The Slogan Pages Are Yours; Aid In Making Them Helpful to Your Wonderful City and Section

SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

THE DAILY STATESMAN dedicates two or more pages each week in the interests of one of the fifty-two to a hundred basic industries of the Salem District. Letters and articles from people with vision are solicited. This is your page. Help make Salem grow.

NO PRIZES ARE AWARDED TO THE SCHOOL CONTESTANTS THIS WEEK

No prizes are awarded to the school contestants this week. The reason is that the articles submitted do not localize the cucumber industry; they are too general, copied from books instead of being secured with reference to the industry in this district. The Slogan editor will reserve the right to not make awards in the future when the articles submitted show that they are merely copied from books or bulletins. In every case, it is possible for contestants to contribute something of real value; something that will be both interesting and helpful—helpful to the city and section and helpful to the contestants. Look over the list of subjects. Take swine breeding, the one for next Thursday. Any breeder can tell you something that might help the industry and the country, and at the same time make a readable article. Get brass tacks facts; first hand information. Be original. Don't be afraid to be different; individual. Write to the point. The main thing is to get useful facts and write them in direct, simple language. Get the facts from those who know them; from books, too. But the important thing is to localize and individualize. Give names. Give credit to the people you interview. Tell how they do it. This adds value.

Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman

(Also In Weekly Statesman)

(With a few possible changes)
Loganberries, October 7, 1926
Prunes, October 14
Dairying, October 21
Flax, October 28
Filberts, November 4
Walnuts, November 11
Strawberries, November 18
Apples, November 25
Raspberries, December 2
Mint, December 9
Beans, Etc., December 16
Blackberries, December 23
Cherries, December 30
Pears, January 6, 1927
Gooseberries, January 13
Corn, January 20
Celery, January 27
Spinach, Etc., February 3
Onions, Etc., February 10
Potatoes, Etc., February 17
Bees, February 24
Poultry and Pet Stock, Mar. 3
City Beautiful, Etc., March 10
Great Cows, March 17
Paved Highways, March 24
Head Lettuce, March 31
Silos, Etc., April 7
Legumes, April 14
Asparagus, Etc., April 21
Grapes, Etc., April 28
Drug Garden, May 5.
Sugar Industry, May 12.
Water Powers, May 19.
Irrigation, May 26.
Mining, June 2.
Land, Irrigation, etc., June 9.
Floriculture, June 16.
Hops, Cabbage, etc., June 23.
Wholesaling, Jobbing, June 30.
Cucumbers, etc., July 7.
Hogs, July 14.
Goats, July 21.
Schools, July 28.
Sheep, August 4.
Seeds, August 11.
National Advertising, Aug. 18.
Livestock, August 25.
Grain & Grain Products, Sept. 1
Manufacturing, Sept. 8.
Automotive Industries, Sept. 15
Woodworking, etc., Sept. 22.
Paper Mills, Sept. 29.

(Back copies of the Thursday edition of The Daily Oregon Statesman are on hand. They are for sale at 10 cents each, mailed to any address. Current copies 5 cents.

THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW That Salem has become the headquarters and market center for a great cucumber industry; that more cucumbers ought to be raised under glass here, for the local and outside markets; that an increasing acreage is being devoted to the field cultivation of cucumbers, for pickles; that our pickling works hereabouts will grow in size; with additional salting stations at various points; that there is money in the raising of cucumbers here, either under glass or in the open; that, in fact, this is the best cucumber country on earth, and only awaits the right men with the right methods to push it further to the front in this field?

GROWING CUCUMBER FOR PICKLES; A RECENT BULLETIN OF THE COLLEGE

The Possible Average Yields Should Bring Around $225 an Acre, According to the Author—Picking Is the Chief Item of Expense in the Growing of Cucumbers for the Pickle Market

(Dated March, 1924, the following is a bulletin of the Oregon Agricultural college, the title being, "Growing Cucumbers for Pickles," and the number, Circular 211.)

In view of the fact that a set contract price is paid for the tonnage of pickles delivered, it is important that the grower be able to deliver as high tonnage as possible to the factory. The following suggestions, therefore, are made in reference to important factors which affect the yield of cucumbers in the field.

Soil—Cucumbers will grow on a variety of soils, but the yield will vary according to the characters which each kind of soil possesses. Land that is inclined to be sandy and light is usually deficient in humus or organic matter and dries out more quickly during the dry months, with a resulting short yield. On the other hand, a clay loam soil may become more packed and hard from heavy late spring rains or because of being tramped while picking. It may, for that reason, be somewhat unfavorable. A medium heavy sandy loam or a clay loam with plenty of humus in it are soil types that ordinarily produce the largest yields. Peat and beaver dam soils on account of their being able to hold moisture will produce large quantities of pickles per acre.

