

FARM and GARDEN NEWS

Garden Mulch Kills Weeds And Keeps The Soil Moist

Mulches covering the soil around growing plants are a substitute for cultivation which is growing in favor. They have long been used by practical gardeners, and various materials have been tried for covering the ground, to prevent weeds growing and shade the surface. Paper mulch, and even stones

and slabs of concrete have been experimented with. But tests by the Ohio state experiment station, emphasizing the importance of soil aeration, indicate that the best mulching materials allow free circulation of air through the top eight inches of soil. Mulches of fresh organic material, such as manure, straw, alfalfa,

Three-Day Willamette Valley Tour Will Show Grassland Pasture Crops

Plans are underway for a three-day Willamette valley grassland pasture tour with scheduled stops at outstanding farms in five counties, announces Roger W. Morse, OSC extension dairy specialist. The tour dates are May 23, 24 and 25. Morse is heading a committee of OSC extension specialists and county extension agents who are making the tour arrangements. Members of the agricultural committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce are invited to participate. The tour will start in Washington county and move south through Yamhill, Marion and Linn counties and return through Marion and Clackamas counties.

Record Seed Crop Still Inadequate To Supply Needs

The ladino clover seed crop of 1949 of 3,390,000 pounds of clean seed was the largest ever produced in this country but even so, reports the U.S. Department of Agriculture, it may not be large enough to supply the demand for seed because the crop has become so popular in large sections of the country.

Why Manganese Helps In Growth Of Plants

BERKELEY, Calif. —(AP)—For some time it has been known that plants will not grow unless there is manganese in the soil they feed from. This was discovered by plant nutritionists P. K. Stumpf and C. C. Delwiche of the University of California College of Agriculture. Now, working with graduate students W. D. Loomis and C. Michaelson, they have found out why manganese enables a plant to grow. They discovered a new enzyme in plants that enables them to utilize glutamic acids one of the building units of protein. Without manganese, this enzyme doesn't work and the plants stop growing. No other metallic element is known to have this effect, and studies are continuing in the hope of increasing crop yields.



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Fertilizer Tests Slated At Owyhee

An extensive fertilizer test program has been established on the Owyhee irrigation project by the OSC agricultural experiment station to determine the effects of fertilizers on sugar beet tonnage and sugar production. Twelve different fertilizer treatments of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are planned, with radio-active phosphate to be used in one trial to study phosphorus uptake of beets.

More than 900 trials on 13 different farms are being used in the sugar beet fertilizer test program. In addition, fertilizer research is being conducted on barley, early potatoes and corn.

Leader of the new research program is Dr. Albert S. Hunter, soil scientist, who is a cooperative employee of the experiment station and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Assisting him is John A. Yungen, Dallas, Ore., an OSC graduate in farm crops. E. N. Hoffman, superintendent of the Malheur experimental area at Ontario, is coordinating research work.

The trial with radio-active phosphate will be conducted on the Malheur experimental area farm to find how much of the phosphorus taken up by sugar beet plants comes from the phosphate applied as fertilizer and how much from the phosphorus already present in the soil.

The phosphate was made artificially radio-active at the atomic energy plant at Oakridge, Tenn., and was processed into fertilizer at the USDA laboratories at Beltsville. Radio-active counts and total phosphorus analyses of sugar beets will be made during the growing season to check the phosphorus uptake.

The effects of three different amounts of irrigation and two levels of nitrogen fertilizer on phosphorus uptake is being studied in the same experiment.

On 4 of the 13 farms, research workers are spacing beets at 12-15 inch intervals to study the influence of spacing on beet yield and sugar content. Fertilizers and beet thinners, along with harvest labor and sugar analyses, will be provided by the Amalgamated Sugar company at Nyssa.

Different levels of several fertilizers are being studied to determine their effects upon the yield and resistance to lodging of Bonneville, a new barley released this year, and Trebi, the most commonly grown variety in recent years.

