

# Beef, Sheep Highlight Meeting Held at Union

Livestock management practices to help ease the cost-price squeeze of producing beef and sheep highlighted a special field day Friday at the Eastern Oregon Experiment station at Union.

Cost savings in raising heifers to production age without loss of weight or calving percentage — along with 50 per cent added income from farm flock ewes — were among key reports aimed at helping stockmen now operating on slim profit margins.

Nearly 100 beef and sheep producers and others connected with the region's livestock industry attended the program that included an afternoon tour of the station's research facilities. The station is a branch of the OSU agricultural experiment station.

Research trials here during the past six years indicate that replacement heifers can be raised successfully to calve as two-year-olds on relatively low-cost winter feeding coupled with good productive summer pasture. It was pointed out by J.A.B. McArthur, station superintendent, and A. T. Ralston, OSU animal scientist.

It was emphasized, however, that cattlemen should aim for two-year-old calving only when it is possible through management and nutrition to get heifers to satisfactory size — 900 to 1,000 pounds. Otherwise, it is advisable to calve them as three-year-olds.

Hereford heifers on test at the station have made sufficient growth at two years of age to wean calves that compare to those normally expected from three-year-old heifers.

From 1957 through 1962, about 180 replacement heifer calves were raised to two years of age at the station where they were wintered on good quality alfalfa-grass hay with varying amounts of grain supplement.

McArthur said it appears that weaner calf winter gains should approximate one pound daily to allow the animals to make economical gains on summer pasture. If calves cannot make these winter gains on hay, alone, a supplement should be fed to bring them up to this level of gain he stated.

Varying levels of grain supplement for wintering heifers for two years resulted in an \$18 feed cost spread per animal between the most economical and most expensive method. However, researchers noted little difference in weight of heifers or their calving ability at the end of two years.

Most economical production was obtained by keeping heifers on hay alone during their first year and supplementing this with two pounds of grain cube daily during the second year.

The most costly group received hay plus four pounds of grain cube daily during their first year, with the grain feed reduced to two pounds daily the second year. This higher-level grain feeding tended to depress summer gains and also resulted in more calving troubles.

Importance of selecting sheep for their ability to produce wool has also been demonstrated in trials reported by B. R. Eller, animal scientist at the branch station, and C. W. Fox, OSU researcher.

More wool production, along with pounds of lamb produced per ewe, are bringing an average annual gross return of \$30 for

Columbia and Targhee ewes in the branch station's farm flock. This compares to about \$20 usually expected per ewe in farm flocks, the researchers noted.

Through selection and management of Columbia ewes over a six-year period, annual fleece weight has been increased nearly three pounds per head.

Another trial demonstrated importance of heredity in ability to produce wool. Off-spring from one of the station's Columbia rams averaged 20 per cent greater fleece weight this year than did the offspring of another sire of the same breed.

Marked increase in the size lamb crop from selected crossbred ewe lambs also demonstrated the value of hybrid vigor within ewes for ability to produce twins.

When bred as ewe lambs, Hampshire-Columbia crosses averaged 143 per cent lamb crop over a three-year test period compared to 122 per cent crop for purebred Hampshire, Columbia, and Targhee ewes.

Other research programs now getting underway at the station were discussed and viewed by visitors during an afternoon tour. These included reports on winter feed levels for pregnant cows, use of artificial insemination on beef cattle, vitamin A supplementation for calves and mature pregnant cows, time of castration, and control of internal parasites in cattle.

J. C. Miller, OSU animal science department head, and R. M. Alexander, assistant director of OSU agricultural experiment station, were chairmen of the day's sessions.

F. E. Price, OSU dean of agriculture, was main speaker following a noon luncheon served by the Union County Cow-Belles. He discussed future trends in Oregon agricultural research, emphasizing need for research aimed at reducing production costs in all phases of agriculture, need for new crops and new uses for products, more basic research and agricultural marketing research.

## Channel Catfish Are Stocked In The Willamette System

The Oregon game commission made another attempt to recently establish channel catfish in the Willamette river system in an effort to provide these fine game fish to the fishing public.

The latest effort in this direction was the release of 15,600 channel catfish about two weeks ago that were trapped from the Snake river in eastern Oregon and transported into the Willamette and several tributary streams. Areas of release included the Long Tom river near Monroe, Pudding river out of Silverton, South Yamhill river near Sheridan, and the Willamette in the vicinity of Harrisburg to Corvallis.

Size of the catfish ranged from 3 to 20 inches in length, with the average for the entire lot around the 9-inch mark. The larger of these catfish may provide anglers with some almost immediate returns, if the fish will cooperate.

