



Market Bulletin

Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner



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February 9, 2012

Louisiana celebrates Arbor Day



The Ours family of Baton Rouge plant a pine tree during Arbor Day festivities at the Burden Center held Jan. 21. The family received the tree's GPS coordinates and will be able to monitor its growth through the years. The LDAF, LSU AgCenter and Burden Horticultural Society sponsored the event.

Cultivate hope

by Sam Irwin

Trees inspire me, and my bias tells me that Louisiana trees have a special personality. Now, I know that trees have no knowledge of state boundaries, but still..... I love to photograph them in the winter, against bleak skies. If they're deciduous, that's when you can see their bones, their true form, their death before rebirth.

I live in an older Baton Rouge neighborhood. It's not trendy. The houses at one time were considered a bit upscale (before "upscale" was a word) but now they are politely called "older" homes. But the one thing my gently declining neighborhood has is trees. Thick and thin, shaggy, scraggly, clumped, towering or majestic - they are everywhere.

On my property are four large live oak trees, one white oak, two large magnolias, a young pecan, two stands of nice pine trees and a variety of river birches, cherries and a Leyland cypress. Pines are the sentinels that guard the outer perimeter of my yard. I lost one backyard pine to Hurricane Rita and another to Gustav. I promptly replanted pine seedlings in their place. I think of the pines as soldiers battling the winds of the Gulf of Mexico or the Arctic blasts from the Northwest Territories.

My oaks cradle my roof with cooling shade. The Louisiana live oak: dense, mysterious and ancient. Poems have been written in an attempt to describe them, and rightly so. When I'm on my front yard swing hanging from my oak and look out at Fairfax Park, I am in a state of perfect pastoral bliss. It doesn't matter that the honking roar of Florida Boulevard is only two blocks away.

I think of my fellow urbanites trapped treeless in their new subdivisions. I'm reminded of an oil company commercial from the 1960s where a beautiful woman urged, "If you don't have an oil well, get one!" I say, if you don't have a tree, get one, or two or even a half-dozen.

Planting a tree is a truly unselfish act. You plant them not for yourself, but as a gift for the generations to come. To plant a tree is an act of reverence. A love letter to the good earth. The Chinese proverb says it best: one generation plants the trees under which another takes its ease.

The dead of winter, as home gardeners and landscape professionals know, is the perfect time to plant a tree. From Feb. 27 through March 4, the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), hosts its annual Shade Tree Sale at its offices throughout the state. More than a million superior genetics hardwood and pine seedlings have been distributed to the public at bargain basement prices during the sale since the Shade Tree Sale began in 1976.

Be forewarned. A tree seedlings look nothing like a tree. A bundle of kindling came to mind when I bought my first pack of hardwoods. And the pine trees? Hairy pencils. But you know what? Those twigs grow rapidly and my five year old bald cypress is doing great. My two river birches are each thirteen feet tall now.

I felt good when I planted them and I feel good watching them grow. I hope they grow tall and are loved by my children and their children. I have begun something that will outlive me. I have planted hope.

This winter, no matter how gray, how cold, how wet, how dreary it is, plant a tree. It can be a seedling from the Shade Tree Sale, a ten-gallon pecan from the nursery, a citrus tree from Plaquemines Parish or a fig tree from the Garden of Eden. But plant hope. Do it for hope.

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LDAF seedling sale dates set

The annual Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's (LDAF) Shade Tree Sale will be held at various district forestry offices and other locations throughout the state the week of Feb. 27 through March 2, Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M., said.

Louisiana's homeowners, hobby urban foresters and gardeners look forward to the annual seedling sale, Strain said.

"The seedlings we grow at our state nurseries have superior genetics," Strain said. "This is the only time of year that we pre-pack the seedlings into small packets, so they're manageable for just about any home gardener."

Both hardwood and pine seedling packets are available for sale.

See seedling, page 19

Louisiana Agriculture & Forestry Today

Strain named Conservationist of the Year

The Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts named Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain "Conservationist of the Year" at their 66th annual convention held Jan. 12 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Lafayette.

Ernest Girouard, president of the association, said Strain was granted the award because of his strong support of Louisiana's conservation efforts.