Second Spraying For Walnut Blight Is Recommended

Time for applying the second spray or dust for the control of walnut blight is now, according to information received at the county extension office from the state college experiment station. The same spray and dust formulas used for the first or "prebloom spray" should be used, states county extension agent, J. Roland Parker.

Bordeaux spray 4-2-100 (4 pounds of copper sulphate, 2 pounds of quicklime or 2 pounds of hydrate lime in 100 gallons of water) is the standard spray recommendation. A summer oil emulsion, at the rate of one pint of oil emulsion to every 100 gallons of spray should be added to the Bordeaux mixture to reduce the severity of leaf injury in the event that conditions favor its development.

Growers following a dusting program for the control of walnut blight should use the recommended copper-lime-dust. Not dealers handling spray and dusting materials have the prepared dust on hand or will be able to secure the material on order in a day or two, according to the county extension agent.

The Egyptian city of Kahun, built about 3,000 B. C. for workers on the Illahun pyramid, was among the first "planned" cities.

Basic Support Prices For Cover Crops Listed

Basic support prices for winter cover crop seeds under the government's 1950 price support program have been set as follows: hairy vetch, 14.70 cents per pound; common and Willamette vetch, 6.57; crimson clover, 16.30 cents; common ryegrass, 7.34 cents.

J. F. Bonebrake, Chairman of the Douglas County PMA Committee, points out that national basic rates apply to most of the seeds. For hairy vetch, which is widely produced, State rates have been established. In Oregon the rate for hairy vetch seed in all counties is 14.50 cents per pound.

As a method of price support, loans will be available on all the winter cover crop seeds; producer purchase agreements will be available on all the seeds. Purchases will be made from dealers who have paid the growers of such seed the support price or better for the seed.

STANTON —(AP)—The Santiam Farmers cooperative reported a 45 percent increase in business volume last year—a more successful season than many of the Willamette valley cooperatives.

Business totaled \$783,000 with a net profit margin of \$20,336. Nearly half the business volume was from the co-op's feed, seed and fertilizer division.

Ice is mixed in during commercial sausage grinding to prevent heating of the meat from friction.

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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

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Strictly Non-Advertising

We attended a convention in Portland last week, and had the good luck to hear some wonderful and thought-provoking speeches. We wished every thinking American could have had the privilege of hearing these talks, and that every careless and easy-going voter would have had to hear them. Still, thank God, you can't force Americans to listen and think what they don't want to—not yet.

But when you hear a parade of speakers, representing the best brains of our beloved Pacific Northwest, and each one fearing the same things, you also begin to wonder how much longer Americans will be allowed the glorious freedoms we have come to take for granted.

For instance, there was Prof. U. G. Dubach, a native of Switzerland, who came to America to enjoy the American way of life. He reminds us that from the time of Christ, twenty-one civilizations have waxed and waned. He mentions Greece first among this parade, and the British Empire as the last to lose power. He wonders if America is to follow Great Britain. And who will take over America's place as leader?

Surrender of power by the PEOPLE to a Central Government, and prohibitive taxes have proved the downfall of every former world power. When taxes reach 25% of income, government is endangered. America's taxes now take a 30c bite out of every dollar. Most of that goes to our intensely centralized government.

Why does the Government need so much money? Why are our taxes high? Because too many pressure groups have the "Gimmies." America has the worst case of "Gimmies" in the history of the world. And what are the "Gimmies?"

It's the group that wants price supports on wheat, tobacco, eggs, or whatever they happen to be producing. And at taxpayers expense. It's the group that insists on compulsory medical insurance. At taxpayers expense. It's the groups that want the Brannan Plan, with cheap groceries and high prices to the farmer, all in the same package. And who will pay for that; and how much? Could it be the taxpayer?

It's the groups who want "SECURITY." And who want it at the expense of the public. It's the groups who want "theirs," no matter who gets hurt. And who is to pay for all this "security"? Could it be the taxpayer?

