

STOCKMEN AND FARMERS TELL OF PROFIT-MAKING IN OREGON



GOATS ARE NOT ONLY PROFITABLE FOR MOHAIR BUT USEFUL IN CLEARING BRUSHY LAND

HOG RAISING IS IMPORTANT SOURCE OF REVENUE

SHEEP ON THE EASTERN OREGON RANGE.

HOGS BRING LARGE PROFITS

Farmer Tells Best Methods of Raising Fat Porkers for Market Learned by Actual Experience.

By B. L. Dant, Manager Albany Commercial Club.

THAT the breeding of hogs is an industry that means big profits to the Oregon farmer is conclusively shown by the experience of Edward School, a well-known and highly successful stock breeder of Linn County, whose farm is situated within two miles of Albany. Mr. School's farm of 120 acres is the mecca for buyers of prize breeds, and he has won more championship medals than any breeder of hogs in the Pacific Northwest. Mr. School's experiences in the breeding of fine hogs may be studied with profit by the farmers of the Willamette Valley generally.

"In starting to raise hogs," said Mr. School, "the farmer must in the first place select some good breed of stock that he wishes to handle. I raise the Ohio Improved Chester White hogs. They are good stock to turn on grass, and weigh from 200 to 250 pounds at from six to eight months of age. I showed one at the Lewis and Clark Fair that weighed 250 pounds, under six months of age. With ordinary care, they will weigh from 200 to 250 pounds. They raise large litters of from 10 to 15."

For feed, Mr. School prefers rape sowed from May to June for early fall pasture, then vetch will pasture the rest of the winter until the clover comes on, which is after April. Three acres of clover will pasture 20 head of hogs during the summer, and about the same amount of rape will keep them during the fall months until April and May. Dairying hogs work well together because after stock is taken off the pasture, a crop of vetch can be raised which will bring 20 bushels to the acre.

Farmers can raise hogs much cheaper here than in the East, declares Mr. School, because of the easy feed problems. Stock can run out on green clover and hogs work well together because after stock is taken off the pasture, a crop of vetch can be raised which will bring 20 bushels to the acre.

For feed, rape, vetch and clover can all be raised successfully, while other feed such as kale, mangeworms, etc., can be raised even cheaper, but with a little more work. Oregon farmers are not awake to the value of the hog-raising industry, declares Mr. School. There are farmers in Linn County who own their own farms who are not raising hogs for their own consumption.

Mr. School has been raising hogs for nine years for breeding purposes alone, and has never been able to supply the demand for breeding stock. He raises about 100 head a year and usually keeps 50 to 75 per cent for breeding purposes.

At the last four fairs: The Oregon State Fair at Salem, the Pacific National Fair at Portland, the Washington State Fair at North Yakima and the Interstate Fair at Spokane, Mr. School won 57 prizes, 47 of which were first prizes and four champion prizes, all for the one herd of stock. Mr. School also won \$71 in cash prizes at the four fairs, besides the championship medals and diplomas. Last year Mr. School won all the champion prizes at the three fairs and secured two-thirds of all the first prizes.

Heretofore, Mr. School has farmed large acreage, but he says the days of

large grain farming are past, and it is his intention to run a stock farm of all pure breeds. He now has a band of registered Hampshire sheep, a herd of registered Jersey cattle and a herd of hogs, besides much fancy poultry.

Regarding the hog industry in the Willamette Valley, Dr. James Withycombe, director of the Oregon Experimental Station, says:

"The field is unquestionably good for developing a great hog-producing industry in Oregon. To my mind this is one of the most neglected industries of Oregon. For some reason the farmers have not taken hold of the matter with the zeal that is at all commendable. The time will come when we shall be producing the very best hogs for bacon purposes upon the forage plants and grains grown in this section of the state. I presume the reason for the neglect of the hog is due to the early association with the farmers of the Middle States, where corn was associated with the hog industry. We can grow corn here for fall feeding profitably. However, it is not necessary to grow corn. With clover, vetch, alfalfa and rape for summer pasture, the hogs can be finished cheaply on barley that can be grown with less expense than corn, bushel for bushel.

