifers, breeding age, vacc., dehorned, guaranteed open, $490/1-up. Donald Barlow, Ethel; (225) 683-4177.

(1) BBU Beefmaster bull, born 4/8/03 & (1) pb Beefmaster bull, born 4/7/03, $500/1. Betty d'Augereau, Kaplan; (337) 643-1724.

Beefmaster bull, 5 yrs., gentle, good build, calves to show, $1500+ lbs., herd ready, $750. Sammy Miller, Iota; (337) 779-3141.

(10) E6 Beefmaster/Angus cross heifers, $650/1 or $6000/all. Gaston Gerald, Greenwell Springs; (225) 654-8816.

½ Piedmontese, ½ Char., 6 or 7 mos., (2) heifers, $450-$500/1. Jim Carson, Youngsville; (337) 856-5065.

BBU Reg. Beefmaster bulls, red., excel. cond., 18 mo., $750; 12 mo., $500. Waldo Thibodeaux, Lafayette; (337) 235-4587 or (337) 332-3531.

Excel. Brangus heifer, very gentle, 6 mos., $550. Alva Stuard, Baker; (225) 261-2032.

(6) Polled Hereford cows, 3-6 yrs., 5 prs., $800/1; heifer, 14 mos., $500, all well bred. Bill Mysing, Mt. Hermon; (985) 795-0595.

(2) Cross Brangus heifers, 13-16 mos., $1200/both. Ted Couvillion, Moreauville; (318) 985-2880.

Polled Hereford bulls, 8 mos., excel. quality, gentle, great EPD's, heavy weaning weights, $700/1-up. Laura Hughes, Zachary; (225) 658-5348.

Reg. Angus bulls, 18 mos., 4 ½ yrs., $1200/1; (7) Golden cert. F-1 Braford heifers, 8-10 mos., $650/1. Daryl Carruth, Greensburg; (225) 222-6003.

(2) Brahman bulls, reg. from Hudgins Ranch, very gentle, $1500/1. Charles Kingrey, Kinder; (337) 738-3043 or (337) 540-2667.

Reg. Brangus heifers, 4-9 mos., $450-$600/1; 4 yr. reg. Brangus female, exposed to Angus bull, $750. Dale Watts, Watson; (225) 791-0647.

(150) Brangus, top quality replacement heifers, bred to LBW reg. Angus bulls, large frames, vacc., very gentle, sell any amount, $825/1. Ralph Robinson, Ida; (318) 284-3530.

(73) Pb gray Brahman cows, bred to large Angus bulls, $850/1. K. C. Robinson, Leesville; (337) 238-0529.

(8) Reg. polled Hereford bulls, 16-20 mos., excel. bloodlines & EPD's. very gentle, buyer's choice, $1000; heifers, 12-14 mos., vacc., ready for spring breeding, $750/1. Wesley Coffman, Leesville; (337) 239-2255.

Reg. Beefmaster bulls, grandsons of Havana, (2) dark red, (1) light red, hound dog gentle, $800/1-up. Dewey O'Neal, Baker; (225) 261-3260.

Reg. blk. Angus bulls, 8-9 mos., $550/1. Clinton Breland, Angie; (985) 848-9213.

(8) 3 yr. Braford cows, all bred to calve early next year, $600/1. Jean Romero, Erath; (337) 937-6777.

(57) Reg. gray Brahman heifers & cows, bred/exposed to reg. Angus & horned Hereford bulls, for fall & spring calving, some calving now, excel. quality, $1300-$1500/1. Corey Zeringue, Cut Off; (985) 632-2695.

Large selection of Gelbvieh & red Angus bulls, all ages, $1000/1-up. Dotti Knost, Clinton; (225) 683-8044.

Reg. Texas longhorn bulls, bred for horn, some Straight Butler, 8 mos.-18 mos., $750/1-up; some heifers, $500/1; roping prospects, $300/1. Dora Wood, Mansfield; (318) 872-6329.

F-1 Braford heifers, 5-10 mos., $600/1 or $2750/all. Toby Berthelot, Addis; (225) 413-5345.

Reg. Angus, young cows, bred heifers & prs., all are A1 sired & bred back to A1 bulls, Brando 5175, Leachman Explorer, Hi-Profile, Fame, Canyon, $1400/1-up. Hunter Mouch, Addis; (225) 322-6100 or (225) 776-1688.

(2) Pb Beefmaster first calf cows, w/Angus sired calves at side, (1) pb Beefmaster cow, w/Angus sired calf, $1250/pr. Joey Hebert, Palmetto; (337) 623-2218.

(2) Red reg. Beefmaster bulls, 4 yr., $1000; 2 yr., $800. Farrell Woods, Gueydan; (337) 536-6845.

(3) Crossbred cows, 2-6 yrs., w/calves at side, $2100/all. Neal Schexnayder, Donaldsonville; (225) 474-0881.

Reg. Beefmaster bulls & heifers, cert. herd & merit breeder, $700/1-up. David Domengeaux, Carencro; (337) 668-4666 or (337) 668-4461.

(3) Young suckling heifer calves, 5-5 1/2 mos., crossbred, Beefmaster to Brahman, Char. to Beefmaster & Angus, beautiful $1000/all. John Ernest, Jr., Mandeville; (985) 892-9723.

Wanted: pb Jersey heifer calf or young cow. Richard Moore, Deville; (318) 466-5593.

HORSES, MULES & JACKS

All horses, mules, and jacks must be from bona fide livestock farmers. We cannot accept notices from horse dealers, order buyers or persons selling on commission basis.

Every time you submit an advertisement one of the following must be provided. 1. All listings of horses, mules or jacks must be accompanied by a COPY of the original official negative Coggins test for Equine Infectious Anemia (E.I.A.) that was performed within the past 6 months prior to sale on all horses, mules, and jacks, except nursing foals. (OR) 2. A signed statement from the seller stating that he will furnish the buyer with a negative Coggins at the time of sale.

Reg. TW 15 yr. mare, anyone can ride, others avail., $1400. L. D. Spears, Dry Creek; (337) 328-7365.

2002 Reg. App. stallion, show quality, great pedigree, good conform., $1500; '02 blk. w/wh. blanket, reg. App. stallion, $1500. C. J. Champagne, New Iberia; (337) 364-1398.

AQHA geld., Puddenhead, shown district & state, great disp., 6 mos. pro training, $3500; reg. paint mare, 4-H shown, overo, $2000; mini stallion, 3 mos., $400; 3 mo. paint, QH breeding, $1000. Melissa Henry, Patterson; (985) 395-6015.

2001 APHA sorrel solid geld., w/90 days pro riding, by Barlink Tuff Times, out of a Skippa Receipt mare, excel. area prospect, started on barrels, $2500. Anita Craig, Deville; (318) 466-3839.

1999 AQHA mare, super handle, started on barrels & timed events, great disp., very sweet, $2500. Lisa Topham, Patterson; (985) 399-6879.

AQHA mares & colts, by Snorty Lena, Dulces Peppy, Doc Sugs, Sonita's Last, Tenino San bloodlines, $1500/1-up. Charles Champagne, Cut Off; Web site: www.geocities.com/cmc70345 or (985) 632-3389.

Yrlgs., Smart Lil Lena, Colonel Freckles, Handle Bar Doc, Gay Bar King, extra fancy, great movers, awesome prospect for cutting or performance, $1500. Kathy Simoneaux, Opelousas; (337) 942-1880.

1995 Young Gun geld., good handle, light turn back use, excel. penning/sorting prospect, sound, easy keeper, smart, good for any rider, $3000. Larry Fontenot, Lake Charles; (337) 855-0629.

1999 AQHA gray geld., Docs Budha x Go-Man-Go grandson, good handle, started roping, $3500; '99 AQHA bay geld., foundation bred, roped steers in pasture, $3500. John Boudreaux, Abbeville; (337) 893-6743.

APHA homozygous mares, exposed to homozygous stallion, $1499/1-up. Perry Thomassie, Gonzales; (225) 644-5381 or (225) 644-4238.

2001 & 2002 AQHA sorrel fillies, good cutting horse prospect, $1495/1. Jean Causey, Prairieville; (225) 644-5381 or (225) 644-4238.

Reg. TWHBEA, SSHBEA, weans. & yrlgs., stud colts, & fillies, $1200/1-up. Lois Rodrigue, Vacherie; horsinaround@eatel.net or (225) 265-4654 or (504) 289-0923.

1994 AQHA sorrel stallion, gentle to ride, easy to handle, also eligible stud for APHA, Three Bars, Joe Reed II & Impressive on papers, HYPP=N/N, $1600. M. Perrin, Ponchatoula; (985) 845-2402 or (985) 969-0518.

Paint, world champ. trail horse, 12 ROM's, including halter, Western Pleasure, HUS, showmanship & WR, $25,000. Russ Mixon, Pride; russmixon1@cox.net or (225) 654-9254.

1995 QH red dun mare, Impressive bred, exper. in barrels & poles, very fast, excel. trail horse, exper. rider needed, $2000; '00 AQHA bay filly, Leo bred, green broke, very gentle, will make excel. child's or beginner's horse,

Louisiana Market Bulletin
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Bob Odom, Commissioner

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used on trail rides, $2000. Kristy Francis, Folsom; (985) 796-5085.

1986 AQHA dun geld., w/buckskin markings, beautiful color & conform., grandson of Wonder Seeker, great trail horse, $2000. K. Francis, Folsom; (985) 796-5085.

AQHA 12 yr. mare, sorrel, dbl. bred War Bond Leo, anyone can ride, used as a broodmare, $3000; '02 AQHA filly, sorrel w/blonde mane & tail, great disp., Skipper W & War Bond Leo bloodlines, $2500. Linda Amond, Greenwell Springs; (225) 262-1712 or (225) 752-2194 ext. 203.

Reg. pb Arabians at stud, Egyptian/Spanish bloodlines, show quality, blk., 15.2+ hands, excel. temperament, foals to show & for sale, $500/1-up. Donavan Stoute, Opelousas; (337) 585-2642.

Reg. pb Arabian stallions, mares, colts & fillies, Egyptian/Spanish bloodstock, Ibn Halima, Morafic, Kabull, Barish de Washoe bloodlines, $500 down & up. Jeff Dupre, Washington; (337) 585-2642.

AQHA bay geld, 2 yrs., 14.2 hands, 950 lbs., super calm, gentle, laid back, excel. handle, started on cattle, ropes & pulls, King Ranch bloodline, hauled a lot, no bad habits, $3500. A. Smith, Gonzales, (225) 673-3617.

AQHA 8 yr. Two-Eyed Jack mare, w/5 mo. filly, $2500; 18 mo. AQHA filly, $1200; weans., $800-$1000/1. Brian Dupont, Morrow; (318) 346-6767.

AQHA working mares, yrlgs. & gelds., 2 & 3 yrs., pro training on cattle & roping, Doc Bar, Gay Bar King, Poco Bueno, Smart Little Lena, Smart Little Jerry, super gentle, excel. high school/ranch prospects, $1500/1-up. M. LaHaye, Ville Platte; (337) 224-9362.

1995 APHA tobiano geld., sound, good handle, real nice looking, won & placed in Western Pleasure classes, will track calves on his own, $3500. R. Perioux, St. Martinville; (337) 394-8807.

1999 AQHA chestnut geld., grandson Smart Little Lena, Freckles Playboy, NCHA earning parents, sound, good handle, excel. horse, $4000. Shawn Perioux, St. Martinville; (337) 394-8807.

Jerusalem donkeys, 5 mo. Jack & 1 mo. Jenny, nursing foals, good protection for goats, $125/1. Albert Westall, Baton Rouge; (225) 293-9581.

2003 APHA paint filly, flashy, full of color, very muscular & defined, great 4-H prospect, $1900 obo. Owen Begnaud, Lafayette; (337) 235-5894.

(2) Thoroughbreds, (1) 7 yr. broodmare, w/colt at side, rebred to a winner, (1) yrlg. filly, $4000, they are very well bred. L. Miller, Scott; (337) 234-3464.

4 yr. Mammoth paint Jenny, 54" tall, green broke to ride & will pull a wagon, $450. Junior Haymon, DeRidder; (337) 462-2669.

TW horses, (2) yrlg. colts, (1) blk./wh. tobiano wean. colt, (1) chestnut filly, $1800/1-up; Palomino stallion, 2 ½ yrs., excel. gait, $6500. Bennie Franks, Harrisonburg; (318) 744-5390.

Molly mule, 2 mos., colt's mother is reg. TW, sell at 5-6 mos., $600, take deposit. Robert Barton, Elmer; (318) 659-4672.

APHA 15 yr., paint overo mare, great kid's horse, very gentle, sires Dark Ave., Lil' Abner, Top Billing, $1100. Shane Bellue, Jackson; (225) 629-5545.

4 ½ mo. dark bay stud colt, ½ Fox Trotter, ½ TW, gaited & halter broke, $500. Jimmie Fontenot, Ville Platte; (337) 363-6089.

AQHA 1 ½ yr. stallion, sire Peppy Freckles Bar, green broke, $2000. Ronnie Radecker, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4375.

