

# Agriculture Returns in Crook County Exceed \$6,000,000 With Livestock in Lead Role

Prineville, August 22—A program, which his office has promoted for the past 10 years in the improvement of the herds of beef cattle in Crook county, has paid off, and E. L. Woods, county agricultural agent views with satisfaction the estimated returns of an aggregate of \$6,216,000 received for the county's agricultural products in 1950. Of this total, more than a half, the sum of \$3,466,000 came from sale of livestock and livestock products.

Woods' records show that during 1950 Crook county had 45,000 head of range cattle, 8,000 head of sheep, around 2,500 head of hogs and 2,000 dairy cows.

While the county has long been noted for its quality cattle, an expansion of purebred herds the past 10 years has focused the attention of stockmen of all the Pacific coast on Prineville. Two notable sales and shows of top bulls and heifers, to be added to the heavy local offerings, from throughout the state. The annual sale and show of the Oregon Shorthorn Breeders' association held each late February or early March, also attracts consignments from points as widely separated

as northern California and northern Idaho. Buyers from afar attend both sales.

### Fine Herds Noted

The county has become noted also for its purebred herds of Angus Aberdeen cattle, and activities for a show and sale of this breed have been discussed. The following Crook county ranchers are now specializing in purebred Angus herds: Don Snabel, Powell Butte; Tarbox Smith, McKay creek district; A. G. Schnoor, Prineville; and Pat Miller, Paulina. Shirley Michel and Connie Dickson, Powell Butte 4-H club members are raising purebred Angus animals in their project work.

Purebred Shorthorn breeders of the county follow: the Milloma ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Millard R. Eakin and A. C. Mustard, Powell Butte; Upland ranch of Claude

## North Unit Ladino Wins Renown



Clover grown on the new North Unit project won international awards this past year and focused the nation's agricultural spotlight on the newly reclaimed lands. In this picture, Paul N. Barnes, Jefferson county agent, left, and R. A. Hunt, manager of the Pacific Supply cooperative, are shown checking the certification of ladino clover grown on the project.

Brennan, and A. R. Graffenberger, Prineville; and H. F. Severance and John Sharp, Post. Boys and girls using purebred Shorthorns in their 4-H club projects are Douglas Harris, Prineville; Jerry Jones and Brenda, Duane and Merle Eakin, Powell Butte. Mark Mustard, another Powell Butte boy, is using Shorthorns in an F.F.A. project.

### Breeders Active

Activities of Hereford breeders continue to lead those specializing in other breeds in Crook county. Outstanding registered bulls and heifers are in keen demand from the noted Prineville Hereford ranches of J. R. Brees and Sons, the Pilot Butte Hereford ranch, and the Normandale Hereford ranch of J. L. Jacob and Sons. Others of the county who specialize in purebred Herefords are: Joe Fisher, at his Circle ranch on McKay creek; C. C. Reynolds & Sons, Percy Reynolds and William Dahler, the Ochoco project; J. A. Cain and Son, lower Crooked river; Jack McCaffery, Powell Butte; Claude Butler, Lone Pine; Henry Bernard, Supple; and Alan Finley, Post. Those of 4-H clubs who are using Herefords in their project work include Darrell and Connie Dickson, Charles Nelson and Joe Turner Jr., Powell Butte; Richard Cain, Freddie Joe, Jacob and Gary Gumpert, Prineville; and Richard Westcott, McKay creek.

### Herds Improved

Woods announces that herd improvement programs are under way at the following ranches: Don Snabel's Powell Butte Angus herds, Milloma Shorthorn herds in Powell Butte and Jack McCaffery's Powell Butte Hereford animals. Bull judging demonstrations have been held, in order to acquaint ranchers on points for selection of types, on the ranches of E. N. Fearrien at Paulina and Charles Bailey of the Post district. Records of the office of County agent Woods, which show little deviation from the federal farm census of 1949, reveal the following estimates for 1950: Gross income from field crops, \$2,619,000; total of hay land, 29,400 acres, producing 70,000 tons; barley, 5,500 acres; wheat, 3,500 acres; oats, 2,400 acres; rye, 2,000 acres; seed alfalfa, 50 acres; red clover seed, 600 acres; alsike clover seed, 1,200 acres; ladino clover seed, 300 acres; Austrian winter peas, 300 acres; hairy vetch, 250 acres; and crested wheat grass, 100 acres. Other miscellaneous field crops, including an expanding acreage of Webster variety of everbearing strawberries, reach 500 acres. The county's Netted Gem potato crop runs annually from 3,500 to 4,000 acres, Woods reports.

## Hormone Makes Roosters Cluck! It's All for Science

Ever see a rooster that clucks like a hen and has a motherly feeling toward a brood of baby chicks?

Using a hormone—prolactin—Dr. Paul Bernier, poultry geneticist at the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station, is producing male birds like that as a time saver in his poultry breeding work. It's a test for broodiness, a characteristic that's inherited in laying hens. Poultrymen who sell eggs don't want it.

Here's the way the test works: Say you start with just two cockerels — you can test more of course—and you want to find out which one will impart the least

broodiness to your breeding flock. Injections Started When the cockerels are 10 months old, you start hormone injections. Each bird gets a daily shot in the breast for a week or less. Cost: \$1.50 per injection. You look for the cockerel that can withstand the most hormone. He's the one most likely to father hens that will lay eggs instead of wanting to hatch them.

It's funny to watch the test as it progresses. Dr. Bernier checks the birds closely, listening for clucking sounds and testing them with baby chicks. He tickles the birds on the breast and so long as they put up a fight, he knows there's resistance.

### No Ill Effect

There's no carry-over effect from the hormone. After you've made your selection, and injections are stopped, the birds are growing again within three or four days.

Although he's been using the hormone test on Leghorn cockerels, Dr. Bernier says it would be effective in selecting turkey breeding toms. With turkeys, egg production during a short span of time is especially important.

Woods reports that Crook county's chicken population reached 20,000 birds in 1950 and ranchers produced in sideline activities 1,000 turkeys for market. A substantial annual income is derived by several growers, he cites, from rabbits produced for their meat.

## Penicillin Found To Help Growth Of Turkey Poults

The curative powers of penicillin, the magical antibiotic, have been put to a new use by an Oregon State college scientist, and this time it's turkeys that will benefit.

J. A. Harper, who is in charge of turkey research for the OSC agricultural experiment station, has found in his tests that a tiny bit of penicillin added to turkey feed produces faster and more uniform growth in poults. Mortality also was reduced.

Harper took turkey poults with similar hereditary backgrounds and placed them in two experimental pens at the OSC turkey farm. Space allotment per bird and feed were identical with a single exception. Birds in one pen received a small dose of procaine penicillin—2½ grams to a ton of feed.

Poults in the pen fed the normal ration varied greatly in size and vigor. Some were as large and healthy as those in the pen receiving penicillin, but others appeared weak and runty.

The penicillin-fed birds were uniform in size and, at four weeks of age, weighed an average of ¼ pound per bird more than the other group.

Although the exact reason for these results isn't known, Harper explained that the theory has been advanced that the antibiotic controls microorganisms in the intestinal tract of the birds.

### MOTHER TAGS ALONG

Woodstock, Vt. (UP)—Ed Payne, 81-year-old Boston newspaper comic strip artist, is vacationing here with his 101-year-old mother.

OLD VOTERS NEVER DIE Memphis, Tenn. (UP)—Registering here to vote were Max Fooks, 96, Roman Marcus, 94 and Mrs. Lilly Massman, 92.

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