



Market Bulletin

Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner

Happy New Year
from the
Market Bulletin
Staff

VOL. 94, No. 26

www.ldaf.la.gov

December 29, 2011



Alma Plantation is one of 11 sugar mills in Louisiana. It produces more than 300 million pounds of raw sugar and 4.5 million gallons of black strap molasses annually.

Alma Plantation: A link to the past

By Sam Irwin

Sugar mills in south Louisiana roar to life in September and by the end of the year, their warehouses are filled with raw sugar. Alma Plantation in southern Pointe Coupee Parish is one of the oldest continuously operating mills in the state. Alma is near the Lakeland community east of New Roads. The mill employs around 80 employees year-round but more than 200 people are needed to help transform the sugarcane stalks, brought in from the fields near False River, into a golden sugar.

At 220 years old and counting, Alma Plantation is a living link to the past. The laboratory is housed in the oldest section of the mill. One look at the century-old

cypress beams, red brickwork and weathered barn doors lets a visitor know that he or she is in looking at a living piece of history.

David Stewart, president and chief executive officer of Alma Plantation, appreciates the heritage of the Louisiana sugarcane industry and does everything he can to preserve the best things about the old plantation. Housing for the mill workers, built from do-it-yourself kits ordered from the 1920s Sears & Roebuck catalog,

line the gravel road on the way to the mill. These duplexes replaced the slave quarters that were then in place from ante-bellum times. A two-story wooden
See Sugar mill, continued on page 20



A sugarcane truck is lifted high in the air as the cane is dumped into an underground conveyor system. Golden raw sugar is the main product at Alma Plantation.

Enjoying this
complimentary
Market Bulletin?



Subscribe today!

Louisiana Agriculture & Forestry Today

Sign-up deadline for Conservation Stewardship Program is Jan. 13

Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M., said agricultural producers interested in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) should submit applications to their local United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service office by January 13, 2012, to be considered during the first ranking period of 2012.

The program helps landowners to improve water and soil quality, enhance wildlife habitat and address the effects of climate change.

"In 2010, Louisiana landowners enrolled more than 262,000 acres in the program," Strain said. "In

2011, we enrolled more than 304,000 acres."

"CSP offers farmers and ranchers who are good stewards of the land an opportunity to take their operation to the next level environmentally," said Kevin Norton, NRCS State Conservationist for Louisiana. "It has been a very popular program in Louisiana, and I encourage all farmers and ranchers who are interested in applying to visit their local NRCS office to submit an application."

In 2010, nearly 21,000 applicants enrolled in CSP nationwide, putting additional conservation on 25.2 million acres. In 2010, 319 agricultural producers in Louisiana participated and 300

took part in 2011.

CSP is offered in all 50 states and the Pacific and Caribbean areas through continuous sign-ups. Eligible lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland, non-industrial private forest land, and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help potential applicants determine if CSP is suitable for their operation. The checklist highlights basic information about CSP eligibility requirements, contract obligations, and potential payments. It is available from local NRCS offices and on the CSP web page at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp>

As part of the CSP application process, applicants will work with NRCS field personnel to complete the resource inventory using a Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT). The CMT determines the conservation performance for existing and new conservation activities. The applicant's conservation performance will be used to determine eligibility, ranking and payments.

For more information on the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Conservation Stewardship Program, visit the NRCS web site at: www.nrcs.usda.gov or visit your local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER

Louisiana Market Bulletin (USPS 672-600)

Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner

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.

The Louisiana Market Bulletin assumes no responsibility for any notice appearing in the Bulletin nor for any transaction resulting from published notices. Advertisers are cautioned that it is against the law to misrepresent any product offered for sale in a public notice or advertisement carried in any publication or that is delivered through the United States mail.

Commercial listings or advertisements from anyone acting in the capacity of any agent cannot be accepted. For more information contact:

Sam Irwin, Editor

Laura Lindsay, Managing Editor

Marilyn Mayeux, Advertising Assistant

P.O. Box 3534, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3534; phone (225) 922-1284, fax (225) 923-4828.

Published bi-weekly by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry. Periodical non-profit postage paid at 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, 70806.

All facilities, programs and services of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry are available to all persons. Discrimination is prohibited and should be reported to the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry. POSTMASTER: Send form 3579 to Louisiana Market Bulletin, P.O. Box 3534, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3534.

