



FARM and GARDEN NEWS



American Farmers Reaping Gains Through Conservation

By OVID A. MARTIN
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—American farmers have reaped great gains because they have stopped considering their soil as simple, dead and sterile matter.

Instead, they now look upon it as something that undergoes constant change—partly natural, partly man-made.

Each small clump of ordinary soil in the field or garden contains roots of living plants, small animals, and billions of micro-organisms such as bacteria and fungi. It is a combination of solid inorganic matter, dead organic matter, living organic matter, water soluble salts and air.

The new realization of this, say Agriculture department soil experts, is playing a big role in the ability of farmers to produce bigger crops and better quality crops.

Each year, the experts say, more and more farmers are learning to adapt scientific information about soil to their own use.

Most farmers recognize now that there are thousands of different types of soil, varying widely in the kinds of crop they will grow. Many are learning that they have been trying to raise the wrong kinds of crops for their soil.

Wide soil variations occur within a county and often in individual farms.

To help the farmer get the most out of his soil types, agricultural engineers have devised machines and techniques for soil use under different conditions of climate, topography and other conditions.

Productivity Gaining Because techniques based on their findings are being put to use on many farms throughout the country, productivity is returning to many fields where declining fertility cut yield.

A recent Agriculture department report says that on "hundreds of thousands of farms in the eastern part of the United States, the soil is much better today, as a result of good soil

OSC Schedules Second NW Resources Meeting

The Institute of Northwest Resources will be repeated again next June 19 to 30 for the second year following the success of last summer's program, according to Dr. F. R. Zeran, director of the OSC summer session.

More than a score outstanding authorities on northwest regional resources will be scheduled for seminar discussions. The two-week session, held in connection with the regular OSC summer term, is intended to provide teachers and business, civic and professional leaders with up-to-date information on northwest development.

A number of scholarships will be available for teachers, according to Dr. J. G. Jensen, head of the geography department and institute coordinator. Dr. Jensen has invited additional civic organizations and industries to sponsor these scholarships.

Smut Threatens Wheat

PORTLAND.—(AP)—Pacific Northwest wheat farmers face an increasingly serious problem in smut, federal officials warn.

Smut spread fast last year, damaging a fifth of the region's crop, the Department of Agriculture reported after inspecting 19,000 lots of wheat. The Big Bend and Palouse districts of Washington were the worst sufferers.

Smut affected 14.1 percent of Oregon, Washington and Idaho wheat in 1948, and 20.3 percent last year, officials said.

This increase came despite efforts to bring about a decrease. Officials blamed lack of adequate seed treatment on Elgin and forty fold varieties, which were used increasingly.

management, than it ever was under natural conditions.

The experts also report that farmers are becoming better informed as to the role of soil moisture in crop production. Although no successful way has yet been found to make it rain, methods are being devised to make better use of what moisture nature hands out.

Year's Review: Cattle Prices Up, Hogs Down

By LAWRENCE N. ELDRED
CHICAGO.—(AP)—Meat animals returned still closer to their pre-war relationships this year.

Top quality cattle soared to new record high prices while hog values sagged to the lowest levels since price controls were in effect in June, 1946. This widened the price spread between the two major meat sources as they were a decade ago.

In fact, pork animals just missed having to be price-supported by government purchases late in the year when country supplies flowed to market more heavily than last year. Careful day-to-day tailoring of salable supply to trading demand, however, helped keep average prices above the guide prices at which the government is compelled by law to enter the pork market.

Marketing at lighter weights than normal also was a factor, since this meant less total pork tonnage than the bigger numbers of hogs would indicate.

Production of hogs from Jan. 1 through Dec. 3 was estimated at 45,871,485 animals going through federally inspected slaughter. In the comparable period a year ago there were an estimated 41,043,141 head sent in.

Slaughtering Up Some Cattle slaughter was only a little above last year—12,008,545 head through Dec. 3 and 11,673,845 in the similar 48 weeks of 1948.

