

# Farmer, Stockman and Dairyman

## Time for Freak Grains—

The open season for freak wheats and other grains is again approaching. Highly advertised grain specialists thrust on the public by unscrupulous promoters, enthusiastic but impractical plant breeders, and by plain grafters, accomplish two serious results at this critical time.

First, they often bring abnormal and outrageous prices for common varieties.

Second, many of these freaks are low yielders and actually reduce the nation's bread supply.

The Oregon Experiment Station is interested in securing the best varieties of wheat for the different sections of the State. These are tried out carefully, under uniform conditions to determine exactly the superior types. The Agricultural College is ready to assist any breeder or improver of wheat and to offer the benefits of years of experience in selecting and testing wheat varieties, and to further the dissemination of varieties that are definite improvements.

The college is equally active in protecting farmers of Oregon from investing in untried wheat at unreasonable prices, or in varieties of proved inferiority. Therefore, the experiment station has recommended against the Burbank Super-wheat introduced in 1917 at abnormal prices, because the wheat corresponds exactly with the common variety—Jones Winter Fife. Trials of this wheat in wheat nurseries at two of the experiment stations have indicated that the super-wheat and Jones Winter Fife are identical.

Jones Fife is a moderately good wheat, not the best yielder or of the best quality, but not a poor wheat. However, quantities of the seed may be purchased in the Northwest at less than \$2.30 a bushel, which is considerably cheaper than the \$3.00 per pound or \$10 per ten pounds of the promoter of super-wheat. Another freak wheat which is present with us in Oregon is the branched poulard, known variously as seven-headed, Alaska, miracle, mummy, Egyptian and Russian kykof macaroni. One enthusiastic promoter of this variety has made the statement that it neither rusts nor smuts, although dozens of plants in his field were rusted at the time the statement was made.

A trial of the Oregon Experiment Station this year has shown so of this same variety of wheat to have more than 50 per cent of the heads smutted. It is, therefore, the advice of the experiment station of the Oregon Agricultural College to stick to the standard varieties that have been definitely proved to be the high yielding types for Oregon. The experiment station recommends Turkey red and forty-fold and little club for Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties and for the Willamette valley white winter, foise or red chaff, rink and forty-fold. The white winter rink and forty-fold are especially good on well drained land and the foise on the rather heavy types. Little club is also good under western Oregon conditions.

For eastern Oregon dry land conditions in the drier counties, Turkey red is the best winter wheat. In sections of heavier rainfall and where the soil has not been in leguminous crop, alfalfa or clover, forty-fold is recommended. For irrigated land forty-fold is one of the best varieties. Where wheat grows very heavy and has a tendency to lodge, white hybrid No. 128 and jenkin club are good. These varieties may be had in many sections of Oregon and are varieties of proved merit and adaptability—varieties that can be banked on year in and year out. They may be had at from \$2.00 to

\$2.40 per bushel, which is a considerably better investment than untried varieties peddled out in ten-pound lots at the rate of \$108 to \$370 per bushel. The experiment station is keeping informed on promising varieties of seed available in sufficient quantity for seeding purposes and will make recommendation of such varieties as rapidly as their worth is demonstrated. In the meantime, patriotic necessity demands that farmers grow every possible acre of varieties known to be productive.—G. R. Hyslop, Prof. Farm Crops, Oregon Agricultural College.

## Select Seed Corn This Fall—

Seed corn should be selected from stalks standing where they grew because only then, with certainty, can seed be obtained from stalks that have a tendency to yield well as shown by their superiority over surrounding stalks that grew under the same conditions. (Such seed inherits high production power).

Stalks without suckers. (Such seed produces fewer suckers than seeds from sucker-bearing stalks).

Storm-proof stalks with ears at a desirable height.

Seed corn should be selected as soon as it matures because:

Desirable stalks, especially early maturing stalks with hanging ears, are then most easily found.

Freezing weather injures the seed before it becomes dry.

Warm, wet weather may cause kernels to sprout before drying.

If the selection is delayed in the south the ears may become infested with weevils, grain moths and their eggs.

It is as easy, more satisfactory and much more profitable than selecting from cribs in the spring.

## Feeding Suckling Pigs—

When the pigs are about three weeks old, sometimes less, they will begin to nose around for something to eat. If they are going to do as they should this something must be supplied. One of the best feeds at this particular time is shelled corn. It should be in a self-feeder in a pen where the pigs can go to it and will not be bothered by any of the rest of the hogs. This can be arranged by a creep just large enough to admit the pigs handily. Don't forget that these little fellows grow quite rapidly and from time to time the creep must be made larger. After the pigs are four or five weeks old, especially if they do not have good grass pasture, the addition of some shorts, tankage, or oil meal is advisable. Nothing would be better, however, than skimmed milk. The self-feeder in which is kept corn and other feeds should be maintained right along up until weaning time, and after that if the pigs are intended for market purposes. Pigs to be used for breeding purposes may be kept on a self-feeder all the time with splendid results, but in some cases they get too fat and logy and do not take the proper exercise. The most profitable pig is the one that never quits growing from farrowing time until he is driven over the scales.

