

Willamette Valley Farmer

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

Spraying Is Part-Time Job Of Poultryman

By Lillie L. Madsen
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Three hundred New Hampshire fryers have left the W. R. Berndt farm on an average each week for the past three years. In order to maintain this steady flow, between 3,600 and 4,000 birds are on hand all the time. And this, says Mr. Berndt, who is known rather widely in Marion county farm circles as "Bill," is enough to keep one man busy.

But it doesn't keep Mr. Berndt too busy to prevent his doing some experimenting with pastures on the side. In fact, he says, he really went into the chicken business at first in order to build up the soil of the farm he bought. Two loads of litter leave the poultry houses each week for the soil.

Improves Soil
To prove what chicken litter will do for the soil, Mr. Berndt likes to take his visitors out to a field of alfalfa, which has been divided into two sections, one given 100 pounds of phosphate and 100 pounds 33-nitrate per acre, with the other half fed on chicken manure. The latter field shows twice as heavy a growth as that treated with the commercial fertilizers. The experiment, he adds, is not yet completed. Just how well it will work out as pasture this spring will be the final test.

To feed on his experimental pasture lots Mr. Berndt has four young white faces and three milk cows. The milk cows, he admits, he maintains chiefly as "an alarm clock." By selling milk to a hauler who stops at his home first in the morning he is assured of a rather "nice long day." Without the cows he might sleep in, he says. Incidentally, they also furnish milk for home use. Eventually, he adds, he hopes to have some registered white faces, and when he has a sufficient number of these he may give up his chicken business altogether.

Does Spraying
During the past year this versatile farmer bought a power sprayer and during the spring and summer he finds time to spray his own as well as doing some commercial spraying of cattle, sheep and horses for parasites, and fields for weeds. The sprayer has also been found excellent, he tells, for cleaning his chicken equipment. The 400-pound pressure stream does a good job on the cleaning, he explains.

But in the meantime the chickens are "tiding over" nicely in spite of the fact that it costs him on the average \$200 a week to maintain his flock. There are 300 day-old baby chicks to be bought each week. The 4,000 chickens, ranging in age from the day-olds to the 12 and 13-week olds, eat two tons of mixed feeds of various varieties to conform with their ages, each week. When sold at from 12 to 13 weeks old they average around three pounds apiece.

Native of Liberty
A few years ago Mr. Berndt bought the 50 acre farm he now lives on in the Liberty district just a short way up the hill from his parents' old farm where he was born. He also farms an additional 25 acres belonging to his mother. Of special experimental value to him this year are eight acres of the new Cascade barley which he is testing out.

"Oregon State college and the Marion county agent's office are almost partners of mine," Mr. Berndt smiles. "I keep in constant touch with the fellows who keep me informed on new methods and new varieties of pasture mixtures, as well as new things in the poultry business."

The last eruption of Fujiyama, famous Japanese volcanic peak, was in 1707-8.

Clubs to Be Honored

Informal parties head the social slate this week with many hostesses entertaining their clubs.

Mrs. Wallace Hug was hostess at her Fir street home Wednesday night to members of her club. A late supper was served following several hours of contract bridge. Additional guests were Mrs. Asa Lewelling, Mrs. Richard L. Cooley and Mrs. Russell Kutz.

Mrs. Paul Bale has invited members of her club to her Saginaw street home tonight for a dessert supper and evening of bridge.

Mrs. H. G. Smith will preside at a bridge luncheon Friday afternoon at her Center street home for members of her club.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kolb will

Proper Soil Helps Control Filbert Ills, Says Miller

When old filbert orchards begin to show decline the cause may be specific diseases or pests, or it may be unfavorable weather, soil or other conditions, reports Dr. Paul W. Miller and C. E. Schuster, federal specialists in nut production stationed at Oregon State college.

Crowded trees, improper soil or other poor environment may make the trees easy victims of disease which would not make headway against healthy, vigorous trees.

Filberts, Dr. Miller reports, will not thrive on a waterlogged soil or one having a high water table through most of the winter months. In a waterlogged soil the root systems are not extensive enough to provide for the needs of the trees. Filberts need at least eight effective feet of soil where they are grown without irrigation. Root penetration is stopped not only by rock or gravel but also by impervious hardpan, a high water table or poor aeration.

Ewalt Gives Idea How to Carry On When Power's Out

Power will go off at milking time occasionally during the winter months. This is quite a disastrous occasion for dairymen since most of them have long forgotten the art of milking 15 or 20 cows by hand in a short period.

