

WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Strawberry Harvest Time Now at Peak

By Lillie L. Madsen
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It won't be long now, strawberry growers, processors and pickers alike are remarking. The strawberry season, because of late frosts, and early draughts, was late in starting but it will not be late in stopping.

This week sees the peak and over the hump of the 1951 season, said Robert E. Shinn of the Willamette Valley Cherry growers Wednesday. The cherry growers also process some berries.

Up at the Statton Canning Company plant the peak is definitely here this week, F. Smith, manager said.

Crop 50 Per Cent

All processing plants expect to be through with strawberries by July 1. The crop is only about 50 per cent of normal, growers and processors both agree. But quality is excellent although many of the valley berries have been small.

Hill berries, however, have been of about normal size, but these, too, are winding up more rapidly than usual. Those who expect to get berries for their own processing had best do so before the end of the month. Even the last week is "plenty late" growers said Wednesday.

Shinn said that cherry picking was now well underway. While the crop is somewhat spotted in some areas, it is excellent in the hills across the river from Salem. Here the trees hang heavily and picking, the men and women on the ladders report, is "pretty good going."

Valley Yield Varies

In some of the orchards in east Marion and Linn county, the crop is not so good. Late frosts caught some of the blooms. However, a survey Wednesday showed that around Woodburn the crop, too, was quite fair.

Like the strawberries, the cherries are of fine quality this year.



STATTON—No matter how nice the strawberries are, there is a certain amount of hawking to be done. A score of women work on these belts picking out the discard berries. At top left is Bess Shelton, with Caroline Keldel at the right, both employed in the Statton Canning company plant. Below, LaVeta Dozier is kept busy setting up the boxes. The boxes are sealed before they leave the conveyor, from which they go to the freezing rooms. (Statesman Farm photos.)

St. Paul Man Tops in Herd Improvement

C. L. Simmons in the St. Paul community topped all herd averages in the Marion County Dairy Herd Improvement association this past month with 55.2 pounds of butterfat per cow in his six-Holstein cow herd. O. A. Parton of Woodburn was second with an average of 53.1 pounds of fat on 16 Jersey cows and Harry Stewart of West Stayton was third with 51.2 on seven Jerseys.

There were many other good records, with Ray Davis of Aumsville averaging 48.74 on his 24 cows and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Bates, Salem, recording 46.6 pounds on 25 registered Jerseys. Woodburn Claims Tops

In the larger herd groups, Neal Miller and Fred Davis of Woodburn rated 45.9 pounds of fat for 33 Jerseys; Herb Coleman, Woodburn, 43.7 pounds on 51 Jerseys; H. C. Stuve, 42.5 pounds on 16 Guernseys and Andrew Kehrl & Son, Woodburn, 42 pounds on 101 Jerseys.

N. F. Buysler & Son of Woodburn made 42 pounds on 74 Jerseys and G. H. Martin, Aurora, 40.5 on 87 cows. Many of the good records went to Woodburn, with Buford Brown & Son, Woodburn, also copping a place in the top ranks with an average of 46.28 pounds on 37 Guernseys.

E. S. Coates & Son of Salem, with 46 cows averaged 45.69; Torvend and Phillips, Silverton, 41.9 on 28 Jerseys, and Mr. and Mrs. Felix Muller, Jefferson, 42.9 on 22 cows. In 62 herds tested there were 1,805 cows, with 209 cows dry. The average, including the dry cows was 38.47 pounds of butterfat per cow.

Two two-year-old cow was in Vandecovering's herd of Holsteins at Mt. Angel. In 305 days, this cow produced 13,190 pounds of milk and 488 pounds of butterfat. Phillips & Torvend, Silverton, owned the top three-year-old, a Jersey making 538 pounds of butterfat in 10 months.

In four-year-olds, another Silverton father-son combination was high, with H. A. Barnes & Sons owning a cow producing 10,001 pounds of milk and 573.7 pounds of butterfat.

High record completed in the past month was an aged Holstein cow in the George Kruse herd at Mt. Angel. She produced 17,220 pounds of milk and 836.3 pounds of butterfat.

FERTILIZER MEET TO DRAW

Willamette valley farmers and warehousemen will have a vital interest in the Northwest Fertilizer Conference at Corvallis, June 28-29. Such subjects as fertilizer placement, time of application and amounts to use per acre, as well as the supply outlook, will make up the program. The fertilizer session starts at 8:30 a.m. next Thursday in the Memorial Union ballroom on the OSC campus.

FRONT LINE BATHUBS

WITH THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION IN KOREA—(P)—Marines on the central Korea front have come up with a new gimmick in the pursuit of cleanliness. Weary of bathing out of their helmets, members of a marine reconnaissance company used an unexploded napalm bomb to good advantage. The bomb—an aircraft belly tank filled with jellied gasoline—was disarmed, sawed horizontally in half, scrubbed and filled with water. The result: A bathtub more adequate than a helmet.

Ranch Ramblings

Over at Silverton the Silver Creek Soil conservation district has a new hydraulic scoop and all the men of the district are having a fine time.

