

# Weed Control, Fertilizer Studies Made At Pendleton

Simazin applied at seeding time or in the winter promises excellent control of cheatgrass, a fast growing winter annual that saps soil moisture from trashy fallow wheat fields, according to Dean Swan, agronomist at the Pendleton branch experiment station.

Results of Simazin trials were among those reported July 1 at the Pendleton experiment station field day. About 160 attended the all-day session.

Applied at 1 pound per acre at the proper time, Swan said simazin gave almost complete control of cheatgrass, tarweed, and other common Columbia Basin weeds without damaging wheat.

Other research work viewed included a summary of winter wheat yields at Pendleton showing the carryover effect of alfalfa in a rotation. Yields ranged from 10 to 25 per cent above winter wheat after fallow after 10 years—or the fifth wheat crop—following four years of alfalfa, according to Merrill Oveson, station superintendent. No fertilizers were added.

In other experiments, Charles Smith, USDA soil scientist reported a carryover effect from 60 pounds of actual nitrogen resulted in a four to five bushel per acre increase the second crop year, compared to wheat receiving no nitrogen originally. Smith said this carryover effect was showing up in plots established in Columbia Basin counties.

In addition, a response to sulfur is evident this year, indicating it may be a necessary nutrient for Columbia Basin wheat

fields, especially when high nitrogen rates are used.

## 4-H'ers Learn Soil, Water Conservation

Scientific agriculture is widely practiced today to produce both quality and quantity crops. Under the direction of the State Extension Service, 4-H Club members are learning modern farming techniques employed in soil and water conservation, and in growing and marketing crops.

By participating in these projects, rural youth put into practice the latest methods recommended by the USDA and leading industrial agricultural researchers. Throughout the state hundreds of farms have been improved and incomes increased as a result of 4-H'ers carrying out the objectives of these programs.

Incentive awards are offered by leading business firms in recognition of outstanding achievement. After demonstrating ability in their farm projects, 4-H boys and girls look forward to winning the top state award, an all-expense paid trip to the 38th National 4-H Club Congress at the Conrad Hilton hotel, Chicago.

Members receiving the state award then become eligible for a national 4-H college scholarship worth \$400. Recipients will be an-

and carrots grew well at the station, Laurin Butler, agronomist, reported.

Narrangansett alfalfa was the top yielder, averaging two tons per acre in the past five years. The legume was seeded solid in 22-inch rows. N-10 safflower produces the highest average yield of eight varieties tested, averaging 1,350 pounds per acre.

Dakota seed flax was highest yielder of five varieties tested, averaging 28 bushels per acre. Average price from 1949 to 1956 was \$3.33 per bushel, according to the agronomist.

Top yielder of canary grass seed was a Turkish import, which averaged 1,749 pounds per acre. Canary grass seed is used for canary and parakeet feed, and is sold on the commercial market for about \$70 a ton. Seed is currently supplied by imports.

Butler indicated winter hardiness of canary grass for the Pendleton area is unknown. All of last year's fall-planted canary grass was killed.

Carrots have survived the dry months for the past 4 years, and have resumed growing after fall rains. 1958 yields averaged about 11 tons of marketable carrots per acre.

Farmers also viewed a vertical mulcher, a new machine de-

veloped in the midwest. Ted Horning, USDA agricultural engineer, and Smith are testing its possible use for reducing erosion from water runoff. The mulcher chops wheat straw and blows it into a vertical trench about 13 inches deep. Worked along a contour, the mulcher may improve water intake rates. Trials are being established for the first time this spring.

Early-blooming shrubs and trees should be pruned early in the growing season so they can make new growth for bearing next year's flowers. Most flowers are produced on wood grown the previous year. Leave a good framework to produce this new flushes could feed no more than

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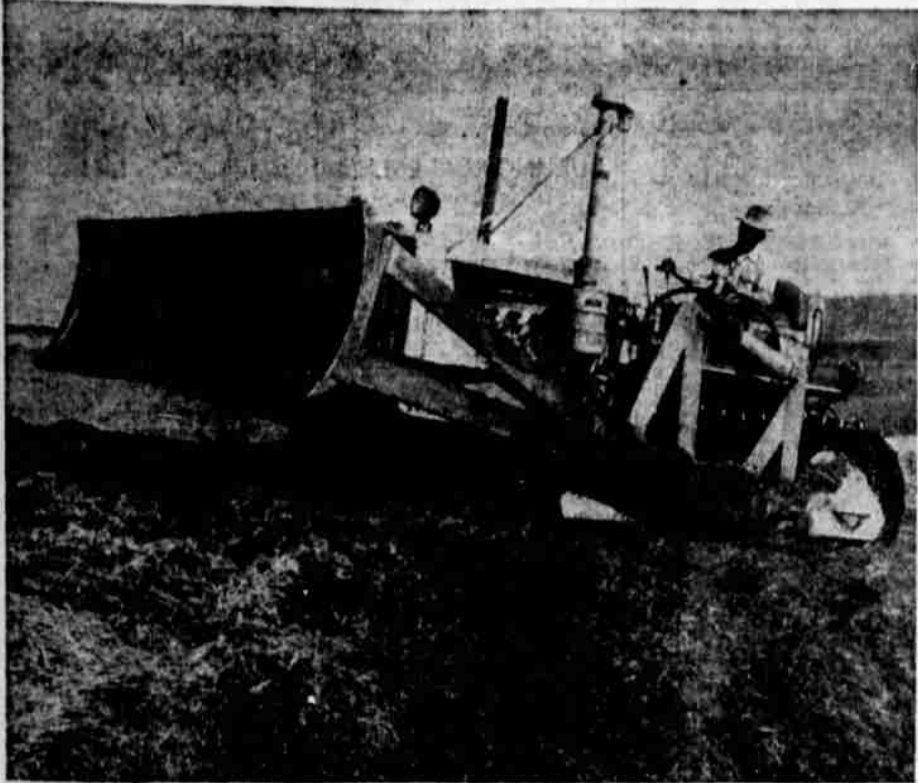
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## SILAGE WITH TRACTOR

Stan Wishauer, La Grande, uses a D6 tractor to put pressure on the tall wheat grass he is using for silage. He is making silage on top of the ground in what is called a bunker. There is about 400 tons in one pile of silage.

