

Crested Wheat Still Top Grass If Rainfall Is Low

Crested wheatgrass is still the best grass for seeding in dryland range areas with less than 12 inches of annual rainfall. That conclusion was re-affirmed recently by E. R. Jackman, O. S. C. extension farm crops specialist, as a result of a survey made on 23 "desert" farms in the Fort Rock area of Lake county. Rainfall in the area averages about 10 inches. Flourishing stands of crested wheatgrass were viewed, many of which have been in existence for almost 20 years.

The survey was made by Jackman in cooperation with ranchers R. A. Long and Roy Morehouse, both of Fort Rock. Some of the answers local ranchers desired were: Why are some crested wheatgrass fields free of sage and rabbit brush; others badly encroached upon? Stock relish some fields; why do they seem to avoid others? how much feed does crested wheatgrass furnish in comparison with adjacent unseeded lands that were once plowed? What kind of stand is best—

Florida Hurricane Takes Heavy Toll Of Farms

MIAMI, Fla.—(AP)—The hurricane which swept through Florida and into Georgia and the Carolinas August 26-27 caused crop and property damage estimated at \$52,250,000, a report showed. Grady Norton, chief storm forecaster at Miami, said in his report to the U. S. Weather Bureau at Washington that the hurricane killed two men, injured 133 persons and caused \$5,000,000 damage in Florida alone. He said the hurricane also killed 320 hogs, 112 head of cattle and 2,000 chickens.

SCAREPIGEON SAID TO WORK
BENTON, Ill.—(AP)—Is your town trying to rid downtown buildings of pesky pigeons or other fowl? Some have tried metal traps and lured "boob." But two Benton men believe they've solved it an easy way. When officials refused to permit killing the pigeons, they took a leaf from Mr. Farmer's book. A few pieces of wood, a hat and a pair of white overalls made a "Scare-pigeon" which waves menacingly from atop their building. They claim it works.

thick stand with small clumps, or a thin stand with large clumps? From his observations, Jackman says a poor stand of crested wheatgrass usually follows drilling on lands that have not been cleared. Thin stands allow the grass to form large clumps which are unpalatable. Crested wheatgrass stands which have been invaded by rabbit brush or sagebrush could be renovated by rather heavy double disking. The best use of the grass meanwhile, is made by pasturing heavily, then removing stock to allow regrowth, or, by using the grass heavily one year, then allowing a complete year of recuperation. Crested wheatgrass is furnishing at least five times as much feed as adjacent native grass and sagebrush in the area surveyed. Another grass which shows considerable promise in areas with minimum rainfall is Siberian wheatgrass. Jackman adds, however, that no seed is available of this comparatively new grass.

Rye Grass Seed More Free From Blind Seed Ills

Preliminary germination tests made from the 1949 perennial ryegrass crop show the blind seed disease control program is effectively curbing the disease. Reports Dr. John R. Hardison, USDA plant pathologist working at the O. S. C. experiment station.

Judging from approximately 150 seed samples, 80 percent of this year's crop is showing up with 90 percent germination or better. Last year, the worst year on record for blind seed disease, only 64 percent of the seed lots rated 90 percent germination or above. Yet findings made thus far show at least 42 percent of the fields need to be burned over again as a disease control measure. Linn county is the primary district involved since most of Oregon's perennial ryegrass seed crop is grown in that county. Last year, however, 80 percent of the fields needed to be burned, according to Hardison's findings.

Fearing that farmers will become complacent again about the perennial ryegrass disease which effects seed germination adversely, Hardison is urging all farmers in Linn county to burn over their perennial ryegrass fields again this fall. While germination percentages are up, he points out that the disease itself is still present. A year of lax control measures would be a decided setback, he believes. To those farmers replanting perennial ryegrass, the pathologist recommends seeding disease-free seed or seed that is at least 24 months old. Lists of disease-free approved seed lots are now in the hands of county extension agents. Fields which are badly infested with blind seed disease are not safe for replanting perennial ryegrass for at least two years, during which they are devoted to other crops. To prevent emergence of spore cups and discharge of disease spores, Hardison recommends that plowing of such infested fields be done before May 15. Since blind seed disease does not affect forage quality, it is of no importance outside the seed growing area.

Rain Aids West Oregon But Little Help In East

PORTLAND—(AP)—Last week's rain eased the drought in some western Oregon areas, but wasn't enough to help the dry eastern Oregon rangeland, the weather bureau reported.

The weekly crop-weather survey said most of the spring grain harvest has been completed. Hop harvesting, however, was slowed a bit by the rainfall. Fibert harvest started last week, ahead of the usual time.

Joint Bulletin Hits Wheat Smut In Three States

The Pacific Northwest's worst wheat disease—smut—is the subject of a tri-state attack by means of a regional bulletin. "Controlling Wheat Smut," prepared and issued jointly by the experiment stations and extension services of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Copies are available free, just as with state bulletins.

