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May 1st Cattle Market Update

be considered critical infrastructure under the Defense Production Act. This definitely has the potential to increase slaughter. Margins in the meat packing sector are high enough that processors have a lot of incentive to do that. While this may bring some processors back on line, we still expect many to operate at lower capacity due to worker health safeguards they have put in place. While there is potential for this to help us work through mounting cattle supplies, it likely will take some time for us to get caught up.

For the week ending May 1st, marketing volume continued to be light and Kentucky prices had a slightly a softer undertone. On a state average basis, 550 lb medium to large frame #1-2 steer calves stayed in the very low \$140's per cwt (hundred weight), which is almost exactly where they were last week. The price of an 850 lb medium to large frame #1-2 steer at Kentucky auction markets decreased by \$2-3 per

cwt, but that isn't indicative of the overall market. It was primarily due to a decrease in prices on the upper end of that weight range from the previous two weeks. And, this decrease was not noted in auction-by-auction market reports throughout the week.

Some individual market reports throughout the week referred to slightly lower cull cow prices, but steady slaughter bull prices. On a state average basis, this was reflected as cull cow prices fell \$2-3 per cwt. Although a little lower, most weigh cows are valued in the mid-\$50's and considerably above 2019 levels.

Finally, we continue to get questions about direct payments to producers as part of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). USDA has given some basics on the program, but has not released specifics about application procedures, payment rates, required documentation, and other implementation details. Given the timeline they

seem to be targeting, I suspect they will do this fairly quickly, but we do not have this information yet. We encourage cattle producers to pay close attention to any details that might be forthcoming and start gathering any documentation they might be needed if they have to establish ownership or proof of cattle sales in 2020.

In this time of social distancing and more time at home, UK Cooperative Extension will offer a weekly online newsletter called "Healthy at Home" that has timely tips for the whole family. Some topics covered are managing stress, boredom busters, and online shopping tips. We invite you to view each edition at the following internet address <https://extension.ca.uky.edu/healthy-home-newsletter>. For a hard copy, contact us and we will mail you one.

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According to UK Ag Economist Kenny Burdine, cattle slaughter volumes have continued to be an issue and concerns over short-term meat supply have grown. The heavy slaughter volumes in March led to increased quantities of beef in cold storage. While this is a significant development, the decreases in slaughter that we saw starting the second week of April have been large enough that they will lead to noticeable differences at the retail level.

Markets did react somewhat to President Trump's announcement that meat processing facilities would

Wishing Well®

3	8	7	8	4	6	7	5	7	8	7	8	4
D	A	H	S	A	N	A	M	V	S	E	I	K
6	7	5	7	2	3	2	4	5	3	8	6	2
O	F	O	I	Y	O	O	I	O	N	S	W	U
5	3	6	4	6	7	2	3	4	7	6	4	3
D	O	C	N	O	R	D	T	D	M	N	L	H
4	3	6	3	2	6	7	2	8	2	5	2	6
Y	E	T	S	E	E	W	S	T	E	I	R	N
8	6	7	5	3	2	3	5	6	4	3	2	4
O	T	I	M	I	V	T	P	E	G	A	E	E
5	2	7	3	7	6	3	5	2	8	4	2	4
R	A	L	T	L	D	E	O	T	T	S	R	T
2	4	2	8	2	8	5	8	4	8	4	5	5
E	U	A	H	T	E	V	R	R	S	E	E	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: C equals T

UMZ ETCKWR CYLC KYQWUTKVM E L

BLRTVG PXG'E LZBXV BLVV BQWR

PQLKM: "RG CYQMM ETUE."

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is
LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

QJJ UQWIWX YC OR QEF FCBE

JDTI HWDIEFXZDRX, JDTI

GQWWDQYIX, JDTI QENVZDEY

IJXI, QEF NCO UQE'V AQV Q

VZCOXQEF QJJ VZI VDGI.

— KOJDI QEFWIBX

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Avoid soil compaction in the garden

Gardening season is upon us. It's a good time to think about your soil. Soil compaction creates an unfriendly growing environment for plants and is a serious problem for many home gardeners. However, it is relatively easy to prevent.

Compaction transforms soil into a difficult environment for plant growth by making it harder for roots, water and soil to penetrate the ground. Major causes are working the soil when it is too wet, foot traffic, and excessive rototiller use.

To reduce this problem, it is best to avoid working in the gar-

den or walking in it when the soil is too wet. Squeeze a handful of soil and if it forms a muddy ball, rather than crumbling when you open your hand, stay out of the garden area.

