



Market Bulletin

Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner



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May 24, 2018



Local Oyster Shucking Champ is going for the Gold in China

By Veronica Mosgrove

For a man who does not eat oysters, he sure does like to shuck 'em! For more than 30 years, Livingston Parish restaurant owner Duke Landry has been competing in oyster-shucking competitions. These days, he holds the record of being a five time world champion. At the end of May, he will compete in Beijing, China.

"My family has been in the restaurant business since I was a child. I've been shucking oysters since I was 15-years old. My brother and I used to compete," said Landry. Landry, who is 61 years old, was born in Grand Isle and says seafood is in his blood. "I just love the process of opening an oyster. People are interested in it, too, so it's fun to talk to them about what I'm doing."

Landry typically competes in Maryland for the national competition and then travels to Ireland for the world championship. It will be his first time competing in China for the World Cup. Landry said oysters from the Gulf of Mexico and along the Louisiana

coast are better developed and have a more solid shell than oysters in other parts of the world. Louisiana oysters are also plump. Whereas, the oyster he shucks in Ireland has a softer shell and more challenging because it can break easily.

Landry is practicing his skills on several different varieties of oysters. He says he is used to competing in Ireland where oysters come from Galway Bay. However, the oysters in Beijing will be different. They are expected to be from the West Coast, specifically the state of Washington.

"I am shipping some in each week. I have to make sure I am completely familiar with them so I can compete against the clock, offering a clean, flawless product, just like we serve our customers daily at Duke's," he said.

Landry added he will be judged on the cleanliness of the break in the oyster, complete separation from the shell and the meat cannot be cut or damaged in any way. He will shuck two dozen oysters and he averages about five seconds per

oyster.

Duke Landry and his business partner, Rudy Chandler, own Dukes Seafood Restaurant in Watson, La. and in Denham Springs, La. Jeremy Jeansonne, Landry's son-in-law, is also a partner and the General Manager of the Watson location. The seafood served at their restaurants all comes from Louisiana.

"Rudy and I are so proud to promote and sell fresh Louisiana seafood. This is another way we can promote the Louisiana oyster industry and our heritage by competing in this international competition in China," said Landry.

The 2018 Oyster Shuck Off World Cup will be held May 22-26 in Beijing. Landry's wife, Betty, will also be in attendance to represent Louisiana. Landry will compete against eleven world champions and 18 wildcard champions from around the world. Of course, you can see him in action shucking oysters at one of his restaurants in Livingston Parish.

Louisiana Agriculture & Forestry Today

Jenkins appointed to national meat, poultry committee

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's (LDAF) Meat and Poultry Inspection Program Director James "Jim" Jenkins was recently selected to serve on the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection (NACMPI) said LDAF Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M.

"Jim Jenkins is an essential member of the LDAF Animal Health and Food Safety team," Strain said. "With Jim's knowledge base and expertise in food safety, I know he will do a great job serving on this national board."

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sunny Perdue named Jenkins and 16 other appointees to the

NACMPI on Tuesday, May 15.

"It is our goal to protect public health, prevent foodborne illness, and promote confidence in the U.S. food safety inspection system, which is the most reliable and well-documented in the world," said Perdue. "These committee members, with their breadth of experience and expertise, will help inform USDA on best practices as we continue to protect public health with the latest advances in science and technology."

Jenkins' career with the LDAF Meat and Poultry Inspection Program spans more than 36 years. He is currently the Meat and Poultry Inspection Program director. Jenkins is responsible

for operation of the statewide program that protects public health by performing daily inspections in state regulated livestock and poultry processing facilities and monitoring the movement of such products in intrastate commerce.

NACMPI was established in 1971 by the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). NACMPI is a discretionary advisory committee that advises on food safety concerns and other matters affecting federal and state inspection program activities. It also contributes to USDA's regulatory policy development.