Issued as Pacific Northwest Bulletin No. 1, the publication describes in readable form the seriousness of the smut problem, how the smut invades healthy wheat plants, and what are the best methods of control. A list of common wheat varieties is also included showing which are resistant to common smut and which to dwarf smut. The smut problem was pretty well licked some 10 years ago, in fact only 2 percent of cars of wheat shipped in 1942 graded smutty. That was when much of the soft white wheat grown was Rex, a highly resistant variety. Millers turned thumbs down on that variety, however, and showed favor for the Alice-Elgin variety which is a pushover for smut. The result is that by 1948 14 percent of the cars graded smutty. Experiment stations are working as rapidly as possible to develop new resistant varieties that have good milling qualities, but meanwhile extensive and careful seed treatment is necessary to prevent serious losses to growers, the bulletin points out. Figures are given in the bulletin showing that 10 percent smut infection in a moderate yielding field will cause a loss to the grower of about \$6.50 per acre which could have been prevented by good seed treatment costing only 10 cents per acre. The condensed four-point program advocated in the bulletin suggests the following: 1. Clean and treat all seed wheat, whether resistant or not. 2. Plant resistant varieties of good milling quality if available. 3. If soil is too contaminated even for treated seed, use only resistant sorts. 4. Where dwarf smut is severe, grow only spring wheat unless a resistant winter variety is available.

Turkey Breeders To See Research Progress At OSC

A conducted tour of the new O. S. C. turkey farm and experimental brooder house is among features programmed for the 10th annual meeting of the Oregon Turkey Improvement association to be held on the state college campus in Corvallis on Tuesday, September 20. Noel Bennion, O. S. C. extension poultry specialist, has announced.

Starting at 9 a.m. standard time, the morning and early afternoon program will be carried out in the Memorial Union building. The association's annual banquet will be held at the Corvallis Country club, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Marshall Dana, editorial page director, the Oregon Journal, Portland, will be featured banquet speaker, and will discuss his recent trip abroad. During the morning session Dr. J. A. Harper, who heads the turkey research work in the O.S.C. experiment station will review work underway. He will also lead the tour to the turkey farm and brooder house in the afternoon. In conjunction with the tour, it is also planned to conduct a demonstration on selecting breeders and drawing blood samples for pullorum testing.

Association President W. T. Guerts, Portland, has placed program arrangements in the hands of Price Schroeder, Milwaukie; Paul McDowell, Sherwood; and Bennion. The committee has announced that a panel discussion on producing and selling turkey hatching eggs will also be a part of the program. Poultry Geneticist Dr. Paul Bernier of the O.S.C. poultry department will discuss turkey improvement through breeding. Market prospects for the approaching market season will be discussed by C. W. Norton, Northwest Poultry and Dairy Products Co. p. n. v. Portland. President Guerts will also make a report on the National Turkey federation.

Aerial War Is Planned Against Spruce Budworm

PORTLAND—(AP)—Aerial war plans against the spruce budworm are in the making. Eastern Oregon seemed certain to be the principal battleground next year. Foresters met here to draw up plans for 1950 spraying of infested areas. They said 2,232,250 acres already have been infested with 865,000 in drastic need of spraying.

The timber involved is worth \$32,980,000, they estimated. Most of the infestation is in Oregon. Speakers said the budworm, besides destroying timber, is a fire hazard and threatens the water resources of Pendleton, Walla Walla, Baker, Milton-Freewater and other Blue mountain communities.

SILO SEAL DEVELOPED
To prevent exposed silage from spoiling, a rubber company has developed a circular sheet and a tube of plastic material to seal the silo top when silage is not being removed, reports M. G. Huber, O. S. C. extension agricultural engineer. When filling is completed, the sheet is laid across the top of the silage. The tube, which fits snugly against the silo walls, is filled with water to make an air tight seal.

Wasps May Stop Fruit Fly, Says Scientist

MOMBASSA, Kenya, East Africa—(AP)—Frank E. Skinner, a U. S. scientist, was well pleased when he left here recently. He had found and shipped to Hawaii 2,000 pupae of two kinds of African wasps.

He believes the wasps can be bred in Hawaii to prey on a type of fruit fly which is new to the islands. It is believed the fly came in in 1946 with American troops returning from other Pacific islands. The fly is already preying on 100 different kinds of fruit in Hawaii.

The new fly has brought a world wide search for other insects which will prey upon it. Four Hawaiian agencies and the U. S. government are helping in the search.

Huber explains. The rubber seal prevents top layer spoilage.

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Generally, only about two or three years protection to the soil is provided when a good grass sod is plowed under. According to J. F. Bonebrake, chairman of the Douglas County Agricultural Conservation committee, research findings indicate that after two or three years the roots have decayed to the extent that most of their value as protection against erosion has been lost. The studies indicate that during the two or three year period the plowed under vegetable matter is effective, it helps hold the soil together, adds to the ability of the soil to soak up water, protects the soil structure from breaking down and when the roots decay, they add to the fertility of the soil.

