

Black Aphis Live Through DDT Dustings

Beet Seed Crop Saved By Dust, Says Campbell, Bees Seem Unaffected

The saving of an important seed crop in sections of California and Oregon by the application of DDT dusts is told by Sam C. Campbell, manager of the West Coast Beet Seed Company, Salem.

Mr. Campbell tells that in dusting the sugar beet seed crop there were used five per cent DDT with pyrethrin, three per cent DDT with pyrethrin and four per cent DDT with sulphur. No effort was made to compare the three dusts and it is Mr. Campbell's opinion that there was not much difference in the effect.

Thirty Pounds Per Acre

The Lygus bugs were the chief objectives. Application of the dust was by airplane and quantities used varied between 20 and 35 pounds per acre with an average of 30 pounds. The dust was dry and in good condition when applied and the operations were performed without difficulty.

Campbell said that indications are that there is no particular danger in handling this material, if ordinary precautions are taken. In the tests made, the plane operator worked with a respirator but the handler did not. During each loading operation, dust blown by the propeller completely saturated the clothing of the plane operator and loader. After each application, which lasted about three hours, the men immediately took baths, changed clothes, and no one suffered ill effects.

Bees Not Hurt

Within a few days the dust had reduced the bug population to almost nothing where previously the average population was as high as 19 bugs per sweep of an insect net. Lady bugs and syrphid flies were among the first insects to be killed. Honey bees did not seem to be seriously affected. In one instance, approximately 50 hives of bees were left within 100 yards of a field which was dusted. The owner reported that he found no more dead bees than usual in front of the hives. While the lady beetle was killed, the larvae which hatched out following the dusting operation were not affected. This, said Mr. Campbell, was very beneficial to the sugar beet seed industry as the larvae continued to work on black aphids which were laid in some fields. The black aphids were not affected by the dust.

Alfalfa Hay Acreage Decreases in County

Hay crop acreage of alfalfa in Marion county has decreased from 4300 acres in 1940 to 2800 acres in 1945. The big problem in alfalfa is harvest of the first crop.

Pick-up balers will not solve this problem entirely. The use of these balers and the small windrow plow with their limited capacity requires that there be a sufficient number of balers to put up the hay prepared for the pick-up baler as soon as it is ready for baling. This will avoid other non damage or over drying in the field. The Marion county crops committee recommends that legume silage could be used to get the first crop of alfalfa off early and make it possible to obtain full second cuttings of alfalfa.

Polk County Not to Increase Hop Acreage

In view of the apparent overproduction of hops at this time the Polk county farm planning conference hop committee definitely recommends against any further plantings. Because sections in Washington and California are producing much higher yields than certain sections in Oregon, the committee further recommends that as hops develop into a surplus commodity that the acreage of hops be confined to those areas able to compete with those other districts by producing higher yields. The average yield in Polk county is 1000 pounds per acre, which is higher than the Oregon average but which is considerably below the average of approximately 1700 pounds produced in Washington.

WOMEN ELECTED

Two Oregon county Farmers' Unions have elected women to head their organizations. In Linn county, with the meeting held recently at Oakville, Mrs. Laura Neal of Jordan was elected president to succeed A. C. Heyman.

In Columbia county Mrs. John Kivanek was re-elected president. She is the first woman chosen for county chairmanship. Arthur H. Bone, state editor, reports.

MORE PRUNES NEEDED

More prunes can be planted in Polk county reports the county advisory committee. The committee added, however, that no new plantings should be made except where soils are of sufficient depth, drainage and fertility. The county can use an increased acreage of strawberries and more growers could well consider strawberry plant production. W. C. Leth, county agent reports.

Willamette Valley Farmer

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



This pen of Hamprace hogs is one of only two such in America. The other group is in Nebraska. Those pictured here, being fed by J. J. Inskeep, Clackamas county agent, are not at Corvallis where the Oregon State college livestock division is testing out their suitability to Willamette Valley use. They are a cross between the famous Danish Landrace and the Hampshire pigs.

Ranch Ramblings

By Rural Reporter

An experiment conducted on the red soils experimental area in Clackamas county shows that subterranean clover used with grass more than doubles the yield of forage. In fact the plots without clover had to be plowed up at the end of five years because the grasses were soiled of nitrogen.

