

AG NOTES
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FARMERS MARKET

The market will continue to be open on into October. The late planted summer crops are still in good supply. The fall vegetables are coming in and available.

Come to the market at the Pavilion next to the big blue water tower at the Celebration Grounds. The market is on Thursday afternoons at 2:30 pm.

AG ENHANCEMENT

We're coming up on the application period of October 1-7. We have the application packets at the office. I urge anyone with interest in the program from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to come by and pick one up.

There are project cost-share sections for livestock, row crop, poultry and diversified farming enterprises. Each one has operation requirements and project limits, and that information is in the packets. Come by the Extension office at 2105 Midland Road and look this cost-share program over to see if it will help your operation.

There are certain eligibility certifications that are required, and I can do those trainings here at the office by appointment. But with a short time left, it is important to look at the requirements now to determine what is needed now.

CATTLE MARKETS

The fall run of spring-born calves has started. Local markets have had an increase in numbers of calves. This run has caused some depression in calf prices. The Tennessee market Highlights reported steers down \$2-\$6 per cwt. and heifers down \$2-\$7.

Cow culling has started in the western states in response to dry conditions and limited feed supplies and our own culling season has begun. With an increase in cow numbers for harvest, the market for such cows dropped \$2-\$4 cwt.

Corn was up 10 cents on the December futures and closed at \$5.37/bu. Tennessee is projected to make a record crop, but other parts of the country will be well below their average yields due to the weather of extreme dry weather or wet, depending on location.

Soybeans were down, with lower exports reported for the past few weeks. November soybean futures closed down 2 cents at \$12.84. While that is not a huge drop, it is still less money. When you put 2 cents on several thousand bushels, it's a lot of money. Most of our farmers have presold a good bit of their crop at a price predetermined, but those soybeans not sold are still at risk.

WISDOM

I like to share quotes that I think are thoughtful and good guidance. I get several from the Progressive Farmer's Cornerstones section.

This month's feature topic is school. For some that might be a good thing and for others that might be something that they would rather forget. Since my dad, aunts, uncles, and most of my great aunts and uncles were teachers, and don't forget my wife Melody who was and is a teacher, I appreciate schools. And I have worked for the University of Tennessee for forty-plus years now. So, I believe in the importance of education. But now for the quotes.

John Dewey said, "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa said, "What makes a child gifted and talented may not always be good grades in school, but a different way of looking at the world and learning." Albert Einstein said, "Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school."

Tom Bodett said "In school, you're taught a lesson and then given a test. In life, you're given a test that teaches you a lesson." Lily Tomlin said, "I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework." Booker T. Washington said, "I had a feeling that to get into a schoolhouse and study...would be about the same as getting into paradise." Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Malala Yousafzai said, "Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world."

Think about all of these quotes. They really mean a lot to me. Some valued education because it was hard to get. Some valued thinking outside of normal education.

Which child will discover the cure for our deadly diseases? Solve world issues? Help humanity? I wonder.