## Among Valley Farmers

By County Agents Ted Sidor and Charles Gavin

A number of farmers are being troubled this year with a root rot or take-all disease. We had some diagnosed by O. S. C. and they indicated that the wheat sample was infected with "take-all". They also came up with a fusarium that is a root rot.

In either case the answer to the problem would be to attempt a rotation in which wheat was not followed by wheat even when broken by summerfallow. The best thing to use would be some legume such as alfalfa, sweet clover, or peas. A good nitrogen and phosphate program of fertilization will usually help to somewhat alleviate the damage due to these diseases.

Weed control problems keep cropping up, one of course being on the control of quack grass. Some of our farmers and gardeners are having very good success using ATZ at 10 pounds; others are using Dalapon at 10 to 20 pounds per acre. Dalapon at 20 pounds is a personal preference but it does sterilize your soil for at least six weeks. ATZ, of course, can be applied and then worked up within 10 to 14 days and a crop established. Both chemicals should be applied with at least 20 gallons of water to the acre.

A revised bulletin, Weed Control Recommendations for Oregon is available in our office and it does give the latest recommendations for weed control. It is yours for the asking.

One more chemical that appears to be working is the Benzoic acid material for the control of morning glory. On trials we have established, 10 gallons of either the 2 pound per gallon material or 4 pound per gallon material appears to be doing the job.

Dean Swan of the Pendleton Experiment Station is quite enthusiastic about Simazin and we are checking it out in this area. The first trial we have out is disappointing but we are trying it again.

Ralph Robinson has a field of corn that he intends to make silage with. We also in Ralph's planting tried a number of new varieties that will bear watching.

There has been widespread interest this past year in the high yielding semi-dwarf wheat now being developed at Washington State College. These semi-dwarf selection of short strawed, soft white winter wheats are the result of 11 years of crossing and re-crossing since the original cross of Norin 10, a Japanese variety, and Brevor. These new wheats are 2-3 feet tall or 10 to 20 inches shorter than Burt or Brevor, the shortest commercial winter varieties. Although they are short they surprisingly produce just about as much straw as the present commercial varieties.

At the present time work is being directed toward improving the milling and baking qualities and disease resistance. It probably will be two to three years before all quality requirements are met and this variety will be considered for release.

The 1958 variety distribution survey by counties which each year is conducted cooperatively with the Pacific Northwest Grain Dealers and the Agricultural Marketing and Agricultural Research Services of the USDA shows a decrease in the number of varieties reported grown. Thirty-five varieties were reported grown in the Pacific Northwest in the area covered by this report as compared with forty-three in 1957. This indicates that some progress is being made in the reduction of undesirable varieties of wheat grown in the Pacific Northwest. There

## Compromise Bill Need For Ag Dept. Operation

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Senate-House conferees hope to reach final agreement today on a compromise money bill to run the Agriculture Department during the fiscal year starting next Wednesday.

The lawmakers were reported to be close to resolving their argument over an annual ceiling on price support payments to individual farmers. The Senate approved a \$50,000 limit for all crops. The House voted a \$50,000 maximum on each crop.

strip grazing and soiling advantages over rotational grazing.

Merits of the three methods were studied on an experimental area at Beltsville comprising 12 one-acre plots seeded to an orchard grass-Ladino clover mixture. The systems were randomly assigned to 3 plots within each of 4 blocks of the total pasture area. Manure was applied to the plots used for test of the soiling method to compensate for lack of manure from animals used in testing rotational and strip grazing on other plots.

The four plots for each forage utilization treatment were used rotationally. Grazing groups of milk cows were moved from plot to plot concurrently at intervals of 5 to 10 days. Soiling harvests depended upon the availability of enough forage for mechanical harvest.

Forage in excess of the needs of the test animals was removed as hay or silage and credited the specific experimental system from which it was derived, according to its total digestible nutrients (TDN). All plots were grazed or harvested 4 to 5 times each year for the duration of the experiments. Before grazing or harvesting any of the plots, sample strips were cut to determine the total amount of forage available.

Value of the plots for supporting milking dairy cows was determined by the TDN requirements of the cows utilizing them. Four milkers were assigned to each system. The animals were chosen from a group that had calved 2 to 4 months before the trials began. Thus it was usually possible to keep them on their assigned systems for a full season. Assignments were made at random, but the animals were chosen from groups of similar production level, liveweight, and breeding date.

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- 2 1/2 pounds sukiyaki beef strips
- Salt, as required
- 1 small can bamboo shoots
- 4 bunches green onions in 1 1/2" lengths
- 3 large dry onions, sliced
- 1 small can yam seedles
- (Optional: 4" cube soy bean milk, 1 can mushrooms, 2-3 stalks celery, handful bean sprouts, garnish of green pepper).
- SAUCE: 1 cup soy sauce, 1 cup water, 1/2 cup sake (rice wine), 3 tbsps. sugar



Like Portland's other fine dining places, the Hotel Benson finds natural gas best for preparing its epicurean meals. At right, Portland's Charles Gueffroy and TV's Miss Julia Meade await their steak and shish-ke-bob in the Benson's famous London Grill—one of the favored dining spots for Centennial visitors.

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