Gladys Sather, daughter of Ole Sather, Canby rancher, has bought Sunny Boy, purchased American Saddle stallion. Sunny Boy is the only American Saddle pony in the northwest. The stallion's sire has placed first in the stallion division at the Idaho state fair for a number of seasons.

A new grain warehouse cooperative has been organized at Pratum and the business name is Pratum Cooperative Warehouse. The group has bought the grain warehouse at Pratum from Fred Herseh, and a bulk grain warehouse will be built, with labor-saving equipment. Membership will be open to all interested farmers. Serving on the board of directors are Arno Spranger, Fred Herseh, Albert Mader, John Roth and Clarence Simmons, Jr.

Serving on the Canby fair board now are Harvey Everhart of Canby, Herman Chindgren of Meadbrook and John Telford of Oregon City. Chindgren is the chairman. The board held its first full scale fair in 1941. This year's fair is expected to be unusually fine, board members state. The dates have already been set for August 19 to September 1.

The Linn-Benton Dairy Breeders' association now numbers 115 cowmen and more than 10,000 cows. Ralph E. Moreau, Corvallis, has been chosen as the insensinator. Ernest Czerowski of Harrisburg is the president of the association.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lindow, Independence, have sold the bull calf June Volunteer Renown, to Charles F. Cates and Sons, Medburn. N. C. Renown is a five star son of June Volunteer Buddy and Sybil Queen Rinda Beauty.

"They probably won't be just up to par yet for showing but if I have them I'll show them," said Rex Ross as he was preparing to leave Mt. Angel and Silverton this week for the Isle of Jersey. He planned to pick up some 35 or 40 head of purebreds to bring back with him to this country. He has been in touch with owners of the Isle. In reference to showing his cattle he was talking about the Marion county spring show.

Mrs. Fred Davis of Woodburn was as good as her word Sunday. She had turkey with southern cornbread dressing for members of the Marion County Jersey Cattle club who had their February meeting at the Davis home. About 50 were in attendance. The March meeting will be held at the Bill Swartz home near Silverton on March 17.

Gambose Ashburn Baronet 369170, owned by J. M. Dickson & Son, Shedd, has been named a senior superior sire. This is a new honor that goes to bulls which have 20 or more daughters maintaining the production requirements of a senior sire and whose classification average is raised to 83 per cent or more on 20 daughters. Baronet's 20 daughters tested for production average 9946 pounds milk, 5.74 per cent, 571 pounds of butterfat, and his 20 classified daughters averaged 83 per cent. For 11 years every ani-

mal in the Dickson herd has been on test. There are now 40 cows in the herd, which is a gold star herd with a four-year average production of 513 pounds fat.

Farmers to Give Party for Trades People, Feb. 26

Following a custom established several years ago, a meeting for both merchants and farmers is to be held in the Tualles chamber of commerce on Tuesday, February 26, 7 p. m. This year the farmers are hosts to the merchants and those attending will be coming from all parts of the county.

This idea was originally started to bring farmers and merchants more closely together and to understand better each other's problems.

The seating capacity of the chamber of commerce is limited so that only 140 can attend. Tickets have been divided for various sections of the county, therefore farmers who wish to obtain tickets and invite a merchant friend should contact the chairman of the AAA community committee for their respective districts. Those who have tickets are Wiley Gardner, Robert Mitchell, A. A. Withers, Justin Rowland, Virgil Heider, John Dickson and Frank Neufeld.

Improve Soil Rather Than Increase Acres

Soil improvement practices can assist greatly in production and improving the quality in most horticultural commodities. Farmers in Polk county make the following definite recommendations: (1) heavier rates of seeding cover crops; (2) cover crops should be sown earlier and as much winter growth obtained as possible; (3) soil, especially in erosion areas, should not be loosened in the fall without again reparking and sowing to cover crop; (4) proper types of fertilizer should be added to cover crops at the time of seeding as a means of obtaining more efficiency from such fertilizer. Additional nitrogen types should be added in spring where useful. More fruit growers should be using commercial fertilizers where found efficient.

Burn Before Danger Turn, Says Forester

Burning fern land in late February or March is only justified where subsequent seeding of grass is planned, as burning without such seeding results in a heavier crop of fern than before, points out D. D. Robinson, extension forester.

