

WILLAMETTE VALLEY FARMER

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

Filberts, With More Uses, On Way Up in Valley Area

By LILLIE L. MADSEN

Filberts as an Oregon farm crop have come along way. First, they went a long way up. Then they took a skid down. Releases this week indicate they are now on their way up again.

As a result of research on peeling raw filberts, new outlets for the nuts appeared likely in ice cream and cheese spreads and on glazing of filberts as a confection, according to the release from Oregon State College.

The food technologists said that chemical removal of raw filbert skins appear feasible for commercial operation and is expected to answer criticisms against present methods of mechanical removal that leaves from 10 to 20 per cent of the skins on. Normally, less than 50 per cent of a given lot are completely cleaned mechanically.

The new chemical removal of skins, using an alkaline solution, acid treatment, and water spray, has given as high as 90 per cent whole peeled filberts, Dr. H. W. Schultz, food technology head reports.

Vanilla-Filbert Popular

In tests this past year on the OSC campus, vanilla-filbert ice cream rated highest with both students and staff members. Chocolate-filbert rated second. For use in ice cream, roasted filberts were chopped into particles a little smaller than a quarter kernel, then dipped into boiling sugar solution that keeps the nuts crisp and crunchy.

Use of filberts in cheese spreads also offers a natural tie-in with Oregon's multi-million dollar dairy industry, Dr. Schultz says. Trial cheese spreads containing 31 per cent ground filberts by weight, resulted in a popular blend, researchers found.

While filberts are among the oldest nuts mentioned in literature — Pliny narrates that they came out of Pontus and Matolia — and since have been connected with ancient European mythology and witchcraft, they are not one of the older parts of commercial farming in Oregon.

Scattered around Portland since 1886, but not commercially. Actually, the oldest and largest known filbert tree in the state grows near Scottsburg in Umpqua Valley, and was planted there in 1864.

In Europe, they are grown as far north as Norway and the 150 year old groves of Kent in England are famous. However, the main filbert competition to Oregon comes from the Mediterranean Sea area—Spain, Italy, France and Turkey.

In the United States, they are not grown commercially outside of the Willamette Valley, although many other states have tried unsuccessfully to grow them.

Dorris First Commercially

Credit for commercial filbert growing in Oregon goes to George A. Dorris, who had his first orchard in the Springfield area in



WOODBURN — J. Nibler, one of Oregon's pioneer filbert growers, tells of early-day filbert growing in the Willamette Valley. He is now retired and lives with his wife at their attractive Woodburn town house. Nibler had the first commercial filbert orchard in Marion County and some of the trees bear at the old Nibler farm home on Highway 99 near here. (Statesman Farm Photo.)

1902. Oddly enough, Dorris was not a graduate of the then Oregon Agricultural College, but of the University of Oregon. His introduction on a commercial basis of the cultivated "hazel nut" brought him the title from his friends as "nut on filberts."

Dorris first set out 100 trees, two years old, which bore a few nuts the first year. His nephew, Ben F. Dorris, joined the nut ranks with his uncle, following World War I, during which he had fought in France and observed the commercial orchards there first hand.

But long before World War I was thought of, a Marion County farmer, came into the filbert picture, and to him goes much of the credit of establishing the industry on a firm business basis. Nibler Farms Industry.

In 1910, J. Nibler of Woodburn, had a Portland nursery order a planting of filbert trees from France as Oregon nurserymen did not stock them. When they arrived there were 640 of them and they cost Nibler \$64.

Nibler, who has been retired from farming for seven years and makes his home at Woodburn, tells of the excitement at the farm home, out on what is now Highway 99, when word reached there that the trees were at the station.

"Shall we bring the wagon . . . how much room will be needed for hauling?" Nibler asked the agent.

The reply was, "I think a market basket will hold them." The "trees" proved mere "switches", Nibler said, as he described the years of waiting for those "switches" to grow into bearing trees.

"And how well I remember the first nut to develop," said Mrs.

Victor Kelly (Leta Nibler), a daughter, who is spending the summer here from the Kelley's Flying E Guest Ranch in Wickensburg, Ariz. "Every morning we kids would run out to the orchard to see if the nut was still in its husk."

"We planted filberts too close those years," Mrs. Nibler took up the story. "We set them 16 feet apart each way."