"Commissioner Strain has given a new and greater emphasis to soil and water conservation through his office at the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF)," Girouard said. "He has a heightened interest in

guaranteeing the sustainability of agriculture and understands the importance of maintaining healthy soil and water quality. If we allow these resources to deteriorate, we will not be able to supply the world with the food, fiber and energy it will need in the future."

Girouard also cited Strain's backing of the Louisiana Master Farmer Program, a program designed to teach and assist farmers to implement conservation and resource management practices on their farms.

Farmers work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, LSU AgCenter and LDAF to prepare and implement resource management plans. LDAF has certified

more than 135 Louisiana agricultural producers as Master Farmers.

"It's an honor to be recognized as a conservationist," Strain said. "When I worked in my family's cattle operation, we were always mindful of preserving and protecting the land and using the resources in the best possible way. I am grateful that as Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry I can now play an even greater role in the conservation of Louisiana's soil and water resources."

Help for Lake Bistineau

The Bistineau Task Force, LDAF and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) have scheduled

a pesticide spraying training session on Feb. 18 for landowners with property located along the banks of Lake Bistineau.

The training session will be held at the LDWF office at 9961 Hwy. 80 in Minden from 8 a.m. to noon.

The training will be taught by certified instructors and participants will learn how to combat giant salvinia infestation around their property along the lake.

The training session is free, but registration is limited to 75.

To register, contact Connie Kyles with the Saline Soil and Water Conservation office at 318-894-2174, ext. 2, or by email at connie.kyles@la.nacdn.net.

For more information, contact



MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER

Evan Thames at ethames@wlf.la.gov or at 318-371-5216.

Louisiana Market Bulletin (USPS 672-600)

Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner

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USDA Agriculture Marketing Service Hay Prices

Values are in tons unless otherwise noted

Alabama SE Hay Report, Jan. 26, 2012

Bermuda Small Square.....	Premium.....	\$160-\$260
Bermuda Large Rounds.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$100
Bermuda Mid Round.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$110
Bahia Large Round.....	Premium.....	\$87-\$87
Bahia Mid Round.....	Premium.....	\$100-\$100

Texas Weekly Hay Report, Jan. 27, 2012 East Texas,

Coastal Bermuda Small Squares.....	Good/Premium.....	\$300-\$360
Large Rounds.....	Good/Premium.....	\$200-\$240



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

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

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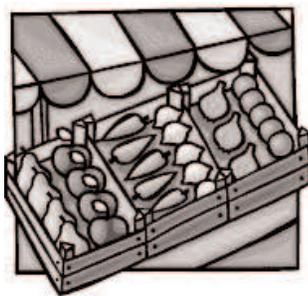
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Visit your local farmers market

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

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.
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.

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.

What's Happening

Bird Events

Acadiana Bird Club Bird Fair will be held April 21-22 in the Crown Room of the Lafayette Event Center, 43607 Johnston St., in Lafayette. For more info, visit acadianabirdclubinc.com.

Ponchatoula Bird Fair & Sale will be held July 14-15 at the Lion's Club, 750 East Pine St., in Ponchatoula from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Avian surgical sexing on Sunday. Weekend pass admission is \$6.50, \$4/one day pass. Children 6 & under free. For more information, visit Totaltat.com.

Dog Events

CenLa Beagle Club AKC Field Trial will be held Feb. 11-12 at 6135 Twin Bridges Road in Alexandria. Derby trial is Feb. 10. For more information, call Steve Miller at 318-447-1662.

Acadiana Kennel Club Agility Trial will be held Feb. 17-19 in New Iberia. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Cut-n-Shoot Beagle Club Field Trial will be held Feb. 18 in New Iberia. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

South Louisiana Retriever Club Field Trial will be held Feb. 24 in Norco. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Ouachita Valley Dog Training Club Agility Trial will be held March 3-4 in West Monroe. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Dallas-Ft. Worth Dachshund Club Field Trial will be held March 3-4 in Downsview. For more info, visit www.infodog.com/panels/la.htm.

Education & Workshops

Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program Clean Up Bayou Lafourche will be held March 31. Volunteers and Captains needed. For more information, call Joseph Dantin at 985-449-4715, 985-228-0358 (cell) or email to joe@btnep.org.

