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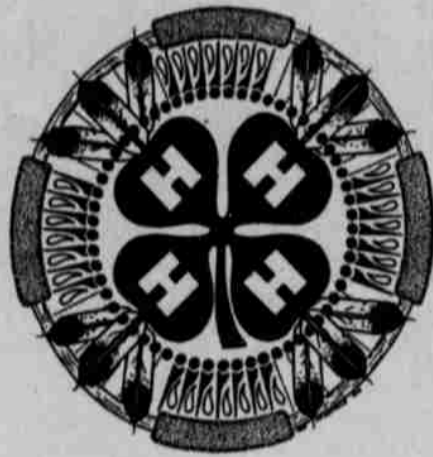
The Oregon State University Extension Service staff is devoted to extending research-based information from OSU to the people of Warm Springs in agriculture, home economics, 4-H youth, forestry, community development, energy and extension sea grant program with OSU, United States Department of Agriculture, Jefferson County and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.

The Clover speaks

4-H International Exchange

The 4-H Exchange Program provides young people and families the opportunity to build friendships and gain a cross-cultural understanding. These exchanges help young people and their families understand the importance of knowing and understanding people from different cultures in an increasingly global society. They also help instill positive cross-cultural attitudes and skills, increase self-esteem and confidence, and enhance the learning of foreign language and communications skills.

Oregon has participated in the 4-H International Programs for more than 25 years. During that time, over 3,000 Oregon families have hosted Japanese and Korean youth for one month between late July and late August, over 350 Oregon youth have traveled to Japan and Korea on four or seven week homestays, and several Oregon college students have spent a year in Japan working and learning through the intern program. Oregon just began participating in the High School Program in the 1998-1999 school year. Currently three Japanese youth are staying throughout Oregon and attending high school. During the 1999-2000 we expect to have six Japanese youth in Oregon. Currently sixteen Oregon



counties are participating in the Exchange program. If you would like more information, please contact the State 4-H Office, your County Agent, or County Coordinator.

4-H volunteer sportfish workshop to be held in July

CORVALLIS - The Oregon State University 4-H Youth program will hold a sportfishing workshop at the Hancock Field Station near Fossil, OR, July 7-8.

The deadline for registration is June 23. The workshop is aimed at new and continuing volunteers in the 4-H Sportfishing and Aquatic Resources program, according to Virginia Thompson,

OSU Extension 4-H youth specialist.

"This is a statewide program that enlists adult volunteers to teach youngsters and many parents how to fish and to be good stewards of Oregon's aquatic resources," Thompson said. "New volunteers are particularly encouraged to attend. No previous experience is necessary."

The workshop will familiarize participants with such fishing skills as selecting and rigging poles, teaching casting, tackle crafting and identifying aquatic insects. In addition, it will explore fishing-related environmental concerns such as water quality, watersheds and the function of riparian zones.

The registration fee is \$40, which includes three meals, lodging, program supplies and a leadership training book. Accommodations at the Hancock Field Station require participants to provide their own sleeping bag, pillow, towel and personal items.

"In addition to spending time in the classroom, participants will also have a chance to do some fishing, so they should be sure to bring their fishing gear and license," Thompson said.

For information, contact Thompson in Salem at 503-371-7920, or e-mail at virginia.thompson@orst.edu.

Natural Resource Notables

There's No Place for Weeds in Habitat Restoration

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) says "watch for weeds when you plant the seeds." The planting of desirable grasses and other vegetation is a key strategy in restoring habitat for salmon and other threatened or endangered species in Oregon. But it won't do any good if the mix is infested with weed seeds.

From the two-acre landowner that plants from a 20-pound bag of seed to an agency land manager responsible for thousands of acres and may use seed by the ton, using clean seed is critical to repairing the land. "We have some weeds out there right now and don't need any more from the planting of seeds," says Tim Butler, manager of ODA's Weed Control Program.

Yellow starthistle, knapweed, and white top are examples of the kinds of weeds that can turn a restoration project sour over time. "Habitat restoration projects are designed to get a desirable species to establish in a sensitive area," says Butler. "Grasses you are trying to establish have a fibrous root system that holds the soil together and prevents erosion. But if something undesirable like knapweed gets a hold, it can dominate the site with a tap-root system that doesn't hold the soil and increases salutation in nearby streams."