The pork product is better when barley is the corn-fed pork. The best bacon in the world is produced from peas and barley, both of which can be grown here.

"At this station we have been doing some experimental feeding with hogs and find we can produce pork at a cost of about 4 cents to 4½ cents per pound. This includes the cost of all feeds consumed. This gives a good margin of profit at the present commercial value of hogs. We have also obtained as much as \$1 per hundred for skinned milk when fed to hogs in the proportion of three pounds of milk to one pound of grain. This, however, is abnormally high, but there should be no difficulty in securing 50 cents per 100 for skinned milk. Thus it will readily be seen the hog is a very valuable auxiliary to the cow.

"There is another feature of the hog industry in Oregon, that is favorable, and that is there is less predisposition to disease than in the corn states. This is evidently due to the variety of feed that is consumed, which can be easily grown. We have endeavored to inaugurate a campaign of education in behalf of the industry here in Oregon and hope this may have some influence in stimulating the industry in the near future."

SOIL IDEAL FOR GARDENING

By N. D. McCall.

GENERAL conditions of soil and climate in Douglas County and the vicinity of Roseburg are most favorable to the production of choice vegetables. The great Umpqua Valley embraces a scope of territory as large as some Eastern states, and here we find a correspondingly wide range of soils, which render possible the selection of just the conditions suitable for the highest development of any given crop.

For diversified truck growing the rich, deep, fertile, alluvial loams characterizing the river and creek bottoms will be found ideal. This section is well known as having the warmest winter climate in the state and north of the Sacramento Valley, in California. This gives the Douglas County grower an immense natural advantage in reaching the big city markets in time to profit by first high prices. Tomatoes, cauliflower, peas, etc., from here are first in the Portland markets, as well as strawberries, the first shipments of Oregon berries for a number of years coming from this county.

Now as to profits: Very much in this, as in other fields, depends upon the management and executive capacity of the man behind the work. Diligence and capability reap a reward here as elsewhere.

The statement may surprise some that much more skill and thought are required in the profitable and intensive cultivation of five or ten acres than in the ordinary working of a 100 or 200-acre farm, and incidentally the profits may be greater. The writer finds that considerably more profit is derived from three or four acres in vegetables than from all the remainder of a 20-acre place, seven acres of which is in good bearing orchard. Prox-

imity to a metropolitan city would mean more profit, of course, but a rapidly growing town of 6000 affords a good local market, and the cheapness of land allows a man of small means to make a start, whereas he might not be able to get a foothold near one of the larger centers of population. Generally speaking, from \$20 to \$1000 an acre gross returns may be realized, the latter figure for special, highly intensified crops, such as celery. Tomatoes prove very remunerative. A canner, sorely needed at this place,

OREGON'S DAIRY OUTPUT.

Dairy products of Oregon for the past year amount to a large total value. The figures given by J. W. Bailey, State Dairy and Food Commissioner, for the value of all dairy products during 1908, is \$17,200,000. This is divided among the various items as follows:	
Creamery butter.....	\$3,950,000
Dairy butter.....	800,000
Cheese.....	1,200,000
Condensed milk.....	2,100,000
Ice cream and cream other than used for butter and cheese.....	2,000,000
Milk for domestic use from the East, while the surplus of Oregon eggs during other months finds a market in Puget Sound cities and Alaska. During the past year it has been estimated there were shipped from Oregon 15 cars of eggs, valued at \$25,000, and 100 cars of poultry, valued at \$300,000.	1,000,000
Total.....	\$17,200,000

when not running on fruit, could secure an abundance of high-class tomatoes, sweet corn, peas, string beans and the like, which would profitably lengthen the season of operation.

A factor greatly in favor of profitable truck growing in this section, in contrast to colder territories, is that nearly all varieties of vegetables thrive here in the open ground all winter; thus, returns are flowing in at all seasons of the year.

while in the Eastern states the freezing of the ground for several months in winter brings all garden operations to a close. On December 21, 1907, a lot of vegetables was marketed in Roseburg consisting of 12 different varieties, viz.: cauliflower, celery, lettuce, turnips, mustard, parsnips, beets, carrots, cabbage, radishes and parsley, all grown in the open ground without any protection whatever. Not a bad showing for any climate at midwinter.