Harold P. Ewalt, college extension dairyman, who attended the Mt. Angel creamery patrons' meeting during the week, had a suggestion to offer which might meet the situation. Said Ewalt: Place the milking machine vacuum pump where it can be reached by a belt from the farm tractor. He adds that he has observed that many farmers overlook the possibility of power shortages when they locate their milking machine power plants in the barns.

Ewalt offered another suggestion which is to use the vacuum developed from the engine's manifold. Merely place a tap on the manifold, insert a small potcock with a short length of hose, connect the hose to a small cock on the milking machine airline. Then in the case of a tractor idling speed will operate two machines at a vacuum of 12 to 14 inches.

Farm Calendar

January 8-10—Fifty-second annual Oregon Wool Growers association, Imperial hotel, Portland.
January 12-14—Oregon State Dairymen's Association, Astoria.
January 13-15—Polk county pruning demonstrations. Places to be arranged for through county agent's office in Dallas.

January 15—Willamette Production Credit association, Salem.
January 17—Polk county local 4-H Leaders association for election. Polk courthouse, Dallas, 10 a.m.

January 18—Marion County Jersey Cattle club meeting, dairy co-op building, Salem.
January 19-20—Western cooperative vegetable insect control project conference, Multnomah hotel.

January 21-23—Western cooperative spray project conference, Imperial hotel, Portland.

January 23—Business meeting, Mt. Angel Cooperative creamery, 10:30 a.m.

January 26—Willamette basin project meeting in Polk county courthouse, Dallas, 10 a.m.

January 31—Oregon Jersey Cattle club, annual meeting, Salem.

February 7—Third annual bred gilt sale, state fair grounds, Salem.

February 13-14—Annual meeting Western Oregon Livestock association, Roseburg, K. P. hall.

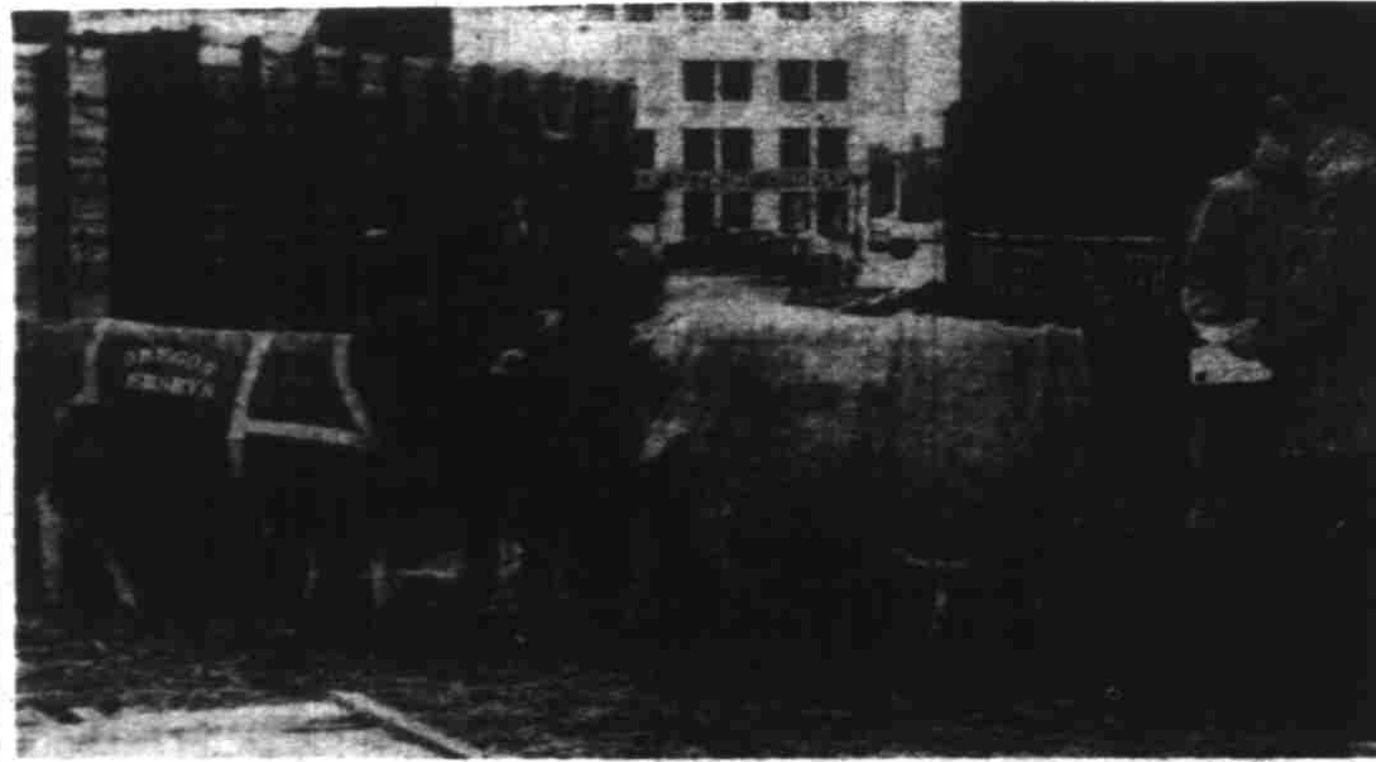
February 16-18—Oregon dairy manufacturers' meeting, Corvallis.

