

# Care Recommended In Fertilizing Trees

Fertilizing of trees can be of great value to them, but it can be overdone. Noting that fertilizer can be used to push growth of a young tree for quick shade and in transplanting of a young tree, Ralph Clark, horticulture specialist at Oregon State College has listed a few rules to be followed in fertilizing trees.

# Activity Rises On Willamette Valley Farms

With the arrival of more favorable weather conditions there was increased activity in field work in the Willamette Valley areas in the week ending April 26, the Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service says.

# GOOD STANDS SEEN

About three-fourths of the spring wheat, two-thirds of the spring oats, and nearly half of the spring barley had been seeded, and early planted fields of spring grains are through the ground and showing good stands and color on the better drained fields.

# Some early fields of field corn are being planted in Linn and Marion counties.

Apple trees were at the three-fourths stage that week and strawberries averaged about 50 per cent of the full bloom stage, ranging from just starting to full bloom.

Grass seed crops had good to excellent stands and development, except in low spots, damaged by standing waters. Stands of vetches, peas and clovers are generally good, though some fields have thin patches from winter killing and excess standing water.

# CHICK HATCH UP

In Oregon during the week ending April 27 commercial hatcheries placed 240,000 chicks for broiler and fryer production. This was 20 per cent above the previous week and seven per cent above the 225,000 a year earlier.

Eggs set for meat-type chickens numbered 338,000, which was down four per cent from the preceding week and down 17 per cent from the same week a year ago.

That same week 231,000 eggs were set for layer replacements, compared to the 220,000 set a week earlier and the 178,000 set a year ago.

Placements for meat-type chickens in the three Pacific Coast States during the week totaled 1,583,000 birds, down 10 per cent from the same week a year ago.

# Home Economists Plan State Conference Here on May 17, 18

Members of the Oregon Home Economics association will gather for a statewide conference in Salem, May 17 and 18, with "Capital-eyes on Home Economics" as the theme.

In the two-day session, attention will be focused on current legislative action, new developments in home economics, mental health, and improvement of communication skills.

The meeting is expected to draw home economists from business, homemaking, classrooms, extension, research, communications, institutional management and administrative positions.

# TALKS PLANNED

Highlights will include talks by Mark Hatfield, secretary of state, and Dr. John G. Watkins, clinical psychologist at the Veteran's hospital, Portland, and announcement of the 1957 "home economist of achievement." Effects of current legislative action on the home will be reported by Secretary Hatfield at the first general session Friday evening.

Saturday morning, Berton Ballard, newspaperman, editor and staff member at University of California will conduct a communications workshop. Election of officers of the college clubs sections and the state association also will be held.

Convention exhibits, educational and commercial, will be opened to the public Saturday from 9 a. m. to noon and between 2 and 4 p. m.

# EXHIBITOR LUNCHEON

An exhibitors' luncheon has been scheduled for Saturday noon when commercial firms will be honored for their support of the home economics college scholarship fund. During the Saturday afternoon session, Dr. Watkins will discuss mental attitudes on the job in "Your Professional Self in Action."

In a "What's New" symposium, experts in art, home management, home furnishings and housing, family relations, child development, foods and nutrition, textiles and clothing, will report on new home economics developments.

# BANQUET SATURDAY

At the banquet Saturday evening, an Oregon home economist who has faithfully served her profession will be honored. Last year's selection was Mrs. Ava Millam Clark, retired dean of home economics at OSC.

Sessions will be at the Marion Hotel and Willamette University. Mrs. Emma Rogness, Portland, is OHEA president. Mary Thomas, Maryhurst College, heads up the

"We Were Astonished . . . to know that so much entered into the conducting of a funeral."

HOWELL-EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME made many suggestions that had not even occurred to us.

# Sprout of Tree Seeds Object Of OSC Test

A new test that gives a quick check of the ability of tree seeds to sprout has been developed at Oregon State college.

Called the hydrogen peroxide viability test, the new technique will make it possible to check the sprouting potential of tree seeds in 5 to 9 days. Standard germination tests take 8 to 12 weeks to run.

