

Advice on Cookery Of Venison Given

By ESTHER KIRMIS

Although the woman is usually the last in line in this hunting season game, her preparation of the wild game for the family table tells the tale if friend husband should continue to go hunting.

In 1960 almost 260,000 deer hunting licenses were issued. The average hunter spent an estimated \$92.00 for licenses, equipment, guns, camp gear and transportation. Even if most of the cost is chalked to the recreation budget, the deer your men folks bring home may cost more per pound than any other meat you serve. Too often venison is poorly handled in the field and improperly cooked in the kitchen. Then what could have been a truly delightful meal is relished only by the family pets. Therefore you can see how necessary it is for team work between the family team of hunter and homemaker to work for better treats with venison.

Last week we talked about field care of the wild game. This week let's talk about cooking venison.

If you harvested a good deer and handled it correctly, cooking the meat will be a delightful experience. Venison, like other meat, has a flavor all its own. The strong gamey flavor is most pronounced in the fat, so remove as much of the fat as possible.

If your family enjoys the natural flavor of venison, your only cooking problem is to make the meat tender. If your family rebels at the gamey flavor, there are three things that you can do.

1. Disguise the flavor with spices, herbs, and other seasonings.

2. Dilute the flavor by choosing recipes using stuffings, starch

filler, or using the meat with other meats and vegetables.

3. Serve it enough different ways that they learn to like it.

Be an adventurous cook. It is fun to try new recipes and to make up some of your own. Expect some failures along with the successes when you are "experimenting" with venison. Be sure to write down the recipe for any you really enjoy. Here are some general rules to start you off toward successful venison cookery:

1. Cook venison like low quality beef. Most game has little fat and corresponds in quality to beef carcasses with little or no external fat. Venison is cooked the same way. The tender cuts like the loins and rib can be broiled or roasted. Round steak, meat from the leg, and the less tender cuts are best when cooked by moist heat—braising, stewing or pot roasting.

2. Do not overcook. Deer meat fibers that toughen quickly if overcooked or cooked at too high a temperature. Plan to serve venison medium to well done, never rare or over done!

3. Use acid to tenderize. Vinegar, tomato and french dressing sauces are good for tenderizing venison. Cover slices or chunks of meat and allow to stand in the marinating sauces for at least 24 hours. Broil if possible.

4. Reduce the sugar in sauce recipes. Venison's natural flavor is sweeter than other meat. Sauces made for domestic meats may be too sweet. Use 1/4 less sugar.

5. Remove all venison fat before cooking. The strong gamey flavor is most pronounced in the fat. It becomes rancid quickly. If fat is desired, substitute ground pork or beef fat.

6. Venison is a dry meat. Chunks or beef fat may be added to self-baste the meat. Or cover surface with bacon strips.

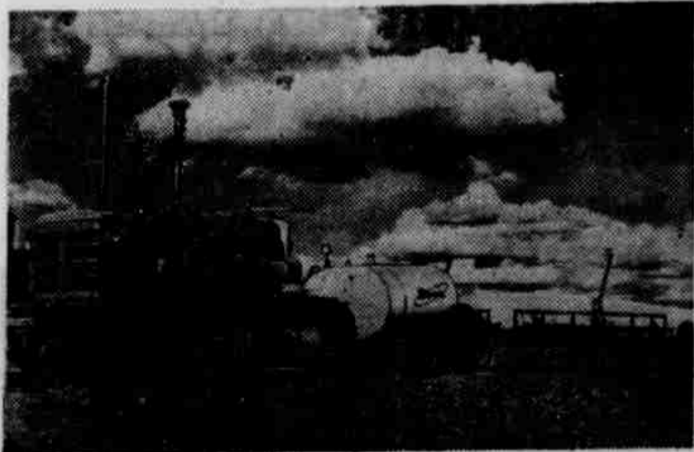
Venison can be used in most of your favorite meat dishes. Experiment with new flavor and sauces. Try recipes for cookies and pie using venison mincemeat. Use broiled venison cubes for appetizers. When you learn to cook deer meat well, you will look forward to the fall hunting season, not only for the fun of the trip, but for the tasty meat you'll have in the family locker.

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FARM NEWS

Weeds Threaten County Rangeland, Chamber Advised

The backing of Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce in obtaining funds on the county budget to fight Branching Knapp weed was requested by Orville Cutsforth Sept. 25.

Eradication of the weed on a county wide basis would be expensive, Cutsforth said, costing about \$15 per acre. But he said the need is great and that between 1000 and 3000 acres of good county grassland have already been ruined by the weed. Claiming it started in Skinner road, Cutsforth said, "I believe it is being spread by the county road crew in cutting the road-sides, as it can be found along almost every road." He named widely separated areas in which he had spotted the infestations and said that it was also prevalent within the city limits of Heppner.

"We have the richest, highest protein bunch grass in the state; maybe in the country," Cutsforth stated and added that if this weed is not taken care of now it would get beyond control.

Branching Knapp weed chokes out all grass and makes rangeland unfit for cattle forage, he said.

Cutsforth stated he had taken County Judge Oscar Peterson on a tour of county roads to show him just how prevalent the infestation of Branching Knapp had become.