For several years the commission has strived to establish channel catfish in the Willamette river system. Several plants of these fine game fish have been made, but in all instances up to the present, the fish stocked have been small fry or fingerlings which under normal conditions will take a number of years to provide a fishery.

## RUFUS

By Mrs. George Fox

The relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Byrd went to Baker Saturday to attend the wedding of the eldest son of Robert Byrd Jr. to Miss Barbara Jean daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred A. Mattes of Baker. The wedding was held at 2:30 p.m. at the First Lutheran church on June 16 at Baker. A reception followed the ceremony in the church parlors.

Those going from Rufus to attend the bridal shower for Miss Jeanne Macnab in the basement of the Methodist church were Mrs. Leonard Jordan and Mrs. George Fox. Mrs. Frank Reid, Mrs. Robert Byrd and Mrs. Ray Brown sent gifts but were unable to attend the shower. Jeanne plans on a wedding in August, and is now employed at the U.S. National Bank in The Dalles.

Mrs. Harland McDonald and Mrs. Grace Medler are working at the Rummage Sale of the Rufus Grange held in The Dalles from June 17 through the end of the month. These two ladies are working on Tuesday and there are two different women working each day. The sale is at the old Janitor Building in The Dalles.

The Home Economics club of the Rufus Grange met at the hall last Thursday, June 13 for a pot luck luncheon. Mrs. Joe Morris vice chairman opened the business meeting because the chairman Mrs. Millard Leigh was unable to be present. Mrs. Leigh has the cast taken off her foot, but the doctor ordered her to use the wheel chair for another three weeks before using her foot, which she broke recently.

The Smorgasbord netted the club a good sum after all the bills were paid. Mrs. Marland McDonald reported most of the Watkins vanilla has been sold, and money turned to secretary. Also Mrs. Millard Leigh said the club realized a nice profit from chances sold on the Afghan which Mrs. Bert Swigert crocheted for the club. Mrs. Drummond from Grass Valley, won the the Afghan.

The club will plan a picnic in July, the place to be announced later. Alta Smith won the draw prize. The women then worked at the hall getting the rummage ready for the coming sale.

Mrs. Leonard Jordan is again in the Rufus Postoffice after a two week vacation spent with her husband touring Canada and at the Oregon beaches. They reported a very nice vacation and had good weather.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Narramore has as guests their son and daughter-in-law and two children from Shoshone, Wyoming. The son plans on making Oregon his home as he brought his trailer house out here.

The Compton Paving crew went to Yakima to do a job over there. However, they will have more work to do here later as it is made ready.

Your correspondent decided to see for herself just how far along the Biggs Canyon road on highway 97 has progressed as when the job started in the first of the year it was said it would be June when it was completed. But — from the looks of things and all the work to do yet it will be more like September. They have made several bridges and a lot of the road bed is still in the rough. It is advisable that no one go down that road except on a Sunday as I did because it is one way traffic in a number of places, and the big trucks wouldn't want any sightseers in the way while they were working.

The Ambulance was called Monday morning to take Mr. and Mrs. Roy Parkers son Leslie to Portland where he was placed in an iron lung. Leslie had polio when a small child which left him crippled, but in spite of it all he graduated from the 8th grade with the Rufus school class this year. He was a good student. Leslie hasn't been well since graduation and had to go to Portland for treatment. The Parkers have the John Day Cafe in Rufus.

It was warm here over the weekend, Saturday it was 102, with the temperature hovering near 100 the rest of the time until last Tuesday when there was an overcast in the sky it came down to around 90 degrees. From all appearances on Tuesday it looked like it may blow up a rain.

The cherries in Rufus are about picked except some of the late black kinds. Harland McDonald sold his for the marachino cherry trade and Atlee Wilson expects to be through with the Royal Anne cherries in a day or so. The cherries are of nice size and very good this year.

Mrs. John Mathieson returned home from California where she went to see her granddaughter graduate from high school.

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## Rathbun-Hamersly Rites Performed June 9 at Wasco Methodist Church



Lyn Rathbun and Wayne M. Hamersly were married Sunday, June 9, in an afternoon ceremony at the Wasco Methodist church, solemnized by Rev. John McMurtrey.

The bride wore a full length satin gown with a chantilly lace over-blowse, the veil was elbow length caught with a cluster of roses in the crown. Lyn carried her great-grandmother's white Bible with phalaenopsis orchids and stephanotis.

Sue Ann Rathbun, sister of the bride served as maid of honor with Sharon Belshe and Marilyn (Smith) Barnette as bridesmaids. They were beautifully gowned in aqua brocade short length dresses with matching color head pieces of chiffon. They carried white lace fans with mums and stephanotis.

The new matron is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Rathbun of Wasco. She is a student at Monmouth and expects to continue her studies there this summer.