This public document was published at a total cost of \$1127.15. 14,800 copies of this public document were published in this first printing. This document was published for The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Marketing Division, 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806 by Baton Rouge Press Inc, 2621 E. Perdue, Baton Rouge, LA, 70814, under authority of Act of June 6, 1900 for the purpose of disseminating agricultural information. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

USDA Agriculture Marketing Service Hay Prices

Values are in tons unless otherwise noted

Alabama SE Hay Report, Dec. 15, 2011

Bermuda Small Square.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$240
Bermuda Large Rounds.....	Premium.....	\$87-\$87
Bermuda Mid Round.....	Premium.....	\$90-\$120

Texas Weekly Hay Report, Dec. 16, 2011 East Texas,

Coastal Bermuda Small Squares.....	Good/Premium.....	\$295-\$395
Large Rounds.....	Premium.....	\$160-\$240
	Good.....	\$120-\$160



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

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

MARKET BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION AND RENEWAL



If you would like to become a Louisiana Market Bulletin subscriber, fill out this form and return it along with your \$10 check or money order (for a one-year subscription) to the above address. Allow 4-6 weeks for new subscriptions or renewals to be processed. NOTICE: Please check the expiration date on your address label. All address changes MUST BE accompanied by a current address label from your Louisiana Market Bulletin. Subscription requests cannot be processed over the phone or on our Web site at this time.

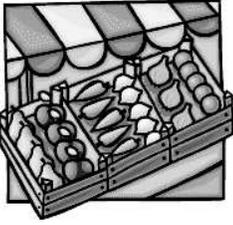
Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone () _____
 Email _____

RENEWAL
 NEW SUBSCRIPTION
 ADDRESS CHANGE

MKT-04-01 (r.7/02)

OFFICE USE										
Transmittal #										
Check #										
Date										
Amt. \$.00

SUBSCRIPTIONS 3004 1690 _____



Visit your local farmers market

ALLEN PARISH

Oberlin

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

AVOYELLES PARISH

Moreauville

WestMar Farms Dairy Market
851 Couvillion Street
Thurs. 2-6 p.m.

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 a week, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Year round

DeRidder

Azalea Street Marketplace
Beauregard Parish Fairgrounds
Exhibit Hall
1st weekend of the month
Fri. noon-6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Jan.-Sept. & Nov.-Dec.

Ragley

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

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
Oct. 22-Nov. 19, Sat. 8 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

Moss Bluff

MB Farmers & Crafters Market
Sam Houston Jones Pkwy.
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon, April-Oct.

DESOTO PARISH

Mansfield

DeSoto Farmers Market
10117 Hwy 171, DeSoto Parish
Ext. Office
Sat. 7:30 -11 a.m.,
May 7 -June 11

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
8470 Goodwood Blvd.
Unitarian Church Parking Lot
Tues. 8 a.m. - noon
April - earl Dec.

Baton Rouge

Red Stick Farmers Market #3
7248 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.

IBERIA PARISH

New Iberia

Teche Area Farmers Market
Main St. Bouligny Plaza
Tues. 3-6 p.m., Sat. 6-10 a.m.
Year round

JEFFERSON PARISH

Gretna

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

Westwego

Westwego Farmers & Fisheries
484 Sala Ave. at 4th St.
Sat. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Year round

JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH

Jennings

Main Street Farmers Market
Founder's Park on Main St.
Sat. 7 a.m.-9 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

Open Air Farmers Market
800 East Broussard Rd.
Sat. 8 a.m. - noon
Year round

Lafayette

Freetown Mid-Week Farmers
Market
Vermilion & Johnston St.
Wed. 3-7 p.m.

Lafayette

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

LAFOURCHE PARISH

Thibodaux

Thibodaux Main Street Market
314 St. Mary St. at 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. 7:30 a.m.- 11:30
April-Oct.

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

NATCHITOCHES 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.
Fri. 2-5 p.m., year round except
Feb.

New Orleans

Lower 9th Ward Sankofa Farmers
Market
5500 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

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.

ST. MARTIN PARISH

St. Martinville

St. Martinville Creole Market
Evangeline Blvd. & Main St.
Sat. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
May-Dec.

St. Martinville

Bayou Teche Market
203 New Market St.
Sat. 7 a.m.-11 a.m., year round

Breaux Bridge

Pont Breaux Farmers Market
1800 Rees Street
10 a.m.-noon
1st Sat. of the month

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

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
Every third 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

Slidell

Camellia City Farmers Market
Robert & Front St.,
Sat. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., year round

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 Farmers Market

407 South Main St.
Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Year round

VERMILION PARISH

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 sold out, year round

WASHINGTON PARISH

Franklinton

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

WEST FELICIANA PARISH

St. Francisville

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

WINN PARISH

Winnfield

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



COOKERY

Ring in the New Year with
these lucky dishes

Spicy Cabbage

1 lb. ground beef	1 (10 oz.) can Rotel tomatoes w/green chilies
1 large onion, chopped	1 (8 oz.) can tomato sauce
½ bell pepper, chopped	½ cup raw rice
6 tsp. garlic, chopped	1 cabbage, about 2 lbs., shredded
1 tsp. salt	1 cup grated American or cheddar cheese
½ tsp. pepper	
½ tsp. oregano	