Land that has been previously well farmed, or new land entirely, are the types of soil best capable of delivering good yields. Cucumbers are gross feeders and will prove to be a losing proposition on any land that is showing symptoms of being worn out.

The moisture holding capacity of soil for cucumbers is one of the factors that determines whether the crop will be short or otherwise during the dry months. Strong growing vines are necessary for big yields and continuous production.

Fitting the Soil—Any soil intended for cucumbers should be plowed early and kept well worked up until planting time. This is necessary in order to kill the weeds, conserve moisture, to keep the soil loose and prevent packing, and to make plant food in the soil, and a fertilizer applied more readily available for the use of the plant. A finer and richer seedbed is also thus obtained. The land should be thoroughly worked down until it is as near as possible similar to an ash pile, so there may be quick germination of the seed and the moisture be held well during the dry months.

Fertilizers—No fertilizer gives better results for cucumbers than well rotted stable manure. If broadcast and plowed under, or if the manure is fine and short it can be utilized to better advantage by being thoroughly disked in. If manure is scarce it will have to be used by applying a fork full to each hill. In some cases, the manure is distributed in a furrow, which is plowed out every five or six feet, but this is ordinarily not so common a method as the broadcasting or the application of manure to each hill.

Commercial fertilizers may often be profitably used, either mixed together by the grower or bought already mixed in the form of the complete fertilizer, averaging 3 to 4 per cent nitrogen, 8 per cent prosphoric acid, and 10 per cent potash. Such a formula would require an application of about 100 pounds of nitrate of soda, 200 pounds of blood meal or dried blood, 300 pounds of superphosphate or bone meal, and 200 to 250 pounds of potash, either muriate or sulphate. Of this mixture 500 or 700 pounds could be used per acre, broadcasted over the cucumber area in late March or early April and lightly harrowed in. If the grower does not desire to home mix these materials he can purchase a complete fertilizer made up of similar simple fertilizers in a somewhat like proportion.

A most successful grower of pickles who has raised a very large yield per acre, manures well and before planting applies 500 pounds of good fertilizer per acre, works it in well, and levels the ground.

Varieties—Chicago pickling is mostly used, also Boston pickling and Snow's perfection. Seed is usually supplied by the company. About 3 pounds of seed are used per acre.

Seeding—There are 2 definite ways of seeding. First, drilling the seed in rows 5 feet apart; and second, planting the seed in hills 3 feet apart in rows placed 5 feet apart. There are several advantages in the drill method. First there is less labor in seeding; second, the plants are better distributed; third, there is chance of a better and more even stand; fourth, more moisture is available for the individual plant during the dry season; fifth, the rows are narrower for cultivation, and again there is more room between the individual plant for hoeing, rather than when they are standing close together in the hills.

Growers use both methods, with a stronger tendency toward the drill method. One grower who has raised a very large amount of pickles per acre sows his seed with a seed drill, using about 3½ pounds per acre, having the ground furrowed out every three and a half feet. After these furrows are worked well with a fine toothed cultivator the seed is sown. As soon as convenient, the young plants are cultivated, so that the furrows are filled up, thereby making the cucumber plants deeply rooted. This would be a very desirable method of seeding where there might be a tendency for the soil to dry out considerably during the summer time.

Dusting Plants for Insects—The striped cucumber beetle is active on the young plants soon after they show up well following germination. Experiments in controlling this beetle show that nicotine sulphate dust is effective, especially when put on early in the day while the air is still, by means of a cheesecloth sack, or a small bellows hand duster. It may be necessary to repat this dust two or three times, according to weather conditions prevailing. It is especially desirable to put this dust on the young plants soon after they are through the ground. It is not advisable to thin all of the plants in the row at one time.

Another harmful insect is the 12-spotted bean weevil, which can also be controlled by using the same dust as above mentioned, or there may be an addition to the nicotine sulphate or some arseniate of lead powder, so that the grower would be in a position to use a combined dust, which is on the market ready for application.

Thinning Plants—If the drill method of seeding has been used it is advisable to thin the plants to a distance of about 12 inches apart in the row. If the hill method of seeding has been used there would usually be about 3 plants left to each hill, placed as far apart as possible, so that each plant may have as much moisture as it is possible to get, and also so that the plants can be hoed in between.

