

# FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

## Ranchers View Research Projects at Squaw Butte

By N. C. ANDERSON

Morrow county ranchers were well represented at the annual Field Day at the Squaw Butte Experiment Station at Burns last Tuesday. Jerry Brosnan, W. E. Hughes, John Graves, Barton Clark, Heppner, O. W. and Pat Cutsforth, Lexington; Roy A. Lindstrom and Bob Peterson, Lone, with the agent, participated in the informative program and tour of the station. During the morning, personnel of the station discussed research projects underway and results to date. Bob Raleigh, animal nutritionist, reported on the use of salt to control intake of supplements on the range and in the winter feedlot, and pointed out that to get the most gain from the use of this supplement, cattle must have adequate water. It pointed out that when supplements are controlled with salt on the range the availability of water needs to be considered. Bob Raleigh pointed out that protein and energy are the contributing factors for better gains. While vitamins and minerals are important they are secondary and are generally present in a good feed program used for maximum gains. Research has shown that the grass range provides much of the energy and protein required early in the grazing season. Gains of 2.20 pounds per day were secured on 35.5% wheatgrass pasture when barley and cottonseed meal were provided. Cattle on crested wheatgrass alone gained only 1.64 pounds.

An interesting research project carried out by Joe Wallace, animal husbandman, during the past year was that of limited feeding for wintering mature cows. In this experiment cattle were given three levels of hay. Cows averaging 1106 pounds were used and given all the hay that they would eat which amounted to 27.7 pounds per day. One lot was given 75% of this amount which was 20.8 pounds while another lot was given 50% of the hay or 13.8 pounds. The full fed cows gained 140 pounds, the 75% lot 96 pounds, and the 50% lot 84 pounds during the feed period. It was found regardless of the level of hay fed there was little effect on birth and weaning weight of calves.

An interesting program is carried out at the station in calving, weaning, wintering, and summer grazing trials. These long yearlings then go to the Malheur Branch Station at Ontario for feeding experiments. By this way research can be carried on with both the Hereford cattle as well as crossbred Charleisse Hereford programs from calves to feedlot. In this feedlot research project steers went in weighing 765 pounds with an approximate 3 pound per day gain over the period of 154 days on feed.

Research studies on improvements of rye hay carried out by Forrest Sneva, shows that rye cut for hay drops in protein from 10% on approximately June 14 or flowering stage to 6% three weeks later while yield remains the same. This research, which could also apply to barley and wheat hay produced in this area, showed that for each week lapse in time of cutting grain hay the cost of protein supplement to replace protein lost would increase. After the first week it would take \$4.76 to replace the protein, after the second week an additional \$2.80 and after the third week an additional \$1.95 for a total of \$9.51 loss in protein by delaying cutting by three weeks. A progress report on research in beef cattle nutrition and management at this station will be available at our office within the next few weeks for general distribution.

Anyone who is interested in these research results should let us know so that we can mail this progress report to you when available.

Bob Powelson, extension plant pathologist, OSU, visited the county on Wednesday afternoon and with the agent made several checks in well established wheat fields looking for traces of stripe rust. While we found some symptoms of winter kill and types of blight, nothing to be alarmed at, there were no signs of stripe rust. Dr. Powelson reported none found throughout the Columbia Basin on this trip. He will be through again in late April, however, his hopes are high for very little stripe rust infestations this year. He indicated that there was a high incidence at this time last year and that even if infestation were found soon that it should not amount to much this year. While in the county, Dr. Powelson discussed the annual occurrence of "yellowing" of winter grains. This occurs mostly in years where a good growth occurred during the fall months and is a physiological condition. We don't have much this year, mainly because we don't have much grain with substantial fall and winter growth.

Last Thursday I spent the afternoon at the Frank Anderson ranch grading and weighing yearling Herefords to provide information for the record of the herd which Frank has been carrying out for the past fifteen years. It is gratifying to see the continued improvement of this herd of cattle. Grades have improved continuously during the past several years and this year both the heifer and bulls were most uniform carrying only a few two grades with the majority being in the two-plus class. The yearlings have wintered well and are very thrifty to go out on summer pasture. While they are talking of improving registered herds, we were interested in visiting with Don Robinson last week who reports that he recently purchased a new herd sire, the nine year old son of Gold Mine, one of the few sons left from this grand old polled Hereford bull. Don purchased the bull from Leo Barnett, Condon and Baordman, and hopes to get some good calves from his offspring.

### Eleven at Lone Take National Merit Tests

Eleven students at Lone High school took the 1962 National Merit Scholarship qualifying test. Darrel Reisch, principal, said.

The test was administered at the school at 9:00 a. m., Tuesday, March 6.

Students who wished to be considered for merit scholarships to be awarded in 1963 were to take the test at that time. The qualifying test is a three-hour examination of educational development. The test is the first step in the eighth annual competition for four-year merit scholarships provided by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and by sponsoring corporations, foundations, associations, unions, and individuals.