Reg. 18 mo. stud colt, $550; reg. breeding stock Paint mare, 4 yrs., $1200; reg. Paint stud, 9 yrs., color producer, $3000. Brian Poiencot, Theriot; (985) 876-4127.

Reg. Arabian mare, 14 yrs., bay, w/blk. mane & tail, super sweet & gentle, 14 hands, 800 lbs., $1500. C. Smith, Coushatta; (318) 932-3033.

AQHA sorrel yrlg. stud colt, Peppy Doc Again, Special Effort, Blondy's Dude, excel. conform., $1500. Gerald Ducote, Simmsport; (318) 941-2748.

AQHA bay filly, 4/11/03, sire dbl. bred Skipper W, dam Leo, Pudden Head, $1200. Vernon Humphries, Zachary; (225) 654-4962.

AQHA bay filly, 2/14/03, sire dbl. bred Skipper W, dam Two-Eyed Jack, Motor Scooter, Rancho Sunup, $1200. Linda Humphries, Zachary; (225) 654-4962.

16 Yr. QH mare, barrel & pole horse, does all play day events, great disp., anyone can ride, $2200. Shawn Cooper, DeQuincy; (337) 786-6160.

APHA colts & 2 yr. gelds., various colors, good bloodlines & conform., $400/1-up. Douglas Madden, Saline; (318) 576-3570.

AQHA 4 yr. line back red dun geld., big, flashy & gentle, foundation bloodline, trail riding & started on cattle sorting, $3000. Alvin Stafford, Prairieville; (225) 673-3373.

APHA 5 yr. blk. breeding stock mare, extremely sweet & gentle, anyone can ride, great trail rider & started on cattle sorting, $2000. N. Stafford, Prairieville; (225) 673-3373.

AQHA 3 yr. geld., palomino, loads, hauls & rides, $1400 obo. Lester Francois, Eunice; (337) 457-4519.

(2) AQHA weans., excel. conform., all shots, filly has Mr. San Peppy & Impressive top, Obvious Conclusion bottom, stud has Mr. San Peppy & Impressive top, Jolly Bar Jim bottom, $750/1. Janie Parker, Colfax; (318) 627-3759.

2001 Barlink Zip Code paint mare, out of Cooza Lad daughter, winner of $6000 futurity monies, started under saddle, excel. all around prospect, $5000. Don Roberts, Zachary; (225) 261-5157.

2 Yr. QH geld., very gentle & easy to ride, $600. Blake Veillon, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4355 or (337) 831-3247.

2003 Colts, (2) blk., (1) blk./wh. paint, gentle & halter broke, $350-$500. James Veillon, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4355 or (337) 831-3247.

AQHA, PHBA, 10 yr. mare, every foal dilute color, granddaughter, Sierra Te, $2200. Wanda Grass, Folsom; (985) 373-2806.

AQHA liver chestnut 8 yr. mare, granddaughter of sires Quincy Dan & Tinker Steel, AQHA champ. & superior halter, $2200. David Grass, Folsom; (985) 796-3522.

AQHA, PHBA 18 mo. palomino colt, 3-wh. stockings, w/blaze, snow-white mane & tail, $2000. Garret Grass, Folsom; (985) 373-2805.

2002 Pal. stallion, Doc Bar, Blondy Dude & King bred, 4th generation dilute gene, should mature close to 16 hands, exceptional disp. & conform., great asset to any breeding program, $2500. Mike Vidal, Loranger; bestofthewest@aol.com or (985) 878-4151.

2002 AQHA cremello stallion, dbl. dilute gene, foundation bred Sport Model, Doc Bar, Blondy Dude & King, breed your sorrel mare & get a pal., guaranteed, $2500. Jane West, Loranger; bestofthewest@aol.com or (985) 878-4151.

AQHA '02 buckskin stallion, Doc Bar, Blondy Dude & King bred, also 4th generation dilute gene, dam is an own daughter of Steel, super disp. & conform., $2500. Jane Vidal, Loranger; bestofthewest@aol.com or (985) 878-4151.

AQHA gorgeous foundation weans. & yrlgs., many to choose from, cremello, blk., pal. & buckskins, Doc Bar, Sport Model & Handcock bred, must see, $1200/1-up. Anthony Vidal, Loranger; bestofthewest@aol.com or (985) 878-4151.

2001 Bay mare, halter broke & handled regularly, Sport Model Ethan, Blondies Injun (Jet Injun), blaze face, great conform. & disp., $1750. John Lurry, Port Allen; (225) 627-6411 or (225) 324-7063.

1984 AQHA finished cutting mare, sorrel, places regularly in shows, wonderful disp., perfect for beginning/experienced cutter for child, never bred, $5000. Tonya Lurry, Port Allen; (225) 627-6411 or (225) 324-7063.

AQHA 7 yr. sorrel mare, bred to foal in April '04, Obvious Conclusion, Top Moon Deck bred, HYPP N/N, $1500. Janie Parker, Colfax, (318) 627-3759.

2 & 3 yr. AQHA gelds., started correctly & ridden 7 mos., will be performers, $2000/1. John O'Neal, Lake Charles; (337) 433-1856.

Reg. mini horses AMHA, AMHR fillies, colts & mares, $450/1-up; 2-wh. cart, $375; harness, $160. Homer Cunningham, Albany; (225) 567-3522.

1989 AQHA palomino mare, granddaughter of Dash For Cash, excel. barrel & pole horse, also has penned cows, $3000. Marsha King, Houma; (985) 853-2927.

2002 AQHA colt, Strait Silver x Peppy's Molly, super nice, athletic colt, out of the $46,000 roping stud from the Four 6's Ranch in Texas, ready to start in the spring, $1600. Wayne Mounch, Addis; (225) 322-6100 or (225) 776-1688.

2003 AQHA palomino colt, grandson of AAA running horse Three Jets, lots of speed in pedigree, too many to list, both parents very gentle, sire ridden & shown by 6 yr., $1800. Rosemary Abadie, Metairie; (504) 701-8816.

5 Yr. AQHA mare, green broke, roan color, not reg., $600 obo. Ed Frazier, DeRidder; (337) 460-1700.

Spotted saddle horse, geld., 14 hands, grullo/wh., 3 yrs., very well gaited, started on trails, $1000; reg. TW mare, 14.3 hands, blk., 3 ½ yrs., very well gaited, in foal to gray reg. TW stallion, ridden in mountains of Missouri & Illinois, $1600, others avail. Brad Vidrine, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4290.

AQHA chestnut geld., finished head & heel horse, sound in box, no bad habits, 6 yr. QH mare, started heeling, tracks good, trail rides, very gentle, $3500, obo for both. Clint McCurley, Tunica; (225) 718-1357.

AQHA dun mare, Leo & King bred, trail rides, nice buckskin filly at side, Pudden Head, Dry Doc, tiny head, big hip, lots of muscle, $1800. Charles Casanova, Holden; (225) 294-2585.

Miniature horses, mares & foals, $475/1-up; Clydesdale mare, $495. A. B. Morris, Kentwood; (504) 229-6655.

Miniature stud colts, red/wh. paint, gray/wh. paint, both have blue eyes, $350/1. Carol Petitjean, Rayne; (337) 334-9550.

Young chestnut mare, Thoroughbred, w/6 wk. blk. colt at side, believed to be bred back, mare is super gentle, $2500. Andrew Cusimano, Folsom; (985) 796-3324.

STALLION SERVICE

Reg. TWHBEA, SSHBEA 16 hands, blk./wh. tobiano stallion, $250/$5 mare care. Lois Rodrigue, Vacherie; horsinaround@eatel.net or (225) 265-4654 or (504) 289-0923.

Reg. TW pal. stallion, grandson of Prides Genius, natural gait, good disp., $300/$3 mare care. Bennie Franks, Harrisonburg; (318) 744-5390.

AQHA pal., Hollywood George, Honey Buster, Red Eagle Jet, Shylock Holmes, $225/reg., $150/unreg.. Ronnie Radecker, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4375.

AQHA lineback dun, son of Tanquery Gin, Doc O'Lena, Doc Bar, Poco Bueno, Poco Lena & Gin Echols bloodline, $650. Warren Iguess, Welsh; (337) 734-3672.

APHA homozygous blk./wh. stallion, '98 Miss. grand champ. in halter, guaranteed paint, good conform., $250/$5 mare care. Perry Thomassie, Gonzales; (225) 644-5381 or (225) 644-4238.

SHEEP & GOATS

Reg. fb Boer bucks, w/papers, 7 mos., correct & descended from Mojo Magic & Kaptien bloodlines, $175/1-up. Leroy Arabie, Eunice; (337) 546-0360.

Pygmy goats, young males, blks. & grays, $40-$50/1. Vincent Losavio, Torbert; (225) 625-4439.

Fb IBGA reg. Boer kids, born 6/3/03 & 6/5/03, (2) billies, $250/1. Ricky LoBell, Prairieville; (225) 715-9218.

Katahdin sheep, (2) reg., rams, 9 mos., $75/1; (3) Katahdin x Barbado ewes, $50/1, all real nice. Randal Fontenot, Sunset; (337) 668-4233.

Katahdin sheep, pb, reg. ewes, rams, $100/1-up. Richard Moore, Deville; (318) 466-5939.

Pygmy males, several to choose from, very small, $45/1. Ronnie Saccaro, Baton Rouge; (225) 261-3832 or (225) 261-6097.

Mature pygmy goat, billy, tricolored, $50/1. Kenneth Fontenot, Roanoke; (337) 247-2240.

Reg. Katahdin ram, 2 ½ yrs., large, $125. Reginald Robertson, Pineville; (318) 443-1211.

NDGA reg. Nigerian dwarf goats, naturally polled, buckskin, buck kid, born 7/5/03, $100. Debby Sharbaugh, Ethel; (225) 683-4919.

Pb Nigerian dwarf buck, w/blue eyes & gentle disp., proven herd sire, w/reg. papers, $200. Leta Hodges, St. Gabriel; (225) 642-9499.

Reg. dwarf pygmy goats, excel. bloodlines, $50/1-up. Tommy Leonard, Baton Rouge; (225) 274-0000.

Reg. pb Nubian male goat, born 12/1/02, Longman bloodline, $75. Anthony Pitt, Scott; (337) 232-2452.

NPGA pygmy goats & AGS Nigerian dwarfs, kids & yrlgs., $50-$180/1. Cecilia Langley, Husser; (985) 747-8786.

Reg. 100% Boer buck, 11/26/00, solid red, produces colorful kids, $400 neg. Dennis Leach, Many; (318) 256-9443.

NPGA buck/gray agouti, Jo-Bob's Funny Farm Blue Blazes, proven sire of grand champs., grand champ. bloodlines, $150. Toby Guillory, Rosedale; Web Site: www.tjsfarms.com or (225) 648-2116.

100% Boer nannies, $100/1-up; percentage Boer nannies, $75/1-up, some bred. Gus Mitchell, DeRidder; (337) 463-9881.

Herd dispersal, fb Boer goats, reg. show quality goats, corrects, $200-$400. Blake Boone, Church Point; (337) 684-5496 or (337) 344-3405.

LIVESTOCK DOGS

Only trained farm stockdogs or offspring from trained stockdogs are eligible to be advertised. Include dog's breeding and special training or ability that qualifies it as a stockdog. A signed statement must accompany each notice indicating these facts before the ad can be published.

ABC Border collie pups, mom is everyday working cowdog, sire is a Hetzel futurity dog, males, $250; females, $200. John O'Neal, Lake Charles; (337) 433-1856.

Reg. American bulldog pups, should weigh 90-120 lbs., $500-$800/1. Terry Broussard, Breaux Bridge; (337) 332-1792 or (337) 280-8396.

Reg. AKC mini Schnauzer pups due 9/24/03, taking non- refundable deposits, expecting blk., w/wh. tri, $300/1-up. Cindy Smith, Coushatta; (318) 932-3033.

NALC Catahoula pups, off proven working stock, born 8/1/03

& 8/26/03, $150/1. Kelvin Perron, Port Allen; (225) 648-3283.

(2) Male blue heeler pups, 5 mos., all shots, & wormed, $75/1. Karen Strange, Forest Hill; (318) 748-6688.

AKC Lab puppies, blk. & yellow, excel. hunting pedigree, hips & eyes certified, born 6/18, $200-$300. Jennifer Young, Zachary; (225) 654-3264 or (225) 445-5012.

SWINE

Feeder/Weanling pigs, weaning to 200 lbs., corn fed on concrete, $35/1-up. J. B. Richard, Scott; (337) 269-1755.

#1 Slaughter hogs & feeder hogs, grain fed, $35/1-up; baby pot-bellied pigs, $30. Cindy Smith, Bogalusa; (985) 735-9671.

(20) Weaner pigs, wh., lean Yorkshire landrace cross, wormed & castrated, 7 wks., $30/1. Jorden Werger, Sunset; (337) 662-3672.

DOMESTIC BIRDS & EQUIPMENT

Blk. headed caique breeders, $980/pr. E. Lamar Little, Baton Rouge; (225) 753-1614.

Ringneck doves, proven prs., $20/1-up. J. Roy Bernard, Carencro; (337) 896-8619.

