

Editor's Notebook



Mark Newhall
Editor

Farmer Wins Fight Against Feds To Avoid "Imitation Milk" Label

According to Federal regulations, only skim milk with added vitamins can be labeled as "skim milk". So when Maryland farmer Randy Sowers started selling skim milk direct from his small dairy farm, he was required to label it "imitation milk product" even though all he did was remove the fat from fresh milk. He didn't want to add anything.



Randy Sowers won his fight with the FDA over labeling his milk.

"It never made sense that I had to add something artificial to my skim milk in order to sell it with a truthful label," says Sowers, who filed a lawsuit against the FDA with the help of the Institute for Justice, a libertarian legal aid group that represents individuals and small business owners being unfairly treated by governments (www.IJ.org).

"Randy's product was the real thing, not an imitation. It was a clear violation of his First Amendment rights to force him to use a label that wasn't truthful," says IJ senior attorney Justin Pearson, noting that the FDA issued a publicly released letter stating that it will not enforce the regulation against Sowers or any other dairy farmer and will not require states to enforce the regulation either.

Eagle Made From Plow Parts

James Fenn, Ransomville, N.Y., was looking at a plow one day and realized he could turn the moldboards into nifty eagle wings. After rounding up a bunch of plow parts, he created a flying bald eagle with a wing span of about 4 ft. It looks like it's landing on a 12-ft. tall flagpole next to Fenn's garden.



Eagle made from plow moldboards appears to be landing on flagpole.

"I used a Mig welder and a 10-lb. spool of wire to put all the parts together. It weighs about 140 lbs., so I had to use my skid loader to lift it up into place."

He used a left hand moldboard from a 1950's Allis Chalmers plow to make one of the wings, and bought a right hand moldboard at a farm store for the other. The body and beak were made from a big metal bracket that originally supported the front share on the Allis plow. Strips of new 10-ga. steel were used to make feathers.

Fenn likes to make ornamental yard sculptures to sell. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James Fenn, Starlite Acres, LLC, 3808 Daniels Rd., Ransomville, N.Y. 14131 (ph 716 706-8232; atjam@aol.com).

A Way To Say "Thanks!"

Gary Brown in Georgia has been a good friend to FARM SHOW for many years. During a recent chat on the phone he told me about a way he came up with to say "thanks" to doctors and nurses who have been on the front lines dealing with the Coronavirus. "I put a sign in front of my business saying 'Free Garden Tilling'. When people would stop to ask, I'd tell them I would till up a garden for them for free if they're in the medical field or if they would promise to share whatever vegetables they grow with local medical staff. Word got around and I've been tilling up ground all around the area. Other folks are doing it, too," says Brown. "I'd like to suggest that FARM SHOW readers all over the country make this offer. Medical workers have died in Georgia from the virus. We need to say thanks to these brave workers."



John Wooten singing his song, "Get On Your Tractor & Ride!"

Tractor Song Going Viral

If you need a day brightener during these unusual times, you'll get a kick out of John Wooten's tractor song called "Get On Your Tractor & Ride". John sings the song during a whimsical music video while driving his Deere 790 tractor around his farm in Hawaii.

The lyrics capture farm life - from dust and diesel to spiritual satisfaction gained by hard work. During the song, Wooten offers up his own personal style of yodeling.

The idea for the song first came to him 34 years ago when Wooten bought his first tractor in California. "I was so happy riding that tractor over rough ground, bouncing along," he says, "so I started working on a tractor riding song."

He moved to Hawaii 23 years ago and bought land where he and his wife, Nandanie, grow vegetables, avocados and rare tropical fruits such as chocolate sapote, rambutan and breadfruit. They sell directly to customers and at farmers markets.

His tractor song evolved over the years. He finally got the chance to make a music video with the help of film students at a local college. "The video took months of preparation but just 2 days of shooting," Wooten notes.

He figures "Get On Your Tractor & Ride" should appeal to all farmers whether they drive a big new tractor or a small tractor rusted from Hawaiian humidity, like he does.

