

Variety of Study to be Included On 1962 Better Farming Tour

By N. C. ANDERSON

The annual Better Farming Practices and Conservation tour, sponsored by the Heppner Soil Conservation District supervisors and this office, promises those attending a lot to see during the day. Some new areas will be visited and some new practices seen this year. The tour, to get underway at 9:30 Thursday morning, May 31, will assemble at the fairgrounds where a chartered bus will be loaded. With everyone going together on one bus resource people can explain many of the farming and conservation practices along the route without stopping. Briefly, the tour, after leaving Heppner, will go south to the Basy Canyon road, dropping into Rhea Creek where land leveling, alkali reclamation, new seedlings, irrigation structures, sub soiling and fishponds will be seen at the Harold Peck, Albert and Harold Wright ranches. Wheat fertilizer research will be seen at the Frank Anderson ranch, as well as erosion control dam recently completed on property of Lawrence Becket. The rest of the morning will be devoted to viewing conservation practices at the Elmer and Roger Palmer ranch, some of the practices to be seen on this ranch will be removal of sagebrush by noble blade, and strip cropping established 13 years ago as well as newly established strips. An excellent dryland alfalfa seeding, a practice that should be more prevalent in Morrow county, will be seen. The Palmers will be host for coffee at noon to go with the sack lunch that each tour member will bring. The Elmer Palmers have within the past two weeks moved into a new home which we will get to see that day. During the noon stop we will discuss the conservation program that the Palmers are carrying on and see and talk about the numerous conservation practices in the Eightmile community that can be seen from the ranch headquarters.

After lunch the tour will see conservation practices on the Marion Palmer, Don Peterson, Lewis Carlson and Roland Bergstrom ranches enroute to a stop at the Raymond Lundell ranch. In addition to some newly established strip cropping, diversion ditches and new pasture and roadway seedlings, we will see some rye control using a diesel and penta mix and will observe different dates of wheat seedlings along the route. At the Raymond Lundell ranch there will

be new diversion ditches, strip cropping, dates of seeding with early September, mid-January, early February and later spring seeding compared. There will be grass waterways, stubble mulch and roadside grass seeding to view. There will be a stop at the Walt Jacobs ranch to inspect his excellent windbreak as well as windstrip cropping, erosion dams and a seeding of Gaines wheat at the Gar Swanson ranch. Enroute to Heppner we will see spring seedlings at the Paul Tewes ranch, new land leveling and ditches at the Lewis Halvorson and Herb Ekstrom ranches and irrigated pasture development made by Marion Palmer. We will swing by the 1961 Conservation Man of the Year ranch, Vernon Munkers, to observe his practices this year. We will see new strip cropping at the Paul Jones ranch, new alfalfa grass seedlings in strips, rye control and windbreak at the Paul Brown ranch and other conservation practices at the Al Bunch ranch. The tour should arrive back at Heppner by 4:00 P. M. Everyone is invited to attend.

Tad Miller, Lexington rancher, recently reported that he had removed some cedar posts which had been treated with Pentachlorophenol ten years ago. Tad says the posts were as sound as the day they were put in and he is quite well pleased. While cedar generally is a longer lasting post than some of the others, some of the species of cedar that we get in this area are not as long lasting and evidently a penta treatment will prolong their life. It has been recommended for the softer posts with little sap wood, such as black pine.

A recent issue of "Livestock News Notes" discussed suspension fencing which sounds good to me. The principle difference between a suspension fence and the standard type is the distance between posts. In the suspension fence on experimental ranch in Texas posts are 100 feet apart and still wider spacings have been used by some ranchers. Twisted wire stays were placed every ten feet between the posts. These stays should be clear of the ground so that the fence can swing and whip when an animal contacts it. It is now concluded that six stays between posts would be more desirable. While wooden posts were used, small plates of 20 gauge metal were used in place of staples

because the swaying of the fence may tend to work the staples loose. These plates, one-half by one inch in size, had holes punched in each end so that six penny nails could be used to hold the wire against the post. By placing the plate over the wire and driving a nail above and below, the wire should remain in place indefinitely. Because of its resilience, animals are not likely to run through or break a strand of the suspension fence; and because of its whipping action, bulls are discouraged from fighting through the fence. This sounds like it might have application in Morrow county.

