

From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. ANDERSON

A group of Eastern Oregon Agents reviewed the latest research in weed control practices last Wednesday when they gathered at John Day to hear college research people tell of their experiences in the work of new chemicals and other control methods. As a result of this research there will be many new recommendations for this year as well as continued experimentation on promising control practices.

It was interesting to hear how much work is being done, much of which includes greenhouse screening of many, many promising chemicals which if effective in the greenhouse are taken out for experimental plot work throughout the state.

Thirty-seven different Morrow County Farmers participated in the Farm Management Short-course which was held on February 1, 2, 8, 9 and 16. These four hour per day work shops resulted in a lot of comment from those who attended. Those attending the last day were very much interested in discussing the size of a farm and some of the decisions that must be made in this regard. Going through a number of typical farms it was interesting to observe that a cattle ranch in Eastern Oregon that was expected to return 5% interest on investment and a \$5,000 labor and management income should cost \$167,000 returning an annual gross income of \$26,824. At least this was the case of an actual ranch which was used as an example. The ranch with 3,500 acres plus grazing rights, was a cow-calf operation running 300 head of cows. For those who care little about striving for a high percentage calf crop it was found that for every 1% increase in the calf crop it affected labor income \$1500. The price of calves, of course, was an important part of the operation with 22c calves bringing a \$3200 labor and management income. 24c calves \$6,000; 20c calves no labor income.

For those who did not get to attend all of the sessions we have a few extra copies of the materials used for discussion here at the office which we will provide on a first come first serve basis.

Saturday's Weather Modification Meeting attracted a good sized crowd and created much interest. Dr. Fred Decker, Meteorologist, OSC, presented an interesting run-down of why we have some of the weather that we do. One of the interesting facts presented was that of the great strides being made in understanding our weather better through the photographing of clouds and other weather making phenomena which is now possible by cameras on satellites and missiles. Meteorologists have made big strides in understanding some of these things since actual pictures have been taken. Dr. Decker suggested that while much was being learned of the possibilities of weather modification that it should be quite beneficial for many farmers in Morrow County to keep accurate weather records.

Chats With Your Home Agent

By ESTHER KIRKIS

Several new bulletins have come to the county agent's office which we think you'd like to have.

Do you have these problems? Oven preheats slowly? Range does not have thermostat. Oven temperature is too high or too low? Baking results are unsatisfactory? Food bake unevenly? Baking pans are unsatisfactory? Want to bake in small appliances? Oven is hard to clean? Want to broil something besides steak? Need help in using broiler? Hate to clean broiler? . . . Then the bulletin "Better Baking and Broiling," written by Bernice Strawn, OSC Extension Home Management and Equipment Specialist, is for you.

"Better Kitchen Storage," authored by Bernice Strawn, is the bulletin we are using for our February Extension unit lessons. Take a close look at your kitchen. Does it have any of these faults? Are you wasting space because shelves are too far apart? Do you have trouble reaching high shelves or stooping to low ones? Is there wasted space under the sink? Are cabinets too deep causing supplies to get lost behind others? Are cabinet drawers cluttered? Is there unused wall space? Could you increase storage space by hanging some equipment? Could you store some supplies on cabinet doors? Better Kitchen Storage bulletin has the answer to all of these questions. In fact, the circular includes about 30 different ideas that would improve your kitchen storage.

Why not call or write for these bulletins. They will all be helpful!

Want to perfect the art of salad making? Wish you could take foods you have in your refrigerator or cupboard, and turn out picture-pretty salads? Tired of following detailed recipes for your family's fare? Then "Adventures in Salad Making" is just the bulletin for you.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sumner visited the Paul Hislers and Cal Summers over the week-end and went to Elks annual on Saturday.

Conservation Reserve Requires Weed Control

Methods of spraying to cut down on weeds and improve crops were discussed last week at the annual county weed control meeting at the fair annex.

Dean Swan, Jr., agronomist working with weed control from the Pendleton Branch experiment station, showed a series of colored slides on experiments and demonstrations being carried out in the Columbia Basin. He said spraying for cheatgrass and other annuals should be done in roadside and fence rows while grass and weeds are in the seedling stage.

The economic importance of spraying to improve crops was emphasized in a report that it had been found two tarweed plants per square foot will reduce wheat yields five bushels per acre. Experiments have also shown that spraying wheat where no weeds at all could be found resulted in a two to five bushel increase.