First one of the "cooperators" (that's the folk in the soil conservation district) to use the gadget was Eldon Wilgus, living about two miles north of Victor Point school. Eldon is building an earth-fill dam to store irrigation water and is using the scoop behind his tractor to move the earth. He says this new affair is doing a much better job of packing the dam fill than does his "cat" and dozer.

The dam itself is about 10 feet in height and about 150 feet long. Engineering assistance was furnished by soil conservation service technicians working with the Silver Creek district. Water from the pond will be used to irrigate strawberries and a small acreage of summer pasture.

Anytime may be lambing time at the Alfred Jensen ranch in the Bush creek district west of Silverton. A Suffolk ewe which lambed in December brought another one in this week. Alfred said he could scarcely believe his ears when he heard the blating of a tiny lamb in his flock. He didn't, he added, know that any of his ewes were expecting. At the price of lamb this season, Alfred says he hopes twice-lambing will be repeated.

PI Livestock Judges Named By W. A. Holt

A number of judges for the 41st annual Pacific International Livestock exposition, scheduled for October 6 to 13 at Portland, have been named. Walter A. Holt, manager, reported this week.

Included are beef cattle: Aberdeen-Angus, judging, October 9; John B. Brown, Rose Hill, Ia.; Hereford, judging October 7; Harry Parker of San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Shorthorn, judging, October 10; J. Charles Yule, Calgary, Canada.

Dual purpose cattle: Milking Shorthorns, judging October 9; Richard V. Keim, Nampa, Idaho. Dairy Breeds: Ayrshires, judging, October 10; F. B. Wolberg, Corvallis; Holstein and Brown Swiss, judging October 9 and 10; G. E. Gordon, Berkeley, Cal.; Jersey and Guernsey classes, judging October 8 and 9; H. H. Kildee, Ames, Iowa.

Milk goats: Frank Ecker, Modesto, Cal.; Angora goats, Leonard McCaleb, Monmouth.

Sheep division: Alex McKenzie of Stillwater, Okla., and Claude Steusloff of Salem.

Hog divisions: Guy McReynolds of Ashland, Neb.

Halter horse division: Preston Dyer, Pomona, Cal.; Arabians: Ward Wells, Oswego, Palominos and Tennessee Walkers, and Perry Cotton of Visalia, Cal., quarter horses.

Jerry Dyrud and his high school band never fail to arise to an occasion.

After marching a mile from Silverton to the Valley Farmers Co-op open house for the new grain elevator Saturday, the youngsters still had plenty of wind left to blow out "Old McDonald Had a Farm." Needless to say, the band received a big hand.

When it comes to vegetable gardening, Don L. Rasmussen, who is Marion county agent as well as official adviser for vegetable gardening in the Men's Garden club of Salem, knows the answers. Don says to use shallow cultivation and thorough irrigation if you want really good vegetables. He also says that space used for early maturing vegetables can be replanted to fall and winter crops to good advantage. Hand hoeing or mechanical cultivation should be just deep enough to cut off the weeds without damaging too many feed-

PMA Office Sets Support Prices for '51

Marion county production and market administration office has announced a list of support prices effective in Marion county for the 1951 crop. Crimson clover and oats show a slight increase in support price, while barley, common rye-grass and common vetch show a decrease.

The national average for hairy vetch is 14.70 cents a pound. The Marion county rate has not yet been established. However, it is expected to be 14.50 cents as it was last year. The Marion county wheat support price has not yet been established but is expected to be somewhat higher than last year's price of \$2.06 per bushel.

Barley is listed at \$1.25 a bushel; oats at 81 cents; flax seed at \$2.73; common and Willamette vetch at 8 cents a pound; crimson clover at 6 1/2 cents a pound and rye grass at 8 1/2 cents a pound.

KILL POISON OAK NOW

Summer months are the best in which to destroy poison oak and ivy. At this time of year, the plants are growing vigorously, which means that they are more susceptible to sprays containing such materials as 2,4-D brush killer. Spraying must be done thoroughly so that the foliage and stems are covered.

Blank Minds Sleep Best

MONTREAL—(AP)—The trick of getting a good night's sleep involves leaving your mind a blank—not counting sheep—says Dr. Norman Viner, an authority on the subject.

Some reasons for lack of sleep are unavoidable such as money problems, family problems, actual miseries of the day or a guilty conscience. Another way to miss sleep and sit up all night is to chase sleep, says Dr. Viner, and a great many people do. Be careful of sedative drugs, the doctor warns. They may be useful servants, "but often they turn out to be very bad masters." Too many people rely on them until they cannot do without them.

If you want your beauty sleep have a clear conscience and a blank mind—aid a comfortable bed.

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Blackberries Die Quickly From Sprays

The season is here for controlling blackberries with the chemical 2,4-D-T, county extension agents report.

The best time to make applications of this control material is after the blackberry has fully leaved out. The leaves should be fully expanded and the lower ones of a mature size before spraying begins.