Oregon's history - both past and present - offers examples of the unintended consequences of seed plantings that accidentally included weeds. In the late 1980's, to prevent erosion, the US Forest Service used aircraft to drop grass seed on thousands of acres after fires in Northeast Oregon. Unfortunately, the seed was contaminated with Yellow starthistle. The weed spread like a biological wildfire itself and became an expensive problem to deal with. In the past couple of years, contaminated wheatgrass seed originating from California but sold by a Central Oregon seed dealer introduced Yellow starthistle to several counties. As part of the construction of a new spillway at Ochoco reservoir, a five-acre site was seeded in 1997 with the tainted supply. When the site was monitored last summer, starthistle was thriving. Workers had to hand pull hundreds of unwanted weeds. Officials say the damage caused by contaminated seed may be worse than if the site had not been seeded at all. The site will need to be monitored for many more years to control any starthistle

plants that might pop up. An ounce of prevention is worth



a pound of weed-free seeds - or more. "It's better to spend the dollars up front - before planting," says Jim Cramer of the ODA's Commodity Inspection Division. ODA can and does provide regulatory oversight of seed dealers through sampling and testing of product as well as auditing of records. Some companies may end up facing a civil penalty for selling seed containing a prohibited noxious weed. But even the most reputable companies can find themselves in trouble with weed seeds if they don't intensively sample and test what they have. That's where the education role comes in for the ODA.

Purchasers of seed - especially those involved in habitat restoration projects - need to make sure sampling and testing has been done. That goes for the farmer or rancher as well as the big agencies responsible for large tracts of land. "Individual landowners probably can't afford additional sampling and testing of the seed," says Cramer. "But at a minimum, they can ask their supplier for the test reports and blending sheets. They should know the origin of their seed. Large agencies and municipalities have the potential of spreading noxious weeds in Oregon."

Another indicator of seed purity is the label. Like any product sold commercially, the label will tell the buyer what the package contains - or at least it is supposed to. Some weed seeds are not prohibited as part of a seed lot, and therefore may not even be listed on the label. Cramer advises seed buyers to never accept seed without a label as "the label must state the variety and kind of each component in the bag including the weed seed amount by weight as well as any noxious weed that might be in there. The origin, purity, and germination for each component must be on the label."

All this effort should be done before the planting of the seed. Once it is in the ground, any weed problems are much more costly in time, effort, and money. Also, Cramer advises the big seed buyers to "bank the good stuff." Once they find a seed lot that is clean and effective, make sure and stockpile enough of it to last - because every time they go out to buy seed, they will have to go through this whole process again.



HOME SWEET HOME

By Bernadette Handley, Family & Community Development Agent



Father's Day is around the corner - the day we set aside time to acknowledge our DAD and all he has done for us. For some, DAD may be a stepdad, an uncle, a grandpa, an older brother, or a male who has influenced you in a special way. Whomever DAD is, if he has guided you in some way, made you laugh when you needed it most, or helped you "keep on moving" at a time when you wanted to stop, then he deserves a little thanks.

What are some of those DAD qualities that you can be thankful for?

He listens to you, really listens to you. He takes a moment when he hears a hint of sadness in your voice and encourages you to share your pain.

His actions speak louder than words. He hugs you when he thinks you need one and even when you don't. He throws the ball an extra time even when he is in a rush. He will stop the car and back up when you say "Daddy, look at that deer in the field". He will show up to help you finish the roof repairs even if it means he misses the football game.

He will give you choices in life and the opportunity to make mistakes and learn from them. He will let you know that HIS way is

not the only way. He will not raise his voice to you in anger.

He will reinforce your good behaviors and help you correct the not-so-good behaviors. He won't confuse your behaviors with WHO you are and WHAT you do. He will offer guidance and support and keep your life regulated. He will be kind even when you disobey and he will be firm without being mean.

So, how could you possibly thank him for all those special things he has done? Keep in mind that the gift is in the giving. Thanks does not have to be an expensive gift or a costly treat. It can be simple and easy. Thanks for being there, thanks for listening, thanks for sharing. He will get the message however you choose to express it.

Stumped for a new and different idea? How about one of these?