"I was surprised," Judge Peterson said. He added that the county crew has done some spraying but the bill was "pretty high." Spraying with 2-4D will kill the weed, Peterson said, but added that the widely separated spots would require more funds than had previously been budgeted for weed control.

N. C. Anderson, county agent, stated he is "glad to see the concern" regarding Branching Knapp weed, and said that the weed control committee needs the backing of the public in understanding the seriousness of problems of weeds in this agricultural county.

He said Morrow county was one of the first to take advantage of the 1937 state weed control law whereby the public can petition the county court for money and tax themselves for



LEE R. HANSEN

Agronomist Named By Power Company

Plans to expand the special services provided agricultural area customers of the Pacific Power & Light Company system were reported Wednesday along with the appointment of an agronomist to the company's office sales organization.

Lee R. Hansen, a former assistant professor of agronomy at Oregon State University and recently associated with agricultural-chemical firms, will work closely with the company's district managers on electric supply utilization by ranch and farm customers, according to Frank Reis, PP&L general sales manager.

He verified Cutsforth's statements by adding that "Branching Knapp weed is pretty general throughout the county."

"People can see the weed now, if it is brought to their attention. They will not be able to see it next spring before time to make up the budget," Cutsforth stated in giving his reason for stressing the need for funds at this time.

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Gaines Seeding Shows Green; Some Wait Rain

By N. C. ANDERSON

Fritz Cutsforth is the first to report to this office that his Gaines wheat is seeded and up. Kenneth Turner worked with Fritz in making the seeding, using his 14 inch deep furrow drill. Gaines does not have the ability to come through uniformly if seeded deeper than two inches. For this reason a number of seed increase growers have held up seeding the wheat, waiting for some fall moisture in order to get a uniform stand. Fritz seeded approximately 25 pounds per acre. He, like the other 14 growers of this new variety, is growing the new wheat for increase under contract with the Oregon State University. One of the requirements is to offer 60% of the increase for sale to neighboring wheat growers.

A few wheat growers have called at the office asking about the recent announcement made by USDA on a new wheat quality test to be used in determining premiums on wheat under government loan and storage programs. This program provides premiums for quality hard red winter and hard red spring wheats. The premiums which will reflect the baking quality of wheat better than the current protein premiums do, are being included because of the need to encourage production of more high quality wheat, both for domestic use and for export.

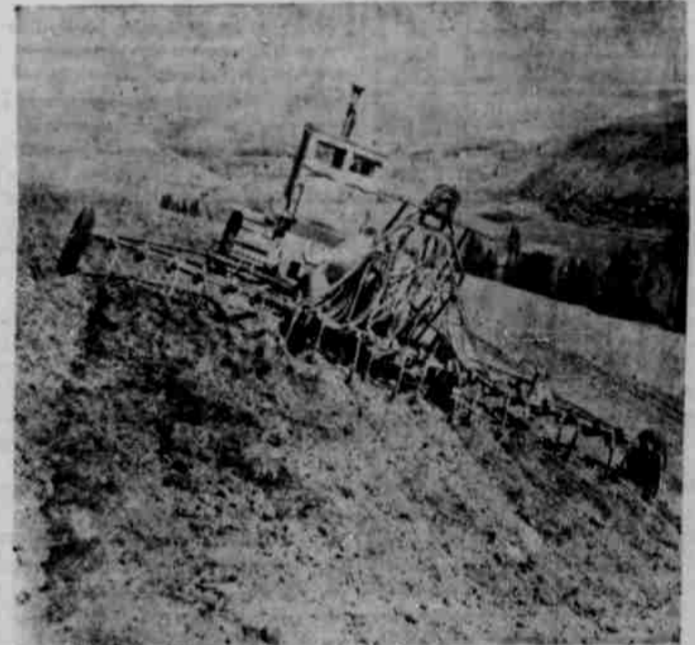
"Red Hat Days" which this year extends during the entire hunting season, was given a good kick-off last Tuesday evening. Ralph Taylor, county chairman, gave a nice explanation of the purpose of Red Hat Days and stressed hope for good hunter-land owner relations. While the crowd was small, those present seemed to have enjoyed the discussion on care

people should be the newly announced C and B Livestock company which has been formed with Phil Cohn and Ron Baker as the principals. Both former Morrow county boys, they have earned a lot of recognition as outstanding lamb and beef feeders. Now they are combining their knowledge of feeding which I predict will be an outstanding feeder operation. We of the County Agent's office are proud that both of the feeders were former 4-H club members and, we hope these experiences inspired them to become commercial feeders. While Phil's experiences as a lamb feeder occurred before my time in the county, I had the privilege of working with Ron Baker with his successful lamb and beef projects. Many will remember the outstanding work not only as a feeder, but in all around good 4-H activities which he carried in the late forties and early fifties. Ron was the first Morrow county club member selected to attend National Club Camp from Morrow county. He attended this conference in Washington, D. C. in 1952 and later that year was chosen to win the state 4-H achievement trophy awarded by former Governor Snell.

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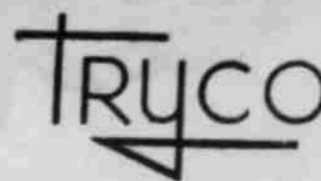
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