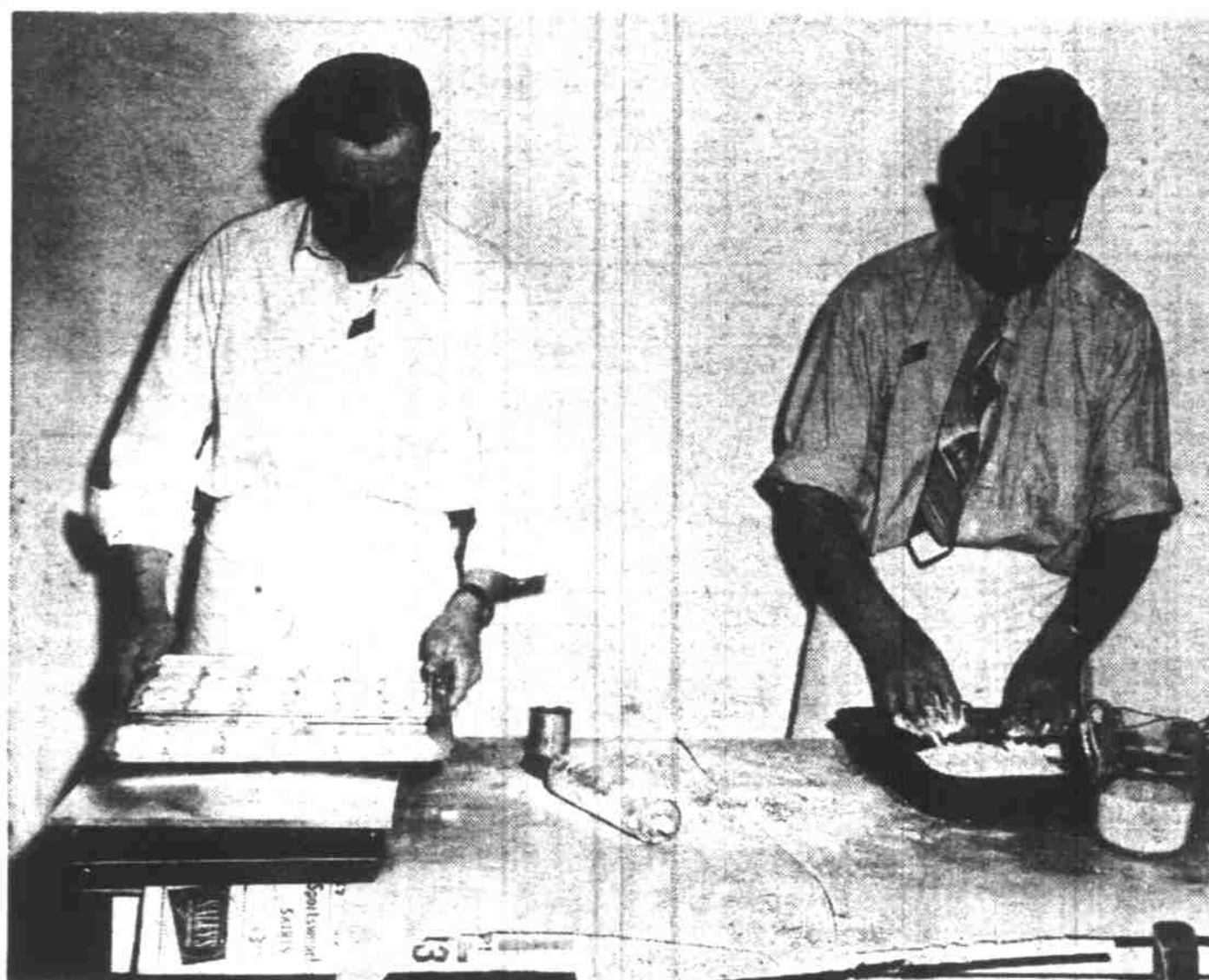


WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Waldo Hills Men Whip Up Some Biscuits



WALDO HILLS—That the Rue men can cook was proved at the dinner at the Waldo Hills Community Club where the men prepared the food for 75 women. Here are Waldo Rue, left, and Ferd Rue making the biscuits which melted in the mouth once the women got ahold of them. (Farm Photo for The Statesman.)

