

# THE HEPPNER HERALD

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### SELLING WHEAT TO LIVESTOCK

(Continued from page one)

Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska experimental stations.

#### Quicker Gains for Hogs

The experiment station of the University of Missouri conducted two trials comparing ground wheat with corn as a feed for hogs," stated Prof. L. A. Weaver, of the animal husbandry department of that institution. "The hogs fed wheat made more rapid gains than did those fed corn, gaining on an average 1.25 pounds a day for 120 days, whereas the hogs fed corn gained one pound daily. Each 482 pounds of wheat produced 100 pounds of pork, whereas it took 582 pounds of corn. With corn worth eighty-five cents a bushel, wheat fed in this way was worth \$1.11. An equal mixture of wheat and corn fed to the hogs required thirty-five more pounds of grain than where wheat alone was used, but the mixture was more efficient than corn alone.

"A ration of wheat, ten parts, and tankage, one part, produced gains more rapidly than wheat alone. The hogs fed wheat and tankage weighed 272 pounds at the end of the feeding period, having put on 152 pounds daily. Each 4.69 pounds of wheat and tankage produced one pound of pork, as compared with 4.87 pounds of wheat alone. The value of the tankage was most important in the first seventy-eight days, and during that time, with wheat worth one dollar a bushel, tankage could have been fed with profit if purchased at sixty dollars a ton. But in the last forty-two days of the feeding period tankage was worth less than half that amount. So it might be profitable to decrease it to one to sixteen or twenty parts of wheat in the last third of the feeding season."

Professor Weaver suggests wheat be ground and fed wet. If fed whole it is better soaked than fed dry, to make it more easily masticated. Results at the Nebraska experiment station confirm this suggestion. Soaked whole wheat was compared with soaked ground wheat. Three pounds of the latter gave as much gain as four pounds of the soaked whole wheat and produced gains at a 42 per cent faster rate. At a cost of four cents a bushel for grinding, it was estimated that the net profit of feeding ground wheat over whole wheat was twenty-one cents a bushel.

"Back in the prewar days a far larger number of hogs were raised in the Intermountain section than at any time since, and most of them were finished on wheat," declared George Frederic Stratton, of Salt Lake City, one of the best-informed agricultural authorities in that re-

gion. "Wheat prices then ranged from forty-seven cents to ninety-two cents, and it was cheaper and more plentiful than corn. Farmers, accordingly, found better money in making pork than in selling wheat. But wartime high prices made feeding wheat to hogs a crime, and hog production dropped to only 25 per cent of the demand for local consumption. A few men here and there have never gone out of hogs, and they're better off as a result. One of them is R. G. Price, of Gannett, Idaho, who has continued to finish 300 to 500 hogs each year, and on wheat. He pastures the young stuff on alfalfa with a little grain ration, runs them on his wheat stubble in the fall and finishes them in drylots on wheat and barley. Never except in the two-fifty-price days, has he sold any wheat. And his financial standing today contrasts very sharply with many wheat-for-the-market raisers."

#### Good Results With Lambs

That same comment is made by E. L. Potter, professor of animal husbandry, Oregon Agricultural college, Corvallis. "Prior to about 1912 the wheat price in Oregon was no higher than other grains, with the result that wheat was almost the universal hog feed in the Northwest," he said. "Then came a series of years when the wheat price rose above that of other grains. It was used less and less for feeding purposes until today many farmers have forgotten its feeding value. Our experiments indicate that wheat as a hog feed is very similar to corn or barley."

"Though wheat contains more protein than corn it must be supplemented by some protein feeds, such as skim milk, buttermilk, alfalfa pasture, fish meal or tankage, if the animals are to make the maximum growth. It makes a very satisfactory feed for fattening lambs, as was shown by a test at the Hermiston branch experiment station last year, in which lambs, fed one pound of wheat a day and all the alfalfa they would eat, made an average daily gain of one-third of a pound. This was practically the same gain as other lots fed oats and barley and only 63 less than the gain made by a corn-fed lot. On the basis of feed required for 100 pounds of gain, where barley was worth \$35 a ton, wheat was worth \$34.16, oats \$35.52 and corn \$38.04 a ton.