Fry together first 7 ingredients after mixing them well together. Fry in small amount of light oil. When completed, removed from fire and set aside. Mix the next 3 ingredients together thoroughly in a bowl and set aside. Shred cabbage, set aside; cut or grate cheese, set aside. Mix together all fried ingredients, first 7, and tomatoes and rice mixture real well. In buttered 9x13x2" pan, layer ½ meat mixture, ½ cabbage and ½ cheese. Repeat layer, ending with cheese. Cover pan well with aluminum foil. Bake covered for 1 ½-2 hours in oven at 350 degrees.

Cabbage Casserole

1 large cabbage, finely chopped	1 can cream of mushroom soup
2 cups water	½ cup water
1 lb. ground meat	½ cup Italian bread crumbs
2 ribs celery, chopped	¾ cup Parmesan cheese
1 medium onion, chopped	salt & pepper to taste
5 cloves garlic, chopped	Crumbs or cheese for topping

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Boil cabbage in water until tender, drain. Brown ground meat in large pot. Add celery, onion & garlic, cook. Add soup and water, stir to blend, simmer 5 minutes. Add cabbage, bread crumbs and cheese, mix well. Salt & pepper to taste. Pour in casserole, top with bread crumbs or cheese and bake 30-40 minutes to brown.

Overnight Cabbage

1 large cabbage head, shredded	2 cups sugar
1 large onion, grated	1 tablespoon celery seed
1 small jar pimentos, chopped	1 tablespoon mustard seed
½ green pepper, grated	1 tablespoon salt
1 ½ cups white vinegar	

Stir sugar and vinegar together until dissolved. Mix all ingredients together and refrigerate overnight.

Turnip Green Soup

3 cans chicken broth	1 pkg. frozen turnip greens
1 can Ro-Tel tomatoes	1 onion, chopped
2 cans Great Northern beans	1 lb. smoked sausage, chopped
1 can pinto or kidney beans	

Do not drain cans. Sauté onions in a small amount of the chicken broth. Add other ingredients and simmer for 45 minutes to an hour.

Black-Eyed Pea Casserole

1 lb. ground beef	2 cans Trappey's black-eyed peas w/jalapenos, undrained
1 small onion, chopped	½ cup cheddar cheese, grated
½ cup green onions	salt & pepper to taste
½ green pepper, chopped	
1 box Uncle Ben's Long Grain and Wild Rice, original recipe	

Brown ground beef & sauté onions & peppers, drain, cook rice according to directions on box. Combine all ingredients, except cheese, in 9"x12" baking dish. Top with cheese & bake at 350 degrees for 30-45 minutes.

Catfish Courbillion

2 onions, chopped	1 can of Rotel tomatoes, chopped
½ lb. margarine	3 lbs. Louisiana farm raised catfish fillets
2 ribs of celery, chopped	Salt, pepper & green onions to taste
1 bell pepper, chopped	
4 cans of tomato sauce	

Sauté onion, celery and bell pepper. Add tomato sauce and Rotel tomatoes. Cook for one hour. Add seasoned catfish to tomato gravy. Add one tablespoon of sugar. Cook until fish is done.

Livestock Market Reports

Kinder Livestock Auction held 10-14-11
 no new reports available

Cattle Receipts: 1316

Boner cows (80-85% lean 850 lb.-1200 lb.).....\$32-\$68 per cwt
 Bulls (1500-2000 lbs.).....\$62-\$78 per cwt

Feeder steers (cwt)	Feeder heifers (cwt)
200-300 lbs.....\$115-\$160	200-300 lbs.....\$105-\$145
300-400 lbs.....\$110-\$150	300-400 lbs.....\$102-\$135
400-500 lbs.....\$105-\$120	400-500 lbs.....\$100-\$128
500-600 lbs.....\$105-\$130	500-600 lbs.....\$100-\$120
600-700 lbs.....\$102-\$124	600-700 lbs.....\$97-\$117

Cow/calf pairs 2-4 yrs: Replacement &/or feeder cows 1-4 yrs:
 \$700-\$1150 range \$500-\$1100 range

Cow/calf pairs 5-7 yrs: Replacement &/or feeder cows 5-7 yrs:
 \$650-\$1000 range \$450-\$1000 range

Mansura Auction held 10-14-11
 no new reports available

Cattle Receipts: 1112

Boner cows (80-85% lean 850 lb.-1200 lb.).....\$32-\$68 per cwt
 Bulls (1500-2000 lbs.).....\$62-\$78 per cwt

