News of Farm, Home and Garden

Time Is Ripe To Knock Out Wheat Smut

The situation this fall is ripe for a knockout blow against smut in wheat, Washington State College experts declared Friday. While smut is not so bad in the Willamette Valley wheat fields as in the fields of Eastern Oregon and Washington, the situation has been growing worse in the valley. However, the smut infestation in the 1953 crop of wheat is reported as the lightest in years. Oregon State College plant pathologists have credited this to dry weather last fall.

The weather may help Pacific Northwest wheat growers lick the smut problem this year, the experts said Friday. But the grower has to help.

There wasn't enough moisture to germinate the wheat until late in the winter last year, but smut spores germinated and perished for lack of anything to feed upon. This brings the matter up to date, Dr. M. R. Harris, WSC plant pathologist says. He suggests that farmers can all but wipe out the common smut threat this year if they wait for a good soaking rain before planting.
The rain will germinate the

mut spores. With nothing to feed on, they will die in a week or Production Mark two, leaving the soil free of infection for the wheat planting. Dr. Harris said farmers should

seed wheat with approved chemi-

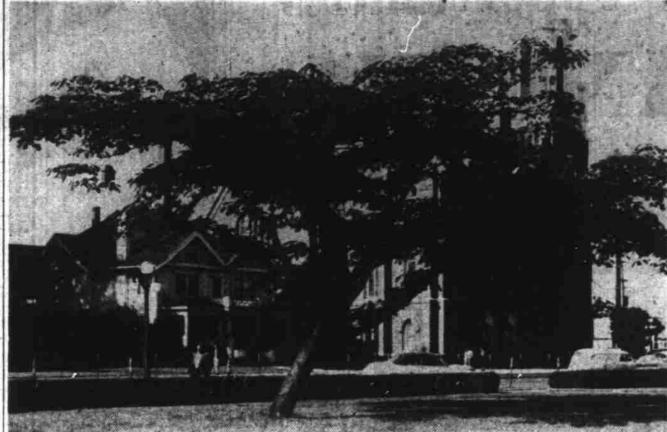
eals to make sure they don't put

the infection back into the soil.

HEADS WAR MOTHERS

WILLAMINA - Mrs. Thelma ed vice-president of the Oregon War Mothers at the convention and 6 months. held in Albany. She, with Mrs. Josephine Rumrill and Mrs. Effie ship with his father-in-law, Silas Morrison, were delegates to the Torvend, until recently, now convention from the Willamina owns the herd of registered Chapter.

Here's That Tree on Postoffice Lawn



Pictured above is the lace tree (Albizzia) on the Salem Postoffice lawn which has attracted more attention and brought more questions to The Statesman garden editor than anything growing in Salem. (Statesman Photo by John Erickson.)

Jersey Sets Good

SILVERTON - A production of 6,669 quarts of milk in 305 follow through by treating the days on official Herd Improvement Registry test is the recent accomplishment of a registered Jersey cow owned by James G. Phillips, Silverton route 2.

The cow, Standard Pioneer Bonny, produced 14,339 pounds Edwards of Willamina was elect- of milk containing 809 pounds of butterfat at the age of 5 years

Phillips who was in partner-

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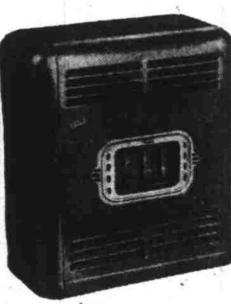
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Garden Gabbing

BY LILLIE L. MADSEN Garden Editor, The Statesman

With bloom slackening a little. it is an easy time in the fall to forget all the chores that should be done now to make for a better spring garden.

Included in the chores should be, first of all, the clean-up. All dead foliage such as that of roses, hollyhocks, peonies, should be gathered up and burned. There is too much disease in some of these to throw them on the compost heap for wintering over. Foliage of your shade trees and even your weeds which have sprung up so nicely since the rain, make good composting. But plants that carry disease spores either rust, mildew, blackspot, or anything of this nature, should be destroyed.

Then comes a clean-up. Some of this should be done now, some not until later. However, roses should receive a couple of good sprayings or dustings yet this fall. The peach trees, both ornamental and fruiting, should be sprayed before the end of September, while the foliage is still on. Too many orchards and home peach trees have serious damage to the fruit from spring and summer infections of fungus. As soon as the fruiting peach trees have been harv-ested, they should be sprayed. If possible, do this before any more fall rains arrive. Use a Bordeaux mixture of 8-8-100. You can get this at your favorite garden store. While some of the other sprays seem satisfactory, Don Rasmussen, Marion County agent, specializing in horticulture, advises that because infections have been severe this year, Bordeaux mixture is the best material. Spray-

tection started now. It is also well to prune out all dead wood and branches from your trees, lawn or orchard, and paint over any wounds.

ing should be done thoroughly.

The peach leaf curl spray during January will maintain the pro-

Around your rhododendrons and azaleas use one more soaking of a soil spray to get any late root weevils feeding before they lay-low for the winter.

A third chore to consider at this time of year is the fall feeding. So many of you hear and see it written that "it is now too late to feed" and you just

stop without reading further that while it is too late for certain kinds of feeding, there are other kinds that give far better results if done in the fall.

It is too late, yes, for feeding for bloom this fall. But it is just time to feed for next season's growth and bloom.

