

FARM-FOREST-FACTS

By Ed Gilden
County Extension Agent

Tell anyone a few years ago that a profitable partial cutting could be made in 30-year old Douglas fir timber—even a forester—and they would have laughed at you.

Now — if you tell Crown Zellerbach Corp. or Jack Crawford, Columbia County farmer, that it can't be done, they laugh at you. Last week they, along with other Columbia County farmers, showed about seventy Western Oregon farm woodland owners the "latest word" in second growth fir management.

CROWN Zellerbach started thinning their 66,000 acre Columbia Tree Farm in 1949. They started small but now they have ten independent operators with small "Cats" thinning their timber year around.

Each of these logging "sides" consist of two or three men. A two man operation is able to cold deck about ten cords of logs a day.

BOB LINDSAY, Crown Zellerbach's resident forester at Verona, showed the group the work that has been done in 30 to 70-year old stands. In the thirty year old stands only about five cords per acre are removed. Fifty-year old stands have about 13 cords per acre cut and 18-20 cords are removed from each cutting in the older stands.

Bob has an easy answer for the skeptics that ask, "How do you keep loggers working where they get such little volume out in a day's time?"

"This is the way he puts it, 'We pay our loggers so they make money and we make money. We have seven of the ten operators that started in 1949 still working for us. We think they are satisfied.'"

All of the trees to be cut are marked by a Crown Zellerbach forester. The marking has been directed at removing the larger trees with large limbs. Deformity, evidence of slow growth, evidence of root rot or insect attack are also reasons for selecting a tree for removal.

The general rule used in marking trees to be removed is "open up the better quality trees on only one side at a time."

THINNINGS have been planned to remove 15 per cent - 20 per cent of the volume of the stand at the first thinning. Future thinnings are made at intervals of one to five years.

The stands that we visited on the four for Western Oregon Farm Forestry Committees had received from one to three thinning cuts.

Jack Crawford, doesn't have professional foresters or large acreages — but he does know how to make his woodland pay. Two horses, a power saw, a 1 1/2 ton truck and 80 acres of 37 year old Douglas-fir is his equipment.

When Jack was asked if he thought it paid to thin in such a young stand, he countered with a story.

This is his story — Some years ago he made a trip up into the Puget Sound country. While waiting to catch a ferry over to the Olympic Peninsula, he noticed a young boy fishing.

He asked him, "You like fishing, son?" Heck no," the boy said, "I like eating."

"That's what I'm doing here," Jack said, "I like eating."

From what Jack told us, he's doing a good job of eating.

Working alone, he gets about two cords a day hauled to the mill.

HIGH THINNING cut removes only about 30 trees to the acre. Walking through his stand it is difficult to spot where the trees have been removed.

Each young tree Jack brings in about one-third of a cord. Damage to remaining trees is kept to a minimum by careful falling and logging with horses.

He averages \$100 - \$150 a week from his operation and believes any farmer with similar type second-growth stand can do as good.

These two extremes in logging operation size have made thin-

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FARM and Garden

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1955

—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 7

Pasture, Silage And Hay Need Forecast For State

More pasture, silage and hay may be the big need in Oregon. The need will come, says an OSC economist, if farmers and ranchers are to take greatest advantage of increasing feed grain supplies. The statement was made this week by M. D. Thomas.

In the latest "Agricultural Situation and Outlook" circular prepared at OSC, the economist explains that, in time, most of this grain will move to market through livestock.

Goodman has a large acreage of Douglas fir that has been farmed for four years. The results of the thinnings, scaring, pruning, and brush removal that he has done are very visible.

BUSHY, well shaped, dark green trees are the results.

His Christmas tree cultural practices have also paid off in good markets.

Douglas County Christmas tree farmers are planning on taking in this year. If you are interested, give me a call at OR 3-8133.

Wool Growers To Be Queried On New Program

Wool growers nation wide, sometime this summer, will be asked whether or not they wish to support a program providing for advertising, promotional, and related market development activities under the National Wool Act of 1954.

The proposed program is subject to the approval of wool growers by a two-third favorable vote in a referendum. If the vote is favorable, deductions of not more than one per cent from the incentive payment to growers on wool marketed from April 1, 1955 to Mar. 31, 1959, is provided.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has entered into an agreement with the American Sheep Producers Council for such a program. Douglas County Agent J. Roland Parker pointed out this week. Funds raised under the program will be used by the council for activities designed to enlarge or improve the market for domestic, produced wool and lamb.

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson, in announcing the agreement, stated this action does not create a precedent for similar arrangements for other commodities. Congress has provided legislation to encourage increased wool production from around 233 million pounds in 1954 to a goal of 300 million pounds. Incentive payments for the next 4 years are provided to help bring this about.