Feeder Steers (cwt)	Feeder Heifers (cwt)
200-300 lbs. \$115-\$160	200-300 lbs. \$105-\$145
300-400 lbs. \$110-\$150	300-400 lbs. \$102-\$135
400-500 lbs. \$105-\$135	400-500 lbs. \$100-\$128
500-600 lbs. \$105-\$130	500-600 lbs. \$100-\$120
600-700 lbs. \$102-\$124	600-700 lbs. \$97-\$117

Cow/calf pairs 2-4 yrs: Replacement &/or feeder cows 1-4 yrs:
 \$700-\$1150 range \$500-\$1100 range

Cow/calf pairs 5-7 yrs: Replacement &/or feeder cows 5-7 yrs:
 \$650-\$1000 range \$450-\$1000 range

All data provided in this report is compiled by the auction barn and intended for informational purposes only. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry does not warrant the accuracy, reliability or correctness of the content. If you want your auction report listed, call 225-922-2151. Visit www.LDAF.la.gov for expanded reports.

New laboratory building will boost LSU AgCenter research capacity

By Rick Bogren, LSU AgCenter



The LSU AgCenter hosted a Dec. 13 ground-breaking ceremony for a new Animal and Food Sciences Laboratory Building on the Baton Rouge campus.

The new two-story, 48,000-square-foot building will provide state-of-the-art facilities for the AgCenter's School of Animal Sciences and Departments of Veterinary Science and Food Science.

"This building was a long time coming," said LSU Chancellor Bill Richardson. "These new laboratories will properly position our programs to address 21st century needs and issues."

"Research in animal and food science has been a significant contributor to economic development, consumer health and nutrition, and farm profitability in Louisiana," said John Russin, LSU AgCenter vice chancellor for research and director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station.

Now, each department's laboratories and offices are in separate buildings. "These buildings were built in a different era," said Phil Elzer, interim head of the Department of Veterinary Science. "They're inadequate for today's technology."

Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain said the building will help keep Louisiana at the forefront of technological innovation in agriculture. "We'll have many young students who will be trained here in the science, technology and extension to take advantage of this resource," Strain said.

Researchers from the three departments will be able to come together in a centralized facility, Elzer said. Where research overlaps, the scientists will have shared space to work together.

"We will have the facility and capacity to do much more," Elzer said. "This will give us more depth and breadth for animal and food sciences research. We will have the technology to spring forward into something bigger."

The laboratories will enhance the AgCenter's ability to support value-added products, said Department of Food Science head John Finley. "We will be able to leverage our culinary reputation with better, innovative products that can add value to raw products, particularly Louisiana seafood."

The department's culinary development center will be able to expand its work with the Pennington Biomedical Research Center as well as help Louisiana food processors develop and produce new health-promoting foods, Finley said.

"We'll be able to develop better-tasting, more healthful foods that can improve diets, fight obesity and increase opportunities for food producers," he said.

Biotechnology, vaccines and improved diagnostics have come out of the current laboratories. For exam-

ple, animal science researchers have perfected technologies in embryo transfer, said Gary Hay, director of the School of Animal Sciences.

Developments in molecular biology, immunology and genetic engineering have given new dimensions to research on farm animal production. The AgCenter is recognized worldwide as a leader in assisted reproductive technologies for use in livestock improvement, biomedical applications, and propagation of exotic and endangered animal species.

The AgCenter was a partner in developing the world's first cloned transgenic goats, whose milk produces a drug similar to the human protein antithrombin, which inhibits blood clotting.

AgCenter food scientists have discovered a new material that can mask bitter flavors in food. Substances like glycerine, ethanol and potassium salts can be added to foods in greater quantities without changing the taste. Glycerine can be used to control moisture in food and replace high fructose corn syrup, while potassium salts can be used to replace the more hazardous sodium salts.

Several processes and products have come out of AgCenter animal research. One is a product manufactured and marketed by a Louisiana company, University Products LLC, that is the only "killed" vaccine available to prevent anaplasmosis, a disease that kills red blood cells in cattle.

Another breakthrough discovery led to the development of a startup biopharmaceutical manufacturing company, TransGenRx, which has developed technology that significantly reduces the cost of producing protein-based drugs. Patented and patent pending processes allow TGRx to develop custom proteins to meet a wide range of specifications. Since its inception, the company has won a Small Business Technology Transfer award and contracts with drug manufacturers for its proteins and hormones.

Esperance Pharmaceutical Inc. is a new Louisiana-based biopharmaceutical company that develops novel anticancer agents. Esperance uses patented technologies from the LSU AgCenter, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, and Louisiana State University A&M campuses as a foundation for their revolutionary cancer treatments. Their newest drug, EP-100, is currently in Phase I clinical trials.

