

# Valley Farms and Their Workers:

News of the Prosperous Willamette Valley and of the Varied Agricultural Pursuits of interest to its Diversified Farmers.

Edited by GENEVIEVE MORGAN  
This page is a regular Sunday feature of The Statesman. Farm news, farm information, the story of the successes of various farm operators published herein.

## AIRPLANE USED TO SEED LAND

Craft Seeds Acreage 100 Times as Fast as Man At Low Cost

A new and profitable use has been discovered for airplanes. They are being used as an agricultural implement. Seeding of large areas of logged-off grazing land by airplanes is coming into rather general practice in certain sections of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, according to William L. Teutsch, assistant county agent leader at Oregon State college. Five thousand acres of logged-off land in these three states have been seeded by this means in the last two years.

Advantages Listed  
"The planting of grass seed by airplane has several advantages," Teutsch says. "It can be done at a third to one-half the cost of hand seeding with much greater speed. Most of the Pacific coast cover land is rough. In topography it consists of steep hills, gullies, creeks, and abrupt canyon walls. In addition, charged logs, limbs and stumps, which remain after burning are so tangled and heaped together that great difficulty is experienced in walking in a straight line, a necessity in uniform hand seeding. Airplane seeding avoids this difficulty."

Cockpit is Hopper  
The common practice in distributing the seed, as explained by Teutsch, is to use the cockpit of the airplane, lining it with canvas and putting in a sloping bottom of galvanized iron which leads to a spout five inches in diameter. This spout extends through the bottom of the fuselage and in it is installed a valve which is controlled by the pilot sitting in the rear cockpit. The seeding is done at an elevation of 500 feet.

Under ordinary conditions a plane can seed 1500 acres in two or three days where a man can seed only about five acres a day under the best conditions. The average cost per acre is not counting the seed, is 50 cents an acre for the airplane.

Credit for pioneering in this field is given by Teutsch to Dr. Earl Lowe, a practicing physician of Coquille, who seeded 1,000 acres of sheep range in the fall of 1927. The seeding was done by a commercial plane of Eugene. Since that time other airplane companies in Washington and Idaho have carried on successful seeding operations.

## POOR FALL FEEDING FORCES LAMB SALE

While coast ranges in Oregon are fair with ample to a surplus feed supply, central and eastern sections report feed supply short, according to the weekly livestock and range report of the federal bureau office in Portland.  
Oregon: cattle are in fair to good condition with some thin ones in dry areas. In the western states, cattle are generally in fair to good condition, except in a few districts where the feed supply has been heavy from dry sections, with a decided tendency to hold cattle where feed and finances permit. Stock cows and heifers are being held with an attempt to hold up breeding herds and sell steers and calves. There has been little country trading in the southwest and shipments have been light.  
The condition of Oregon sheep is considerably below the average for this month. Western fall feed for sheep is poor to fair except in the southwest but sheep are generally in fair to good condition except in dry sections. In the northern sections, there is a larger than usual proportion of feeder lambs. The large supply of old ewes has not found an outlet or market. Sheep and lambs have done well in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, where there is an abundance of feed. Winter sheep ranges in

## EDITOR



William E. Smullin, Willamette university graduate in 1926, who has recently been named advertising manager of the Oregon Grange Bulletin. Smullin's office will be in Portland. He will be active in the program of enlarging the size and circulation of the Bulletin. Prior to accepting his new duties, Smullin was managing editor of the Southwestern Oregon News at Marshfield.

Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, Colorado and north-eastern Wyoming are poor with little stock water. Western sheepmen are facing a serious financial problem in securing feed to supplement short ranges. Short hay and grain crops and finances will restrict lamb feeding in most of the western states except in Texas.

## UNBALED HOPS ARE MOSTLY AT AURORA

Baling of about 75 percent of the hop crop in Oregon is completed, with most of the unbaled hops being at Aurora, where a community baler is used, according to the weekly report of the federal bureau of economics. The hop market continued inactive during the week.  
Current quotations range from unchanged to slightly lower than those of a week ago, with sales of small lots in Oregon markets reported at 14-14 1/2-15 cents per pound net to growers for best clusters, according to quality and origin. Around 500 bales were sold in this state during the week which is exceptionally light for this season. Prices are around four cents higher than at this time last year.  
The quality of the 1931 crop in Oregon, based on samples so far taken, is reported as being not quite so good as last year. Choice quality lots particularly are not quite so plentiful as in 1930. Trade estimates continue to place the 1931 Oregon production at around 75,000 bales. Although the official estimate of the English 1931 crop is not yet available, trade advices from England indicate a production there this year of 140,000 cwt. This compares with the official estimate of 253,000 cwt. produced in 1930.

