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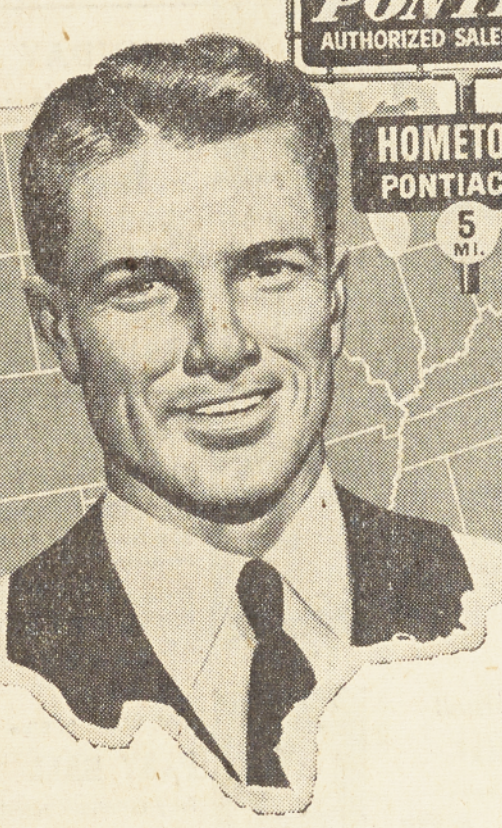
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Inskeep Thinks Lack of Humus May Be Answer to Small Berry Crop

By J. J. Inskeep

What caused low strawberry yields this year? The one who attributes low yields to any one factor is probably sticking his proverbial neck out a mile but we can do a little speculating. We are inclined to think that a hard winter and dry weather during April and May were major factors plus the usual share of disease, weevil and frosted blossoms.

They all add up but we wonder a bit if certain changes in management practices may not be desirable in the offing. We wonder if we haven't maybe, hit an average without some changes in management. The fact that we had an exceptional year in 1948 doesn't alter the picture.

J. R. Meyers, Sandy, route 1, came into the Sandy office last Wednesday to discuss this very thing.

"How come," he asks, "That my berry field, which yielded so high last year, went haywire this year?"

Maybe Soil Management

This is a typical and pertinent question and we don't like to say for sure but we went into the background of soil management of this field.

J. R. went on to say that his farm was kicked around and "squaw farmed," prior to the time he purchased the place in the early forties.

"I plowed under two cover crops," he said, "And planted certified plants in 1947. In 1948 I had a bumper yield and this year practically a failure."

What we suspect is that two years of cover cropping followed each season with summer fallow for weed control, is not adding enough humus to the soil to produce two full crops of berries. The same may be true of many other fields.

High Soil Temperatures

Just because we plow under lots of organic matter in the spring doesn't mean that it is to be found there in the fall. We have learned that high soil temperatures or summer fallow may be responsible for oxidizing or, in plain words, burning out humus. We know this is true in the Columbia basin wheat area and in other places where summer temperatures are high.

Maybe this is happening here. In discussing this with J. R. he said, "Yes, I have noticed that these old fields which have been abandoned and allowed to grow up to weeds and grass for a period of years produce better berries than carefully tended green manured, summer fallowed fields."

Less Humus Burned

The point is this: soil temperatures are much lower in fields covered with grass the livelong summer. Naturally less burning out of humus takes place under these conditions.

No one can discount the importance of humus for strawberry plant food and for catching and retaining moisture.

George Waldow, U. S. D. A.'s

tomologist located at O. S. C. was a Clackamas county visitor last week when he looked over berry variety trials at Harold Buchner's at Boring, a fertilizer trial at Ed Day's, Rosemonts and performance of certified plants from various sources and Ben Elmer's.

Humus May Be Answer

As we rode along he said out of a clear sky, "Do you know, Johnny, I am coming more and more to believe that humus is the answer to many of our strawberry troubles. Diseased plants even produce pretty well when we have lots of humus."

Church Services

Sandy Community Church
Rev. Waldo Hicks, Pastor
9:45 a. m. Sunday school hour.
Mrs. R. S. Hall, Supt.
11 a. m. Church worship. Junior church in annex. Mrs. Waldo Hicks, leader.
7:00 p. m. Christian Endeavor.
Mrs. Joane Christie, president.
8:00 p. m. Evening services.

St. John's Catholic Church
Welches
Rev. W. J. Delplanché, Pastor
11:00 a. m. Sunday Mass.

Pleasant Home Baptist Church
Proctor Ave. in Pleasant Home
10 a. m. Church school.
11 a. m. Morning worship.
7 p. m. Young people's meeting.
8 p. m. Evening service.
7:45 p. m. Thursday. Prayer service.

First Baptist Church
L. C. Des Voigne, Pastor
Services held in Sandy Woman's club hall.
10:00 a. m. Sunday school.
11:00 a. m. Sermon by L. C. Des Voigne, pastor.
7:50 p. m. B. T. A.
7:45 p. m. Evening worship.

The Chapel of the Hills Community Church
Bus service from Rhododendron
Thyra E. Funk, Minister
9:45 a. m. Bible school.
11:00 a. m. Worship service.
7:30 p. m. Evening worship.
Wed. 7:30 p. m. Mid-week service.

