

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Safflower Production Interest Found Keen

By N. C. ANDERSON

There has been quite a little interest during the past week by farmers on contracting for safflower production. The interest comes, I believe, from the decision of farmers to participate in the feed-grain program. Regulations provide that safflower can be grown on the diverted acres by lowering the diversion payment. The incentive payment of 14¢ a bushel on the feed-grain produced would be earned. Some farmers have estimated that cost of seed, tillage and harvest plus the average diversion payment lost would come to about \$13.65 an acre. At a contract price of \$75 a ton this would mean that any production over and above 360 lbs. per acre would be clear profit.

While safflower yields are erratic we have had some as high as 1300 lbs. per acre. It would depend entirely on the weather; it being important that the soil is deep and filled with moisture at the beginning of the growing season. This condition prevails at this time and with continued good moisture conditions during the spring months there is a good possibility of safflower to make some money for those who decide to grow it. The deadline dates for contracts to be signed is fast approaching and anyone who did not pick up a contract at the safflower meeting or one from this office should get one soon.

Crops Show Spring Growth

Everyone that I have talked to this past week was amazed at the excellent growth that is being made in crops since the weather warmed up. This is especially noticeable in those fields where the grain has been frozen back to the ground level with many believing that these stands were frozen out completely. I may be over optimistic but the way it now appears there will be little reseeding necessary even of barley seeded in the fall. Prospects for a bumper crop look the best this spring of any year that I can remember.

Handbook Orders Taken

For the past number of years the extension service have prepared handbooks on insect, plant disease and weed control. These are revised each year and are made available to interested persons by the Co-op Book Store at Corvallis for a nominal price. The 1963 edition will be soon off the press. For anyone who is interested in a handbook of one or all three we have order blanks available at this office.

'Gopher-getter' Machine Ready for Rental Schedule

By the time you read this news item the Heppner Soil Conservation District will have their new "gopher-getter" ordered for rental to farmers with gopher problems. While many have indicated interest in using this machine we are now ready to schedule it by communities. It is a pull type implement that operates with a hydraulic cylinder and can be used on any tractor equipped with a hydraulic system.

While the district supervisors will determine actual rental at their regular meeting next Tuesday night the cost will be approximately \$1 an acre for rental and poisoned grain bait. Those who have hand baited individual gophers, will agree that this mechanical device will save them many dollars and hours of back-breaking work. Contact this office or the Soil Conservation Service office for scheduling.

Conference Invites Livestockmen

Livestock producers, feeders and others interested in the livestock industry are invited to attend an animal science research review and planning conference to be held in Hermiston on March 18. Several livestock research persons will discuss such items as economic factors influencing livestock production in eastern Oregon; review of livestock marketing research; review of range management research; summary of projected plans for livestock feeding research in eastern Oregon and a question period time for discus-

sion. Those who contributed to the establishment of the livestock feeding center at the Hermiston Experiment Station will wish to attend.

Newest in Food Novelties Bottled Eggs, by the Pound!

Now . . . Eggs in Bottles! With the advent of frozen foods and Jet age transportation, consumers have become fairly sophisticated about food novelties. Now, however, a produce firm in Quincy, Ill., has succeeded in startling the customers on its milk routes by selling eggs in bottles.

The company uses bottles with a mouth just large enough to pass at a time, one broken-out egg with yolk and white together. It is said that the eggs stay separate, without mixing. The eggs keep well under refrigeration and are priced by the pound.

Lindsay's Plant Tree Windbreak

Larry Lindsay and his mother Rosella are proud of a new windbreak established last week at their ranch home north of Lexington. The windbreak is a four-row planting using Caragna, Russian Olive, Black Locust, and Ponderosa Pine. The planting established to the west and south, will protect part of the farmstead including the house and a new home planned by Larry.