New NACMPI members are: Thomas Gremillion, Consumer Federation of America; James

Jenkins, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry; Amilton De Mello, University of Nevada; Tina Rendon, Pilgrim's Pride Corp; Kimberly Rice, U.S. Foods

Reappointed NACMPI members are:

Manpreet Singh, University of Georgia; Randall K. Phebus, Kansas State University; Patricia Curtis, Auburn University; Brian Sapp, White Oak Pastures; Sherri Jenkins, JBS, USA; Betsy Booren, Olsson Frank Weeda Terman Matz, PC; Alice Johnson, Butterball; Michael Crupain, Dr. Oz Show; Tanya Roberts, Center for Foodborne Illness Research and Prevention; Kurt Brandt, United Food and Commercial Workers Union;



MIKE STRAIN
COMMISSIONER

Dustin Oedekoven, South Dakota State; Krysztof Mazurczak, State of Illinois

For more information on NACMPI, visit the FSIS website.

Louisiana Market Bulletin (USPS 672-600)

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As a public service to state residents, the Louisiana Market Bulletin offers free listings subject to existing regulations. Out-of-state residents may list Want Ads only. Ads may not exceed 25 words. The name, address and telephone number as well as the price of the item must be included with each ad. Subscription fee for the Market Bulletin is \$10.00 for a one-year subscription.

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USDA Agriculture Marketing Service Hay Prices

Values are in tons unless otherwise noted

Alabama SE Hay Report, May 17, 2018

Bermuda Small Square.....	Premium.....	\$180-\$300
Bermuda Large Round.....	Premium...	\$133.33-\$133.33
Bermuda Mid Round.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$130
	Good.....	\$90-\$90
Bahia Small Square.....	Premium.....	\$200-\$200
	Fair.....	\$160-\$160
Bahia Mid Round.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$100

East Texas Weekly Hay Report, May 18, 2018

Coastal Bermuda Small Square.....	Good/Premium.....	\$7-\$9/per bale
Coastal Bermuda Large Rounds.....	Good/Premium.....	\$50-\$60/per roll



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Market Bulletin, 5825 Florida Blvd., Suite 1003, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 922-1284

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RENEWAL

NEW SUBSCRIPTION

ADDRESS CHANGE



OFFICE USE ONLY

Transmittal # _____

Check #										
Date										
Amt. \$.00

Visit your local farmers market

ACADIA PARISH

Iota
Iota Farmers Market
Gazebo on Main St.
2nd & 4th Sat., 8 a.m.-noon
Closed in Jan.

Crowley

Crowley Farmers Market
Located at Tractor Supply
1st Sat., 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Closed in Jan.

Rayne

Rayne Farmers Market
Frog Fest Pavilion,
210 Frog Festival Dr.
2nd Sat., 8 a.m. - 2p.m.

ALLEN PARISH

Oakdale
Oakdale Farmers Market
Hwy 165 S, next to Burger King
Wed. 3-6 p.m., Fri. 7:30 a.m.-noon
Year round

Oberlin

Oberlin Farmers Market
228 West 6th Ave.
Wed. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., year round

AVOYELLES PARISH

Marksville
Marksville Farmers Market
122 E. Mark St.
Sat. 8-11 a.m., June

BEAUREGARD PARISH

DeRidder
DeRidder Farmers Market
206 N. Washington Ave.
7 days, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Year round

Ragley

Ragley Farmers Market
Ragley Historical Square, Hwy. 12
Sat. 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.,
During peak growing season

BOSSIER PARISH

Benton
Benton Farmers Market
495 Simpson
Sun. noon-4 p.m.,

Bossier City

Bossier City Farmers Market
Pierre Bossier Mall Parking Lot
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

CADDO PARISH

Greenwood
Greenwood Farmers Market
William Peters Town Park
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, June-Aug.

Shreveport

Shreveport Farmers Market
River front at Festival Plaza
Sat. 7 a.m.-noon

CALCASIEU PARISH

Lake Charles
Charlestown Farmers Market
Bilbo St. behind old City Hall
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon, year round

Lake Charles

Cash & Carry Farmers Market
801 Enterprise Blvd.
Corner of Broad & Enterprise
Tues., 4-6 p.m., year round

CONCORDIA PARISH

Vidalia
Delta Farmers Market
405 Carter St. - Old Courthouse
Wed. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., June-1st freeze

Moss Bluff

MB Farmers & Crafters Market
Sam Houston Jones Pkwy.

Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, April-Oct.

DESOTO PARISH

Mansfield
DeSoto Farmers Market
DeSoto Parish Ext. Office
Sat. 8 -11 a.m., May -June

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH

Baton Rouge
Red Stick Farmers Market #1
Fifth St. & Main St.
Sat. 8 a.m.- noon, year round

Baton Rouge

Red Stick Farmers Market #2
EBRP Main Library
7711 Goodwood Blvd.
Tues. 8 a.m.-noon, Oct.- Dec., Apr-July

Baton Rouge

Red Stick Farmers Market #3
6400 Perkins Road
Thurs. 8 a.m. - noon, year round

Zachary

Zachary Famers Market
City Hall side parking lot
Sat. 8 a.m.- 12 p.m., year round

EVANGELINE PARISH

Ville Platte
Ville Platte Farmers Market
704 N. Soileau
June to Aug., Fri. 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

GRANT PARISH

Colfax
Colfax Farmers Market
8th St. near Pecan Festival Building
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon, Tues 3-5:30 p.m.
June-July

IBERIA PARISH

New Iberia
Teche Area Farmers Market
Main St. Bouligny Plaza
Tues. 2:30-6 p.m., Sat. 7-11 a.m.
Year round

Delcambre

Delcambre Farmers Market
Bayou Carlin Cove
605 S Railroad St.
9 a.m.-1 p.m., First Sat.

JEFFERSON PARISH

Gretna
Gretna Farmers Market
Huey P. Long Ave.
Sat. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,year round

Jefferson

Pop's Neighborhood Farmers Market
805 Central Ave.
Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., year round

Kenner

Rivertown Farmers Market
410 Williams Blvd.
Sat. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., year round

Westwego

Westwego Farmers & Fisheries
484 Sala Ave. at 4th St.
Special Events, TBA

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH

Elton
Coushatta Farmers Market
Hwy. 190 & Pine Street
1st Sat. 7:30 a.m.-noon., Oct.-June

Elton

China Country Farms Produce Stand
26105 Liberty Cemetery Rd.
Fri 4-6 p.m., year round

Jennings

Main Street Farmers Market
Founder's Park on Main St.
Sat. 7 a.m.-10 a.m., May - Nov.

Welsh

Welsh Farmers Market
201 South Elms St.
Tues. 4:30-6:30 p.m., May- Oct.

LAFAYETTE PARISH

Lafayette
Acadiana Farmers Market
801 Foreman Dr. & Dulles St.
Tues., Thurs., Sat., 5-10 a.m.,
Year round

Lafayette

City Garden Market
Heymann Blvd., Oil Center
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, year round

Lafayette

Freetown Mid-Week Market
421 E. Convent St
Wed. 2-6 p.m., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat

Lafayette

Lafayette Jockey Lot Flea Market
3011 N.W. Evangeline Trwy.
Sat.-Sun. 8-5 p.m., year round

Lafayette

Farmers & Artisans Market
Horse Farm, 2913 Johnston St.
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon

LAFOURCHE PARISH

Raceland
Lafourche Central Market
4484 Hwy. 1 at U.S. 90
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, year round

Thibodaux

Thibodaux Main Street Market
Jean Lafitte National Historic Park
Sat. 7-11 a.m.
April-July, Sept-Dec.

LINCOLN PARISH

Ruston
Ruston Farmer's Market
Railroad Ave at Monroe Street
Sat. 8 am-noon, Apr-Aug./Sept.-Dec.

LIVINGSTON PARISH

Denham Springs
Livingston Farmers Market
215 Florida St.
Sat. 7 a.m. - noon, year round

MADISON PARISH

Tallulah
Tallulah Farmers Market
404 N. Cedar St., Hwy. 65
Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 8 a.m. - noon,
May-Aug., Oct.-Dec.

