

**MORE FARM ON PAGE 8**

# Billy Hindman Receives Top County Conservation Honors



## Farm Is Original Homestead

By TED SIDOR  
County Extension Agent  
ELGIN (Special)—Billy Hindman of Elgin, living on the farm homesteaded by his grandfather in 1872, has been chosen as the Union County 1959 Conservation Man of the Year.

Hindman as he is popularly known, his wife Rita, Shirley Ann B, Cody Jay 4, and Scotty Bill 3, live in the home situated on the site of the original log cabin home built in the late 1860's.

Following in his father's footsteps, Hindman has studied and practiced conservation since his early 4-H days. A member of various 4-H Clubs, his earliest brush with conservation came when enrolled in a 4-H forestry club.

Never forgetting his early training, he practices his forestry training on several thousand acres. He is known for his early adaptation of selective logging. At the present time he has adapted this practice to over 600 acres. Special treatment has been afforded to 100 additional acres where once tangled brush and small timber held back the growth of potential high producing trees.

Hindman has cleared the debris and pruned the trees of low lying limbs to the point where he has produced what is producing to a maximum.

Quick to see the advantage of this practice that allowed sunlight to penetrate the area and allow grass to grow, Hindman seeded the area and now cattle graze peacefully on lush pasture that not only keeps his herd of 100 cows in top shape, but has formed a mat that holds his soil from eroding.

On his farm land, he follows the same degree of care. A great believer in alfalfa and grass as a soil builder, every acre of Hindman's 1100 acres of cultivated land has had this soil conserving crop with the exception of 40 acres

# Valley Farm-Ranch-Home

Bill Bebout, Editor

## Treatment Of Winter Wheat Seed Is Again Suggested

Winter wheat seed treatment with H.C.B. is again recommended for fall plantings by Ted Sidor, Union county agent.

H.C.B. has proven active against stinking smut of wheat. It is superior to mercurial compounds for control of this disease in that it is effective against both seed borne and soil borne smut, where as the mercurials are effective only against the seed borne phase.

The protection against soil borne stinging smut is important because of the long duration of spores in infected soils. Smut was almost nonexistent in this year's wheat crop, therefore, wheat being used for seed should be clean and free of seed-borne smut spores. The danger of infection then comes from soil-borne smut and only H.C.B. (hexachlorobenzene) gives adequate protection against the phase of the disease.

Even with such smut resistant

varieties as Omar, the seed treatment is recommended. This is to prevent the propagation and distribution of races to which the resistant variety is susceptible. Already Omar has been attacked by a new race of smut in some areas, but as yet, none of this race has appeared in Oregon.

A number of Union county warehouses and farmers are equipped to handle the materials that will keep our resistant varieties available to use for a number of years if all farmers will use the H.C.B.

### HEAT STRAINS HEART

When the temperature stays above 83 degrees and relative humidity above 75 percent, the human heart must work overtime to pump blood to the surface of the skin. That is why hot, humid weather puts a strain on the heart.

which is presently in Merion blue-

grass. At the present time he rotates his crop land with crops of green peas, alfalfa and summer fallow. He recently discovered another sure way to conserve the valuable soil on his rolling hill farm.

During his pea planting, alfalfa is planted with the peas. The alfalfa is allowed to grow one year and then plowed under to provide the organic matter essential to soil conservation, but also supplies the nitrogen needed to produce bumper crops of wheat and other grains essential to his and the community economy.

Hindman, a good farm manager, recognized early in his farming career that shallow, soiled, erodible, hard to farm areas, sent more farm machinery to the scrap heap than it could pay for, has been establishing hay and pasture fields on these areas as fast as possible.

Using a basic mixture of alfalfa, intermediate wheatgrass and

smooth brome grass, fields of doubtful grain production now fill the eye with beautiful fields of green, lush growth.

Eight miles of open ditches and a mile or more of tile has been utilized to the fullest to divert and drain water that eroded and flooded valuable farmland. Strip cropping is used on steeper lands to hold easily erodible soils. Farm ponds also dot his land for better distribution of cattle and better utilization of this valuable asset.

Hindman is an interested and practicing conservationist that utilizes all the knowledge of research through the Extension office and technical help available through the Elgin Soil Conservation Service office to assist him in his farm plans.

An active community man, he at the present time, is a member of the Union County Livestock Association, Elgin Farm Bureau, Elgin School Board, Elgin F.F.A. advisory board, Elgin Stampeders and the La Grande Elks Lodge.

## WATER CONSERVATION AT HINDMANS

This farm pond, situated where cattle can get water in three pastures, is one of the examples of conservation on the Billy Hindman farm at Elgin. Hindman has been chosen Union County Conservation Man of the Year.

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**LYNN ANDERSON, WO 3-4676**

**4-H Horse Project Manual Available In Union, Wallowa**

A new illustrated manual for youths who enroll in 4-H club horse projects this fall is now available at the Union and Wallowa county extension offices.

Titled "Your 4-H Horse Project," the bulletin describes horse breeds, explains selection, feeding, care, equipment, and contains help on training horses.

Anyone between the age of 9 and 21 who owns a horse and agrees to meet the requirements of the project is eligible to join a 4-H horse club. Cal Monroe, state 4-H agent, said.

L. Marks, Wheeler county extension agent, is author of the new bulletin.




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