## Rye Seed Available—

Rye seed is now available in the county for fall planting, according to N. S. Robb, County Agricultural Agent, and farmers who are short on feed should not overlook the planting of a small patch of rye for fall and winter pasture.

Rye has not received the attention here in the county in the past that it should. This has been due in part to

many not realizing the value of this crop for pasture and also the scarcity of seed.

The price of grain and hay should be an inducement for a large number of dairymen to try a small patch for pasture this coming year to substitute for these feeds.

The crop makes pasture adaptable to dairy cattle, sheep and hogs, and in a climate like this, affords a long fall and winter usage as well as in the spring that will save considerable feed.

Rye is used extensively for a green manure crop and is an excellent way to add fertility to run out soils if turned under in the early spring.

A mistake some are making is to seed too thin. Rye for pasture should be seeded at the rate of seventy to ninety pounds to the acre for the best results for pasturing. This is thicker than where seeded for grain. The crop should be seeded right away, according to the county agent, as it will be much more satisfactory to use for pasture if seeded early. The office has already received inquiries to locate over two hundred bushels of seed which shows that the value of rye for fall pasture is becoming more generally understood here in the county.

## Buy Clover Seed Now—

The farmers of Lane county should avail themselves of the opportunity to buy red clover seed this fall in place of waiting until spring, according to the Lane County Agricultural Agent.

There was some clover seed produced here this year, and it should be purchased now before it is shipped out, as there is a scarcity and the demand in the Northwest will be keen for clover seed by spring.

The clover situation seems to be a little discouraging to some on account of the two successive dry years, but it is essential that clover be grown if for no other reason than that of helping to keep up the fertility of the soil.

The best clover this year has been on the better types of land, or else on ground that was well taken care of. One of the best fields in the county has been made profitable through the use of manure. Clover seeded on the poorer types of land, or and that has been farmed for a number of years will be greatly benefitted if it were possible to apply manure to the fields.

Clover seed will undoubtedly be higher this spring, and if farmers buy now they will effect a saving of 15 or 30 per cent over spring prices.

## Vegetable Seed Warning—

H. J. Baldwin of Northfield, one of Minnesota's leading vegetable growers, strongly urges that more people save their own seeds. According to government reports, cabbage seed will be very scarce next year, and, of course, it is too late now to produce any more seed until 1919. Lettuce and radish seed are also thought to be scarce. Nearly every gardener can save a few ripe peas and beans for seed, and also seed of tomatoes, peppers, radishes, lettuce, squashes, pumpkins, spinach, corn, cucumbers and melons. Everyone who can do his bit in saving seed is not only helping to defeat the Hun but is putting money in his own pocket.

## Farm Management—

Grain and fruit growing and the production of live stock are regulated by the expenses attending them, but farmers may easily derive false ideas of economy, supposing that they are doing the best under the circum-

stances, though often they may be very extravagant, blindly at that, for it has long ago been demonstrated that no economy is practiced by him who holds to old ideas in preference to many new ones that are superior. A true economist of the farm will have nothing but the best. If a cow is to be allowed a place on his farm she must give the greatest gain in the shortest time, and at the least expense, and the same rule applies to a sheep, a hog or a horse. Can farmers do this except by exercising their knowledge of breeds and taking advantage of the privilege of breeding their stock fully up to or above the standard? It is safe to claim that they cannot as farmers, like all other competitive enterprises, must be conducted in accordance with improved methods, and in order to succeed he must be keenly alive to everything that adds a dollar to the sum total, as which lessens the care and anxiety of his business. Realizing this fact, the farmers are using better animals and their live stock is improving. Farming pays, but the farmers who are most successful are those who do not fear to spend money for purebred animals and every year they secure larger profits.

## Scrap Iron—

Somewhere on almost every farm there is a collection of discarded machinery and odd pieces of scrap iron. This scrap can contribute to the winning of the war by being converted into war material or new farm machinery. All this discarded machinery should be melted and incorporated in new castings. The aggregate scrap on American farms is enormous. The gathering up of it will help supply needed material, improve the appearance of the farms, and yield profitable returns.

After harvest there is usually a lull in the rush of the farm work. This is the time for gathering up the scrap. Worn or out-of-date machinery is constantly being replaced with new labor-saving equipment. These old tools merely clutter the premises. They have done their work. Now is the time to cash in on the salvage, while prices are high.

In the past, prices offered for scrap iron have been so low as to scarcely tempt a busy farmer. But today the demand for it is so far greater than the available supply that prices have advanced sharply. Besides, there is the satisfaction of having found one more channel through which to help win the war. By all means clean up the scrap.

