

Landscape Course Is Planned At OSC Soon

The fifth annual landscape construction and maintenance short course sponsored by Oregon State College's landscape architecture department has been scheduled for Jan. 17 and 18.

Winter injury to plant materials will be one of the major topics on this year's program. Open to the public, the two-day course is planned for interested home gardeners as well as landscape architects and contractors and nurserymen.

In past years, gardeners from throughout the Northwest have come to OSC for the course. Donald J. Martel, landscape architecture head, is general chairman.

Other topics due for discussion this year include soil improvement, insect pests and plant diseases, street trees and landscape design.



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FARM and GARDEN

Tues. Jan. 3, 1956—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 9

Bulletin Tells Of Flood Aid

Families suffering flood damage to dwellings and the household water supply will find a bulletin just received at the Douglas County Extension Office helpful in carrying out rehabilitation work. The bulletin is titled "First Aid for Flooded Homes and Farms." Copies are available by calling or writing the County Extension Office on the second floor of the Post Office Bldg. in Roseburg.

Precautions that should be taken and methods for minimizing damage to buildings, heating and power facilities, appliances, furniture, clothing, food, and books are outlined. Suggestions for rehabilitating water and sewage facilities are also covered.

Where farm equipment has been covered by flood waters, methods for cleaning and servicing the equipment are outlined in a way that will permit many operators to save time, money, and equipment from serious damage.

The bulletin is free to anyone desiring a copy, states J. Roland Parker, county extension agent. The extension office also has a list of agencies, both state and federal, that are in a position to assist individuals in rehabilitation of dwellings and farms in flood damaged areas.

Melrose Man Is Featured

A Melrose turkey grower who has raised more than half a million turkeys during the past 25 years is the subject of an article in the December issue of "Turkey World."

J. E. Conn and his methods of growing turkeys is the basis of the piece by Neal Benning, Oregon State College poultry extension specialist. Benning titled the article "Conn Reveals His Secret."

Sub-title of the story reads "Oregon turkeyman tells exactly how he gets off-season production."

As Benning writes, Conn has raised more than 300,000 turkeys in a quarter of a century.

The Melrose man has specialized in Beltsville Small Whites, although he raises some Broad Whites and Bronze. He likes the Beltsville for turkey fryers, reports Correspondent Nettie Woodruff.

The article describes his program to produce off season hatchings, which are more in demand during the off season months. Most of the hatchings is done in March, April and May.

Mrs. Woodruff reports that Wayne Mosher accompanied Benning to the Conn ranch when the story information was gathered for "Turkey World." The magazine is a trade publication for turkey growers.

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Promotion To Be Topic For Dairy Session Meeting

Forecasts of a 2½ billion pound increase in national milk production next year puts the spotlight on dairy products promotion at the Oregon Dairyman Assn's annual meeting, Jan. 10 to 12, at Eugene.

While Oregon dairymen may produce no more milk in 1956 than this year, national prospects point toward an increase from this year's record of 124½ billion pounds to a new high of 127 billion in 1956, report Oregon State College economists and dairy specialists.

Products promotion will be featured in convention talks by Ray Albert, Chicago, American Dairy Association, and W. L. Hendrix, president of the Idaho Dairyman's Assn. Albert will discuss "selling" dairy products at the national level and Hendrix will explain how Idaho now raises about \$200,000 annually on a voluntary basis for dairy advertising and promotion work.

Meanwhile, the dairy industry's sales program has been bolstered by a recent USDA announcement that dairy surpluses held by the commodity credit corporation are shrinking under stepped-up sales to foreign countries.

Sale this month of more than six million pounds of CCC-owned butter to Germany almost equaled total sales of CCC butter in the previous 18 months. Large amounts of dairy surpluses have also been disposed of through foreign and domestic relief programs.

In mid-December, the USDA asked for offers to purchase 7 million pounds of CCC-owned cheddar cheese for donation to U.S. private welfare agencies for distribution abroad.

Farmers Return Down 1 Per Cent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department said Friday that prices received by farmers for their crops and livestock dropped 1 per cent between mid-November and mid-December.

This downturn is a continuation of a trend over the last several years. The department said the decline for the month ending Dec. 15 left farm prices 7 per cent below those of a year previous.

Continued declines in prices received by farmers for hogs, cattle and cotton were primarily responsible for the 1 per cent drop during the monthly period.

