

# NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES      COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS      CROP NEWS      DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



**DAIRY HERDS OF 2 COUNTIES RATED**

CORVALLIS, Ore., March 30.—(AP)—Cows of the Washington County Herd Improvement association yielded an average of 455 pounds of milk and 29.6 pounds of butterfat for February to rank first among herds of the Oregon herd improvement association.

Roger W. Morse, Oregon State college extension dairyman, announced that the Rogue River association cows tested averaged 570.6 pounds of milk and 27.9 pounds of fat for second place.

## Fruits and Greenhouses Yield Third of County's Revenue

### PRUNES HOLD TOP PLACE IN CROP LIST; STRAWBERRIES LEAD SMALLER VARIETIES

Present Peach Acreage Declared Sufficient in Report to Douglas Farm Conference; No Further Plantings of Cherries, Apples, Pears or Melons Advised for Commercial Aims; Cover Crops Urged.

Horticultural crops produced 34.5 per cent of Douglas county's agricultural revenue, the county economic conference was informed by the horticulture committee in its report. The committee recommended increasing plantings in only rare instances, but encouraged greater attention to securing better production through improved methods.

The report in full follows:

From 1926 to 1930, 34.5 per cent of the average agricultural cash income in Douglas county was from truck crops, tree fruits and nuts, small fruits, nursery and greenhouse crops. This amounted to \$1,217,280 annually.

Tree fruits and nuts made up 24.3 per cent of this amount, small fruits, nursery and greenhouse 6.1 per cent and truck crops 14.1 per cent. The total acreage in tree fruits, nuts and small fruits was 15,543 acres in 1935. Approximately 10,000 acres of this are in prunes and 1,000 each in apples, pears and walnuts.

The apple acreage in the state of Oregon decreased from 71,176 acres in 1909 to 24,256 acres in 1935.

The acreage in the Umpqua region was 3,689 acres in 1919 and approximately 1,000 acres in 1935, including home orchards. Further reductions in acreage likely will take place in Douglas county.

Markets outside of Oregon and local markets do not encourage commercial plantings of apples. On deep well drained soils and where the grower has a local roadside market or other means of disposal locally, plantings of apples may be made.

Enforcements of grades regulating apples offered for sale should be exercised.

**Pears Decreased**

Oregon pear acreage in 1909 was 15,274 acres, increasing to 23,223 acres in 1935. The Douglas county pear acreage was 1,157 acres in 1919 and was estimated at 1,000 acres in 1935.

The price of pears averaged \$1.08 per bushel from 1926 to 1930. The average price in 1935 was 40c per bushel and 60c in 1934.

A general planting of pear acreage is not recommended. It appears that the present acreage should be maintained on such farms as have deep, well drained soils where pears can be made a part of an economic farm unit. Douglas county is favored with a low cost of production as compared to some locations. The acreage of Rose and Anjou is sufficient.

Douglas county pear growers might consider some plan of cooperative marketing or bargaining which will avoid the promiscuous dumping of pears on the markets at unnecessarily low prices at harvest time.

Pear growers would improve their product by thinning fruit to eliminate culls and irrigation might be practiced on pears where it is economical and practical to do so.

The activity to discredit the Douglas county Bartlett pear is condemned by this committee.

**Peach Acreage Sufficient**

The peach acreage in Douglas county was 251 in 1919 and 350 acres in 1935 and it is believed that the acreage is sufficient for present markets. When local market conditions warrant such action, additional plantings of Rochester, Improved Elberta and J. H. Hale may be made at planting distances of 24 to 30 feet apart.

There is a possibility that Douglas county might find a market for peaches in California, but growers shipping peaches to California points should protect shipments against brown rot development.

Oregon canned peaches also may find favor in domestic markets.

Growers of peaches must follow closely the spray program for peach twig-blight and peach leaf curl. These diseases must be combated annually.

**Cherry Acreage Same**

The cherry acreage in Douglas county, according to records, figures, is 180 acres, and has remained about the same since 1919.

Because of extensive plantings in the northwest expected to come into bearing, it is recommended that no commercial plantings of sweet cherries be made in this county and further plantings of sour cherries are discouraged.