No Ground Wasted
"But no ground was wasted," Mrs. Nibler said. "We grew strawberries in between the rows. That was before Marshalls and Northwest varieties. We had Gold Dollars, Wilson's, New Oregon's."

While the filbert planting contained 600 Barcelonas, there were also considerable Red and White Abalines, and these, the Niblers recalled, wouldn't husk out well, although they were excellently flavored.

"We husked them out by hand in pans on our laps at night," Mrs. Kelly explained, "we used to hate to see Dad go out and get that big gunny sack of unhusked nuts each night. But when we got at them we had a lot of fun — there were nine of us."

Nibler recalls that he sold his first crop at 35 cents a pound and that he had averaged 25 cents throughout the filbert growing years, all of the nuts practically being sold at the roadside stand. One year, seven tons were sold that way, he said.

"And the filberts would still be an excellent crop if growers would in and advertise them properly," Nibler believed, adding, "You can make money at 25 cents a pound if you grow enough per acre, and you could nearly always average that by pushing. An attractive highway stand is a fine sale place."

Ranch Ramblings

RANCH RAMBLINGS

MERION BLUEGRASS NOTED—Plant Merion Bluegrass shallow on a firm seed bed, E. T. Rose of Hubbard told some 45 seed growers who traipse along on the recent Marion County seed tour, E. T. used a small-hand operated planter to obtain the one-acre initial planting two years ago, and repeated the operation on 16 additional acres planted this spring.

IT'S BENT GRASS HERE — Actually the tour started on the Joe Doerfler farm near Victor Point, across Silverton from the Rose ranch. A rather complete weed control and fertilization program has been and is being carried out by Joe who is noted as one of the fine hills' farmers in the east end of the county. The result is in yields of about five hundred pounds of seed per acre.

Fertilizer plots in the bentgrass fields were reviewed by Tom Jackson, soil fertility specialist from the state college, who was also on the tour. Tom indicated that the potassium may give yield increases this year in Joe's fields.

JAKE CALLS A HALT — If the farm tourists thought they'd just jaunt along from one farm to another on the tour, they reckoned with Jake K. Neufeldt, Marion County weed inspector. Jake called a halt here and there along the roadside to demonstrate what chemical brush and weed killers were doing. Although the plots had been sprayed 10 days previously, the 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T combinations used were killing down the Scotch Broom, the evergreen blackberries and other weeds quite effectively.

MORE WEEDS — Then when the group got to the Ralph and Frank Egan farm, a mile or so south of Evergreen School, a survey of IPC sprays was made. Here Rex Warren, also from the state college, pointed out that if the several well known precautions for using IPC are taken, excellent weed control and increased crop yields can be expected—just like demonstrated on the Egan ranch. The precautions suggested by Rex included correct quantity and make of IPC, spraying fields one year old and older, and spraying at the right season of the year.

LUNCH TIME—Almost all the tourists stopped at Silverton, at a place they had heard had good pie, for the noon meal, before moving on to the Val Miller farm near Parkersville school to look at Illahee creeping red fescue and Alta fescue.

HOME AGAIN—Granger lotus, a birdsfoot trefoil variety, was noted on the Marvin Barrett farm near Hubbard. Marv made his initial planting last year and is preparing a seedbed for another seeding to be made shortly. Granger has looked exceptionally good in the foothills after it has been established. As a seed crop the big difficulty is to obtain a seed yield, Marv explained. But he is trying.

After this, then the group landed at the Rose farm, from where they disbanded for their own homes.

Time to Fight Against Elm Beetle Here

Larvae of the elm leaf beetle can be controlled now with a thorough spray containing four pounds of lead arsenate, plus a spreader-sticker in 100 gallons of water. This spray will protect elm trees from partial to complete defoliation, D. L. Rasmussen, Marion County extension agent, reports. Two pounds 50 per cent DDT powder in 100 gallons of water may also be used.

Elm leaf beetle larvae feed on the under side of the foliage, skeletonizing them, and causing them to turn brown, curl and drop prematurely. Although damaged trees grow another crop of leaves the same summer, damage by this serious insect pest weakens the trees and shortens their life-span.

