

NOTES BY
THE WAYSIDE

(By John J. Inskip, County Extension Entomologist) Get out the dust gun. Clackamas county farms and gardens are currently suffering from a severe infestation of the Western cucumber beetle. This voracious insect is especially fond of snap bean plants but is not too particular and will devour leaves of most garden crops and even pigweeds. The long straw colored larvae often attack sweet corn seedlings and roots. They may cause the stalks to lodge.

Adults are described as yellowish green, black spotted beetles common to Western Oregon. They are often confused with the beneficial ladybug because of the similarity in size and shape. But ladybugs are red with black spots. In early spring the cucumber beetle destroys red clover seedlings causing loss of satisfactory stands.

What to do: Dust with 5 per-

cent DDT or preferably Methoxychlor dust of the same strength. Melon vines, cucumber and squash plants are sensitive to DDT so this material should never be used on them. Human beings are also much less effected by methoxychlor, meaning it is a safer material to use.

And this word from Extension Entomologist Robert Every: "Do not dust when the plants are wet with dew or when a rain seems imminent."

An experiment recently concluded at Oregon State College shows no significant difference in feed consumption between baled alfalfa hay, alfalfa hay wafers and alfalfa hay pellets. These different forms of alfalfa hay were fed to dairy cows. Researchers noted little difference on milk production.

They conclude that alfalfa hay can be condensed into wafers and fed satisfactorily to milk cows. The economic aspect of hay wafers were excluded from this experiment.

Advantages of feeding waf-

ers include lower shipping costs, less storage space and cheaper handling costs. These advantages have not been weighed against processing costs and other features which may or may not make wafers feasible.

"It beats me. Here the county court has long since declared the whole county a tansy ragwort free area. County Weed Control Officer Dock Hunt has worked very hard to eradicate this poisonous weed from our fields and cutover lands. Yet, in the fact of it, there are so many folks who do not care for these small infestations which keep all of us in hot water."

It was Louie our fishing and hunting partner over Molalla way speaking. We had driven by the house slowly and seeing his waspish wife around the premises, we drove right on. Louie we found emerging from his cutover 40 which he is planting to Christmas trees. He was dressed in a paraffin treated red hat and ragged blue denim pants which reached half way to his knees. In his jaw was a cud of eating tobacco, in his arms was a beautiful yellow loupet of blooming tansy plants and a few of his neighbors.

Many times in this column we have encouraged the use of commercial fertilizers where we surmised they could be used wisely and economically. Unwise use and this includes improper timing, poor placement and use of too much of one or more elements, may result in damage.

During the state holly growers tour held in Washington County this year we saw a good demonstration of what may have been caused by over use of fertilizers. Variegated trees in the orchard in question looked as if they may have been struck by a serious blight. Leaf drop was quite serious.

Extension Agent Plamer Torvend, Washington county, read a report of the soil analysis of the soil in this location. Phosphorus content reached the 200 lbs. per acre mark and the soil potash content was found to reach to 900 lbs. per acre mark. Professor Al Roberts, OSC, pointed out that holly trees like many others, cannot stand such high concentration of fertilizer salts.

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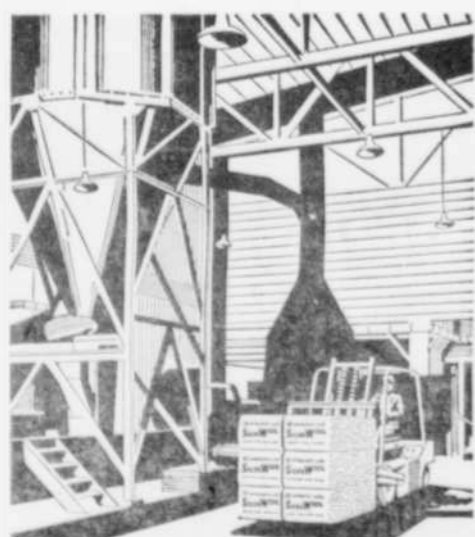
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Progress in forest product development helps to improve the economy of the Pacific Northwest. As new products are created and proved, new plants are built. Result: more jobs.

Silvawool is an example. Developed by Weyerhaeuser to use Pacific Northwest woods, Silvawool was first produced in a pilot plant. Later, to meet the demand from home owners, refrigeration specialists and building designers, a full scale production plant was built in Snoqualmie Falls, Washington. This is just one example of practical, scientific use of wood. It increases the use and economic return of the forest crop.

Weyerhaeuser scientists and technicians are continually searching for new products. As new and better forest products are created, other new plants will be built.

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THE COMPLETE PICTURE



THESE WOMEN! By d'Alessio



"... then, last week, after five years, the dictaphone broke down and he called me into his office for dictation..."