Nelson Ranch Scene of Four-H Field Day Show

Parents and leaders accompanied 55 4-H boys and girls on the annual 4-H Livestock Field Day May 12 at the Alfred and Norman Nelson ranch north of Lexington. The event is held each year in preparation for the Junior Livestock Show at The Dalles sponsored by the Oregon Wheat Growers League, according to Joe Hay, county extension agent.

The field day got underway at 9:00 a. m. Saturday with boys and girls bringing their animals to the Nelson ranch. All animals on feed for fat livestock classes were weighed to check rates of gain. Slides and movies on proper methods of grooming each class of livestock were shown before club members divided up into groups for grooming of their animals. The boys and girls spent about one and one-half hours grooming their animals before lunch.

During the noon hour, the Nelsons furnished punch, coffee and ice cream for all those who attended the field day. On the afternoon program were slides and movies on proper methods of showmanship for each of the four classes of livestock, beef, sheep, swine, and dairy. Club members were again divided into four groups for some first-hand experience at showing animals. The groups were rotated during the afternoon so that everyone had a chance to practice showing each of the four classes of livestock.

FARM NEWS

Club Members To Exhibit 4-H Animals at Show

Morrow county 4-H livestock will be exhibited by eight club members at the Junior Livestock Show sponsored by the Oregon Wheat League in The Dalles on June 3-6. A total of 16 animals will be exhibited by these eight exhibitors.

Trying for their share of the blue and purple ribbons will be Gary Van Blokland, Dale Van Blokland, Archie Ball, and David Hall, Rhea Creek livestock club members; Steve Lindstrom and Karen Nelson, Ione livestock club members; Maureen and Martha Doherty, Blackhorse livestock club members. Morrow county 4-H club members have done extremely well at the Junior Livestock Show in past years, indicated Joe Hay, County Extension agent.

4-H livestock will be judged on Tuesday, starting at 8:00 a. m. (PST). The 4-H showmanship contest will be held on Wednesday morning. Morrow county members will be exhibiting some excellent quality livestock and will be out trying for top honors in the showmanship classes.

Livestock exhibited at the Wheat League show will be sold at public auction on Wednesday afternoon and evening with sheep and hogs at 2:00 p. m. Beef will be sold in the evening at 7:00. The entire show will be operating on standard time even though most of The Dalles is on daylight time.

Hay indicated that support by Morrow county bidders at the sale has been weak the last two or three years. "We are hoping that more of our businessmen, organizations, and individuals will plan to support the sale on Wednesday afternoon and evening. I am sure that these 4-H club members will appreciate any support given them, whether it be from the edge of the show ring or at the sale ring," Hay said.

Hall Boys Named As Junior Members

David and John Hall, Heppner, today were named to junior membership in the American Hereford Association, the world's largest purebred registry organization, with headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. Sixty-three junior Hereford breeders were placed on the Association's official roster during April. The association maintains active accounts for more than 80,000 breeders of registered Herefords over the nation.

Boxed typing paper reasonably priced at the Gazette-Times.

To Exhibit Animals

Four members of the Rhea Creek 4-H Livestock club will exhibit animals at the Junior Livestock Show in The Dalles June 3 to 6.

David Hall, Gary and Dale VanBlokland and Archie Ball went to the club meeting on May 6 at the Rhea Creek Grange hall.

We attended a livestock field day at the Alfred and Norman Nelson ranch last week.

Visitors were Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. VanBlokland and Bill and Charles Rawlins.

John Rawlins, reporter

1800 4-H Members Due to Take Part In Summer School

Traffic safety, leadership education for teenagers, and special classes will be features of the 47th annual 4-H Club Summer School June 11 to 16 at Oregon State University.

Nearly 1800 youths, between 13 and 18 years of age, attend 4-H summer school each year on scholarships provided by organizations and individuals.

Sgt. William Colbert of the state police, Newport, will speak at the opening assembly June 11 and teach special classes on traffic safety to 14 and 15-year-olds during the week.

Senior 4-H members, those at least 15 years of age, will be offered a choice of 15 classes in agriculture and home economics, camp counselling, economics and communications.

Emanuel Piladakis, OSU artist, will conduct a 90-minute class for 15-year-olds in art appreciation. Well known in the Northwest, Piladakis has a painting on exhibit at the Seattle World's Fair. John O'Connor, OSU music professor, will work with teenagers in music appreciation.