The American Sheep Producers Council was organized to carry out the purposes of the wool act on a national basis. The council is governed by a delegate body and board of directors representing the National Wool Growers Assoc., the National Wool Marketing Corporation, the National Grange, the National Farmers Union, the National Livestock Producers Assoc., the Ohio Improvement Assn. and the Pacific Wool Growers.

The last outbreak of yellow fever in the United States was in New Orleans in 1905.

Longer Lived Berry Plants Thought Possible

Longer life for Oregon berry plants and ornamentals now appears possible through control of strawberry root weevils which are among the state's most damaging insect pests.

New insecticides under test at the Oregon State College experiment station are winning the battle against root weevil larvae or "grubs" that feed on roots and crowns of strawberry, caneberry, mint and nursery plantings.

R. G. Rosenstiel, OSC research entomologist, developed the control program. He used soil treatments for new plantings and surface applications on established fields. Although the tests were conducted with strawberry plantings, the scientist says the findings will serve as a general guide in reducing damage to other plants.

Soil treatment is limited to new fields or garden plots before planting time, since the insecticide must be worked thoroughly into the top six inches of soil. Five to ten pounds of active ingredient per acre of either dieldrin or heptachlor gave best results in the OSC trials. Chlordane or aldrin at the same rates were less effective, but Rosenstiel says any of the treatments will give weevil control for at least three bearing years.

Detailed instructions on insecticide application rates and methods of applying are listed in a circular of information, "Strawberry Root Weevil Control," just published by the OSC experiment station. Copies of the circular are available at the Douglas County Extension office in Roseburg.

The circular also outlines the weevil control program on established plantings using either parathion or malathion dust which will also help control strawberry aphid and strawberry leafroller.

Home gardeners are cautioned not to use parathion which is extremely poisonous and should be handled only by experienced persons with proper safety equipment.

Bill Would Permit County To Buy Dam

WASHINGTON — A bill to clear the way for Yamhill County, Ore., to buy an abandoned lock and dam at Lafayette has been introduced by Rep. Norblad (R-Ore.).

He said maintenance of the site by the federal government was discontinued some months ago after traffic through the locks became negligible.

Norblad's bill would start action to have the lock and dam and surrounding acreage declared surplus to government needs. This would enable its sale to the county for recreation and farming uses. It is a favorite fishing and swimming spot and farmers draw on the reservoir for irrigation water.

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Destructive Bark Beetle Battled

Study Underway By Bacteriologists At Oregon State

The destructive bark beetle faces ultimate defeat.

In recent years the insect has been busy destroying more timber in the Pacific Northwest than is converted to lumber each year. A study is now underway at Oregon State College to determine how to best control the beetle. It is being conducted by bacteriologist Dr.

W. B. Bollen and research assistant Dr. K. C. Lu.

First Detected in 1951

The beetles were first detected in great number in December 1951. The discovery followed a severe storm which hit the Oregon coast range and resulted in a heavy blowdown of Douglas fir trees.

Rapid beetle multiplication followed. Recently they have been found attacking standing timber in this and other regions of the Pacific Northwest.

Briefly, the beetle deals a death blow to trees by completely girdling the tree trunk. A fungus then develops and the tree is destroyed.

So far, reports the OSC News Bureau, the only method of control has been to remove attacked trees. The method has met with little success.

Bacteriologists rather than entomologists are doing the research. One entomologist believed the insects were attracted to yeast fermentation products formed in damaged trees.

Beetles Collected

Beetles were collected by Don Allen, Oregon State Board of Forestry research entomologist, and others. Those dissected were found to have yeasts in their digestive tracts.

In view of this evidence the forest products and conservation committee of the state board of forestry made a \$1,450 grant to the agricultural experiment station. The grant was to further study this attraction of yeasts to the insects. The committee is cooperating with the college in the project.

Cultures will be made and large amounts grown as baits. Baits may then be taken into the forest and used to attract large numbers of the beetles that can be destroyed by poison or fire.

BENSON NAMED

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson will make the first official presentation of the annual "Asta" awards for outstanding professional farm and garden writing. The 1954 Awards will be presented by the secretary at the opening session of the 72nd annual convention of the American Seed Trade Assn. on June 15 in Minneapolis, Minn. The ASTA sponsors the annual award program. Ninety-two farm and garden writers were entered in the 1954 competition, from all parts of the country and representing both magazines and newspapers.

Now For Chicken—Phil Yazdzik starts in on a fried chicken eating marathon in Detroit that wound up with him putting away 31 orders to claim a record. The day before, in Chicago, Phil set a new hamburger eating record. How about a couple of eggs, Phil?

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