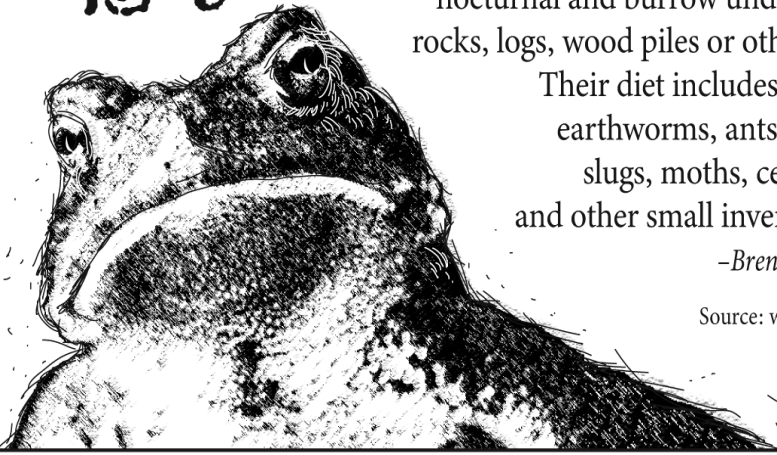
Walk between plants and rows in the garden area to reduce compaction in primary plant growth areas. Excessive rototiller use destroys soil structure and promotes compaction. When compaction takes place in a dense soil structure, it also makes root growth more difficult. A little hand hoeing, rather than a rototiller, may be all you need to do to eliminate a few

weeds. It usually causes less soil damage than repeated rototilling and is less harmful to the earthworms that help aerate the soil.

You also can use mulch to control weeds instead of tilling. A two to three inch layer of mulch relieves the pressure of walking on the soil, reducing the degree of compaction. Organic mulches are materials such as lawn clippings or straw. Do not use lawn clippings that come from a lawn recently treated with herbicides.

For more information, contact the Estill County Extension Office at 606-723-4557.

The Garden Bug



American toads require shallow water for their breeding and their early development. Adult toads are mostly nocturnal and burrow under leaves, rocks, logs, wood piles or other cover. Their diet includes crickets, earthworms, ants, spiders, slugs, moths, centipedes and other small invertebrates.

—Brenda Weaver

Source: wikipedia.org

Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook

Happy Mother's Day! We can help mama birds that are feeding babies by putting out high-protein food. And we can help our own moms with the birds by cleaning and refilling bird baths and feeders, and by planting bird-friendly flowers that hummingbirds like, such as red sage or honeysuckle. Everyone's happy!

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com

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Puzzles4Kids

Answer

Why did the mother needle get mad at the baby needle?

It was past its thread time.

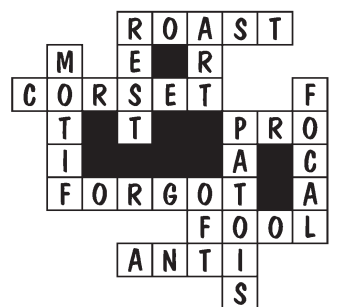
— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

6	5	2	8	7	9	3	1	4
7	1	4	5	3	6	8	9	2
3	9	8	1	2	4	5	6	7
5	4	1	9	6	8	2	7	3
2	8	6	7	4	3	1	5	9
9	7	3	2	1	5	6	4	8
8	2	5	4	9	1	7	3	6
1	3	9	6	8	7	4	2	5
4	6	7	3	5	2	9	8	1

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer



Even Exchange

answers

- Cease, Chase
- Elmer, Elder
- Accent, Accept
- Ringo, Bingo
- Mister, Muster
- House, Horse
- Random, Ransom
- Oliver, Silver
- Nurse, Norse
- Braid, Brain

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.



Letter Box

Solution

L	I	D	A	R	O	G	E	N
E	N	G	I	L	D	A	R	O
O	R	A	N	G	E	L	I	D
I	D	R	L	E	N	O	A	G
N	L	E	G	O	A	I	D	R
G	A	O	D	I	R	E	N	L
A	E	N	O	D	G	R	L	I
D	O	I	R	A	L	N	G	E
R	G	L	E	N	I	D	O	A

CryptoQuip

answer

New sitcom that chronicles a family guy's awful fall from grace: "My Three Sins."

CryptoQuote

answer

All careers go up and down like friendships, like marriages, like anything else, and you can't bat a thousand all the time. — Julie Andrews

Bible Trivia Answers

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

ANSWERS (1 Old; 2 Nebu- chadnezzar; 3 Mark; 4 Son of Man (about 81 times); 5 Samson; 6 Saul).

HOUSES FOR SALE



Two Houses For Sale. Adjacent at 128 Hood Avenue and 130 Hood Avenue in Irvine. Good home ownership or investment possibilities. Call (606) 723-8473