

Willamette Valley Farmer

News and Views of Farm and Garden — BY LILLIE L. MADSEN.

DDT Controls Vetch Weevil

Planting Pure Seed Is Recommended by Men From State College

The triple announcement of the success of DDT in controlling the hairy vetch weevil and the establishment of goals and support prices for 1946 cover crop seeds open the way for immediate planning and planting of fall-sown crops in western Oregon.

The DDT announcement, one of the most important in years to Oregon growers, is the result of a cooperative experiment between the federal entomologists stationed at Forest Grove and the entomology department at the college experiment station.

Field tests in many parts of the Willamette valley this season showed that application of 25 pounds of three per cent DDT dust per acre will control the weevil if the dust is thoroughly applied under favorable conditions at the right time.

Outlook for control is so promising that steps are being taken to make sure that ample supplies of DDT will be available in Oregon to protect next year's goal of 55,000 acres of hairy vetch. Without control the acreage was expected to disappear in most counties, as the weevil had made production for seed impossible.

Save Blue Tags

With both goals and support prices for the other cover crop seeds remaining the same as last year, growers will have considerable choice, Dr. D. D. Hill of the college says. A large acreage of Willamette vetch can be grown again if growers are careful to plant only blue tag seed.

Just what the Willamette vetch certification program will be like next year has not been determined, but Dr. Hill said this week that two basic requirements will be that only blue seed be used and that plantings be made on land where no common vetch was grown this year. Another important "must" is to save the blue tags.

Other good seed crop possibilities for the next years in Dr. Hill's opinion include perennial ryegrass, any of the fescues, subterranean and ladino clover and Cumberland red clover.

Western Oregon is also expected to return to a larger alfalfa acreage and to increase the amount of corn grown. Better corn harvesting equipment, particularly the corn picker, will help in the future to relieve harvest labor difficulties.

Polk County Has Abbruzzi Rye for Its Own Growers

Additional abbruzzi rye seed has been made available for growers in Polk county, and farmers wishing to obtain some should apply at the county agent's office. This information came from W. C. Leth, county agent, Dallas, Wednesday. The state college and other Willamette valley counties have been exhausted so far as this particular rye is concerned.

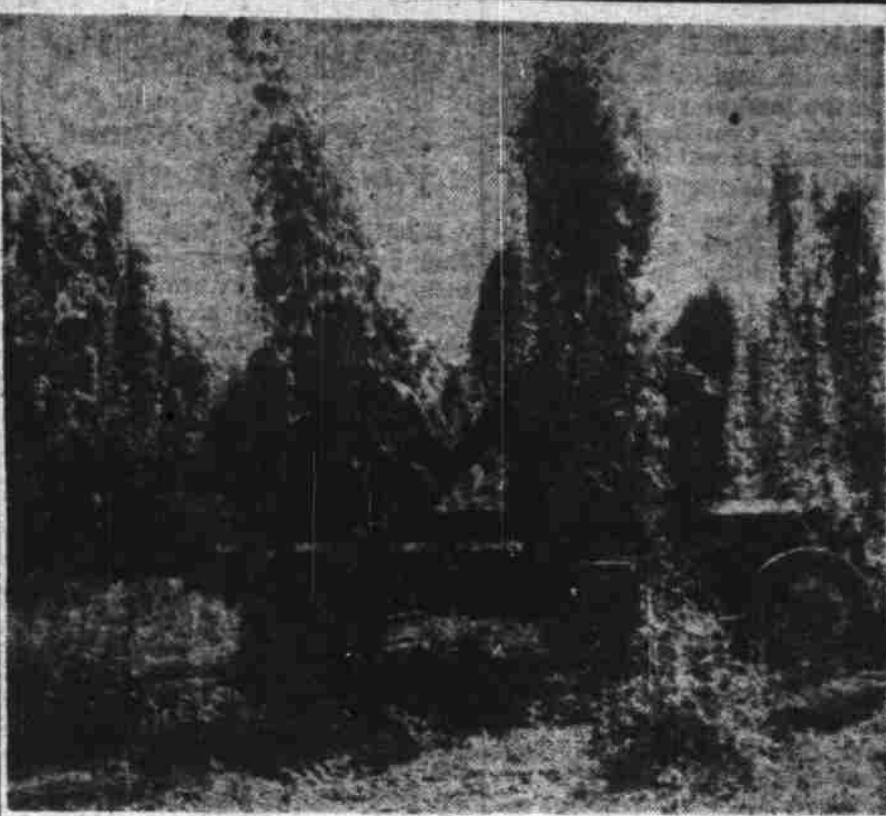
The seed may be planted for seed purposes, cover crop or for pasture. A limited amount only is available. The price is four cents a pound, which is slightly more than the price of ordinary rye seed.

