



FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Experiment Plots Show Knapweed Control Results

By N. C. ANDERSON

Some interesting observations were made last Tuesday on a tour of the Branching Knapweed plots established this past spring and summer. Plots put out at the Dick Wilkinson ranch on Skinner creek were for the purpose of determining best rates and dates of application using 2,4-D and a number of other chemicals. Rates of 2,4-D used were three quarters; one and one-half, three, six, and twelve pounds of actual active material per acre applied in April 18, May 2, May 17, May 29 and June 28 and July 31. Each of these rate and date plots were duplicated as a positive check. Ester type 2,4-D with 3.34 lbs. acid per gallon was used. When Rex Warren, farm crops specialist, OSU; Arnold Appleby, weed specialist, Pendleton branch experiment station; Dick Wilkinson; and I checked the plots last week it was evident that the May 29 and June 13 dates were definitely most ideal. This indicated that there could be a two week period to allow 2,4-D to be applied on Knapweed infestations.

In making comparisons of the various rates it was evident that the plots with one and one-half and three pounds per acre showed as much control as the higher rates of six and twelve pounds. In many cases the three-fourth pound per acre application gave adequate control. In the case of the April 18, May 2 and May 17 application dates there were a lot of plants that came up after application was made indicating that these dates were too early. In the case of the June 28 and July 31 dates of application many plants were still alive, however, as they are checked next year these might show better killing results. Since dates don't mean too much as far as various elevations, lateness or earliness of the spring, and other conditions are concerned, the stage of growth is important.

Arnold Appleby indicated the following stages to correspond with the dates: April 18—some shoot just emerging; some in full rosette; May 2—some plants still in rosette but most starting to belt. Largest probably no more than a two inches stem; May 17—stems on some plants 6 to 8 inches tall, other plants still in rosette; May 29—most plants 6 to 8 inches tall; a few starting to bud; June 13—very early bud stage; June 28—bud stages; July 31—about one half to three-fourths of plants in bloom. In addition to the various rates and dates applications of 2,4-D over 100 plots comparing rates of other chemicals were established on May 29 or in the six to eight inch

tall; a few starting to bud stage. Such chemicals as 2,4-D amine Dacome, ACP 638; 2,4-D-2,4,5-TBE ester; 2,4,5-TBE ester sylvex; 2,4-D B ester; MCPB ester; MCPA amine, MCPA ester; Banbille DS-6000, atrazine, prometryne, G-34857; G-36393; amitrol T, and dinitro amine were compared. The establishment of these 200 plots supplied some excellent research and demonstration on the control of branching knapweed. Considerable work has been done on Russian Knapweed and recommendations for the control of this Knapweed have been applied to the many other types of Knapweeds. It was evident, however, sometime back that there might be control with smaller amounts of 2,4-D, therefore, the experimental plots. Plans are being made at this time to hold a field day at the plots for those who are involved with infestations of branching knapweed at their ranch. Plots will be indicated not only as to amount and type of materials used and date applied but also actual cost of material. The Morrow County Weed Control committee has sponsored this project and will be in charge of the field day.

County Fair Declared Biggest and Best Yet

While fair officials throughout the country each year claim that this was their "biggest and best fair yet" I am sure such a claim can honestly be made for the Morrow County Fair just concluded. It is my opinion after working closely with the fair since it was resumed at the present site in 1947 that the 1962 fair was the best yet. There were several things which made it better. First, the weather was perfect, second, the crowds attending were the largest that I can remember. These people came early and stayed late and there was an air of relaxation with everyone just sitting around visiting and enjoying themselves. This might have been result of a late harvest with most people not yet having an opportunity to stop and sigh a breath of relief. Last but not least, the quality and quantity of livestock was the best yet. All barns were full with the exception of a few hog pens. A dozen or so beef and dairy animals had to be tied outside because cattle barns were so crowded. The fruit and vegetable exhibit was especially gratifying especially with the poor and slow "garden weather" this spring and summer. Some of the nicest exhibits of grain were in place to maintain Morrow county's distinction of the biggest grain exhibit in any fair in Oregon. There were many

New OSU Circular Tells Benefits Of Soil Testing

Soil testing can help the farmer make money by guiding the use of fertilizer for profitable yields and can also save him money by showing when materials are not needed.

This is one of the points made in the new circular, "Soil Testing Tells," just issued by the Cooperative Extension Service of Oregon State University and now available from county extension offices. The circular traces the steps taken in soil testing and outlines the information which comes from such tests.

Prepared by A. S. King, extension soils specialist, and L. A. Albin, soils scientist, the circular points out that the OSU soil testing service includes more than a chemical analysis of a soil.

After a soil is tested in the campus laboratory, county extension agents, using test results and important local information, prepare fertility recommendations. These include suggested rates of application for different fertilizers, lime or other materials. Fertilizer recommendation sheets prepared for various crops include suggested rates, methods and time of application of needed materials based on soil test values.

Soil test samples can be taken any time during the year, the circular explains, adding that it is well to allow ample time for processing and for the purchase and application of needed materials in advance of seeding.

A soil test can be used to plan a fertilizer program for one or two years and a liming program for five to seven years. However, the authors stress that yearly testing can pay big dividends to the producer.

Copies of the new circular, soil sample boxes, information sheets and directions for taking samples can be obtained from the local county extension office.

favorable comments on the new booth arrangements and those who had them seemed to be well pleased.