MOREHOUSE PARISH

Bastrop
Morehouse Parish Farmers Market
305 E. Madison
Mon.-Sat. 7 a.m.-5p.m., year round

NATCHITOCHE PARISH

Natchitoches
Cane River Green Market
Downtown riverbank
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon
April-July, Oct-Nov

ORLEANS PARISH

New Orleans
Crescent City Farmers Market #1
700 Magazine St.
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon, year round

New Orleans

Crescent City Farmers Market #2
Uptown Square, 200 Broadway
Tues. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m, year round

New Orleans

Crescent City Farmers Market #3
3700 Orleans Ave.
Thurs., 3 - 7 p.m., year round

New Orleans

Marketplace at Armstrong Park
700-900 block of N. Rampart St.
Thurs. 3-7 p.m., year round

New Orleans

Sankofa Farmers Market
3819 St. Claude Ave.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., year round

OUACHITA PARISH

Monroe
Monroe Farmers Market
1013 Washington St.
Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-1 p.m.
June-Aug.

West Monroe

West Monroe Farmers Market
1700 North 7th St.
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-6 p.m, year round

RAPIDES PARISH

Alexandria
Inglewood Harvest Barn Market
6233 Old Baton Rouge Hwy.
Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., year round

Alexandria

Alexandria Mid-Week Market
2727 Jackson St.
Tues. 3-6 p.m., year round

ST. CHARLES PARISH

Destrehan
German Coast Farmers Market 1
Parking lot of Ormond Plantation
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, year round

Luling

German Coast Farmers Market 2
12715 Hwy. 90 (St. Charles Plaza)
Wed. 3 - 6 p.m., year round

ST. LANDRY PARISH

Opelousas
St. Landry Farmers Market
952 East Landry St., Hwy. 190
Tues., Thurs. & Sat. 6:30-11 a.m.
April-Nov.

Eunice

Eunice Farmers Market
Second St. & Park Ave.
Wed. 3:30-6 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.

Washington

Washington Farmers Market
Town Pavilion
Sat. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., year round

ST. MARY PARISH

Franklin
Franklin Farmers' Market
306 Willow St.
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon,
Tues. 2 p.m.-6 p.m., year round

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

Abita Springs
Abita Springs Farmers Market
22049 Main Street
Sun. 12-4 p.m.

Covington

Covington Farmers Market #1
609 North Columbia (City Hall)
Sat. 8 a.m.-noon, year round

Covington

Covington Farmers Market #2
419 North New Hampshire
Wed. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., year round

Folsom

Folsom Community Farmers Market
Railroad Avenue
3rd Sat., 9 a.m - 1 p.m.
March-Nov.

Mandeville

Mandeville Trailhead Market
675 Lafitte St.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., year round

Pearl River

Pearl River Farmers Market
67518 Lou Rd.
1st & 3rd Sat., 8 a.m.-til, year round

Slidell

Camellia City Farmers Market
333 Erlanger, Old Towne Slidell
Sat. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., year round

TANGIPAHOA PARISH

Hammond
Hammond Farmers Market
2 West Thomas St.,
Sat., 8 a.m. - noon, year round

TENSAS PARISH

St. Joseph
St. Joseph Tailgate Market
Gazebo on Plank Road
Sat. 8-11 a.m.,
Memorial-Labor Day

TERREBONNE PARISH

Houma
Cajun Farmers Market of Houma
Naquin St. & Martin L. King Blvd.
Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-6 p.m., year round

UNION PARISH

Farmerville
Farmerville Farmers Market
407 South Main St.
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., year round

VERMILION PARISH

Abbeville Farmers Market
Magdalen Sq., downtown Abbeville
Dates TBA, 8 a.m. -1 p.m.

Erath

Erath Farmers Market City Park
Dates TBA , 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Kaplan

Kaplan Farmers Market
Turnley Park, 119 N. Irvin Ave.
2nd Sat, 8 a.m.-noon, year round

Gueydan

Gueydan Farmers Market
600 Main St.
1st & 3rd Sat. 8 a.m.-noon
Jun-Thanksgiving

VERNON PARISH

Leesville
Main Street Market
Sat. 7 a.m. until, year round

WASHINGTON PARISH

Franklinton
Franklinton Farmers Market
1500 block of Washington St.
Daily, year round

WEBSTER PARISH

Minden
Market on Turner's Pond
301 Lakeshore
1st & 3rd Sat., 8 a.m. -1 p.m., July-Oct.

