

How to Water Garden, Told By Specialist

Water makes the difference between a good garden and one that's disappointing both in yield and quality.

This statement by Arthur S. King, state college extension soils specialist, brings up the question most frequently asked by gardeners: "How much and how often should I water my garden?"

King says beginning gardeners, especially, usually stop before the watering job is finished. Light waterings often do more harm than good, because feeding roots are brought to the surface where only a few hours of dry, hot weather can burn them seriously.

Each garden irrigation should include enough water to moisten the soil completely to the depth the roots penetrate. This means two or three feet.

The soils specialist says gardens may be sprinkled, the water may be applied in furrows, or it may be applied directly to the soil through a pipe or hose. The method of applying water makes little difference to the growing crop.

Time Important

Time of irrigation is important, however, King states.

To apply enough water during a single irrigation, King says it is often necessary to keep a sprinkler operating in one spot 8 or 12 hours. Furrow watering may also take a similar period of time. To determine if enough water has been applied, King suggests either digging down with a shovel, hoe or similar garden tool, or shoving a stick down where soil is soft.

Demonstrations Are Planned for Livestock Fitting

Plans for a series of four Saturday morning demonstrations in the fitting for and showing of livestock are being made in Polk county by E. M. Ohling, assistant county agent, in cooperation with W. C. Leth, county agent.

These demonstrations to cover the four principal types of livestock in the 4-H program in Polk county, sheep, dairy, beef and swine, will be held on various farms throughout the county. The first hour of the meeting will be devoted to a demonstration of how to fit a particular animal in question so that it may be properly displayed at the fair. The second portion of the program will take up the various phases of showing, including method of handling, courtesy to others in the show ring, and other important points in the showmanship contest.

The first of the meetings is set for Saturday, July 10, 9:30 a.m., place to be announced later, Leth says.

Farm Calendar

July 3, 4 and 5 — Molalla Rodeo, St. Paul Rodeo and Gresham Rodeo.

July 4 — Crawfordsville Round.

July 8 — Potato Field Day, OSC, Assembly point Memorial Union building, 9:30 a.m.

July 12 — Clackamas County Jersey Cattle club.

July 12-16 — Third annual meeting for town and country churches, Corvallis.

July 13 — Aumsville Farmers Union.

July 18 — Marion County Jersey Cattle club, Lewis Judson home, Salem.

July 25-31 — National Farm Safety week.

July 27-31 — Santiam Bean Festival, Stayton.

Aug. 3 — Annual meeting of Oregon Poultry Improvement association.

Aug. 4-5 — Pullorum testing and flock selecting school, Poultry building, Corvallis.

Aug. 7 — Willamette Valley Purebred Ram and Ewe sale, Albany, 9:30 a.m.

Aug. 14 — Annual Oregon Ram sale, Pendleton, 10 a.m.

Aug. 14 — White Salmon rodeo.

Aug. 20-22 — Mt. Angel Flax Festival.

Aug. 26 — Yamhill county 4-H and FFA fair, McMinnville.

Aug. 26-28 — Polk county fair.

Sept. 1-4 — Clackamas county fair.

Sept. 6-12 — Oregon State fair.

Sept. 24 — Ore.-Cal. Hereford bull sale, Lakeview.

Sept. 25 — 4-H and FFA Fat Stock sale and show, Pendleton, 8 p.m.

Sept. 27 — Polled Hereford Heifer sale, state fair grounds, Salem.

Willamette Valley Farmer

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



For 74 years Taylor's Grove on the Santiam has been a favorite picnic spot for farm and town folk alike. Those who like a quiet spot to bring the family Sunday afternoon still claim it as a favorite, and among these are the two families from Salem pictured here. From left to right are Jackie Graber, Larry Goodwin, Jeanine Graber, Mrs. Kenneth Graber, Mr. Graber, Mrs. William Goodwin and Mr. Goodwin.

Celebrations Recall Ways Of Other Days

By Lillie L. Madsen

Fourth of July! Surrounding these words are varying mists of memories but to the Willamette valley farm child of some years ago, certain definite threads run through most of the mental pictures.

The hay was either cocked or in the barn. Whole farm families worked from early morning until dark (and found as many hours as they do now with daylight saving) to have the last cock set up or the last load of loose, fragrant hay in the mow. Just why, no one seems to know, but Fourth of July could not be celebrated properly with hay in windrows or uncut.

There were no strawberry fields in which to make 10 or 15 dollars a day, but there were wild blackberries to be picked and sold at 45 cents for half a gallon. For years their price prevailed never varying a nickel. The money was spent for firecrackers (the little ones at five cents a "bunch"), and skyrockets in small sizes for 10 cents apiece. City Celebrations Held

Choice of celebrations in most farm homes was one of three things:

Your town had a big celebration, you dressed up in your new white "Fourth of July dress" (if you were a girl) or your knickers (if you were a boy) and rode on the float. The float was built in stairsteps and would hold from 20 to 30 children. It was drawn by horses before it was pulled by an auto. Each child had a flag to wave at the people-lined streets. There was a Goddess of Liberty, usually a little on the plump side and not wearing a bathing suit—not even such bathing suits as were worn then. When the parade was over you joined the multitudes of other celebrators and listened to fine words about the brave heroes of 1776. Someone sang "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean" and someone read the Declaration of Independence. There was quite a group of "boys" in blue. You rode the merry-go-round and you ate crackerjacks and drank pink lemonade. All of the towns did it—Independence, Dallas, McMinnville, Woodburn, Silverton, Stayton, Turner, Jefferson, Albany, even Salem.