SW LA Beekeepers Association: Splitting Hives will be held March 5 at the War Memorial Civic Center, 250 W. 7th St., DeRidder from 7-9 p.m. For more info, please call Keith Hawkins at 337-463-7006 or email khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu.

SW Louisiana Forestry Association: Hunting Lease Workshop will be held March 24 at the War Memorial Civic Center, 250 West 7th St., DeRidder, from 2 -6 p.m. For more info, call Keith Hawkins at 337-463-7006 or email to khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu.

SW Louisiana Forestry Association Annual Meeting & Forestry Forum will be held March 17 at the Southern Forest Heritage Museum in Longleaf from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics include mineral & pipeline leasing, longleaf pine, economic opportunities, selling small tracts and how to register your land as a movie site. Cost is \$25 per household. For more info, call Keith Hawkins at 337-463-7006 or email to khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu.

2012 Sugarcane Winter Meeting Calendar - Louisiana Agricultural Consultants Association, Feb. 16-17, www.laagcon.org, Marksville, Paragon Casino Resort, 711 Paragon Place; Rapides/Avoyelles, Feb.22, 8:30 a.m., Bunkie, Masonic Lodge, 306 Floyd St.; Ascension/St. James/St. John/St. Charles, Feb. 23, 9 a.m., Vacherie, Westbank Reception Hall, 2455 Hwy. 18.

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 info, 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 Saturday of the month in the Courthouse Square and Main Street in Clinton. Free to vendors; 8 a.m. - until. Crafts, locally grown produce, antique items, horse-drawn carriage rides. For more info, call Carol Shirley at 225 603-9003.

Horticultural Events

Louisiana Nursery Festival will be held March 16-18 in Forest Hill. Free admission. Local nurseries will sell plants and provide gardening tips. Food vendors, garden items, lawn and garden equipment and arts & crafts. For more info, call 318-748-6300 or visit www.louisiana-nurseryfestival.com.

Second Saturday Plant Sale program will be held Feb. 11 at 9:00 a.m. at the Parkway Partners Greenhouse, 1137 Baronne St. (corner of Baronne and Clio), 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 Saturday 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.

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>.

Cultural Events

Frisco Fest will be held March 10-11 at the San Francisco Plantation Grounds in Garyville. 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>.

What's Happening

Horse Shows, Rodeos & Trail Rides

Valentine Trail Ride will be held at the Sweetwater Campground & Riding Stables will be held in Loranger Feb. 11. Bring your own horse or rent one of ours. Ride is four hours Adults \$20, Children (ages 5-12, \$5). Wagons welcome. Includes jambalaya dinner & DJ karaoke. Gates open at 9 a.m. Ride leaves at 11. Horse rental \$50. For more information, call 985-878-6868, email admin@sweetwater-campground.com or visit www.sweetwater-campground.com/calendar12.html.

Cory Bourque Natural Horsemanship Horsemanship clinics will be held March 3-4 & April 14-15 in Abbeville. More dates TBA. Space s limited, auditors welcomed. For more information, call Cory at 337-298-3073 or Nicole 337-280-3222 or email corybourquenaturalhorsemanship@yahoo.com.

Cory Bourque Natural Horsemanship Colt Starting Clinic will be held March 24-25 in Abbeville. Space is limited, audi-

tors welcomed. For more information, call Cory at 337-298-3073 or Nicole 337-280-3222 or email corybourquenaturalhorsemanship@yahoo.com

Louisiana Stock Horse Association Horse Show 2012 events will be held Feb. 19 in West Monore, 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.

Livestock Sales

LSU AgCenter State Livestock & Poultry Show, Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, Gonzales, Feb. 11 -19. For more information, call 225-578-2255.

Open House, Bull Sale will be held March 3 at the LSU AgCenter Dean Lee Research Center in Alexandria at 9 a.m. 18 Angus, 2 Brangus and 15 Charolais performance-tested bulls available for viewing and sale by private treaty. For more information, call Sid DeRouen at 318-473-6589 or sderouen@agctr.lsu.edu.