entertain their club at supper Sunday night at their home on Simpson street. Bridge will be in play during the evening. Covers will be placed for Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Swenson, Albany, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Specht, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Chambers and the Kolbs.

New Sewing Club Formed

A new sewing club was organized Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Everett Odle on North Liberty street. Refreshments were served by the hostess. The group will meet every Tuesday afternoon.

Attending were Mrs. Walter Esplin, Mrs. Glenn Foster, Mrs. William Wilson, Mrs. Stanley Friese, Mrs. Arch Wilson and Mrs. Odle.



Being loaded into a special box-car in Salem for the first leg of their trip to Venezuela are 25 top-flight heifers from this area. Shipment is under the direction of Kenneth C. Reker, Burns, Ore., purchasing agent for the Venezuelan government. Floyd E. Bates, Brookshire Farm, route 4, at left, waiting while Mary Jenkins, Independence, loads his heifer into the car, and C. J. Jenkins, Independence, checks the loading. In lower photo, front to rear, are Reker, Jenkins and Newton Davis, Woodburn. Jenkins will accompany the heifers to Houston, Tex., where they will be loaded aboard ships. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Horticultural Committee Makes Survey

The Marion county horticultural committee of the county agricultural planning council, meeting in Salem recently, recommended only minor changes for the 1948 program from the 1947 arrangements.

Grower and processor representatives on the committee included John Ramage, chairman; William Linfoot, Jr., John Etzel, Henry Hansen, William Shinn and Sam Rager. Assisting them were C. O. Rawlin, extension horticulturist at Oregon State college and Harry Riches and D. L. Rasmussen from the Marion county agent's office.

Tree and small fruit recommendations for 1948 include: Sweet cherries. The unsettled market condition hindering in the future and production in other producing areas in the Western states does not warrant extensive new sweet cherry plantings in this area. If market are protected, expansion should be confined to the Royal Anne variety which is preferred by processors for brining.

In view of the threat to the cherry industry by virus disease, the committee recommended that virus-free budwood registered by Oregon experiment station plant pathologists in cooperation with Oregon nurserymen be used for new plantings.

Sour cherries—since sour cherries have always been a cheap commodity, since the high freight costs make it impossible to ship sour cherries to the eastern markets, and since these cherries cannot be easily protected from damage by the cherry fruit fly, the committee does not recommend any increase in sour cherry plantings.

Peaches—The February 1947 recommendations for peaches were not changed. Limited cold storage facilities prevent expansion of acreage for canning purposes. The committee hopes that peach variety tests being conducted by horticulturists at the Oregon experiment station will help strengthen the peach industry in the future.

Prunes—The committee suggested that the assistant county agent work with one or two Marion county farmers in establishing demonstration orchards to show the results from tree thinning in



crowded prune orchards. A moisture deficiency during the summer months is one reason why prune crops are irregular. The test orchards may show it is possible to get better acreage production with fewer trees per acre. Apples and pears—Market outlooks and competition with the more intensive home fruit producing regions will limit commercial apple and pear production in Marion county.

Established the prewar average acreage. However, an excess tonnage of strawberries from this acreage is not expected because many old plantings are being carried over an extra year, some plantings came from poor quality plants and will therefore be low-producing and short-lived, and some of the acreage is held by farm speculators, not strawberry growers.

It is important that growers stay with proved varieties. Although the Redheart is liked by growers, the processors don't want it for freezing. It is still a good canning berry, but canning berries are no longer in demand. New plantings should be confined to the Marshall until something better is accepted by the processors. Oregon Certified Blue Tag plants should be used for all new plantings.

Raspberries—Although processors are demanding red raspberries, new plantings should be limited to processor-approved varieties planted only on adapted soils. The committee feels that widespread red raspberry plantings would be ill advised. Best results in Marion county have been obtained from plantings near the North Santiam river. Both Newberg and Washington varieties have done well in this area. Processors prefer Washington.

