



FARM and GARDEN NEWS



Douglas County Conservation Plan For 1949 Completed; 500 Take Part

Farmers of Douglas county have pretty well completed all conservation practices for 1949 and are now planning for 1950, according to J. F. Bonebrake, chairman of the county PMA committee. Incomplete records indicate that 500 farmers in Douglas county carried out conservation practices under the 1949 ACP. This is about 17 per cent of all the farms in the county.

The county allocation of funds for assisting farmers in carrying out approved conservation practices in 1949 was \$62,500. About 50 per cent of this will go to the farmers for seedling pasture.

This practice is important in Douglas county because our soil is organic matter and nitrogen, and is suited to grazing more than cropping.

It soon will be time to sign-up in the 1950 Agricultural Conservation program. The county allocation of funds for the coming year is \$64,000. Chairman J. F. Bonebrake explains that since these are public funds to be used to protect the public interest in the soil and water resources of Douglas county, each farmer as well as each farmer committee man has a responsibility to see that every dollar is used to get all the conservation possible. The people of this country through the government are cooperating with farmers, he emphasizes, by sharing in the cost of conservation practices which assure continued abundant—but balanced—production from the land.

"Any farmer who cooperates in this program," says the chairman, "should be proud of the part he is taking in building more productive land so that there will always be plenty. This doesn't

New Strawberry Hints Big Yield

PUYALLUP, — (AP) — A new strawberry developed in Washington is yellow-resistant and promises to out-yield an old favorite, the Marshall Berry, by 50 per cent, a researcher reports.

Addressing the Western Washington Horticultural meeting, Dr. C. D. Schwartz said the new variety, named the "Northwest," may yield nine tons per acre. It was developed by him at the Western Washington Experiment station here.

Most strawberries are not good canners, but Dr. Schwartz said the "northwest" gives promise of being a good canning berry. He rated its freezing quality as about on a par with the Marshall.

Trial plantings have been distributed to growers, the researcher said, and fuller reports of field performance will be available next year.

He said three varieties, one of them developed by Dr. J. H. Clarke of Crangyma Farm, Long Beach, may have solved the problem of red stele rootrot. The resistant varieties are Temple, Sparkle and Fairland. Dr. Clarke developed the Sparkle variety.

Dr. D. F. Allmendinger, superintendent of the Southwest Washington Experiment station at Vancouver, told delegates that raspberry yields could be stepped up 25 to 33 per cent by increasing the number of canes per hill.

Dr. John H. Hanley of Seattle was elected president, succeeding E. L. Tichnor of Centrals, Morrill Delano, Puyallup, was named first vice president, Art Osgood of Lynden second vice



BULLY FOR HER . . . FOUR OF THEM! — Cleo, a 6-year-old Holstein cow, casts a wary eye about as her newborn quadruplet bull calves make their camera debut at the Sarafin Morris farm near Newman, Calif. This is Cleo's second set of quadruplets, bringing her total offspring to 11.

New Spray Hailed In Chemist's Talk

PUYALLUP — (AP) — A chemist hails the development of a new form of parathion spray which should kill fewer people and more bugs.

The spray, a poisonous farm chemical for the control of mites and aphids, was used widely this year and has been reported highly effective on the little crawlers.

R. D. Elchmann, Poetland chemist, described the safer spray in a talk on the insecticide situation at the annual meeting of the Western Washington Horticultural association. He said, however, it had claimed a "number of lives" this year and cited four such instances.

The new developments, Elchmann said, are wet formulations. One is a paste mixture of parathion and DDT and the other—a slurry of water suspension of parathion. They replace dusts and wettable powders.

It was the inhalability of the powder that made it deadly Elchmann explained, with deaths resulting from breathing the dust or powder.

Even the wet form remains highly dangerous, he warned and still is not meant for internal use by humans.

Good old DDT was hailed by the speaker as "still the most important insecticide in the Pacific Northwest." Its 1949 record was particularly cited for knocking off the codling moth, pea aphid, potato flea beetle, alfalfa weevil and the lygus bug on lemons.

Elchmann disposed of the bugs but another speaker, Dr. Folke Johnson, associate plant pathologist at the Western Washington

Experiment station, brought word of a new virus which threatens the \$5,000,000 raspberry industry.

The Washington raspberry, principal variety grown in these parts, may be infected with one or more new viruses, he said.

"It is not impossible, though unlikely, that the virus causing strawberry yellows may have been transferred in some way into raspberry plantings," he said.

Growers should be careful where they obtain new plants, he warned.

Featherless Rooster To Get Tweed Clothes

MORRIL, Ala. — (UP) — Sam the featherless rooster has only an old wool sock to protect him from the winter chill—but he can look forward to better times.

He's been promised a tweed suit for Christmas.

Mrs. Anne Brown of Ontario, Calif., offered to make the suit after seeing an Associated Press wirephoto of Sam, bare and unhappy, perched on owner Nick Hasselvander's hand.

Hasselvander accepted Mrs. Brown's offer and sent Sam's measurements posthaste.

In the meantime, Sam must stay in his warm chicken house, or wander forlornly about the barnyard like a sad sack in his old sock.

While hops still account for more than one-half of the state's specialty crop income, sugar beets, dry edible peas and permanent, by comparison, show the greatest recent increase.

During the period 1935-1939,

cash receipts from farm marketings amounted to \$4,000,000 annually from the specialty group.

During the three year period, 1945 through 1947, cash receipts from the same group averaged \$21,000,000 annually.

Return of European flax fiber to U. S. markets at the end of the war and high income from other crops have contributed to reducing Oregon's fiber flax acreage below the pre-war level. A wartime high of 18,000 acres in 1942 had fallen to 2,000 acres in 1948, the economists indicate.

Hops still show the highest economic value among the specialty crops, the authors point out.

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