Prices received for eggs, fruit, corn and tobacco rose during the last month.

At the same time, the department said, a 1 point decline in the index of prices paid by farmers for goods and services used in farm production was offset by a 1 point increase in the index of prices paid for family living items, leaving the parity index unchanged from the 279 of mid-November.

With the prices received by farmers continuing to decline and the prices of commodities which farmers buy remaining unchanged, the parity ratio dropped to 80, the lowest since September, 1940.

Tax Guide Tells Aids For Farmers

NEW TAX GUIDE FOR FARMERS



The Internal Revenue Service says that farmers of the Nation can get a lot of help from this brand new tax guide, intended to ease their work in preparing their 1955 returns, first to include computations on self-employment taxes. Other problems also are treated in copy and pictorial detail. Copies may be obtained from district internal revenue offices or from county farm agents.

A 64-page booklet "Farmers' Tax Guide" is available at the Douglas County Extension Office in Roseburg on request at no charge. The Internal Revenue Service of the U. S. Treasury Dept. issued the booklet to give detailed help to aid farmers in filling out their 1955 income tax reports.

Information and instructions are written in plain language. In 17 chapters there is general information on a farmer's income tax, plus step-by-step directions for filling out the forms. Ten sample forms are included which show how to fill out each line.

There is also a handy "rapid finder" index and more detailed index with about 175 entries to help find the answer to almost any question. Among subjects treated in the booklet are instructions, farm inventories, depreciation and depletion, capital gains and losses, casualty losses and thefts, soil and water conservation, self-employment tax, etc.

Farmers desiring a copy of the "Farmers' Tax Guide" booklet are invited, according to J. Roland Parker, county extension agent, to write him or stop at the office in the Post Office Bldg. and pick up a copy, whichever is more convenient.

Causes, Costs Of Farm Accidents To Be Compiled

Farm accidents, their causes and costs, will be reported next year in three Oregon counties. The governor's committee on farm safety, at a recent Corvallis meeting decided to sponsor the study in an effort to reduce farm accidents.

A survey started this year in Lane County will be continued and reporting will begin in two other counties, not yet chosen. Members of the Oregon Farm Bureau and State Grange have offered to assist in the survey, according to Committee Secretary Mrs. Mabel Mack, assistant director of extension service at Oregon State College.

Local safety chairmen will chart nature and causes of home, shop, fire and highway mishaps. The Lane county survey was arranged through a county agricultural planning committee at the request of local farmers alarmed at the rising farm accident rate. Committee Chairman Al Bauer, Salem, said farming is now rated as the third most dangerous industry.

Maynard Coe, farm safety director, national safety council, Chicago, told the group that five states have such accident reporting systems and that one of the five, New Hampshire, reduced its accident rate 75 per cent last year.

A tractor driving demonstration at state fair next year was proposed by the committee to educate farm families on safe handling of agriculture's No. 1 hazard. The proposal was prompted by a highly successful tractor demonstration.

Baker County Chamber Wants Road Improved

BAKER (AP) — The Baker County Chamber of Commerce wants the State Highway Commission to improve the road from Robinette to Homestead and to keep it open during the winter months.

Expected increase in travel over the road during construction of Idaho Power Co. dams on the Snake River was the basis for the chamber's request.

William L. Jackson, chamber president, noted that when dam construction is at its peak, there will be many times the number of people employed at the dam than at the present time.

Farm Youth Delegates Plan Talks On Europe

Two young Oregonians, just returned from six month stays on overseas farms, will begin to tell groups their experiences in January.

Donna Lingle, Boring, and Roger Detering, Harrisburg, both International Farm Youth Exchange delegates arrived home this month from southeastern Europe. Miss Lingle was in Greece and Detering in Turkey.

Under the IFYE program, young people from the United States live and work on overseas farms and youths from other countries come here on a similar program. Trips are provided by voluntary contributions.

Last year's four IFYE returnees gave over 450 illustrated talks to 83,000 persons in Oregon. They were Bill Abel, Astoria; George Jefferson, Madras; Barbara Larson, Hermiston; and Dorothy Teel, La Grande.

Persons interested in arranging for speakers may contact Winnifred Gillen, state extension agent, Oregon State College.

Growers Told To Spray Now To Aid Peach

Owners of peach trees are reminded by the Douglas County Extension Agent, J. Roland Parker, to spray their trees not later than Jan. 10 for the control of peach leaf curl.