State's Onion Harvest Down; National Lower  
Oregon's onion crop for 1931 is estimated at 420,000 bushels, as compared to 486,000 bushels harvested the preceding year. Total for the United States is way under last year, with 18,200,000 bushels in sight for this year, as compared to 26,124,000 last year.  
New York is the heaviest producing state again this year. Indiana crop fell off more than half of what it was last year.

## State's Onion Harvest Down; National Lower

Trading in northwest dried prunes is again practically at a standstill, with less activity than was evident for the previous week. Owing to the unimproved condition of foreign financial troubles, there appears to be very little interest manifested in market prices now being quoted. Sales made by growers to packers in limited quantities are confined mostly to the section around Salem and at prices comparable to those of the week before.  
The following prices on Italians were quoted: 35-40c, 3 3/4c; 40-42c, 4c; 42-45c, 3c; 45-50c, 2 3/4c.  
Offers of 1/2c under the above prices have been quoted by some packers and it is possible that very limited sales may have been confirmed at those figures. However, growers are generally reluctant to sell at any prevailing quotations and the few sales made represent those by growers who must have immediate financial assistance. Most of the prunes sold thus far are between the size range 35s and 50s.

## Serres Proves Drainage Of Farm Soil Profitable

WOODBURN, Oct. 16.—That tilling of farm lands really is profitable in this section of the country has been conclusively proven by Joe Serres, vocational agriculture student at Woodburn high school, who has been conducting a trial as to the value of tile draining on his father's farm east of Woodburn. According to Joe's figures, the tiling returned 13 per cent interest on an original investment of \$30 per acre.  
Last fall Joe laid two lines of tile across the end of a 16 acre field, draining about one and one half acres. This year the field was planted to red clover. A crop of hay was harvested in June and seed in August. No record of the yield of hay was kept, but the drained acre produced 194 pounds of seed per acre to 151 pounds to

## HOG PRICES DOWN 50 TO 75 CENTS

Portland Shows Wheat up Two Cents; hay Steady; Butter Same

PORTLAND, Oct. 17.—(AP) A slackening tendency was found in hog prices here at the close of the market today with stock down from 50 to 75 cents.  
The heavy grades, 250-290 lbs., were quoted at 4.50-5.25; 300-220 pounders were 5.00-5.75, all off 50 to 75c. Feeders and stockers were 4.25-5.00, closer to last week's close of 4.75-5.50.  
Cattle were unchanged. Good steers were 6.00-6.75; cows 4.00-4.50, and choice vealers 7.50-8.50.  
Lambs advanced fractionally. Good 90 lb. stuff was 5.00-5.50 as against last week's 4.90-5.25; other grades were unchanged at 3.75-5.00 for mediums and 3.00-3.75 for common.

Wheat improved two cents. Big Bend was quoted at 65 1/2, soft white and western at 59 1/2, and western red at 49 1/2. Oats, both white and grey, were 18.00.  
The hay list was unchanged at these buying prices, f.o.b. Portland: alfalfa 14-14.50; valley timothy 15-15.50; eastern Oregon timothy 18-18 1/2; clover 12; oat hay 11; oats and vetch 12-12.50. Straw was 6 to 6.50 a ton.  
There was no change in butter, with extras at 31 cents, standards at 30, prime firsts at 29 and firsts at 28 cents.  
Hops narrowed in price to 14 cents for 1931 crop as against last week's close of 15 and 15 1/2 cents.  
Wool continued unchanged as it has for many weeks. Eastern Oregon grade was 12 and 13; valley coarse 12 and medium 13 cents. Italian prunes were 4 and 7 1/2 cents.