# HOON TO NURSERIES

The quick test should be a boon to forestry and commercial nurseries in Oregon and across the nation, giving them a quick check on tree seed they're planning to buy or sell, according to Mrs. Louise Jensen, seed analyst in charge of the cooperative seed testing laboratory at OSC. Cost of the new test will be \$3.50 to \$5 a sample.

Development of the viability test was carried out under a grant from the state forest protection and conservation committee in cooperation with the OSC agricultural experiment station. The study was started by Dr. M. C. Parker, OSC agronomist, and completed by Dr. Te May Ching, agronomist in charge of research at the seed laboratory.

In the viability test, ends of tree seeds are sandpapered and clipped off. The seeds are then placed in a weak hydrogen peroxide solution and kept in a germination cabinet for 5 to 9 days. At the end of this period, viable seeds show signs of growth from the clipped end.

While the viability test doesn't give the same information as a germination test, Mrs. Jensen says it does give a good indication of the ability of tree seed to start to grow. Work is now under way to check results of the new test against results of standard germination tests. It is hoped future results of the viability test can be expressed in terms of germination quality.

The seed laboratory now offers five types of tests on 22 kinds of tree seeds. Mrs. Jensen reports. More information on the testing service can be obtained from the seed laboratory in Corvallis.

# Early Pick of Fleeces for Show Urged

Wool growers planning exhibit fleeces in the Marion County Lamb and Wool show at Turner, June 1, are urged by Ben A. Newell, Marion County Extension Agent, to select these fleeces at shearing time or as soon afterwards as possible.

For exhibit purposes a fine ewe fleece should weigh at least eight to 12 pounds, and a course ewe fleece from 10 to 16 pounds. Ram fleeces may weigh 15 to 16 pounds or more.

Other points to consider in choosing a fleece for exhibit or staple length and soundness. Also consider cleanliness and the absence of such defects as hairiness, and black and gray fibers.

After selection the fleeces roll should be neatly inside out with belly, neck and britch wool turned in and tied only with paper twine. It should then be put in a large box to keep out dust and other foreign matter.

The U. S. Navy's aircraft carrier, Saratoga, has enough power to drive more than 100 passenger locomotives at full speed.

Justice Harold Hitz Burton of the U. S. Supreme Court was once Mayor of Cleveland, O.

# Reason to Crow



Dr. Paul Bernier, poultry geneticist at Oregon State College is proud of this White Leghorn rooster. The poultryman says it is one of several birds which genetically carries both disease resistance and high egg production, the result of seven years selection.

# Guernsey Has Top Mark in County DHIA

Fifty-six Marion County dairy cows on standard D.H.I.A. test made over 75 pounds of butterfat apiece in March. Top cow was G 68-37, a guernsey in Barnes Bros. herd at Silverton with 114 pounds of butterfat and 2,036 pounds of milk.

Two thousand fifty-five cows were on test with Joe Bilyeu, Reed Vincent, and Sieg Pommerening, testing supervisors. Total milk production was 1,660,943 pounds of milk and 81,543 pounds of fat.

Number 250, a grade Holstein at Fairview Home, Salem was top milk producer. She gave 2,640 pounds of milk and 87 pounds of fat in March. Top Jersey cow was Mandy, in the William Vogt herd, Salem, with 1,720 pounds of milk and 86 pounds of fat.

R. Wahl, a new member at Newberg, owned the high Ayrshire. She gave 1,410 pounds of milk and 75 pounds of fat. The Brown Swiss cow, 52 in the Von Flue Bros. herd at Silverton, gave 1,776 pounds of milk and 78.1 pounds of fat.

NICKODEMUS NAMED Erwin Nickodemus, Rt. 1, Mt. Angel, has been named a member of the American Jersey Cattle Club. The breeder of registered Jersey Cattle had his application for membership approved at the last meeting of the club's board of directors.

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# Better Hens Result From OSC Program

A program began in 1949 has resulted in healthier White Leghorn chickens who produce more eggs at the Oregon State College experiment station.