Gaines Yield Here Hits 180 Bushels

Last week we reported on the progress of our Gaines wheat harvest. All fields are now harvested with the exception of the seeding at the Raymond French ranch which was started but discontinued because it was not yet fully ripe. As the harvest progressed we find later maturing areas are producing much better yields. At the Leonard Hill ranch Gaines made 50 bushels an acre compared to other varieties in the field which made 43. At the Melvin Moyer ranch in Black horse yield was approximately 65 bushels per acre. This was an excellent site and many had been waiting to hear the yield of this field. Kenny Beck reported an estimated site and many had been waiting to hear the yield of this field. Kenny Beck reported an estimated yield of 100 bushels per acre on at least part of an irrigated field which he is still harvesting. As harvest progresses we find further interest and demand for the variety. As a result of a 132 bushel yield at St. Paul, Oregon the St. Paul Feed & Supply placed a 450 bushel order with us last week. At the same time early seedlings of Gaines look good with several fields now fully emerged and growing well.

Thunderstorm Experienced By Dohertys On Trip

An interesting and amusing note was received from Bill and Mary Doherty as they stopped overnight at Jamestown, N. Dakota, close to the country I was raised in. They, like many others who pass through North Dakota, wondered why people leave that state for Oregon. They told us that they found out that night as they witnessed a good North Dakota thunderstorm and the high humidity which doesn't let you sleep too well. We appreciated clippings on the progress and prospects of the crop and harvest there. Bill and Mary indicated that they are enjoying their drive through to New York where they will sail September 1 for a visit with their son, Billy, in Germany and a well earned trip throughout Europe.



CHAMPION as well as queen is Marlene Fetsch who won the grand champion showman title at the Morrow county fair's 4-H horse show Friday. She is shown being presented her trophy by Charley Daly, who was in charge of the show. Marlene is queen of the fair and rodeo.

Prices Threaten Feeding Industry In N. W. Markets

The Pacific Northwest produces more than enough grain to supply its livestock feeding industry, but high prices, influenced by government action, are threatening the industry.

That is the word from Oregon State University economists who have been studying the situation which has been forcing northwest livestock and poultry feeders to pay nearly \$15 a ton more for feed grain than feeders in the Midwest.

The study shows that in the northwest, barley, chief locally grown feed grain since 1954, is being exported in sufficient quantities to reduce supplies. The government does not have adequate stocks of barley, corn or milo in the region to keep market prices below support levels.

On the other hand, the government has large stocks of corn and grain sorghum (milo) available in the Midwest. In order to encourage farmers to participate in feed grain programs, these government owned stocks are being sold at market prices below the support level.

As a result, Oregon and northwest livestock and poultry feeders are paying considerably more per ton for their feed. This makes it hard for them to compete, despite the fact that the area is self-sufficient in feed except for a small amount of corn and milo used by poultry feeders, point out Harold F. Hollands and Marion Thomas, OSU agricultural economists.

Government action, not the lack of locally produced feed grains, is chiefly responsible for the current price spread, the biggest of the recent years, these economists believe.

Production of barley and corn in the northwest has increased from about 700,000 tons in 1953 to about 1 1/2 million tons in each of the years since then. Little more than a million tons of all grains are used annually for feed in this region.

Thus, without including wheat, grain production in the Pacific Northwest is more than adequate to meet requirements of an expanding livestock and poultry feeding industry, it was explained.

In addition, northwest storage facilities are adequate. All barley, wheat and oats growers can comply with government programs if they desire to benefit from support prices, Hollands and Thomas noted. There is also storage available for substantial amounts of grain produced elsewhere in the U. S.

As the price of barley climbs under demand from countries where it is used for food as well as feed, northwest livestock feeders are reminded of a similar pattern for wheat, which was used as the chief feed grain until priced out of the market during World War II.

Although national stocks of feed grains are huge and exporting is one way of helping to reduce them, the economists believe that steps can be taken to avoid penalizing the northwest segment of the feeding industry through the administration

Loans Available For Improvements On Morrow Farms

Loan funds are available from the Farmers Home Administration to eligible Morrow county farmers who wish to develop water supply systems for irrigation, household use and livestock; to drain farm land; and to carry out soil conservation measures.

Each dollar used wisely in developing and conserving water and land resources helps prevent crop failures, boosts farm income, and increases the value of local property. Morrow county farmers may obtain water development and soil conservation loans to drill wells, purchase pumps, sprinkler systems; construct ponds, ditches and canals for irrigation, dig ditches and install tile to drain farm land, and other related improvements.

Loans may also be made to clear and level land, fertilize, subsoil or sod land, fencing, plant trees, and establish permanent pastures.

In addition, loans may be used to build dikes, terraces, waterways, and pay fees for legal and technical services.

Farmers pay 5 percent interest yearly on the unpaid principal

tion of government grain programs.

While the Pacific Northwest is a logical area from which to export grains, it is also the logical area to become the chief meat producing region for the west coast, which does not now produce enough meat to satisfy demand, the economists emphasize.

In addition, the economists point out that the livestock feeding industry has operated with relatively little government aid, while grain producers, willingly or not, have had government price supports, export programs and other assistance. These tend to make feeders pay more for feed than they would have paid without such programs.

Unless some relief is given the northwest feeder industry, Hollands and Thomas believe that its future is in serious jeopardy.



WINNERS in the annual 4-H gun club's shoot-off held August 19 at the lone rifle range are pictured here. Back row, (left to right): Bob DeSpain, Ione; Leland McGill, Cecil; Dick Hynd, Cecil. Front row, Steve Pettyjohn, Heppner; Jay Ball, Ione; and Bob Ball, Ione. Joe Palmer, Lexington, was not present for the picture.

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Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Schwarz left last Sunday for Seattle to attend the World's Fair. They later visited his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schwarz, at Long Beach, Wn. They also did some deep sea fishing at Waldport.

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