Harvesting—Picking is the chief item of expense. Vines must be picked clean in order to prevent formation of large unmarketable cucumbers. The highest price is paid for the smallest cucumbers, so a constant regular picking is necessary. The area can conveniently be divided into two or more parts, one of which is harvested each day.

Yields—These vary according to individual farms and different soils. An analysis of farms producing pickles shows that an average of 10 best growers in a district was 7 tons per acre, the variation being between 5 and 10 tons. Of these yields there is ordinarily about one-third of each grade, with a slightly smaller number of No. 3 grades, and the others when the fields are properly picked. The average of 7 tons would be divided somewhat as follows:

No. 1, 2 and three-quarters tons; No. 2, 2½ tons; No. 3, 2 tons. From such yields as above mentioned there would be an income of about $225 per acre.

Success in growing pickles may be summarized as follows:

1. Soil well fertilized and thoroughly fitted.
2. Strong vigorously growing vines necessary, made possible by ample fertilization and good moisture holding capacity of the soil.
3. Control of injurious beetles.
4. Clean picking to prevent formation of large cucumbers.

Publications dealing with the Control of Garden Insects: Extension Bulletin 325, Insects Affecting Garden and Truck Crops; U. S. D. A. Farmers' Bulletin 1282, The Use of Nicotine Dusts in Control of Garden Insects.

Publications relative to vegetable gardening in general: The Market Growers Journal, Lewisville, Kentucky; National Vegetable Growers Paper.

SALEM CENTER OF THE CUKE INDUSTRY

Oregon Packing Company Has Salting Plants at Woodburn and Albany

Salem is the center of a large cucumber industry. The Oregon Packing company, from its headquarters in Salem, operates two salting and pickle plants, at Woodburn and Albany, and did up to this year operate a similar plant in Salem, in the 13th street building of that company. The Salem plant will not be operated this year, because the room it occupied

(Continued on page 8)

PRODUCING GRAIN AT A LOWER COST IS PROBLEM THAT INTERESTS MANY

Ivan Stewart Gives the Experience and Investigations of Fred De Vries, Prominent Howell Prairie Farmer, Who Grows Wheat With the Aid of a Tractor and Will Harvest and Thresh His Grain With a Combine

Editor Statesman:

Fred DeVries has been operating a 180-acre farm at Pratum, on the south end of Howell Prairie, for 24 years. He raises wheat and oats, corn and potatoes, and his type of farming is typical of the general farming practice which is carried on throughout Howell Prairie.

Since 1920, which marks the change in agricultural conditions, Mr. DeVries has been doing some serious thinking, because he has been confronted by the fact that there is not much profit in general farming. In analyzing his situation he became convinced that personally he could not do much toward increasing the selling price of wheat, oats and potatoes, and neither could he do much toward reducing the taxes on his land. These were beyond his control, and he figured that as far as he personally was concerned the whole question was "could he produce grain more economically." He began to think in terms of economical production because he could see that in the fierce competition of business life of the cities the concern that produced most economically survived. He noted in the various papers and magazines that during the past few years industry had reduced its costs much faster than agriculture. On every hand he read about automatic machines in factories that have made it possible for one man to do the work formerly done by 25 or 30 men, of larger locomotives that have made it possible for the same train crews to haul several times the number of cars they could move 10 years ago.

Lowering Farming Costs

While he was reading all this about the increased efficiency in industry it began to dawn upon him that there was no likely change or improvement in his farming methods. It seemed to him that, theoretically, the purchase of a tractor in order to speed up his work and to produce cheaply ought to be a step in the right direction. Based upon this theory he did buy a tractor, and he found that one of his boys operating the tractor could do more work than two of them were doing before, when each drove a four horse team, and besides there was the factor of having belt power to do such work as wood cutting, feed grinding, etc.

Reduced By One-Half

Mr. DeVries found that the tractor reduced the cost of putting in the crops by one-half, but there still remained the old fashioned method of harvesting which year in and year out for 20 years had not changed a particle—binding, shocking, hauling bundles, and then the threshing itself, which meant teams to feed and from 12 to 20 men to cook for. Theoretically Mr. DeVries could not figure out in his mind that it would be a good plan to buy a threshing machine, as was the case with the tractor, because it was not an improvement over the old methods. It did not answer the question of producing more economically, and hunting for an answer to this question he began to study the small combine harvester, which has been so widely advertised in all farm papers and magazines for the past year. He read of the experiments and studies which have been carried on by the agricultural colleges of several states in the middle west to determine whether the combine is practical, and in every instance the results of these tests and studies were extremely favorable for the combine.