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THE FEED BAG

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOUGLAS COUNTY FLOUR MILL, MAKERS OF UMPQUA CHIEF FLOUR AND UMPQUA BRAND POULTRY & DAIRY FEEDS

Vol. XI, No. 38 Sept. 19, 1949.

New Come the Results.

Despite the fact that every state in the Union has an experiment station to try things out for the taxpayers at taxpayers' expense every poultryman wants to do a little experimenting on his own. We are no exception to the rule.

Many feed companies ask our customers to try out an experiment comparing our feed with theirs. This experiment has been tried so many times, and invariably with the same results, that it is becoming increasingly difficult for competing salesmen to convince regular customers of the Douglas Flour Mill that there is any darn use trying it again.

We hesitate to ask anybody to set up an experiment at their own expense and trouble, to prove things that will benefit only us. But we are happy when anyone, regardless of what feed he has been using, decides to give some other feed a ride, comparing with UMPQUA FEEDS, or some other home made feed in some other locality.

We have some results on such experiments reported to us, in view of the short margin likely to develop on turkeys this year.

One turkey grower in Douglas County compared a community mixer feed, (not UMPQUA), with a nationally sold and advertised feed. The grower quit the experiment at the end of 8 weeks, after determining that the nationally advertised feed had produced an extra two ounces weight per bird, at an extra cost of above a dollar.

A broiler raiser is doing the same, using a different community feed, (not UMPQUA), with a different nationally advertised broiler ration. At last reports, the local feed had given slightly better weights at six weeks, and the difference in cost was more than a dollar a sack.

One of our local customer fryer men agreed to try a "fattener" feed made by a competing company at considerable higher price, compared to our "HI-LO" broiler feed. The fattener was "guaranteed" to produce much rapid gains than "the feed you are using." Leaving one pen of weighed birds on HI-LO, another similar pen was put on the high-powered "fattener."

After 16 days (the time suggested by the competing salesman), the birds on HI-LO had gained more than twice as much as the pen on the high-priced, high-power feed.

This again proves what we have always told you. That you can't gauge the quality of ANY ARTICLE, feed, food, or what

Uncle Hank Says

MOBIL FOLKS WOULD GET ALONG BETTER IF THEY'D DO LESS WORRYIN' AN' MORE THINKIN'!



have you, by its price-mark. If we could increase the efficiency of UMPQUA FEEDS by raising the price, we wouldn't be selling you feed at the lowest dollar cost, and at the same time the highest value per dollar in the County.

P. S. We will gladly furnish you the names and feeds mentioned in the above, if you care to come in. But, why should you, when you already know that UMPQUA FEEDS are so good that we sell them with a guarantee that they must satisfy you, or your money will be cheerfully refunded.

Classified Dept.
FOR SALE: Windmill Grass Seeders. It's time to seed down your pastures, after all these fine early fall rains. These Windmill Seeders do an excellent job. HAVE YOU SOLVED your egg cleaning problems for the winter? We have the nicest egg cleaner you ever saw. No hand work. Just put the dirty egg in one end of the machine, and it comes back clean. Come in and see this machine work. WORM PILLS. Your pullets can't make money if they use their feed for nourishing worms. Get P. N. Lederle tablets, or use our Wormer Mash, containing P. N. Lederle Worm Powder. Efficient and economical.

Little Tad: Are you my Auntie?
Spinster: Yes, dear, on your father's side.
Little Tad: Well, I can tell you right now, that's the wrong side to be on in this family.

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Do Pullets Lay Too Early?

Wish you could all have been at the meeting addressed by Prof. Wilbur Cooney last week. A very interesting and profitable meeting. We will pass along one timely topic discussed by Wilbur, (who was born and raised in Douglas County).

The time of maturity is governed more by inheritance than by feeding. You can't "hold back" a flock of pullets without doing harm to them. They will start laying at 18, 20, or 24 weeks, because early maturity or late maturity was bred into them.

Prof. Cooney says, "Feed them well, and let them lay." You got them to lay eggs, didn't you? Wilbur didn't mention UMPQUA FEEDS. But when he talked of feeding them well, we thought at once of Umpqua Developing and Umpqua Egg Mash. The high point Prof. Cooney brought out, we thought was to get plenty of vitamins into the birds. And there isn't a sack of Umpqua Feed that doesn't carry plenty of the vitamins required by the animal or bird it is made to feed.

On That Bum Feed
Mr. James Miller in the Melrose district just told us about a nice record. He bought 158 chicks, they are now nearly six months old, and he still has 155 of them on the job. And how they are laying! He feeds a little milk along with Umpqua Feeds, and saves even more.

Roseburg Poultryman: "Isn't this a good hen?"
Roseburg Poultry Buyer: "Morally? Possibly. Physically, she's a wreck."

Oats & Vetch
Right now, after the fine rains, it's high time to seed the hayfield for next year. And no place where you can buy better oats & vetch seed than at the Douglas Flour Mill. We'll see you.

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