Dr. Paul Bernier, poultry geneticist, began selecting healthy White Leghorn families after it was found about half of the layers were dying from disease and were averaging only 113 eggs a year in hen houses which were purposefully maintained to encourage disease organisms.

It was seven years since the selection began and the healthy birds were being developed and now mortality is only 15 per cent and production was up to 208 eggs under the same management.

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# Time Arrives To Spray for Walnut Blight

Now is the time to make the first (early pre-bloom) application of spray to control walnut blight in orchards on the Valley floor. This spray and dust notice dated April 29 was released by Dr. Paul W. Miller, USDA plant pathologist at Oregon State College.

Orchards in the foothills above the Valley floor will not be ready to spray until later. This time will have to be determined by each grower for each particular orchard. In past years, orchards located at elevations ranging from 100 to 800 feet above sea level have been anywhere from one to four days later than those on the Valley floor.

One of three fungicides can be used for the standard spray program. One is Bordeaux 4-2-100 (four pounds of copper sulphate, two pounds of quicklime or two and one-half pounds of hydrated lime, 100 gallons of water). One pint of summer oil emulsion should be added to every 100 gallons of Bordeaux spray to reduce the severity of possible leaf injury.

Other fungicides are Yellow Cuprocidate at one pound in 100 gallons of water or Copper A Compound, two pounds in 100 gallons of water. A compatible spreader sticker at the rate of one ounce in 100 gallons of spray should be used with Copper A Compound.

Growers having "air blast" or "speed" spray machines can use six pounds Copper A Compound, two pounds Yellow Cuprocidate, or Bordeaux 12-4-100. Special dust mixtures are available for growers following a dust program.

Multnomah Society of America, Multnomah Hotel, Portland.

Marion County 20th Annual Fat Lamb Show, 9:30 a. m., Turner.

June 2-5—4-H-FFA What League Show and Sale, The Dalles.

June 4-6—Oregon State home economics extension council, OSC.

June 8-8-4-H Fat Stock Show and Sale, Bend.

June 6-8—Eastern Oregon Livestock Show, Union.

June 10-15—Oregon State Grange annual convention, Bend.

June 11-21—4-H Summer School, OSC.

June 24-26—Western Society of Crops Science annual meeting, OSC.

June 25-28—Eighth Annual Fertilizer conference of Pacific N.W., Benson Hotel, Portland.

June 26-28—Pacific Branch, Entomological Society of America, Multnomah Hotel, Portland.

# Slip in Farm Prices Told

There was a decrease of one-half per cent in index of prices received by Oregon farmers during the month ending April 15, the Crop Reporting Service of the U. S. Department showed.

However, nationally the index of prices received by farmers during that period increased two per cent. The report also showed that nationally the index of prices paid by farmers established another new high, reaching 296 per cent of its 1910-14 average.

Over the past 12 months the increase in farm product prices nationally has not kept pace with the rise in prices of commodities and services bought by farmers, including interest, taxes and wage rates.

In Oregon prices for sheep, lambs, milk sold wholesale, butterfat in cream, chickens and eggs averaged lower than a month earlier. There was a substantial price

increase shown for cattle, calves and hogs, and wool had a limited decrease to one-half a per cent during the month.