Louisiana Angus Association Annual Female Sale will be held March 10 at noon at the LSU AgCenter Dean Lee Research Center in Lecompte. 60 Angus female lots will be offered. For more information, call 662-837-4904 or alb@albauction.com

22nd Annual Bayou Classic Polled Hereford/Hereford/F-1 Cattle Sale will be held April 7 at noon at the Dean Lee Livestock Sale complex, DeWitt Center, in Alexandria. Sponsored by the Louisiana Polled Hereford Assoc., the sale offers 60 lots, including cow/calf prs., bred & open heifers, breeding age bulls, black baldies & F-1 cattle. For more information & catalog requests, call Chris Lewis at 985-516-7643 or Dr. Ronnie Bardwell, Sale Chairman, at 225-222-6372.

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.

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

Sporting Clays Shooting Events

Louisiana Sporting Clays Association Shoots – Feb. 12 Riverside, Denham Springs; Feb. 18, Tri Parish, Houma; Feb. 18, GOL, Maurice; Feb. 25, GOL, Maurice; Feb. 25, Wilderness, Lafayette. For more information, visit www.lsca.info.

Is this your last issue of the Market Bulletin?

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S189 P6
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SWAP

10' 2-seat covered carriage, blk. w/natural wood spokes & tongue, single horse pull, great for parades or Sunday ride, \$5000 obo or will swap for hay equip., baler, rake & cutter of equal value. Pete Rudesill, Pearl River, St. Tammany Parish; 225-610-4959.

JD 450 dozer, 1000 hrs., 6-way blade, LPG, great cond., valued at \$50,000, or swap for hay equip., baler, rake & cutter of equal value. Pete Rudesill, Pearl River, St. Tammany Parish; 225-610-4959.

Ornamental 1 or 2-horse hitching wagon, red w/chrome embellishments, wh. spoke wheels, 12' long, \$5000 obo, or swap for hay equip., baler, rake & cutter of equal value. Pete Rudesill, Pearl River, St. Tammany Parish; 225-610-4959.

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

Cow/calf pairs 5-7 yrs: \$650-\$1000 range Replacement &/or feeder cows 5-7 yrs: \$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: \$700-\$1150 range Replacement &/or feeder cows 1-4 yrs: \$500-\$1100 range

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

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



Hardwood seedling packets contain six seedlings each and may be purchased for \$5. Hardwood species available are baldcypress, red maple, blackgum, sawtooth oak and sycamore, but the available species may differ from location to location. Pine seedling packets contain 20 loblolly seedlings and are \$5 each.

All seedlings are bare-root and come with planting and care instructions. They will be available on a first-come basis and cannot be reserved in advance.

"We often sell out certain species quickly, especially some of the hardwoods, so we it's best to shop early," Strain said.

Experts urge patience at forestry forum

by Johnny Morgan, LSU AgCenter

With excess houses on the market and no immediate sign of increased housing construction, forestland owners and others were told to be patient at the 2012 Ag Expo Forestry Forum presented by the LSU AgCenter Jan. 20 at the West Monroe Convention Center in West Monroe.

LSU AgCenter forest economist Mike Dunn said the current situation for those in the forest industry will not change much in the near future. He explained that as long as the housing industry is flat, the forestry industry won't be improving much.

"The economy continues to struggle," Dunn said. "Unemployment is still high, and the housing market is mired in recession because of too much existing inventory resulting from foreclosures."

Dunn explained that the forest industry can't fully recover until housing gets better. He said this year may be slightly better than last year but only very marginally.

"There are a few positive signs out there that things may be about to get better but we still have a long way to go," Dunn said.

Landowners have not been immune to the economic slowdown that's gripping Louisiana and the entire nation, said LSU AgCenter area forester Steve Hotard.

Despite the decline, forestlands still provide sustainable contributions to the state's economy and environment, he said.

"Management of forestlands is still important to provide clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation and economic value to private forest landowners and the forest industry, even during slow economic times," Hotard said.

Several politicians attended the forum, including U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander from the 5th Congressional District, which is the largest agricultural district in the nation, and state Sen. Francis Thompson, chairman of the agriculture committee.

Legislation in Congress should help the forest industry, Alexander told the group.

