

# WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

## 1950 Fair Will Be Different Is Promise

By Lillie L. Madsen  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Well, it doesn't look like it is going to be "just the same old thing" at the Oregon State Fair, again this year as it opens its 85th run on September 4. For one thing, the agricultural building is really going to show agriculture. The entire lower floor will show little else than land products and that which pertains to products of the soil.

**Live Birds on Display**  
Work on the various booths in Agricultural Hall, including the county booths, started several days ago. Not for a long time has the game and fish commission had a display in this building. But there will be one this year. Some of us who can remember back a bit—quite a bit—recall that once the pheasants and the grouse at the state fair were worth several times the price of admission. In fact, so engrossed were we with the birds that our parents could scarcely get us away so they could view the fancy work and the livestock. This may happen again this year, Lincoln Wheeler, superintendent of the agricultural building, reported Wednesday.

The Oregon Wheat Commission, too, has come to the fore and moved in with some of the largest loaves of bread ever exhibited at the fair. Pies almost two feet across will occupy space along with the bread. Small bundles of golden ripe wheat, both from eastern and western Oregon, will decorate the booth.

**Potatoes To Be Entered**  
Bundles of flax, as well as tow, the products of flax were being put up in the flax industries' booth by Salem manufacturers of flax materials as well as the flax mills. Beautiful potatoes in nice uniform sizes as well as considerable other materials created from potatoes will educate the public to the fact that there is a large output each year in Oregon. While the competitive honeys will be there as usual, a new booth giving the story and uses of honey was being decorated Wednesday.

The Langlois cheese industry, makers of Oregon products which are better known without the state than within, is putting up a rather large display to acquaint Oregon folk with their own product.

The bureau of mines, centering around its new laboratory at Albany, will have an interesting display. And while weather is something we think of as belonging outdoors, some of it will be brought in to a new booth at the fair. How weather information is received and dispensed will be explained.

"Afterall," said Mr. Wheeler, "nothing effects agriculture more than does weather."  
**Wood Sugar Show**  
The small wood products display which used to be housed in the grandstand building has been moved into the land products division where it has been considerably enlarged. Included will be the new products of wood such as molasses and sugars, as well as products which actually look as if they had been made from wood.

The wool growers association, in spite of wool reaching toward a dollar a pound as fair week nears, plans to entrust quite a display to Mr. Wheeler and his assistants.

Army engineers are going to show something about the dams (construction of which has been largely under their direction) which deal with flood control.

**Marion Booth Different**  
The Marion county booth itself will be something different this year. It will be worked around the theme "Come to the Fair." There will be a merry-go-round which will actually go around. On this will be riding some attractive handmade pigs, sheep, dairy poultry and other livestock which, usually does come to the fair. Enough cherries to call attention to the fact that Salem is a cherry center will be used in the decorations.

Out in the barns there will be almost as many head of livestock as in the record year. Leo Spitzbart, fair manager, said the number would crowd 5,000 "pretty close." The first livestock arrived Tuesday afternoon.

**18 Kiddie-rides Listed**  
For those, to whom the fair means carnival, there is no lessening of attractions. In Kiddleland, the first 18 rides, especially for youngsters, were being raised Wednesday. And children who want to ride the big ones will get a break on Saturday of fair week, when every ride on midway will cost them only 9 cents between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Work is progressing rapidly on the pools in front of the grandstand where the Water Follies of 1950 will be presented every evening. The Follies will arrive this weekend for their first west coast showing.

Machinery this year, like last, will be somewhat short but "somewhat better than a year ago", to quote Mr. Spitzbart. Some eastern companies were unloading on Machinery Row Wednesday but it was too early to



The Oregon Wheat Commission is arranging to have an attractive booth at the state fair which opens here Monday. Helping get ready for this booth are from left to right, Beverly Kendall, Jerry Crenshaw and Mrs. A. A. Geer. (Farm photo for The Statesman.)



Mrs. Lincoln Wheeler is in charge of getting the Marion county fair booth in proper shape for opening Monday. She is pictured here working on the designating sign to top the booth. (Farm photo for The Statesman.)