Construction of the laboratory building will begin around the first of the year and is scheduled for completion by summer 2013. When completed, the total cost of the building and equipment will be more than \$20 million. Funding was provided as a direct allocation by the state legislature and has been in process for more than 10 years.



Visit the Louisiana Market Bulletin online at: www.LDAF.la.gov

What's Happening

Dog Events

Covington Company Cattle Dog Trial, presented by Southern Stock Dog Assoc., will be held Jan. 20 at the Ike Hamilton Expo Center in West Monroe. The event is held in conjunction with the North Louisiana Ag Exposition. Top dogs and dog handlers from Oklahoma to Mississippi will compete. Members of the SSDA will be on hand to answer questions about the use, ownership, and training of stock dogs. Entry fee required to compete. For more information, call Michael Park at 504-329-1829 or email to sstockdog@yahoo.com.

Bayou Blue Beagle Club Field Trial, Jan. 7, Mire. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Houma Airport Beagle Club, Jan. 14, Houma. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Southern Large Pack Beagle Association Field Trial, Jan. 14, Amite. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Great Southern Beagle Club Field Trial, Jan. 20, Franklinton. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Baton Rouge Kennel Club All Breed-Junior Showmanship, Jan. 26-27, Alexandria. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

South Louisiana Retriever Club Field Trial, Jan. 29, Norco. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

North Louisiana Beagle Club Field Trial, Jan. 28, Downsville. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Borzoi Club of American Sweepstakes-Conformation Show, Jan. 28-29, Alexandria. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Alexandria Kennel Club Rally, Jan. 28, Alexandria. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Alexandria Kennel Club All Breed-Obedience-Junior Showmanship, Jan. 29, Alexandria. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Education & Workshops

North Louisiana Agri-Business Council Ag Expo will be held Jan. 20-21 at the Ike Hamilton Expo Center in West Monroe. Livestock Show, exhibits, Ag Alley. For more info, call Sandy Lyons at 318-355-2495 or agexpo@bayou.com.

SW La. Beekeepers Assoc. Beginning Beekeeping will be held Jan. 23 at the War Memorial Civic Center in DeRidder. Beekeepers, both experienced and aspiring, from SW Louisiana and SE Texas are invited to improve their craft and to troubleshoot their problems with knowledgeable apiarists. For more info, call 337-463-7006 or khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu.

Tri-State Soybean Forum will be held Jan. 6 at the Thomas Jason Lingo Community Center in Oak Grove, La., at 8 a.m. Soybean producers of Ark., La. & Miss. will discuss current situations and market

outlooks. For more info, call R.L. Frazier at 318-574-2465.

Baton Rouge Arts Market will be held the first Saturday of the month at the corner of Fifth and Main St. in Baton Rouge. Regional crafts from more than 60 artists and craft vendors. 7 a.m. – noon. For more information, contact Kathy Scherer at 225-344-8558.

Fresh From the Market Cooking Demonstration every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Main Street Market in Baton Rouge, 501 Main Street. Chef Celeste Gill and local chefs demonstrate using local ingredients for seasonal recipes. For more information, contact Copper Alvarez at 267-5060.

Clinton Market Day is held the first Sat. of the month in the Courthouse Square at Main Street in Clinton. Free to vendors; 8 a.m. - until. For more info, 225-603-9003.

Horticultural Events

Friends of Hilltop Arboretum Heirloom Gardening Symposium will be held Jan. 28 at the LSU Design Auditorium, 302 Fieldhouse Drive, Baton Rouge, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Admission is \$45 members and \$60 non-members. Pre-registration required. For more info, call 225-767-6916 or visit [http://hilltop.lsu.edu/hilltop/hilltop.nsf/\\$Content/Symposium](http://hilltop.lsu.edu/hilltop/hilltop.nsf/$Content/Symposium).

Northeast Louisiana Master Gardeners Gardening Seminar will be held Jan. 21 at the West Monroe Convention Center at 7:30 a.m. Felder Rushing, author of 16 gardening books, is the featured speaker. Other speakers, seminars door prizes, free plants, vendors, free seed, refreshments available. \$20 registration, pre-registration preferred walk-ins welcome.

Seating limited to 300. For more information, call 318-323-2251.

Second Saturday Plant Sale program will be held Jan. 14 at 9:00 a.m. at the Parkway Partners Greenhouse, 1137 Baronne St. (corner of Baronne and Cléo), New Orleans. Guest speakers lecture on horticultural issues. For more info, call 504-620-2224 or e-mail dgraham@parkwaypartners.org.