During the week, members will attend two to four classes each day and afternoon assemblies. Officers will be elected in the living groups.

Girls will live in campus dormitories; younger boys will be housed in fraternities. Eighty-five college students and adult 4-H leaders will act as counselors.

Instructors for the 4-H schools come from the OSU staff, commercial firms, and departments of government. Assembly speakers will include Gov. Mark Hatfield, OSU President James Jepsen, and Gene Lear, associate director of the OSU extension service.

Metsker maps of Morrow county, \$1.25, at the Gazette-Times office.

Farm Bureau Opposes Mail Rate Increase

Wiley Clowers, Madras, Oregon Farm Bureau president, today reminded Oregon Congressmen that the Oregon Farm Bureau is opposed to second class mail increases at this time. Clowers said, "This is a time when the people should have newspapers and magazines available to them at a reasonable cost to better understand the complexity of our changing times."

Clowers pointed out that any rise in mailing costs would put more publishers out of business at a time when they are in desperate straits attempting to make ends meet.

A free press is mandatory to maintaining our freedoms in this nation, Clowers pointed out, and censorship of the press by raising mailing rates to an economical heights would destroy not only the editorial views we need so badly, but would also cause a

great deal of unnecessary unemployment in the publishing business. Clowers said the policy of the Farm Bureau states that first and third class mail rates may be increased if needed, but that the second class rates should be held at present levels.

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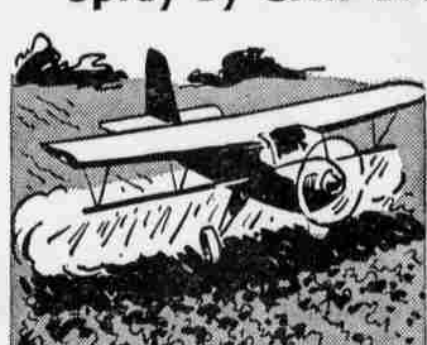
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Game Birds Need Nest Protection

Upland game bird hunters who would like to see good populations of pheasants, partridge, and quail during this fall's hunting seasons are urged to tie, pen, or keep old rovers under rigid control for the next two months.

The Oregon game commission, today, reminded dog owners that the season for upland game bird nesting is now on. A successful hunting season this fall depends entirely on the success of the nesting season and the number of young birds the hens are able to bring through the summer.

Roving dogs are a menace to upland game bird production, the commission said, as they destroy the nests and in general harass nesting birds. In many instances, dogs are able to catch and destroy the hens as they sit close on the nest incubating the eggs.

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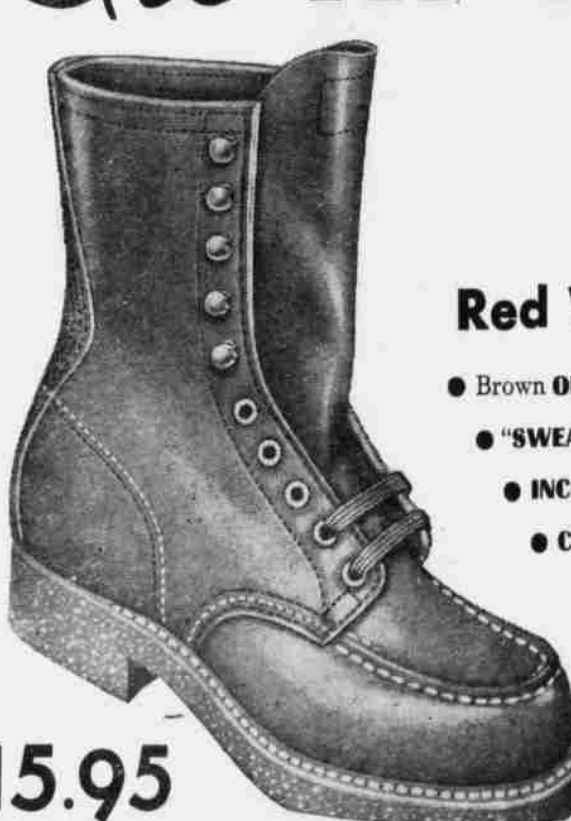
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