

FOOD 'CUKES' AND CELERY COIN CROPS

Likewise, Early Rhubarb and Asparagus Pay.

VALLEY GARDENS VISITED

Marvels of Cleanliness and Efficiency Noted in Greenhouses Where Growers Get Results.

BY INEZ GAGE CHAPEL

Having heard of some wonderful yields of cucumbers and rhubarb which were being forced for the early market not far from Portland, we determined to go and see for ourselves.

Oregon has always imported far too many things from California, which could as well—even better—be grown here.

This is also true of celery. A cannery man who manages several hundred acres of land near here told me that from \$150,000 to \$200,000 was paid out here in Portland every year by our people for celery grown and shipped to us from California.

Anybody Can Raise Celery. "Everybody can raise celery here; the climate is ideal for it," he said.

He said that in the habit of celery has been raised on an acre here, he had "seen it done," and that \$8000 worth could be raised from an acre if all conditions of soil, moisture, etc., were right.

These facts also apply to early—out of season—rhubarb and cucumbers. We have been in the habit of expecting these to be imported from California for our use long before it is possible for them to be raised out of doors by our growers.

But it is not necessary that this continue. Some enterprising market gardeners have demonstrated that it pays well to force these crops at home.

The gardener that we visited planned his cucumbers early in November and began shipping this on February 2. Last year he continued shipping his greenhouse cucumbers until about the first of July, but his brother shipped from his greenhouses until the first of September.

Plant Interesting Sight. It was surely interesting to walk down the aisles of this greenhouse and see the vines trained to run up to the very top of the tallest and appetizing looking "cukes" in profusion.

One fine straight cuke we noticed was 1 1/2 inches long, and they all were of the same size, straight and well formed, hence the most marketable kind.

I understand that the grower gets about 25 cents each for these cucumbers and they retail at about 40 cents each on the market. Mr. Scheurer did me the kindness of dropping about 40 dozen a week to Portland.

From here we drove about two miles over a good dirt road to the greenhouses, near Canyon, where the brother of Fred Scheurer. He lives near Fargo, a small station on the Oregon Electric railroad. Mr. Scheurer is associated with his father-in-law, Mr. Stonehouse, in operating two greenhouses devoted, like his brother's, to growing cucumbers exclusively.

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nels for this irrigation show between his rows. These channels serve to secure good drainage at present and to give raised belts for the sun to shine on both sides of the rows, warming the ground and forcing an early growth, which is also secured by his warm, soft, sandy loam soil, well enriched and pulverized.

LATE SPRING FAVORS FRUIT

Prospects at Prosser Are Reported as Exceptional.

PROSSER, Wash., April 25.—(Special.)—The spring crops, although somewhat later than usual, are coming on with a rush. It will not be long before the first cutting of alfalfa will be started and the strawberry patches soon will begin to produce those berries that last year brought \$6 a crate.

The late spring has been a favorable sign as far as fruit crops are concerned and there is every indication that the apple crop will be even as heavy as it was last year. Several Prosser farmers already have shipped several crates of asparagus to near-by markets.

Government Has Water in Storage. YAKIMA, Wash., April 25.—(Special.)—The water in the reservoirs of the Yakima project is now at a level which will permit the start of irrigation on the project.

OREGON CHERRY ORCHARDS RANK FOURTH IN PRODUCTION AMONG ORCHARDS OF STATE.

Greater Pollinizers than Others and It Has Been Discovered that If Trees of the High Pollinizing Variety are Planted in the Orchard the Production on All Trees Will be Considerably Increased.

After extensive experiments, the horticulture department of Oregon Agricultural College recommends three varieties as the most efficient pollinizers for these sweet cherry trees that are planted so generally.

There should be at least one pollinizing tree for each six or eight of the main variety, it is now understood, and most important of all there must be a good pollinizer in bloom.

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CROSS-POLLINATION NEEDED BY CHERRIES

Discovery Claimed to Be Victory for Orchardists.

BEEES ARE GREAT HELP

Experiments Prove Value of Using Hives in Orchards Besides Varieties of Fruit.

GARDEN HOME, Or., April 25.—(Special.)—Cross-pollination has been discovered to be the secret of abundant cherry production, according to results of recent experiments which have been carried out along this line.

Some varieties of cherries are much better pollinized than others and it has been discovered that if trees of the high pollinizing variety are planted in the orchard the production on all trees will be considerably increased.

After extensive experiments, the horticulture department of Oregon Agricultural College recommends three varieties as the most efficient pollinizers for these sweet cherry trees that are planted so generally.

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silting the bark for they sometimes grow so fast they become hide-bound.

FARMERS RUSH TO BUY SILOS

Silage Declared Cheaper Than Hay at \$30 a Ton.

LA GRANDE, Or., April 25.—(Special.)—The recent buying of hay at \$30 a ton to take care of stock after the animals had been turned out on the ranges, and due to the heavy snows were driven back to winter quarters, has made Union county farmers and stockmen decide that it will be cheaper to raise sunflowers for silage, and as a result there is a rush on for silos in this city.

One firm alone in this city has sold about 100 silos to farmers of Willouva county, and within the last few weeks has disposed of 20 silos among Union county farmers. The majority of these food mixers were sold in the vicinity of Cove.

LARKSPUR POISONS CATTLE

Fencing of Infested Areas or Digging Out Plant Only Preventives.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXPERIMENT STATION, April 25.—(Special.)—Losses of cattle in western Oregon, due to their poisoning through feeding on the leaves and stems of larkspur, have been reported this year to the Oregon experiment station at Corvallis. This larkspur is said to be harmless to sheep.

The week of June 20 to 25, in addition to being Rose Festival week in Portland and national Shrine week, it also will be home industries week, if plans being drawn up by the Ad club and the Associated Industries of Oregon materialize. Nothing elaborate in the way of a programme along this line is contemplated, as the week already is filled to overflowing with the regular features of the Shrine and the Rose Festival organizations.

However, local merchants will be at the fore in the various events of an industrial nature, all for the purpose of bringing to the knowledge of the thousands of visitors here at that time the extent and quality of Oregon's manufactures.

The visiting committees from all parts of the country will be glad to obtain a knowledge of the resources and industries of this state, it is believed, and this can be given readily by displays in the store windows showing Oregon products. Many of the visitors will be coming to Oregon for the first time and will be anxious to obtain some knowledge along these lines in the short time that they are here.

It is also believed that many of the Shrine members from afar will seek to purchase Oregon products to take back with them as souvenirs of the visit.

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HOME INDUSTRIES WEEK JUNE 20-26

Oregon Boost During Convention Week Is Plan.

AD CLUB BACK OF MOVE

Committee Appointed to Obtain Window Display Space From Merchants for Exhibits.

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