

Four Youths Back From Range Camp In Logan Valley

Roland Ekstrom, Thomas Rawlins, Dick Struckmeier and John Wagenblast returned August 11, from a pleasant stay at the Range Youth Camp held at Lake Creek Guard Station situated in Logan Valley.

Seventy-six youths were exposed to the basic techniques and philosophies which go in managing the range resource to insure the greatest good to the most people. The five-day camp gave the boys an opportunity to learn by doing. The program covered range management from the standpoints of livestock, plant, recreation, big game, soil and timber management. Plant and tree identification was also included.

An exam covering the information presented at camp was held Friday morning. John Wagenblast placed fifth and Roland Ekstrom placed tenth from the group of 76.

The four Morrow county delegates gained much from their experiences while at camp and express their appreciation to their sponsors and the American Society of Range Management for the opportunity to attend the Range Youth camp.

The Morrow County Livestock-growers association, Morrow County Farm Bureau, Heppner Morrow County Chamber of Commerce and the Heppner Soil Conservation District sponsored the four from this area.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Blake and two children, Portland, were week-end guests at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blake.

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Ranchers Seek Wider Market for Gaines

Demand for the new Gaines wheat variety increased considerably this past week, both by local ranchers and by seedsmen from out of the county. Many of the growers were becoming discouraged because their neighbors showed little interest in purchasing seed of this new variety and rather than be caught with a supply of treated seed on hand, made it known that they had seed which had not been spoken for. As a result two truckloads moved out to McMinnville and one Portland wagon is presently negotiating for 1500 bushels which would clean out all Gaines not now contracted for. Because of the rain there are still five fields to be harvested. These growers hesitate to obligate themselves for out-of-county sales until they know what their production might be. Growers are William J. Doherty, Fritz Cutsforth, Tad Miller, David Baker, Garland Swanson, Lloyd Howton, Kenneth Peck, Lewis Carlson, Leonard Rill, Melvin Moyer, Kenneth Turner, Raymond French, Alvin Bunch. Several of these growers have small quantities not now spoken for. Local ranchers should contact one of them if they would like to try some of the new variety this year. Local growers agreed to provide demand within the county before seed was sold outside, however, all are getting anxious to dispose of their seed.

Chemical Killers Very Poisonous

A workman dropped a spigot in a barrel of pentachlorophenol, fished it out, washed his arm at once, but nevertheless was dead the next day. This example is cited in Rachael Carlson's forthcoming book on use of various insect and plant chemical killers now being serialized in the New Yorker magazine prior to publication. Since a lot of penta is used in Morrow county, it is suggested that those working with it be careful. All insecticides, fungicides and plant chemical killers are poisonous, some more so than others. It is good to treat them all with respect.

Many Points Considered In Early Fall Seeding

Soil moisture has come together in most all summer/fallow fields I have checked after our good early August rain and many ranchers are getting "itchy" to begin seeding. Several were in the fields with their drills toward the end of this past week, including Newt O'Harra, Kenneth Peck, and L. E. and Norman Ruhl, all Lexington. I am sure that there were others, for there were reports that they were going to seed. Interest is especially high at this time since the past three or four falls have been so unfavorable to normal seeding. Many felt that with such good moisture conditions, now is the time to take advantage of it, getting their wheat up. There should be some good comparisons to be made next spring and at harvest time with early vs. normal seeding dates, especially in the new variety, Gaines. Many have called at the office to discuss how early this new variety can be seeded. We tell them that it can

be seeded as early as any of the other varieties. Those seeding early should remember that a growing crop uses moisture and plant food. Shallower sites will need to depend on timely rain in order to have moisture for the growing crop. Deeper soils, of course, have a more unlimited source of moisture. All will require additional plant food, mainly in the form of nitrogen for this additional fall growth. We have recommended that those who would like to make some early seedings, taking advantage of this moisture, limit themselves on the acreage seeded, in order that they do not have all of their "eggs in one basket." Seeding rates and dates experiments at the Sherman Branch Experiment Station, for the past twenty-odd years, shows that October 1-10 has been the most desirable seeding dates year after year.

National Calf Crop Raised 2%

A larger supply of calves is indicated for this fall's markets. The national calf crop at 40.5 million head, is up 2% from 1961 and the largest since 1956. In the western states, Oregon farmers report the same size calf crop as last year, and Montana and Arizona has smaller ones, but the other eight states have more.

Early Shearing Induces Growth

Ewe lambs being carried over for replacement should be sheared as soon as possible, preferably not later than September 1 so they can make a regrowth of wool before bad weather sets in. In nearly all experiments throughout the country, sheep that have been sheared made faster and more efficient growth.

Windbreak Trees Need Little Cultivation

For those Morrow county ranchers who have windbreaks, comes a late summer reminder. Cultivation of trees after the middle of August tends to encourage late growth, making them more susceptible to winter injury. Don't irrigate after the middle of August because your trees need a chance to harden up for winter. After the first frost in the fall, then you may give your trees a good watering which will help them through the winter.

Our County to Host Annual League Meeting

Morrow County Wheatgrowers Association Executive Committee members met last Wednesday evening with John Welbes, executive vice-president, Oregon Wheatgrowers League to make tentative plans for the annual meeting of the League which will be held in Portland on November 26, 27 and 28. Morrow county is host to the annual meeting this year. John Welbes reported that the Portland Chamber of Commerce is anxious to meet with the wheatgrowers in a session this year, so arrangements are being made for a top speaker for a Monday noon luncheon. Our committee felt that a good speaker, well versed in the farm program and what it means to the city dweller, would be most appropriate. Names such as Senators Young, Cooley, Ellender, Mundt and Humphrey, are on the list for contacts as speaker. An interesting program was proposed by our executive committee with the thought in mind of pepping up the meeting and dwelling on subjects that would interest all of our farm people. The tentative program will include a panel of authorities on marketing northwest soft white wheat; a keynote speaker to point out that farm commodities are not in surplus, we have only a healthy carry-over to provide for our fast increasing population; pros and cons of wheat for Red China; and discussions on ever important freight rate changes.

