

Lifestyle

Harvest, wedding memories mingle

Looking Back

By JACKY GOERZEN

IT can't be June in Kansas without memories of wheat harvest. And June, of course, is also the month for weddings.

Kelly Davidson, who has worked for rural co-ops most of his life, is retired now, but is working still as interim manager at the OK Grain Co-Op in Kiowa, the spot where wheat harvest in Kansas begins most years.

Kelly says his most memorable June was 37 years ago in 1972, when he was married on June 10.

"I had my first co-op job," he said. "We couldn't go far for the honeymoon and I had to be back for the start of harvest. So we went to the Eisenhower [presidential] library in Abilene and cut it short to be back. And of course that was the year that wheat harvest started a week late." Kelly said he's made it up to his wife of 37 years, though. For their 25th anniversary, they took a trip to Europe.

This year, however, the celebration will have to be a short one. Wheat harvest, he says, will likely start somewhere between June 7 and June 10.

150 years ago, June 1859

Fort Larned was established as a base of military operations against hostile Indians to pro-



tect traffic along the Santa Fe Trail.

100 years ago, June 1909

Eight tornadoes crossed northwest Norton County on the afternoon and evening of June 24, 1909, destroying farm homes, injuring workers in the field and even sweeping away a baby, pulled from its mother's arms when the family home was destroyed. Hail of 6 to 7 inches in circumference was reported.

80 years ago, June 1929

The Hays station of Kansas State University began a study of moisture damage to wheat to determine if the amount of damage could be influenced by the type or style of bin used for storage. The recently invented combine was blamed in part for the moisture problem, because it allowed wheat to be harvested too early while it was still too wet for safe storage.

The Hays study involved eleven 500-bushel grain bins on the station grounds, all with slightly different storage capacities and constructions. Wheat harvest in 1929 began on June 28, when windrowed wheat was picked up and threshed. The moisture content was 18 percent in the morning, but down to 14 percent by afternoon.

50 years ago, June 1959

Kansas is prone to some bizarre weather events and this one is among the record-setters. On June 3, 1959, a hailstorm hit Selden. Hail poured from the sky for a record 85 minutes and piled up 18 inches deep. The temperature at the start of the storm was 80 degrees. At the height of the storm, the mercury read 38 degrees.

Jacky Goerzen is a senior majoring in history at Wichita State University. She works as a historical interpreter at the Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita.



Sandwiches help keep summer parties simple

SUMMER is the season for get-togethers of every kind, from simple picnics to full-scale family reunions. Confetti Sandwiches will be the hit of any gathering. Quick and easy to make, the Neufchatel cheese, hard-cooked eggs and green olives mix for a flavor combination that can't be beat.

When you're making this recipe, why not hard-cook some extra eggs? The additional eggs will keep for a week in the refrigerator and make a quick protein snack that sustains physical and mental energy. The high-quality protein found in eggs provides the building blocks that kids need to grow and the energy that they need to stay focused throughout the day.

For more recipes featuring eggs, visit the Web site of the North Carolina Egg Association at www.ncegg.org.

Confetti Sandwiches

1 7-ounce jar pimento-stuffed olives, drained (reserve 14 whole olives and 1 tablespoon olive juice)

6 hard-cooked eggs, chopped

1 8-ounce package Neufchatel cheese, softened

14 slices wheat sandwich bread, crusts trimmed

Slice olives in half. In a large bowl, stir together chopped eggs, cheese, sliced olives and reserved olive juice until well blended. Mix completely.

Cut each slice of bread in half. Spread one-fourth cup of filling on a bread slice and top with remaining bread slice half. Insert toothpick into reserved whole pimento-stuffed olive, then insert into sandwich. Repeat preparation of remaining sandwiches. Makes 14 party sandwiches.

To hard-cook eggs: Place eggs in a single layer in saucepan. Add enough tap water to come to at least 1 inch above eggs. Cover. Quickly bring just to boiling. Turn off heat. Remove pan from burner. Let eggs stand, covered in hot water, for 15 minutes for large eggs, 12 for medium or 18 for extra-large. Immediately run cold water over eggs, or place them in ice water until completely cooled.

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Raising the ante on market information

By WILLIE VOGT

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At www.KansasFarmer.com, you'll find a constantly improving list of features under the "Markets" tab on the home page.

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access to marketing information from the staff of *Farm Futures* and a growing number of tools you can put to use.

Recently, the Web site has added a more comprehensive list of price information, including a wide range of contracts for key crops traded on more than the Chicago Board of Trade.

From currencies to energy futures, you can find contract trade information on the site.

An overnight view

Grain trade is no longer a 9:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. endeavor.

Contracts are trading around the clock with electronic markets responsible for an increasing function on your risk-management plan.

At the "Markets" section of the site, when you click on the "Corn" contract, you get price moves for both the pits and for electronic trading.

Early in the morning this can give you a solid look at what's happened since you called it a night the day before.

With the world market in-

creasingly trading those "E" contracts, chances are your risk-management plan would get a boost at least tracking some of these moves in the market.

The days of just calling the elevator for a price are probably ending.

Check out "Markets" on www.KansasFarmer.com to see the growing list of information available.

And if you have more features you want added, send a message to help@farmprogress.com, and we'll take a look.