

FRUIT and FARM

Breed Your Sows Now.

Washington, D. C.—Every breedable sow should be bred to bring a fall litter. It is important that all sows be used to increase the food supply, and no sow should be carried over the summer unbred. Fall litters are profitable. The pigs should come in early fall—September and October—so that they may be weaned and have attained sufficient growth to shift for themselves before cold weather arrives. The earlier the pigs come in the fall the cheaper their growth will be made on available pastures and the stronger they will be to withstand the winter. The period of gestation for a sow is approximately 112 days, so that a sow bred on May 15 would farrow about September 5. This means the sows must be bred for fall litters during the months of May and June.

All sows should be bred. Scruples over breeding immature sows should be forgotten. While in normal times most hog raisers do not breed the gilts earlier than eight months of age, sows will breed as early as five to six months of age. There are thousands of young gilts farrowed last fall and winter which will take the boar and should be bred this spring. By breeding them this spring the feed given them through the summer will have been more completely devoted toward food production. It will help to produce a greater meat supply and a supply ready for market six months earlier than if they were not bred until fall. Breeding such young gilts will have no bad effects on the farm herd. Results at the Missouri Experiment Station show that the young pregnant sow continues to grow under proper feeding and that the size of the litter is not appreciably reduced. Suckling pigs retard the growth of the young sow, but this permanent retardation of growth is small and of minor importance when the sow will produce a good litter of pigs.

Larger litters are obtained by flushing sows before breeding. This is done by feeding in such a way as to have the sows putting on weight at the time of breeding. The suckling sow should have her pigs weaned shortly before being bred. Her udder should be dried up by a reduction of feed. She should then be flushed and in a few days can usually be bred.

A good pure-bred boar should be used, preferably of the same breed as the sow or of that breed which predominates in the sow. This will result in a more uniform lot of pigs and an upgrading of the breeding herd. For the young gilts and small sows a

breeding crate may be necessary if the boar be large.

The pregnant sow should be fed a ration consisting of bone-making and muscle-making feeds. She should gain weight but not be made fat. Pasture with a small grain ration proves excellent for carrying the pregnant sow until she is almost ready to farrow.

Portland Daily Stock Report, May 15.

Cattle—Yesterday's market was rather a slow and sticky affair with about 1,000 head in the pens. Demand from killers was limited, due to the heavy purchases made last week. There was a very good demand from out of town butchers, which put some strength in the market and took quite a string at steady prices, although the bulk of the sales were on a lower basis relatively, ranging from \$10 to \$10.50. Medium grades of beef were the best sellers at steady prices, while prime steers sold mostly 25c lower. Common beef—that is, dairy bred stuff—suffered a loss of 50c. Several loads of prime heavy steers brought \$10.85, which was the top, with good light steers from \$10.25 to \$10.50. Medium grades sold around \$9.75 to \$10, with common steers down to \$8. There were only a few cows here, the best getting \$9.25 to \$9.50, with common stuff selling down to \$5. Best light veal calves sold steady at \$1.10; a bunch of baby beef heifers brought \$10. The general trend of the cattle market was slow, the pep it has shown the last few months being absent.

Hogs—Hog prices ranged mostly 10c to 15c higher. The top was \$16 for three loads, with another load at \$11.85. The bulk of sales were made at \$15.65 to \$15.75, with a few light loads down to \$15.50. Pigs suffered a severe setback of about 75c due to the heavy receipts of light hogs during the last few weeks, the bulk going at \$13.

Sheep—The sheep market is unchanged. Only a couple of loads of mixed valley sheep were here.

Time for Calyx Spray

Most of the Newtown and Spitzenburg apples on the floor of the valley have reached the proper stage for the calyx spray. This application should be made within a week after the petals have fallen. Spraying may be started when 90 per cent of the petals are off and should be completed within the week following. This is a very important application, and spraying should be done very thoroughly. The principal object of this application is to fill the calyx cup with arsenate of lead before it closes. In districts where scab is prevalent, it is advisable to combine the arsenate of lead with lime sulphur. Due to the fact that many growers did not make an application in the pink stage with lime and sulphur, it is important that this application be made at this time.

For apples, use lime sulphur, 1 gallon to 40 gallons of water, arsenate of lead paste, 2 pounds to 50 gallons, or arsenate of lead powder, 1 pound to 50 gallons.