East Baton Rouge Master Gardeners Day is the first Sat. of the month at the Red Stick Farmers Market, corner of Fifth and Main St. in Baton Rouge. Master gardeners offer expert advice on seasonal gardening. Special Arts Market will be held the first three Saturdays of Dec. For more information, contact Copper Alvarez at 267-5060 or visit www.breada.org.

Cultural Events

Frisco Fest will be held March 10-11 at the San Francisco Plantation Grounds in Garyville. Features local & regional artists, woodworkers, stained glass, jewelry and Cajun products, Arts & Crafts, plants, flowers, kids' activities area, LSU Ag Master Gardeners, Creole & Cajun cuisine. Cruisin' the Plantation Car Show, Chef's Choice Cook-Off, zydeco music. For more information, call 985-535-2341 or visit <http://sanfranciscoplantation.org>.

North Louisiana Sweet Potato Festival will be held March 28-31 at the Courthouse Square in Oak Grove. Carnival, arts and craft show, antique car and tractor show and live music at the Lingo Center. For more information, call 318-428-8289 or <http://westcarrollchamber.com>.

Tractor Shows

International Harvester Chapter 31 State Antique Tractor, Engine & Truck Show, May 4-5, Washington Parish Fairgrounds, Franklinton. Featured equipment is IH, but all makes are welcome. Kiddie Tractor Pull, Chain in the Box, Skillet Throw (Ladies only), Blindman's Bluff, Egg Crackin', Trailer Backing, Barrel Roll, Slow Race and Swap Meet. For more information, visit www.ihc31.com.

North Louisiana Sweet Potato Festival Tractor Show will be held March 28-31 at the Courthouse Square in Oak Grove. For more information, call 318-428-8289 or <http://westcarrollchamber.com>.

What's Happening

Horse Shows, Rodeos & Trail Rides

GaitWay Therapeutic Horsemanship is a not-for-profit organization that offers volunteer opportunities for people interested in helping the special needs community. Volunteer training is held on an as needed basis. GaitWay also accepts used riding equipment and clothing that is in excellent condition. To learn about the next available training session, email Shelley@GaitWay.org or call 225-766-1614.

Louisiana Stock Horse Association Horse Show 2012 events will be held Feb. 19 in West Monroe, March 10, DeRidder; March 24, Lake Charles; April 28, New Roads; May 26, DeRidder; June 16, New Roads; July 18, New Iberia; Sept. 1, West Monroe; Sept. 22 New Roads; Oct. 13, New Iberia, Nov. 17-18 Finals, DeRidder. Pre-entry closes the Monday before the show. Entry

fee. For more information, contact Judy Weisgerber at 877-335-3072, jweisgerber@hughes.net or www.louisianastockhorse.com.

Deep South Stock Horse Show 2012 events to be announced soon. Beginners welcome. For more information, call Jenny Redhead at 225-665-2382, e-mail to jennyredhead@bellsouth.net or www.DSSHSA.org.

Intracoastal Corriente Team Roping Saddle & Buckle Series Finals will be held Dec. 17 at the Acadia Rice Arena, 159 Cherokee Rd., in Crowley. Books open at 3 p.m., roping starts at 4. Saddle to series champion; buckles & prizes; one prize per roper. Must have current U.S. Classification & we reserve the right to re-classify ropers. For more information, call Pap Reeves at 337-207-3726, Rocky Smith, 337-351-6676 or Daks Hebert at 337-652-1555.

4-H Events

Ascension Parish Robotics Club Meeting, Jan. 17, 6 p.m., Ascension Parish 4-H Office, Lamar Dixon Expo Center, 9039 St. Landry Rd, Gonzales. For more information, call Katina Hester at 225-578-1180.

Bossier Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Sign-Up Program will be held Jan. 3 at the Bossier Instructional Center, 2719 Airline Drive, Bossier City, at 5:30 p.m. Any 4-H'er may participate but a parent or guardian must be present. BB gun, .22 rifle and shotgun courses available. Coaches will be on hand to answer questions. For more information, call Alex Shook at 318-965-2326.

Ascension Parish Home & Style Club, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m., Dutchtown Baptist Church, 36495 C Braud Rd,

Prairieville. For more info, call Megan Gravois at 225-621-5799.

Ascension Parish 4-H Pet and Talent Show, Jan 13, Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, Gonzales. For more information, call 225-621-5799.

Ascension Parish Stick Horse Rodeo, Jan 20, 6:30 p.m. - 11 p.m., Lamar Dixon Expo Center, Arena B, 9039 St. Landry Rd, Gonzales. Divisions: 7 & under and 8-11. Contestants compete in the following events on stick horses: bull riding, bareback riding, calf roping, pole bending, and barrel racing. Entry fee, \$5/event. Stick horses will be provided if needed - no horse or rodeo experience necessary. For more information, call Miss Nicole at 225-621-5799 or Nicole Kliebert at 225-621-5799.

