



Extension Notes:

Cattle Day Set at Hermiston

Ranchers will have a chance to learn more about cattle judging and research on nutrition and health problems at the Annual Beef Cattle Improvement Day and Judging Clinic to be held in Hermiston April 21.

The program is sponsored by the Oregon State University Experiment Station at Hermiston.

Featured in the morning program will be a demonstration of new USDA feeder cattle grades based on size of frame and degree of muscling. In addition, a judging clinic, evaluating several cattle breeds in eight classes, will present awards to FFA teams and individuals and non-member individuals.

The afternoon program will

be highlighted by a discussion of current cow-calf problems, said Dean Frischknecht, OSU Extension animal science specialist. The talk will center on prevention of grass tetany and related problems.

A review of nutritional research being done at OSU will cover such topics as using Rumensin with potato waste, the effect of Tylosin on feedlot performance of steers fed varying levels of a silage and efficient feeds.

Registration for the events will be at 9 a.m., and the program will start at 10 a.m.

Persons interested in attending the Annual Wasco County Bull Grading Tour on April 20 may contact their local county Extension agent for more information.

County Bull Grading Tour

April 20th is the day set for the Wasco County Bull Grading Tour. Purpose of the tour is to give livestockmen a chance to look at ranchers herd sires and judge each bull on the physical merits.

The tour is sponsored by the Wasco County Livestock Asso-

ciation. First stop on tour is Ray Formans Indian Creek Ranch at 10:00 a.m. in South Wasco County. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Additional information can be obtained from Clint Jacks at the Extension Office.

4-H Outdoor Leader Needed

Desperately needed are 1-3 interested adults who would like to work with 20 youth from grades 4-7 in a 4-H Outdoor Club setting. Adults would be responsible to work over a 6-8 week period in designing 6 meetings and 3 outdoors exper-

iences for the club members. Assistance and help will be given by Clint Jacks Extension Agent. Some knowledge of outdoors helpful but not necessary.

See Clint or Sue at Extension Office in old Administrative building or call at extension 238.

Fireplace Safety

Each year more than 6,000 people receive hospital emergency room treatment for injuries associated with fireplaces, reports Susan Gangler, Warm Springs Extension Agent.

The typical accidents associated with fireplaces include clothing catching fire, sparks landing on nearby flammable material, carbon monoxide poisoning caused by inadequate ventilation, and burns from using flammable liquids to kindle or rekindle the fire.

"It is hazardous to use flammable liquids anywhere near a fire because the vapors can travel to the flames and be ignited," says Dorothy Brown, Oregon State University Extension housing-home furnishings specialist.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission offers the following suggestions for the safer use of fireplaces or wood-burning stoves:

- Make sure the fireplace was constructed to be used as a fireplace, not just for decoration. Have it inspected to determine whether it has all necessary linings and clearances.

- Don't use gasoline or other flammable liquids to kindle or rekindle a fire because the flammable vapors can explode. Never use fuels near a fire; explosive vapors can travel the length of a room.

- Always keep the damper open while the fuel is burning to provide for efficient burning and to prevent the accumulation of poisonous or explosive gases.

- Don't use coal, charcoal or polystyrene packaging in a fireplace unless the fireplace is well-ventilated.

- Don't treat artificial logs (made from sawdust and wax) the same way you treat real wood logs. Use only one at a time; if you use more, they can produce too much heat for some fireplaces to withstand.

- Always use a screen that completely covers the opening around a fireplace to keep sparks from flying out. Don't put combustible materials, such as carpets or furniture, near a fireplace.

- Keep children away from the fire because their clothing can easily ignite. Warn the entire family about this hazard.

- Check fireplaces regularly (at least once each year) to determine that all vents and chimneys are operating properly.

- Be sure all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them.

- Make sure the fire is out completely before retiring for the evening.

- Use chimney guards. Squirrel and bird nests can stop up chimneys.



Planting seedlings is back-breaking work. As the bristling bags get light, the "hodags", or digging tools, get heavier and the sun gets hotter. CDS Photo

Burned, Logged Areas Being Reforested

Survival is the name of the game for 460,000 Ponderosa Pine and Douglas Fir seedlings being planted this spring in the B.I.A.'s annual reforestation program.