## Farm Calendar

**September 4** — Horseshow and amateur rodeo, Manzanita.  
**September 4** — Opening day of Oregon State Fair. Judging of Ayreshires, Holsteins, Brown Swiss.  
**September 5** — Oregon State fair, judging of Guernseys and Jerseys.  
**September 7** — Fifth annual Oregon Columbia Valley Ayreshire breeders sale. State fair. 35 head consigned.  
**September 8** — 4-H fat stock sale at state fair grounds.  
**September 10** — Closing date of 85th annual Oregon state fair.  
**September 11** — 10th annual Southern Oregon ram sale, fairgrounds, Lakeview.  
**September 15** — Oregon Turkey Improvement association. Memorial Union hall, OSC.  
**September 21-23** — North Marion county fair, Woodburn.  
**September 23** — Marion county Dairy Breeders association heifer sale.  
**September 29-30** — Oregon Cattleman's association range bull sale, Baker.  
**September 29-30** — Victoria Horticultural society show, crystal garden lower ball room.  
**October 6-14** — Pacific International Livestock exposition.  
**November 1-3** — Oregon Wool Growers association 55th annual convention Imperial hotel, Portland.  
**November 8-10** — Agricultural cooperative council of Oregon, 29th annual meeting, Multnomah hotel, Portland.  
**November 13-16** — Oregon Farm Bureau federation annual meeting, Klamath Falls.

see just what it might be when it was put together again.

Prominent in the fancy work display (known as the textile department) will be an Armenian lace table cloth valued at \$10,000 and 40 years in the making. Weaving demonstrations will be featured on Thursday of fair week.

Four-H exhibits, including the dollar dinners which are no longer served for that; the floral exhibits, the art exhibits, the poultry, the institutions, the horse races and the horse shows, the hamburgers with onions and the hot dogs with mustard, will all be there, Mr. Spitzbart said.

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## 4-H Show Will Exceed 1949 At State Fair

The 4-H show at state fair gets larger every year, and 1950 is no exception with many entry numbers already exceeding those of a year ago.

This announcement is from L. J. Allen, state 4-H club leader. Press of adding four additional demonstration contests, making a total of 12, has necessitated construction of an additional exhibit stage. On this stage located in the fairgrounds 4-H building, a tournament of champions will be held Saturday, September 9.

**Teams to Be Chosen**  
Top teams in each of the 12 demonstration contests will vie for the privilege of representing Oregon in agriculture and home economics at the regional Pacific International livestock exposition in October. One agricultural and one home economics demonstration team will be chosen.

At least 10 more contestants will compete in the week-long dollar dinner this year, according to entries received at the state 4-H club office.

Among busiest 4-H officials at state fair will be E. L. Shannon and Mrs. E. F. Wright of Portland. They have the job of housing 1800 4-H boys and girls during the week in the fairgrounds dormitory which has a nightly capacity of 350.

**Two Night Limit**  
Other than livestock exhibitors who have the privilege of staying all week, contestants will be limited to two nights occupancy.

The combined 4-H and FFA fat stock auction sale will be held in the fairgrounds sales arena Friday morning, September 8, starting at 10:00 a. m. As in previous years, Ben Suddell, Gervais, will call the sale.

One of the more popular 4-H home economics features of state fair week, the annual style revue, will be held Friday afternoon in the fairgrounds ballroom. This annual showing of dresses made by 4-H girls will feature 125 county "champions" this year.

**EGG LAYERS LESS**  
Potential egg layers on the nation's farms in August, are down slightly from a year ago, reports from the USDA show. The number falls two per cent below average. All regions of the nation show decreases from a year ago in pullets not of laying age.

**PROTEINS ABUNDANT**  
Animal proteins are in abundant supply at the present time at most markets. Prices continue their sharp downward trend. Midwest markets are \$10 a ton lower than a week ago. West coast markets are from \$5 to \$7.50 a ton less.

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## Cash Income To Oregon Farmers Given

With Oregon's 1950 harvest nearing their fall peak, E. L. Peterson, director of agriculture, Wednesday pointed to the first breakdown on Oregon farm marketings last year to emphasize the financial importance of farming to the overall Oregon economy.

The gross cash income to Oregon farmers in 1949 was \$363,563,000, about 33.3 million dollars less than in 1948. Neither figure includes the value of farm products used for home consumption, government payments or a few minor specialty crops. Livestock and livestock products accounted for \$164,268,000, and crops for \$199,294,000 of last year's income from farm marketings.

**Wheat Tops All Crops**  
Wheat maintains its lead as the highest single crop income producer for Oregon farmers, with \$45.3 million, and cattle and calves were tops in the livestock bracket with marketings of \$56.9 million, Peterson reported after reviewing the agricultural income breakdown prepared by the USDA bureau of agricultural economics.

