

For Immediate

Release Date: 08/17/2023

Farm O Gram

Winchester, VA ~ Feeder Cattle (\$/100wt.) (As of 08/07/2023)

Steers:

300 – 400	\$230.00 - \$292.00
400 - 500	\$207.00 - \$308.00
500 - 600	\$230.00 - \$270.00
600 - 700	\$247.00 - \$253.00
700 - 800	\$230.00
800 - 900	\$185.00 - \$229.00

Heifers:

300 - 400	\$172.00 - \$263.00
400 - 500	\$200.00 - \$219.00
500 - 600	\$199.00 - \$214.00
600 – 700	\$187.00 - \$218.00
700 - 800	\$195.00 - \$206.00
800 - 900	\$200.00 - \$214.00

Slaughter Cows:

Breaker	\$92.00 - \$105.00
Boner	\$79.00 - \$95.00
Lean	\$74.00 - \$81.00

Maryland Grain Bids Prices per Bushel (As of 08/08/2023)

#2 Shelled Corn	\$5.98 - \$6.28
#1 Soybeans	\$12.46 - \$13.66
#1 Wheat	\$5.82 - \$6.32

Wolgemuth Hay Auction ~ New Holland Hay and Straw Prices per Ton (As of 08/08/2023)

Alfalfa	\$200.00 - \$265.00
Mixed Hay	\$110.00 - \$400.00
Wheat Straw	\$ 70.00 - \$175.00

AG Happenings

MDA Reverses Decision on Nutrient Management Planning

After an announcement on June 1st to discontinue funding University of Maryland to write nutrient management plans, MDA reversed that decision and has agreed to fund University of Maryland Extension to continue writing plans for farmers. Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary, Kevin Atticks, made the announcement at the Nutrient Management Plan Writing Summit held on July 17th in Annapolis. While many details have to be worked out University of Maryland Extension will take over Nutrient Management program from the Department of Environmental Science and Technology at University of Maryland on September 1st. Previous employees are awaiting details but it is anticipated most will be rehired. The Secretary is planning to evolve the nutrient management plan model through industry input to adapt to modern farming practices and operations. The Secretary also announced the formation of a new 30-member Farmer Taskforce, convening in August to provide guidance to MDA and UMD regarding ways to improve the nutrient management plan to be more practical for farmers to implement.

If University of Maryland has written your plan in the past, contact the Garrett County Office after September 1st to get on the schedule to have a plan written for 2024.

Please consider taking advantage of one of the programs below. For more information, stop in the office, call 301-334-6960, email abachtel@umd.edu, visit the Master Gardener Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/GarrettCountyMasterGardeners> or our website: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/home-gardening>. This Institution is an equal opportunity provider. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these events or activities, please contact University of Maryland Extension @ 301-334-6960.

Tomato Festival

Do you love tomatoes? Do you love to grow tomatoes? If so, consider bringing a few tomatoes to enter into the first annual Tomato Festival on August 18th being held at Garrett College during the Deep Creek Farmers Market. There will be 3 awards given for the following categories: 1) Overall Nicest Tomato 2) Ugliest 3) Most Tasty. Also, a taste test to see what varieties you like the best. Mark your calendar today!

Plant Questions? Ask a Master Gardener Sessions

There are several opportunities to ask gardening questions over the next few weeks at two different locations. On the following Friday afternoons (2pm - 4:30pm) at the McHenry United Methodist community garden: August 11, August 18, August 25, September 1, and September 25. Also see a tour of the vegetable demonstration garden or on Wednesdays at the Oakland Mt. Fresh Farmers market (9am -1pm): August 9, and August 23.

Home Energy Workshop

The University of Maryland Extension is hosting FREE Home Energy Workshops across the state! Register for a workshop near you to discover practical, cost-effective, and innovative strategies to improve your home energy performance or design a solar power system that will meet your needs. Extension Specialists and industry representatives will provide valuable information to help you improve your home's energy-efficiency and determine if solar will work for you.

Are you thinking about a home improvement project to reduce your energy bills? Have you thought about going solar, but don't know if it will pay off? Have you heard about heat pumps, EVs, electrification and battery storage, but want to know more? Register and attend a workshop near you to get answers to all these questions and more!

With electricity prices rising 2 percent annually, and 18 percent of Maryland households facing a high energy burden, many residents are choosing to reduce or offset their home energy use. If you're wondering how much energy your home uses, or if you're dreading your next utility bill, then now is the time to explore energy saving opportunities for your home. Explore various financial resources, including up-and-coming incentives through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

Each workshop will provide practical tips, steps, and tools to improve your energy efficiency, reduce your carbon footprint, and save money on your next utility bill. Workshops are appropriate for current and prospective homeowners, as well as renters. Participants will receive copies of Extension fact sheets and other informational resources. Locally, the in-person workshops will be offered at the Ruth Enlow Library (Oakland Branch on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. You must register to attend. Registration details can be found here: <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/environment-natural-resources/program-areas/maryland-energy-extension/home-energy>