WEST FELICIANA PARISH

St. Francisville
St. Francisville Farmers Market
agricultural pavilion (4-H Barn)
Thurs. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., May-1st freeze

WINN PARISH

Winnfield
Winn Farmers Market
301 West Main
Tues. & Fri., 7:30-11 a.m.
May-Aug.

Coming Your Way

Bird Events

New Orleans Budgerigar Society (NOBS) will host Budgie Show on July 7 & 8 at the Pearl River Lions Club, 65062 Calhoun St., Pearl River. For more information, call Vic Lassalle, at 985-503-2243.

Ponchatoula Bird Fair & Sale will be held 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on July 14 at the Lions Club, 750 E. Pine Street, Ponchatoula. For more information, call 504-388-5687.

Fairs & Festivals

Beauregard Watermelon Festival will be held June 29-30 in DeRidder. For more info, call 337-463-5534.

Louisiana Corn Festival will be held June 7-9 in Bunkie. For more info, visit bunkiechamber.net/lacornfest

Education & Workshops

Annual Florida Parishes Dairy Day will be held from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on June 14 at the Southeast Research Station, 41271 Bethel Road, Franklinton, La. 70438. For more information, contact Charles Hutchison at chutchison@agcenter.lsu.edu or 985-839-2322.

The LSU AgCenter is hosting MarketReady, a professional marketing education workshop series, for small to medium scale produce farmers, cottage food producers and value-added producers to plan a successful business strategy. The workshop covers everything from choosing a label and packaging, Food Safety Modernization Act, better known as FSMA, to marketing and promoting your farm.

The training program, MarketReady, will be offered May through July at various locations around Louisiana.

The MarketReady program is based on best business practices identified by buyers in these markets that are actively seeking local suppliers.

2018 MarketReady Dates:

- June 12 – Alexandria
- June 14 – Lafayette
- June 20 – Lake Charles
- June 21 – Hammond
- July 10 – New Orleans

Registration is free. For more information and to register, visit <https://bit.ly/2HneSY1>. For additional information or questions, contact Alessandro Holzapfel at aholzapfel@agcenter.lsu.edu or 225-578-2701.

Crop Production and Pest Management Field Day Expo will be held June 19, 2018 at the Macon Ridge Research Station in Winnsboro. Contact Dr. Tara P. Smith at 318-435-2903 for more information.

Poultry Sales & Shows

Hammond Poultry Swap will be held 1st Sat. of the month at Tractor Supply on Florida Blvd. Only healthy animals. For more information, call Jenna at 225-439-9024.

Reddell Chicken Auction will be held every Saturday located at 3029 Old Hwy 13 in Mamou. General merchandise starts at 8:30 a.m. and the chick sale begins at noon. For more info, contact Wayne Couthron at 337-526-3144.

Poultry Swap and Farmers Market every 1st and 3rd Sat. from 7 a.m. until at the Moss Bluff Tractor Supply. For more information, call Joyce Conner at 337-391-1790.

Abbeville Poultry Sales and Swap will be held every 4th Sunday from 8 a.m. until noon at the Tractor Supply, 3410 Veterans Memorial Drive. No sick animals and no dogs or cats. For more information, call Kenneth Richard at 337-319-5669.

Denham Springs Poultry Swap will be held every 2nd Sat. from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Tractor Supply on Florida Blvd., only healthy animals, no dogs or cats. For more information, call Daniel at 225-665-9042.

Gray TSC Farm Animal Swap, Craft Fair and Farmers Market will be held every 1st and 3rd Sat. from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Tractor Supply, 3827 West Park Ave, Gray, La. For more information, join the Facebook group "Gray TSC Swap Meet" and message Shari Zeringue.

Opelousas Poultry Swap and Sales every 1st Sunday from 8 a.m. until noon at the Tractor Supply, Hwy. 190. No sick animals and no dogs or cats. For more information, call Larry at 337-945-2804.

