County Agent's Office

Weed Control Check Plots Needed Here for Research

This past week Arnold Appleby, weed man, at the Pendleton branch experiment station, was in the county to make a formal evaluation of the branching knapweed control plots on the Dick Wilkinson range on Skinner Creek. During his visit he asked if it might be possible for us to find cooperators for some weed control check-plots which he would like to get out. Two of these plots will be for the purpose of checking various rates of a promising chemical for the selective control of cheatgrass in wheat. This chemical looks promising enough that a representative of the manufacturer of the chemical will come to Oregon in late September to establish plots to further develop the possibility of it being released as a recommended chemical. Arnold asked for two three-acre plots in Morrow county, one on a lighter soil, one on a heavier soil. We want to establish these where there is a problem of cheatgrass, preferably along the outer edge of the field where cheat is generally little more of a problem. It will need to be applied before seeding time but after October 1. Another plot that we will need is one for the control of cheatgrass and particularly foxtail in an established stand of alfalfa. We would like to establish this preferably on heavier soil. It will not be applied until late November. Anyone interested in having these plots established on their farm is urged to get in touch with this office.

Field Trip To See Knapweed Control Plots

Ranchers interested in the control of spreading knapweed will have an opportunity to see control results at a field day, to be held at the Knapweed plots on Skinner Creek on Thursday, September 20. There will be the opportunity to compare 19 different chemicals using at least two different rates of each and seven dates using five rates of 2,4-R ester. For those who are interested there will be much to see. The field day will begin at 10:00 a.m. To reach the plots, go up to Willow Creek, turning right up Skinner Creek for about 1 mile; plots are located on both sides of the road.

Regional Conference To Discuss Rural Development

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced a regional conference on Land and People to be held in Portland on October 1 and 2. Emphasis will be upon stimulating economic growth in rural areas. There will be both speakers and discussion groups. Questions to be considered by discussion groups include: "How can family farms be strengthened for rural improvement and development;" "How can rural area development help;" "How can new uses and conservation of land and water expand income;" "Employment and better living in rural communities;" "How can planning and implementation of economic development for a county or rural area be accomplished;" "How important is rural urban community planning." This is one of a number of conferences on rural area development that will be held throughout the country. Leaders from Morrow county will be asked to participate.

Deadline September 21 On Referendum Vote

For those eligible to vote in the referendum on the Wool Market-Promotion program, ballots are now in the mail, sent out by our local ASCS office. You have until Friday, September 21 to get your vote back in the mail or to the ASCS office. To be eligible to vote, the producer must have owned sheep or lambs six months of age or older, for any one period of at least 30 days since January 1 of this year. This referendum will not affect the wool payment program now in operation as this was extended for four more years under legislation enacted last summer. The voting will determine whether growers want to continue financing wool and lamb market promotion activities through deductions from the wool payments they received. If growers vote approval, the agreement will be extended for four more years. To be approved, the agreement must be favored by producers having at least two-thirds of the volume of production represented by the total vote. Under similar agreements, in effect since the 1955 marketing year, deductions have amounted to 1c per pound from shorn wool payments and 5c per hundred weight from unshorn lamb payments. Deductions under the new agreement would not exceed these amounts. While all growers should have received their ballots through the mail by September 10 any producer that believes that he is eligible to vote and who has not received his ballot should get in touch with the ASCS county office right away.

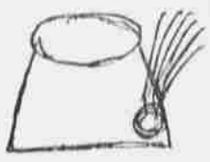
Spray Proves Effective In Controlling Grasshoppers

The results of a good spray program for the control of grasshoppers was seen recently on Martin Prairie in the Blue Mountains. The spraying was made by Bob Van Scholack when a heavy concentration of grasshoppers developed there during the last part of August. Bob used four ounces of Aldrin per acre and got an excellent control. While checking the area about a week after the spraying was made we counted as many as 25 dead grasshoppers per square foot. This was effective spraying, not only because of the excellent kill but because these grasshoppers were concentrating in the area as a breeding ground and to deposit eggpods for next years hatch. By controlling them great numbers were eliminated for another year.