Parrots, pr. Vosmaer Electus breeders, very proven, feather picked bad on back & chest, good breeders, $950/pr. Cookie Domangue, Chauvin; (985) 594-5461.

Ringneck dove normals & wh., $7.5 & $10/1; proven mated prs., $25 & $35/pr., will ship. Thomas Rowell, Crowley; (337) 783-5729.

(3) NOM 45 incubators, by Naturform, used for ostrich eggs, can be converted for any other eggs, fully automatic, originally cost, $6000/1, asking, $1500/1. Lula Naylor, Sulphur; (337) 527-9648.

Sun conure prs., 2-3 yrs. & older, (2) male Congo grays, (1) female Vos Eclectus, (1) male Voc Eclectus, $100-$550. Ruth Guidry, Maurice; (337) 898-9461.

Sweet loveable cockatiels, hf, breeder age, all banded & have certificates, lutinos, albinos, wh.-faced, grays, cinn., pearls & most combinations, $30/1-up. Samantha Ivy, Morgan City; (985) 631-3498.

Hf babies, Timneh African grays, $650/1; blue crown conures, $250; sun conure, $250; gold mantle rosella, $150. Patsy Guidry, Duson; (337) 873-8887.

(50) pr. fancy Indian ringnecks, $10,000; (1) mature dbl. yellow head Amazon male, $500; red lory Amazon female, $250; blue-front Amazon male, $250. Joe Guidry, Duson; (337) 873-8887.

Canaries, from award winning line, gloster, $60/1; opal, $60/1; bronze, $65/1; red factor, $65/1. Carlos Ambrogio, Houma; (985) 868-3648.

Red-front lilac crown Amazon breeder male, $400; wh.-front Amazon breeder female, $400; breeder chattering lory female, $400. C. E. Brister, Princeton; (318) 949-2909.

Female GN rainbow lory, 5 yrs., proven layer w/previous mate, $250; (2) proven prs. green-nape lories, $500/1; bonded pr. red lories, 5-7 yrs., proven w/other mates, $600; canary wing blue-front Amazon, hatched 7/18/02, unsexed, hand raised, only likes females, $500. Carl Brehm, Hebert; (318) 649-0417.

Parrots, breeder prs., Mexican redheads, $600; orange wings, $350. Ricky LoBell, Prairieville; (225) 715-9218.

Orange-faced lovebirds, lutinos, normals, olives, cinn., $25-$60/1. Dale Landry, Paincourtville; (985) 369-6952.

Weaver finches, (5) males, (3) females, $15/1 or $80/all, meet half way. Warren Oubre, Lutcher; (225) 869-3656.

Beautiful breeder Congo African gray female, $750; male, $350; cockatiels, $25/1-up; parakeets, $8/1; lovebirds, $25/1. C. Broussard, Abbeville; (337) 893-6745.

Red factor canaries, $65/1. Juan Castro, Destrehan; (985) 725-0283.

POULTRY, FOWL & EGGS

Mixed breed & crossbred chickens, $4-$6/1; Peking, blk. Swedish, mostly male ducks, $7/1. Kathy Matte, Opelousas; (337) 543-7130.

Mallard ducks, babies to mature flyers, $3.5-$8/1. Jennifer Young, Zachary; (225) 654-3264 or (225) 445-5012.

Rhode Island red bantams, wh., blk. & dark Cornish bantams, standard wh. Cornish, Beltsville small wh. turkeys, $8-$15/1. Stuart Gauthier, Vermillion; (337) 643-6041.

All kinds fb young hens, $7/1. Jerry Rackley, Pitkin; (337) 328-8668.

Baby muscovy ducks, $3/1. W. Vetsch, New Orleans; (504) 482-2662.

(5) Female blk. belly tree ducks, $30/1; (1) female Canadian goose, $50; (1) female Reeves pheasant, $30. Nelson Simoneaux, Maurepas; (225) 698-9497.

Peafowl, wh., blue pied, spaulding & blk. shoulder, all ages, $25-$100. Harves George, Flatwoods; (318) 793-4384.

Super large quail hatching eggs, $25/100 plus $12 S&H; live birds 75¢/1-up; dressed quail, $24/12. G.R. Chauvin, Schriever; (985) 448-3360.

Pheasants, Siamese firebacks, $100/pr.; malay firebacks, $300/pr.; cheer, $65/pr.; horsefield Kalij, $65/pr.; Edwards, $100/pr.; gray jungle fowl, $50/pr.; Erkel Francolins, $50/pr. Kelly McMullan, Princeton; (318) 949-2294.

Beautiful buff cochin rooster, $5. Bobbie Vanicor, Erath; (337) 685-5230.

Red & yellow gold pheasants, $35/pr; parakeets, $7/1, other pheasants & doves avail. Randy Zachary, Kentwood; (985) 748-4473.

Chicken house to be torn down, tin, $12/sheet; brooders, new & used, $40 & $80; feed bin, $600; curtain machine, $150. Raymond Duke, Choudrant; (318) 768-2556.

Bantams, $3/1, sold by pair only. Betty D'Augereau, Kaplan; (337) 643-1724.

Mandarins, $50/pr.; wh.-face, $100/pr.; ringed teal, $50/pr.; wood ducks, $30/pr. Danny Esler, Slidell; (985) 649-5323.

Show quality wh. silkies, $5/1-up; society finches, $5/1; diamond doves, $20/1-up; button quail, $3/1. Ron Tillery, Jr., Thibodaux; rontillery@charter.net or (985) 448-2999.

Peafowl, 2003 hatch, $15-$25/1. Jim Johnson, Braithwaite; (504) 682-5476.

Mandarin ducks, $50/pr.; peafowl, all ages, $25-$100/1; cochin chickens, $1-$5/1; silkie chicks, $1/1; 1 yr. dark-throated red, gold pheasant male, $20/1; doves, $8/1, all cheaper in quantities. Mark Lumetta, Amite; (985) 748-6257.

Dominique chicks, 1-12 wks., $1/1-up. Keiffer Meyers, Baker; (225) 261-9533.

Peacocks (1) pr. wh. pied breeders, $225/pr.; young, $25-$200/1; pheasants, red-golden, yellow & others, $35/pr.; Java green male, 3 yrs., $200. Doyle Davis, Norwood; (225) 629-5546 or (225) 774-1645.

Ringneck pheasant, pinion, 5 mos., $10/1. Carroll Songy, Loranger; (985) 902-9073.

Chuckar partridge, $6/1. Robert Ollie, Metairie; (504) 834-9545.

Hens, choose in yard, $6/1; Indian runner ducks, $7/1. Laris Borne, Hayes; (337) 622-3331.

Chicks, $1.25/1; pullets, $3/1; silkies, $4/1; Peking ducks, $3-$8/1; muscovy ducks, $8/1. Gladys Oestriecher, Lacombe; (985) 882-7598.

Selling out, pure buff orpington hens, 3 mo. pullets, brooders, GQF incubator, hatcher, hen house, net box in back, $4/up. Dickie Sherman, Crowley; (337) 788-0240.

Mallard ducks, 9-03 hatch, (100) avail., $3.5/1 or $3/1 for 10 or more; 1-4 mos., $4.5/1; 5 mos. & up, $6/1. Wade Sullivan, Castor; ws103098@aol.com or (318) 544-2855.

(70) Miniature dark Cornish laying hens, $7/1; (25) roosters, $9/1. Norman Ordoneaux, Lake Arthur; (337) 774-2641.

Old English game bantams, blk., wheaton, BB red, golden-duck wing, $10-$25/1. Hugh Junca, Franklin; (337) 923-7223.

Pharaoh quails, eggs, $20/100; live quails, $1-$2.5/1; dressed quail, $25/12; pickled eggs, $5/pt. Kenny Bossier, Reserve; (985) 479-3729 or (985) 703-2590.

DEER & EXOTICS

Trophy elk, $1000/1-up; trophy fallow, $500/1; water buffalo, bull yrlg., $500. Herbert LeJeune, Oakdale; (337) 639-2953.

4 yr. buck, $2000; (4) 1 yr. bucks, $500-$600/1; (8) fawns, does, $200/1; bucks, $300/1; 6 yr. doe, $300; 2 yr. doe, $325. Lee Cook, Amite; (985) 748-5997.

(8) Wh. tail does, $2900/all, free delivery inside La. Mike Toney, Baker; (225) 775-8731.

Grade breeding male Llamas, (1) chocolate long hair, $225; (2) wh. males, $175/1; (1) 10 mo. wh. male, $125. Mark Waller, Ponchatoula; (985) 542-5676.

Whitetailed deer, (5) bucks, 1-2 yrs., buck & doe fawns, grown does, Northern & northern cross, $500/1-up. Jerry Sullivan, Castor; (318) 544-8837.

Rocky Mt. elk, male or female, 15 mos.-4 yrs., $1000/1-up. Ivan Edwards, Sr., Ringgold; (318) 894-9586.

Zebra stud colt, foaled May 24, 2003, Grant zebra, parents at place, $2000. Mike LaFleur, Ville Platte; (337) 363-1625.

RABBITS & EQUIPMENT

NZW, NZ, Calif. mixed & San Juan, $10/1-up. Michael Moore, Marrero; (504) 341-2082.

Netherland dwarf, Jersey, Wooly & Holland lops, breeders & bunnies, $20/1-up. Carol Petitjean, Rayne; (337) 334-9550.

(8) NZW, $5/1 or make offer. Shane Bellue, Jackson; (225) 629-5545.

Lop bunnies, blk., brown, white w/brown, 2 mos., males & females, $8/1; breeder buck, $20/1. R. Myers, Franklinton; (985) 839-5123.

Selling out, pedigree Dutch, (4) proven does, blk./wh., gray, (2) proven bucks, chocolate & blue, $20/1 or $100/all. Katherine Beier, Prairieville; drkatkalls@eatel.net or (225) 715-2828.

NZW & Flemish mixed for breeding or eating, $7/1-up, no checks. Bruce Batiste, Sr., Slidell; (985) 639-9770.

RATITES

Emus, breeder pr., free to good farm, new owners must sign release & pick up birds. Robert Guillory, Ville Platte; robertguillory@centurytel.net or (337) 363-5941.

AQUACULTURE & EQUIPMENT

Blue Catfish, 25¢/1; channel catfish, 20¢/1; hybrid bluegill, 25¢/1; other bluegills, 20¢/1; Chinquapin, 25¢/1; bass, 50¢/1-up; koi, 50¢/1-up, del. avail. David Lowe, Minden; (318) 377-1525.

Bass, 60¢/1; bluegill, 20¢/1; crappie, 30¢/1; Chinquapin, 25¢/1; catfish, 20¢/1; hybrids, 25¢/1; carp, $9/1; minnows, $8/lb. del. avail. Frank Book, Shreveport; (318) 929-4251.

Bass, 60¢; bluegill & redear, 24¢; minnows, 3¢; catfish, 20¢/up; triploid grass carp, $12. Paul Picard, Houma; (800) 820-2606.

6" Cyntrifugal pump mounted on pipe rack, w/20 hp 3-phase elec. motor, $750. Chad Peloquin, Kinder; (337) 738-4224.

¾" Hex crawfish wire, $85/roll; ¾" sq. crawfish wire, $90/roll; 7/8" sq. crawfish wire, $95/roll. Jeanel Lee, Ville Platte; (337) 363-3099.

6-71 Detroit diesel power unit for water well, overhauled, $4000. Mike Daigle, Branch; (337) 224-0501 or (337) 684-6674.

Cormier Bros. aluminum crawfish boat, 5' x 13'6", all hydraulic, elec. start, 16 hp, $3500; aluminum crawfish boat, 4' x 10', all hydraulic, 11 hp, Honda, $1600. Wendell Manuel, Mamou; (337) 468-4381.

Wanted: aerator for small 1-acre pond, will trade other farm equipment for aerator. Percell Green, Jr., Rayville; (318) 728-6966.

BEES/HONEY

Complete beekeeping operation, (4) hives, no bees, (2) extractors, lots of equipment & materials, too much to list, $1100. Carl Reece, Gilliam; (318) 222-8400 or (318) 296-4296.

Honey for sale, $6/qt., or $20/gal., 3:30-7:00 p.m. weekdays, all day Sat. & Sun. Danny Head, Baton Rouge; (225) 261-8510.

Supers, 100+, brood & 65"/8, all in good cond., $4/1, all or any. Sam Henson, Jennings; (337) 774-2321.

RURAL PROPERTIES

Must offer ten (10) or more adjoining acres of land located in Louisiana. Farmland ads MUST include accompaniments (house, barn, hay field, garden, and what the land is best suited for). Proof of ownership may be required. All ads MUST be accompanied by the following owner-signed statement: "This property is personally owned by me and is not offered for sale by a licensed real estate dealer, broker or salesman."

10 Acres, located 4 miles east of Eunice, $5500/acre obo. Gwyn Kirby, Denham Springs; gwyn@beatlemail.com or (337) 665-4413.

Horsemen & women, 19 ½ acres, 3 story home, 2 ½ - 3 acre lake, stocked w/bass (Florida hybrid) & catfish, located on Stonehill Road, where many horse ranchers dwell, $260,000. John Ernst, Jr., Mandeville; (985) 892-9723.