Leth reports that three growers who started the initial production in Polk county, produced upwards of 14 tons of seed this year which has been made available for Polk county growers only.

Mr. Leth adds that seeding rates vary up to 150 pounds per acre depending on its use. For seed production, 100 pounds per acre is adequate; for heavy pasture production up to 150 pounds per acre may be used to advantage.

For those who have succeeded in obtaining seed supplies, late September or early October is the best time to plant it, says Chester E. Otis, assistant extension specialist in farm crops at the college. Unless planted for seed, it should be plowed only on ground that can be plowed about April 1. Its extreme earliness and tendency to make rank growth make it desirable to have on land that can be pastured or plowed before the rye grows out of bounds.

An application of 20 to 40 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre put on at seeding time has proved profitable in most instances.



This hop picking machine helps save labor in the yards in the Willamette valley. The machine cuts the arms of the hop vines in the field, and later a stationary machine completes the job in the shed. Only eight men are required to operate both machines. The picture was taken in the William Wallace Graham hop yard.

Laying Hens On Increase, Eggs Steady

United States crop prospects have improved so that the expected total volume of crop production equals that of 1944 and is 6 per cent above 1943. Because of reduced hog production and smaller egg production than last year, the total volume of animal production will be smaller than in 1944, however.

The supply of late deciduous fruits, especially apples, will be unusually small this year. Citrus fruit, except grapefruit, will be plentiful. The late potato crop is expected to be around 10 per cent larger than last year.

More midwest eggs of variable quality arrived at Willamette valley markets during the week ending September 21, in response to a firmer market situation than prevailed eastward. Large top quality eggs continued to bring ceiling prices during this week, but off-grade eggs were weaker. Prices for midwest eggs as well as quality were variable.

About one-sixth of the egg supply in the western states was received from east of the Rockies during recent war years, estimates indicate.

Egg production in the western states in 1945 is expected to be only about 294 eggs per capita in the whole country. Western egg producers will probably experience further competition from midwest eggs until a considerable adjustment has occurred in hen numbers east of the Rockies. A slight increase in hen numbers is indicated this winter compared with last.

Western egg production at 204 eggs per capita in 1945 is below the regional 1935-1939 average of 326 eggs produced per capita. It is still above the national 1935-1939 average of 262.

In Salem Markets

Valley Packing plant reports that the market ending Tuesday night was practically a repetition of that of many weeks past. Hogs, however, jumped in number delivered from less than half a hundred to 106 for the week, practically all bringing ceiling price. Contributing hogs were A. J. Mader, Raymond Gerig and T. W. Wendland, all of Salem.

Cattle numbered 119 delivered with quality somewhat improved and prices unchanged. Eight exceptionally nice steers were brought in by Archie Powell of Sweet Home. Others delivering cattle were W. R. Larsen and R. R. Aubrey, both of Silverton; Adam Lapin of Salem; A. T. Huddal of Mill City and L. J. Marshall of Hubbard.

Winston Grant of Harlan delivered 11 good veals, with W. Eder of Gervais and William Hart of Woodburn both contributing veals.

Valley Packing company reports itself rather loaded up on lambs this week but still in the market. Its officials advise that prospective sellers had best call for appointment prior to bringing them in, however. The market is a little weak with top grades bringing one cent less than a week ago. Markets were paying 10 1/2 cents Tuesday night. S. K. Furness of Silverton and H. L. Hansen of Sublimity were among those bringing in lambs during the week.

Hurst Transferred; Harmond Arrives

J. E. Harmond has been appointed to succeed Wilbur M. Hurst in charge of research in mechanical phases of flax harvest and processing for the USDA, stationed at Corvallis.

Harmond, who comes from the deep south, has worked with cotton and flax fibers for a number of years. In recent days he has been visiting flax plants and calling on flax plant executives. He spoke at the Willamette valley association at Jefferson Friday.

Hurst, who has been in Oregon since 1938, has been transferred to Washington, D.C. where he will be in charge of engineering problems arising in connection with the processing of farm products. This is a cooperative project with the Farm Credit administration. Harmond was formerly senior agricultural engineer at the United States Cotton ginning laboratory at Stoneville, Miss.

Oregon, the only state growing fiber flax on a large scale, has expanded its acreage about 1000 acres to a maximum of 20,000 acres in the seven years Hurst has been working with the industry. He has helped in the design, construction and testing of harvesting and processing machinery and in the design and construction of processing plants, retting water disposal, dust elimination and fire prevention in the flax mills. Harmond will continue the project on much the same basis.

Coccidiosis Takes Toll Among Calves

(Ed's note: last week, "White Scours;" next week, black scours.)