Gaines Reports Found In New Circular

An interesting meeting of Columbia Basin county agents, OSU Farm Crops staff representatives and plant breeders from the Sherman, Pendleton and Union branch experiment stations was held at Pendleton last Tuesday. The meeting was held to discuss the new wheat variety, Gaines, and to share mutual experiences each of us had had with this new variety this year. As a result of the meeting a number of recommendations have come out which we will pass on to those interested in growing Gaines as questions come up. Many of the general characteristics and recommendations for the variety will be contained in the Circular of Information 612, "Gaines, A Semi-Dwarf Winter Wheat For The Pacific Northwest," issued jointly by Oregon, Washington and Idaho State universities. In comparing experiences with some of the other Columbia Basin county agents it was interesting to see the summary results of dates and rate seeded, emergence from various depths, a correlation of yields with nitrogen used, the length of time from seeding to emergence comments on harvesting and yields compared to other varieties grown on the farm. Needless to say there were many different experiences. Some counties such as Wasco and Union indicated that as much as 75% of their wheat acreage for 1963 would be seeded to this new variety. In other counties there were indications that many ranchers would seed smaller amounts to observe and get increase seed for larger plantings in the fall of 1963 if they liked the performance of the new variety. While Morrow county had a spread of from 26 to 61 bushels per acre there were greater spreads in other counties. For instance, Gilliam county had a spread of from 29 to 90 bushels per acre; in an average of twelve farms, Gaines yielded 46 bushels. In Wasco county their average was 58.6 bushels compared to 47.3 of other varieties or an increase of 23.9% in favor of Gaines. In Sherman county September seedings of Gaines averaged 51.8 bushels per acre while Omar averaged 45 bushels. October and November seedings of Gaines averaged 51.8 bushels per acre while Omar averaged 45 bushels. October and November seedings of Gaines averaged 46.5 bushels while Omar averaged 47.1. Longtime results at the Moro Experiment Station have indicated that early October seedings have been best with the varieties we have grown to date. Perhaps this recommendation needs to be changed if Gaines continues to perform in the future as in the past year. Evidently those at the Pendleton Branch Experiment Station are convinced that Gaines is the variety for at least that area. Chuck Rohde, plant breeder and Bob Ramig, soils man, both made the statement that if they were growing wheat they would seed all their acreage to Gaines. I believe that this is a strong statement to make for all of the soils in Morrow county, however, Gaines look awfully good, especially in the heavier soils with higher rainfall. Gaines seed is going fast in Morrow county with another order of 500 bushels filled to go to a McMinnville seed dealer. There is a limited amount of seed available, however, for those who have not yet purchased their seed.

LITTLE SUZY SAYS:



THIS IS MY MOMMYS NEW HAT AND MY DADDY SAID ANYONE WHO SEES THAT HAT WOOD KNOW I WOOD SET FIRE TO THE HOUSE TO GET RID OF IT SO PLEESE DO NOT LET THEM SEE IT AT

Turner, Van Marter and Bryant
INSURANCE
Heppner

FARM NEWS

Two Local Girls Place Blue At State Fair

Jeanne Stockard, daughter of Mrs. Anita Stockard, Heppner; and Terryl Greenup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Greenup also of Heppner placed in the blue ribbon class at the Oregon State Fair this past week. Jeanne won on her 4-H demonstration and Terryl Greenup on her meat animal judging.

"A Whimsey for Mi Lady," titled the demonstration of Jeanne Stockard in which she showed the steps in making a simple woman's hat. Chenille tubing pulled over a wire formed the framework of the hat. Two coordinated colors of veiling, flowers and velvet ribbon suitably placed completed the creation. Directions on how to make these whimseys may be obtained from the County Agent's office.

Besides Terryl Grenup, Ronnie and Judy Jones, Sheridan Wyman and Tony Doherty were also members of the Morrow Livestock judging team.

August Grain Market Sets New Record

"The biggest August we've ever had and grain is still coming at us from all directions. Moreover, export cargoes are loading at all five docks here."

That's the way T. Ralph Harry, grain division chief at Portland for the state department of agriculture Friday thumbnailed the heaviest grain movement the Portland market has ever witnessed. Combined incoming export movement in August reached 19.7 million bushels of grain, mostly wheat.

This topped the 18.8 million bushel movement in August, 1959, and the 17 million bushels moved in August, 1956.

While the combined movement established a record, neither the export or incoming phases alone did so in August. May, 1957's 9.4 million bushel export still stands as the heaviest single month's movement overseas.

Agents Review Gaines Reports At Special Meet

Performance of Gaines wheat —the new semi-dwarf variety— in Oregon during the past year has brought optimistic reports from researchers and county agents who have kept tab on farm field trials and experimental plots.

Yields, planting rates, fertilizer applications and other management practices throughout the state during the past year were reviewed Tuesday at a special meeting in Pendleton.