Peach leaf curl is a fungus disease and is spread by spores that begin germinating with the winter rains. The fungus cannot enter the buds while the bud scales are tightly closed but with the first swelling of the buds the fungus grows under the loosened bud scale and infects the embryo leaves. The fungus must be destroyed before the buds begin to swell and the fungus enters the buds. Several sprays are effective in controlling the peach leaf curl fungus if applied at the proper time and all twigs and buds are thoroughly covered with the spray. Commercial peach growers will find a 12-12-100 Bordeaux mixture or Ferbam at a rate of 3 pounds to 100 gallons of water effective when used in power sprayers with agitators in the sprayer tank.

Where hand sprayers or air pressure sprayers are used and agitation of the spray material is not mechanically possible, liquid fungicides should be used as Puratized Agricultural spray or liquid lime sulfur. Puratized Agricultural spray is used at the rate of 2 pints to 100 gallons of water and may be more difficult to secure accurate proportions than liquid lime sulfur. Liquid lime sulfur should be used 1 quart to 3 gallons of water. Place the lime sulfur solution in the sprayer and then add the water. Adding the water to the lime sulfur solution aids in giving a thorough mixture.

Regardless of the spray material used it is necessary to thoroughly cover all twigs and buds to control peach leaf curl. It is important to cover the tips of all twigs and limbs and can best be done by not standing too close to the tree in spraying, Parker concluded.

Hop Growers Start Procedure To Form Commodity Group

The third Oregon farm group—hop growers—have started procedures to form a commodity commission to promote the economic stability of their product. Fifty-two hop growers from Marion and Josephine Counties signed the petitions presented to the Oregon State Department of Agriculture at Salem. Chewings and red fescue seed growers have already formed a commission; ladino clover growers have a petition before the department.

Growers signing the hop petitions represent about two-thirds of the 1955 production in Oregon, and about half the total growers in the state today. The remaining hop production is scattered over the Willamette Valley and in Umatilla and Malheur Counties. Production has dwindled from 18.7 million pounds in 1952 to 3.3 million pounds in 1955.

The next move in the hop petition is satisfaction by petitioners of a budget which the department is working on to cover costs of hearings and grower referendum. Hearings likely will fall in March, says Paul T. Rowell, chief of the department's new division of market development. He will set dates for the hearings and, if these show all need of a commission, for the statewide grower referendum which will follow.

Postal Officials Break Rule On Opening Letter

PALESTINE, Sicily (AP) — Postal officials disclosed here that they broke the standing rule about never opening letters.

They opened one this Christmas addressed to "The Eternal Father, Kingdom of Heaven."

In it a boy in the third grade asked for 10,000 lire—\$16—to buy a bicycle.

The postal employees chipped in the money and mailed it back with an unsigned letter.

College Names New Specialist

Appointment of a former Oregonian as extension information specialist at Oregon State College has been announced by B. L. Ballard, associate director of the extension service.

Burton Berger, who grew up on a farm near Oregon City and graduated from OSC, returns to Oregon from agricultural news work in Nebraska and Wisconsin. He will join the OSC agricultural news staff January 3.

Following graduation from OSC in 1934 with degrees in both agriculture and education, Berger earned a master's degree in agricultural journalism at the University of Wisconsin. He attended Wisconsin on a fellowship as an agricultural press writer. Since July, Berger has been in charge of agricultural press releases for the University of Nebraska Extension Service.

The new specialist also holds a degree from the Iliff School of Theology, Denver. Farming experience includes management of the home farm for two years following six years' military service during World War II, work with Grange youth groups, and 4-H club work.

Berger will assist with press work for the OSC extension service and agricultural experiment station and in training extension staff members in information methods.

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OSC Plans 'Soil Bank' Meet For Farm Leaders

Oregon farm leaders are scheduled to meet at Oregon State College in late January to study and develop recommendations to the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Congress on the much discussed "soil bank."

Some 35 agriculture leaders at a recent preliminary meeting at the college requested OSC officials to compile information on proposed approaches to the "soil bank" idea for reducing surplus farm production and saving soil for future needs.

F. E. Price, OSC dean of agriculture, has appointed a special committee to organize and digest all current proposals for study at the January session. He said representatives of all organized farm groups in Oregon will be notified as soon as possible of the exact meeting date.

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