



December 2018

Merry Christmas,

Now that it's past turkey day, I'm already thinking about ham and turkey at Christmas time. That's me, stomach first, work and play second. When I was young, playing came in just ahead of food, especially hunting and fishing. Now I lay back and let the younger ones worry about the hunting and fishing. I chase the cook around! Could this explain my 250 lbs.?

What a wonderful rain we got this last week. Not really vicious but a nice steady intermittent soaker. Just exactly what the farmers and forestry people like. Little to no erosion. The mad river got a little color but hardly any rise. Does this mean the fish start up? I have no clue. When I see cars parked at the gate down there, I know the fish are in and going by.

Hay prices are still steady and we have plenty of alfalfa to run the winter. The only questions will be grass and alfalfa-grass and I don't think anybody can afford 35-40 dollar a bale hay. We have several loads of grass hay set aside, now I have to wait and see what volume you customers buy. Prices on straw, alfalfa, and grass hay will remain the same through December and January.

Grains are still looking good. There are major market swings because export hasn't happened yet. Will it happen? Anybody's guess. The sad part about all this is the animals still need to be fed. It's how much money we have left in the end that really counts, or do the critters go. For sure I want you to keep the critters, as that's what consumes the product we sell.

Gardeners and landscape people, you should be putting down your lime about now. Our Microna lime is 95% pure calcium carbonate. Besides sweetening the soil the calcium helps release the locked up nitrogen to the plants and strengthens tissue walls. It does a lot more, but all that is over my head and I can't talk like an agronomist.

Also here on the coast it's not too late for cover crop seed. Inland, once the frost starts and short day's I'm not sure how well it will do. My suggestion is to put down some cheap wheat seed or oats and call it good. The winter varieties will sprout and grow. Think about it, if it grows in eastern Washington and Idaho it will grow here, not nearly as cold.

Some of our early winter fruit is in. So far it's kiwi, persimmons, mandarins, pomelo's, and pomegranates. The pomegranates are seconds which mean they have cracks. The good side is they are

big and only \$1.00 each. Didn't get many persimmons and when they are gone – that's it for the year, so don't hesitate.

Quotes

"When you choose the lesser of two evils, always remember that it is still evil." - Max Lerner

"I prefer dangerous freedom over peaceful slavery." – Thomas Jefferson

"I have never been hurt by anything I didn't say," – Calvin Coolidge

"We are the product of the choices we make, not the circumstances that we face." – Roger Crawford

Jokes

Ole finally found a job after many months searching.

"Vhat dew yew pay?" he asked the boss.

"We pay very well," replied the boss. "We'll pay you all you are worth."

Oley picked up his hat in disgust and prepared to leave. "I don't vork fer starvation wages," he grumbed.

MONTHLY SPECIAL

15% OFF

Lodge cookware & cookbooks

We will be **CLOSED** for Christmas the **23rd - 25th**, and for New years the **30th - 1st**. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year form the crew at 3G's!