In contrast, calves, sheep and lambs were lower this year. An estimated 5,783,936 calves showed up at the 32 federal inspection centers, compared with 6,236,854 a year ago, while only 11,043,399 sheep and lambs came in, compared with 13,988,500 last year.

The Department of Agriculture expects that long decline in sheep and lamb to continue. Its forecast on Dec. 1 was for a smaller volume of lamb feeding this season than last year.

Cattle Feeding Steady On the other hand, cattle feeding is expected to be as large or slightly larger than last year. The number of feeder cattle flowing into corn belt feedlots has been at a record high level in the July through November period, the department noted.

As for hogs, the department has predicted the fall pig crop since June 1 to Dec. 1 would run about nine percent higher this year than last. These hogs will constitute the first big instalment on next year's pork. Last spring's crop already had run an estimated 15 percent over 1948.

Oregon Seedman To Talk At Meet

Prospects for continued and expanded sale of Oregon grown forage crop seeds in Georgia and the South will be discussed by Dr. O. E. Sell, in charge, Georgia pasture experimental work, who will be a featured program speaker during the forthcoming ninth annual meeting of the Oregon Seed Growers League in Portland Jan. 9, 10, and 11.

The announcement of Dr. Sell's acceptance to speak came from E. R. Jackman, veteran O.S.C. extension farm crops specialist, Oregon Seed Growers League secretary-treasurer. All league business sessions and the annual banquet will be held in the Multnomah hotel.

Georgia, under the leadership of Dr. Sell, has done outstanding work in substituting livestock type of farming for the older soil depleting row crop economy which was devoted primarily to cotton, Jackman says. Georgia farmers now produce more beef, for example, than ever before.

Winter grazing utilizing forage crops, many of which are grown for seed in Oregon, have revolutionized agriculture in Georgia and other southern states in recent years. Used for winter grazing are such crops as crimson vetch, hairy vetch, crimson clover, and winter oats, the specialist reports.

Alta fescue and ladino clover—both high on Oregon's seed crop list from the standpoint of cash returns—are being used extensively as a year around pasture mix.

Dr. Sell will discuss with league members the new developments which are putting beef and dairy cattle on land throughout the south which was formerly occupied by cotton and other soil depleting crops. He will discuss sale possibilities with alta fescue growers the afternoon of Jan. 9, and will speak to the entire gathering on Jan. 10.

Approximately 500 Oregon seedmen, farmers, and dealers are expected to attend.

Planning Guide Issued For Farm House Site

In developing a farmstead, choose the site for the house first, then locate the remaining farm buildings in relation to it. Mrs. Margaret H. Tuller, O.S.C. extension rural housing specialist, suggests in a new mimeograph, No. HE 7303, entitled "A Farm House To Fit Your Site."

The handy six-page mimeograph will serve as an orientation guide for testing the suitability of a small-scale floor plan to its intended site.

It is as important for a farm-house to fit the farm, Mrs. Tuller writes, as it is to fit the family. The orientation guide is intended to take into consideration such points as location of the highway, barns, farm drive, best distant view, the down slope, and prevailing summer winds.

A page in the mimeograph may be used for testing a house floor plan and detailed instructions which include drawings are enclosed to show how it may be used.

A portion of the mimeograph is also intended for use as a check sheet in determining suitability of room arrangement.

Copies of the mimeograph are available from the college or from county extension offices.

Flowers Change Characteristics To Please Bees

By RENNIE TAYLOR
PALO ALTO, Calif.—(AP)—You know, of course, about the bees and the flowers.

But did you know that they have been trying their darndest to be true to each other for the last 60 million years, and that they have succeeded pretty well?

Dr. Verne Grant, Carnegie Institution plant geneticist, told about it in a paper for delivery before the Western Society of Naturalists.