"I'm 70 and don't plan to retire. I still enjoy bounding around on my tractor as well as doing all kinds of farm work," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Wooten, Wootens Produce of Kauai, P.O. Box 509, Kuhio Hwy., Anahola, Hawaii 96703 (ph 808 823-6807; wootenkauai@gmail.com Search YouTube: Farmer John Wooten Kauai).

Liberty Quotes

"A people who mean to be free must be prepared to meet danger in person, and not rely upon the fallacious protection of armies." *Edmund Randolph*

"Good government generally begins in the family, and if the moral character of a people once degenerate, their political character must soon follow." *Elias Boudinot*

"Safety from external danger is the most powerful director of national conduct." *Alexander Hamilton*

"The greatest tyrannies are always perpetuated in the name of the noblest causes." *Thomas Paine*

"The greater the power the more dangerous the abuse." *Edmund Burke*

"Freedom is not something that can be given. Freedom is something people take, and people are as free as they want to be." *James Baldwin*

"As government regulations grow slowly, we become used to the harness. Habit is a powerful force and we no longer feel as we once would have the constriction of our liberties that would have been utterly intolerable a mere half century ago." *Judge Robert Bork*

"A constitution defines and limits the powers of the government it creates. It therefore follows as a natural and logical result, that the governmental exercise of any power not authorized by the constitution is an assumed power, and therefore illegal." *Thomas Paine*



Gifting a book from FARM SHOW's "library" of best-sellers is a great way to treat your father or grandfather.

Don't Forget Father's Day!

My dad, Bill Newhall, is still doing well and living on his own at age 94. He grew up on a farm near Owatonna, Minn., served in the Pacific during World War II, and spent his working years at a large poultry processing plant while also raising a couple of barns full of turkeys in his spare time. He taught us a lot growing up, but I've learned much more during these last 20 years or so when he's had time to relax and reflect back on life.

If you're lucky enough to still have your father or grandfather around, don't forget him this Father's Day. One way to treat him is with a book from FARM SHOW's library of best sellers. Check out the order envelope inserted into this issue or go to our website - www.farmshow.com - 24/7.

Points To Ponder

- "When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us." *Alexander Graham Bell*
- "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But, it is perhaps, the end of the beginning." *Winston Churchill*
- "If you always do what you did, you'll always get what you got." *Marian Diamond*
- "There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly." *R. Buckminster Fuller*
- "Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all others." *Winston Churchill*
- "We are all born ignorant, but one must work very hard to remain stupid." *Benjamin Franklin*
- "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late." *Shakespeare*
- "You can't go back and change the beginning but you can start where you are and change the ending." *C.S. Lewis*
- "It's not my fault I don't know how to act my age. I've never been this old before." *Anonymous*
- "A man only learns by two things. One is reading and the other is association with smarter people." *Will Rogers*

Ole called Sven and asked him to come to his house to help with a jigsaw puzzle. "Dat ting's a killer, Sven," Ole told him on the phone. "I can't figure out where to start."

Sven said, "What's it supposed to be when it's done?" "Vell," said Ole, "according to da box, it's a tiger." Sven decided to help. Ole let him in and showed him where he had the puzzle spread out all over the table. Sven studied the pieces for a moment, looked at the box, and then said, "Ole, I hate to be da one to tell yew dis but ve're not going to be able to make deez pieces look like a tiger."

"And second, Ole, maybe yew should just relax and have a cup of coffee. Den ve'll put all of deez Frosted Flakes back into da box."

Lena phoned her doctor, very upset. "Is it true," she asked, "dat da medication yew prescribed has to be taken for da rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before Lena replied, "Vell, I'm vundering den yust how serious is my condition? Because da prescription bottle is marked 'no refills'."

During a break on a building project, the construction foreman Sven approached Ole, a fellow worker. "I hear da boys are going on strike," he told Ole.

"What fer?" asked Ole.

"Shorter working hours," answered Sven.

"Good fur dem," replied Ole. "I always did tink 60 minutes was too long fur a hour."

Sven took a trip to Arizona for his health but, unfortunately, he died there. His body was shipped home to North Dakota. "Don't he look vunderful!" commented Ole as he viewed Sven in the casket at his funeral.

"Vell, ya, he sure does," said Sven's widow, Olga. "I tink dat trip tew Arizona did him a world of good!"