If 60 percent of the two-and three-year old seedlings survive their first year of life outside a nursery, foresters will have considered the effort a success.

Little if any growth will be evident when the follow-up stocking survey is done in the summer of 1979. Recovering from the shock of transplantation and contending with often adverse weather conditions takes most of the plants' energy. "We're glad if they just survive," said Voldemars Abrenietis, Forester for the B.I.A.

Pine seedlings planted last week in the 1968 Seekseequa burn area are being given a fighting chance. Soil moisture is unusually high this year, according to planting supervisor Jim Cranford, and if there are a couple of good rains during the critical summer months the first reforestation effort in that 180-acre area may be a success.

Last year's planting on this site was cancelled due to drought conditions. But the trenches dug in preparation for that planting should still be effective in reducing competition and providing protection for the new seedlings.

There have been attempts to reforest other sections of the Seekseequa burn in the ten years since 1,962 acres of timber and field were destroyed. A few pine trees dot the bare landscape attesting to these efforts but also telling the story of dry, windy summers and hard winters.

Seesequa's Fire No. 17 was the first planting in this year's reforestation program, which

Abrenietis termed "moderate." A total of 714 acres will be planted, about half the massive 1977 effort. The amount of planting depends on how many clear-cuts and burns are ready for reforestation, Abrenietis explained.

Pine seedlings for Fire No. 17, which were purchased by the B.I.A. from the Forest Service nursery in Bend, were a year older than is customary. Having waited in the nursery for more ideal weather conditions, the three year old seedlings are expected to have a better chance of surviving their first summer and winter if this year's moisture level continues, thus beginning the slow repair of hundreds of fire-damaged acres.

In the Seekseequa country an army of tree planters marched across the flats depositing as many as 16,000 seedlings a day into the ready soil.

Burdened by canvas bags bristling with scores of seedlings and equipped with digging tools called "hodags", the infantry swung, stooped, planted, packed, and barely straightening, moved down the line.

Foresters Cranford and Terry Shand strolled with them making sure that seedlings were placed 8 feet apart and were not "J-planted", with roots curled or angled beneath the surface.

Contractor Jim Stauffer, who supplied the men and tools for the Fire No. 17 planting, commented that this site was

better prepared than any they had worked on, making the work faster and easier.

Planting is slower in the fire country where the terrain is steep and the ground less prepared, but results there are often more rewarding because of the higher moisture and greater protection.

This past week fir seedlings were brought in from Wind River Nursery, Washington and new armies were deployed for planting in the high country.

New Rule Sets Net Mesh Size

On March 17 Oregon Fish and Wildlife Director John Donaldson issued a letter proposing amendment of OAR 635-35-110 (4), dealing with the measurement of gill net mesh size.

The new ruling will read as follows:

(4) "The mesh size of any gillnet is determined only after at least three consecutive meshes are wet from soaking in water not less than one hour. These three meshes are then placed under ten pounds of vertical tension and the measurement is taken from the inside of one vertical to the outside of the opposite vertical knot of the center mesh."

Child Development Topic

Child development and school testing will be explored by John Cunnion, Jefferson County School Psychologist, at a Thursday, April 13 meeting. All interested persons are invited to the 7:30 p.m. meeting in the Madras Junior High cafeteria. Child care will be provided.

The district Parent Advisory Council for Title I is sponsoring the informational meeting and all parents, teachers, and community members are urged to attend.

Cunnion will discuss actual change that occur in the child's development from birth to adulthood. He will relate this development to performance in school and in testing. Testing is one method of collecting information which can help determine special needs of some children and can assist in making decisions as to the extent of those needs.

Again, the meeting will be Thursday evening, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Madras Junior High cafeteria.

School Check-Out Policy

We would like to remind the community of the Madras Junior High policy regarding checking out students.

Only the parent or guardian may check a student out of school unless the student brings a note to school or a phone call is

received from the parent or guardian during the school day.

Please call the junior high for more information, 475-3131, and ask for Phil Riley, Marie Calica, Doyle Whipple, or John Sebastian.