Restlessness is discontent and discontent is the first necessity of progress. Show me a thoroughly satisfied man—I will show you a failure.
—Thomas A. Edison

My Neighbors



"... And now for the long-range forecast..."

Wool Producers To Ballot Soon On Referendum

Ballots for voting in the referendum on the lamb and wool promotion and market development program will be mailed between September 4 and 7 to producers in Morrow county. David McLeod, office manager of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office, announced today.

The referendum will determine whether or not deductions will continue to be made from producer payments earned under the wool incentive program. Funds collected are used by the American Sheep Producers Council to carry out a program of advertising, promotion, and related activities under an agreement with the secretary of agriculture.

Such an agreement has been in effect since the 1955 marketing year, as approved by producers voting in 1955 and 1959 referendums. If approved in the September referendum, the agreement will be extended for four more years.

Producers having two-thirds of the volume of production represented by votes in the referendum must approve if the agreement is to be extended. Consideration will also be given to the number of votes cast for and against the agreement by individual producers, according to Mr. McLeod.

Deductions from wool and lamb payments under the new agreement would not exceed 1c per pound of shorn wool and 5c per hundredweight for unshorn lambs. Deductions at these rates have been made from payments for each previous marketing year since 1955.

Producers may vote in the referendum during the period September 10 through September 21. The period of voting will last for 2 weeks in order to encourage participation in the referendum by as large a number of sheep producers as possible. Preliminary referendum results will be announced late in September.

Producers who are eligible to vote in the referendum are all those who have owned sheep or lambs, 6 months of age or older, for any one period of at least 30 days since January 1, 1962. Each producer will report the number of sheep and lambs on his ballot.

Mr. McLeod urges any producer who believes he is eligible to vote and who does not receive a ballot by September 10 to get in touch with his ASCS county office. To be counted, the ballots must be received by the office not later than September 21.

No man is free who is not master of himself.
—Anonymous

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TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:
A writer from Heppner (inadvertently, I am sure) supports my position on the export market for Pacific Northwest wheat in his letter to you when he admits that this government requires the purchase of red wheat with white wheat on a two for one basis.

This can only have a depressing influence upon the price received for the type of wheat raised in this area. In effect, it creates a price differential against white wheat.

The simple economic facts are these:

If a product is in oversupply—as our locally-grown wheat becomes under this government policy—its price is depressed. If it is in short supply as it would be if it were not artificially depressed by arbitrarily binding it to a larger supply of a less desirable product, its price would rise.

A rise in export price would have a salutary effect upon the price received in the domestic market, where most of our wheat is sold.

This is a simple economic law which neither Congress nor the Department of Agriculture have been able to repeal, no matter how much they may have desired to do so.

Sincerely,
Bob Chandler
Bend, Oregon

Wheat Exports Forebode Loss Of Our Markets

Oregon wheat growers may lose some of the markets they have developed in Asian countries for their white wheat unless they get relief under present federal wheat allotments, which seem to point the way for other countries to take over these markets.

This is the opinion of T. Ralph Harry, state department of agriculture grain division chief, who sees the possibility of this situation in the substantial decline in wheat exports from the Portland port.

He cites the drop to 38.4 million bushels of the wheat moving into export trade for the year ending June 30. This compares with 53.1 million bushels of wheat exported in the previous year and 48.8 million bushels two years ago.

Total grain exports, in which barley is runnerup to wheat, from Oregon are also down, but not as markedly as the wheat movement overseas. Grain exports, he says, for the year just ended were slightly more than 60 million bushels, down from 64.8 million bushels in 1960-61, 71.9 million bushels in 1959-60, and the all-time high of 81.6 million bushels in 1956-57.

Harry reports one bright spot looms in his annual summary of grain inspections. This is the low incidence of smut with only two-tenths of 1 percent of the samples graded smutty during the fiscal year. This is the lowest in 20 years of reports immediately at hand.

Smut incidence has dropped steadily in the last five years, being below one percent of samples in the last two. Ten years ago and for several years earlier it ranged above 20 percent and as recent as six years ago was found in 12 percent of samples.

This sharp decline in smut means a better return to the grower because smut draws a discount. One percent of smut in 2000 bushels, for example, would

Says Grain Prices Likely to Hold

Most of the past season's gains in Oregon grain prices seem likely to be maintained this fall, reports Ray Teal, Oregon State University and extension seed marketing specialist. Hay supplies are shorter than expected and seed price prospects are mixed.

Writing in the new Oregon Farm and Market Outlook circular, Teal notes that prices of some feed grains this summer and fall are expected to be somewhat higher than a year

ago. Supplies of Northwest feed grain are smaller than last year as harvest approaches, feeding has been heavy, and there are some indications exports may improve.

Prospects now are that Oregon barley yields will be better than last year, off-set in part by acreage cuts under the feed grain program. New barley and corn prices may be a little above last year, Teal said. Based on feeding value, oats have been overpriced and other feed grains are being substituted.

Northwest white wheat prices have been adjusting upward toward the new support price levels for the 1962 crop, but whether prices will continue above loan value equivalents as in 1961 remains to be seen, he points out.

There is far more opportunity than there is ability.
—Thomas A. Edison

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