"We want to develop a plan that will have a positive impact on the housing industry and hopefully help forest products to be sold equally

LDAF seedling sale locations

Hammond

Feb. 27 - March 2; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 47076 North Morrison Blvd.
 Hammond;
 985-543-4057

Clinton

Feb. 27 - March 2; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 10221 Williams Drive
 Clinton; 225-683-5862

Opelousas

Feb. 27 - March 2; 8 - 3 p.m.
 1638 Creswell Ln, Suite 1
 Opelousas; 337-948-0230

Oberlin

Feb. 27 - March 2; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 9418 Hwy 165
 Oberlin; 337-639-4978

Baton Rouge

Feb. 28 - March 1; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 5825 Florida Blvd.
 Baton Rouge; 225-925-4500

Natchitoches

Feb. 28 - March 1; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 150 Pilgrims Road
 Natchitoches; 318-357-3126

Monroe

Feb. 28 - March 1; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 754 Hwy. 80 East
 Monroe; 318-345-7595

Jena

Feb. 28 - March 1; 8:30 - 4 p.m.
 215 Hangar Rd.
 Trout; 318-992-1400

across the globe," Alexander said.

Lance Patterson, consulting forester with Patterson Forestry Consultants in Ruston, told the group things can be done while prices are down. For example, European markets are using wood products for energy.

"No matter what prices are doing, they need to continue to manage their property," Patterson said. "A lot of landowners are trying to wait it out, but we're telling them they need to continue to manage their property, and we're seeing a few of them starting to cut trees a little."

The forestry forum keeps people informed and lets them know they are important, Hotard said.

"We also want to remind them of the need to continue to manage our natural resources on our forestlands," he said.

Louisiana Forestry Association executive director "Buck" Vandersteen reminded attendees that forestry is the No. 1 agricultural industry in the state with a yearly value of over \$3 billion and covers over one-half of the state's land area.

Louisiana youth headed for state livestock show Feb. 13-20

by Rick Bogren, LSU AgCenter

Youth from across Louisiana are preparing to compete in the 77th annual LSU AgCenter Livestock Show at the Lamar-Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales.

LSU AgCenter officials say they expect more than 2,000 4-H and FFA exhibitors to bring about 1,500 breeding animals, 1,600 market animals, 180 pens of broilers and 700 exhibition birds to the competition on Feb. 11-18.

By the time those 4-H and FFA members reach the state show, they already will have competed in parish and district competitions across Louisiana during the first few weeks of 2012. All will arrive in Gonzales aiming to be state champions – or at least to earn rewards for their hard work and dedication.

Judges at the show determine state champions in various breeds of beef and dairy cattle, goats, hogs, poultry and sheep.

One of the highlights of the show is the Premier Exhibitor Program designed to place emphasis and recognition on the exhibitors' knowledge and skills in the 4-H and FFA livestock projects. Supported by an endowment from Gerry Lane Enterprises in Baton Rouge, the program is available to participants exhibiting beef, dairy, swine, sheep, poultry, and goats. Testing all facets of the youths' ability in their livestock projects, the contest comprises an interview, writing a resume, a test, a skill-athon and showing abilities.

In addition, one exhibitor will receive the Price LeBlanc Champion Livestock Award, which is presented to one grand champion market animal each year from among five species – steers, swine, sheep, chickens and goats. The award is funded by an endowment from Price LeBlanc, a Baton Rouge automobile dealer.

A quality assurance and ethics certification program implemented last year educates youth on proper

and ethical use of animal health products ensuring a high-quality, wholesome product.

Organizers say livestock projects provide a means for families to come together to participate in quality educational activities. Young people say participating in the program gives them opportunities to make new friends, see old friends and gain valuable experience. And everyone agrees it helps youngsters develop character and hone skills that will benefit them, their families and their communities throughout their lives.

While the annual event may be called a livestock show, it's more about the young people than their animals, said LSU AgCenter Chancellor Bill Richardson.

"This show also is about the dedication of the many parents, teachers, volunteer leaders, 4-H agents and FFA advisers who have worked with the young people to help them grow as people and responsible citizens," Richardson said.

As a result of what they learn, generations of young people who have participated in LSU AgCenter livestock projects go on to become leaders – whether in the livestock industry or a variety of other fields ranging from medicine to government, Richardson said.

"Livestock shows and livestock projects give a glimpse of some of the best young people in the state and some of the brightest outcomes of our youth development programs," said LSU AgCenter Vice Chancellor Paul Coreil.