Other incomes from livestock and products in 1949 were: dairy products, \$49.6 million (dairying was the largest single cash item in both livestock and crops in 1949); eggs, \$16.3 million; hogs, \$13.5 million; turkeys, \$9.9 million; sheep and lambs, \$7.1 million; chickens, \$5.5 million; wool, \$2.4 million; and miscellaneous livestock, \$854,000.

**Tree Fruits High**  
Marketings from tree fruits totaled 24.9 million dollars last year and berries brought in another \$14.8 million. The tree fruit returns were slightly above 1948 but the berry marketings were only about half the 1948 income. By commodities, the 1949 marketings from fruits were: pears, \$11.4 million; apples, \$5.1 million; cherries, \$4.1 million; prunes, \$3 million; peaches, \$1 million; strawberries, \$6.4 million; caneberrries, \$8.4 million; miscellaneous fruits, \$233,000.

Grower income from walnuts and filberts was only about half what it was in the war years. Filberts returned \$2.1 million and walnuts \$1.6 million.

Peterson said seed crops returned a gross income of \$20.3 million. This does not include marketings of vegetable seeds, flower seeds or some minor field seed crops.

**Hop Income Down**  
Oregon's truck crops produced last year were worth \$28.1 million to growers before expenses were deducted, and the potato crop brought \$14.3 million; hay, \$10.1 million; barley, \$9.4 million; oats, \$4.1 million; rye, \$241,000; dry field peas, \$221,000.

The 1949 hop crop brought growers \$5.9 million or considerably under other recent years and the income from peppermint was \$2.8 million also down from recent years. Miscellaneous crops returned \$3.4 million. Forest products sold by farmers returned \$3.1 million and marketings of the nursery industry totaled \$7.6 million, according to the estimates just released.

Peterson emphasized that these figures are all cash receipts figured before the farmers' paid their bills of producing, harvesting and marketing.

## Change in Yellow Dwarf Law Sought

Changes in the onion yellow dwarf disease control program will be discussed at a meeting of Lake Labish onion growers and property owners on Tuesday, September 5. County Extension Agent D. L. Rasmussen says the meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. at Labish Center school.

Growers will decide whether or not a "no dumping" clause should be added to the control area order. Several growers have told Rasmussen that the onion yellow dwarf disease control program could be improved by prohibiting dumping of onions within the boundaries of the onion yellow dwarf control area.

## Fierly, Smarting Itch of Common Skin Rash

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Just about the two most busy people in the state of Oregon this week (and it won't slacken for them next week) are Lee Spitzbart, state fair manager, and LaReign Barber, new as state fair secretary this year. During the brief moments they took off to pose for this picture at one of the colorful flowerbeds in front of the fair administration building, they also answered a score of questions asked by others than the farm photographer.

## KEEP ON IRRIGATING

"Don't stop irrigating pastures just because we have had a shower," is the advice given dairymen and livestock producers by O. E. Mikesell, Linn county extension agent. Right now is a critical time in the pasture period and lack of water will greatly curtail

growth. Irrigation is recommended until fall rains thoroughly wet the root zone of grasses and legumes.

When heifers are not on pasture feed them all the hay they will eat. It makes economical growth.

## Mint Industry Threatened by Rust Increase

Farmers who flavor the nation's chewing gum with their peppermint oil have a new production headache.

It's a fungus disease called peppermint rust. Extension Plant Pathology Specialist A. P. Steenland of Oregon State college says the disease is cutting oil yields this year as much as 30 percent in many Columbia county fields. Last year, there was practically no rust problem.

**Rust Spreading**  
Rust in Willamette valley mint fields is "spotted," according to a survey made by Steenland. He says the situation in Marion, Yamhill, Linn and Lane counties is the same now as it was in Columbia a year ago. Next year, Steenland fears, there could be a corresponding big increase in the infestation.

Trouble at the moment is the fact there is no sure-fire cure for peppermint rust.

The specialist, however, is recommending that in those areas where mint growers normally dust for mint flea beetle following harvest to use, if possible, a dust containing sulphur. Applied this fall—not next spring—the dust will result in a rust-free regrowth, Steenland hopes.

**Makes Two-Way Cut**  
The oil yield in mint fields affected with rust is cut in two ways, by premature leaf fall and by forcing harvest to begin while the leaves are still immature.

Rust appears on both sides of leaf surfaces causing yellow spots on the top sides; tan spore masses on the leaf bottoms. Harvesting operations spread the spore masses throughout a field infecting remaining stubble.

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