Celebrations Held at Home Or you stayed at home, shot your firecrackers during the day, and at night stuck pinwheels on the picket fence in the front lawn, and watched papa (he never trusted anyone else) shoot the skyrockets.

Or, you packed up a family basket, usually got the neighbors to join you, hitched up the surrey or



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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Pampered Farmers

If the folks in our town were less tolerant, they'd be really burned up over that nationally circulated article on "pampered farmers," describing them as living off the fat of the land.

From where I sit the farmer is anything but "pampered." If he's better off today than twenty years ago it's because he's worked hard to improve the quality and quantity of his production.

Take Bert Childers, for example. Bert is up at four in the morning, to get the milking finished—and

ploughing or harvesting, depending on the season, until sundown. In the evening he finally relaxes with the misnomer over a moderate glass of beer.

And the farmer today's not only temperate in his habits, like Bert's evening glass of beer... but tolerant in his opinions. He'll probably say of that article, "somebody got the facts wrong," and just let it go at that.

Joe Marsh

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Alfalfa Can Be Planted If Done at Once

There's still a chance to plant a forage crop that will salvage something from an otherwise peculiar growing season.

Alfalfa, preferably Grimm alfalfa, will fill the breach in many areas of western Oregon, believes E. R. Jackman, Corvallis' crops specialist. Time for planting alfalfa is fast running out, however, he adds.

Jackman recommends that alfalfa, seeded alone, ordinarily should be planted in western Oregon not later than June but with extra moisture this year a little later may still do.

Recommended rate of seeding is 12 pounds per acre on a firm seedbed. Inoculation is also suggested.

In recent years, the acreage of alfalfa in western Oregon has been going down, almost to the vanishing point in some counties. A principal reason for the decline in alfalfa acreage is the fact that as old stands have been plowed under, the land has been replaced with other crops.

Current high prices have made farmers reluctant to lose a year's use of their land during the time it takes to get alfalfa established, Jackman explains. Although little value is received from alfalfa during its first year, Jackman points out that in following years, it will produce twice as much in pounds of digestible feed as any other crop. On non-irrigated land it approaches what is expected from irrigated ladino clover.

Jackman describes alfalfa as being the "queen of the forage family." It has everything that means "oomph" in feed — high protein, vitamins, minerals — and possibly some feed values not yet discovered.

Alfalfa also costs less per ton because stands last for years; it frees the owners from the worries that accompany annual crops, and it makes green feed in the hot summer months when other fields are brown and dry, Jackman summarizes. Alfalfa when plowed under increases soil fertility.

Speaking of mint—The E. B. Henningsens, who farm some 700 acres down Jefferson way, say that while everyone knows that mint goes with lamb, the combination has been found in reverse recently.

Henningsens have been experiencing some difficulty in keeping lambs out of mint fields. Whether this will flavor the lamb sufficiently that dressings of mint sauces, jelly or just mere foliage can be omitted, is still problematic, the Henningsens say, but they are working on the theory, they add.

Besides their 250 acres of mint, the Henningsens are running 65 head of Herefords.

Richard Jenkins, Independence, who is a so-called Future Farmer, seems to be doing something in the present as well as getting set up for the future.

Ardine Ardible, one of his registered Jersey cows, has qualified for the Silver Medal award of the American Jersey Cattle club by producing 7,785 pounds of milk and 442 pounds of butterfat in 305 days as a two-year old. Indications are that both Ardine and Richard have quite a future before them.

A wheat field in the vicinity of Canby has been ruined by symphylids, J. J. Inskeep, Clackamas county agent, tells us. These small, white scurrying insects with distinct "horns" or antennae, live in the soil. Once they appear they rebuild. Campbell's work will be concerned with assisting in rural housing activities.

HOUSING SPECIALIST NAMED John C. Campbell, formerly an architect in Everett, Wash., has been appointed extension rural housing specialist at Oregon State college. F. L. Ballard, associate director of the extension service, has announced. Ballard points out that many farmers in the state are either building or planning to

Ranch Ramblings

Strawberry weevils do get about. Now they have entered the mint fields where they seem to be doing a rather good job of damage. Experiments are being made in their control by broadcasting poison bait pellets, the same used in strawberry fields. Conclusions have not yet been reached.

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Harder to Keep Milk Clean During Summer

Willamette valley dairymen find it essential to do a first class job of producing clean milk during the summer months. Bacterial counts go up rapidly during warm weather if milk is not absolutely clean.

Producing clean milk requires good equipment, healthy cows,

proper management, and hard work. Keeping the milking barn clean, use of DDT spray to control flies, washing the cows' udder before milking, and use of clean, sterile equipment should produce clean milk. Then the milk should be cooled as rapidly as possible to 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit to keep it in good condition for the consumer.

Additional Farm News on page 10

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