"For cattle and horses wheat has proved a nutritious feed, but since it is very concentrated, low in fibre and inclined to swell when moistened, it should be fed to such livestock with some care. It should be mixed with some other feed containing more fibre, and it should not be fed in large quantities when animals are not used to it."

Oregon farmers have been shipping in large quantities of corn and

oats from the East and barley from California. With a surplus of wheat at comparatively low prices, Professor Potter believes that wheat should replace this imported grain, thus helping out both the Oregon wheat and livestock growers.

"We urgently recommend all purchasers of feed to consider wheat in preference to the imported grains," he stated. "We do not, however, recommend any attempt to increase our feeding operations with a view to taking care of the wheat crop beyond the substitution of wheat for the imported grain we are now using. Such an expansion of livestock feeding would involve the risk of demoralizing the Northwest market."

That same practical angle is presented by Prof. W. I. Loeffel, of the animal husbandry department of the University of Nebraska, who said: "Western Nebraska hog raisers have the alternative of feeding wheat or selling it on the basis of the Omaha price plus freight. In the latter case a sixty-pound bushel of wheat right now will not buy a fifty-six-pound bushel of corn. Whether or not it will be profitable to feed wheat in place of corn, time alone will tell, since the market prices of wheat, corn and hogs will decide this question. But certainly the man with a bunch of pigs on his hands is justified in feeding wheat if his own wheat is selling at a discount and he is paying a premium for corn."

**Feeding Low-Grade Wheat**  
For sheep and cattle feeding there is quite a lot of evidence bearing on the value of wheat. The Montana experiment station tried lambs on wheat and red clover hay. Twenty-two black-faced lambs, weighing an average of seventy pounds apiece at the beginning of the nine-five-day feeding test, gained 25.34 pounds, or a little over a quarter of a pound a day—a good average gain. The lambs consumed an average of .81 pounds of wheat and 2.94 pounds of hay a day. Reckoning the cost of wheat at eighty cents a bushel and hay at eight dollars a ton in the stack the feeding cost of each lamb was close to two dollars.

The Southwest Wheat Growers' conference held at Wichita, Kansas, during the summer to consider ways of remedying the wheat situation, adopted this resolution: "Wheat, especially of the lower grades, will take the place of corn as a stock feed at a substantial saving and will also hold part of the damaged grain off the market."

Commenting on this E. H. Leker, county agent of Leavenworth county, Kansas, said, "Reports from the Kansas City market show that about one-third of the wheat coming to that market grades as No. 4, No. 5 and sample grade. These grades are in poor demand for milling and usually sell several cents a bushel under the better grades. This poor quality of wheat should by all means be utilized for feeding."

The experiment station at the Kansas State Agricultural college has on record an interesting test to back up that recommendation. Shrunken wheat was fed to hogs. The market price for shrunken wheat was at a big discount from the well-matured grain, whereas its feeding value, on account of the greater protein content, was higher. Fifty pigs that had been farrowed in May and been running on alfalfa pasture were put on the test September fifteenth. They were divided into five lots. One of these lots was given whole wheat and tankage, fed separately in a self-feeder; another lot, ground wheat and tankage, self-fed, free choice; a third lot, ground wheat, self-fed; a fourth, an equal mixture of ground wheat and ground rye, self-fed; and the last lot ground corn and tankage, fed separately in a self-feeder.

The lot fed whole wheat and tankage made the best gain, and all those receiving a wheat ration did better than the pigs fed corn, though the largest quantity of tankage went with the corn ration. In this test 390.08 pounds of whole wheat and 17.85 of tankage were required to put on 100 pounds of pork. No advantage was found in grinding the badly shrunken wheat. In this test the use of tankage was an economy, its addition saving about ninety cents on 100 pounds gain. The experiment led the station to make this conclusion: "Feeding shrunken wheat may often prove more satisfactory than marketing it as grain at a big discount. Certainly hogs can make bigger returns from wheat than from corn, and when prices of the two grains are nearly equal economy in feeding will urge the substitution of wheat for corn."