Friendly Corner Methodist Church
Pleasant Home, Gresham, Oregon
Mark A. Chamberlin, Pastor
10 a. m. Sunday school.
11 a. m. Morning worship.

Assembly of God
Services are held in the Sandy Woman's Club.
Arlene Berglund, pastor
2:30 p. m. Sunday School.
3:30 p. m. Worship service.

St. Michael's Catholic Church
Sandy
Rev. W. J. Delplanché, Pastor
9:30 a. m. Sunday Mass.

Seventh Day Adventist Church
Ronald J. Kegley, Pastor
Dr. W. J. Gardner, John Edwards and W. E. Boeck, elders
9:30 a. m. Sabbath school.
George Stiles, superintendent.
11:00 a. m. Preaching service.
Wednesday, 7:30 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting.
Friday, 7:30 p. m. Young People's meeting.

Cottrell Community Church
M. E. Erickson, Pastor
10:00 Sunday school.
11:00 Morning worship. Sermon from I Corinthians 5.
7:30 Evening service. Rev. and Mrs. Elvin Fast will sing. Rev. Fast will be the guest speaker.
8:00 Tuesday evening. Bible study and prayer service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nat Carstens of Boring.

Christian Science Church
Held in Sandy Masonic Temple at 11 a. m. every Sunday. Lesson sermon: "Christian Science." All are invited to attend.

Sandy Baptist Chapel
E. L. Rodda, Pastor
Arnold Buystedt, Supt.
Sunday, June 26, 1949
10 a. m. Unified service. Sing. inspiration. Object lesson. Classes for all. Morning music special: Solo by Billy Bruner. Sermon: "Hedged About."
7:30 p. m. Evening classes: Young people. Children's meeting. Adult Bible Class.
8 p. m. Evening service. Message: "The Hope of Eternal Life."
Tuesday, June 28, 8 p. m., Men's meeting, at the chapel. Bible study and fellowship.
Wednesday, June 29, 8 p. m., Midweek praise, prayer, and testimony meeting, at the Chapel.

Boring Community Church
9:30 a. m. Sunday school.
10:30 a. m. Morning service.
6:30 p. m. Youth fellowship.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
N. E. Dey, Pastor
Mrs. Ronald Krebs and Carl W. Middeldorf, Teachers
Sunday, June 26
9 a. m. First morning service. Sermon by the pastor, "Excuses That Do Not Excuse."
10 a. m. Sunday Bible school. Classes for children and adults.
11 a. m. Second morning service. Sermon as above.
7:30 p. m. Walther League youth fellowship. Business meeting and topic study.
Wednesday. Communion counsel between the hours of 1 and 5:30 and 7 to 10.
Thursday, 8 p. m. Sunday school staff.

Crop Insurance Here by 1950 Says OSC News Release

Farmers in one of four Oregon counties may have the opportunity before the start of the 1950 crop year to obtain insurance coverage on the bulk of the crops they raise, under provisions of new multiple crop policies written by the federal crop insurance corporation.

Principles for multiple crop insurance have been worked out on a trial basis in Michigan and Minnesota since the start of the 1948 crop year, it is revealed by Murl E. Cummings, Spokane, Oregon, Washington director, federal crop insurance corporation.

By 1950, Cummings states, the multiple crop insurance program is expected to be available in all states.

In Oregon, meanwhile, recent action by the state PMA committee makes possible the sponsorship of the multiple insurance program in either Washington, Clackamas, Lane or Linn counties for the 1950 crop year. Final arrangements have not yet been announced.

Federal crop insurance coverage in Oregon is limited now to wheat. Only growers in Gilliam, Sherman, Umatilla, Union and Morrow counties are eligible for wheat crop insurance coverage as the sponsoring legislation now stands.

Multiple crop insurance, Cummings points out, is hoped to be the answer for crop insurance coverage in a diversified area such as the Willamette valley. As proposed, farmers will be able to obtain insurance on such crops as oats, barley, wheat, the vetches, Austrian winter peas, as well as certain other seed crops.

Cummings emphasizes that no plans have been announced as to which county will be the first in Oregon to offer multiple crop insurance.

Regardless, then, the future of the strawberry industry is likely pretty well tied up with the percentage of humus we can build up in the soil and grass is a good humus builder. Right here we can throw in our two bits worth again by opining that commercial fertilizers for strawberries are of secondary importance. Sometimes they promote more weed growth than strawberry yields.

That is one reason that Bub Nelson and Glen Shaeffer have started resting their land with alta fescue. As we passed Bub's place at Kelso this morning we noted that his late May planted rows of alta are showing up.

Harold Bushne, Boring says that he expects to plant 15 acres to certified alta in rows next spring.

Of course we don't like weeds in strawberry fields. Weeds make picking more difficult and take out some of the moisture. Just the same when we have a good season with exceptional moisture, like 1948, weeds seem to make little difference in the yield.

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Franks for a quick meal or picnic lb. 45¢
Sliced Bacon ends & pcs, lb. 23¢
SWIFT'S
Cheddar Cheese Swift's, lb. 49¢
Pork Roasts Shoulder lb. 45¢
Stringless and no waste
Cube Steaks lb. 75¢
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