FARM SERVICES

Protect your investment & your friend, freeze branding now avail., ID that is humane & visible year round, $45. Kim Ballard, Cade; (337) 344-3171.

We buy, sell, train & board horses and give lessons. Russ Mixon,

Pride; russmixon1@cox.net or (225) 654-9254.

Seven Star stables, full or partial board, clean & hazard free facility, located 10 minutes from Port Allen off Hwy. 190, 60+ acres for riding. Chris or Donna Leger, Plaquemine; (225) 687-2047 or (225) 776-2843.

SEEDS, FLOWERS & ORNAMENTALS

Gourds, large birdhouse, dipper & cushaw, crookneck, green stripe, $1.5/30 seeds, w/SASE. James Robin, Sr., 4017 Hwy. 357, Opelousas, LA, 70570; (337) 407-0188.

Rio ryegrass seed, combined June 2003, La. State lab tested, 95% germination, 96.3% pure, 46 lb. sacks, 25¢/lb. Dan Beier, Zachary; (225) 654-9810.

Hybrid day lilies, $3/clump. Jimmie Miller, Livingston; (225) 686-7137.

Peter & Birdseye peppers, purple & yellow bush trumpet, mixed red & wh. cypress vine, Texas red star, long handle gourds, $1.5/pkt., w/SASE. Morris Collura, 3237 Louisiana Ave., Lake Charles, LA 70601; (337) 478-7075.

Iron plants $4/gal., at place. D. Montz, Jr., Thibodaux; (985) 446-1805.

Wanted: dwarf pomegranate seeds. Genevieve Albarado, Scott; (337) 235-3045.

TREES & FRUITING VINES

Pecan trees, Elliott & Sumner, 2 yrs., 10-gal., $30/1; cypress & river birch 3-gal., $6/1. James Robin, Sr., Opelousas; (337) 407-0188.

Fig trees, 2 yrs., $9.5/2-gal., at place, 8 varieties, SASE for list. Betty Robin, 4017 Hwy. 357, Opelousas, LA 70570; (337) 407-0188.

Pink & yellow (shrub) trumpet, $5/1; wh. althea, $6/1; green ishia, Celeste & honeydew figs, $6/1; loquats, $5/1-up; Mamou bush, $8/1. Morris Collura, 3237 Louisiana Ave., Lake Charles, LA 70601; (337) 478-7075.

Celeste fig, brown turkey fig, Southern magnolia, dwarf pomegranate, Japanese yew, $10/3-gal.; Japanese plum, $5-$10; monkey grass, $1/1-gal.; lemon grass, $4/1-gal.; wh. ginger, $5/3-gal. James Stelly, Eunice; (337) 457-4528.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Blueberries, U-pick, $1.5/lb.; we-pick, $3/lb. James Robin, Sr., Opelousas, 70570; (337) 407-0188.

Big white shallots, 300 lbs, cleaned & separated, $2.5/lb; not separated, $2/lb. Joseph Costanza, Hammond, 70403; (985) 345-6743.

HAY & GRAIN

Rd. rolls of Russell Bermuda grass & rolls of Alicia Bermuda grass, rolls are 5'x5', $20/1. Douglas Madden, Saline; (318) 576-3570.

Alicia/Bahia rd. bales, $28/1, hauling avail. Wayne Ward, Saline; 179erma@bellsouth.net, (318) 576-9913, (318) 576-3389 or (318) 471-9273.

2003 Quality Jiggs Bermuda, $3.5/bale, in barn; $4-$4.5/bale delivered, but not unloaded. Don Bernard, Broussard; (337) 989-9675.

2003 Bahia & Jiggs Bermuda, 4x6 rd. bales, $20 for Bahia; $30 for Jiggs, del. $5/1. Donald Crawford, Broussard; (337) 989-9675.

2003 Fert. Jiggs Bermuda hay, rd. bales, $15/1; sq. bales, $2.75, in field; sq. bales, $3.5, in barn. E. J. Littleton, Lecompte; (318) 776-5379.

2003 Jiggs & Alicia rd. bales, $25/1; common Bermuda, w/pasture grass, $15/1; Alicia sq. bales, $3.5/1, all fert. Jiggs & Alicia, no weeds, del. avail. Matt Marceaux, Kaplan; (337) 643-6345.

2003 Rice straw, 4x5 bales, will load, $10/1; will del., $15/1. Ricky Fontenot, Ville Platte; (337) 224-5632.

2003 Jiggs Bermuda, fert. & limed, 5x5 rd. bales, high quality cow hay, $25/1; sq. bales, behind baler, $3.25/1. Bobby Greenwood, Lafayette; (337) 984-7950.

Alicia Bermuda horse hay, sq. bales, $3/1; Bahia sq. bales, $2.75/1. Kurt Kundler, Kentwood; (985) 229-4217.

High quality 4x4 rd. bales of Bahia, fert. kept in barn, $20/1. Sonny Ridgell, Tickfaw; (504) 345-1128.

Kansas Alfalfa hay, horse quality, $7.5/1; $7/1 if 50 or more taken. Ivan Edwards, Ringgold; (318) 894-9586.

Small rd. bales Bahia, fert. & cured w/o rain, $12.5/1, we load; sq. bales Bermuda fert. & cured w/o rain, $2.5, in barn. Gary Burks, Starks; (337) 743-5487.

2003 Bahia 5x5 bales, well fert., $25/1, in barn. Loyton Courville, Sunset; (337) 662-3758.

Jiggs & Bahia, 5x5 rd. bales, fert. & cured w/o rain, $17-$20, quantity discounts avail. Miles Briley, Opelousas; (337) 543-2270.

Alicia, horse quality, $3-$3.25/1; wheat straw, $2.5/1; Bahia, $2.5/1; 5x5 rd. bales, $20-$35/1, we load rd. bales, you load sq. bales. David Fontenot, Ville Platte; (337) 363-3523 or (337) 363-4334.

2003 Bahia hay, good quality, sq. bales, $3/1, in barn, you load. Clifton Wascom, Loranger; (985) 878-6878.

Argentina Bahia hay, sq. bales, no weeds & well fert., $2.75/1. Willie Lewis, Montpelier; (225) 777-4880.

5x6 Rolls, rye & clover, $25/1; Bermuda grass, $30/1, heavy rolls, some in barn, del. avail. Bob Shoalmire, Powhatan; (318) 352-0355.

2003 Fert. Bahia, Alicia, 4x5 rd. bales, conditioned cut, $20/1. C. M. Duplechian, Jennings; (337) 824-2989.

5x6 rd. bales, rice straw, $20/1; grass hay, $25/1. James Leger, Eunice; (337) 207-5895.

Argentine Bahia, horse quality, sq. bales, $3/1, in field; $3.5/1, in barn; 4x4 rd. bales, $18, in field; $20, in barn. Richard Reed, Independence; (985) 878-2330.

2003 Mixed grass hay, 4x4 bales, baled in Sept. w/o rain, $12.5/1. Shanon Gaspard, Estherwood; (337) 783-4038.

Alicia, $4/bale; Bahia, $2.75/bale; bedding, $2/bale. B.T. Zisk, Pearl River; (985) 863-7909.

Bahia hay, 6x5 rd. bales, $20/1, in field; $25/1, in barn. Mike Patanella, Independence; (985) 878-9765 or (985) 687-5030.

TRACTORS & EQUIPMENT

5' Shredder, in good working cond., but needs new top, $150. Elvin Lafleur, Ville Platte; (337) 363-2079.

Hayfork, shop built, will lift 4'x5', 5'x5' or 6'x6' bales, new, $150. Blake Veillon, Ville Platte; (337) 363-4355 or (337) 831-3247.

2300 Ditch Witch trencher, excel. cond., $12,000. James Ducote, Bueche; (225) 627-5771 or (225) 627-3975.

Belly mower for cub trac., 42", w/trailer hitch, in very good cond., $200. Jimmie Miller, Livingston; (225) 686-7137.

ARPS backhoe, 3 pt. hitch, 10' reach, good cond., $4600; grader blade, 6', 3 pt. hitch, $125. Russell Bonnet, Scott; (337) 235-1296.

MF 240 diesel trac., 40 hp, roll bars, kept under shed, $8500. Ernest Webb, Choudrant; (318) 768-2685.

6620 JD combine, w/mud hog & 20' rigid header, $10,000 neg. Kyle Cullen, Evergreen; (318) 729-0912.

Allis Chalmers model 5015 diesel trac., 15 hp at PTO, 3 pt. hitch, 5' Woods finishing mower, 1200 hrs., very good running cond., $2800. B. Arnold, Raceland; (985) 537-9109.

JD 850 diesel, 1500 hrs., excel. cond., $5800. Mack Saacks, Folsom; (985) 796-5456.

140 Int. trac., w/plastic mulch layer, good garden trac., $2800; 1200-gal. nurse tank, $450; 4-row spoke appl., $450. Pete Arnone, Amite; (985) 878-4419 or (985) 969-6293.

95R, JD combine, fixer-upper or parts, w/spare parts, $300; 6-row rolling cult., w/sweeps for middles, $500; 6-row crop maker lay-by plow, w/20" sweeps & spray, $300 or trade for post hole auger or chisel plow. Percell Green, Jr., Rayville; (318) 728-6966.

JD 9910 2-row cotton picker, green top, recent head overhaul, good cond., little rust, $3500; 6-row cult., fenders & mounted tank for overhead & middle spray, $300. Judy Green, Rayville; (318) 728-6966.

3000 Ford, w/5' bush hog, $4000; 650 Dortch, $4500; Farmall "A" trac., for parts, $500; turning plows, $75/1; tiller, $350; planters & fertilizer distributors, $100/1-up; assorted farm tools for trac., $25/1-up. John Womack, Winnfield; (318) 628-6768.

5' Bush hog squealer, very good cond., $700. Cecilia Langley, Husser; (985) 747-8786.

Vicon 5' hay cutter, used very little, $2000. Eugene Baudouin, Sr., Hahnville; (985) 783-2229.

18"-20" replacement disc, 6 mm thick, 1 1/8" & 1 ¼", sq. shaft holes, $7/1; dirt scoop, $160; 3 pt. ditcher, $175; (2) Case 530 tracs., (1) for parts, diesel 50 hp, $3800/both; IH utility 300, $750; 4' grader blade, heavy-duty, $200. Ben Brown, Basile; (337) 432-5870.

2500 Yanmar, new engine & electrical system, good tires & sheet metal, $5500; Case 1370 trac., good engine, duel rear wheels, needs trans. work, $1700. Billy Cook, Prairieville; (225) 622-1138.

JD 9300 backhoe attachment, fits JD 450 & 550 dozer, $2500. Jonathan Colligan, Church Point; (337) 684-2751.

JD 40, 5' finishing mower, $1200. Doug Landry, Jennings; (337) 824-9545.

Woods RM500 5' grooming mower, 3 pt. hitch, good cond., $500. Stuart Gauthier, Vermillion; (337) 643-6041.

Ford 3910 diesel trac., w/new loader, 43 PTO hp, p/s, 8 spd. hyd. remotes, low hrs., $9800; JD 1020 diesel trac., 8 spd., hyd. remotes, $3600; Ford 3000 diesel trac., 40 PTO hp, 8 spd., $4000. E. J. Ryan, Marksville; (318) 240-7388.

JD 6220 cab/air, 72 hp, 50 hrs., w/JD 640 loader bucket & spear, $43,000/both. Todd Covington, Greensburg; (985) 517-0214.

MF 165 diesel trac., 65 hp, reconditioned, $6995. Edward Zisk, Pearl River; (985) 863-7909.

(100) Used disc blades, 19'-20', IH 1 ¼ axle, $5/1; IH 480 disc, 19' wide, excel. cond., $1500; 200 bushel cart, $500. Bennie Buriege, Maringouin; (225) 625-2206.

Troy-Bilt pony tiller, 5 hp, low use, $550. C. Holmes, Vacherie; cholmes@agctr.lsu.edu or (225) 265-2556 or (985) 497-3260.

Farmall Super "A" w/front & rear tools, all in good cond., $1800/cash. Kenneth Perrodin, Ville Platte; (337) 363-0566.

Bowman drain openers & shocks to fit Honda 300, 4x4, great for rice field, $450. Burke Aucoin, Bunkie; (337) 826-3968.

IH 386 planter, 8-row, w/row markers & new rubber tires, sprockets for beans & milo, planted 100 acres this yr., $700. David Charrier, Monterey; (318) 386-7238.

Crustbuster grain drill, excel. cond., $1500; W&A 8-row hipper, w/Orthman row markers, excel. cond., $2600; irrigation pumps, 6" x 8" trailer mounted, PTO driven, excel. cond., $1500. Bobby Denton, Jena; (318) 992-4504.

Yanmar 22 hp diesel, 5' bush hog 60 hrs., $5200; 8' box blade, heavy-duty, $500. Arnold Normand, Covington; (985) 893-0532.

5' Finishing mower, 3 pt. hitch, Woods RM59 model, $500; JD 4020 diesel, good cond., 3 pt. hitch, hi-clear, remote hyd., $6000. Teddy Monconduit, Gonzales; (225) 644-2920 or (225) 473-2839.