County agent, N. C. Anderson, told the farmers that many of the experiments which had been explained during the day's session could be observed in Morrow county. Carbyne plots for the control of rye out of wheat are established at the Jack Sumner ranch, plots for the selective control of cheatgrass out of wheat are established at both Melvin Moyer ranch, Heppner, and Walter Jacobs farm, Ione.

On the Howard Cleveland ranch on Hinton Creek near Heppner, control of cheat and foxtail from alfalfa is being demonstrated by the use of various rates of different chemicals. Chemicals are being compared at the Art Watkins ranch on Willow Creek below Heppner. A roadside spray demonstration has been established on the Rietmann grade north of Ione.

Results of these many experiments being carried on by farmers of the area will prove beneficial in providing knowledge for increasing yields on the farms of the county.

Clarence Hale, district deputy from Hood River, was an overnight guest of the LaVerne Van Marters and attended the Elks annual.

Mrs. King Presents Interesting Program With Films And Talks

Many members of the Lexington Co-op Biddies and other organizations attended the film showing and talk given by Helen King, of the homemakers department of Pacific Co-op at Walla Walla, at the Lexington grange hall recently.

She also brought a display of European hand work and a display of duo-foam from the Walla Walla office.

Mrs. King stated that movies and news headlines had given a very bad impression of American women to the European women thinking they were loud and unpleasant. They were very surprised and pleased to meet these American homemakers on tour and treated them royally during their stay.

Mrs. King also suggested having pen pals with the European women to help further better opinions of American women.

The Co-op Biddies wish to thank Mrs. King for the interesting and educational afternoon she presented.

Ione Garden Club Purchases Books

The Ione Garden Club met at the home of Mrs. Walter Dobyns Tuesday, Feb. 14, with Mrs. Edith Nickerson as co-hostess. The home was festive with the valentine motif. The valentine theme was carried out in the refreshments also. A number of old and cherished valentines were on display.

Roll call was answered by 12 members and three guests. Two of the guests became members of the club. Mrs. Ronald Bishop was welcomed into the club and Mrs. Fannie Griffith was welcomed back into the membership, being a past member.

In the business meeting the club voted to purchase eight volumes of the New Illustrated Encyclopedia of Gardening, as they come off the press, to be placed on the garden shelf in the library. There are 14 volumes in all and Mrs. Victor Rietmann purchased the first 6 volumes and donated them to the library. With the garden club donating the other 8 volumes the series will be complete.

An interesting program was presented by Mrs. Fredrick Martin on "Annuals, new and old." She introduced the subject by using an article from the Flower Grower magazine. Then using a 1961 catalog, she introduced many new varieties of annual

North Lexington Unit Hear Project Lesson

The North Lexington Extension Unit met Feb. 7 at 8 p. m. at the home of Mrs. Fritz Cutsforth with Lueta Cutsforth, chairman presiding over the business meeting.

Following the business meeting, Miss Esther Kirkis presented the project lesson, "Better Kitchen Storage." Much was gained by her tips on storing the many kitchen utensils and items. Also on display were various and easily built space savers for cupboards and closets.

After this most interesting demonstration, dessert refreshments were served to nine members and one guest.

plants. Mrs. Martin also showed slides of annuals taken in Ione.

A contest in which all had a part, completed the program. Many winners received packets of seeds.

Mrs. Martin received the door prize of plant labels and plant ties.

The Wayne Procks spent the week-end in Portland.

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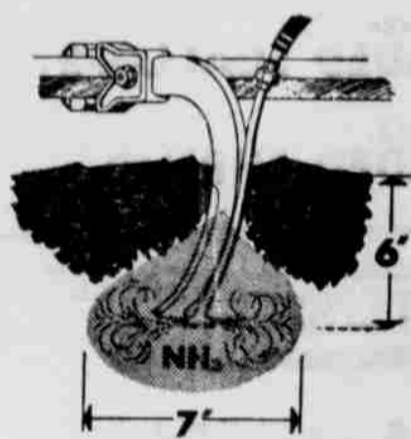
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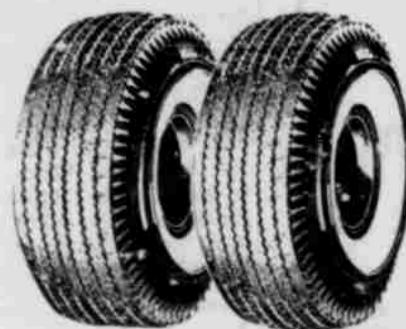
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