Many Features Varied Flowers have changed their shapes, colors, the pattern of their petals and the number of their stamens or pollen tubes just to accommodate the bees," Dr. Grant said.

Bees have "flower constancy," Dr. Grant added. This is an instinct to visit the flowers of a particular plant as long as they will yield pollen or nectar.

Every time a bee visits a flower, he kicks its pollen around. Some of the flying pollen lands in the stamens and travels down through these stamens to the flower's egg germ, which thus is fertilized and becomes a seed.

Flower constancy means many bee visits, good pollination and efficient reproduction.

Lower Petals Changed To encourage the bees, many flowers slowly have shaped their lower petals into a long lip which acts as a landing platform for the insects, Dr. Grant reported.

They developed tubular shapes, with fewer stamens and with their nectar concealed at the base of the bud, where only bees could reach it. As examples he cited peas, lupines, clovers, snapdragons, violets and bleeding hearts.

When flowers first appeared on earth about 150 million years ago the only pollination insects in existence were beetles, Dr. Grant said. The bees arrived about 60 million years ago. Ever since then flowers have been changing over to accommodate bees instead of beetles.

New York skyscrapers have so many windows that most of them hire a regular crew of washers.

Six months after it is hatched the average pullet will lay its first egg.

dairy cattle on land throughout the south which was formerly occupied by cotton and other soil depleting crops. He will discuss sale possibilities with alta fescue growers the afternoon of Jan. 9, and will speak to the entire gathering on Jan. 10.

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Hardwood Mill Workers, Loggers To Get Computer

SALEM, Oregon (Special).—A red alder volume table designed to aid all hardwood loggers and mill men in Oregon, has been completed through the cooperative efforts of the Oregon State Board of Forestry, the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station, British Columbia Forest Service, and the Weyerhaeuser Timber company, according to George Spaur, state forester.

The forester stated that increased logging and milling operations in alder stands created a demand for the volume table. The tables have been printed on a convenient pocket-size card and a five-page research bulletin containing additional information may be obtained free of charge by writing to the State Forester's office in Salem.

Compilation of the alder volume table was made possible by funds obtained from the Forest Research and Experimental Tax act of 1947.

The authors are Noel Bennion, O.S.C. extension poultry specialist; E. R. Jackman, farm crops specialist; and O. S. Fletcher, Lane county extension agent. They explain the saving will depend upon the quantity and quality of the green feed. Also important is how the birds are rotated.

The specialists point out that irrigated ranges, while producing an abundance of green feed as compared with non-irrigated, do have the handicap of being an ideal place for disease organisms and parasites to multiply. If chickens or turkeys are run on irrigated range the bulletin authors recommend that birds be rotated frequently.

Four of the best crops, according to the bulletin, which provide palatable green feed during the summer months without irrigation are winter rye, sudan grass, sunflower and corn—the latter two being used extensively for turkeys.

A handy reference guide for seeing and using green feeds and pasture is in the bulletin frontis piece. Copies are available from county extension offices or by writing directly to Oregon State college.

Wood sugar molasses diluted with water and sprinkled over low quality hay proved to be as palatable as cane molasses for dairy heifers, Dr. Jones reports. Cows showed a slight preference for alfalfa ensiled with three percent wood sugar molasses to alfalfa silage made with three percent cane molasses.

There was no appreciable difference in feeding value for dairy cows as measured by milk production and weight changes of alfalfa ensiled with wood sugar molasses or with cane molasses.

The dairy trials are part of the station's long-range study of the feed value and use of this promising new product, made from Douglas fir wood wastes. Other trials are being conducted with swine, lambs and chickens.

The Yellow River and the Yellow Sea are named because of their color, the result of huge amounts of soil washed into the sea by the river.

New Location
Dr. George L. Nicholas
Veterinarian
Graduate of
University of Pennsylvania
Is now located at
804 Garden Valley Road
Treatment of all domestic animals. Emergency hospital for small animals.
Phone 116

AN INVITATION TO ALL WHO FARM: You're Cordially Invited to Attend . . .