Sweet Peas Coming Back To Star in Home Gardens

Sweet peas, once the most popular annual flowers in this country, grown in almost every garden, are making a strong come-back. Varieties which bloom early and resist hot weather are in part responsible. Better methods of growing help a great deal, also.

It used to be advised, and still is by many, that seed of sweet peas should be sown at the bottom of a trench six inches deep, covered lightly with soil and allowed to grow, the trench being filled in as the plants grew.



Spencer Sweet Peas

Now many growers advise making a drill only 1 1/2 inches deep in which to sow the seeds. This is said to avoid plenty of trouble from poor drainage and disease. Fall sowing, once, too, thought the "only method," is changing. A number of experts of today do not advise this for places other than the south, but stress, instead, the importance of sowing early in the spring.

Sweet peas and garden peas are first cousins. They are cool weather plants by nature, and give their best yields before the weather gets really hot. This makes early flowering vital in sections where spring is a brief interval between freezing and perspiring. While spring is a long season here in the Willamette Valley, it is still advisable to get the seed in as early as possible.

When the old-fashioned grandiflora type of sweet peas was made obsolete by the larger and more beautiful Spencer waived strain, it was found that the newer type was so much later in flowering that our dry summer cut its harvest short.

It has taken some time to change this, but there are few problems which modern plant breeders do not seem to solve. This one was solved some years ago. More and more gardeners are learning that now there are available strains of Spencer sweet peas which bloom early, resist dry weather, so that a long season of beautiful flowers is possible from seed sown in the early spring.

Porous garden soil, as fertile as you have, will give best results. As soon as the plants are three inches high, brush or other climbing medium, should be provided for the vines, and by the time the vines have grown to six inches, wire supports, well anchored, should be in place.

Regular watering is essential after the spring rains end. The soil should be soaked at least every week, often if necessary, to prevent drying out. A liquid plant food, rich in nitrogen, should be applied every two weeks, equal to an ounce of sulphate of ammonia for 10 feet of row. A mulch of manure, lawn clippings or similar material will help retain the moisture in the soil and prolong the flowering season.

Sweet peas are legumes, and secrete nitrogen from the air. They benefit if the seeds are inoculated with a bacterial culture sold for that purpose, but they will grow nicely without this.

Yocum Will Talk on Pond Construction

Marion and Polk counties will team up Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Mayflower Hall in Salem to discuss pond construction. The meeting will begin at 10 a. m. and O. C. Yocum of the Yocum Construction Company, McMinnville, will tell how best to make a farm pond.

Many new farm ponds have been constructed in recent years for irrigation. Whether the pond be for irrigation or other purposes, the dam will need to meet certain requirements, reports Hollis Ottaway, county agent who is arranging the meeting.

Actual usage of water, including the quantity of water needed for maximum results, will be reviewed by Ralph H. Brownscombe, engineering specialist, Soils Conservation Service, Albany. Floyd Miller of the Portland General Electric Company, Oregon City, will talk on problems relative to obtaining electricity for irrigation purposes.

Arthur S. King, soil conservation specialist, Oregon State College, will also be present to discuss fertilizers, irrigation layouts, and response of farm crops to irrigation.

The Gulf of California is among the finest fishing grounds in the world.

Polk County Leaders Will Meet Thursday

RICKREALL — Polk County 4-H Club leaders will hold their annual banquet at the Rickreall Grange Hall Thursday night, Feb. 14, starting at 7:30.

Leaders' achievement certificates and pins will be awarded to the leaders and assistant leaders who led 4-H clubs in 1951.

The program for the evening will include a speaker and the installation of the 1952 4-H Club Leaders Association officers.

Gross Says Early Silage Cut Best

Louie H. Gross, Yamhill County agent, is urging farmers of his area to get the grass silage equipment in shape so that come mid-May, cutting grass silage can start in good form.

"Better results will be obtained by putting the silage in early and even though the crop may still be growing, most crops will make a regrowth when cut that early in the season," he said.

Gross also pointed to George Zimmerman of Yamhill, who has successfully fed his beef cattle on grass silage made from clover and grass combined. The silage has been running 9.73 per cent protein, Gross says.

Scotts Mills And Mehama To Be Hosts

Two farm meetings of general interest are scheduled for two different places in Marion County this coming week.