(2) 9910 JD cotton pickers, buy one, get another free, $2000; Gleaner combine, ran good when last used, free. Steve Mathews, Alexandria; (318) 308-0978.

1975 14 hp Power King trac., w/48" belly mower, $1500; (2) 8.3x24 trac. tires, on 5-hole wheels, $125/both; 48" belly mower for Power King trac., $500. G. H. Bolen, Lake Charles; (337) 439-3518.

2000 NH 42 hp, 90 hrs., 5' bush hog, $12,000. Dewayne Richards, Eros; (318) 249-2513.

JD 60 hp diesel, rear remotes, 3 pt. hitch, $4750; side mount hyd. ditching blade, $300. Chad LeJeune, Eunice; (337) 432-6740.

JD 4640 trac., cab/air, quad range, duals, new rubber, front tires foam filled, $15,000 obo; 15' Case disc, new cutter blades, $1200 obo. Toby Berthelot, Addis; (225) 413-5345.

970 Case diesel trac., $6000; 1199B Long backhoe, $1000; Prime basing plow, $800; New Brammer offset PTO ditcher, ditched 300 acres, $2000. Joe Musick, Crowley; (337) 788-2551.

Cummings power unit on skids, w/safety cutoff, 71 hp PTO, ready, $3500. Matt Manuel, Oberlin; (337) 639-2308.

MF 165 diesel trac., 52 PTO hp, p/s, hyd. remotes, $3200; Yanmar diesel trac., 24 PTO hp, 8 spd., 3 PTO spd., $3300; MF 35, 65 hp gas engine, very good cond., $3000. J. Guillot, Hessmer; (318) 563-4776.

Farmall "M", very good cond., new paint & new R2 tires, $2500. Jerry Moreau, Pineville; (318) 443-2433.

Farmall cub trac., w/belly mower, good shape, $1600. Jill Hutcheson, Ponchatoula; (985) 370-6922 or (985) 507-6657.

2 Cyl. Detroit diesel engine, good cond., $750. Lewis Hicks, Ragley; (337) 725-3601.

Long model 1200 backhoe, $1800 or trade for 12' or larger bush hog. Eric Venissat, Gueydan; (337) 536-7225.

850 E Case, 29" wide pad dozer, excel. cond., for yr. round work, very good for winter work, $34,995. Dickie Patrick, Oberlin; (337) 639-2646 or (337) 224-1715.

MF 240 trac., w/MF 232 loader, $10,500; Kubota L-3000 F trac., like new, $8500; Howse 4' bush hog, $400. A. P. Douzart, Alexandria; (318) 449-1348.

Long trac. starter, $210; used 12x24 rims, w/center 8 bolt pattern, $80; 8N hyd. pump, $395; 8N fenders, used, $25. James Degeyter, Arnaudville; (337) 754-7682.

Used NH 570 sq. hay baler, like new, baled less than 2000 bales, excel. cond., guaranteed to work, $7500. Glen Leger, Opelousas; (337) 948-3344 or (337) 543-4303 or (337) 945-5158.

Old Olivier gas trac. w/belly pan, runs needs work, $700 or trade for 6' box blade; Olivier 550 35 hp diesel trac., runs great, lots of new parts, perfect for food plots, $3000. Kevin Murphy, Folsom; (985) 262-2269.

Farmall AV, w/tools, JD corn planter, 5' bush hog, $3000. Carrol Duplechin, Church Point; (337) 298-1960.

1996 2800 Linkbelt Quantum excavator, low hrs., a/c cab, $35,000. Pat Prestenbach, Houma; (985) 868-9019.

Howse 4' bush hog, newly primed & painted, $280. Nathan Morgan, DeQuincy; (337) 786-4123.

Rhino turbo flex, 15 ½' finish mower, great for orchards or large yards., $2800. Dwayne Riche, Cottonport; (318) 964-2473.

MF 750 combine silver cab, monitor, 20' header, 4-row corn head, good shape, ready to go to field, $4000; JD 4630 cab/air duals, $8500. Bubba Reaves, Jr., Bossier City; (318) 746-1836.

11' Springtool, fair cond., $1000; 5' heavy-duty bush hog, excel. cond., $500. Delfred Romero, Erath; (337) 893-8657.

10" Von Brunt drill, ideal for rye grass & small grains, 7" spacing, $500. Elwood McGee, New Iberia; (337) 364-0626.

Case 850B trac., front-end loader, $12,500 obo. Dominick Costanza, Kenner; (504) 467-8737 or (504) 251-2123.

JD 620, new paint, engine overhauled, p/s, 3 pt. hitch, excel. cond., $3000. Freddie Lavespere, Pineville; (318) 442-3018.

1972 JD 4020, w/front-end loader, 96 hp, diesel, Synchro trans., new injection pump, tires, seat, grilles, center link, batteries, fuel pump, fresh paint, excel. cond., $12,000. Chris Campbell, Mandeville; (985) 966-0284.

Woods 10' bush hog, excel. cond., $2800; NH 3 bale hyd. lift, 3 pt. hitch, $750. C. Campbell, Mandeville; (985) 966-0284.

JD 4850, 192 hp trac., dual wheels, quick hitch, less than 100 hrs. on completely rebuilt engine, complete new a/c, $20,000 firm. Marty Engquist, Ethel; (225) 931-0989 or (225) 683-5335.

4' Bush Hog squealer, w/hardened blades, $425. Tom Barry, Eunice; (337) 457-9544.

5 ½' Modern 3 pt. disc, $700; 5' Woods finishing mower, $800. Paul Dupuis, Jennings; (337) 789-1635.

JD 80 hp, cab/air loader, $27,8000. Buddy Lucky, III, Bossier City; (318) 747-8820.

Yanmar trac., 95% restored back to original cond., 3 cyl. 19 hp & 2 cyl. 28 hp, $3500 & up. Dickie Sherman, Crowley; (337) 788-0240.

Ford 3600 diesel, runs good, old bush hog, 5', $5000 obo. Pat Burmaster, Folsom; (985) 796-5123.

254 Int. trac., 25 hp, w/5' bush hog, $5500. Tyler Francois, Eunice; (337) 523-0053.

JD 1010 trac., 36 hp, gas, good cond., new rear tires, $3200. M. B. Nolan, Sicily Island; (318) 389-5843.

Yellow Cub 120, w/belly mower, $2350; IH 484 diesel, $4800; 474 IH diesel, $5000; 8N Ford, good cond., $2200; 849 NH rd. baler, $1800; JD 375 rd. baler, $2595; NH 8' disc mower, $1200. R. Coldiron, Jonesville; (318) 339-7876.

JD 336 sq. baler, good shape, $2750; Yanmar 186 diesel trac., w/4' finish mower, $2800. J. Coldiron, Sicily Island; (318) 389-5713.

JD gator, 650 hrs., excel. cond., $2900; Gehl grinder & mixer, 2800 lb. capacity, may need 1-bearing, $1500. Warren Smith, DeRidder; (337) 463-6265.

8N Ford trac., w/4' bush hog, in very good cond., new tires & paint, $2450. Roger Pelt Pitkin; (318) 358-5402.

1-Row riding sweet potato digger, $1000; 4-row hippers, $500; 4-row middle buster, w/row markers, $700; 21' JD 1010 field cult., $1000. Wayne Michel, Mansura; (318) 964-2986.

Antique horse drawn corn or bean planter, $75; horse drawn row sider, $50; trac., P20 seeder, $25/1. John Schilling, Ponchatoula; (225) 294-5891.

JD model 60 tricycle, 3 pt. hyd. lift, live PTO, bored w/new pistons, new radiator, good rear tires, runs well, $2500. Shawn Soileau, Washington; (337) 826-3118.

7' 165 PZ hay cutter, repairable or for parts, $325. Kurt Kundler, Kentwood; (985) 229-4217.

Wanted: MF 1150, need heads for trac., w/Perkins engine. William Fortmayer, Raceland; (504) 452-0993.

Wanted: 16' Hay fluffer, in excel. cond. Loyton Courville, Sunset; (337) 662-3758.

Wanted: forced air sprayer, 3 pt. hitch, PTO drive, good or repairable cond., for small peach orchard. Kenneth Fletcher, Leesville; (337) 537-1492.

Wanted: junked JD 40 "S" standard trac., w/wide front-end, for parts. Robert Lemaster, Summit, Miss.; (601) 684-4540.

Wanted: Farmall "H" trac., for parts. Terry Hebert, Jennings; (337) 824-5187.

Wanted: hay mower, rake & square baler, must be in excel. cond. William "Buddy" Lucky, III, Bossier City; (318) 549-0271.

Wanted: Rhino TW120 for parts or working, reasonably priced. W. L. Cooley, DeRidder; (337) 462-1207.

Wanted: 5' or 6' bush hog, 5' or 6' disc, 6' grooming mower. Bill Pellerin, Alexandria; (318) 445-3713.

Wanted: reasonably priced hay cutter, rake & small square baler for use w/37 hp trac. Elvin Comena, Zachary; (225) 658-9725.

Wanted: bucket for 2840 OT bush hog, front-end loader. M. Larry Parker, Colfax; (318) 627-3759.

FARM TRUCKS & RELATED PARTS

1988 Ford F-250 4x4, diesel engine, all elec., $4000. Herbert Casanova, Amite; (985) 748-7068.

Ford 1-ton differential, $200; '82 Dodge pickup, $1500; 1800 loadstar front axle, w/springs, $100. Ben Brown, Basile; (337) 432-5870.

1997 S-10 Chevy ext. cab, excel. cond., new tires, timing chain, good truck, new head & alternator, $3300; 2002 Sierra GMC, V8, auto, towing, extra leaf in spring, 255x70-16 tires, 40,000 miles, bed liner & rails, $13,900. Marlin Bailey, Ville Platte; (337) 599-2865.

1967 Dodge 400, w/grain box, body & grain box, good engine, ran 5 yrs. ago, no lift, $500 obo. Terry Richard, Welsh; (337) 734-2887 or (337) 224-9915.

1992 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4, towing package, hideaway gooseneck, dual tanks, approx. 99K, $3750. D. C. Smith, Simsboro; (318) 263-8972.

Volvo, white, 10-wheeler, 24' box w/refrig. unit, 300 Cummins engine, needs some repair, $2900. Pete Arnone, Amite; (985) 878-4419 or (985) 969-6293.

1995 F-150, 85K, standard trans., long bed, great cond., $4500 obo. James McDonald, Sugartown; (337) 328-8886.

1988 KW T-800 day cab, 315 Cummins, 9 spd. a/c, wet kit, 1980 24' Mate aluminum dump trailer, roll tarp, liner, 18 new virgin tires, ready to work, $17,500. Owen Begnaud, Lafayette; (337) 235-5894.

Pipe rack for full size truck, $100; hyd. lift gate, 66" wide, $300; camper shell for long bed truck, $50. A. P. Douzart, Alexandria; (318) 449-1348.

1991 Ford F-700 diesel truck, w/winch bed, gin poles & rolling tail board, 112K, 6 spd., $8900; 50-gal. rd. saddle tank, $50; 500-gal. fuel tank, w/service station type pump on skid, $500; 411 ring & pinion gear, $150. Morris Pitre, Opelousas; (337) 543-7289.

1998 Dodge 4x4, SWB, $7850; '93 GMC 4x4, clean, $6900, will take 4-wheeler on trade; 1996 F-350 crew cab diesel Dooley, 5 spd., air, NADA, $12,350, sell for $9600; '87 F-250 diesel w/refrig. box, $3500. Buddy Lucky, Bossier City; (318) 453-5685.

1990 18-yard dump truck, elec. tarp, $18,500; '99 F-250 diesel, 4x4, quad cab, extremely nice, $16,500. William Lucky, Bossier; (318) 747-8820.

1992 425 Caterpillar, rebuilt, w/clutch assembly, excel. cond., $3500 obo; 14613 Eaton, 13 spd. trans., w/oil cooler, $1500. Eddie Dillon, Covington; (985) 809-9831 or (985) 956-9145.

110-Gal. truck bed fuel tank, w/new elec. pump, $3500; 1997 Ford F350 pickup bed, w/headache rack & toolbox, $500. Bob Shoalmire, Powhatan; (318) 352-0355.

1996 Ford F-250 XLT, extended cab, 7.2 turbo diesel, 4x4, 170K miles, runs & looks great, $12,000 firm. Dwayne Riche, Cottonport; (318) 964-2473.

TRAILERS, WAGONS & EQUIPMENT

(35) Cotton trailers, 8'-10' wide, 24'-40' long, for hay trailers or storing crawfish traps, good to excel. cond., del. avail. $500-$1450. T. L. Enright, Sr., Sicily Island; (318) 389-5395.

Shop built welding bed to fit dually, 1-ton truck, (10) built-in tool bars, lots of detail, pollution pan for welder, sandblasted & undercoated when built, used 4 yrs., $1100. Chris Douget, Ville Platte; (337) 363-6763.

(2) Horse-drawn passenger wagons, carry 20-25, wooden wheels, top, bench each side, lights, sound system, ideal for group, parades, etc., $2500-$3500. Gary Wimberly, Walker; (225) 664-7372.