Write a poem or letter to Dad and share some of your thoughts. It does not have to be lengthy. All you have to do is write what you feel. Put together a collection of photos. How about the fun you had fishing together or at the last softball game? Or when he held your first born child?

Make a homemade meal. Breakfast in bed is ALWAYS a winner. Or how about a picnic

lunch? Or an evening BBQ? Make the meal something special for SOMEONE special.

How about a FAMILY dinner? Is it possible to get everyone together to honor Dad all at once? Everyone can take a turn and share a special moment or time. Does Dad have a sweet tooth? Make a batch of his favorite cookies or dessert.

Put together a book of thoughts or memories about Dad. Have each family member write about a special time with Dad. Create a coupon book full of little gifts to spread out over the year. A batch of cookies, an afternoon of yardwork, a game of checkers, an afternoon drive, an early morning fishing trip.

Don't let it end with Father's Day. A dad plays a special role in your life. Remember to thank him for his influence in your life throughout the year.

The OSU Extension staff wish everyone a happy and safe summer vacation. Remember Summer academy & 4-H camp at Peter's Pasture!

STOCKMAN'S ROUNDUP: Estimating horsebody weight with a simple formula



by Bob Pawelek
OSU Livestock Agent

Knowledge of horse body weight is useful in determining how much daily feed is needed.

Also, paste wormers and other medications are designed to be dispensed at specific levels relative to a horse's weight.

Unfortunately, most horse owners do not have easy access to a set of scales and must often resort to visual evaluation for estimating weight.

However, one study conducted

in Florida found that 88% of horse persons underestimated actual weight by an average of 186 pounds. Similar trends have been observed at educational programs elsewhere. In one field study, 37% of horse owner estimates were at least 150 pounds below actual weights. Some horse owners tend to overestimate actual weights by visual observation. In the Florida study, 13% of participants overestimated by 90 pounds. Fortunately, there is a simple formula that can be used to estimate body weights of individual horses fairly accurately. This formula utilizes heartgirth circumference, body

length measurements and an adjustment factor. This horse weight prediction equation is shown below:

(Heartgirth x Heartgirth x Body length) + 330 = Wt (lbs)

Measurements should be taken and recorded in inches with a tape that is at least 75 inches long.

Plastic measuring tapes are preferred over cloth tapes because they won't stretch. Metal tapes

can be used but they sometimes scare horses, making them the least preferable. Heartgirth is a measure of the circumference, taken by running the tape measure all the way around the horse, using the highest part of the withers. Body length is measured from the point of the shoulder, straight back along the horse's side, and to the point of the buttock. The tape should go around the corner of the hip and to the actual point of the buttock, which is essentially half the distance from the corner to the tail. Two persons will be needed in taking body length measurements.

For owners who are learning to take measurements for the first time, it is advisable to get an actual scale weight on one horse and compare it to the prediction equation. This will help determine whether or not measurements are being taken from the proper points. The horse should be standing somewhat square.

Furthermore, measurements of a horse to compare changes in weight over time should always

be taken at the same time of the day, preferably in the morning prior to feeding.

In two demonstrations conducted at Texas A & M, a total of 12 horses were taped. The horses were of Arabian, Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred breeding and had actual scale weights ranging from 725 to 1275 pounds. The tape measurements and equation underestimated actual weight of 5 horses by an average of 15 pounds and overestimated actual weight of 5 horses by 12 pounds. One mare, that was extremely heavy fronted, deephearted and light hiped, was overestimated by 150 pounds. The prediction equation estimated weight of 1 horse exactly. Overall, the procedure averaged being within - 24 pounds of actual weight.

In summary, the above mentioned prediction equation appears to be a more reliable method for estimating weight than visual observation. The procedure can be used effectively on many horses, but may not be highly accurate for pregnant

mares or for horses with extreme conformational irregularities, especially very unbalanced horses. All in all, horse owners should be able to utilize this simple tool in better managing horses.

Adapted from Householder, D.D. and P.G. Gibbs. 1990. A method demonstration comparing visual estimation and use of a prediction equation to actual scale weights of horses.

Satellite Event
OSU Ext. hosts a series of educational satellites developed by the U.S. Dept. of Education.
Learning Everywhere
-June 20
Program will be offered-1st floor classroom-Education Bldg.
5-6 PM.
Contact OSU Ext. @ 553-3238 if interested Limit 10.