

# Sights Please Farm Tourists On County Trip

By N. C. ANDERSON

A small, but interested, group attended the annual Conservation and Better Farming Practices tour held last Friday. The group, traveling by bus, was able to visit as it toured the Hinton Creek, Sand Hollow, Juniper Canyon, South Lone, and Eightmile areas. All enjoyed seeing some of the excellent growths of wheat and were happy in general with crop prospects, seeing only localized rust infections.

They were interested in rye control on the roadsides in the Sand Hollow area and heard Kenneth Turner explain that four miles of roadside had been sprayed at a cost of only \$22 for chemicals. This work, done by Doug Drake, is looking excellent even though it was put on at a later stage of growth than recommended.

One of the few well developed irrigation systems in the county was seen at the Fritz Cutsforth ranch in Sand Hollow. Fritz has a newly leveled field set up by border system, using concrete headgates for flooding as well as a sprinkler system for those areas that are not quite so easily flooded. Several stops were made to see grass and alfalfa seedings and all were especially impressed with the growth and stands. A 10-year-old seeding of grazing alfalfas at the Lindsay ranch in lower Sand Hollow, where normal rainfall is considered too little for alfalfa production, astonished all.

A new seeding, primarily Whitmar Beardless Wheatgrass with Nomad Alfalfa, at the Bill Doherty ranch is well established and doing well. An older seeding of Whitmar along the roadside was admired by those on the tour. Beardless Wheatgrass is native to Morrow county and this improved species is doing excellent wherever it has been seeded.

An unscheduled stop, enjoyed by all, was a trip to Carl Troedson's Sunset Ranch. The trip was made to see the excellent cheatgrass control along wheat field borders done by Fred Martin, lone, who farms the Troedson land. At the farmstead, Carl couldn't resist showing us his landscaping and flower gardens,

and a profusion of blooms of 39 varieties of Iris caught everyone's eye.

## Conservation Family Hosts Group

The lunch stop at the Gar Swanson ranch was of course an enjoyable part of the tour. While everyone took a sack lunch they could have made out well with the table set by Irene Swanson and daughter, Jean Ann Turner. The Swansons did a good job of hosting the group as we paid respects to them as 1963 Conservation Family of the Year. Gar did a nice job in pointing out the reasons for constructing the six erosion dams, windstrip cropping and stubble mulch practices which earned him this title. Approximately 500 hours had gone into constructing the erosion dams to prevent loss of silt and in stabilizing a canyon that carries a tremendous amount of water during cloudbursts and season of heavy rainfall. The strips will break up long drainage areas preventing this loss of silt in the future.

A lot of interest was shown in the visit to a chemical fallow plot on the Swanson ranch to compare various chemicals used at different dates and rates for the control of cheatgrass in stubble. Of special interest were plots where applications of 4 pounds of Atrazine was used alone and 4 pounds Atrazine plus 1/2 pounds of Amitrol during the fall and winter months. Excellent control was shown in plots applied on October 18 and February 21. The group was especially interested in the lower costs of these applications compared to original recommendations for chemical fallow. These low rates of chemicals, recommended as an aid to tillage rather than complete control, cost \$1.50 and \$3.67 for materials. Both are recommended to be used before January 1.

Another unscheduled stop was a visit at the Henry Peterson and Sons feedlot in the South Lone area. This efficient little

feedlot has been an excellent outlet for the Petersons to market their barley during the past three years it has been in operation. They have their own feed grinder and batch mixer, using their home grown grains. Yearlings had been on feed for 150 days, the steers making better than a 3 lb. daily gain, the heifers close to 4 lbs. Most would make choice grade and were ready to go on the Portland market. Bob Peterson told the group that gains were being put on for 13c a lb., feed cost. An excellent seeding of alfalfa and Nordan crested wheatgrass was seen at this stop also.