Gooseneck brand horse/wagon trailer, up to 3-horses in front, w/wagon on back, elec. winch, back/side entry, cabinets & bed in nose, 24'x6'8", $5000. G. Wimberly, Walker; (225) 664-7372.

Aluminum 3-horse slant load, insulated, carpeted dressing, rear tack, 5-new tires, beveled edges for strength, excel cond., $7500. Russ Mixon, Pride; russmixon1@cox.net or (225) 654-9254.

1994 20' Gooseneck cow trailer, new cond., $3500. Buddy Lucky, III; Bossier City; (318) 453-5685 or (318) 747-8820.

5x10 Utility trailer, w/motorcycle rail & ramp, $400. Joseph Thibodeaux, Ville Platte; (337) 885-2802.

1997 Fontaine 96"x4' spread axle, flatbed, (2) toolboxes, 22.5 wheels, trailer in great shape, $7000. Glenn or Martha Nugent, Columbia; (318) 649-6455.

12'x6 ½' All steel floor, elec. winch, 15" tires, single axle, 4000 lb., $675. Ben Brown, Basile; (337) 432-5870.

Covered wagon, w/new tarp, 6'x12', w/3x5 porch, $900 or trade for rd. pen or panels. Beverly Stelly, Jennings; (337) 824-3866.

2002 Ponderosa, 16' gooseneck cattle trailer, used only 5 times, shed kept, like new, 4' solid sides, $3400. Marvin Smith, Krotz Springs; (337) 566-3676.

1988 Covered gooseneck horse/cattle trailer, 20' w/extended compartment over gooseneck, excel. cond., $3500. Herbert Casanova, Amite; (985) 748-7068.

1998 S & H, 2-horse bumper-pull trailer, gray, $2200. Kylie Saucier, Washington; (337) 826-8394.

6'x18' heavy-duty tandem bumper pull trailer, removable sides, $600; 5'x8' all metal trailer, $400, will trade. Lee Darbonne, Opelousas; (337) 826-7633.

1993 C & M metal 3-horse T.B. slant-load trailer, lifetime floor, kick pads, excel. cond., $4000. Donald Fornea, Angie; (985) 986-3752.

Toro ride-behind 36" new sulky, $1600. Chris Campbell, Mandeville; (985) 727-2317.

24' Falcon gooseneck flatbed trailer, 10K axle, elec. brakes, 10' deck over neck, 2-spare tires & 4' side rails, $5200. Ivan Edwards, Ringgold, 71068; (318) 894-9586.

1984 HiBo gooseneck cattle trailer, aluminum body, steel frame, 7' x 20' inside, (2) 8000 lb. axles, 10-ply tires, new lights, good cond., storage compartment in nose, $3000. Ricky Juneau, Hessmer; (318) 563-8478.

Wanted: bumper-pull trailer, 18'x6 '11" or 20'x6'11", w/6000-7000 lb. axles, excel. cond. Loyton Courville, Sunset; (337) 662-3758.

Wanted: 20'-24' gooseneck cattle trailer, bar type, w/canvas top. Ricky Juneau, Hessmer; (318) 563-8478.

Wanted: old 2-horse, side-by-side bumper-pull trailer, any cond., clear title & cheap. D. L. Sanders, Quitman; (318) 259-8321.

FARM & LIVESTOCK SUPPLIES

Heavy-duty A-frame on wheels, $150. Jean Romero, Erath; (337) 937-6777.

125 KW generator, Catepillar engine, single phase but can be wired for three phase, $5000. Douglas Madden, Saline; (318) 576-3570.

Rd. hay bale ring, $50. Mack Saacks, Folsom; (985) 796-5456.

2 3/8" Tubing, 75¢/ft.; 2 7/8" tubing, 80¢/ft.; 3 ½" tubing, 90¢/ft.; 7" casing, $5/ft.; 8 5/8" casing, $6/ft. Gene Denton, Jena; (318) 992-4504.

New & never used equip., English chaps, burgundy-brown leather, $50; "Best Friend" brand cribbing/grazing muzzle, $40; deluxe safety halter, $20, also some assorted used equipment. Debby Sharbaugh, Ethel, (225) 683-4919.

Okra cutters, hand operated, $90. Franklin Courvelle, Opelousas; (337) 407-0188.

Round pen, constructed of fiberglass material, each panel is 5' x 12', 50' rd. pen, w/o bow gate, $995; add panels as needed for, $77/1. Larry Fontenot, Lake Charles; (337) 855-0629.

Fiberglass farm gates, $73/10'; $79/12'. Deb Fontenot, Lake Charles; (337) 855-0629.

3 Phase elec. motors, 10-200 hp, $5/per hp; 6"-26" pipe, $2.5/ft.-up; Honda 2" water pump w/suction & discharge hoses, $400; portable engine hoist, 2 spd. ram, extendable boom, $200; 200 amp Lincoln welder, w/200' leads, $2500. Morris Pitre, Opelousas; (337) 543-7289.

Race horse, 2-horse starting gates, perfect for training young horses, $400. Donald Fornea, Angie; (985) 986-3752.

Original German officer's saddle, good cond., $250. James Williamson, Oakdale; (318) 335-2758.

1000-Gal. diesel fuel tank, on skids, good cond., $500. Ivan Edwards, Ringgold; (318) 894-9586.

New panels, 8'-16', $45/1-up; new gates, 4'-16', $37.5/1-up; 4' walk-through gate, $59/1; 6' walk-through gate, $68/1; auto-head gates, $350/1. Ricky Juneau, Hessmer; (318) 563-8478.

New Priefert squeeze chute, w/o trailer, $1575; w/trailer, $2000; 8' Apache creep feeder, 150 bushel, new, $1750; hay fork, $250; hay rings, $105; hay pick, $200. Celia Juneau, Hessmer; (318) 563-8478.

Grease rack, 2" steel pipe, adjustable width, $150; (8) farm gates, 1" & 2" pipe, w/5x5 wire, $160/all or $22.5/1. Roy Pesson, Longville; (337) 725-3150.

1978 Lincoln SA-200 welding machine, good cond., $2500 obo. Kenneth Jackson, Oakdale; (318) 748-8540.

Double oven Magic Chef, gas stove, $300; 36" lawn-sweeper, $60; Sears 10" radial arm saw needs motor, $95. Gerd Oppenheim, Norwood; (225) 629-5937.

Heavy-duty fuel tanks, on skids, used, 500-gal., $250; 2000-gal., $750; 5000-gal., $1250. Brian Crawford, Youngsville; (337) 288-0772.

Used universal vacuum pump that will run (8) milkers, $900. Herbert Casanova, Amite; (985) 748-7068.

¾" Sucker rods, $8/1, at farm, $9/1, delivered. T. L. Enright, Sr., Sicily Island; (318) 389-5395.

Youth tooled leather Western saddle, $130. Shane Bellue, Jackson; (225) 629-5545.

6-71 Detroit diesel power unit for water well, overhauled, $4000. Mike Daigle, Branch; (337) 224-0501 or (337) 684-6674.

Show animal pens, made of angle iron & hog panels, approx. 6'x36" each, (6) panels w/o gates, $35/1; (8) panels, w/gates, $45/1 or $500/all. Greg Monier, Vidrine; (337) 363-4000 or (337) 831-4000.

250-Gal. pasture sprayer on wheels, w/boom, $1150. Buddy Lucky, Bossier City; (318) 453-5685.

Spray rig for ATV, 16-gal., wand w/adjustable nozzle & 10' boom attachment w/(4) fan nozzles, great for spraying pastures, roads & fences, $175. G. Monier, Vidrine; (337) 363-4000 or (337) 831-4000.

New galv. panels, w/mud boots, 40' rd. pen, $525; 50' rd. pen, $625; 60' rd. pen; $775, all include 4' bow gate. Michael Passman, Amite; (985) 748-5094.

One-man auger, Craftsman, 3.5 hp, 2-cycle, w/3" auger, $125. Chris Dupuy, Greenwell Springs; (225) 261-8637.

Band sawmill, cuts 30" diameter x 14' logs, tools & extra blades included, $5500. Ben Brown, Basile; (337) 432-5870.

Cypress lumber, 65¢/board feet. Willie LaCaze, Pitkin; (318) 358-3314.

Wanted: small portable feed mill or feed crusher. Jerry Webb, Lafayette; (337) 237-6960.

Wanted: used squeeze chute, reasonably priced, good cond., within 100 miles of Shreveport. Malcolm Griffith, Jamestown; (318) 894-2868.

FROM THE FARM

Goat milk soap, handmade, skin soothing, many varieties, all natural ingredients, $4/5-6 oz. bar. Kathleen Matte, Opelousas; (337) 543-7130.

Fresh goat milk, $4/gal. Cynthia Britton, Zachary; Web page: www.dachshundfarm.com, cynthiabritton@yahoo.com or (225) 658-9293.

(20) Chairs, antique, wooden slat schoolhouse folding-type, $10/1 obo. Betty Robin; Opelousas; (337) 407-0188.

Wanted: Old sugar kettles. Kathy Zumo, Baton Rouge; (225) 261-8739 or (225) 938-9366.

Wanted: old bicycle, built before 1950 to restore, preferably Schwinn, w/drum brake on front wheel, 26" size, lady's or men's. Robert Michiels, Pineville; (318) 448-1958.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Roberts Cove Germanfest Association will host the Ninth Annual Germanfest, Sat. & Sun, Oct. 4-5, on the grounds of St. Leo IV Catholic Church in Roberts Cove, just off Rayne Exit 87 on Interstate 10 in Acadia Parish. German food, music, dancing, folklore and much more will be featured. Admission is $6 for adults and $3 for children ages 3-15. For more info, contact the Roberts Cove Germanfest Association at info@robertscovegermanfest.com or visit their Web site: www.robertscovegermanfest.com or call (337) 334-8354.

Gulf South Bird Club will host a bird show and fair, Oct. 18 & 19, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the Evergreen Cajun Center, 4694 West Main Hwy. 24, Houma. There will be exotic birds of all types, cages, seed, toys and a large raffle table. Admission is free. For more info, contact Mike Rhodes at (985) 446-0886 after 5:30 p.m. or Terry or Loretta Perez at tbirds@mobiletel.com or (985) 632-5016.

The Laurel Valley Village Fall Heritage Festival will be held Sunday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Laurel Valley Village Store near Thibodaux. Admission is free. The festival features arts and crafts, a Cajun lunch, drinks, homemade sweets, antique tractors, cars, machinery and Civil War Cannoneers. The festival will also hold a Cajun costume contest with judging beginning at 2 p.m. for the men's, women's and children's categories. For more info, contact Ruth Gray at (985) 447-9351.

30th Annual Old Farmer's Day will be held Oct. 18 & 19 in Loranger. The horse and mule-pulling contest will be Sun., Oct. 19, from 1-4 p.m. For more info, call (985) 878-2360, (985) 878-9343 or bbrunett@i-55.com. Visit their Web site: www.oldfarmersday.com.

Soaring towers, *continued from page 12*

Nevertheless, she reports it to the DeRidder forestry station and she is told there will be an airplane patrol that afternoon.

"If it was a wildfire, it would already be about a half-mile long. After you've been at one place a good while, you can just about judge when you've got a fire," Mary said

High atop her little perch above the tree line, a hundred feet off the ground, Mary says it takes a special kind of person to handle the solitary life of a tower person.

"If you can get along with yourself. If you can occupy your time without it driving you completely nuts, then why not?" says Mary.

Bat Thompson, a 62-year-old tower sentinel at Hicks in Vernon Parish has been climbing the towers for 22 years. Together with her eight years of public school experience, she has more than 30 years of service to the state.

The fire tower ladies generally like things to be quiet during their watch, but both have had their share of unusual occurrences.

"I heard a helicopter coming out of the Fort Polk firing range and I said, 'Oh, Lord, it's fixing to crash.' They were still sitting in the door where they had a gun mounted and they were shooting as they came across here. That liked to have scared me to death," Bat recounted. "They couldn't have been real bullets. It had to have been blanks they were shooting. They went on across the highway still shooting."

Mary said she has only been scared three times when she was in the tower.

"Once lighting struck out of the clear blue sky," Mary says. "Another time three drunks climbed up the tower and I was afraid I wouldn't be able to hold the trap door hard enough because I was a skinny Minnie in those days. The other time when I slipped on the icy steps and almost fell out."

Like Mary, Bat's main duty is to be on the lookout for smoke and fire although there has been time for personal reflection during the many hours she has spent high above the ground.

"I know what kind of person I am because I have a lot of time to sit and think about it," says Bat. "Tower sitting has made me a better person, a more religious person because I have had some time to read my Bible."

However, the vast majority of times, the two fireguards are watching the horizon.

"If there's a bad fire you put everything down and watch," Mary said. "You're constantly looking, especially in the winter, which is our fire season, because of all the dropped pine needles. You have more fire fuel on the ground."

Mary even said there was fire right below her.

"Oh, sure," she laughed. "There was one right in the tower yard one time at Longville. The crew put it right out."