Elm trees on the capital grounds in Salem are given protective sprays every year for the control of the elm leaf beetle. Home owners can contact spray contractors having power equipment for applying thorough cover sprays for protection against the elm leaf beetle. Salem has a number of men who do custom spraying.

Summer Time To Plan for Good Pasture

Late summer and fall pasture problems for sheep will soon confront sheepmen, Ben A. Newell, Marion County extension agent, reported Wednesday, as he suggested seeding grey winter oats and rape, or Sudan and rape, now for feed to finish late lambs and for flushing ewes at breeding time.

Floyd Fox, Silverton, had excellent results last year, he reported, seeding about 80 pounds of grey oats and three pounds of rape per acre. This planting was irrigated twice and carried 25 sheep per acre for nearly three months.

An application of 40 pounds of available nitrogen before seeding, will increase the yield several times, says Newell.

If late fall and winter pasture is planned, oats may be preferable to Sudan grass. Sudan frequently has poisonous qualities after frost comes in the fall.

Fields that will be worked and seeded this fall to grain could be planted with 30 pounds of Sudan grass and three pounds of rape within the next two weeks.

Most sheepmen will have some lambs that won't be fat for early market, and every breeder could use flushing pasture to advantage during August and September.

Honeybees can increase the yield of irrigated cotton by 22 per cent, according to tests at USDA laboratories.



While strawberry crops have been rotting away on the vines, and clover hay has been moulding in the fields, Early Fuggle hops have been "hopping" right along toward wire-height. Scenes like this, which used to be common in the Willamette Valley, are getting a bit scarce. However, every few miles the motorist runs across a hop yard at the side of the road even yet. This one, particularly fine field, belongs to Fred Schar in the Brush Creek area west of Silverton. (Statesman Farm photo)

Farm Calendar

- June 24 — Guernsey Field Day, Orville and Buford Brown farm, Woodburn.
- June 24 — Annual public meeting of Institute of Northwest Resources dinner, Memorial Union Building, Corvallis.
- June 26-27 — All-Arabian Horse Show, Salem.
- June 26 — Clackamas and Washington County dairy meeting, Clayton Nyberg farm, Tualatin.
- June 27-30 — National Turkey Federation officers and executive committee annual meeting, Gearhart.
- June 27 — Annual Linn County Livestock Association picnic, Eggeston farm, Brownsville.
- June 28-July 1 — American Seed Trade Association, annual meeting, San Francisco.
- July 10 — Western Division of American Dairy Science Association, Corvallis.
- July 16-17 — National meeting and show of North America Lily Society, Seattle, Wash.
- July 18 — Marion County Jersey Cattle Club, RNA hall, Quinaby.
- July 18-22 — Annual Convention of American Association of Nurserymen, Minneapolis, Minn., Hotel Radisson.
- July 25 — Oregon State Jersey Cattle Club picnic, Tillamook.
- July 27-31 — Santiam Bean Festival, Stayton.
- Aug. 4-8 — Silverton Centennial Celebration.
- Aug. 7 — Western Horse Show, Silverton.
- Aug. 7 — Willamette Valley Sale, Albany.
- Aug. 7 — Willamette Valley Ram Sale, Albany.
- Aug. 25-28 — Clackamas County Fair, Canby.
- Aug. 27-29 — Polk County Fair, Rickreall.
- Sept. 4-11 — Oregon State Fair, Salem.
- Sept. 16-18 — Pendleton Round-up.
- Sept. 17 — Oregon Turkey Improvement Association annual meeting, Withycomb hall, Corvallis.
- Sept. 22-25 — North Marion County Fair, Woodburn.
- Sept. 25 — Oregon Shorthorn Breeders Association sale, State Fairgrounds, Salem.
- Oct. 9-16 — International Dairy Show, Chicago.
- Oct. 9 — Second annual Willamette Valley Hereford Sale, State Fairgrounds, Salem.
- Oct. 12-13 — National Jersey Show, Chicago.
- Oct. 20-22 — Pacific International Livestock Show, North Portland.

Silo Gas Serious Unless Care Taken For Ventilation

Carbon dioxide gas that had formed in the making of silage is blamed for a serious accident on a Polk County dairy farm, N. John Hansen, Polk County agent reports. The gas displaced oxygen in the top of the silo, Hansen explains. An employee at the dairy farm then climbed the outside of the silo, put his head through the previously closed doors, lost consciousness and fell backwards to the ground.