Poultry Raising Is Profitable

By P. A. Cappard.

CONSIDERING the amount of money invested and labor required, the poultry business has proven to be the most profitable industry in the vicinity of Oakland, Or. Climatic conditions that are ideal, fertile soil to produce all varieties of grain for feed, transportation facilities good and charges low, nearness to the best market on the Pacific Coast (Portland) are reasons why poultry raising at Oakland is a good paying proposition.

The aggregate shipments of all kinds of poultry from Oakland for the year 1907 were approximately 190,000 pounds. 140,000 pounds of this amount bring live and dressed turkeys. The average price paid the growers last year was 17 cents a pound for turkeys and 12 cents a pound for other poultry. This means that the farmers of Oakland for the year 1907 received \$23,000 for live and dressed birds. Added to this \$5000 for the egg output, makes a total of \$28,000 of poultry products for the year.

On account of the prevailing high prices for grain due to the past year the shipments for 1908 have not been quite so heavy as the previous year, but prices realized were correspondingly higher. One hundred and one thousand pounds of live and dressed turkeys, 54,000 pounds of chickens, ducks and geese and 520 cases of eggs were shipped from Oakland during 1908. The average price paid for turkeys was 21½ cents a pound, for other poultry 13½ cents a pound, for eggs 25 cents a dozen, the aggregate amount paid the growers for these products during the year being \$24,250.

The above figures are as near accurate as it is possible to secure them, the amount paid the growers being furnished by the buyers, and the total shipments being the quantity forwarded by express.

In September the Government contracted with a Portland firm for turkeys for the Philippines. This firm placed an order for 25,000 pounds in Douglas County, and on September 30 Oakland alone shipped 38,000 pounds of turkeys on this order, for which the growers received 29 cents a pound, live weight.

An important feature in the profitable production of poultry is the price of land adapted to this industry. In this vicinity there are thousands of acres of good land suitable for this business which can be had at very reasonable figures. The majority of farmers do not feed their birds, allowing them free range and what they can pick up in the barn lots, except just previous to shipping them they feed them for about two weeks to put the birds in good market condition. If those engaged in the poultry business in this locality were to devote as much time to the proper selection and care of their flocks as they do to other branches of the livestock industry, the returns would be double the figures enumerated above.

Small Dairy Nets Big Profit

By Olof Erickson.

I TAKE pleasure in writing of my experience and success with a small herd on a small dairy farm in Clatsop County.

I kept an exact account for 11 months of the money I made off of my farm of 34 acres with a herd of 18 cows, and find that I cleared \$1802 net. I kept this account at the request of the manager of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce, John H. Whyte, who will give any further desired information to inquirers about the business, which is rapidly becoming famous for dairying.

During those 11 months, ending December 1, 1908, I made 4133 pounds of butter, which was sold to restaurants and grocery stores in Astoria, my farm being located about 10 miles from that city. The prices per pound I got for this butter, given by me as follows:

January.....25½ cents
February.....26 cents
March.....26½ cents
April.....27 cents
May.....27½ cents
June.....28 cents
July.....28½ cents
August.....29 cents
September.....29½ cents
October.....30 cents
November.....30½ cents
December.....31 cents

I had no outside pasture, and on my 34 acres I had exactly 26 head of stock—18 cows, five heifers, two horses and one bull.

I sold a few hogs, two calves and some cauliflower, all of which is included in the profits mentioned.

CONDITIONS IDEAL FOR BEES

Busy Workers Fill Yellow Combs From Farm and Forest Bloom With Honey of Fine Flavor and Color

By P. A. Miller.

ON the west slope of the Coast Range, in Lincoln County, Oregon, many desirable elements go to make up a splendid bee country. The mild, equable climate, the absence of severe cold and storms and the extensive bloom and blossom that grow in profusion here are all capital for the beekeeper. It goes without contradiction that the money produced in this favored region ranks first in quality and flavor, barring none.

The quality being an established fact, it remains only to show that the industry is profitable, and, speaking from my own experience, I can say that I have found no other crop on my farm so remunerative, considering the labor and expense attached to it.

