

LEON F. OLMSTEAD
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Office at Sandy Land Co.
Mondays and Saturdays
9 a. m. to 5 p. m. Ph. Sandy 261
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Gresham, Oregon

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"Notes by the Wayside"

Agent Discusses Timber in India, Effects of Lime on Soil Yield

By John J. Inskoop, County Farm Agent

A recent visitor to Clackamas county was P. C. Goswami, representing the Department of Forestry of India. Goswami accompanied Oregon and Washington farm foresters on the first day of their recent Clackamas county tour and displayed keen interest in accomplishments of our farmers in the field of timber management.

We questioned our visitor concerning certain phases of Indian forestry and he told

us that "the principal conifer of our mountains is cedrus deodara. In warmer zones mahogany is disappearing and this specie is being replaced by teak which grows more rapidly than mahogany and serves many useful purposes."

Cedrus deodara resembles the cedar of Lebanon and is found in many Clackamas county yards as an ornamental.

Lime Trials Interesting

Visitors who came to the Red Soils experimental area field day on May 28

there were over 300 of them — saw many interesting experiments but none more spectacular than the lime trials. These trials are conducted on land devoted to a

three year rotation of corn, oats and clover. On this range of land, with the exception of check plots, limestone has been applied at various rates twice since 1940. Total applications include rates of one-half ton, one ton, two tons and four tons per acre.

Clover yields vary in proportion to the amount of limestone applied. Total application of two tons appears to be about right as the clover is so heavy on the four ton plot that the crop has lodged badly. The check plots have grown mostly to plaitain and other weeds.

It seems to us that this experiment makes available the key to the beginning step in soil improvement in this county. Limestone is the initial step after legumes cease to thrive.

Rotation Valuable

What happens to land continuously planted to grain, a prevalent custom in Clackamas county until ten years or so ago? On the Red Soils experimental area are two plots planted to wheat continuously and two to oats since 1940. No fertilizer of any kind has been used on these plots.

Superintendent Jack McDermid says that wheat made only four bushels per acre on these plots last year and oats thirteen. Across the road where the soil has been limed and included in a rotation of corn, oats and clover, oats are making from 40 to 60 bushels per acre depending on the season and on methods of fertilization practiced.

More Study Needed

All of which is well and good, for we need some grain. But why are farmers who are building their soil with limestone, phosphates and legumes not producing a greater acreage of grain? Well, there are two answers.

The first is that grain will not stop erosion on many sloping fields. The next is that good pastures are making more feed per acre than grain, especially in the foothills.

We do need studies which would indicate the comparative pounds of meat and milk which can be produced from each. It looks now as if pastures have much the better side of the argument, admitting at the same time that dairy cows must have grain in addition to roughage.

Certification Requests Due

Certification deadlines for several important Clackamas county seed crops fall on July 1 and growers of certified crops are urged to file application at once, according to Hollis Ottaway, assistant county agent.

Grain, red and ladino clover, alta and Creeping red fescue, and potatoes must all be entered for certification within this time period. Certified potato acreage is

expected to increase in Clackamas county with slight increases in other certified crop acreages.

Horn Flies Coming

Warm summer weather means that horn flies will soon be putting in an appearance. They have already been observed in the Corvallis area and that means that "bossy" will have a mean switch in her tail. DDT is just the thing to take care of this condition by controlling the horn flies.

Tests carried out in some states indicate treated cows gained 42 to 51 pounds and calves gained 47 to 50 pounds more than untreated animals. Some dairy farmers report 5 to 15 percent more milk from cows treated with DDT than untreated cows.

One treatment of DDT should remain effective about two to three weeks, and perhaps longer, depending upon weather and other factors. It will go a long way toward making "contented cows."

Sport Show Under Fireman Auspices Will Aid Projects

Varied projects will benefit by the Sports Show to be held on Friday, June 25, under the auspices of 6 fire departments of eastern Multnomah and north-eastern Clackamas counties.

Sandy boxing and wrestling talent will take part in the show, scheduled for Gresham's high school gym.

Fire districts which are sponsoring the show and the projects for which funds will be used are as follows:

Boring Dist. No. 59, first aid equipment; Corbett, repair old and purchase new equipment; Springdale, purchase new equipment; Sandy, repair present equipment; Dist. No. 9 (12 Mile Corner), repair toys for Christmas distribution; and Dist. No. 10 (Powellhurst-Gilbert), emergency fund.

NOTES— FROM AIMS and BULL RUN

By Mrs. Tom Paul

Mrs. William Seidel, daughter Betty, sister Helen Domaschofsky and Niece Patty Jo motored to Ontario for a two week visit with Dr. and Mrs. Ben Daniels. The People of Bull Run and Aims want to thank Harvey Kubitz for the time and effort

he is putting in on the roads of this district. We feel that the roads are being sadly neglected in this part of the county. Two evenings of last week Harvey stopped his crusher and had the operator bring him up between Bull Run and Aims to set flares where a serious washout had occurred. He also put in several yards of fill for the safety of those who use the road.

Charles Paul, Bull Run, is in Sitka, Alaska. He writes that he likes Alaska fine and had a nice boat trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bridges and Mrs. Merle Martin, Jr., of Aims went to Corvallis Sunday and Monday to attend baccalaureate and commencement exercises at Oregon State college where Mr. and Mrs. Bridges' daughter, Shirley, received her B.S. degree in chemical engineering.

Joe Yoerger, Jr., lost his garage and chicken house last week by fire believed to be caused by firecrackers.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Baker are the parents of a baby daughter, Norma Elaine, born June 4 at Portland Sanitarium.

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