Acadia Parish Rice Arena Auctions are held on Thursdays at the Acadia Parish Rice Arena in Crowley, 159 Cherokee Dr. at 6:30 p.m. Dealers and consignments welcome; small farm animals & barnyard fowl, bagatelle, new and used merchandise. For more info, call 337-783-1442 or 337-384-4500.

Reeves Auction and Livestock every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Located at 100 Sale Barn Rd. (old barn in DeQuincy) Includes general merchandise and poultry. For more information, call Danny Reeves at 337-309-9679.

LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS

CATTLE

Kinder Livestock
13008 Hwy 190 West
Kinder
337-738-2778
www.cattleusa.com
Monday

Dominique Stockyard
1462 Airline Hwy.
Baton Rouge
225-356-5203
Monday

Amite Livestock Co.
58449 Hwy. 51
Amite
985-748-8636
www.cattleusa.com

Tuesday/Saturday
.....
Dominique Stockyard
2800 W. Landry Street
Opelousas
337-942-5661

Tuesday
.....
Mansura Livestock
8745 Hwy 1
Mansura
318-964-5330
www.cattleusa.com

Wednesday
.....
Red River Livestock Auction
P. O. Box 456 Hwy 1
Coushatta
318-932-5691
www.cattleusa.com
Wednesday

Delhi Livestock Auction
774 Hwy. 80
Delhi
318-878-2394
Wednesday
.....

Dequincy Livestock
100 Sale Barn Rd
Dequincy
318-663-1199
Thursday

HORSES

T & M Lazy T Arena
4354 Hwy. 84
Jonesville
318-403-8943
Sale Days TBA

Visit us at www.LDAF.state.la.us

Coming Your Way

Horse Events

Bogalusa Cow Sorting events will be held June 1, 15; July 20; Aug. 3, 17; Sept. 7, 21 & Oct. 5. Events are held at the Crain Arena, 12159 Hwy. 1075, Bogalusa unless otherwise noted. For more information, call Troy Crain at 985-516-7507 or Blake Chiasson at 985-285-0892 or email sorting@3DOTS.us.

Cotton Country Open Horse Show Assoc. will hold events on Sept. 15 & Oct. 27. All shows are held at the Northeast Louisiana Exhibition Center in Ruston. For more information, visit the website at www.ccohsa.com.

Christian Youth Bull Riders & Rodeo. All events are held at the Cross Branded Cowboy Church Arene, 6906 Hwy. 28 East, Pineville. Books open at 6 p.m., rodeo begins ar 7 p.m. For more information, call Perry or Cathy Moses

at 318-466-9188, 318-792-8600.

Churchill Saddle Club's Sunday Fundays are held at the Churchill Arena, Avondale, La. Shows begin at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.churchillsaddleclub.club or call 504-402-9033.

Deep South Stock Horse Show Assoc. events will be June 9, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13 and Nov. 3. Shows are held at the Clinton Arena, 14730 Hwy. 10 in Clinton unless otherwise noted. For more info, visit www.dsshsa.org or visit brittmchandler@gmail.com.

Jeff Davis Riders Club will hold events June 16, Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 13, 20, (make-up) Oct. 27. Shows begin at 9 a.m. and are held at the Crowley Rice Arena. Books close at 11 a.m. for all classes except exhibition. For more information, call Cathy

Meche at 337-526-2281 or visit www.jeffdavisridersclub.org.

Louisiana Little Britches rodeo. Events are held at the West Cal Arena unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit <http://lalbra.weebly.com>.

Louisiana Stock Horse Association shows will be June 9 at the Rice Arena in Crowley. Shows begin at 9 a.m. For more information, visit www.louisianastockhorse.com or by calling 337-208-2336.

Livingston Horse Show Assoc. will hold events June 2, 30, Aug. 4, 25, Sept. 15, 29 and Oct. 13, 20. Shows are held at South Park Arena in Denham Springs unless otherwise noted. Show dates are subject to change. For more information, visit www.lhsa.webs.com or call 225-664-3150.

Show Arenas, Barns, etc.

Acadia Parish Rice Arena
159 Cherokee Drive
Crowley
337-783-1442 or 337-384-4500 rice-arena@appj.org.