The season of 1904 was my banner year, with bees. The weather was fair throughout, being not too wet or cold in the spring and a very suitable summer. That season, from 20 colonies I received 1325 pounds of choice, high-grade comb honey, 300 pounds of second-grade comb honey and extracted 410 pounds, making a total output from the 20 colonies of 2045 pounds, or an average of over 100 pounds to the colony.

In addition, I permitted enough swarming to keep up the number of colonies. The honey from this crop averaged me 15 cents a pound, thus bringing me a return of about \$15 a colony. Counting out \$2.75 a colony for hives and other supplies, I had a net return of \$12.25 a colony. I take pride in saying that an exhibit from that year's crop of honey took three premiums at the Oregon State Fair for both comb and extracted honey, while an exhibit from the same apian year following was awarded a gold medal at the Lewis and Clark Exposition. The labor of caring for an apiary of 20 colonies that year did not exceed two hours a day for one man, and that only during the honey season of about three to four months.

The past Spring and Summer have been the poorest year I have had with bees. My colonies averaged 61 pounds each of marketable honey, giving a return of \$9.15 a colony. I find during a period of years that I can rely upon an average output of about 75 to 80 pounds of honey to the colony with reasonable care. The honey season extends in this region over a period of about three months for the best working colonies, though I have had colonies

make honey much longer. The bees first begin on the fruit blossoms, then the vine-maple and other forest blooms, then the foxglove blossoms, which grow here in profusion, and lastly the white clover bloom, which makes honey fit for the gods. These are the principal sources of honey for the bees. No crops for later blossoms have been cultivated here, nor do I think that it would pay to grow such crops while the wild bloom is in such profusion. The honey from all the sources mentioned above is of excellent color and the flavor is particularly fine.

Money in Raising Onions

By W. S. Hurst.

THE region contiguous to Aurora and Hubbard, as well as other parts of Oregon, is noted for the production of onions and onion sets, especially the latter. We have a soil here peculiarly adapted to the successful growing of onion sets, and the demand for this product from near and far is largely supplied by our growers.

Besides the proper soil, the successful growing of onion sets requires brains and experience, and the exercise of the best business judgment. In order to produce a firm, hard, long-keeping onion set, a properly proportioned commercial fertilizer is a necessary requisite, and our largest and best growers are regularly employing this means of improving the quality of their sets.

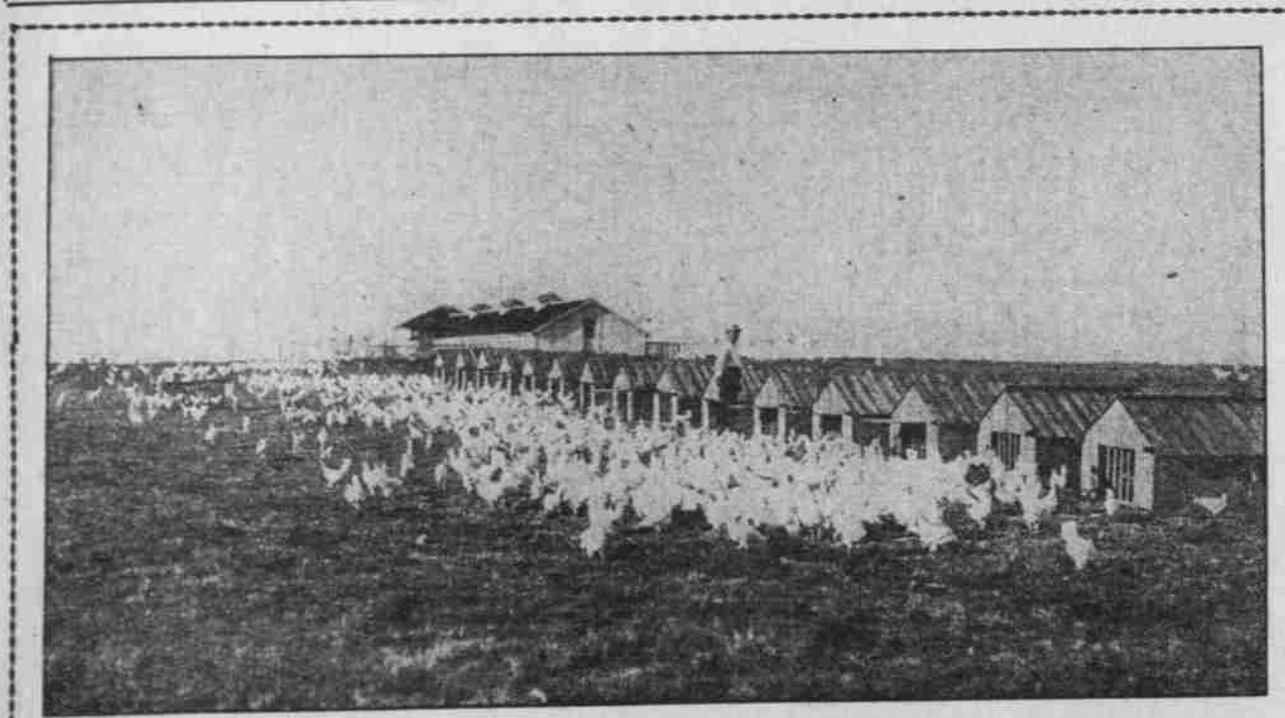
Onion sets are produced from onion seed planted in the early spring in rows about eight inches wide and about a foot apart, the planting being done in all the larger yards or grounds with a planter manufactured by one of our local onion set growers.