Newly established strip cropping on the Marion Palmer ranch; completion of several erosion control dams and diversions at the Elmer Palmer ranch; and excellent crested wheat and Larak alfalfa on soil bank seeding at the Alfred Anderson ranch were observed as the group proceeded to a stop at a wheat nursery at the Frank Anderson ranch. Everyone was interested in comparing rust resistance of the 11 varieties on the plot. Golden showed very little rust infection with Itana, Omar, Gaines and two wheat crosses showing very heavy infection.

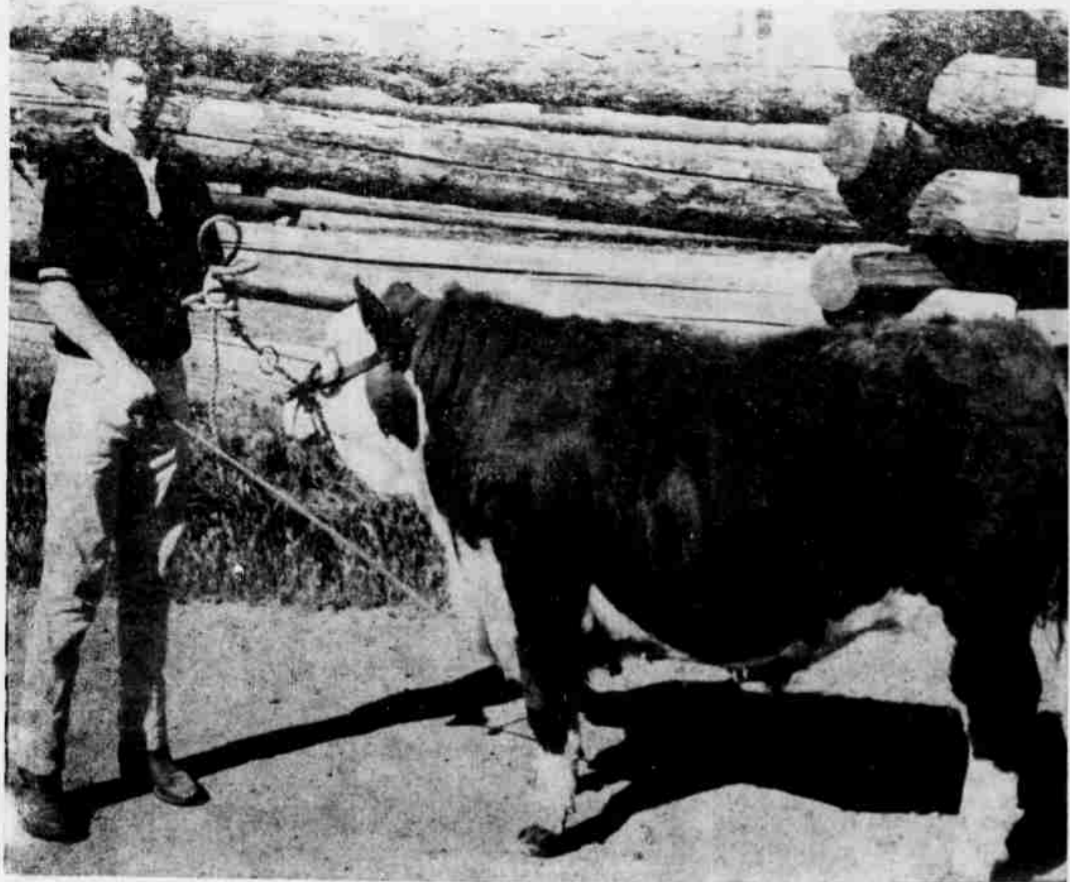
The group also compared eight varieties of barley in the plot as well as a seeding of Olympia and Hudson in a field adjacent to the nursery. Little difference was noted in the barley varieties, with the exception that Alpine was considerably less advanced than the others and might as a result be hurt by hot dry weather. Everyone was impressed with the excellent barley crop in prospect for the county. Also pointed out and discussed was a fertilizer plot on the Anderson ranch where 64 plots comparing phosphorus, sulphur and nitrogen alone, and nitrogen, phosphorus and sulfur in various combinations.