## Oregon Hop Yield Puts Ahead 1930

With hop baling all over Oregon virtually completed, and final reports in to the bureau of agriculture office in Portland, reports show a 2,050,000 more pounds of hops produced in Oregon this year than in 1930. The crop in this state totaled 16,430,000 pounds from the 15,500 acres of hops.  
Crop from the three Pacific coast states, which grow all the hops in the county, reached 28,330,000 pounds, compared to 25,447,000 last year. Oregon's share of the crop is 16,430,000 pounds.  
The report says early clusters produced in Polk county weighed 12 pounds of dry hops from 50 pounds of green; and late clusters 13 1/2 dry from 50 pounds of green. The proportion for Marion county is given at 15 to 50.  
Oregon yields ranged from practically a failure up to 2,145 pounds of dried hops to the acre. Downy mildew made heavy inroads into some of the yards.  
A somewhat larger proportion of Oregon hops are going at prime than last year's crop. Some activity developed late in the week in the Eugene section, however, when around 600 bales of clusters changed hands at 14c, and about 300 bales at 14 1/2c net to grower. Oregon growers generally are holding fairly firm for better prices, especially those in financial position to do so. Some scattering lots would probably be available at around 15c per pound.

## The Country Hereabouts

Amity—Frank Rosenbalm wonders what advantage people here find in going to the coast to fish, when they can land 'em in their back yards, almost literally speaking. Rosenbalm this week caught a ten pound carp in Salt Creek, immediately back of the place where he lives.  
Hazel Green—Louis Garberdino has rented 14 acres of land from Ronald Jones and will plant it to Marshall strawberries. Plowing has already been done. The tract lies west of the Looney farm.

Scio—Members of the Scio Berry and Fruit Growers' association have solicited additional berry acreage, with result that the 34 members now represent more than 200 acres, according to the secretary, L. E. Shimanek.  
Aurora—A gopher carrying a trap set the previous day by Geo. Miller, was discovered one night this week by a neighbor. The gopher was eating on a head of cabbage when discovered. Of course it was killed.  
Pleasant View—Mr. and Mrs. Shoen have sold the farm which they bought a year ago from Hubert Dae, and will hold a public sale of their personal property on Friday. They expect to move away soon.  
Dayton—Thirty-five sacks of English walnuts were gathered by D. E. Albright from his young orchard. He has peach trees planted with the nut trees, the latter being 60 feet apart. He also harvested this week a bushel of peaches from a young Salway tree.  
Rickey—A porcupine is the pet of Carol Courtner. Carol has been displaying it at school during the week in connection with the study of animals.

Hazel Green—Orville Luckey has finished digging his Garni

## Size of Flock is Vital Point in Producing Egg At Least Possible Cost

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 17.—Is your chicken flock large enough to be economical? Statistics gathered on 441 Oregon poultry flocks by the Oregon State College show that the size of a flock is a vital factor in the economical production of eggs.  
"An outstanding finding of this study," says the college report, "is the fact that Oregon commercial egg-producing flocks are small as 70-100 small, as a rule. For the most efficient operation, and too small, though profitable hens are kept to provide a sufficient total net income."  
The economical size of commercial flocks is estimated, by the college poultry experts, at from 1200 to 1500 as the minimum. This is about twice the size of the present average flock. On the diversified farm 400 hens comprise about the minimum economic unit while 600 hens comprise an even better unit, if other enterprises and the physical health of the operator permit the expenditure of the time required.  
Contrary to popular opinion the survey shows that the production per hen in the larger flocks is very little less than that of the smaller flocks. The saving in time per hen in the care of the large flocks is enough to more than make up for the slight decrease in the production per hen.  
Production figures.  
Figures gathered show that the flocks of from 300 to 400 hens averaged 173 eggs per hen, and the cost per dozen was 28.8 cents. Flocks of from 800 to 1200 hens produced an average of 148 eggs per hen, and the cost per dozen was 28.4 cents.  
Flocks included in the survey varied in size from 108 to 2640 hens, with the average for the 441 flocks at 615. The greatest number fell in the group with from 300 to 400 hens.

## The Country Hereabouts

Chill potatoes, getting 100 bushels to the acre. He has five acres. This variety is raised under contract for seed for a California firm. They are used for the early crop.  
Scio—While Silverton, Lacombe and other places are "sporting" fresh strawberries, several farmers in this section call attention to the fact that they had strawberries almost continuously since May. I. G. Faltus and Lada Krumy have had berries on the market recently.

## 18.5 Bushels of Spring Wheat is State's Average

Oregon's combined spring wheat yield averaged 18.5 bushels per acre, although the crop was a failure on many farms. Some yields, especially on irrigated lands, were enough to bring the average. Oregon produced 1,980,000 bushels of spring wheat.  
Oats yields averaged three bushels per acre higher than the estimated yield a month ago, or 37 bushels. Barley averaged 34 bushels per acre, over the state; about four bushels better than at first expected.  
The corn yield will probably average around 34 bushels, also slightly better than prospects a month ago.