Assumption Parish Ag Complex & Arena
119 Robin St.
Napoleonville
www.assumptionla.com/AgComplex

Bogalusa Community Arena
20239 Airport Road
Bogalusa
www.bogalusaarena.com

Clinton Covered Arena
14730 Hwy. 10
Clinton
225-572-9229
www.clintonarena.com

D'Arbonne Range Riders Arena
202 Rodeo Rd.
Farmerville
darbonnerangeriders.com

Morehouse Activity Center,
9525 Marlatt St.
Bastrop
318-281-3164
www.morehouseactivitycenter.com

SugArena at Acadiana Fairgrounds
713 Northwest Bypass
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The new mobile app is available for both Apple and Android users. You can verify a horticulture license, permit of a business or file a complaint. Download it at the iTunes and Google Play stores.

Fresh produce farmers, packers, distribution centers

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry is able to provide fresh produce farmers, packing facilities and distribution centers in Louisiana with basic Good Agriculture Practice/Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP) audits, as well as, GAPs Harmonized audits (with or without the Global addendum). GAP audits are a voluntary for hire service that certifies a producer's efforts to provide safe, quality product free from contamination to the consumer. For more information or to schedule an audit, contact Audrey Carrier at our Hammond office at 985-543-4024 or email acarrier@ldaf.state.la.us.

Insect-borne diseases on the rise

By Kenneth Gautreaux
LSU AgCenter

Louisiana is known for its picturesque swamps and marshes, but these places are also home to the state's "unofficial" state bird — the mosquito. They are just one pest prevalent in Louisiana and are vectors of numerous diseases harmful to humans.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, insect-borne diseases are on the rise. The CDC cites ticks, mosquitoes and fleas as being responsible for an increase of illnesses such as Lyme disease, West Nile and Zika viruses.

Kristen Healy, a medical entomologist with the LSU AgCenter, said ticks cause most cases involving human infection.

"In the northeastern United States, about 50 percent of adult ticks are infected with the pathogen that causes Lyme disease," she said.

Lyme disease is more common in the northeastern U.S. than in Louisiana, Healy said. Ticks in the Northeast are more likely to feed on rodents, and these rodents are more likely to be carriers of the pathogen that causes the disease.

Ticks in Louisiana are more prone to feeding on reptiles such as lizards and snakes, which are not common

carriers of Lyme disease.

Healy said another factor leading to an increase in insect-borne diseases is improved medical diagnostic tools, leading to more human cases being identified.

"Public awareness has also contributed to a higher number of cases being diagnosed," Healy said. "People hear about the diseases, such as Zika, and are more likely to seek medical attention if they show symptoms of it."

Some populations are completely susceptible to new diseases or diseases from another region of the world, Healy said. The reason is the population has no immunity because of no prior exposure.

While ticks are responsible for most cases, mosquitoes are next in helping to spread diseases and viruses. And with Louisiana's hot and humid climate, mosquitoes thrive.

West Nile virus is spread through mosquitoes, typically the southern house mosquito. Birds are carriers of West Nile, and the southern house mosquito prefers to feed on birds. People get West Nile through the bite of a mosquito that has previously fed on an infected bird.

Florida health officials are concerned with the possibility of yellow fever reemerging. Yellow fever cases have been occurring in South America at an alarming pace, with more than 200 deaths in Brazil, according to the Pan American Health Organization.

Officials fear infected travelers from South America may be bitten by mosquitoes and spread yellow fever.

South Florida is home to *Aedes aegypti*, also known as the yellow fever mosquito. This mosquito is often found in urban areas and is known to carry the Zika virus as well.

"Unfortunately, many important mosquito viruses, such as yellow fever, are only a plane ride away," Healy said. She recommends anyone travelling to yellow fever hotspots such as Brazil should be vaccinated.

"To help avoid being bitten by mosquitoes, you should wear long sleeves and apply an Environmental Protection Agency-approved insect repellent," Healy said. "You should also perform tick checks if you have been in areas that may contain ticks."



This is a closeup of a tick, which belongs to the same class of animals as scorpions and spiders. Insect-borne diseases have significantly risen, and according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, tick bites account for about 77 percent of insect-borne diseases in humans. Photo by James Gathany/CDC.