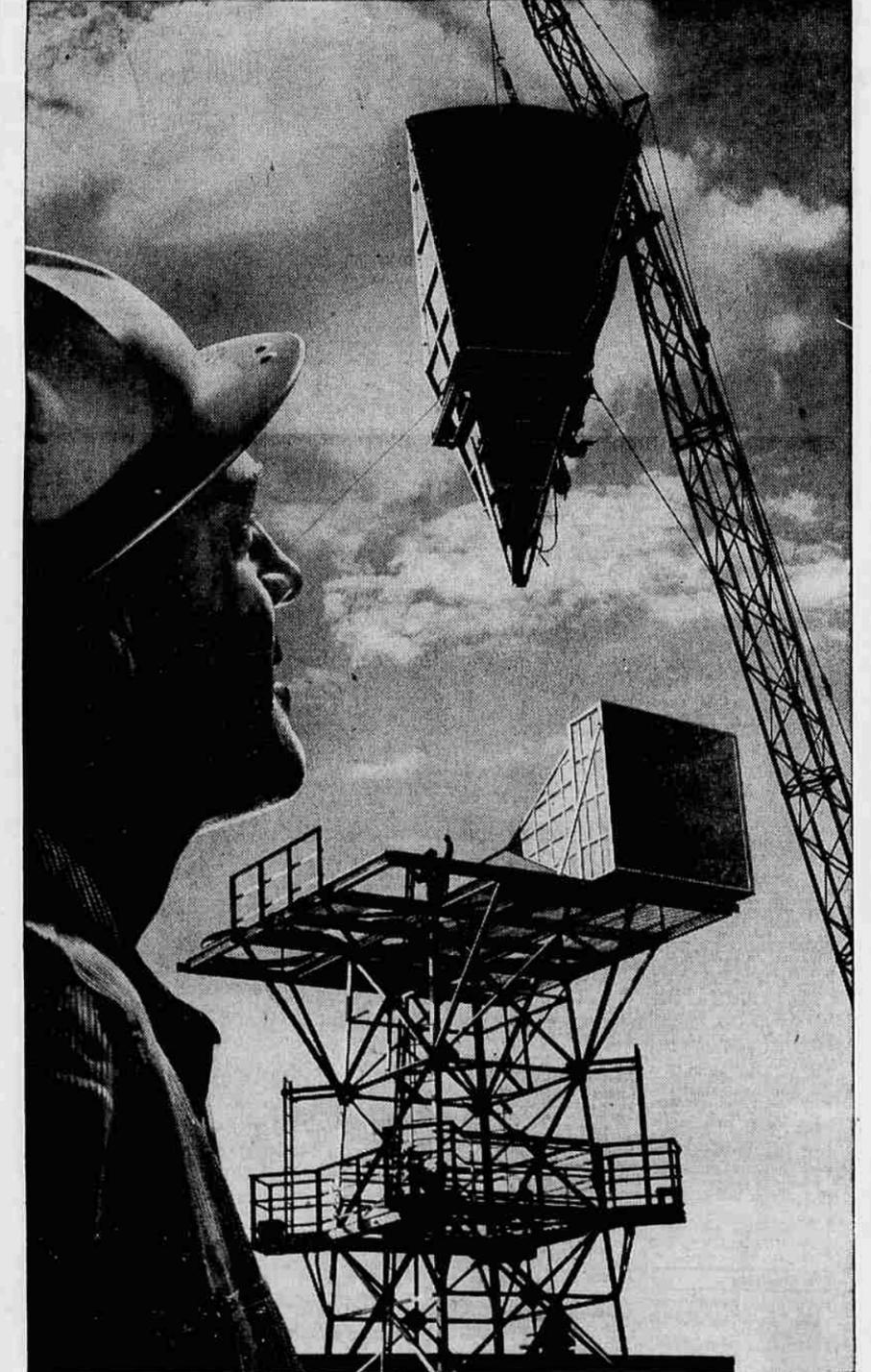
The all crop index in Oregon dropped fractionally during the period from March 15 to April 15. Wheat prices at mid-April averaged two cents above mid-March. Prices also averaged higher for winter pears, but these increases were not enough to offset the somewhat lower prices shown for feed grains, hay, potatoes and seed.

A comparison with mid-April a year ago shows the livestock index in Oregon was up seven per cent, but the all crop index was down one per cent, resulting in a two per cent increase in all the all-commodity index.

# Mishandling Of Eggs Found

Several cases of mishandling of eggs have come to light in the recent inspections of retail egg outlets in Eastern Oregon by the state egg inspectors of the Department of Agriculture.

Lack of proper refrigeration of eggs was found to be the case in most of the outlets checked and another factor in handling eggs was their storing near strong odor foods.



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