Clear or relatively clear land, badly fern infested, can best be handled if plowed or cultivated several times during the year before grass is seeded on the area. Even mowing two or three times in the summer will help. If burning is delayed too long, it may become so tinder dry as to be dangerous.

The safest practice in burning ferns, says Robinson, is to avoid starting the fire in the bottom of a canyon or draw where it normally is not dry enough to burn until after fern on the higher ground is so dry as to be hazardous. Burn down hill until a strip of 150 feet has been burned.

BABY'S COLDS

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VICKS VAPORUB

RUB ON

Jersey Men from Valley Plan to Go To Melott Sale

Jersey men are planning to attend the Melott Jersey auction to be held at the Melott Jersey farms at 4014 S. E. 136th st., Portland, Friday, February 22 at 1:30. Col. J. W. Hughes of Forest Grove will cry the auction and M. G. Gunderson, Silverton, is sales manager.

For a number of years, Melott Jersey Farms have been breeding Jerseys and selling Grade A Jersey milk on a rather small farm. The home place contains only four and a half acres. But during this time, the farms have been using additional land close by. Owing to the growth of Portland in the Powell boulevard area, the farm land has to be given up and the herd has to be reduced. At present there are 88 head of Jerseys, and of these 30 will be sold at the Friday sale.

Melott Jersey farms has followed the program sponsored by the American Jersey Cattle club and is now in its sixth year in both testing and classifying. The last classification gave a score of 86.15 on the entire herd, and production records show a herd average of well over 400 pounds a year.

Oldtime Grass Fills New Need

Meadow foxtail has been found to be a grass of special value for forage production, especially pasture, on lands considered too wet for most of the more common grasses.

This grass, which has had its greatest development and use in recent years in Oregon, has no resemblance or relationship to weedy foxtail grasses that farmers seek to avoid. On the contrary, meadow foxtail, the botanical name of which is *Alopecurus pratensis*, has a seed head more nearly resembling timothy than any other common grass.

Grown Since 1870

This is not a new grass to agriculture as it is native to temperate parts of Europe and Asia where it has been cultivated since 1750. Its use in America has been limited, however, despite its high quality, partly because of difficulty in seed production.

Oregon has been and is yet almost the sole domestic source of this seed, though limited amounts have been imported. Since 1940 seed production has increased sharply, largely through the harvesting of large meadow areas of the grass in southeastern Oregon where the seed ripens more evenly than in western Oregon, making large scale combine harvesting practical.

Grows In Overflows

Meadow foxtail is a highly palatable grass that does best where the climate is moist and cool, though it will stand summer temperatures to 100 degrees and winter levels below zero.

This grass withstands more overflow by brackish water than most other grasses, hence is now used extensively in sections of the Pacific northwest.

In soil sections where considerable soil alkali is present meadow foxtail has proved to have considerable tolerance and grows well on fringes of alkali spots.



Above is shown the cherry fruit fly which is nearly ruining the Willamette valley cherry crop. For the first time in Oregon this will be controlled this coming season by legislation. In the newly organized control areas spraying or dusting will be compulsory. Over 200 growers turned out at the recent meeting at Salem where this fly and its damage were discussed.

Farm Calendar

February 22 — At Silverton Chamber of Commerce rooms, 1:30 p. m., hairy vetch weevil control meeting; at Liberty 8 p. m.

February 22 — Melott's Jersey farms' auction sale, 1 p. m., Portland.

February 28 — Legume silage meeting, Woodburn, 1:30 p. m.; Central Howell, 8 p. m.

March — Agricultural committees from chambers of commerce of Salem, Portland and other western Oregon cities gather at Salem Chamber of Commerce for conference with D. L. James, manager of agricultural department of U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Charles Evans, Independence, has been elected president of the Polk County Livestock association. Other officers are vice-president, Wiley M. Gardner, Dallas; secretary-treasurer, Russell T. Daulton, Dallas; board of directors, Glen R. Martin, McCoy; Eldon Ridell, Independence, and Joe Harland, Rickreall.

Boron Should Be Applied to Walnuts Now

Walnut trees in some western Oregon counties are showing effects of boron deficiency, says C. E. Schuster, horticulturist, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. department of agriculture, Corvallis.