## Pasture Tour is Planned

Last week we commented on a grazing alfalfa and range im-

provement tour that range management specialist, Dillard Gates and I had taken the week prior to that. On this tour we had the opportunity of seeing some excellent spring developments made by Eb Hughes. Anyone interested in developing springs should see Ebs' plan. He uses a concrete reservoir with tile and pipe to collect the water from the "springy" area where it is then piped to his tanks.

We will have an opportunity to see his developments at the Range and Pasture Tour being scheduled to be held in the Ukiah area on Sunday, June 30. Sponsored by the Range and Pasture Improvement Committee of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association it will be cooperative with Umatilla County Livestock Growers also. The tour will assemble at Ukiah at 10:00 a.m. that morning for a tour of the area with a picnic lunch at noon at the Eb Hughes Ukiah ranch headquarters. Watch for official announcement and the agenda of the tour.



DALE VAN BLOKLAND of Ruggs is pictured with his 900 lb. Hereford steer that he is showing this week at the Junior Livestock show, The Dalles. He will use the steer in showmanship competition, after which it will be sold Saturday afternoon at the sale. Local buyers are encouraged to take part to support 4-H members. (G-T Photo)

## Top 4-H Stock From Morrow Entered in Show

Excellent quality 4-H livestock is being exhibited at the Junior Livestock Show in The Dalles this week. The show is sponsored by the Oregon Wheat Growers League and runs June 5-8, according to Joe Hay, Morrow county extension agent. Club members of Morrow county are exhibiting 11 lambs,

## FFA Boys Take Part In The Dalles Show

Ten members of the Heppner High chapter, Future Farmers of America, are participating in the Junior Livestock show at The Dalles this week. Gerald Jonasson, vocational agriculture teacher said. They are as follows: Seniors—Bill Struthers, Bob Hager, Larry Monagle, Junior—Kenny Wright, Sophomores—John Wagenblast, Tony Doherty, Larry Heath, Dennis Warren, Greg Pierce, Freshman—Dick Flaiz. The group left Wednesday and will return Saturday.

six hogs and eight steers. Those exhibiting lambs are Bobbie Harris, David Hall, David and Douglas Anderson, Stephen Lindstrom, Tony, Maureen,



BOB HARRIS of Upper Rhea Creek holds the well-blocked Suffolk market lamb that he is showing this week at the Junior Livestock Show at The Dalles. Harris will enter the lamb in showmanship competition after which the 95-lb. animal will be sold Saturday afternoon. (G-T Photo)

Nancy and Becky Doherty. Hog exhibitors are Mitchell Ashbeck, David and Douglas Anderson. Those exhibiting steers are Roland Ekstrom, Terry and Sue Greenup, Maureen Doherty, Dale Van Blokland and Mitchell Ashbeck.

These club members are competing for prizes in the livestock judging contest, showmanship contest, herdsmanship con-

test and for prizes on their animals. For their efforts at the show, exhibitors will be honored with a banquet and entertainment Friday evening, June 7.

A special carcass show demonstration and evaluation will be conducted Saturday morning, June 8, from 10:00 to noon. This year's carcass show includes a class of beef and sheep. The public is invited to view the

carcasses and hear the evaluation.

The grand champion showmanship contest will follow the carcass show at 12:00 noon. This should be an interesting contest to watch, and is one of the highlights of the show, Hay said.

All livestock exhibited at the show will be sold at auction Saturday afternoon and evening. Sheep and hogs will be sold at 2:00 o'clock and the beef sale starts at 7:00 P. M.

"Morrow county residents, businessmen and organizations are encouraged to help support the auction sale," Hay said. "Some top quality locker meat will be on sale."



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