

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Gaines Wheat Seed Data Helpful To Area Farmers

By N. C. ANDERSON
Information is being gathered now from the 14 ranchers who are growing Gaines wheat for increase in 1962. These growers who received from 300 to 600 pound allocations of foundation seed from the Pendleton branch experiment station are scattered throughout the county under all rainfall and soil type conditions. This should give us an exceptionally good report on what Gaines will do under these various conditions and will be helpful for those wishing to seed this new variety on their ranch this fall. In order that we might have a little more information relative to how the new variety has performed, we are in the process now of checking with these growers to get the exact information on rate of seeding per acre, date seeded, depth seeded, fertilizer applied, date emerged, and other pertinent information. The few growers with which I have visited are happy with their emergence and stands and the apparent thriftiness of the wheat.

Several farm fish pond owners have called during the last week asking about fish to stock their ponds. This is the time of year to be making arrangements for these fingerling trout so that they might get off to a good start before the hot summer

months. There are two sources of fingerlings this spring. One is the Prairie Springs Trout Farm at Dayville, the other the Canyon Springs Trout Farm at Elgin. Fish can be ordered from these two sources or we can pool orders for a truckload through this office.

Directors of the Morrow County Weather Observers met last Friday evening to make plans for gathering some special weather records during the spring months through June to correlate rainfall occurring at various times during the day, with silver iodide ground generators operating to the south and west of us. This special project is aimed at determining weather patterns and whether ground seeding is affecting rainfall in particular areas through the county. Several ranchers have been keeping detailed records during the day of specified storms. This information is used with pictures taken at the Condon Radar Base, as directed by Dr. Fred Decker of the atmospheric science department at OSU. Additional ranchers will be contacted this week in an attempt to get more detailed daily reports from throughout the entire area during the months of April, May and June.

Buttercreek ranchers will be

especially interested in a grass seeding demonstration plot established last week at the Charles Daly ranch on Buttercreek. This seeding compares Nordon Crested Wheat, Fairway Crested Wheat, Siberian Wheatgrass, Pubescent Wheatgrass, Intermediate Wheatgrass, Alta Fescue, Tall Wheatgrass and Sherman Big Blue seeded with and without Nomad alfalfa. Bulbous Bluegrass was also used in a part of the area to demonstrate the value of an understory grass. This plot was seeded on an area plowed out from sagebrush near Charlie's stockyard this winter. We will have the various grasses labeled by the time that they are up so that those traveling Buttercreek road can stop and check their progress from time to time.

Verner Troedson, north Ione rancher, recently had this office order him a soil tube for taking soil and moisture samples. Verner has been carrying out a program of double summerfallow each year and has been interested in the moisture content of his, compared to regular summerfallow, and was curious to compare soil moisture penetration at various times of the year from year to year. The probe with six foot extensions will provide him lots of information. Some of our ranchers that have such probes or augers are much interested in the variable depth of their soil from one field or slope to another.

An interesting meeting of agency personnel and ASC farmer committeemen was held at Arlington last Tuesday. The meeting was designed to discuss conservation reserve seedings, plans to gather information relative to the stand of grass established on the seeding and to follow through with a record of production after the grass was plowed up. It was reported that a great percentage of contracts in Oregon were for five years, those to expire in 1962. ASC officials pointed out that for those who would like to leave these seedings as a means of land retirement can extend wheat acreage allotment history for as many years as the contract length. This means that those who had a five year contract would continue to leave the grass in without it affecting the wheat acreage allotment for another five years. While emphasis was on leaving the grass for land retirement it was pointed out that if this was plowed out that there would be many opportunities for soil conservation practices. Those discussed were leaving established sod waterways where erosion has or might occur; an excellent opportunity for establishing strip cropping with alternate grass strips; an opportunity to continue to clean weeds from land if this has not been done during the time of the contract. Contacts will be made with all ranchers who contracts

Chats With Your Home Agent

Better Storage Plans Study For April Extension Units

By ESTHER KIRMIS

Maybe you've joined the laughs when you heard Fibber Magee (of radio days) having trouble with his closet. When he opened the door everything fell out and buried him. If you store things this way your life can be pretty hectic.

We're going to discuss bedroom and bathroom storage in April when I visit each unit. The lesson is intended to give you ideas rather than specific solutions to individual storage needs. With the aid of two OSU bulletins on "Better Closets" and "Storage" plus a filmstrip on "Ideas for Bedroom-Bathroom Beauty" (Better Homes and Gardens) we should come up with some ideas that you might use in your home.

To get you thinking about storage why not try this quiz. After each question write "yes," "no," or "sometimes."

1. Is clothing storage for each member combined with or placed near a dressing area?
2. Is there enough rod space to hang clothing which needs to hang without wrinkling?
3. Are the only items kept here those which are used in this room?
4. Can you reach and grasp each article easily without removing another?
5. Do you have enough rods, hangers, books, shelves, racks?
6. Do you have garment bags, hat boxes, other needed storage containers?
7. Is closet floor free of articles?
8. Are you using the closet door for storage?

Dresser Drawers—1. Can you

1. see what you are looking for?
2. Are only like articles stacked together?
3. Is drawer space combined with or placed near other storage such as a closet?
4. Are articles worn together grouped together?
5. Is all of the space in deep drawers used?
6. Do you use drawer dividers or boxes to separate articles?
7. Do useless or worn out articles accumulate in your dresser drawers?

Bathroom Storage — 1. Are clean towels stored in the bathroom? Are there enough towel rods to hold the family towels?

Your score: If you answered "no" to three questions or less you're a "Super-Duper Closeteer." If you answered "no" to 4-7

questions you're a "Just So-so Closeteer." If you answered "no" to eight or more questions you're a "Can't-Find-It-Closeteer."

Plan to attend one of these unit meetings in April and be a graduate from "Fibber Magee's closet."

April 4—Rhea Creek Unit, Rhea Creek Grange hall, Mrs. Robert Bergstrom, chairman; April 5—Ione Unit, L. A. McCabe home, Mrs. Elmer Holtz, chairman; April 10—Heppner Unit, Bud Peck home, Mrs. Joe Wright, chairman; April 11—Pine City Unit, Pine City school, Mrs. George Luciani, chairman; April 12—Irrigon Unit, Warren McCoy home, Mrs. Richard Ryan, chairman; April 17—Boardman Unit, Roland Black home, Mrs. Nathan Thorpe, chairman; April 19—Lena Unit, place to be designated, Mrs. Robert Riddle, chairman.

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