Pear orchards that have been bothered with scab should be sprayed at

this time, but arsenate of lead will probably not be needed in all orchards. However, some injuries are being reported in various districts from leaf-eating insects, such as flea beetles, click beetles, sawfly-larvae, etc. Where such insects are working it would be wise to add the arsenate of lead in combination with lime and sulphur. For pears use lime sulphur powder, 1 to 50, and arsenate of lead paste, 2 to 50, or arsenate powder, 1 to 50. Atomic sulphur, 14 pounds to 100 gallons of water, may be used instead of the lime sulphur if preferred. Some new infections of scab have been found in different sections during the past week, and the cloudy and rainy weather is conducive to scab developments. Those who expect to use special oil emulsion combinations, confer with the county pathologist.

Late Crops for Stock Feed

There are several crops which may be planted very late which will afford a lot of stock feed. In many parts of Oregon corn may be grown for the silo and it affords a large yield of valuable feed for cattle and sheep. Nearly all parts of western Oregon will grow good silage corn and the same may be said of all but the highest altitudes of eastern Oregon. Roughage in eastern Oregon has been especially scarce the past winter and the indications are that it will be scarce again next winter. A silo full of corn in connection with hay is a wonderful help in wintering cattle and sheep. The eastern Oregon experimental station at Union has been getting extraordinarily good results with silage. Furthermore, silage will keep indefinitely and if not used this coming winter may be kept until needed. Cereals may also be sown for hay when it is too late to get a crop of grain. Bald barley makes very fine hay and oats and common barley are also good. In the drier, frostier districts rye is good.

There is a great deal of talk nowadays about the necessity of raising more livestock but livestock can not be grown without feed and there is no use talking about raising more livestock until more feed is produced at prices cheap enough to justify its use for feeding purposes. The man who accumulates a lot of stock without knowing where he is to get feed for them is only courting disaster, and, while his efforts might be inspired by the purest motives of patriotism, the result would be a detriment instead of a benefit to his country.—E. L. Potter, professor of animal husbandry, Oregon Agricultural college.

Preparing Eggs for Storage or Preservation

It is very essential that eggs for cold storage or preservation in water glass should be clean, yet they must not be washed. They must not be allowed to become damp, either by allowing rain to fall upon them or by storing them in a place which is alternately damp and cool and dry and warm. It is almost impossible to cold storage an egg which is allowed to become moist on the surface. Washing removes the mucous coating on the shell, thus allowing bacteria to penetrate the shell more easily. Dirty eggs should be discarded. The eggs should be stored in a clean condition in a dry, cool place.

Eggs collected in case lots for a central cold storage plant must never be stored, even for a short time, in the vicinity of a moisture condensation which appears on the surface of the eggs and causes bacterial growth.—T. D. Beckwith, professor of bacteriology at Oregon Agricultural college.

Final Word On Road Bond Bill

Much has been said in opposition to the good roads bond bill that has no bearing whatever on the measure and which could be designed only to poison and prejudice the voters against it. That being the case, the following pertinent facts are submitted for the information and thoughtful consideration of the impartial voter on the eve of the special election June 4:

This road bond bill proposes the issuance of \$6,000,000 twenty-five-year, four per cent bonds for the construction of a system of state-wide, hard-surfaced highways. The roads to be improved are designated in the bill and include the main traveled roads throughout the state.

Adequate revenue has been provided by statute for paying both interest and principal and retire the bonds at maturity without increasing taxes. The money derived from the increased automobile licenses and the existing quarter-mile state road tax will pay the interest and retire the bonds and leave a substantial balance for the construction of other roads not enumerated in the bond bill.

The increased automobile license and the state road tax are provided by statutes now in effect and will have to be paid regardless of whether or not the road bonds are voted at the special election June 4.

The automobile owner is willing to pay the increased license. All he asks is that the license money, which has to be paid anyway, be expended in constructing the roads proposed in the bond bill. The automobile owner will provide all of the money necessary to meet the interest charges and retire the bonds. He falls to see why there should be any opposition to the expenditure of the money so provided in the construction of good roads, in view of the fact that it is his money that will pay for the improvements.

