

Talent Alfalfa Seed, Newly Developed, Soon To Be Ready For Limited Distribution

Seed of the new Talent alfalfa, developed at the Southern Oregon branch experiment station, will be available for limited general distribution this fall or next spring, announced Harold H. White, in charge of crops work, at the annual station field day held recently.

About 122 acres are expected to be harvested for seed this season on the station and by cooperating farmers who are growing the new variety to increase the seed supply. Much interest was shown in the new variety by the hundreds of farmers who toured the station during the field day.



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Dr. Louis Gentner, entomologist and formerly in charge of the crops program, sketched the development of this variety from 1937 when it was one of numerous strains and varieties planted in test rows. It early showed its superiority and has since proved to be the best among 31 strains and 23 varieties for southern Oregon conditions. Limited tests have also been made elsewhere with good preliminary reports from Willamette valley and Klamath county trials, Gentner said.

Known originally merely as French strain No. 19274, it soon showed that it started earlier in the spring, grew later in the fall and showed regrowth after cutting much quicker than other sorts. These together result in an extra cutting each season compared with standard varieties.

Other advantages are that Talent grows so densely as to keep it more free of weeds and grass; it has a root system that adapts well to varying conditions, and it has proved so resistant to disease that stands 10 years old are still producing well. It is leafy and fine branched as a hay crop.

The name Talent was given in honor of the pioneer of that name from whom the town nearby was named and who was active in the early development of Rogue river valley agriculture.

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HEROES ARE MADE—NOT BORN
By J. R. Williams

Ag. Conservation Program Varied To Meet Needs

Rather than have any prescribed program to be followed alike by all cooperators, the agricultural conservation program provides assistance on a number of practices which will fit into the conservation needs of individual farmers.

Douglas county farmers, therefore, need not wait until the 1950 agricultural conservation program is announced before planning their own conservation programs for next year, says J. F. Bonebrake, chairman of the county agricultural conservation committee. He points out that many farmers are already planning the conservation work they will carry out next year.

As the chairman explains, each farmer knows the conservation problems on his farm. If too much of the top-soil is being washed off the slopes or if yields are going down on a particular piece of land, he can plan his practices now as well as next winter to correct the difficulties.

Mr. Bonebrake advises each farmer to check his farm carefully for signs of erosion and deterioration, and then to plan to use the Agricultural Conservation Program accordingly.

As the chairman puts it, "the program has been effective in getting better conservation practices introduced and carried out on a majority of the farms in the country, there is still room for im-

Flaxseed Import Duty Restored To 50 Cents

Since flaxseed is no longer scarce in the United States, the import duty is being restored to 50 cents per bushel, instead of the 32 1/2 cents collected on flaxseed imports during the war and early postwar periods.

The 1930 tariff act rate on such imports was 65 cents per bushel, but this was lowered to a "normal rate" of 50 cents under reciprocal trade agreements signed with Argentina and Uruguay in 1941 and 1942. The agreement provided the temporary "special" rate of 32 1/2 cents per bushel in recognition of an abnormal scarcity of flaxseed and linseed oil.

Compared with the scarcity existing at the time the agreements were negotiated, the United States now has a substantial surplus on hand from domestic production.

Less Wheat, More Meat Animals, Asked Of Farmers

WASHINGTON, July 18.—(AP)—A 1950 production program calling for less wheat but more meat animals and dairy products was laid before the nation's wheat farmers by the government last week.

A declining foreign market for wheat makes it advisable, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan said, that farmers plant 14,000,000 fewer acres to wheat for 1950 harvest than the nearly 83,000,000 seeded for this year's crop.

The acres taken out of wheat should be put to grass and pasture for grazing of beef and dairy cattle, sheep and lambs, he said, because consumers need more of the latter products.

Under the 1950 program, each farmer will be given a share of a national wheat planting allotment of 68,900,000 acres. His share will be based upon his past production history. While the allotment is about 17 per cent below this year's acreage, the reduction for individual farmers will vary somewhat from this national average. Areas which greatly expanded their acreages since the war will take a larger cut than others.

Compliance with an allotment is not required by law. However, only those farmers who do comply will be eligible for direct price support aid on their 1950 wheat. The price support program is expected to assure complying farmers an average of about \$1.85 a bushel.

Wheat To Be Free Of Rigid Marketing Quotas

WASHINGTON, July 18.—(AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Brannan says that plans for invoking rigid marketing quotas on the 1950 wheat crop have been dropped.

But he said acreage allotments—which are less restrictive in their effect on production—will be imposed on growers in a move to get a downward adjustment in the grain crop from high war and postwar levels.

The 1950 national acreage allotment was set at 68,900,000 acres. This is a reduction of about 14,000,000 acres, or about 17 per cent, from the record 83,100,000 acres planted to this year's crop.

West Coast Nut Output Exceeds 1948 Output

PORTLAND, July 18.—(AP)—Almond, filbert and walnut tonnage in the West Coast this year is expected to total 127,000, up 15 per cent from last year and 39 per cent above the average harvest.

A late spring frost which damaged the Oregon walnut crop reduced this state's output, the fed-

'Immovable' Item Loans Obtainable In Farm Program

Loans to farmers under the government's storage construction program may now be made on "immovable" storage, J. F. Bonebrake, chairman of the Douglas County Agricultural Conservation committee, said today. Such loans will be made to finance new construction or additions to existing facilities.

An "immovable" facility, according to Bonebrake, means one which is so permanent that it cannot be removed without demolishing it.

Each loan on immovable storage must be approved by the State Production and Marketing Administration committee before a storage loan commitment is issued, Bonebrake stated. The committee will review the application before any title search is started.

Loans to farmers for the construction of farm storage facilities are available to any tenant, landlord — including one who rents his land on a cash-rental basis—owner-operator, or partnership of producers having an interest in the production and storage of wheat, rye, oats, and barley and flaxseed.

In the case of loans to tenants, the property on which the immovable storage is to be located must be under an assignable long-term lease which will run for at least 10 years beyond maturity of the loan. The lease must also permit the construction or else the owner of the land must give his written consent to the construction.

Loans under the government's farm storage program will be available in all areas through June 30, 1950. Producers are encouraged to obtain their loans from approved lending agencies. Direct loans will be made by the Commodity Credit Corporation only if the applicant cannot or does not wish to obtain credit from other sources. The loans will be for terms up to 5 years, payable in annual installments. The interest rate is 4 percent.

The maximum amount of loans shall be 45 cents per bushel of the rated capacity of the storage facility, or 85 percent of the cost, whichever is the smaller. Each loan on immovable storage must be secured by a first mortgage or deed of trust or, in certain cases, by a second mortgage. No second mortgages, however, will be accepted on immovable storage structures not located on farms. The cost of title search and recording of documents will be borne by the borrower.

Full details concerning these loans and application forms may be obtained from the county committee.

Normal Harvest In Oregon Looms

PORTLAND, July 18.—(AP)—The Oregon harvest is expected to be back to normal this year. There will be few bumper crops—and few failures, the federal crop reporting service indicated.

The fruit harvest, however, will be the best in years, Niels I. Nielson, federal forecaster, said. He forecast that Bartlett pears would reach a record 2,438,000 bushels.

The peach crop was estimated at 860,000 bushels, about 45 per cent above last year; and the apple crop at 2,800,000 bushels, about 5 per cent higher than 1948.

Hay field crops will be 15 per cent below last year's yield, but will be close to the 10-year average.

The wheat harvest is estimated at 21,638,000 bushels, about 22 per cent under last year. Feed grains are expected to be 10 per cent lower and hay 8 per cent under 1948.



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