Cherry importations have fallen off sharply in recent years and the market for northwestern sweet cherries also is complicated by the introduction of the eastern sour cherry into the maraichino trade channels.

**Prunes Dominant Fruit Crop**

The acreage of prunes and plums in Oregon was 21,925 in 1909 and 54,825 acres in 1935. Dried prunes averaged \$111.00 per ton from 1928 to 1930. In 1931 the price was \$75 per ton, \$52 per ton in 1932 and \$55 per ton in 1935.

Fresh prunes averaged \$22 per ton from 1926 to 1930, \$20 in 1931 and \$17 in 1932.

The three Pacific coast states produced a total of 280,000 tons of prunes in 1934, the northwest producing approximately 37,000 tons. Of the northwest production, 1,200,000 cases of Italian prunes were canned.

European trade barriers have reduced the northwest export of dried prunes and at present it does not appear that this market will be recovered soon.

**Output Figures Given**

The growth of the world dried prune production since 1899 is shown in the following table:

Year.	Cal. tons	N. W. tons	U. S. total tons	World tons
1899	57,714	1,590	58,614	114,614
1909	75,000	22,250	97,250	158,950
1912	135,000	16,400	151,400	215,800
1920	97,500	6,950	104,450	181,500
1925	146,000	11,900	157,900	267,900
1930	261,000	31,250	292,250	510,714
1934	170,000	32,200	202,200	328,699
1935		37,990	280,690	

United States exports averaged in the period 1928-1932, 116,797 tons.

United States exports for 1934 were 85,626 tons.

Dried prune exports for 1934 were 31,171 tons less than the average for the five-year period 1928-1932.

1927 459,594 cases  
1928 715,749 cases  
1929 960,392 cases  
1930 719,960 cases  
1931 759,271 cases  
1932 506,880 cases  
1933 794,924 cases  
1934 446,900 cases  
1935 1,200,000 cases

This continued annual increase of the canned prune pack may be one solution to the marketing problems of Italian prunes. Growers and packers both must take more interest in the quality of prunes going into the canned pack and proceed by means of advertising the product.

The present Douglas county prune acreage should be maintained on deep, well drained soils and new plantings spaced 30 feet apart, on unirrigated soil. The next few years likely will witness the removal of about 25 per cent of the present Douglas county prune orchards due to old age, winter injury, and locations on unsuitable soils. Prune orchards that do not produce at least one ton of dried prunes per acre should be considered for removal.

**Control Plan Needed**

Douglas county prune growers should give serious consideration to the plan to place the marketing of dried prunes under control. This is believed necessary to avoid indiscriminate "dumping" of dried prunes if growers are to eliminate certain evils of independent selling and secure better prices.

Douglas county growers might profit from a study of the culture and pruning methods to improve the quality and size of prunes for drying and canning. The grower must take the initiative in furnishing the public a better grade of prunes.

Where trees are planted less than 24 feet apart the owner may find it profitable to remove every tree in every other row to avoid overcrowding and moisture starvation.

Revision is needed in the present system of grading prunes in 11 or more classifications, dependent on size alone and valued accordingly without reference to quality. Dried prunes should be classified for size and not to exceed four grades, such as: Small, medium, large and extra large, and differences in value should be governed by quality rather than size.

Standards of quality can be set up and measures taken to insure proper identification of quality prunes by the ultimate consumer. The state department of agriculture should be requested to hold hearings to set up grades and standards based on quality of Oregon prunes.

The present plight of the prune industry can, in a large measure, be changed to the failure of existing sales agencies to maintain merchandising methods to meet those of competing commodities. This is due to the lack of organization among prune growers.

No recommendations are made regarding the growing of tomatoes, cauliflower and broccoli.

**Saturation On Melons**

No additional acreage is the suggestion given for cantaloupes and muskmelons unless growers have an outlet in view. Hale and Superette are leading varieties but the variety to be planted may depend somewhat on the market demands.

More watermelons might be grown except for a disease commonly known as watermelon wilt. This is said to be a watermelon usually associated with wilt of melons, and one of the common

wilts of blackcap raspberries. Watermelons should not follow potatoes.