Currently, the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry is shifting the fire detection emphasis away from towers to airplanes. Most likely when Mary and Bat retire they will not be replaced.

Mary says retirement is not too far off for her.

"If I'm physically able to continue I will, but I'm sorry they are getting rid of the fire towers. An airplane is a wonderful thing, but if you've got someone in a fire tower everyday, all day, the airplane can't fly everyday, all day. And you've got the personal touch."

Balloons in Baton Rouge,
continued from page 2

Some of the crewmembers are near tears. They realize immediately they are out of the competition for the weekend.

Timidly I ask, "Can I get out the balloon now?"

Kevin and Mike contact George, the owner of the balloon, who appears on the scene shortly. Quickly surveying the trouble he says, "Pull it down," but the balloon remains firmly in the sticky clutches of the oak.

George, glued to the phone, lines up help from the fire department.

I am busily snapping pictures although I am rationing my shots since my camera memory is low.

"No pictures," Mike says sardonically.

The ground wind has picked up considerably and now I am struck by the horrible ripping sound the silk-like material makes as it rips and flutters in the breeze.

I see Kevin and George discussing the events. George later tells me the rip is not a big problem and normally it could have been repaired by the afternoon if he wasn't so busy with the event.

Soon a Baton Rouge Fire Department ladder truck rumbles onto the scene and extends a long helping hand to free the balloon. Even though I have boldly gone where I have never gone before, I'm glad I'm not the one to have to climb up that skinny little ladder swaying in the breeze.

The following Saturday at the balloon glow, I spy my young pilot in the pin booth where an array of colorful ballooning pins has been set up.

Kevin tells me the FAA has ruled his situation as an incident, not an accident. He is volunteering for a pilot who arrived in town without a crew. I nod and look at the pins in the display case. I see one that is perfect for the occasion.

"Here, Kevin. I bought this pin for you." It's a small facsimile of a balloon with a slogan that rhymes with "it happens" imprinted on it. After all, it does happen.

I'm eternally grateful 'it' did not happen 300 feet up.

Hay For Sale?

If you have hay for sale and would like to be listed in the **Market News Hay Directory,** complete the information on the form below and return no later than Nov. 7 to Market News, Attention: Marilyn Mayeux, P.O. Box 3334, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3334.

Name: _____

Complete Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Parish: _____

Telephone: home ( ) _____ work ( ) _____

Bale type (check one or both) round _____ square _____

Hay condition: excelent ___ good ___ fair ___ poor ___

Comments: _____

Agriculture & Forestry Today *with Commissioner Bob Odom*

More than $1.2 million in federal funds has made its way to Louisiana catfish farmers as part of the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003, Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry Bob Odom announced.

"Top Water Feed Mill, Three Rivers Farm Supply Inc., Rangen Inc., Valley Farmers Co-op Inc., Cargill and Delta Western have all been sent funds for feed credits," Odom said. "Because the catfish farmers selected these mills as locations to set up their feed credits, they will distribute feed to the farmers in Louisiana who qualify for the program."

Eighty Louisiana catfish farmers have qualified to participate. There were about 89 catfish farmers in the state last year.

Once a farmer has qualified, there is no expiration date on the feed credits.

"The farmers can use them on this year's feed or they may choose to use their credits later," Odom explained.

The feed credits are part of the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003 that authorized an expanded version of the Livestock Compensation Program to include catfish. The credits are for the 2002 catfish season.

Under federal guidelines, catfish farmers will be eligible to receive feed credits from participating feed mills in 2003 based on their individual fee invoices for 2002. No direct money will go to the catfish farmers.

The federal disaster funds are coming to the state on the heels of one of the worst years catfish farmers have endured in decades. Pond bank prices for farm-raised catfish were at their lowest levels in 10 years in 2002. Louisiana catfish pond acreage stood at 12,696 last year, down more than 5 percent from 2001. Harvested value of $35.7 million was down more than 10 percent from 2001.

"Louisiana was allotted nearly $1.8 million as part of its share of the $34 million available nationally," Odom said. "Right now there is still about $200,000 available."

COOKERY

Fun Tailgating Treats

Yogurt Cheese

4 cups plain low fat yogurt
1 clove garlic, finely minced
2 tablespoons parsley, finely minced
1 teaspoon each minced thyme, oregano, tarragon
1/2 teaspoon Creole seasoning

Rinse a long length of cheesecloth (about 1 foot) in cold water, and wring out. Place yogurt in the center, wrap cloth around it, place in a strainer or colander in a bowl. Refrigerate until thick, 8-14 hours or up to 24 hours. Discard whey (liquid), unwrap cheese. Place in a mixing bowl, mix thoroughly with garlic, parsley, herbs, seasonings. Serve with crackers or fresh vegetables. Serves 16.

Football Spread

1 can cooked chicken, shredded
1 (16 ounce) package cream cheese (softened)
4 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
Pinch of salt/pepper to taste
Creole seasoning to taste

Combine all ingredients. Serve on crackers, bread or corn chips.

Cheese Dip

2 tubes sharp Cheddar cheese
1 tube Jalapeno pepper cheese
2 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 teaspoon Tabasco sauce
1/2 cup beer

Mix all ingredients together in a saucepan. Bring to boil, stirring constantly. Boil 1-2 minutes. Pour hot cheese mixture into a hollowed round loaf of bread. Serve with bread chunks or chips.

Beef-Pepper Spread

2 8 oz. packages cream cheese, softened
2 (2 1/2 ounce) jars chipped beef
1/2 cup bell pepper, chopped
4 tablespoons chopped onion
4 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon garlic salt or powder
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup sour cream
Chopped pecans
4 tablespoons butter
1 teaspoon salt

Mix cream cheese, chipped beef, bell pepper, onion, milk, garlic salt, pepper, sour cream and 2 cups chopped pecans. Put into baking dish. Heat 1 cup chopped pecans, butter and salt until crispy; use as topping for cream cheese mixture. Bake 20 minutes at 350 degrees. Serve with crackers.

Black-Eyed Pea Dip

3 (12oz.) cans of black-eyed peas, drained
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup sour cream
2 packages ranch dressing mix
2 (12 oz.) cans of whole artichokes,chopped
12 oz of shredded Monterey Jack cheese
Salt & Pepper to taste

Mix black-eyed peas, artichokes, sour cream, mayonnaise, ranch dressing mix and salt and pepper in a casserole dish. Cover and heat in a 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Take out of oven and put cheese on top, cover and cool off. Once you get to the tailgate heat back up while stirring often. Serve with scoop tortillas, or large wheat Thins crackers.

Corn Chowder

1 pound bacon
1 pound finely chopped onions (use food processor)
3-4 pounds potatoes, peeled and diced
2 quarts corn
2 cans evaporated milk
Salt and pepper to taste
Several dashes of hot sauce

Dice bacon and cook until crisp; drain off portion fat. Add onion. Cook until soft, but not browned. Add diced potatoes, cover with hot water and cook until tender. Add corn and salt and pepper to season. Add evaporated milk and heat through. Makes about 2 gallons.

Shrimp Coleslaw

1 head green cabbage, shred very thin
1 medium white onion, chopped
Salt & Pepper
1 can tiny shrimp (rinse and drain)
Mayonnaise as needed for blending

Shred cabbage very thin. Add chopped onion, salt and pepper to taste. Add shrimp. Toss with fork. Cover and chill 1 hour. Add 3 tablespoons mayonnaise; toss with fork. Cover and chill 3 hours before serving.

Coming Your Way

Handler to offer clinic in Ruston

Ron McLoughlin, owner and operator of Ron McLoughlin Horse Handling School in Pearce, Ariz., will teach a three-day clinic Nov. 7-9 at the Ruston Expo Center.

The clinic will cover the 17 basic maneuvers used in handling all breeds of horses and all levels of horses and riders.

Fee for the clinic is $425, but there is a $75 discount for those who pay 22 days before the clinic begins. To audit the clinic, the fee is $40 per day or $75 for three days.

For more information, contact Kiazziah Allen at (318) 878-1971.

Brangus sale to be held Oct. 18

The Louisiana Brangus Breeder's Association will host its 7th annual Registered Bull and Commercial Female Sale at 1 p.m., Saturday, October 18 at Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles.

About 60 bulls and 150 females will be for sale. All bulls are registered, breeding age and will have scrotal measurements and semen evaluations. The bulls will be graded by 20 commercial cattlemen.

For more information, contact Randy Deshotel at (337) 942-1461, (337) 363-4173, or Ronnie Link at (318) 939-2345, (318) 939-2409.

Stockyard hosts cattle sale Oct. 13

Kentwood Stockyard LLC will host a special stocker cow sale at 3 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13.

Nearly 500 head of Braford, Brangus, Holstein-Brahma and cross bred cows will be available. Consignments will be taken until Oct. 12.

Kentwood Stockyard is located at 11518 Hwy. 38.

For more information, contact Rowdy Fitzgerald at (985) 229-8688 or (985) 229-8403.

Group plans trip to grazing conf.

The second annual National Conference on Grazing Lands will be held Dec. 7-10 in Nashville, Tenn., at the Nashville Convention Center.

Resource Conservation and Development councils across the state are offering transportation to the conference via passenger bus. The cost for each participant to attend the conference through the RC&D councils is $175. This includes registration, hotel and bus fees.

For more information, contact Kevin Blomquist at kevin.blomquist@la.usda.gov or (318) 473-7808.

News around the nation

Agriculture & Forestry issues from across the 50 states

California free of Exotic Newcastle

The California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture have announced an end to the Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) quarantine in California.

Extensive testing of the regulated area has been completed, with no additional detections of the disease.

The state and federal quarantines originally encompassed 46,000 square miles, which included the following counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, and a small southeastern corner of Kern County. On August 4, 2003, all but 7,300 square miles of the quarantine was released. This latest action lifts the entire quarantine in California, including the statewide poultry exhibition ban. However, CDFA retains the authority to monitor and test at poultry sale venues in an effort to prevent the introduction of highly contagious poultry diseases such as END.

"We have eagerly anticipated this day and are extremely proud of the tireless work of the Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force," said CDFA Secretary William (Bill) J. Lyons, Jr. "We relied on the expertise of CDFA veterinarians and other staff, as well as veterinarians from the USDA and from Baja California. We also greatly appreciate the contributions from other state, federal and local agencies, and the state-of-the-art capabilities of the California Animal Health and Food Safety Lab at the University of California. Many government agencies and thousands of people contributed to an expeditious and successful conclusion of this program."

The initial cases of Exotic Newcastle Disease were detected last fall. By winter, the disease had spread to commercial poultry operations in southern California. In January, California Governor Gray Davis declared a state of emergency. The outbreak cost more than $160 million to fight and resulted in the depopulation of more than 3 million birds.

To guard against the risk of subsequent outbreaks, especially in the high-risk fall months, CDFA has activated an ongoing monitoring program. All backyard poultry owners and commercial operations are encouraged to practice biosecurity measures to help prevent the introduction of disease when people enter or depart the premises, to routinely check birds for signs of illness, and to report any incidence of suspected END or other bird diseases.

Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

State Fair Events

"Louisiana … What a Purchase"

Listed below are the daily themes for activities in the LDAF building at the State Fair in Shreveport. Cooking demonstrations, informational booths and some food samplings are planned to coordinate with the daily themes. Stop by to learn more about Louisiana agriculture & forestry.

Fri., Oct. 17	Dairy, rice & Louisiana coffees
Sat., Oct. 18	Catfish
Sun., Oct. 19	Crawfish & pecans; 100 lb. praline
Mon., Oct. 20	Pork
Tues., Oct. 21	Sauces, seasonings and related spices
Wed., Oct. 22	Forestry, honey & dairy; Kids' Day, Senior Citizens' Day & Jr. Livestock Sale
Thurs., Oct. 23	Alligator
Fri., Oct. 24	Short cuts to dinner
Sat., Oct. 25	Poultry & eggs
Sun., Oct. 26	Beef
Mon., Oct. 27	Fruits & vegetables
Tues., Oct. 28	Sugar, syrup, jams & jellies
Wed., Oct. 29	Sweet potatoes; Kids' Day
Thurs., Oct. 30	Louisiana meat & frozen entrees
Fri., Oct. 31	Louisiana Halloween treats
Sat., Nov. 1	Here's What's Cookin'

Illinois horse owners to vote on checkoff

Illinois horse owners will vote Oct. 7 whether to begin voluntarily contributing five cents per 50-pound bag of commercial horse feed ($2 per ton) to finance equine research and education programs.

Governor Rod R. Blagojevich signed HB 1121 on July 10, allowing the feed checkoff program and requiring the referendum vote within 90 days. Horsemen's Council of Illinois (HCI), under whose auspices and direction the bill was drafted, estimates that while passage of the referendum will result in the average horse owner paying about $1.85 per horse per year, nearly $400,000 may be generated annually through the checkoff program.

A provision of the legislation allows horse owners who buy feed, but do not wish to contribute, to request a refund of their money.

Only qualified Illinois horse owners may vote in the referendum.

Horses are a $3.8 billion goods and services industry in Illinois, which ranks fifth in the nation, ahead of Kentucky and behind California, New York, Florida and Texas in that order, according to the most recent American Horse Council survey.

