

Bumper Seed Cone Crop In Lane County Fir Forests

For the first time in seven years, Lane County Douglas fir trees are bearing a bumper crop of seed cones this year, according to woodsmen of the area.

(This general report from the county is also true of the rest of the Douglas fir region. J. A. Hall, director of the Pacific Northwest forest and range experiment station reported this week that seed crops for the commercially important tree species are better than average this year.)

"It's a big cone year here," said Faye Abrams, of Booth-Kelly Lumber Co., Springfield. He said he can't recall a bigger crop in nearly a half-century that he has been in the woods.

Trees throughout Lane County are cone-laden, and the green cones are beginning to ripen now, Abrams said. He noted an unusually heavy crop in Wendling Basin, where young firs that sprouted after logging are already 40 to 50 feet tall and producing seed.

Local foresters are welcoming the crop. They say it will not only do a lot of good in "filling in" the new evergreen forest, but will replenish their riddled Douglas fir seed bank for reforestation.

If Nature had "come up with another dud like last year" there wouldn't have been much seed available for 1950, they report.

There has been a succession of poor cone crops, some almost complete failures, ever since 1942, the foresters say. Bumper crops seem to come at intervals of about seven years.

Harvesting of cones for seed extraction is already under way in many parts of the Northwest and the foresters expect the price of seed to drop considerably below the all-time high of ten dollars a pound set last year.

J. A. Hall stated that reports from the U.S. Forest Service ranger districts indicate medium crops with an occasional abundant crop for Douglas fir, Western hemlock and Western red cedar all along the west slope of the Cascade Mountains from Mt. Baker in Washington, south to the Siskiyou in Oregon, with an occasional similar report for these species where they occur along the coast and east of the Cascade Range.

Pine Crop

Ponderosa pine is producing an average or better crop over its entire range except in the extreme northern part of the State of Washington, but the prospects for a seed crop for this species for next year are poor.

Noble and silver fir that occur on the higher elevations in the Cascade and Coast mountains also show consistently medium or abundant crops. Sitka spruce is producing medium and abundant crops along the coast of Oregon and Washington and medium and abundant crops are also shown for Port Oxford white cedar in its natural range on the Southern Oregon coast.



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Page 4A Register-Guard, Eugene, Ore., Sun., Aug. 28, 1949

Creswell High School Opens September 12

CRESWELL — Creswell Union High School will open for classes Monday, Sept. 12. Freshman and sophomores will register Sept. 8 and pre-school intelligence, aptitude, and grade placement tests will be given. Juniors and seniors will register Sept. 9.

Those who do not register on these dates must do so after school hours as no time will be taken up on opening day for registration. The first football practice has been called for Sept. 1 and all boys interested in playing this year are asked to contact

Coach Harvey Kent during the week of Aug. 29.

The list of teachers includes T. R. Graham, principal, who will also teach orientation geography and world history; American history and government; Ellsworth Huffman, vocal and instrumental music and social economics; Homer Parks, dean of boys,

will teach senior and general mathematics, algebra, and coach basketball and assist with football; Harvey Kent, orientation geography and other social science. shop coach football and track and assist with basketball; Mrs. Barbara Wolfe, English 1, 2, 3, and 4, and be in charge of the library; Mrs. Clarice Fedje Falgren, dean of girls, will teach home economics 1, 2, and advanced, chemistry and physics; Mrs. Donna A. Moore, general science, biology, girls' physical education, girls' sports, and commercial subjects.

The high school bus will make its regular runs starting at 8 a.m. Monday, Sept. 12. School convenes at 8:40 a.m.

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