County agents from eight leading wheat counties of Oregon and research and extension staff members from Oregon State University and its branch experiment station attended the session.

There was general agreement that the high-yielding, stiff-strawed Gaines had measured up to earlier expectations as a superior variety for Oregon, particularly in those areas where soil moisture is adequate.

County agents all reported a good supply of Gaines seed as a result of high yields on extensive plantings for seed increase during the past year.

Key management practices recommended as a result of farmers' experiences and test plots this year included earlier planting time than has normally been the case for winter varieties.

Since the short, stiff straw resists lodging, there is apparently no hazard in pushing the variety to early, fast growth. Planting time can start now and continue as late as any normally planted winter variety.

Planting rate was recommended to range from as low as 20 pounds of seed per acre for early planting in good soil moisture up to 60 pounds for late seedings.

Fertilizer recommendations call for the same amount of nitrogen as is normally applied for standard varieties with the exception of deep soils where farmers may also want to top dress in the spring with about 20 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre more than for other varieties. Sulphur and phosphorus applications should be the same as normally used.

Chats With Your Home Agent

Home Building Plans Available Through Extension

By ESTHER KIRMIS

One of the least known services of the extension department is perhaps its cooperative building plans exchange. The western region of the Extension Service each month puts out a fly sheet, advertising 2 and 3 bedroom house plans that they have endorsed. People who are interested in building might well avail themselves of these sheets when they are scouting around for a plan.

Working drawings of these house plans are available from the Oregon State University for a charge of 25c a sheet and 35c for a service fee. The working drawings vary from 2 to 11 sheets.

A home is probably the greatest single purchase you will make. What is a good buy for you? Let's talk about the things which are of particular interest to the women of the family.

General Considerations—How much can you pay? Usually 2 to 2½ times your annual income is considered reasonable. Does the house fit your family needs, is it well built, in a suitable neighborhood? What are the possibilities for resale? Families move more often now.

What is the neighborhood like? Look at other homes, number of children playing about, age of neighbors (adults). Services in neighborhood—shopping, churches, schools.

The House—Does it provide enough space? Living room: Is it light, which way does the house face? What is the view? Can you arrange furniture satisfactorily? Does traffic to other parts of the house go across living room carpet? Do you want a fireplace? Are you able to spend an extra $1000 or more for it? What is the relationship of the living room to the front entrance. Bedrooms: Will your furniture go in the space? How about storage? Cross ventilation? Does early sun wake you up? Is bath near? What is the relationship of bedrooms to activity areas where there may be noise? Halls: Is too much space wasted in hallways—or are halls necessary to keep traffic away from other areas? Is there storage in the halls—or possibility of adding if desired.

Utility areas: Luandry area—is there a place for washer and dryer, convenient to bedrooms, kitchen, other work areas. Utility storage—for vacuum cleaner, mops, brooms, card table, games, toys, luggage, off season clothes, picnic supplies. Kitchen? More details in leaflet—"What is A Good Kitchen," available at County Extension office. Safety: Consider stairs and good lighting. Doors: Front door should face drive so people will find it. Back door should lead from kitchen to patio, garden, play area, or farm yard. Closet near entrance, for coats.

There are many more things to consider in buying a house—many of them will probably be handled by men of the family. For instance, you'll need to ask about taxes, financing, construction materials, age of the house, wiring and plumbing. You may want help, a professional appraiser can check many of these points for you.

Selecting a house or planning one to build always involves a compromise. You have to decide what's most important to you. How much you can pay. Does the house fit your needs, and what are the resale possibilities.

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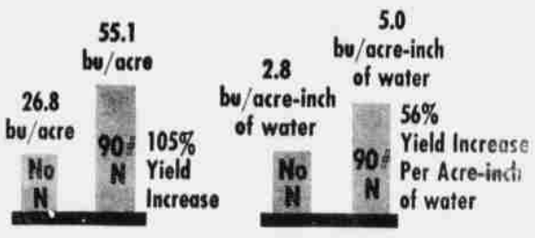
Apply plenty of yield-increasing Phillips 66 Agricultural Ammonia

Northwest wheat studies show remarkable increases in both yields and moisture efficiency when adequate nitrogen is applied. Results from one test show a 100% yield increase over the control plot with 90 pounds of nitrogen, and a 56% increase in bushels produced from each acre-inch of water. In dry areas, lower applications of 30 to 50 pounds of nitrogen may provide the most profitable yields.

TESTS SHOW:
Increased Yields ... Maximum Moisture Efficency



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