The young twigs or shoots fail to develop normally near the tips. In extreme cases these twigs are almost bare of leaves except at the very tip where the leaves are small. This bare condition of the twigs is sometimes referred to as "snake head." In mild cases there are occasional snake heads here and there throughout the trees.

This trouble can be corrected by the addition of boron, Schuster says. The amount varies from two to six pounds depending on the age of the tree. Four pounds or more should be enough for mature trees. If results are not obtained from applying this quantity a repeat application should be made next year. The material should be broadcast on the grounds beneath the spread of the branches in February.

Dust Pool Formed By Polk County Vetch Seed Men

Polk county vetch growers agreed at a meeting held Saturday to form a pool for the purpose of dusting with DDT, employing airplanes, mainly for the control of hairy vetch weevil. Growers who have crops other than hairy vetch to dust may also join the pool, says W. C. Leth, Polk county agent. The committee selected to list acreages and contract with chemical companies for the dust and with airplane companies to apply it, consists of Charles Evans, Charles Bowman, Clarence Primus, all of Independence; Justin Rowland, Forrest Pence and Leo Buenseries, all of Rickreall; Harold Elkins of Monmouth, Robert Farmer of Dallas and Virgil Heider of Sheridan.

The total cost of dust and the application of it will run between \$4 and \$4.35 an acre. However, if sufficient acreage is signed up, a reduction in the cost of dust, as well as applying it by planes, can be had, it is believed.

The committee will offer every farmer in the county a chance to join the pool. March 1 has been set as a probable deadline for listing acreages to be signed up.

Less Trees, More Fruit Is New Orchard Plan

Orchards that have become crowded due to the trees' growth should be thinned by pulling out a certain proportion of the trees in the orchards. Data on orchards where thinning has been done indicates that in a relatively short time orchards responded to thinning to the extent that with half the number of trees the production in the orchard was actually increased. However, thinning should be done only after growers obtain the best possible advice, either from experienced orchard men or through the county agents' offices.

BABY BEEVES MAKE GAIN

Twenty-three baby beves being fed by 18 Polk county 4-H club members gained an average of 2.44 pounds per day for the last 34-day period, reports Russell T. Daulton, assistant county agent in Polk county. These gains were put on at an average cost of 16 cents per pound. Many of the young feeders are facing a protein supplement shortage. None of the feed dealers were able to supply orders for supplement this month. Club members plan to feed legume

hays as high in protein content as possible. Some members are including a small amount of coarse ground peas in order to give their calves the required protein requirement.

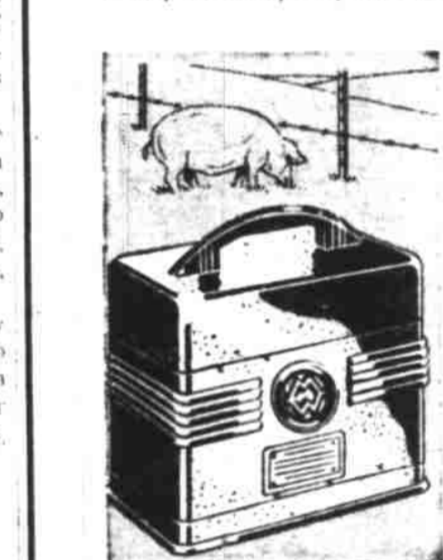
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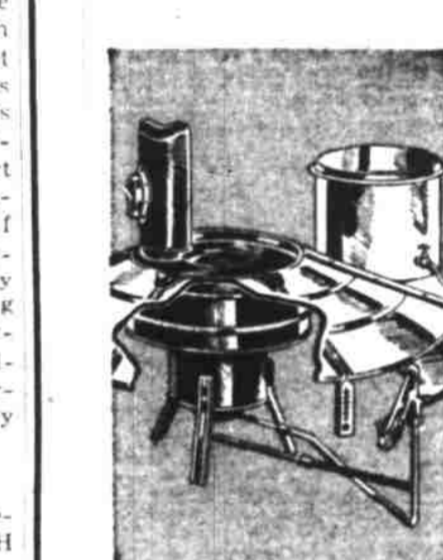
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