New plantings, containers need careful watering

By Dan Gill
LSU AgCenter Horticulturist

Lots of new planting gets done every spring. Proper watering can make the difference between life and death to newly planted lawns, trees, shrubs, ground covers, and bedding and vegetable transplants during summer.

Because their roots have not had time to grow out into the surrounding soil, these plants do not yet have well-established root systems. With their root systems still limited to a relatively small area of soil, they are especially vulnerable to drought stress.

Trees

The first summer after planting is the most critical time for newly planted trees, and proper watering plays a major role in whether or how well they survive. Here are some effective watering techniques.

One good method is to turn a hose on trickle, lay the end on top of the ground about 6 inches from the trunk, and let the water run for about 20 to 30 minutes. Another method is to build a 4-inch-high levee out of soil around the edge of the area where the tree was planted, then fill this area with water and let

it slowly seep into the root zone.

I've found an excellent method is to use a heated metal skewer or ice pick to pierce five or 10 holes through the bottom of a 5-gallon plastic paint bucket or similar container. Make all the holes to one side. Place the bucket next to the tree with the holes closest to the trunk. Fill the container, and the water will slowly seep through the holes, providing excellent irrigation without losing water to runoff. You can spray paint the outside of the bucket dark green to make it less noticeable. Tree watering bags work in a similar way, such as Treegator, available online.

Use any of these techniques during hot weather whenever seven to 10 days pass without substantial rainfall. Continue to water twice a week until a good rain occurs. Drought-stressed trees may experience wilting, leaf drop, yellow or brown leaves, scorched leaf edges or even death.

Shrubs

Newly planted shrubs will need to be monitored more carefully and watered more frequently than

established shrubs. Water with soaker hoses or sprinklers left on long enough for the water to penetrate at least 4 to 6 inches into the soil.

Keep in mind that all of a newly planted shrub's roots are in a small area about the size of the pot the shrub was growing in before planting. This is especially true for shrubs planted after March because they have had little time to grow roots into the surrounding soil. A shrub can use up all the water in its root ball and become drought stressed even though the soil in the bed outside of the root ball is moist. So when checking the soil moisture in the bed, always be sure to stick your fingers right around the shrubs themselves.

Lawns

Now is a great time to lay sod to install a new lawn or repair an established one. Newly laid sod needs special attention to watering. Water the newly laid sod for about 15 to 20 minutes every day for the first seven to 10 days. Then, water for about 30 es every other day for another seven to 10

days. After that, irrigate the lawn thoroughly once or twice a week, as needed, to encourage the roots to grow deep into the soil. Do not water every day for more than 10 days, or you may encourage fungus diseases. There is no need to water if adequate rainfall occurs.

Seeds

Water seeded areas (vegetable seeds, flower seeds or lawn seeds) lightly by hand or with sprinklers every day until the seeds germinate and start to grow. It is critical for the soil to stay moist during germination. Once the seeds come up, water more thoroughly but less often to encourage the roots to grow deep into the soil. As the seedlings become established, water normally as needed.

Containers

Watering plants in outside containers is a constant job during the summer. It is typical to water every day, even twice a day, when weather is hot and dry. Keep this in mind when considering how many outside container plants you can maintain. How often you have to water is influenced by

temperature, pot size, the type of potting mix, the drought tolerance of a plant, whether a plant is in sun or shade and how pot-bound a plant is. Plants need to be watered more frequently when weather is hot, if the containers are small, if a lightweight potting mix is used, when plants are in a sunny location and when plants are pot-bound. Clay pots tend to dry out more quickly than plastic or glazed ceramic pots.

To reduce container watering, consider the following: use larger rather than smaller pots, choose a potting mix that retains more water (it must still be fast-draining), repot pot-bound plants into larger containers, use plastic pots, and, if practical, move the plants into somewhat shadier conditions.

Potting mixes will retain more water with the addition of hydrophilic polymers. These gelatin-like particles hold large amounts of water without creating a waterlogged soil condition. Look for these polymer products or potting mixes that contain them where garden supplies are sold.