Where do we go for all these handouts? Why, to Washington, of course. For help on a Community Hospital? For help on roadbuilding? For help on a swimming pool? For help for the dairy farmer, the wheat farmer, for veteran benefits, for education? To Washington.

And Washington is tickled to death to help. They invite us to ask for everything we can think of. The more we ask, the more Federal employees will have to be added to the payroll. And the more folks will vote to continue the program. But who pays for it all?

To quote Prof. Dubach direct: "EVERY TIME WE TAKE A

Uncle Hank Says:



BOUNTY FROM THE GOVERNMENT, WE GIVE UP A FREEDOM." Maybe you don't believe that. But Mr. Farmer, after taking price support, can you plant as much of whatever you want to plant as you jolly well please? Certainly not. You have crop controls, acreage allotments, and penalties. And that's just a sample.

Let's realize once and for all, the Government owes us nothing. We are the Government. We have no rights from the Government, (ourselves), all of us owe debts to the Government, (again ourselves). . . . And that doesn't mean overdue income taxes.

We owe the Government, (ourselves, our children and the generations of Americans to be born), the spirit of independence that brought our ancestors to these shores. We owe the spirit of thrift that has made us feel independent and become the world's leader. We owe our Government a return to the true Christian spirit of give, and the Golden Rule, rather than panhandling for "security." We owe ourselves and the coming generations a re-assumption of our God-given American self respect.

We owe it to ourselves and our Government to realize that we are all AMERICANS, not the labor class, the farming class, the white-collar class. And that class must not be set against class. But that what is good for America is good for the labor unions, the producers, capital and all.

Let's get our feet back on the ground. Let's get centralization back in the hands of the people, and away from centralization of power. Let's get away from spending money we don't have, and building up a big debt. Let's quit helping everybody and help ourselves a bit. For God knows nobody will ever offer to help us.

Was This Cop Married? The motorcycle cop pulled up alongside, took out his book and said: "I clocked you at 45, Mister."

From the back seat: "Just give him a ticket officer. Serves him right. I've told him a thousand times what a terrible reckless driver he is. Just give it to him."

The cop interrupted to ask the driver: "Your wife?" and when the poor guy nodded his head glumly, closed his book and added: "Drive on, Brother."

You Gotta Have Production

Are your hens fighting emenacanthus stramineus? If so, you can figure egg production will be cut at least 11%. Also, mortality will be nearly 4% heavier.

You can get Black-Leaf-40 at the Flour Mill, and get rid of those emenacanthus stramineus quite easily. (If the guy had said chicken lice it would have saved us paralysis of the tongue trying to pronounce it.)

On That Bum Feed Mrs. Chas. Hughes, Winston Hill, 48, this 4 weeks old having around. Started out with 486 (from a case and a half of eggs), but a couple died, and she killed half a dozen more.

George Thomas took home 2020 poult, the net result of incubating 2750 turkey eggs. A wee bit better than 75% of all eggs set. Not a record, maybe, but not bad, either.

"Yassuh, Judge. I wanna divorce. Lucy she never stop talking, she keep it up, mo'nin', noon and night, stiddy, day in, day out, till it git so—well, Judge, I just can't stand it no mo'."

His honor was impressed by Sambo's earnestness. "Well, now Sambo, what does she talk about?"

"Well, Judge, sub. she jest don't say."

Our Non-Political President You know we're getting kinda fed up with these dam dedications. Grand Coulee Dam has had more dedications than we've had birthdays.

The President's special tax cost the taxpayers approximately \$250,000.00, really small change, of course, in these days. But since politics wasn't mentioned on the whole trip, the taxpayers won't mind it a bit.

The thing that stands out most clearly to Oregon and Washington poultrymen and dairymen, who are paying a big price for feed wheat, is that the President got only as far as the big wheat areas in the two Northwestern States.

Could it be that he didn't care to talk with poultrymen and dairymen who might have asked embarrassing questions?

Classified FOR SALE: 825 white leghorn pullets, 7 weeks old, at just about cost if taken soon. R. E. Brown, 2 miles west of Wilbur.

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