All of the money raised from the bonds will be expended under the direction of the state highway commission, appointed by Governor Withcombe. The commission has announced that in expending the funds all sections of the state will be considered impartially. A dollar's worth of road construction for every dollar expended is guaranteed by the commissioners who have declared that they will purchase one or more paving plants and lay paving unless satisfactory bids are submitted by paving contractors. Ordinary common sense business principle will also govern the commissioners in their work of road building. Scarcity of labor and the reasonableness of war-time prices for materials will determine the time for inaugurating work and the scope of actual road construction. Road building will not be undertaken by the commission unless conditions are favorable.

Approval of the road bond bill, June 4, will be an indorsement of a plan that insures for the state the construction of a system of hard-surfaced roads with funds already provided by law and without increasing other taxes.

Vote 314X Yes, and help "Pull Oregon out of the mud."

Macleay Offers Big Money for Salmon

The salmon fishing season on Rogue river has opened with big pay for the fishermen. The Gold Beach Reporter referring to the fishing has to say:

An increased scale of prices for fish went into effect, the Wedderburn company now paying \$1 and \$1.25 for fish, an increase asked for by the union fishermen on the opening of the season. The highest price is paid where the fishermen furnish their own gear and the lesser price where the company furnishes the nets.

Numbers of outside fishermen have arrived during the past week, including some from the Siuslaw, and are getting ready for fishing operations. From 20 to 25 boats now fish the lower drift, where in the early days of Hume control, only three boats were allowed on the drift.

The cannery at Wedderburn this week shipped over 700 half cases and over 400 full cases of salmon, put up since the salmon season opened. A steady and fair run of fish continues and the cannery is in operation daily.

That Douglas fir can produce 1,754 board feet per acre has been definitely proved by foresters connected with the Portland office of the Forest Service, who have recently compiled figures from careful measurements taken in 1911 and 1916, on two half-acre plots in Lane county, Oregon, on the Siuslaw national forest.

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Give Uncle Sam Your Vacation

New York, May 23.—The United States government will receive the services this summer of nearly 5,000,000 men and women, if the "vacation service" movement started here is carried out according to the plans originated by Prof. F. B. Crocker, formerly of Columbia university and a past president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The movement means that the government will receive about 10,000,000 weeks, or more than 192,200 years of the time of these men and women, who will give their vacations to their country as their patriotic duty. Prof. Crocker expects that his plan will be adopted all over the country.

"Realizing that there are many who cannot enlist," he said, "and who are unable to participate in the liberty loan as heavily as they wish, this mean of national service was evolved.

"This war is the most serious crisis the United States has ever faced—the work of every man, woman and child is needed to bring it to a successful conclusion. Every hour given to the government is an hour gained in bringing the war to an early end. Understanding this, the 'vacation service' movement was started. Everyone in the United States that takes a vacation and it is estimated that there are five million such, can do his or her bit by giving their two weeks to government work.

"Thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of these are specialists in their various trades or professions—they can give the services of experts. Others can put in their time on the farms helping to solve the vital food problem of the world. Think what it would mean to the farmers if they were able to avail themselves of 100,000 years of the time of willing workers, who worked because they were patriotic! There are hundreds of

other tasks in which these patriots could help their country.

"Every person willing to do this should apply to the nearest government depot or arrange to spend their vacations on the farms. Organizations should be formed in every city and these should enroll the vacation workers and assign them to their tasks."

In this district the lead has been taken by the Crocker-Wheeler company, electrical machinery manufacturers of Amperé, N. J., whose engineering and clerical forces are enthusiastic over this chance to serve their country. Other large manufacturing concerns are falling in line and it is expected that thousands of their employees will give their vacations to Uncle Sam.

Pioneers of State Hunt and Fish Free

The last legislature made several important changes in the law regarding the granting of hunting and fishing licenses. A new provision is that pioneers who came to the state of Oregon prior to the year 1860 can now hunt and fish without having a license. Their identity must be established, together with proof that they are pioneers, by affidavit if necessary. The law also permits veterans of the Civil war and of the Indian wars to fish and hunt free. Special licenses will be granted to men in these classes.

Under the new law women may fish without licenses, but cannot hunt without a license. Boys over 14 must have licenses for either hunting or fishing.

The fee for hunting licenses was raised from \$1 to \$1.50 and the fee for fishing licenses was also raised from \$1 to \$1.50, and the fee for a combination license from \$2 to \$3. The new law went into effect May 21, and the higher rates are now in effect.

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