**Strawberries Top Small Fruits**

The small fruit acreage in Douglas county is approximately 230 acres, 130 acres being planted to strawberries.

The Marshall, sometimes called the Dewey, is the leading commercial strawberry in this county.

For home use the Narcissi may be used on rich, early soils, but Gold Dollar is a leader among early strawberries in Douglas county. The Red Heart, a new canning berry, is recommended for trial on rich, rather heavy soils. The Corvallis strawberry is meeting with favor in parts of the state, where heavy soils and irrigation are available. The Lloyd George, a new red hardy sort in the northwest, is recommended for home use. This variety is regarded as a jam and pie berry. The Cuthbert red raspberry is a leading commercial variety in Oregon. The Plum Farmer is recommended and the Brainerd strawberry may be given a trial for home use. The youngberry is a new variety of dewberry origin which is gaining in popularity commercially, being suited to moist, rich lands. Boysenberry, a new highly advertised fruit, is reported to be superior to the youngberry, and is on trial in

other tree in every row in closely planted orchards, if this can be done before orchards become devalued beyond the point of recovery.

**Cover Crops Advised**

For most orchardists the cover crop offers greatest returns as a means of soil maintenance in supplying humus and preventing leaching of fertility and soil erosion. Orchard soils become less fertile each year and the trees more exacting as to fertility requirements as they grow older, making cover crops desirable as an annual practice.

Three-fourths common and one-fourth winter barley, seeded one bushel per acre before fall rains, is the leading cover crop in Douglas county and excellent results are reported by those seeding double this amount per acre. Vetch should be inoculated when it has not been grown on a soil for several years.

Hungarian vetch may be used with winter grain.

Austrian winter field peas, 60 pounds per acre, is popular with growers who have used it and it requires same inoculation as for vetch.

Turnips, one and one-half to three pounds per acre, are used some years by Willamette valley orchardists with good success.

Commercial fertilizers, in the opinion of the committee, are best used to increase cover crop growths. Nitrogen fertilizers, or nitrogen phosphorus combinations, should be used at the rate of 100 to 150 pounds per acre, broadcast on cover crops in early February. The cover crop should be plowed under just before the bloom period. Plowing or discing orchards not to exceed four or five inches in depth is recommended. Additions when available, which can be made to the cover crop for soil maintenance, are:

Stable manure, 10 or 12 tons per acre annually.

Clover straw or alfalfa hay refuse, two and one-half to three tons per acre annually.

Straw, two and one-half to three tons per acre only when nitrogen such as sulphate of ammonia is added at the rate of 100 to 150 pounds per acre. Calcium cyanamide or other nitrogen carriers may be used instead of sulphate of ammonia.

**Walnut Production High**

There is a greater production of walnuts than the domestic markets can consume. California has an acreage of 137,000 and Oregon 25,000. About 20 per cent of this is non-bearing, meaning heavier production in the future. In view of the present over-production controlled marketing should be contemplated.

If walnuts are planted they should be on the best land in order to obtain a heavier production at a relatively low cost. Small tracts of five to ten acres are not large enough to furnish adequate income alone and should be combined with other farm enterprises.

The Franquette English walnut is recommended for general planting. The northern California black walnut makes the best tree stock for general purposes. Walnut trees need regular annual pruning, principally trimming out the excess limbs.

**Filbert Crop to Increase**

There are now about 9,558 acres of filberts in the northwest, one-half non-bearing, and of the bearing acreage much of it still is not in full production. The northwest production is approximately 30 per cent of the domestic consumption. The present consumption rate is less than it was a few years ago. In view of the fact that the present acreage will furnish almost enough tonnage for the present consumption, new plantings should be made with the idea that low prices may be the result of over-production unless consumption returns to former levels.

Filberts and walnuts both have a tariff of five cents a pound on the unshelled material and the rate should be maintained for the protection of the industry.

**Moisture Content Low**

Recent investigations of Douglas county orchard soils relative to soil depth disclosed there is not enough moisture during the summer to support many local orchards. More care must be used in selecting orchard soils and greater space between trees is necessary if the present moisture conditions prevail.