Illinois has 77,000 horse owners and more than 200,000 horses and is conservatively estimated to provide 15,500 full-time jobs, according to HCI.

"HCI expects to see about half the funds collected support research and education programs and about half outreach programs," said Sheryl King, Ph.D., Department of Animal Science, Southern Illinois University. Dr. King heads a committee that drafted a set of initial goals for review by the research and promotion board when it is constituted.

Goat production popularity increases in Sooner state

For Oklahoma agriculture there's a new kid in town that is showing some real potential as an alternative crop as well as being a tool for environmentally friendly weed and brush control.

Developed in Africa, Boer goats were introduced into Oklahoma nearly 10 years ago and breeders have quietly built their numbers to the point they have become almost as common as sheep, according to some.

"I don't know that there are as many goats in Oklahoma as sheep but the numbers are close," said Woodward producer, Keith Jones. "I do know that a lot of people who used to run 10 or 20 ewes are now running Boer goats instead. If they know what they're doing and work at it, they can make more money on the goats."

Livestock markets that cater to sheep and goat producers report that goats make up about half of their receipts. Market managers say the goats are attracting buyers who ship to slaughter facilities in Texas and even the East Coast.

A growing Hispanic and Middle Eastern population has increased demand for goat meat. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry's Market News Service quoted slaughter goat prices up to $1 per pound this week—substantially higher than lambs — and reporters say prices can go even higher during certain holiday seasons.

Research at the E (Kika) del la Garza American Institute for Goat Research at Langston University has shown goats are also effective at controlling brush and weeds, said Dr. Tilahun Sahlu, director for the research institute. Not only does this avoid costly and potentially harmful chemical use, landowners using this method have a marketable product when they are finished.

"People are learning to run a few goats with their cattle for weed control," he said. "Some were reluctant to try it at first but now they see the benefits. This is a new approach to weed control in Oklahoma and it's working very well as the goats are not interested in the grasses the cattle forage on. Goats are attracted to the weeds and brush competing against the grass."

The institute is currently conducting research in cooperation with Native American Nations to improve knowledge about maximizing the benefits of vegetation control and simultaneous meat goat production.

Visit your local farmers market

BIENVILLE PARISH
Gibsland
Gibsland Farmers Market Assoc.
Main Street
Wed. & Sat. 8 a.m. until sold out
June - Aug. 30

CADDO PARISH
Shreveport
Festival Plaza Farmers Market
river front at Festival Plaza
Wed. & Sat. 6:30 - 11 a.m.
May 31-July 30
Wed. only Aug. 1-31

CALCASIEU PARISH
Lake Charles
Lake Charles Farmers Market
317 Pine Street
Sat. 7:30 a.m. - noon
Jan. - Dec.

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
Baton Rouge
Red Stick Farmers Market #1
On Fifth St. near Main & Galvez
Parking Garage
Sat. 7 - 11 a.m. May - Sept.
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon Oct. - April
Red Stick Farmers Market #2
8470 Goodwood Blvd.
Unitarian Church Parking Lot
Tues. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
May - July, Sept. - Dec.

IBERIA PARISH
New Iberia
Teche Area Farmers Market
Iberia St. & Main St. at Bouligny Plaza
Tues. 5 - 8 p.m. until Oct. 27
after Oct. 27, 4 - 7 p.m.
Sat. 8 - 11 a.m. mid May - Dec.

LAFAYETTE PARISH
Lafayette
Acadiana Farmers Market
801 Foreman Dr. & Dulles St.
Tues., Thurs. & Sat.
5 - 10 a.m. Jan. - Dec.

LAFOURCHE PARISH
Thibodaux
Thibodaux Main Street Market
La. Hwy. 1 & Maronge St.
Sat. 7 - 11 a.m.
May - Nov.

MADISON PARISH
Tallulah
Tallulah Farmers Market
408 N. Cedar St., Hwy. 165
Tues., Thurs. & Sat.
8 a.m. - noon
June - Nov.

MOREHOUSE PARISH
Bastrop
Morehouse Farmers Market
305 East Madison St.
Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
June - Dec.

NATCHITOCHES PARISH
Natchitoches
Cane River Green Market
Cane River Bank - downtown
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
April - Nov.

ORLEANS PARISH
New Orleans
Crescent City Farmers Market
Locations: #1 - 700 Magazine St.
Saturday 8 a.m. - noon
Jan. - Dec.
#2 - Uptown Square, 200 Broadway
Tues. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Jan. - Dec.
#3 - American Can Co., 3700 Orleans Ave.
Thurs. 3 - 7 p.m.
Jan. - Dec.

OUACHITA PARISH
Monroe
Monroe Farmers Market
1212 Washington St.
Mon. - Sat. 5 a.m. - 1 p.m.
June - Oct.
West Monroe
West Monroe Farmers Market
1700 North 7th St.
Mon. - Sat. 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

ST. CHARLES PARISH
Destrehan
German Coast Farmers Market
13786 River Rd., Ormond Plantation
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jan. - Dec.

ST. LANDRY PARISH
Opelousas
St. Landry Farmers Market
952 East Landry St.,
Hwy. 90
Tues., Thurs. & Sat.
6 a.m. - 11 a.m.
mid May - Nov.

ST. MARTIN PARISH
St. Martinville
St. Martinville Creole Farmers Market
Evangeline Blvd. & Main St.
Sat. 8 - 11:30 a.m.
Jan. - Dec.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH
Covington
Covington Farmers Market
City Hall, 609 North Columbia
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Wed. noon - 4 p.m.
Jan. - Dec.
Mandeville
Mandeville Trailhead Community Market
675 Lafitte St.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

TANGIPAHOA PARISH
Hammond
Cate Square Farmers Market
Charles St. & Oak St.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Jan. - Dec.

TERREBONNE PARISH
Houma
Cajun Farmers Market of Houma - Terrebonne
Tunnel Blvd. & Naquin St.
Mon. - Sat.
6 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Jan. - Dec.

WEST FELICIANA PARISH
St. Francisville
St. Francisville Farmers Market
agricultural pavilion (4-H Barn)
Wilcox St.
Thurs. 2 - 6 p.m.
April - Dec.

WINN PARISH
Winnfield
Winn Farmers Market
301 West Main & St. John St.
May, Aug. - Nov., Thurs.;
June & July, Tues., Thurs. & Fri.
7 - 11 a.m.

For more information, see our website at: www.ldaf.state.la.us
click on Farmers Market Nutrition Program

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

NOON (or until maximum capacity is reached)
Oct. 9 for Oct. 30 issue
Oct. 23 for Nov. 13 issue
Nov. 6 for Nov. 27 issue
Nov. 20 for Dec. 11 issue

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Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Federal - State Livestock Market News Prices
Prices represent averages per hundred weight
Prices for week ending 09/20/03

CATTLE PRICES FROM PRESENT AND PAST

	This Week	Last Year	Five Years Ago
Slaughter Cows Utility	$44.40	$35.75	$31.29
Feeder Steers 400-500 lbs.	$101.00	$84.30	$71.93
Feeder Heifers 400-500 lbs.	$91.80	$76.44	$62.20

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Market Bulletin, P.O. Box 91081, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9081, (225) 922-1284

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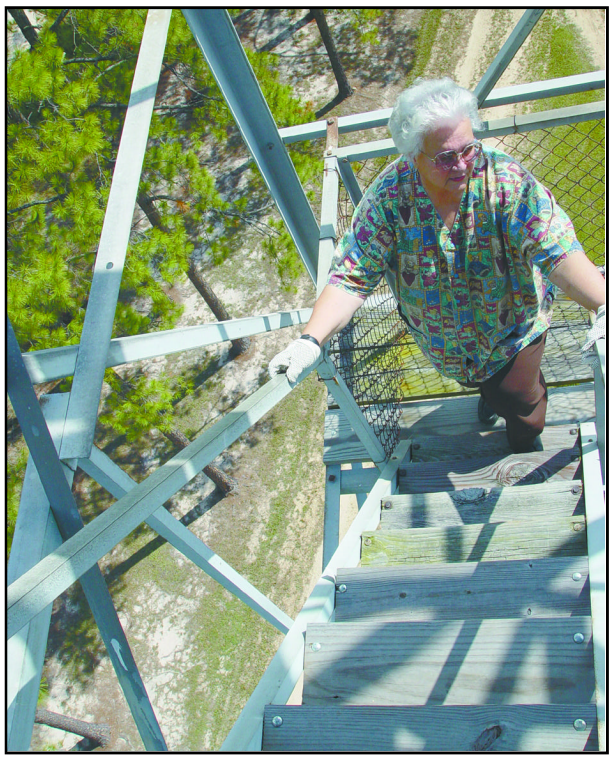
In the evolution of forest fire fighting, fire towers fall between horseback patrols and aerial surveillance. Each in its day has been state-of-the-art technology. But the last days of the towering iron sentinels are fast approaching.



The Iron Dinosaur

The history of Louisiana's commercial forest industry is a relatively short one.

It was not until the last two decades of the 19th century that major harvesting efforts began on the state's 50 trillion board feet of pine.

Protection of such a valuable commodity was needed and the first state forester, R.D. Forbes, suggested in 1917 that the state provide the "absolutely necessary work of forest fire protection along the lines of fire patrol, fire prevention and publicity and education."

The prevailing technology of the day shaped forest fire-protection efforts and continues to do so in the 21st century.

Mule driven plows gave way to bulldozers, which could construct an emergency firebreak quickly and efficiently. Likewise, fire tower surveillance eliminated the need for horseback patrols.

At its peak in the 1980s, 93 fire towers dotted the timbered landscape throughout Louisiana. Depending on the terrain, towers were located 10 to 30 miles apart. Each was situated on high ground at strategic points so that lookouts had intersecting sightlines and could triangulate a fire at any given location across some 15 million acres, or about half of the state's land mass. Construction of the towers began in the 1930s and continued up through the 1980s. The lookouts have a visual range of roughly 20-plus miles on a clear day from all sides of a tower.

But manning and maintaining 93 fire towers is prohibitively expensive when compared to aircraft surveillance.

As a result, the solitary fire tower, hovering over the forest like a proud sentinel, is slowly being phased out here and around the nation as more and more states rely on aircraft for forest fire monitoring. The Louisiana Department of Agricuture and Forestry's fleet of airplanes now does the majority of fire surveillance.

"It is far more cost-efficient for the state to protect the forests from airplanes than strictly towers," said State Forest Fire Chief Kirk Casanova. He said there are 40 towers still standing in the state but only about 13 are manned on a regular basis. There are no towers in northeast Louisiana.

"A lot of the towers have repeater communication equipment on them and occasionally, if a plane is out of service, someone will be sent up there to watch on an 'as needed' basis," Casanova said.

During the early part of the tenure of State Forester James E. Mixon, 1947 - 1976, the tower at Woodworth in Rapides Parish in the center of the state was constructed to a height of 175 feet. It was said to be the tallest tower in the United States. "Our towers were built much taller than those in the West," said Assistant State Forester Cyril Lejeune. "Out West they could locate 30-foot towers on a mountain top and have all the visibility they needed. We had to build tall towers to give us the same visibility because of our tall timber and relatively flat land."

The romantic notion of the lonely towerman who climbs up the tower on a daily basis is soon to be no more. Only a few towers, especially in the southwestern part of the state, are still regularly occupied by veteran fire lookouts like Mary Morrow, and Beatrice 'Bat' Thompson.

Morrow, a cheerful grey-haired 69-year-old grandmother, doesn't quite scramble up the 100-foot tower the way she used to, preferring to climb a flight and rest, climb a flight and rest. She tries to make only one climb per day.

She practically grew up with the fire towers.

"I climbed them all my life because I was friends with the girl whose father was the tower man at Longville," Mary says. "We climbed up there all the time to bring him supper or bring him a root beer."

In fact, Mary took over the duty at that same tower in Longville over 30 years ago in December 1972. Sadly, the Beauregard Parish landmark is slated for demolition to make room for the widening of Hwy. 171 and Mary has been transferred to the Gordon Fire Tower. She has only been there for one week and is not as familiar with the surroundings as she was at Longville.

Bat Thompson (top left) and Mary Morrow (left middle) begin their daily ascents to their tower perches. Mary points to the triangulated position of a hypothetical forest fire (bottom left). The Hicks Fire Tower overlooks the artillery range at Fort Polk.

Her daily duties are focused on scanning the treetops for signs of smoke.

If she observes smoke during her detail, she notes its directional degree on the azimuth, a large 360 degree table, that dominates the floor space in the seven foot by seven foot tower. She then alerts the other towers in the area, and they use a map with the tower locations pinpointed to triangulate the approximate location of the fire.

After 30 years she knows smoke.

"The smoke from a burning trash pile is going to be dark," Mary says. "Brush piles usually start out dark and then change color. A wild fire is going to come up with thin brown smoke and then it's going to spread like mad and then it will be brown and white."

She spies a patch of white smoke on the southwestern horizon.

"I think that's a brush pile because it's been trying to burn there for three or four days," she observes. "Or it could be a fence row, where somebody's trying to burn the brush from under a fence."

See Soaring towers, page 8