JOHN DEERE "CATERPILLAR" DAY

Friday—January 6th

Be our guest at Interstate Friday, January 6th, for a big day full of entertainment, refreshment and profit. EVERYTHING IS ABSOLUTELY FREE TO FARMERS.

We've arranged an interesting program in cooperation with John Deere and Caterpillar Tractor Co. It's full of variety, with sparkling movies about latest farm machinery, a full length entertainment feature, a free lunch and a display of new equipment. If you were at our show last year, you'll remember the grand time we all had. If you weren't you've a new experience awaiting you.

Be here, for sure and meet your friends and neighbors. You'll be glad you came.

THE TIME: 10:30 a.m.

THE DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 6th

THE PLACE: At the Roseburg Interstate Store

Interstate.. FARM STORE

709 N. JACKSON ROSEBURG, OREGON Phone 893

Researchers Seek Atomic Potatoes

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Potato tubers with built in atomic energy are the latest thing down on the farm.

The Atomic Energy commission, describing the experimental spuds, indicated that its scientists might be shooting for a method of using atomic energy "rays" to speed the growth of potatoes.

The AEC reported that researchers at its Brookhaven (N. Y.) atomic laboratory had exposed potato tubers to various dosages of X-rays which are virtually identical with a type of ray released in the explosion of an atomic bomb.

The scientists found that seeds developed from the X-rayed tubers were (a) much more likely to start new growth than were other seeds, and (b) did it faster.

The cause, said the AEC, "is not known and further research is being undertaken."

Bulletin Tells Way To Reduce Cost Of Feeds

Feed costs of chickens or turkeys on range can be reduced from 10 to 20 percent if an adequate supply of green feed is available, write authors of a revised O.S.C. extension bulletin, number 659, entitled "Green Feed, Sod and Pasture for Chickens and Turkeys," which is now ready for release.

The authors are Noel Bennion, O.S.C. extension poultry specialist; E. R. Jackman, farm crops specialist; and O. S. Fletcher, Lane county extension agent. They explain the saving will depend upon the quantity and quality of the green feed. Also important is how the birds are rotated.

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

Vol. XII, No. 1

Jan. 3, 1950.

A Peek—Past & Future

We have watched and worried over the egg markets for the past 36 years. In each of those years there has been a drop in prices, just when we thought they should've gone up.

Way back when, the highest prices were realized about Xmas time. Then when January and her blizzards came, and our hens quit laying, the price of eggs hit the skids. We never did have many eggs when prices were high. Did you?

Well, as time rolled relentlessly on, the high point of the year kept moving ahead. Our hens were still always behind. Finally, due to better breeding and better feeds and management, the spread between high winter prices and low spring prices narrowed down. There was less gap in production. Highest price now may come any time from September to early November. This year, it was about the last of September.

This pattern will continue as long as poultrymen keep hens. And we think that will be longer than you and we will be around these parts.

We used to hatch chicks in April and May, and in fact, all summer. They never laid much till spring. Now, the best poultrymen are hatching earlier each year. Many cmx will hatch in January, and February may be the peak month. Or maybe a lot of folks will wait to see if we are right, then order chicks in May and June again. Has happened before.

Several poultrymen have told us of making big money this summer on chicks hatched in winter. They made enough that they can, (and some did), sell their flocks when egg prices drop. We are confident that those of you who get January or February chicks this year will have the same experience.

Egg prices will start up, seasonally, about May, and continue rising till October, if they follow the customary pattern. If you have early birds they will be laying heavy during those months when prices are highest.

Besides, your chicks will cost you much less when eggs are cheap than after demand picks up again. Your entire costs will be lower, disease is more easily controlled in early hatched chicks, and your early pullets will be laying large eggs while my late hatched ones are dropping peewees, which will be a drag on the market next fall.