For best results the soils for tree fruits and nuts should be eight to ten feet deep and well drained. Shallow soils underlain with rock, hard pan, gravel, impervious soil with clay to the surface, or soils with high water tables generally are unfavorable and unprofitable for orchards.

There have been heavy losses to individuals in the northwest who have bought or planted orchards on waste land, or that purpose. Such mistakes can be avoided in the future by careful selection of orchard sites.

Average annual rainfall at Roseburg since 1878 has been 31.89 inches. Generally the rainfall from May to September is light, especially in July, August and September when tree fruits and nuts are maturing and need a greater moisture supply than is available.

Trees quite generally are planted too close in local orchards, the fruit and cover crops being starved from lack of moisture.

Several considerations should be given regarding removal of every

Oregon, Poorman, an Oregon champion, is a leader in Oregon. The grape crop in Oregon exceeds present demands and no further acreage is recommended except for home use. The American varieties are not as well adapted to this purpose. Soil for these should be of the best, eight to ten feet deep, fertile and well drained. Such soils usually are the river bottom area.

Cultivation should be deep enough to turn under a cover crop and not to a depth to injure the root system. Later cultivation should be deep enough to keep down a weed growth and establish a mulch. Fertilizers for the trees themselves are not recommended.

**Stable Manure, 10 or 12 tons per acre annually.**

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**Straw, two and one-half to three tons per acre only when nitrogen such as sulphate of ammonia is added at the rate of 100 to 150 pounds per acre.** Calcium cyanamide or other nitrogen carriers may be used instead of sulphate of ammonia.

**Other projects in which Oregon 4-H club members engaged last year were: sewing, sheep, beef calf, dairy record keeping, goat, poultry, corn, potatoes, wheat, canning, home beautification, rabbit, bee, farm accounting, forage, rose and flower, pigeon, colt, art, household engineering, building, rodent control, agricultural engineering, soil production, gas engine, range management and quilting.**

**Douglas County Third**

Lane county had the highest club enrollment, with 3,556 boys and girls enrolled in 262 clubs. The city of Portland was next with 2,131 members and 256 clubs, followed by Douglas with 1,762 members and 112 clubs; Clackamas with 1,709 members and 157 clubs; Linn with 1,292 members and 138 clubs and Marion with 1,108 members and 124 clubs.

Douglas county had the highest percentage of members completing their projects, and Clackamas clubbers showed the greatest monetary value for their work. Mr. Seymour pointed out that "local leaders form the real backbone of club work throughout the state" and deserve a great deal of credit for their unselfish service to the boys and girls of Oregon.

**WAR ON BURROS TO END TICK MENACE**

SAN ANGELO, Tex., March 30.—(AP)—The campaign continues against wild asses and unbranded mustangs in this section in the government's program to rid the Big Bend county of tick.

Sam Roberts, living on the banks of the state's greatest canyon, Santa Helena, south of Alpine, estimates 500 wild burros have been killed.

"There is no use capturing them, they will starve before eating," Roberts said. "In the winter time they fur out like a bear."

The government recently distributed 1,000 rounds of ammunition for the wild burro campaign, while many mustangs have been roped and sold.

Enrollments received during the past week are as follows: Yoncalla school, leader, Patricia Jackson, president; Wanda Brink, vice president; Ruth Patrick, secretary; Patricia Jackson, Helen Ozdon and Joan Billing, Canas Valley school, handicraft project. Wm. Paulson, leader; Fred Walraft, president; Harold Ebbw, vice president; Lucile Hubner, secretary; Betty Siebolt, Carol Barker, Donald Lawson, Wallace Coon, Lloyd Roberts, Paul Kelley, Raymond Johnson, Bruce Dick, Don Coon, Dicky Thrucci, Oliver Standley, Jack Church, Legin Stegel, Dewey Hunt, E. Warren Brown, Earl Whiting and Jimmie Paulson, Canas Valley school, cookery project. Mrs. Thos. Siegel, leader; Carol Baker, president; Betty Siebolt, vice president; Marjorie Uroncher, secretary; Marjorie Annis, Rosella Anisnek and Evelyn Paulson.

Certified seed potatoes in several varieties are sold at Wharton Bros.—Adv.