The incident received considerable publicity at the time, Hansen points out. More publicity, he believes; should be given to the extreme caution needed when entering silos that have been filled and then settled. He suggests that closed silos be well ventilated at all times and whenever it is necessary to enter, the blower should be run for a few minutes to allow fresh air to circulate first.

Sound Sleeper Ignores Sounds

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Adolph H. Bohn, snoozing in a rear room at his loan company, was awakened by a vigorous pounding on the door. Sleepily, he admitted police who arrested a man found hiding in the basement. The police told Bohn that while he was sleeping a front window had been smashed, the firm's burglar alarm had sounded, and the handle of the company safe had been pounded off with a hammer and iron bar.

STREETCAR FUN

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Commuters on the streetcar route between here and suburban Bellflower have never had it so good. Their conductor, V. C. Prettyman, has roped off a special section of the car for card players. Now, the card fiends have a board, cards, score sheets—and an ample supply of kibitzers.

Indictment at Klamath Falls Said Faulty

KLAMATH FALLS (AP) — A charge of manslaughter against Alfred Junior Carter, 31, Merrill farmhand, was dismissed by Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg Tuesday on the ground the indictment was faulty.

Carter, who had been accused of shooting Cruz Umzeta, 35, a railroad worker, in a street fight here last Christmas Eve, was freed from custody.

It was the second manslaughter indictment against Carter. The first one was sent back to the grand jury by the judge, who said it was faulty.

Trial opened Monday on the second indictment. Defense Attorney Edwin E. Driscoll made the motion for dismissal Tuesday. Because the trial had started, the indictment could not be sent back to the grand jury again.

RADAR FOR WEATHER

RANTOUL, Ill. (AP) — A radar designed especially for weather observations is being installed at Chanute Air Base. It will permit students and forecasters to scan clouds within a 250-mile radius of the base. Similar equipment is to be installed throughout the United States, Brig. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, Jr., chief of the Air Force's Air Weather Service, says.

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Lawns Should Now Receive Fertilization

This is a good time to fertilize lawns that are irrigated during the summer. County extension agents say. Spreading a nitrogen fertilizer and watering will insure a healthy green color during the rest of the summer.

What type of commercial fertilizer to use depends upon the preference of the homeowner. If the homeowner wants to keep out clover, he should use a fertilizer containing only nitrogen. Examples are ammonium sulphate, ammonium nitrate, and calcium nitrate.

If clover and grass are wanted, a fertilizer containing both nitro-

gen and phosphorus will maintain the stand. Rated as good fertilizer for lawns containing mixtures of grass and clover is 16-20.

The percentage of available nitrogen in these fertilizers varies from 15 to 33 per cent. They must be spread uniformly and watered in to avoid burning the lawn. These materials should be applied at the rate of five to 10 pounds to 1,000 square feet of lawn surface. They can be broadcast and then dissolved by sprinkling or applied in solution through an attachment to a garden hose.

Where summer irrigation of lawns is not possible, high analysis nitrogen fertilizers should not be used. In fact, no commercial fertilizers should be used. Commercial fertilizers must go in solution before they are available to plants.

Commercial fertilizers applied in mid-summer to non-irrigated

lawns usually do not become available to the plants until the chemicals are dissolved by fall rains.

Research has shown that high temperatures have a direct effect on the thickness of egg shells. Frequently hens are now kept in an artificially cooled place to obtain thicker shelled eggs.

Hogs that have plenty of water conveniently situated, gain faster and more cheaply than those that don't.

The goal of every dairyman should be a calf a year from every cow.

The average dairy cow needs 25 to 35 gallons of drinking water a day.

Guernsey Men Sponsor Dairy June Field Day

Guernsey men in the Willamette Valley will gather at the Orville and Buford Brown farm, near Woodburn, June 24, at 10 a.m. for a dairy field day.

Selection of breeding stock, cow families, get of sire groups and dairy production methods will all come in for consideration.

H. E. Ewalt, extension dairyman from Oregon State College, and Elmer Meadows, Guernsey cattle club fieldman, will aid the field day's discussion and judging.

The meeting is sponsored by the Marion-Polk Guernsey Club and lunch will be served at noon by women of a nearby church.

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