Livestock Growers Add Members

Raymond French, chairman of membership and finance committee, Morrow County Livestock Growers Ass'n., has been busy the past month. Thirteen 1963 memberships have been picked up by Raymond since his appointment to this position on January 22. This brings the 1963 membership to a total of 54, just half of the high membership in the Association will assure the livestock producer of being stronger by united effort in problems affecting the industry. If you have not joined the local organization you can do so by sending your dues to Raymond French or treasurer, Gerald Swaggart.

April 1 Deadline Set For Veteran Tax Exemptions

Disabled war veterans and widows of veterans must apply for their annual state property tax exemptions by April 1, the Department of Veterans Affairs reported today.

Application for the exemption, which amounts to \$7500 of the true cash value of the property, is filed with the county assessor. Those entitled include:

1. War veterans 40 percent or more disabled as certified by the Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces, regardless of their income.
2. Unmarried widows of war veterans, regardless of income. Pensioned widows of Spanish-American war veterans get an extra \$500 exemption.
3. Spanish-American war veterans, regardless of disability or income.

Veterans whose disabilities are certified by a private physician and the county health officer, rather than by the VA or the Armed Forces, are also entitled, provided they have not received more than \$2500 total gross income in the past year.

Disabled veterans and widows living in house trailers may receive an annual license fee reduction of up to \$100 by filing with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Assistance is also available from county service officers or the state veterans' department.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dobbs and son, Bob, drove to Portland Saturday night returning Sunday night. Mrs. Dobbs remained until Thursday to attend a Miss Clair color show and visit her daughter and family. Mr. and Mrs. Ron Gray.



MARTHA DOHERTY, Heppner; Marlene Eubanks, Arlington; and Steve Davis, Olex, all 4-H members at the "Know Your State Government" conference in Salem recently got a chance to question Chief Justice William McAllister of the Supreme Court in his office. Sixty-nine 4-H youngsters attended the sixth 4-H government conference. Marlene received a trip to the national 4-H club conference in Washington, D. C. Also attending from Morrow county was David Proudfoot of Echo.

Units to Hold Workshop Series On Furniture

The demand for "Furniture Restoration" by the women of Morrow county will be answered in the March Extension unit meetings and a series of workshops to follow in Heppner and Irrigon.

Finishing and refinishing furniture is an absorbing hobby for many families, an answer to economic problems for others and a way for everyone to improve something already possessed and cherished. The usefulness, structure and form of good furniture often long outlast the finish. With modern materials and methods that are easy to master, anyone can put a better finish on many a piece of furniture than it had when it was new.

With the excellent assistance of Mrs. Clint McQuarrie, a furniture restoration hobbyist of Heppner, we met on February 26 at the Pine City school with project leaders from the Extension Units in the county to give them the first steps in removing finish with a non-inflammable type of a cleaner. Different types of sandpaper; tricks in sanding; selection, care and cleaning of brushes and removing dents, bruises, and stains were also discussed.

It is the plan to have these project leaders give this lesson at the March unit meetings in the county and take "sign-ups" of people who are interested in restoring furniture for the Heppner and Irrigon workshops. It is hoped that participants will have removed the finish from their article before they come to the workshops. Those that wish to take part are urged to attend the Extension Unit meet-

Field Trip Planned

A meeting of the Lively Fives 4-H club was called to order February 18 at Jeanne Hunt's home at 4 p.m. We discussed our display for 4-H week.

Plans were made to visit the Pendleton Woolen Mills either March 21 or 22.

We will meet at 10 a.m., March 2 to put up our display.

Jeannette Ledbetter, reporter

ings closest to them and get in on the basic steps of refinishing. Procedure as to preparation of new finish, restoring color, and new kinds of finishes (oil, varnish, shellac, or lacquer) will be taken up at the workshops.