Mr. Hamersly is the son of F. Morton Hamersly of Dexter, Oregon. The groom is a graduate of Monmouth class of 1962, he has been teaching and coaching at Colton the past year. He too plans to carry on studies this summer.

The best man was Floyd W. Rathun, brother of the bride, the ushers were Tony Cutsforth, Norbie Kilford and Jack Brooks, classmates of the groom.

Candlelighters were Sharron and Kathy Brown of Portland, cousins of the bride.

The church was beautifully decorated in spring flowers. Mums and gladiolus and a large candleabra. The bride and groom performed a ceremony of each lighting a candle to symbolize the beginning of their life together.

Wedding guests were greeted at a reception in the basement of

the church, it was given by the bride's parents and assisted by the ladies of the W.S.C.S.

The out-of-town guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Pete Lours of Oregon City; Mrs. Catherine M. Rathbun, of Glendale, Calif.; Mrs. Florence Murdock flew in from Hawaii; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Murdock and family of Salem; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Murdock and family; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wittenberg and daughter, Mary Lou; Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Barber Mr. and Mrs. Leland Barber and family; Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Brown all of Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd F. Ford of Medford; Mr. and Mrs. Willard Crawford of Centerville, Wash.; and Mrs. Nora Hamersly of Dexter, Oregon.

The newly weds honeymooned at Crater Lake and plan to make their home in Colton where Mr. Hamersly will teach this year.

## Stocked Rainbows Tend To Wander Says Fish Expert

Do hatchery-released trout remain near the spot where they were stocked to become easy prey for the angler? This claim is often made by a few fishermen who state anglers in the know congregated at points of release and catch all the trout before other anglers have a chance.

Marked legal plants made this spring tend to refute such claims as revealed by the migration pattern of the fish stocked from the beginning of the season on April 20 to the present time.

Joe Wetherbee, district fishery biologist for the game commission in the mid-Willamette area, reports that one group of marked rainbow trout was released near

the mouth of the North Santiam. According to Wetherbee, these fish could be followed down the north shore of Detroit reservoir from day to day by merely checking bank anglers. By the third day after planting, marked fish from this group were being checked three miles from the release point. Although marked trout were readily taken near the release site the day of liberation, few anglers had success in the area the next day.

Another plant with different markings was released in the Mongold area. These fish could also be followed along the north shore and some were caught in the upper Breitenbush arm three weeks after release. Trout from this plant were being taken frequently on the opposite shore of the reservoir.

From the information it appears that legal trout stocked at any location on the reservoir will distribute themselves well in just a few days, Wetherbee said. It also appears the fish move relatively close to shore and are quite susceptible to both bank and boat anglers.

Wetherbee hopes to plot a more complete distribution pattern of stocked fish through the remainder of the angling season.

tributaries, the Siuslaw and tributaries, and Quartz creek, tributary to Jump Off Joe creek in Josephine county. Additional surveys along other streams in this area, he said, will undoubtedly uncover other blocks to upstream migration of salmon and steelhead.

Schneider advised that the game commission has already advertised for bids on these projects and will concentrate its streams clearance efforts in the central and south coast areas following mop-up work now in progress on north coast streams. Along the north coast, he said, stream improvement crews have spent several months removing log jams on the Trask, Nehalem, Necanicum, and other streams of the area and their tributaries.

Schneider stated there is no doubt that keeping streams open so salmon and steelhead will have unobstructed access to all available spawning areas is of major importance in maintaining runs of these great game fish.

It is heartening, he said, to observe the rapidity with which salmon and steelhead respond to stream clearance work which opens up previously denied spawning areas. Runs of these fish appear on the spawning beds within a year or two in areas which may have been blocked to access for twenty years or more.

Schneider pointed out that a single tributary blocked to the upstream passage of salmon and steelhead will reduce substantially the number of fish that river is capable of producing.

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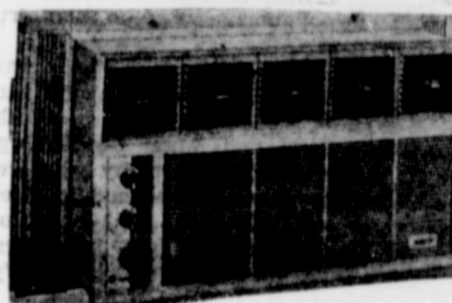
## Streams Set For Log Jam Removal In South Coast Area

Salmon and steelhead, prized game fish to Oregon anglers, will soon get a new lease on life in a number of central and south coast streams as a result of the game commission's stream clearance program.

Phil Schneider, state game director, said that already set to clearance are a number of log jams and accumulated debris on the Umpqua and Smith rivers and

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