**Best When Coarsely Ground**  
However, to avoid misleading anyone, it should be stated that the test was run on hogs, and that the results apply to hogs and poultry, which gave the best re-

sults when ground. "Coarse grinding has proved the most satisfactory method of preparation, producing considerably more economical gains than whole wheat," Professor Loeffel says. "Fine grinding is to be avoided, since finely ground wheat is not very palatable, due to its becoming sticky or pasty in the animal's mouth. The soaking of ground wheat has increased its feeding value slightly, although the increase was so slight that it did not pay the cost of soaking. A considerable saving of labor can be effected by self-feeding the ground wheat."

How extensive will be the diversion of wheat of feed use cannot be forecast, but nearly every man questioned told of unusual interest being displayed. "More wheat will be fed in this county than ever before," said Ford S. Prince, county agent of Green county, Ohio. "A good many who ran out of corn have been using wheat to tide them over till the new crop comes in. Farmers with poultry are using it more heavily too."

In Maryland, where wheat is usually the second-best money crop in the state, farmers are grinding their wheat and feeding it to dairy cows to replace bought feed that would cost fifty-two dollars a ton. They are finding ground wheat and cottonseed meal a good ration.

"A neighbor of mine has stacked his wheat and will feed it all to his poultry," stated Hiram H. Shepard, of Pacific, Missouri. "Counting off the cost of threshing and hauling to market, he figures he will have at home the best of poultry grain feed at about one dollar a hundred pounds, against three dollars for commercial prepared mixtures or two dollars and fifty cents for cracked corn."

In line with the experiments and experiences mentioned is the view of E. W. Sheets, acting chief, Animal Husbandry Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture. When corn is worth seventy-five cents, he figures wheat worth seventy-nine cents for feeding to hogs and eighty-six for cattle feeding. With corn at one dollar he puts wheat at one dollar and five cents for hogs and one dollar and fifteen cents for cattle. He believes the present situation offers a good opportunity for farmers with wheat to buy young feeder cattle.

"The beef outlook seems pretty clear," he stated. "Cheap wheat can

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be invested in feeders of this sort. Held off of heavy grain feeding until the market warrants it, within a year or two they should sell at prices that are in fair proportion to prices for other commodities."

#### HIGH SCHOOL ITEMS

A representative of The Country Gentleman visited the high school last week and made a proposition to the student body which they saw fit to accept.

The students are divided into two teams for the purpose of getting subscriptions for The Country Gentleman. Of every dollar taken in on subscriptions, whether new or renewal, fifty cents remains in the student body treasury and is used to buy a new athletic equipment.

The first team is the Barney Google team. Fay Ritchie is the captain and Vawter Parker the business manager. The second team, known as the Spark Plugs, is headed by Muriel Cason, with Charles Notson as business manager.

To every student gaining three subscriptions an Ingersoll pencil is given; to the boy gaining the largest number of subscriptions a fountain is given and the same award is made to the girl. A party must be given by the losing side in the number of subscriptions to the winning side.

Two new students, Bruce Spaulding and Charles Kirk, were enrolled in the high school Monday. A large

number of farmer students also enrolled for the first time this year.

The student body hopes to have a good backing by school supporters in this new venture.

All the classes have elected their officers now and are fully organized for the first semester.

The freshman class officers are: President, Marjorie Clark; vice president, Velma Huston; secretary, Louise Thomson; treasurer, Stanley Minor.

Sophomore — President, Charles Notson; vice president, Guy Hall; secretary, Anita Hughes; treasurer, Jim Thomson. Junior—President, Harold Beckett; vice president, Dorothy Pattison; secretary, Cecelia Kenny; treasurer, Marguerite Hisler.

been organized with Stanley Peterson vice president, Doris Flynn; secretary, Violet Hynd; treasurer, Dorothy Anderson.

The staff members for the Hebisch have been selected by the editor and business manager. They are: Assistant editor, Harold Beckett; literary editor, Luola Bengt; society editor, Dorothy Pattison; music and drama, Violet Hynd; joke editor, Muriel Cason, athletics, boys, Elmer Bucknum.

#### MATERNITY HOME

I am prepared to take a limited number of maternity cases at my home on South Main street, Heppner. Patients are privileged to choose their own physician at this home and the best of care is assured. MRS. HALLIE KIRK, Heppner, Ore.

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