The test scores of students who are examined in March will be reported to their schools by May 15. The scores are used by class advisors in many high schools to help students make decisions about colleges attendance and field of study. Many students who do not expect to win a scholarship take the test in order to learn more about their individual strengths and weaknesses in the areas measured by the test.

## 'Prevent Poison' Cautions Given

In 1961 there were 9000 accidental poisonings in Oregon alone with a total of 17 persons dying, said Mrs. Velma R. Glass of Morrow County Health Department.

Morrow county is contributing to these accidental and preventable poison statistics. Indeed it is! Within the past year there have been four youngsters under the age of four years involved—one swallowed cleaning solvent, one swallowed rat poison and still another consumed a quantity of codeine cough syrup. Yet another became a statistic by mistaking "baby" aspirin for candy.

Accidental poisoning is preventable. Some things one may do to prevent accidental poisoning in his home are: (1) Keep all drugs, poisonous substances and household chemicals away from the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet. Do not store or associate these materials near or with food. (2) Do not transfer poisonous substances to unlabeled containers or soft-drink bottles. (3) Destroy discarded medicines in such a manner that children cannot get at them. Do not leave medicines and pills lying about. (4) Make an inspection of your home regularly to be sure all poisonous items are out of a child's reach. Remove the poisons from under your sink to a place out of your children's reach. (5) Never leave young children unsupervised. (6) Last, but not least, make "National Poison Prevention Week" a year-round campaign.

## Chats With Your Home Agent

### New Uses, Guide Given Foam Laminated Fabrics

By ESTHER KIRMIS

At first glance, a special group of spring coats and jackets appears to be simply fresh new fashions for men, women and children. Look inside, however, and discover a fascinating fabric development. The hidden ingredient that makes these garments unique is polyurethane foam laminated to the apparel fabric. The interlining becomes one with the outer fabric eliminating weight and bulk, yet providing warmth and comfort equal to or greater than many interlining fabrics.

This new fabric can also be obtained by the yard, so that the "do-it-yourself sewer" can try her hand at making up her family's out-of-door clothing.

**Basic Guide to Sewing Foam Laminates:**

Although laminated fabrics present few problems in cutting and sewing, they do differ from ordinary fabrics, and it is well to keep in mind the following suggestions:

1. Select a simple pattern with a minimum of darts or details.
2. Goods must be laid with foam sides away from each other to keep the foam from sticking. When working with plaids, you may find it necessary to cut one pattern piece at a time.
3. Use a medium fine needle, with a longer stitch (10-12 stitches to the inch) and a looser

tension than normal. Experiment with a test sample. It may be necessary to loosen pressure on the pressure foot.

Pins should be placed approximately 1 inch apart and at right angles to the seam line.

If the fabric does not move through the machine easily, place tissue paper underneath the foam. Tear the tissue away after stitching.

In pressing, the temperature of the iron should be set for the outer fabric. If pressing with a steam iron use the steam setting. When pressing seams open, place paper under seam allowances so the iron will slide smoothly over the foam. Slash darts whenever possible and press open to eliminate bulk.

A word of caution is in order for those who will be buying and caring for laminated fabrics or apparel this spring. Buy from a reliable manufacturer. When laundering laminates, avoid the use of chlorine bleaches and strong alkaline solutions.

## Acreage Switches Shown in Crop Plans

Larger acreages of spring wheat, corn and hay are being planned by Oregon farmers this year, along with smaller plantings in other grain crops, report Oregon State University extension agricultural economists.

The 1962 planting intentions were gathered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, with more than 100,000 farmers in the nation reporting. The survey only shows intentions which may be subject to change, the economists stress.

In Oregon, growers plan to plant acreage planted to barley by 21 per cent; oats, 11 per cent, and dry field peas, 6 per cent. Last fall, 10 per cent less winter wheat and 7 per cent less rye was seeded than a year earlier, the report shows.

In contrast, farmers are planning to increase their acreage in spring wheat by 7 per cent, corn by 9 per cent and hay to be harvested by 5 per cent. The spring wheat acreage planned is the largest since 1957. No

changes are contemplated in acreage for sugar beets or late summer or fall potatoes.

If Oregon farmers stay with these intentions this spring, it would mean that the barley acreage would be the smallest since 1953 and oat acreage would be the lowest on record back to 1927. Winter wheat would be the smallest since 1943, while acreage seeded to rye is the lowest since 1934.

Nationally, the report shows that farmers expect to plant slightly less this year, with acreage of crops planted or to be planted expected to total 306 million acres. If realized, the economists say, this would be the smallest planted acreage total of record and 4 1/2 million acres less than last year.

Intended acreage of oilseeds is up one per cent, as is hay acreage. Tobacco, sugar beet and dry bean acreage may increase, with a possible drop in acreage planted to dry peas. Growers also plan fewer white potatoes

## Start Fair Projects

The High Hopes 4-H club had their sixth meeting at the home of Teresa Stefani. They are studying parts of the sewing

machine and had a short quiz on them. Work was started on skirts, their project for the county fair. Plans were made to attend the modeling school March 24. Visitors were Mrs. Stefani and Patty Crawford.

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