This person has also perfected machines for automatically cleaning and grading sets ready for shipment, and we understand there are others experimenting with similar machines, which are said to work very successfully. In order properly to handle a crop of onion sets, the grower must be equipped with well-constructed storehouses and a dry kiln for treating the sets before marketing.

At the present time the supply of onion sets about equals the demand from year to year, but with the general increase of the population of the West, the demand may be reasonably expected to increase proportionately. However, like the hop crop there is some danger of overproduction, and in order to guard against possible loss, the major portion of the entire onion set crop is contracted to dealers in advance. In this way the grower knows what he will receive for his crop, and the dealer knows when and from where his supply will come, and thus both grower and dealer work safely.

Farmers near Aurora raise over 500,000 pounds of onion sets each year and they are shipped to all portions of the West, and each year a number of carloads are shipped as far East as Utah and Colorado.

FINE POULTRY BRED IN OREGON



POULTRY-RAISING in Oregon, for many years carried on only as incidental to farming, has now come to be of importance as a separate industry. Many yards for the breeding of fancy poultry have been established in the Willamette Valley and other parts of the state, and flocks of exceptionally fine quality have been produced. The accom-

panying picture, showing a White Plymouth Rock flock in Southern Oregon, gives an instance of where poultry-raising has become a science in this state.

That there are good opportunities for others to engage in poultry-raising in Oregon is shown by the fact that eggs command an average price of 25 cents a dozen throughout the year in the whole-

sale market. In the Fall and Winter the state is obliged to import about two carloads of eggs each week from the East, while the surplus of Oregon eggs during other months finds a market in Puget Sound cities and Alaska. During the past year it has been estimated there were shipped from Oregon 15 cars of eggs, valued at \$25,000, and 100 cars of poultry, valued at \$300,000.

WOOL OUTPUT WORTH MILLIONS



SCENES such as that shown in the accompanying illustration, where thousands of flocks of wool are stacked ready for shipment, are not uncommon in Eastern Oregon. The range of that part of the state is well adapted to the production of wool on a large scale and this district is an important factor in the wool market of the country as

well as shipping large numbers of sheep to the markets of Portland and other cities. In the Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon, too, although large herds are not the rule, sheep of the finest breeds are raised both for wool production and mutton.

The past year has been a fairly successful one for sheepmen, although the average price for wool was from 12

to 15 cents a pound, or about 5 cents less than in 1907. The total output of the state during the past year is estimated at 18,500,000 pounds, with a value of approximately \$2,500,000. The great bulk of the wool output of the state comes from Eastern Oregon, the Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon being credited with only 1,500,000 pounds during the past year.