For your own good, we beg of you, get your eggs in the incubator now!

Quoted From Northwestern Miller

"I have a definition of liberalism. I believe it means the right of the individual to carve his own future for himself and his family. It means the freedom of the individual, the dignity of the

Uncle Hank Says:

THERE IS ONLY A HAIR-LINE MARGIN BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE.



bor has a wet laying house, tell him we have a batch of that cane litter at the Mill, still selling for \$2.00 a bale. And better yet, a nice batch of good dry peatmoss at \$3.50 for a 110-lb. bale. A Bargain!

Our New Dairy Feed

For the coming year 1950, we are adding a couple new feeds to our list. We will have, not only a feed for everything on the farm, but for some things, there will be considerable choice in the matter.

For the dairy cow, we will have the very low priced O. K. CHOP, for those who are not after high production, yet still like to give Bossy a satisfying feed in return for all she gives us. Next will be the old reliable UMPQUA MILKMAKER, which we have raised to a 20% protein feed. This is in response to many requests for a high protein dairy feed.

But the new one we want to call to your attention is our new UMPQUA DAIRY RATION. This feed carries 16% protein, of the finest quality, ample minerals and vitamins, and differs from most dairy feeds in that it contains rolled barley and rolled oats, together with beet pulp. This makes a chewy combination considerably coarser than most dairy feeds.

We have already tried it out, and consider that it will be our best seller in 1950. In fact, we hear reports that cows, once having tried it refuse to eat any other ration. It sells for the remarkably low price of \$3.75 per cwt. If you haven't tried it, do.

Quoted From Northwestern Miller

"I have a definition of liberalism. I believe it means the right of the individual to carve his own future for himself and his family. It means the freedom of the individual, the dignity of the

human being, his mastery over the state and not his security." And that's by Gen. Ike Eisenhower.

"You don't seem to realize which side your bread is buttered on."

"Can't see it makes much difference. I eat both sides."

Sheepmen Attention!

We have a car of cottonseed meal in pellets coming in for your sheep. Should be here any minute. We will sell this at \$85.00 a ton. And anybody who has fed cottonseed knows this is a bargain these days.

And with the weather being what it is, UMPQUA SHEEP CUBES are also a mighty fine bargain. You can't afford to let your sheep rustle their living. There just isn't enough living to rustle. So if you're going to have to feed, see us at the Flour Mill. We have the feed at right prices.

On That Bum Feed

P. K. DeShields started 1840 sexed N. H. pullets Dec. 12th. Up to date he still has 1824, and they are growing like weeds. We think P. K. has the right idea—those early pullets. They'll be laying fine in July and August when egg prices are at the top.

Mrs. Lester Blakely has some fine roasters, a bit over 4 months old and weighing up to 6 1/2 lbs. each. She says you can't help getting big weights on that H.L.O.

"Women are nuts; simply nuts," said old Bill Jackson. "I never met but one sensible woman in my life."

"Why didn't you marry that one," we asked.

"Well, I asked her, but she wouldn't have me."

(Now, Mom, just a minute!)

Classified Section

How about some early fryers? Russell Cary is putting in 6000 eggs to be hatched, and would just as soon sell all the cockerels. If you want a few or a thousand, get in touch with Mr. Cary, or phone 3-F-23.

Support Prices For Eggs

Mr. Brannan, Sec'y. of Agriculture, has announced his support prices for eggs for 1950. He will "seek to maintain National Average Annual Farm Price at 37c dozen, 75% of modernized parity, compared to 45c last year, 90% of old-fashioned parity."

If you can figure that out, let us know the answer. We want to know, too. Personally, we think support prices are hurting poultrymen a darn sight worse than the old reliable law of supply and demand ever did.



PLAN YOUR FARM IRRIGATION SYSTEM NOW!

Plan today for greater income tomorrow. Increase the yield of your acreage by planning and installing a