Amounts Given

Experiments conducted at Oregon State college show that from four to six pounds of the parent acid, 2,4-D-T per acre, applied along about this time of year, will give good control on both large and small blackberry bushes. Since it is often difficult to gauge the amount of water that will be required to spray the scattered patches of varying sized plants, the simplest method is to use about three pounds of the actual acid mixed with 100 gallons of water. Then spray to get the entire foliage of the plant uniformly wet with a thin film.

It is desirable to have equipment that will deliver a sufficient volume of spray to wet the plants rapidly such as a sprayer which will deliver four gallons of solution per minute at pressures from 250 to 350 pounds. But smaller sprayers will also do the job, even the three-gallon hand sprayer.

Care Must Be Used

It is almost impossible to obtain a 100 per cent kill in one application. Usually there will be a limited amount of new sprouts or regrowth from treated plants. After treating now, the new growth that will occur should be fall-treated. This follow-up spray usually requires a very small amount of chemical per acre.

There are certain precautions that should be observed when using this material. Wayne Roberts, Yamhill county extension agent, warned Wednesday: Most important is to remember that if you are spraying near susceptible plants that you do not want to kill, it is necessary to protect such plants from the drift and vapors of the chemicals used.

The first glass made by men was colored and great difficulty was encountered when the attempt was made to make it clear.

Farm Calendar

- June 21 — Final day of annual Pullorum testing and flock selection school, OSC.
- June 22 — Oregon Poultry Improvement association, OSC
- June 23 — 31st annual Baby Chick association, OSC
- June 27-29 — Pacific Northwest Fertilizer conference, OSC
- July 10-13 — Oregon's fifth annual leadership institute for town and country churches, Corvallis.
- July 15 — Marion County Jersey Cattle club meeting.
- July 22-28 — National Farm Safety Week.
- July 24 — All American Corriedale show and sale, Greeley, Colo.
- August 4 — Willamette Valley 11th annual Purebred Ram and Ewe sale, Albany, 10 a.m.
- August 4 — Western Horse show, Silverton, 8 p. m.
- August 5 — Oregon Jersey Cattle club annual picnic, Champoeg Park.
- August 10-12 — Mt. Angel Flax Festival.
- August 17 — Oregon Ram sale, Pendleton Round-up Livestock sale pavilion.
- August 20-21 — National Ram sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- August 20-26 — M u l t i n o m a h County Fair, Gresham.
- August 23-25 — Polk County Fair, Monmouth.
- August 28 - September 1 — Linn County Fair, Albany.
- August 29 - September 1 — Washington County fair, Hillsboro.
- September 1-9 — Oregon State Fair, Salem.

New Applicators To Be Exhibited

Two new type fertilizer applicators will be displayed at the second annual Northwest Fertilizer conference at Oregon State college June 27, 28 and 29.

One of the new implements is a sub-surface fertilizer applicator for seed crops. The other is a row crop band applicator.

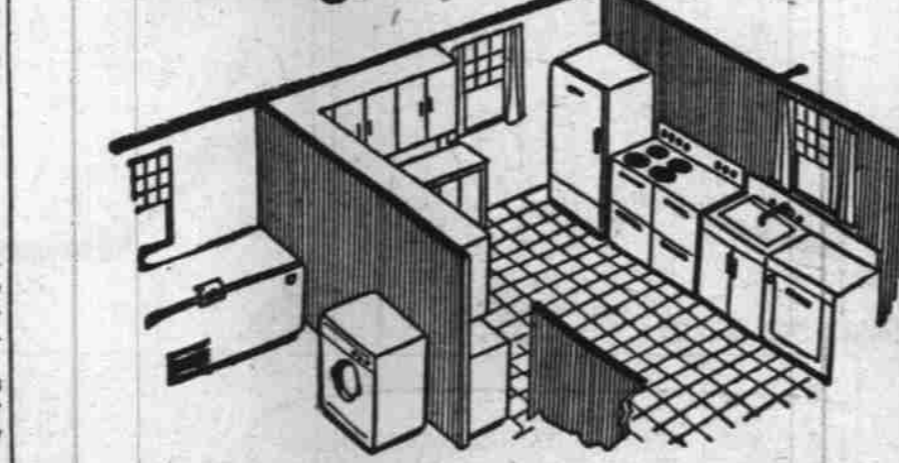
A feature of the three-day meet will be the banquet at which Dr. S. C. Vandecavey, president of the Soil Science Society of America will be the featured speaker.

Statewide Poultry Council Formed

Organization of a statewide poultry and turkey committee to make preparations for the 1952 economic outlook conference to be held at Oregon State college has been announced.

This committee is one of 11 conference committees being organized. A Eugene hatchery operator and egg broker, George M. Petersen, will serve as general chairman of the combined poultry and turkey committee. W. H. Schweiter, Portland is chairman for the turkey sub-committee. In addition to his duties as general chairman, Petersen will head the poultry group. Noel Bennion, extension poultry specialist, is secretary for the poultry committee.

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