The next local leaders' meeting

### OREGON 4-H CLUBS SET NEW RECORDS

Projects and Memberships Show Increase in 1935; Douglas Ranks 3rd.

Four-H club boys and girls of Oregon set up a new record in number of projects carried during the past year, with a total of 22,313 members in 2309 standard clubs, according to the annual report recently filed by State Club Leader H. C. Seymour. This was an increase of 1676 members and 216 clubs over the previous year. Club work was conducted in every county in the state.

The value of club work in dollars and cents was also considerably increased. Mr. Seymour's figures show. Completed projects for 1935 had a gross value of \$228,221.43, a net of \$145,561.47 and a net profit of \$84,559.96, as compared to a gross value of \$193,597.29, a cost of \$119,124.63 and a net profit of \$74,484.66 in 1934.

Thirty-seven different kinds of projects were carried by Oregon clubbers last year, although not all of these are recommended as standard or state-wide projects. The clothing project proved the most popular, with 5,227 members enrolled in 629 clubs. Cookery was next with 4,909 members in 540 clubs, followed by health and growth with 3,551 members in 249 clubs; dairy calf with 1,101 members in 116 clubs; gardening with 872 members in 96 clubs; marketing with 559 members in 62 clubs; handicraft with 788 members in 90 clubs and forestry with 755 members in 81 clubs.

Other projects in which Oregon 4-H club members engaged last year were: sewing, sheep, beef calf, dairy record keeping, goat, poultry, corn, potatoes, wheat, canning, home beautification, rabbit, bee, farm accounting, forage, rose and flower, pigeon, colt, art, household engineering, building, rodent control, agricultural engineering, soil production, gas engine, range management and quilting.

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The next local leaders' meeting

### PRODUCE ACT END NEARS FOR OREGON

Chaotic Marketing Status Supplanted by Orderly Trading System.

PORTLAND, March 30.—(AP)—Oregon agriculture ends three years of operation under the State produce law tomorrow and the result has been a disappearance of the demoralized market conditions of a few years ago. Arden A. Reed, chief of the market enforcement division of the state department of agriculture, said today.

"Under the law of today," he said, "the licensing of 785 produce operators upholds and develops the principles of marketing under recognized standards and uniform quality. No longer can an itinerant hauler load a truck with over-grade or surplus produce, move overnight into new markets and, minus grade marks, branded containers and regulation weight, proceed with his haphazard method of disposal."

"The dealer, who bears his proportionate share of the cost of standardization is protected by the peddler being licensed and regulated. Some thing out of the less financially responsible people protects the licensed peddler."

"These two classifications, coming under state regulations, prevent the demoralized market conditions of a few years ago and give the producer a chance to contribute to the home market, which is about the only market available to the small producer and should be one of the best markets for the heavy shipper."

**SETTLERS GRANTED LEAVE FOR EARNING**

WASHINGTON, March 30.—(AP)—The senate has passed a bill granting a leave of absence for all or part of the current year to settlers on homestead lands who find migration necessary in order to make a living.

The measure, introduced by Senator Murray (D., Mont.) and sent to the house, provides that entrymen holding unperfected entries on ceded Indian lands may be released from residence requirements but not from making the agreed payments.

A free public lecture on Christian Science will be given in the Church Edifice, East Douglas street, Monday, March 30, at 8:00 P. M. All are invited.—Adv.

Bermuda onion plants are now in stock at Wharton Bros.—Adv.

The next local leaders' meeting

### FOUR-H CLUB ACTIVITIES

The county club agent, E. A. Britton, has just completed another survey of the school enrollment of Douglas county. It has been found that enrollments total 4,954, which includes every grade from the first grade through high school. This number is 752 less than the enrollment near the close of the last school year.

The 4-H club entertainers consisting of Helen White and Judith Hodges, Margaret and Mary French, Allan Gordon, the Horner family orchestra and the county club agent, are preparing a program to be given at the Days Creek school Friday evening, April 17. Most of this group, if not all, will also assist in the program at the Riverside school Friday evening, April 10, and at the Garden Valley club building Friday evening, April 24.

This same group has prepared a program which will be given over KOAC on the regular Monday evening 4-H program some time soon.