As was mentioned last week, scours, in their three forms, are largely responsible for the high death rate in Willamette valley calves. White scours occur in the very young calves. Coccidiosis or bloody scours occur most frequently in calves from one to three months of age. Older animals are sometimes affected. Most calves harbor a few coccidia and it is only when the infestation becomes great that trouble is experienced. Losses may occur at any season of the year. Losses in cattle fed on the ground during the winter months are common.

The parasites develop and cause inflammation and destruction in intestinal wall. This damage permits the escape of blood that is discharged with the feces. This species of parasite will not cause disease in any other kind of animal.

Symptoms appear from two to four weeks after the calves pick up infestation and in severe cases death occurs as early as three days following the development of severe diarrhea. In severe cases pneumonia may occur.

If droppings are removed daily there is little opportunity for further spread. When calves are raised

out of doors, feed racks and clean watering places should be provided. Having the feed racks on a platform that can be cleaned regularly will help prevent animals from consuming soiled feed. Crowding naturally favors infestation.

Coccidia can remain alive for months. The use of strong lye solutions for cleaning the floors and walls of pens will destroy coccidia. Flowing infested lots and pastures also helps.

There is no satisfactory treatment for coccidiosis, says Dr. O. H. Muth of Oregon State college. Affected animals should be kept in warm quarters and fed soft, nutritious feeds. Sulphaguanidine gave some results in experimental animals but it is fairly expensive and difficult to obtain. It might be practicable for high priced animals, however.

Dairyman Cuts Calf Losses to Almost Nil

Fred Metzger, while he dairies in Iowa, still has something which might be of interest to Willamette valley farmers.

He has a herd of 20 dairy cattle. He says that the last three years he has been able to raise practically every calf. Before that he was losing four to five calves each year. He attributes his success in raising calves not to any remedy or drug but to careful management. He found that two things are especially important. Avoid over-feeding of milk; and keep the calf pen dry, clean and well bedded.

New Beef Rulings Not to Affect Actual Producers

Beef production payments to producers will not be affected by the recent removal of slaughter quotas on slaughterers, says Bob Mitchell, chairman of the Polk county AAA committee. Payments will continue to be made on eligible cattle the same as since the program began last May.

The only change, Mitchell explained, is that the program includes all slaughterers. Before, it was necessary for the cattle to be sold to a legally authorized slaughterer.

Under the new plan there may be cases where it is difficult to verify the name of the slaughterer. In those instances it may be necessary for the county committee to require evidence that no duplicate payment will be made on the cattle.

It is still necessary for producers and feeders to present evidence that the cattle are eligible for the payment. The requirements are that the cattle were owned and fed for not less than 30 days before they were sold for slaughter, that they weighed at least 800 pounds and brought at least \$14.95 a hundred, and that they were delivered to a slaughterer for slaughter within 29 days of the date of sale.

(ADDITIONAL FARM NEWS ON PAGE 10)

New Dairy at Turner Soon To Go Into Operation

TURNER—A new Grade A dairy will soon go into operation in this district. It is the Inez Carr dairy named in memory of the late Mrs. Carr and largely built from funds given by her husband, D. E. Carr. It will be run by the Turner Memorial Home with E. J. Gilstrap as superintendent and Wallace Riches, caretaker and will open as soon as all the equipment is complete.

The "loafing shed system" is being used. The large barn houses the cows in this special shed which has hay racks and a drinking fountain where the cows may roam at will. There is no floor in the shed so the barnyard fertilizer is kept as bedding throughout the winter. This barn also contains two calf-stalls and a lot that takes care of 35 to 40 tons of hay.

A ramp leads from the barn to the "milking parlor", in a separate building with the dairy rooms. Here the dairy feed is fed to each of the five stanchioned cows. As plans now stand, there will be about 10 cows.

Also there are four young heifer calves and one purchased bull calf which was a gift of Stanley Riches. All other stock is grade.

Hay for the cows is grown on 40 acres of land owned by Turner Memorial Home east of town. Fifty-three acres on the hill north of town is in pasture and 12 acres in that same area is seeded to subterranean clover and alta fescue.

Water for the barn is taken from the system which serves other units of the Home.

Hand Hoeing Ruled Out

Taking the sting out of strawberry growing will be demonstrated at the Burns Christopher farm on highway 99 between Hayesville and the Labiah school Tuesday, October 2, at 2 p.m.

Farmers and others interested are invited to attend the demonstration which is being arranged under the supervision of Paul Shepherd who has made the new implement which he calls a rotary hoe and spring weeder.

In practice this summer in other sections the toll has eliminated from 85 to 100 per cent of hand hoeing. It can be put on a two-horse cultivator or used on a tractor with cultivator attachments.

Several vegetable seed producers are interested in the machine for its possibilities in thinning heavily seeded rows.

Shepherd, who assembled the machine, was former vocational agriculture teacher at Gresham but is now with the farm service of the First National bank.



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