Livestock Sales

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 information, call 337-783-1442 or 337-384-4500.

Louisiana Angus Association Annual Bull Sale will be held Jan. 21 at the LSU AgCenter Dean Lee Research Station in LeCompte at noon. Selling 75 Angus bulls and commercial Angus-influenced females. Free catalog. For more information, call 662-837-4904, 662-837-1776 or alb@albauction.com, www.albauction.com.

Sporting Clays Shooting Events

Bossier Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Sign-Up Program will be held Jan. 3 at the Bossier Instructional Center, 2719 Airline Drive, Bossier City, at 5:30 p.m. Any 4-H'er may participate but a parent or guardian must be present. BB gun, .22 rifle and shotgun courses available. Coaches will be on hand to answer questions. For more information, call Alex Shook at 318-965-2326.

Louisiana Sporting Clays Association Shoots - Jan. 7, Wilderness, Lafayette; Jan 14, Ed's Sporting Goods, Kaplan; Jan 21, Cajun Elite, Jennings; Jan. 28, GOL, Maurice. For more information, visit www.lsca.info.

Show Arenas, Barns, etc.

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

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

M.A. Edmond Livestock Show Arena, 14506 Scenic Hwy., Baton Rouge. 225-278-6019.

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

SugArena at Acadiana Fairgrounds, 713 Northwest Bypass (Hwy. 3212), New Iberia. 337-365-7539 or www.sugarena.com.

Terrebonne Livestock Agricultural Fair Association Arena, 221 Moffet Rd., Houma. 985-665-1005 or www.terrebonne-livestock.org.

Texas Longhorn Rodeo Arena, 3274 Hwy. 109 S., Vinton. 337-589-5647.

Your arena not listed? Send your contact info to marketbulletin@ldaf.state.la.us or via fax at 225-923-4828.

Advertising events in the Market Bulletin easy and free.

Just email, fax or mail us your event, date, time, location and any other details. To ensure timely publication, submit your event at least six weeks prior to the event.

Mail: P.O. Box 3534, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3534
Email: marketbulletin@ldaf.la.gov
Fax: 225-923-4828.

Sugar mill, *continued from page 1*

boarding house dating back to 1917 still serves as lodging for employees, but the bottom floor has been repurposed as a lunch hall. The company store is run more like a convenience store but visitors can buy a five pound bag of raw sugar. The store is normally open six days a week but stays open all week during harvesting, also known as the "grinding season."

According to Stewart, Alma Plantation was first surveyed in 1789 by Christopher Beard of South Carolina. In payment for his Louisiana surveying work, Beard was granted the property from the Spanish government. Beard's daughter, Margaret Ferrar Butler, inherited the land in the 1790s and her family sold it to Julian Poydras. The Poydras plantation cultivated indigo and began growing sugarcane in 1833. The first sugar mill was built on the property in the 1840s and flourished under Stephen Van Winkle's management.

Poydras is Pointe Coupee's most famous statesman. He was president of the first legislative council of the Territory of New Orleans and served as the first delegate from the territory to the United States House of Representatives. In addition, he was president of Louisiana's first constitutional convention and was a noted philanthropist. An interesting note: Julien Poydras obligated his heirs to free the Alma's plantation slaves 25 years after his death. As slave labor was the largest investment in a working plantation, the property essentially became a liability for the Poydras heirs and fearing an inability to hire cheap labor, the farm was dumped on the open market.

Eventually, the Barrow family of West Feliciana partnered with Stewart's great-grandfather, George

Pitcher, and bought Alma in 1859. Pitcher, the managing partner of Alma, continued to purchase interest in Alma and the Pitcher family completed its ownership of Alma within 25 years, around 1879. Stewart's father, Hampton Stewart, married into the Pitcher family and managed the plantation through the 1940s and 50s. Hampton Stewart bought out his family members and completed his ownership of the farm in 1959. Stewart said that part of the reason for his success in the sugar business is simply that he loves it.

"It's really in my blood," Stewart said. "I can't imagine doing anything else."

Alma, one of 11 mills operating in the state, is the only sugar mill located north of Interstate 10. It's also the northern-most sugar mill in the United States. It produces more than 300 million pounds of raw sugar and 4.5 million gallons of black strap molasses annually. Stewart buys about 1.4 million tons of sugarcane from more than 60 area farmers, from up to 75 miles away.