Processor demand for black raspberries is also good. A moderate increase in black raspberry plantings is recommended providing that healthy planting stock is used, soil requirements are satisfactory and that the grower is aware of the fungus disease problems in black raspberry culture.

Currants and gooseberries—Although no new plantings of gooseberries are recommended, present acreage should be maintained.

Strawberries—with an estimated 15,000 acres of strawberries this year, Oregon has nearly re-

Trapnesting Recommended For Turkeys

Oregon breeders of Broad Breasted Bronze turkeys have reached the stage where further improvement and continued profits depend upon selection of outstanding families and individuals through trapnesting, just as was done with chickens decades ago, according to a progress report on turkey breeding research started in the spring of 1947 at the agricultural experiment station at Oregon State college.

First year results as reported by J. A. Harper and J. E. Parker of the poultry department showed wide variation in performance among a flock of 150 hens and 20 toms used in the experiment, even though these had been obtained from a flock where selection had been made for such observable characteristics as body size, breast width and early feathering.

"Flock owners are aware that it is impossible to select by physical observation for such characteristics as egg production, fertility, hatchability and livability," the research men state. "Without adequate individual records, improvement for these characteristics cannot be achieved."

Trapnesting Needed
Only 37 per cent of the hens laid more than 50 eggs for the season, while 20 per cent laid more than 60 eggs, indicating a need for trapnesting to select breeders that can pass on high egg production.

Of even more significance, only 24 of the 150 hens produced eggs which hatched better than 70 per cent, and no hen produced eggs which hatched above 90 per cent. A greater percentage of hens will have to be above the 70 per cent mark if turkey breeders and hatcherymen expect to make a profit, the researchers conclude. The need of selecting breeders from high fertility families was also demonstrated the first year. Only one hen laid all fertile eggs, although 47 per cent laid eggs better than 90 per cent fertile. Hatchability of fertile eggs varied widely, being below 70 per cent in two-thirds of the flock, with some individuals showing exceptionally high in this respect. Small eggs and very large eggs did not hatch as well as those of medium weight.

Dairy Convention Stated for Astoria

About 250 delegates are expected for the annual convention of the Oregon State Dairymen's association at Astoria January 12-14. State sessions of four cattle breeders' associations—Guernsey, Jersey, Ayrshire and Holstein—will be held in conjunction with the meeting.

Convention headquarters will be at the Hotel Astoria. The sessions open with committee meetings on the afternoon of January 12.

Dr. B. T. Simms, Washington,

The Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Thursday, January 8, 1948—7



Esther Taskerud
State 4-H Club Department
Oregon State College

D. C., head of the animal industries, will speak. Simms formerly was on the staff of Oregon State college, school of agriculture.

New Club Leader To Be Introduced At Dallas Meeting

The Polk County local 4-H leaders association will meet on Saturday, January 17, for its annual

election of officers and to make plans for the coming year. The meeting will be held in the county court room at Dallas at 10 a. m. with Mrs. Georgia Emerson presiding.

Esther Taskerud, Oregon's new assistant state 4-H club leader will discuss the "Important of Leadership" and the valuable role it plays in 4-H programs. Miss Taskerud came to Oregon from Iowa, where she held a similar position, and brings with her many new ideas.

The county's 4-H club activities and achievements for the past year will be discussed and summarized by Mrs. Viola B. Shaffer, home demonstration agent.

Polk county's assistant county agent, R. M. Ohling, will discuss club work and plans for the 1948 club year. This will be the first opportunity Mr. Ohling has had to meet many of the local leaders.

Officers will be elected to serve for the coming year, and the leaders will select delegates to represent Polk county at the district and state conventions, Corvallis, January 27-29.

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BILL OSKO
Dist. Mgr.

South 40 Association Elects 1948 Officers

Eric Pokkola, Carlton, as president, will direct the McMinnville South 40 club for 1948. Other officers are Joe DiPaola, vice-president; Norlon Taylor, secretary-treasurer; Roger Dumdi and George Bolton, executive committee members.

The South 40 club was organized in December, 1946, and is a group of young farmers throughout Yamhill county. Meetings are held twice each month on the first and third Mondays at the new fair building auditorium, McMinnville.

LEE ELLMAKER FILES

Lee A. Ellmaker, 2107 N. E. Ridgewood, dr., Portland, Wednesday filed in the state department here for representative in the state legislature at the republican primary election next May. He would represent the fifth representative district, Multnomah county.



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