On Monday, Feb. 18, all farmers in the Scotts Mills area are invited to attend an agricultural discussion meeting to be held at the Odd Fellows Hall in Scotts Mills. The meeting has been set for 7:30 p. m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 1 p. m., farmers in the Santiam Valley area are invited to meet at the Women's Club House in Mehama.

At both meetings the discussion will take somewhat the form of a round-table with the county agents on hand to answer questions. Ben A. Newsum will report on livestock, dairy and poultry work. D. L. Rasmussen will take care of the horticultural items and Hollis Ottaway will handle the crops, certification, fertilizer, irrigation, and weed and rodent control topics.

Ranch Ramblings

This is the time of year, if you drive through the country, you just naturally notice sheep — big sheep and little sheep. The sheep men are notching them, too, and are sort of wondering what is happening to their little world which looked so very shiny a year ago. Roy Ward, manager of the wool co-op got to wondering so much he is now back in Washington, D. C., trying to find out.

We rather surmise from releases which come flapping around, that the support will be set at 57 cents. Farmers who have watched the wool markets for a number of years, say they expect to see the buying price settle some place between 60 and 70 cents.

California's market is in the process of being established now, and that, somehow, seems to set the pace for the rest of us.

Still on the subject of lambs: There seem to be a lot of them — quite a few twins, some triplets and even a couple of sets of quadruplets. The reports, too, are that the lambs are somewhat bigger at birth this year than in some seasons. Last week we reported quadruplets at Donald. This week we hear a ewe at the Fred Hottinger ranch at Sublimity did it, too.

If we continue going to these so-called "community" meetings we are just naturally going to have to get a bigger size. One of the best we went to recently was (we hate to admit it) prepared by a group of men. The Waldo Hills Community Club men prepared the dinner for the women of the community. What we mean is really prepared it. The women didn't have a thing to do but come and eat and criticize. After the former they didn't even do the latter. This is Leap Year, and our suggestion would be that the girls out hunting should look over the Waldo Hills. Those men really can cook.

We sat across table from Ivan Steward, Salem seed man, the other day and listened to some sage remarks about cattle. We were rather interested as we had heard other cattlemen making the same remarks. Ivan is a farmer at heart, and he has his fingers pretty much on the pulse of the thing, although he always says he doesn't know much about it. In fact he prefaced his remarks by "it seems to a greenhorn like me that you can't keep feeder cattle through the winter unless you got plenty of cheap silage. Otherwise best to sell them out at 200 pounds."

We were kind of shocked, while sitting at one farmers' co-op meeting this week—and in a dairy community too—to hear a farm woman back to us say that "butter is 90 cents a pound. We don't buy it, we buy margarine."

"How much do you have to pay for that?" asked her seat neighbor.

"We paid 25 cents at our store yesterday," was the answer.

"Of course that isn't butter—we sell milk—" was the rather doubtful reply.

"So do we, but we turn around and buy margarine. And we tell our kids it's better."

We don't find this the rule at a farm meeting—but it shouldn't happen at all, we rather thought. Us farmers got to stick together, is our opinion.

We liked the meeting better where a group of more than 500 farmers voted in one accord that food editors of Willamette Valley newspapers should be asked to give butter an even break with margarine. Margarine manufacturers have been pushing their product through recipes. The farmers are asking that "Or butter" should be added when that type of shortening is called for.

And then there is John Gale of Canby who will tell you that there is 11 cents worth of vitamins in each quart of milk besides calcium and a lot of other things you can get and pay fancy prices for at the drug stores.

While certified Marshall strawberry plants are said to be plentiful this year, growers who want to set them out should be placing their orders, says O. E. Mikesell, Linn County agent. He adds that strawberry growers are getting a few, too. The average price for certified plants this year seems to be \$18 per 1,000, down \$4 from last year. All the county agents, we understand, have names of certified strawberry growers on file in their offices.

While rambling around down in

Officers of Polk County Farmers' Co-op Association



RICKREALL — Officers of the Polk County Farmers' Co-op Association did some of their business Tuesday during the dinner hour. Seated, from left, are Walter Steele, manager; Claude Larkins, president; Vern Osborn and Henry B. Hildebrand, directors; Emil Marx, vice-president; G. L. Glines, director, and Peter Gores, manager of the Marion County Co-op at Mt. Angel. (Farm Photo for The Statesman.)

Farm Calendar

Feb. 14—Polk County 4-H Club Leaders meeting, Rickreall, 7:30 p. m.