Youth participating in livestock projects gain knowledge of animal husbandry – including selection, genetics, nutrition, health, fitting, showing, economics and marketing of livestock, said livestock show manager Dwayne Nunez. "But they also develop skills such as communication, leadership and cooperation." Visit www.lsuagcenter.com for more info on the show.

Ag Alley a hit with kids



Fourth-grade students took the opportunity to get really personal with the baby chicks at Ag Alley, which was a part of the 30th annual Ag Expo in West Monroe Jan.18-19.

By Johnny Morgan, LSU AgCenter

For more than 2,000 first- and fourth-graders from northeast Louisiana, the LSU AgCenter's Ag Alley at the 30th annual Ag Expo in West Monroe on Jan. 18-19 offered a chance to get up close and personal with plants and animals.

Ag Alley is a series of four exhibits with information to help children learn where their food comes from, according to Richard Letlow, LSU AgCenter agent and exhibit coordinator.

"When groups come in, we try to focus on what they are learning for LEAP," Letlow said.

The four exhibits featured information about rice, soybeans, school gardens and a mini-farm.

LSU AgCenter horticulture agent Rafash Brew said there was high demand for school gardens to be represented, and the area Master Gardeners provided information to show how easy it is to put in a school garden.

"We wanted to show that you don't have to have a 'back 40' or a garden tiller to put in a garden. You can use wood and build raised beds, or you can go a little more elaborate with decorative rocks," Brew said. "Even if you live in an apartment there is still room to plant a container garden big enough to make a garden salad and get the kids to eat more nutritiously."

Donice Slaton, a fourth-grade teacher at Lakeshore Elementary School in Monroe, has been bringing her

students every year and says it is a worthwhile trip.

"This is an excellent hands-on opportunity for these guys because some of these students have never seen the animals or the plants that are here," she said.

The stops the children visit show products that are grown in Louisiana from the seed to the finished product, she said. "It ties in with the science and social studies that we are teaching, and it just gives them a great opportunity to see the agriculture that's being showcased here at Ag Expo."

Slaton said everything done at Ag Alley is correlated with the grade level expectations in the classroom, and it helps the students with the LEAP test.

Students said they learned a lot about agriculture, but some say they learned about even more than just "cows and plows."

"We learned about growing gardens, and we learned not to smoke," said Luke Middleton, a fourth-grade student at Northeast Baptist School in West Monroe.

Ag Alley has been conducted by the LSU AgCenter for more than 20 years, according to Markaye Russell, LSU AgCenter 4-H agent in Ouachita Parish.

Ag Expo is sponsored by the North Louisiana Agri-Business Council in cooperation with the LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Tech University, Louisiana Cattlemen's Association and Goldman Equipment.

Brand officer honored by Cattlemen's Association



The Louisiana Cattlemen's Association (LCA) recognized Livestock Brand Inspector Johnny Steib for his service to the state's cattle industry Sunday at the LCA's annual convention in West Monroe, Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M., said.

Steib, of Lottie, Pointe Coupee Parish, received an engraved plaque from LCA Executive Vice President Robert Joyner for his "outstanding achievement in the investigation of farm-related crimes."

Steib, often working with other law enforcement agencies, investigated 60 cases of farm related crime in 2011, 48 being theft cases, Strain said. Of the 48 theft cases, 27 resulted in the arrests of 52 suspects. The value of the property stolen was \$236,245. Steib recovered or accounted for \$177,950 of the stolen property.

"Johnny Steib is a professional and completely thorough in his investigations," Joyner said. "He is a friend to the cattleman and maintains a great working relationship

with the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association."

Strain said the LCA made a good choice with Steib.

"Johnny is a cattleman and farmer and has a love and deep understanding of the farming and ranching industries," Strain said. "Johnny is also a complete professional and has developed relationships and professional respect among law enforcement organizations throughout the state and Texas."

Steib has worked as a Brand Inspector for 17 years. He holds a

Bachelor of Science in criminal justice. His normal area of responsibility is south central Louisiana and is often assigned to the Dominique Sale Barns of Baton Rouge and Opelousas with occasional assignments to the Mansura Auction sale barn in Mansura.

His hobbies include serving on the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office mounted posse. His other interests involve the breeding of quarter horses, working cattle and competing in ranch horse competitions.