## Community Fair Displays Huge Corn, Cabbage

Grains and vegetables the like of which she had never seen before were found at the Benston community fair, 23 miles from Tacoma, by Mrs. Meadell Durant, who resides on a farm between Hubbard and Aurora.  
Mrs. Durant visited the fair for the first time and there found corn ten feet high; sunflowers six and a half feet; canned fruits and vegetables in profusion, and the largest pumpkins and cabbage she ever saw. Her cousin, Mrs. George C. Pendleton, took several blue ribbons.

## TREE STOCKS OPEN TO FARMERS NOW

11 Species Are Available Through State Forest Nursery at Corvallis

Eleven species of trees are again available for distribution from the state forest nursery at Corvallis to farmers of Oregon for use in establishing shelter belts, wind breaks and woodlots all of which add to the appearance as well as usefulness of the farmstead. Thousands of these trees have been distributed over the state in the last few years, many of them now thriving in regions where there were few native trees.  
Fall planting of these trees is recommended west of the Cascade mountains, where moisture is more abundant and where frosts are not so severe. The first six months of the year permits the roots to become well established by the time the growing season starts in the spring. In eastern Oregon spring planting is preferred.  
Species available for immediate distribution are black locust, box elder, green ash, Russian olive, western yellow pine, Scotch pine, Russian mulberry, western red cedar, Douglas fir, Port Orford cedar, European larch and Norway spruce. The first six named are suitable for eastern Oregon and all will grow in western Oregon, according to Dean George W. Peary of the school of forestry at Oregon State College, who is in charge of distribution.  
The trees are small, ranging from one to three years, in age which makes them easy to ship and more likely to be transplanted successfully. A charge of only \$2.50 per thousand or 25 cents per hundred is made by the state, with no order accepted for less than \$1. County agents are urged to cooperate in suggesting best species for any locality and in giving suggestions for planting.

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## Fruit on Bear Farm Takes no Back Seat For Strawberry Tale

TURNER, Oct. 17.—As mention has been made of ripe raspberries, which are found in a few localities, Turner can boast of ripe red raspberries which have been picked twice a week for table use and canning since the last of August.  
They are to be found in the garden on the C. A. Bear farm and are of the ever bearing variety, the first crop was picked in July.  
The roots came from a Walla Walla berry field where they do well with irrigation. The fall crop commands a good price.

G. R. Hyslop of the State College plans to attend the meeting. Other meetings on local farm problems will be held from time to time during the winter months.

## IRRIGATING

DALLAS—Five new irrigated pastures are being started in the Grand Ronde community of Polk county this fall. The irrigated tracts totalling 21 acres in all. Owners of these fields are W. W. Werth, Alfred Werth, F. R. D. Werth, Allen Richardson and R. A. Lierman. This will be the first irrigation work attempted by any

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## FOX SHEEP BRING 7 CHAMPIONSHIPS

WALDO HILLS, Oct. 17.—Floyd Fox returned Wednesday night from Salt Lake City to his home, the Waldo Hills Stock Farm. He brought with him seven championships, won by his widely known Shropshires. He made the circuit through California, Oregon, Washington and up into Canada and only missed four firsts on the entire trip.  
He will show again at the Pacific International, taking with him between 200 and 300 sheep. Of these two carloads will be fat lambs.

Sheep killing dogs have played havoc in the flock in the last few days. One sheep is dead and 20 so badly crippled that while everything possible is being done there is little hope of saving the animals. Most of these are either prize winning breeding ewes or mothers of prize lambs. Two dogs have already been found and taken care of.

of these men, according to J. R. Beck, county agent, who has been called upon to check leveling operations and the setting of grade stakes.

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## PRODUCTION DATA COMPILED BY FEDERAL OFFICE SHOWS NEARLY ALL CROPS FELL BELOW LAST YEAR

	SFR. ALL				APPLES Bbls.			
	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Pots	Total	Cones	Pears	Hops
OREGON	1,980	16,814	8,124	3,264	4,730	5,300	1,320	2,665
Wash.	10,668	45,858	7,550	2,442	7,984	28,980	8,528	8,620
Idaho	9,200	22,197	4,410	5,088	28,404	5,332	1,980	58
Pac N. W.	21,848	84,669	20,474	10,794	35,218	30,572	11,278	5,775
Last Yr.	39,381	91,679	28,978	12,810	41,832	49,450	14,455	7,706
% Chg.	41,256	96,266	36,448	11,123	39,524	41,702	11,435	5,106