## Feed Prices—

Dairymen must be prepared for one of two things, either they must prepare to buy in larger quantities, direct, and buy earlier, or they must take their chances later when buying through local dealers. A still better plan would be to make an estimate of the feed needed for the ensuing winter, to pick out a live feed dealer and have him get it for them as they need it. He must, however, work just as far ahead as he possibly can. Feed must be moved east before the winter weather sets in or there will be another calamity.

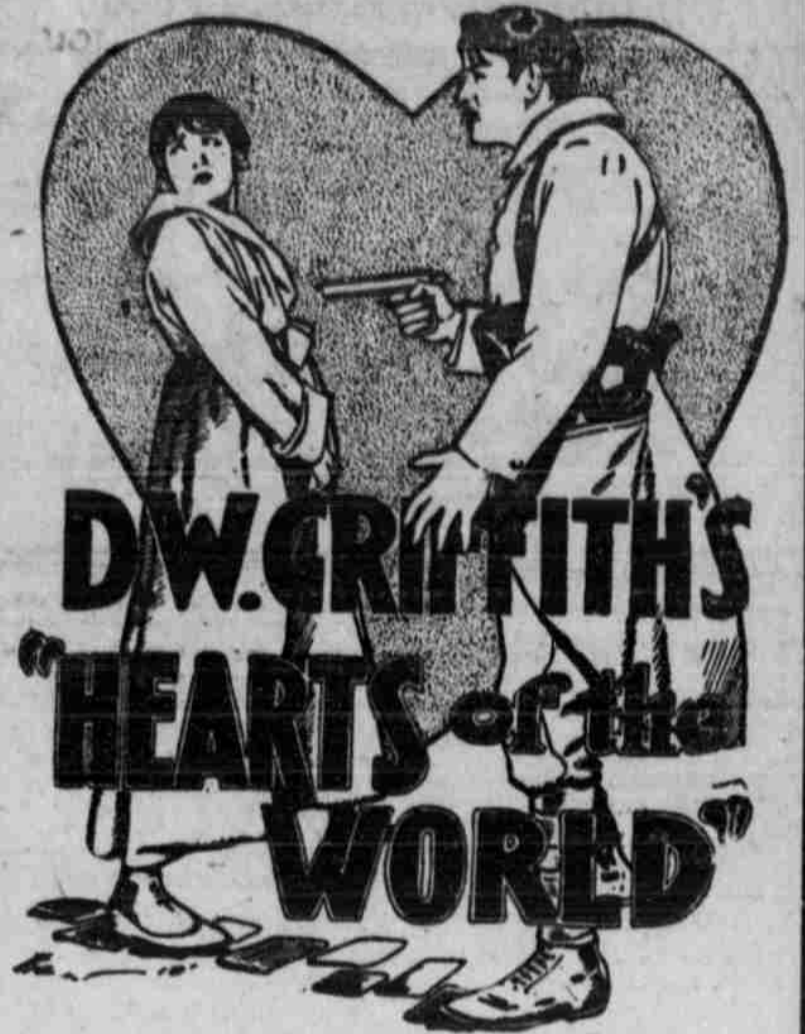
The spread in dairy feed prices reported from different sections on the same kind and grade of goods demonstrates the failure of government control up to the present time. The complete absence of staple feeds from many of the markets reflects even a more serious condition.

We know that there is a serious shortage in supply of some feeds such as bran and linseed meal, brewers' and distillers' grains and others which have been commonly used, but the lack of some of them is due as much to uncertainty of regulation as to scarcity.

Dairymen have not only suffered

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from unrestricted prices on feeds available but their supply has been decreased by a curtailed movement of feeds that should now be available. Feed dealers are up in the air for fear that they will be accused of hoarding when they are merely taking proper precautions to supply their local trade before winter sets in. Bran and middlings are not moving east, but fortunately feed manufacturers are in position to supply concentrates on an economical basis. There is every reason why dairymen should buy ahead as far as possible. You can feed cows on vegetation but not agitation.

## Dip the Sheep—

Dip the sheep each year as soon as possible after shearing, advises A. M. Paterson, of the Kansas Agricultural College. Less dip is required at this time because there is less wool on the sheep. The dip penetrates into the skin better when there is no wool.

Ticks are on the lambs by this time and are giving the lambs a great deal of trouble. The lambs should be dipped at this time. By shearing time the weather is warm enough so that there

will be no danger of the sheep's chilling.

There are three advantages in dipping sheep. It rids the animals of external parasites, puts them in a healthier condition, and causes a more luxuriant growth of wool.

The best kind of dip to use is a tobacco dip called "black leaf forty." Lime sulphur and coal tar dips are also effective. It is best to dip sheep in a regular sheep-dipping tank. The entire sheep should be immersed in the dip for about a minute. The dip should be heated slightly to take off the chill.

## How's This?

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# Lane County Fair

Eugene, Oregon

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.....EUGENE DAY  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.....LANE COUNTY DAY  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.....GRANGERS DAY

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