

WINTER RYE HARDY CROP

GROWS WELL ON DRY
LAND

Prof. Shaw Tells How to Obtain
The Most Success With This
Grain in Central Oregon—Makes
Good Hay and Pasture.

BY PROF. THOS. SHAW

(Written especially for The Bulletin)

The winter rye crop is the hardiest of all cereals. It will endure more cold than any of these crops. It will grow under conditions that are more dry. It has greater power to gather food from soils than other grains. It furnishes good grain food for any kind of live stock when properly fed. If cut at the proper stage of growth it may be used for hay but the hay is not so much relished by stock as other kinds of hay. It also furnishes an excellent pasture plant, and it is a useful plant to bury in the soil. The yields are usually not so high as those obtained from wheat but from what has been said it will be apparent that this crop is well adapted to the needs of Central Oregon and, therefore, should find an important place in the same.

Much of what was said with reference to the growing of winter wheat in the paper that treated of wheat, will apply equally to winter rye. It will probably be found that the very best crops of winter rye will be grown exactly on the lines submitted for growing winter wheat. But winter

rye crops may be grown on other lines.

This crop will succeed with treatment that would not furnish the best conditions for growing winter wheat. For instance, it may be sown on ground from which a winter wheat crop has been removed, the ground being plowed and pulverized as soon as the crop of winter wheat has been removed, providing the plowing can be done at such a time. If it cannot be done then, it may be plowed as soon as loosened by the fall rains. The seed may then be sown. It may be sown at a period later than would be suitable for winter wheat. The latter should be sown so as to secure for it the entire advantages of the winter season's rainfall. The latter will succeed on a less amount of rainfall.

The aim should be to put this crop in also with the drill. The amount of seed to sow will be dependent on the object sought in sowing the grain. When it is sown for a grain crop not less than 5 pecks of seed should be sown. More seed is called for it will be noticed than in the case of wheat. This results from the less degree of the standing in the rye. When the crop is sown to provide pasture, not less than 7 to 8 pecks should be sown, and about the same amount when the crop is sown to be plowed under. When grazed the drain on soil moisture is less than when the plants are not grazed, as the leaf surface is less, and therefore the transpiration is slower through the leaves of the plants. When buried as a green manure, the burial in dry areas should take place just before the sowing stage, and, therefore, before that time when the crop proves the most heavily on soil moisture, that is when it is maturing.

Winter rye should be buried about 2½ to 3 inches, as in the case of wheat.

What has been said about the harrowing of winter wheat will apply equally to the harrowing of winter rye. Both crops are usually much benefited by such harrowing when it is judiciously done in all areas where there is a shortage of rainfall where the ground crusts severely the harrowing ought to be severe, but not under ordinary conditions. In-

stances are on record wherein crops have been benefited by using the disk to break up the crust in the spring of the year.

When the crop is grown for pasture the grazing may begin as soon as the pasture is enough to justify it, providing that the grazing will not result in the encrusting of the soil. There may be instances in which winter grazing would bring about such a condition. Where it does not the crop may be grazed most of the winter and up into the spring. Where winter grazing would encrust the soil the grazing must be deferred until the ground becomes so dry that no harm will result from the grazing. A large amount of grazing will thus be furnished by the rye in the spring. The grazing may be continued until the rye begins to joint. The ground should then be plowed and prepared for some autumn crop to be sown later. The wheat crop is grown in best form when sown every alternate year, but rye crops may be grown more frequently.

Should the rye be wanted for green manure it should be buried in the soil when approaching the heading stage. On the newly broken soil of Central Oregon, it may not be necessary to grow it thus for some time, except on lands with so much alkali in them that they are much liable to encrust. Burial of rye in these tends to more complete pulverization. It also greatly increases the power of these soils to hold moisture. The burial of this crop makes an excellent preparation for growing winter wheat.

GOOD ROAD MAXIMS.

Good roads will bring a desire to seek country life.

Good roads will bring country schools equal to those in the towns.

We must have harmony in any effort for public improvement.

Old methods of road construction must be abandoned.

Bad roads are the sign of backwardness, indolence or a careless citizenship.

Mud is worse than an invading army.

Increase of wealth and prosperity immediately follow good roads.

We cannot afford to have bad roads any longer.

Every voter should be a preacher, a worker and a fighter for good roads.—Jesse Taylor in Better Roads.

RELATION OF GOOD ROADS TO HOME TRADE.

Farmer Will Buy of Local Merchants if
He Can Reach Them.

Again and again it has been pointed out that the growing tendency toward buying by mail from far distant houses, as far as the farmer is concerned, is directly traceable to the fact that he is growing away from the habit of driving into town once or twice a week, particularly on Saturdays visiting the local stores and keeping on friendly terms with the merchants. In other words, the success of the mail order house depends largely upon its ability to create a feeling of antagonism between the small merchant and his customer.

The Saturday trip to town is one of the foundation stones of merchandising in the country. Take a Saturday afternoon photograph of the main streets in any moderate sized town, and if it shows a shortage of hitching room and a fair mixture of automobiles it is safe to say that local institutions are being supported.

To encourage the farmer to come to town regularly some communities have instituted regular series of Saturday fairs. Instead of having one big celebration during the season, they have some event scheduled for each Saturday during the summer and fall, advertise broadcast throughout the surrounding territory and put on their special sales and special displays to catch the Saturday crowds.

If the farmer is making money he is apt to put some of it into good horses or an automobile, providing the roads are in such shape that he can realize on that kind of investment. But bad roads are the farmer's curse. If he knows that he must travel four or five miles of which a foot deep to get to town he will stay at home and let the U. S. D. carrier take his order for clothing, groceries or lumber.

Of course the benefits of good roads can be enjoyed only by such towns as those where merchants are progressive, selling good merchandise at reasonable prices. But, given that first requisite, nothing else will help the local merchant keep his former customer in line so much as frequent personal contact. Here is where the Saturday trip to town counts in dollars and cents in the dealer's cash drawer.

American business men are learning that "hard times" can be overcome if the right curative measures are employed, and what is more important—that locally at least business stagnation can be prevented by judicious stimulation of trade. This lesson is rapidly being assimilated by the country's retail merchants and they are coming to appreciate more fully the bearing on their business of such questions as this of good roads. When they finally arrive at some means of co-operative action on such problems and put that co-operation into effect the country will not longer suffer from many present causes of unrest.

Every merchant should study this good roads question until he grasps it fully and until he sees that it is his problem.

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THE BEND BULLETIN, Agent

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Department of the Interior, U. S.
Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon,
August 8, 1912.

Notice is hereby given that Martha Good, of Bend, Oregon, who, on November 3, 1910, made homestead entry, No. 67664, for N½ SE¼, N¼ SW¼, Section 35, Township 19 South, Range 15 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Commutation proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before H. C. Ellis, United States Commissioner, at his office at Bend, Oregon, on the 26th day of September, 1912.

Claimant names as witnesses: Geo. Millican, O. C. Henkle, F. E. Kopper, and U. N. Hoffman, all of Bend, Oregon.

C. W. MOORE,
Register.

23-27

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