Feed your lilacs now with bonemeal. This is much better than giving them too much feed in the spring, which frequently causes Your maples and your birches,

too, benefit from a dose of bonemeal at this time of the year. After you have weeded and cleaned up the rhubarb and the asparagus beds, they too benefit from a feeding in the fall. Get enjoy them for a spell yet. all the weeds out of these two beds at once. Late August rains should have sprouted most of the

years, continuing to give good fruit in good quantity. The feeding of the rhubarb and asparagus is best done through well decayed manure

or humus material mixed with some phosphate. This should be left on top of the ground and not worked into the soil in the fall. Don't work the beds down too smoothly and don't pack them. Leave them rough enough to permit moisture to While many folk believe in set-

ting out new rhubarb every three or four years, old beds will also do well if taken care of. If you do plan to replant your rhubarb, prepare the bed now, giving it a good feeding of manure. Then leave it until spring and plant your divisions in the new bed while you are still using some of the old plants. However, the new divisions will give you some stalks the year they are planted.

It is time, too, to be preparing to take care of your fuchsias and begonias. Longtime weather forecasts promise us some heavy frosts before the middle of October. While these longterm forecasts are sometimes wrong, they are correct a surprising number of times, and it would be much better, in the case of fuchsias, to be safe than sorry. The plants, most of them that is, stand a little frost with-



Questions --- Answers | mixture. Spray plants four or five times at intervals of a week in the early spring. And even with | rect cultural practices you can control it.

removed for winter? CWS.

Answer-Leave the bulbs in the ground. Maintain a two-inch mulch of peat moss or sawdust over the lily bulbs.

Question-Will the bougainvilleas do in this location? It a Datura Fastussa perennial? How to make a bottle garden? V.T.

Answer-No, I'm sorry the Boufolk who go south return to ask if this vine will do here. It is at it best arounl Santa Barbara and from there on south. It is one of the most showy vines of the south.

I do not know this particular member of the Datura group, nor do I find it listed in my books. However, most of the Daturas are freated as tender annuals.

Making a bottle garden requires much deftness in planting. Usually long, thin nippers of some sort are needed. Moss is placed down in the container, coming up a little on the sides. With the nippers, carefully place very small woodland plants and fill in around their roots with rich loam and more bits of moss. Colorful effects are obtained by using bits of tree-growing fungi, twigs and so on. Watering these

out permanent injury, but too much will do away with them completely. Usually a little water is withheld, so that growth is not quite so lush, before the plants are put away in your sawdust or peatmoss storage for

The plants should not be completely dry when put away, but neither should they be too wet. Nipping of a little frost will not hurt the fuchsias. In fact many growers never put them away until the first frost has dropped their foliage.

After the first frost has killed the foliage on the begonias, they should be prepared for winter storage. Frequent frosts will also kill the bulb.

It seems too bad to be talking about frosts and putting away the flowers for winter when they are still blooming so nicely. Those ter approaches they can just hang A.I. their plants in and continue to

However, even these benefit by a little rest. They may be kept blooming up until late December. weeds which will grow. This ap- and then permitted to decline, plies too, to the family strawber- without ever drying out, for a ry bed. If well taken care of, such couple of months, being started location in your garden. In spring a bed can last for a number of up in mid-March for spring bloom when growth begins, spray soil

Question—Have a number of terraniums or bottle gardens must Croft Easter Lillies. Some have be done in moderation—one in bloomed, some were too small. 10 days or so. If the lids fit tight-Should bulbs be left in ground or ly, and the terrarium is given enough water, it may be safely left for a month or more without attention. As the moisture condenses on the cool glass it drips back into the garden. But water must not be left standing around the roots, or the soil becomes sour and soggy.

Question-Have been told that gas will kill African Violets. Have gas for cooking and just was given gainvilleas will not do in our cli- a new African Violet. Have nevmate. They won't even thrive in er had any success with these be-Northern California. So many fore, Wonder if gas could be the cause? S.H.

Answer-Yes, gas in the home seems to be poisonous to African Violet as well as some other house plants.

Question-When should I take up my tulip bulbs? Want them to winter over? A.W.

Answer-Anytime, now. Lift and shake off the dirt and old husks. Store in a dry place, until early October when you should replant them. You do not store them indoors as you do gladioli corms.

Question-Have been told that moles eat only bugs and worms, yet my parsley is all wilted and when I started to pull it up, I found the roots all eat off and a runway beneath it. How do you explain this? S.L.

Answer-Mice eat the roots, and mice run in the runways of moles. Poison grain or a carrot dipped in paris green will control the mice. However, great care should be taken to get the poison into the hole so that no birds, pets or children get a hold

Question-Have a small greenhouse and want to start some delphinium seed for next season's bloom. When should I do this? Can winter it over in the greenhouse. Would it be best to wait until January? N.C.

Answer-Start the seed now but keep it growing on the cool side until spring. Frequently small plants of delphiniums are wintered over in cold frames.

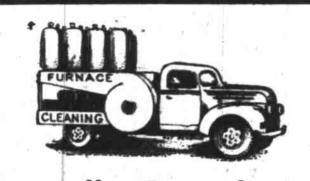
Question - Have had trouble with bud rot on my peonies. What who have a little home green- to do to control this so I have house are very fortunate. As win- some good bloom next spring?

Answer-Pick all leaves, stems and buds off and burn. Do not place any manure or other mulch over the plants. It might be well to remove the top soil from around the infested plants, or transplant them into a different around crowns with bordeaux

Guernsey Sets Milk Record



Western Glow Butterfat Miss, which a year ago won the Guernsey Tarbell Trophy, has just made the highest production record ever attained by a 13-year-old Guernsey, according to The American Guernsey Cattle Club. Owned by Western Glow Farms, Bow, Wash. she produced 21,573 pounds of milk and 1,095 pounds of butterfat in 365 days on two-times daily milking. Her record last year was 17,585 and 921, made in 305 days.



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