

THE OREGON WHEAT CROP

FURTHER REPORTS FROM VALLEY AND EASTERN OREGON COUNTIES.

Yield in the Valley Will Be Up to the Average—Some Damage East of the Cascade Mountains.

Reports on the coming wheat crop in the Willamette Valley show a satisfactory condition of affairs, and the yield from present indications will be fully up to the average of the few years preceding 1900, which is, of course, a high average. The weather conditions, however, do not appear to have affected the Valley crop as it has that of Eastern Oregon, and the aphids have almost disappeared. Umattila, the lower wheat country of the state, seems doomed again to fall below an average yield, the June frosts and continued cold winds having a disastrous effect on a crop which was early promising. From the river counties there is some complaint, but the continued demands for bags would indicate that a pretty fair yield will be secured.

CORVALLIS, July 11.—With binders ready to start in many fields next Monday, the indications for a grain crop in this county are unusually favorable, and the aphids which have been a menace for several successive years, is this year almost absent. It is reported as prevalent in but few fields, and only in small numbers.

The acreage is less than usual. The partial failure of last year, together with the low prices of several years, have caused many farmers to reduce the acreage in the direction of stockraising and dairying.

The usual wheat yield of Benton County for export is 60,000 to 70,000 bushels; of oats, 200,000. The yield of the wheat crop is about 35 per cent of the usual yield. With Fall grain now so far matured that damage to it may be done by rains, it is almost impossible, even with Spring-sown wheat unusually promising, but not yet out of danger from hot winds, there is every promise that the total wheat yield of the county should amount to a goodly amount, be far short of the usual surplus.

A 100-acre field on the Lee farm, operated by G. W. Lee, is of good quality, is very thick on the ground and has huge heads four inches long, already drooping with the weight of the kernels. A yield of 40 bushels per acre is predicted for this field. The grain is Oregon white winter. Oats on the same farm promise a yield of 40 bushels.

A field of red wheat on the farm of Jesse Walker, 12 miles southwest of Corvallis, is of remarkable excellence, and it is claimed will yield 30 bushels per acre. Six King, two miles west of Corvallis, has 16 acres of oats, shoulder high and thick, and all have been seen to predict a 40-bushel yield.

Wheat on the farm of Judge Moore, five miles north of Corvallis, is of good quality, and its yield is variously estimated at 30 to 35 bushels.

T. W. B. Smith, a local farmer, said yesterday: "The season is all that could have been asked for. The grain is in every way favorable for grain to fill; the prospect now is probably the best we have had in many years."

August Fischer, a local miller who has made trips of investigation into various parts of the county, said: "The prospect is splendid. The quality of the grain, barring accidents, will be the finest possible. The indications for Spring are equally good. The crop, in point of average yield, will equal if not exceed the very heavy crop of two years ago."

IN OLD YAMHILL.
Prospects for Over a Million Bushels of Wheat.

MC MINNVILLE, July 11.—Taking a dozen or more conservative farmers for a trip throughout the county, the wheat and oat crop of Yamhill County will be above the average this year. The 1900 average for the county was 117,841 acres of tillable land. It is safe to say one-half of this is sown to Fall and Spring wheat. Counting on 15 bushels to the acre, the yield of the county will be 1,000,000 bushels of wheat. The oat crop will run up near the 500,000 bushel mark. The barley crop, it is estimated by one of the most conservative of the county, will be 300,000 bushels. Of the wheat crop, this year Yamhill County will export at least 700,000 bushels. J. H. ROGERS.

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WASHINGTON COUNTY.
No Serious Damage From the Aphids and Fly.

HILLSBORO, July 11.—After careful estimates, based upon the present condition of Washington County crops, it is safe to say that the harvest this year, as regards wheat, will be better than any for the past three years. This county, with a full crop, generally harvests about 600,000 bushels of wheat, affording at least 400,000 bushels for export. The county has several large acreages of wheat, and the export will be in flour. The Heslian fly and the aphids have doubtless done some harm, but not sufficient to cut the yield generally.

Douglas County.
ROSEBURG, July 8.—At present the indications point to a crop of wheat slightly below the average in yield, although the acreage in Douglas County is as large as usual—probably a little in excess of last year's. The opinion of a number of farmers is that the yield will not average over 10 or 12 bushels to the acre. Very little if any of the wheat raised in this county this year will be for export. So far the crop is in good condition, and with favorable weather the quality of the grain will be first class.

More Cherry Shipments.
EUGENE, July 11.—Large quantities of cherries are being shipped every day to the California market by various Eugene firms. The Seattle Fruit Co.'s agents are also securing numerous consignments for Puget Sound points. The fruit is of excellent quality and sells easily at a good price. About 250 cases of fruit will be put up at the local cannery.

UMATILLA COUNTY.
Cold Weather and Frost Reduced the Yield and Affected the Quality.

PENDLETON, July 11.—The wheat crop of 1900 was estimated by those well informed upon the subject to be less than 1,000,000. The crop this year, from present indications, based upon a comparison of the yields from sections as far as reported to be about 1,000,000 bushels. There were frosts on June 5 and 7. Shortly thereafter there were cold winds. It was believed that the frosts did but little damage. An inspection of wheat fields during the past five days has made it apparent that the winds have been very damaging. The wheat has been killed as it should. As a result not much of the crop will be No. 1 in grade. These estimates are based upon the observations of the best informed farmers.

One feature which greatly increased the yield of wheat in Umatilla County in 1900 was the fact that many fields of volunteer wheat made as high as 25 bushels to the acre. There will be practically no volunteer wheat this year. Spring wheat gave good results in 1900. It will be very

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