If you grew up with cane syrup as a staple of your diet, or you love the familiar sight of cane trucks on the road, then you know what Louisiana's sugar mills mean to our culture. And to this day sugar industry provide jobs and generate revenues of more than \$847 million, making them valuable to both our heritage and our economy.

ALMA PLANTATION
4612 Alma Road
Lakeland, LA 70752
Tel: 225-627-6666



The oldest section of Alma Plantation (decorated with a Christmas wreath) houses the mill's laboratory. Raw sugar is loaded into a warehouse that can hold more than 35,000 tons of product.



Strawberry crop coming in earlier than usual

By Johnny Morgan, LSU AgCenter

In years past, December was not the month to say a lot about strawberries in Louisiana, but with growers planting newer varieties that produce earlier, it's becoming the norm.

LSU AgCenter area horticulture agent Sandra Benjamin said some growers have been picking berries for nearly a month.

"There are not many growers with berries, but they are beginning to come in a little at a time," Benjamin said.

For years, growers planned for their crop to be really in full swing by Valentine's Day. But with more growers using the Festival and Radiance varieties, the fruit is now coming in several months earlier.

Ponchatoula strawberry farmer Eric Morrow said early strawberries will be plentiful.

"The crop looks good so far," Morrow said. "The weather has been good, warm with a few cool snaps. The quality of the plants and right now, the quality of the fruit looks a lot better than last year.

"I have a lot of hope for a great

crop this year. There will be a lot of berries at Christmas time and there should be a lot at the first of the year as long as stays warm and doesn't get too cold."

Morrow sells strawberries and other produce directly to the public at farmers markets in Baton Rouge.

Mark Liuzza, a Tangipahoa grower, said the berries are looking great – very full and healthy. However, some plants are being damaged by mold.

"Our growers planted between Sept. 23 and Oct. 7, and they started harvesting the week of Thanksgiving," Benjamin said. "Some growers are harvesting every two days, and on warmer days some farmers have harvested as much as 100 flats per acre."

Growers are just beginning to see production from bare root plants, which is expected since they normally don't produce as early as transplants, Benjamin said.

"So far the weather has not caused any concern to the farmers," she said.

The plants had to be covered

during a recent cold snap, which is a drawback of early-producing varieties.

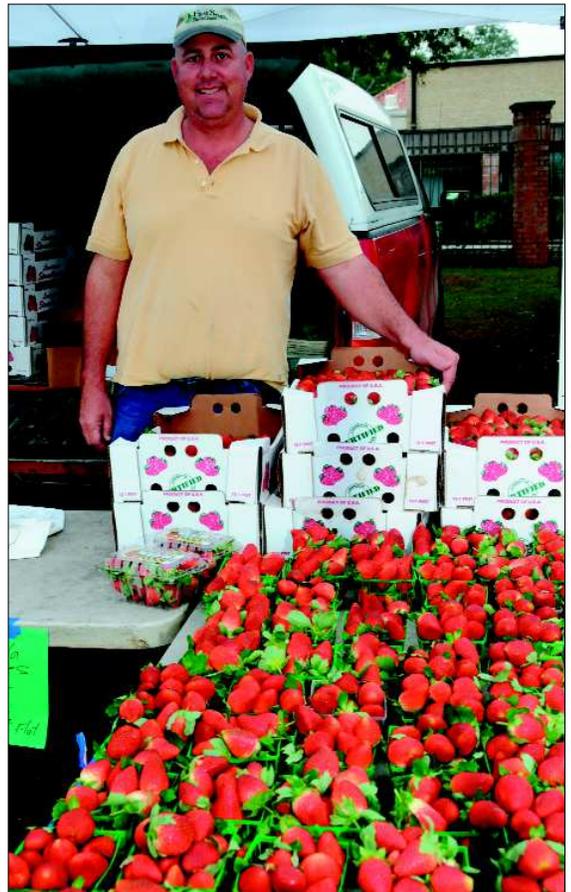
Benjamin said the number of producers and acreage have been stable over the past several years.

"There are about 40 commercial and backyard growers, with about 350 acres of strawberries planted in Tangipahoa Parish," Benjamin said.

The Louisiana strawberry industry involves 83 growers who produce more than 380 acres of strawberries for a gross farm value of about \$15.2 million, according to the Louisiana Ag Summary.

Strawberries continue to be the leading fruit crop in the state with Tangipahoa Parish as the leading strawberry-producing parish with \$11.5 million in sales during 2010.

Consumers currently can find strawberries at some farmers markets, fruit stands and stores and as well as roadside. Prices range from \$30 per flat to \$3.99 per clamshell. *Laura Pursnell-Lindsay also contributed to this report.*



Eric Morrow of Ponchatoula says winter strawberries will be available as long as the weather holds.