



MACHINES CLEAN SEED
Darcey Sater Checks Results



FULL MEASURE FOR EACH SACK
Tom Ontko Weighs Seed



FAST AND EFFICIENT
Power Tool Sews Sacks



READY FOR SHIPMENT
Mary Newcomb Tags Seed Sacks

Wagner Seed Firm Pioneers Industry

By BOB CHANDLER
Observer Staff Writer

IMBLER (Special)—An idea born in the early 1930's—in the middle of the depression—has turned into a million-plus dollar industry for the Grande Ronde Valley and has carried the name of the valley to all parts of the world.

The industry is the growing and processing of grass seed, half a dozen varieties of it, in an area which has turned out to be particularly well adapted for this crop.

State Fair Honor Won

Union County 4-H Club members scored many achievements in competition at this year's Oregon State Fair in Salem.

Blue ribbons were won by the horse judging team, composed of Terry Bowman, Norma and Sharon Waldrop.

Mary Lynn Berryman, Route 1, La Grande, earned a blue ribbon on her junior agricultural demonstration on "Training a Foal."

Ruth Hoxie received a blue ribbon in the senior bread baking contest.

Red ribbons were won by the following girls in dress revue: Sharon Jones, Kay Griffith, Ardyce Gulzow and Ruth Elmer.

Ruth Hoxie received a red ribbon with her home economics demonstration and Eloise McCoy earned a red ribbon in the junior Spreckles canning contest.

Hereford Tour Due Sept. 29

Union county Hereford breeders will hold their 3rd annual Hereford tour on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The Hereford breeders of the county take this opportunity to show commercial men and other purebred breeders their brood herds, sale cattle and herd sires.

The county has long been famous for the quality of purebred Herefords they produce and a great number find their way into the brood herds of other purebred breeders throughout the Northwest.

Cattle from Union county have been sent to Idaho, Nevada, California and Washington.

The Tri-County Hereford Sale held in La Grande, each February is one of the oldest consignment sales held in the northwest.

Wagner and Sons ships seed from its Imbler cleaning plant to England and other parts of the world which have come to know and want Grande Ronde Valley seed.

"There are a number of factors which make this valley well suited for the production of grass seeds," according to Darcey Sater manager of the firm. "We have an excellent climate, good soil and water conditions and this is an area almost completely free of weeds."

As a result of these factors, he said, the company's production is in demand in American and world markets.

Processing and cleaning of seed is in full swing now, with the 1959 harvest practically over, Sater said. Busiest harvest time in this area starts in mid-July and runs until shortly before Labor Day.

Annual seed production in the county in the last year for which figures are completed totaled nearly \$1 1/2 million, with Merion bluegrass accounting for the biggest single varietal income, according to County Agent Ted Sidor.

Other major money crops in the seed business were Illahee red fescue, creeping red and chewing fescue. Various wheat grasses also added to the total as did timothy, bromo and meadow foxtail.

Most seed raised in the valley is the product of diversified farming operations, with a large number of plots being 40 acres or over, Sater said.

The largest English market is for chewing fescue, which is not produced in England but which has turned out to be particularly well adapted for lawns in that climate, Sater said.

Farm Bureau Office Has Official Start

ISLAND CITY (Special)—The Union County Farm Bureau office in Island City was officially opened Sunday with an open house.

The county office occupies a corner of the center building and will be open for business Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week.

Refreshments were served at the open house in the La Grande center hall.

Valley Farm-Ranch-Home

Bill Bebout, Editor



SKILL AND SAFETY
Combining skill with safety, Roger Schaad, La Grande, topped all other drivers to walk off with grand champion honors in 4-H tractor driving competition at the Oregon State Fair in Salem. Roger is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Schaad.

MORE PROOF...it pays to feed PURINA



John C. Keithley with one of his Suffolk stud rams. He likes large, blocky bucks with plenty of bone and sturdy legs to carry them over the rugged mountain ranges.

Produces top-quality range bucks on Purina

"I don't believe in pampering range bucks," says John C. Keithley, young Suffolk breeder who ranches near Midvale, Idaho. "We select for size, depth of body, ruggedness and bone," he added, "and we do our best to help these characteristics fully develop through proper supplemental feeding on the Purina Program."

That's the program more and more sheepmen are following these days... using the proper kind and amount of supplemental feeding to get the most out of their bands. We can furnish you with the details of Purina's research-approved feeding program. Stop in and see us when you are in town.

Union County Grain Growers

Elgin ISLAND CITY Alice
WO 3-5851



Big Wool Vote Urged

ISLAND CITY (Special)—Roy Leonard, chairman of the Union County Farm Bureau sheep commodity group, has stressed the importance for voting in the wool referendum vote in progress this month.

Leonard urged the vote so that an accurate picture of the desires of sheep producers can be obtained.

If the program is favored, one cent per pound on shorn wool and five cents per hundred-weight (live) on unshorn lambs would be deducted from wool incentive payments before reaching the sheepmen.

If the program is not favored by two-thirds of the voting producers or two-thirds of the production represented in the voting, no deduction will be made.

The ASC office is in charge of the voting being conducted under the supervision of the secretary of agriculture.

Livestock Club Meets

NORTH POWDER (Special)—The Mt. Carmel Livestock 4-H club held its last meeting of the year Tuesday at the school house.

They received their cards from Mrs. Lois Pratt, club leader.

Among Valley Farmers

By County Agents Ted Sidor and Charles Gavin

Cattle grub control—Two systemic insecticides are now available for control of cattle grubs. These are known as Co-Ral and Trolene. The Co-Ral is used as a spray and the Trolene is given orally in a bolus form. Excellent louse control has also been obtained with Co-Ral.

In the trials held over the state with some 1300 head of cattle, there was a 95% control with the bolus and 82% with the spray. However, in the trials in Union county, we had 100% control with the spray and around 92% with the bolus, and with the spray we had a good louse control.

Cattle can be treated now to Nov. 1, with other insecticide, however, if the spray is used, use a high pressure pump and wet cattle thoroughly. It would be best to treat them by the 15th of October, or before they have too much winter hair. Also, don't treat lactating dairy animals, animals undergoing stress or calves under 6 months of age.

Cattlemen, especially in the Union area or those who have grazed in the area, should vaccinate their cattle for Red Water right away. We have had more loss in this particular area from this disease than from any other and while we have them in, it would be a good idea for all cattlemen to vaccinate for Leptospirosis.

Some information concerning seed crops that may be of interest to you include Merion bluegrass which appears to be the best cash seed crop for 1959. Some growers are wondering if the trade will absorb more than the present production.

Newport bluegrass is a new strain. The Newport Association does not want an increase planting this year. This group plans to watch the acceptance of Newport bluegrass by turf consumers.

On Red clover, Kenland and Penscott are the two most popular red clovers. Red clover is an excellent rotation crop. There is usually a fair market for red clover seed.

On orchard grass, Potomac is still the most popular for seed production in Oregon. New varieties available include S-143, Akaroa, Pennlate and Larar. It is reported that S-143, Akaroa and Larar do not have enough winter hardiness for most of the orchard grass consuming areas.

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