The Combine Harvester

The Indiana report, which was a typical one showed that the combine required 2:03 hours of man labor per acre from standing grain to the bin, while the binder-separator method required 5:08 hours of man labor. The loss of grain with the combine was 4:16 per cent as compared to 6:62 per cent with the binder-separator. Reduced to dollars and cents there was a credit of 7 cents per bushel in favor of the combine.

Mr. DeVries had heard indirectly that there were a large number of combines sold in the middle west during the past two years. A short time ago his nephew wrote him that the implement dealers in a small town where he was living in western Kansas had sold 105 combines since last year. This personal confirmation of the large number of sales in the grain belt of Kansas was very interesting because it meant the machine surely must have merit in order to warrant so many sales.

Saving On Wheat

Encouraged by the reports that he read in the papers and magazines as well by the letter from his nephew Mr. DeVries began to study the results obtained by some of the McCormick-Deering combines in use in Marion and Polk counties. He found that they were saving on the average of at least one and one-half bushels of wheat to the acre and he figured this to be worth at least $2 per acre. There was a saving of 50 cents on twine, and he figuring the scattering of straw worth $1 per acre, making a saving of $3.50 per acre, which was just about what it would cost to harvest an acre of grain. In other words, he found that the farmers with the small combines were saving as much on each acre over the old method as it was costing to harvest an acre by the old method, to say nothing about the worry of hired labor, and particularly of the inconvenience and expense of feeding the threshing crew, and the teams used for hauling bundles.

He Bought a Combine

The question of how the straw would affect the young clover which is seeded with the wheat was gone into thoroughly by Mr. DeVries. He ascertained to his own satisfaction that the straw can be scattered evenly and the combine operators in Polk county informed him that the thinly scattered straw was very beneficial to the clover and in no way had they found it to be detrimental. With the point cleared up there was no longer any doubt in his mind, and he therefore placed an order for a No. 8 McCormick-Deering combine which was delivered at the farm yesterday. His machine will be the first in operation in the Pratum neighborhood. It will be the pioneer machine into that great grain growing section, but it was so carefully investigated by Mr. DeVries and he is so thoroughly convinced of its merit, that the purchase to him is but a matter of fact business transaction, because along with the tractor it answers the question that he can produce grain more economically.

—IVAN STEWART.

Salem, Oregon,
July 6, 1927.

(Mr. Stewart is in charge of the information department of the Chas. R. Archerd Implement company. He is constantly in the field, studying farm problems and conditions in this district, excepting on Saturdays, when he remains in Salem to meet the farmers who call. He performs the services of a high class county agent, but at no charge to the counties.—Ed.)

THE CUCUMBER CROP A PAYING AND A VERY INTERESTING ONE TO HANDLE

It Is a Cheap Crop to Grow in the Scio Section—The Small Sizes Are the Ones That Bring the Higher Prices—Mr. Crenshaw Says It May Clear $300 to $500 an Acre for Producer

Editor Statesman:

From the standpoint of consumption, the cucumber is relatively a cheap crop to grow in this section of the country. It is planted about May 10 and needs little attention until harvest time, which is from July 15 to the middle of September.

In order to achieve the best results, one should pick his cucumbers every two days so as to keep down the larger grades. The grades of cucumbers marketed are:

Grade	Size
1	All under 2 inches
2	2 to 3 inches
3	3 to 5 inches
4	5 inches and over

Grade No. 1 is sold for $60 per ton
Grade No. 2 is sold for $40 per ton
Grade No. 3 is sold for $20 per ton
Grade No. 4 is sold for $15 per ton

If the crop is kept picked close, it will avoid most of the grades 3 and 4, making your crop mostly No. 1 and 2 grades at $60 and $40 per ton.

It requires one pound of seed per acre, at $1.50 per pound. The seeds are planted in hills four feet apart with three seeds in a hill. As the vines are trained along in rows, becoming more easy to pick.

The production of the cucumber crop is a paying and interesting crop to handle. It may clear from $300 to $500 per acre for the producer.

—S. P. CRENSHAW.

Scio, Oregon,
July 5, 1927.

Few Ounces of Stamps Worth Many Millions

PARIS—(AP)—Probably the most valuable collection of stamps ever gathered was the recent exposition at Strasbourg during the Philatelic congress. The few ounces of old paper were valued at 100,000,000 francs.

A commemorative issue of five and ten-franc stamps, limited to 50,000, was printed by the French government in connection with the congress.

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