Feb. 15-16—Oregon Cattlemen's Association spring range bull show and sale, Ontario.

Feb. 16-23 — National FFA Week.

Feb. 17—Marion County Jersey Cattle Club, D. C. Brock home, Salem.

Feb. 18-23 — Rose Planting Week, Willamette Valley.

Feb. 18—Farm meeting, Scotts Mills Odd Fellow Hall, 7:30 p. m.

Feb. 19-21—Oregon State Farmers Union annual convention, Legion Hall, Woodburn.

Feb. 19—Polk-Marion irrigation meeting, 10 a. m. Mayflower Hall, Salem.

Feb. 20—Lebanon Turkey Day.

Feb. 20—Santiam Valley farm meeting, Nehalem Woman's Club house, 1 p. m.

Feb. 20—Tree pruning demonstration, E. A. Anderson farm west of Newberg.

Feb. 21—Silage Day, Mayflower Hall, 1 p. m.

Feb. 21-25—Second annual Oregon Polled Hereford Association show and sale, State Fairgrounds, Salem. Show 1:30 p. m., Feb. 24; sale, 12 noon, Feb. 25.

Feb. 26—Farm forestry meeting, Mayflower Hall, Salem, 1:30 p. m.

Feb. 27—Willamette Basin Project, Salem, 309 State Capitol building.

Feb. 27—Oregon Swine Growers bred gilt sale, fairgrounds, Prineville.

Feb. 29—Oregon Swine Growers bred gilt sale, fairgrounds, Klamath Falls.

March 1-9—National 4-H club week.

March 8—Production calf sale, 40 head, Marchon Hereford Farm, C. E. Lewis owner, Aumsville.

March 10—Willamette Basin Producers Association second annual convention, 10 a. m., Mayflower Hall.

March 15-18—Pacific Dairy and Poultry Association Convention, Coronado, Calif.

March 17-18—Sheep Shearing school, Redmond.

March 19-29—Sheep shearing school, Corvallis.

March 24-26—State FFA convention, Corvallis.

March 27-29—State Agricultural Convention, OSC.

March 28-29—Oregon Camellia Society Show, Meier & Frank, Portland.

National Hereford Show Set, Portland

A national Hereford Show will headline the events of the 42nd annual Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Walter A. Holt, general exposition manager, announced Wednesday. Exposition dates have been set for Oct. 4-11.

Choice specimens of the Hereford breed of beef cattle will compete for a record \$15,000 in premium money during the show. Leading show herds from Hereford establishments over the Western states will be interested in the show, which will be one of the major events on the National Hereford calendar this year.

MEMBERS TO MEET

Members of the Clackamas County Guernsey Cattle Club will meet at 2 p. m., Friday, Feb. 15, in the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce building, Paul Houston, recently elected president of the club, will take over the leadership at this meeting.

Linn County we found that the farm women were taking a hand in things there. Mrs. W. W. Abraham of Shedd, chairman of the county farm home and rural life committee, is going to act as chairman at a meeting set for the courthouse at Albany, Friday, Feb. 15, 1:30 p. m. when garbage disposal in the county will be up for a thorough airing. The meeting is open to try for twins. They are, he admitted, "slightly harder to care for" but "it can be done under valley conditions."

He didn't believe that irrigation for sheep pastures was as important as for some other classes of livestock.

If lambs are not fat by July 4, Doug advised shearing and worming them. If lambs that have had proper treatment and good feed don't fatten, sell them even if they weigh only 50 pounds, he said, adding that they will "always be tail-enders."

BEEF TOUR SET

A beef feeder cattle tour will be held in Polk County Wednesday, Feb. 20, reports N. John Hansen, county agent. The tour will start at the Ed Scharf farm, at 10:30 a. m. This place is situated between Perrydale and McCoy. Sack lunch will be eaten at Rickreall at noon with the M. B. Findley farm and the Don Rowland place on the afternoon schedule.

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Cube Steaks	lb.	75¢	Cube Cutlets	lb.	60¢	
Boneless Stew	lb.	69¢	Fresh Side	lb.	45¢	
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Sliced Bacon	lb.	49¢	Side Bacon	lb.	45¢	
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Bacon Squares	lb.	17¢	Bacon	Heavy-Learn	lb.	35¢

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