The following Extension Unit meetings are scheduled:

March 6—Rhea Creek Grange hall, Mrs. Myron Rill and Mrs. Albert Wright, project leaders.
March 7—Kenneth Palmer home, Mrs. Louis Carlson and Mrs. Jim Pettyjohn, leaders.
March 12—Joe Wright home, Mrs. Riley Munkers and Mrs. Mabel Heath, leaders.
March 13—Pine City school, Mrs. George Luciani and Mrs. Leo Ashbeck, leaders.

March 14—Old Irrigon school, Mrs. Louis Shade, Mrs. Leroy Buchanan, Mrs. Donald Acock and Mrs. Paul Slaughter, leaders.
March 19—Mrs. William Seehafer home, Mrs. Jessie Worden and Mrs. Earl Briggs, leaders.

Workshops to follow these meetings are planned for: Heppner Fair Annex on March 14, March 21 and March 28, Old Irrigon school on March 22, March 29 and April 2.

Meetings will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with sack lunch at noon.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ferguson were in Walla Walla, Wn., Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Ferguson visited Mrs. Helen King, tour leader for trips abroad, and on Friday she attended a meeting of the DAR.

Watershed Fund Cut Severe Blow, Soil Head Says

The proposed cut in the State Engineer's appropriation by the Ways and Means committee in the legislature, of \$100,000 for Watershed Planning could cost the State of Oregon \$8 million in one year alone. Elmer Peterson, president of the State Association of Soil Conservation Districts said today. Of this, \$4 million could be federal money.

The federal government has provided construction funds for all public law 566 projects that have been approved for operations in Oregon. Construction money is available for many projects as soon as planning is completed and they are approved. The "bottleneck," Peterson explained, has been in turning out watershed plans by qualified watershed planning parties.

The cut will delay planning on any proposed projects, such as that under consideration on Rhea creek in Morrow county.

"There are over 200 potential small watersheds in Oregon. Thirty-four applications for small watersheds have been approved by the State Engineer. Twenty-one of these are waiting for a watershed planning party to develop plans," Peterson added.

State funds have provided one additional planning party to the USDA Soil Conservation Service to speed up watershed planning. The loss of state funds would wipe out one well-trained planning party. This would leave Oregon with only one watershed planning party, Peterson said.

"It had been planned during the next year with the combination of state and federal funds," Peterson said, "to complete planning on four watersheds, and preliminary investigations on five to eight additional watersheds."

With the loss of state watershed planning funds only Sui-tilla Creek in Douglas County—installation cost, one million dollars—and Tutuilla Creek in Umatilla County—installation cost, \$2,307,000—could be completed. Completion of watershed planning would have to wait on North Powder in Baker and Union counties—installation cost \$6 million—and lower Amazon—Flat Creek in Benton and Lane Counties—installation cost, \$2,650,000.

Club Studies Machine

Arleta McCabe entertained the Needleettes at a morning meeting February 9. Ruth McCabe showed the girls the vital spots of their sewing machines to clean and oil. After the girls had cleaned and oiled their machines, Ruth handed out the latest bulletins for sewing. The next meeting was planned for Saturday, February 23.

Arleta McCabe, reporter

Club to Serve Court

Kettles and Spoons 4-H club welcomed a visitor, Christy Watkins. Our junior leader, Joan Stockard, gave us a demonstration on fixing raw vegetables.

We made plans to serve cookies to the county court next month at its regular meeting.

We sang songs and played games.

Susan Melby, reporter

Plan Window Display

The Knit-Wit 4-H club met at the home of Terry Pettyjohn Monday. We started knitting on our hats. We discussed our 4-H display, which will be in the window of Lois Beauty Shop. All members were present and refreshments were served by Mrs. Pettyjohn. The next meeting will be March 4 at 4 o'clock.

Delbert McLachlan, reporter

Among those attending Dad's

Week-end at Oregon State University in Corvallis were Claude Graham, Jerry Daggett and Oliver Creswick. Graham was a guest of his daughter, Helen, a senior student; Daggett visited his son, Kenneth, a freshman, and Creswick took in the activities with his son, Ronald, a freshman. The fathers returned home Sunday.

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