A group of Glide youngsters organized Friday noon for a 4-H club project in vegetable gardening. This club will be known as "North Umpqua Weed Scalpers" and is led by "Uncle" John Alexander who still holds the distinction of being the oldest 4-H club leader in the United States. Mr. Alexander just recently celebrated his 82nd birthday.

Leland Blakey was chosen for president of the club, which also elected Lavola McMullen as vice president and Dorothy Spradling as secretary. Other members of the club include Evelyn Blakey, Robert Spradling, Clinton Spradling, Billy Strohecker and Patricia Glenn.

The Glengary camp cookery club which is led by Miss Hattie Cooper, is one other club to have its project already completed. This club has prepared a meat, each week which they not only enjoyed themselves but served to the entire school as a hot lunch.

Evergreen grange, at its meeting last Monday evening, March 23, voted to sponsor a 4-H summer school scholarship to some outstanding 4-H club member living within the jurisdiction of that grange. This brings the total scholarships being sponsored by granges to 11 and that of organizations and individuals to 24. The Douglas National bank has also responded to be allowed to give a scholarship during the past year.

Those sponsoring scholarships are as follows: Douglas National bank, A. C. Marsters (for cow judging winner), E. T. Urath, Riverside grange, Sutherland grange, Tenmile grange, Melrose grange, Lookingglass grange, Glide grange, Lion Lake grange, Evergreen grange, Canas Valley grange, Tipton's Dairy, California Oregon Poultry Co., Montgomery Ward & Co., Winston P. T. A. (1), Garden Valley Women's club, Glide P. T. A., Riverside P. T. A., Glide P. T. A.

The next local leaders' meeting

### FARMERS SET FOR LOCUST INVASION

WOOSTER, Or., March 30.—(AP)—Farmers in 35 of Ohio's 88 counties are preparing for an invasion of the 17-year locust. J. S. Houser, chief of the department of entomology of the Ohio experiment station, says the locusts will appear in late May or June in large numbers and that the chief damage would be to fruit trees.

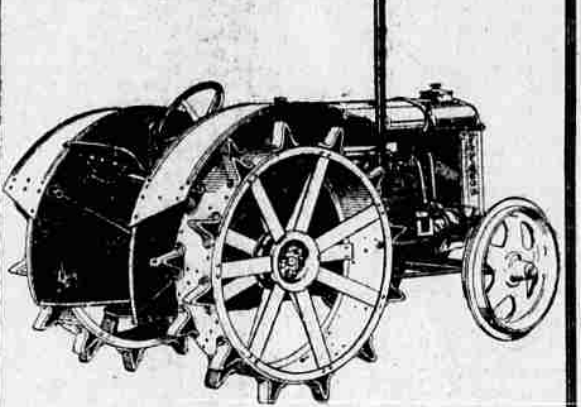
Louise Knight Wheatley Cook, C. S. B., will deliver a free public lecture on Christian Science in Church Edifice, Monday evening, March thirtieth, at eight o'clock.—Adv.

Lawn seed and fertilizers are sold at Wharton Bros.—Adv.

The next local leaders' meeting

**Schilling**  
superior flavor  
**Pepper**

### ANOTHER SERVICE OFFERED YOU!



We have taken the Fordson sales and service agency for Douglas County. Parts, repair service, new and rebuilt tractors now available.

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These are some of the features that account for the great popularity of this Half-Ton International: Hendon V-type radiator with aluminum grill and chromium trim—valanced fenders—full-length running board—airplane-type instrument panel. The 6-cylinder engine develops maximum brake P. of 74.5—real heavy-duty power in a Half-Ton truck.

In this Half-Ton International Model C-1 are incorporated many of the features that provide the stamina found in the big heavy-duty Internationals. Plus speed, handling-ease, and fuel economy that any driver will brag about.

Put it up to a C-1, and you will do your hauling job with new efficiency—and a new economy that will be a source of profit, year after year.

There is a great variety of body adaptations made possible because the C-1 comes in two wheelbases—113 inches and 125 inches. The longer size is a special International feature in a half-ton truck. Come in and see this truck or phone us and we'll bring one over. Other Internationals up to powerful 6-wheelers.

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