

Development without trees not improvement

By WILBUR W. BURKHART
Area Extension Agent

Now that we have your lawn planted and the talk about the kids dragging dirt into the house is a thing of the past, we'll do a little thinking about the additional plants you wish to put about the yard.

One of the disturbing things about the process we call "development" and "improvement" of the community is the net result of the efforts. How many times have you

seen a city lot or a tract of land in the country swept clean of all trees to make room for an "improvement?" Sometimes this involves several lots.

When everything has been built and the debris cleared away from the development, what has the community really gained? You usually have many square feet of concrete or asphalt and a pile of wood, concrete and steel or brick called a building. Add a few bright lights and this is im-

provement—or is it?

What is to take the place of the large trees that fell before the blade of the bulldozer?

Usually a few low growing bush pines or other small plants are put into some openings or strips of exposed soil that is really too small an area to properly support plant life.

How much leaf area has replaced that which was lost? Not much! A majority of the developments use plant materials in a quantity that

amounts to only a fraction of a percent of the original trees that grew there.

The species used today are of the smaller types that will not offer the amount of mature growth to replace that which formerly stood on the site.

Repeat this story over and over again at each place where construction is carried out.

If the environment for man and animals is to be repaired, more is required than is currently being done in a

majority of the new construction projects underway. Some of our planners and developers are doing good jobs and planting trees in a manner that involves much expense

Others protect the natural growth and disturb it as little as possible by utilizing the open spaces for buildings and parking lots.

Urban renewal projects often place more plant materials in the area than existed before but

sadly enough this practice is not used to the extent necessary to equal that being lost when an entire state or nation is considered.

We have made significant strides in cleaning up rivers and streams but there is yet a great distance to go. Air pollution is being greatly reduced by mechanical devices and restriction on the activity of man.

Trees, not a few small shrubs, are needed on every

development in numbers not just equal to those lost but greater if we are to hold our own.

From the trees will come the oxygen they release as they utilize carbon dioxide for growth. This makes the air better to breathe.

At the same time we gain an accoustical effect to combat noise pollution of our home, city and country.

We haven't all the answers as to the quantity and types of

vegetation that puts noise from the existing level to a more acceptable point, but we know it is a valuable aid. As we search for more definite answers, it becomes the job of each citizen to discourage further destruction of any tree until it has been determined that no alternate course of action can be taken.

As a condition for tree removal, we, perhaps, need to specify the exact action to be taken to offset the loss.

Riding academy planned

A public hearing on a petition to allow a boarding stable and riding academy at 16711 SE McKinley will be conducted by Multnomah County Planning Commission July 11 at 2:50 p.m. in the county courthouse.

The property is now zoned R-20 (single family residential) and the request would require a change to C-S (community service).

The petitioners are D. Stanley Boggs, P.O. Box 133333, Portland; Esther Jenne, P.O. Box 171, Sandy, and Williams Nichols, 5915 SE 174th.

Fungus diseases discussed

When you start to make Bordeaux spray for control of fungus diseases, your memory may not get all details in proper order and the results are a sloppy mess that gets the tree wet but doesn't do much to stop plant disease infections.

OSU plant pathologists have published a set of concise instructions that enable the beginner to make perfect bordeaux spray time after time.

All that is needed is a set of simple scales and vessel for accurate measurement of water. From then on its a matter of combining and mixing the ingredients in proper order to compound the spray mixture with good fungicidal quality.

Wilbur W. Burkhardt, area extension agent, says the spray is not new but dates back to France where it was discovered by accident when a farmer mixed a horrible concoction to prevent passing school children from stealing his grapes.

Not only did the sprayed grapes repel the scholars but were of higher quality as well. The mixture was found to prevent mildew and because of the location of the farm at Bordeaux, France, a new spray was born and named.

Bordeaux spray is made by combining copper sulfate, lime and water in the proper order and in the correct quantities.

When done according to the directions, the spray is much like a gel and adheres well to tree branches and foliage.

Disregarding instructions produces only a temporary suspension noted for quickly settling from the water and of such low quality that little benefit is derived from its use.

Copies of easy to follow instructions that permit mixing in the spray tank are available without cost by writing to "Bordeaux" P.O. Box 1491 Portland.



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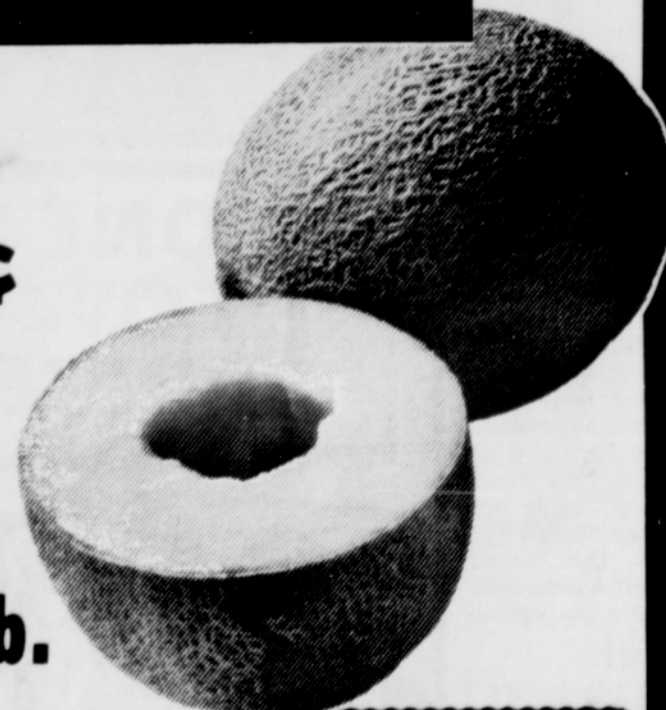


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