

FARM NEWS

State Committee Hears Swanson on Conservation

By N. C. ANDERSON

Members of the State Selection Committee, Conservation Man of the Year, were much interested in the conservation practices of Gar Swanson, lone, the title of county winner. Gar in his genial manner explained to the farmer committeemen from each of the Columbia Basin counties, representatives from OSU Extension and Agricultural Experiment Stations, his farm operations from beginning to end.

They were impressed with the way his strip cropping breaks up the water erosion pattern from cloud bursts that most every year frequent the area in his south lone operation and thought the six silt retaining dams he had built to keep all the soil from these cloud bursts on his farm were doing an excellent job.

They liked the neatness of his grain storage tanks and the crested wheat grass seedlings around them which holds down the dust. They were quite interested in the small field of Gaines that yielded 73 bushels per acre for Gar at his north lone ranch. This seeding of Gaines wheat made on triple summer fallow, compared with his single fallow wheat which averaged 44 bushels this year.

The cold drink and a piece of cake, enjoyed by the committee at his home after the tour on the hot afternoon of last week was not intended to influence the judges, (said Mrs. Swanson).

Experiment Station Works On Foot Rot Inoculation

Several farmers stop by the office each day to visit about the farm program, their farm operations, and what the general attitude is of their neighbors toward seeding less Omar wheat this year. There are some communities which have made definite plans to seed no, or very little Omar. This is especially true in the Heppner Flat, Clark's Canyon, Social Ridge areas.

Gaines seems to be the big

variety with some Brevor and a little more Golden going in. Every once in a while we are surprised when ranchers who had excellent yields of Omar this year decide to substitute Gaines for the entire '64 harvest. This is quite interesting, especially in the areas where yields are in the high 30's to 45 bushels. Of course there is always the threat of striped leaf rust and this does not affect a person's thinking. For those who are going strong to Gaines, we hope there doesn't develop a heavy infection of foot rot, which of course is also a weakness of Omar.

At the Lind Dryland Experiment Station in Washington this year, when five popular varieties were inoculated with foot rot, Burt had a 50% loss, Rio, 48%, Itana, 46%, Omar, 36%, and Gain 33%. It was interesting to note that Selection 101, which has been getting such a big buildup in some of our farm papers recently, was one of the most susceptible selections and yielded about 1/2 as much as Gaines at Pullman. Selection 101 is short strawed, about the height as Gaines, but evidently has less tolerance or ability to produce when foot rot attacks it than does Gaines.

Also an experiment at the Lind station showed the effect of inoculating wheat with foot rot organism when nitrogen was applied by shanks to wheat in the spring. Skew treading also spread the organism.

The 1963 work found that: 1. There was a definite varietal difference, with Omar and Gaines being the best. 2. Nitrogen fertilizer did not increase the foot rot. 3. Fall application of nitrogen is best for wheat production and lessened the danger of foot rot. 4. Spring "shanking in" caused damage on the fields infested with the foot rot. 5. No chemicals are recommended for foot rot control at the present time.

Coming Wheat Prices Still Under Speculation

There has been a lot of speculation over what the price of wheat would be next harvest time if we do not get a new wheat program. Many farmers would like to have this answer now. Recently we did some speculating on this with Marion Thomas and other economists from the OSU Department of Agricultural Economics. A few days after that we received our copy of the weekly report from Washington published by the National Association of Wheat Growers.

Executive vice president Ken Kendrick worked up the prices for a number of places over the country using the Futures market of September 5 for July 1964 wheat in Kansas City. The price closed at \$1.58. Converting this to Pendleton, the indicated farm price would be \$1.34. This is the farm price so if you used commercial storage you would need to subtract another 10c per bushel to get your net.

Maybe the recent foreign wheat sales will make this a little stronger, alleviate the surplus of little so that this will answer next year. We don't predict that it will influence any additional over-seeding of allotments, reducing the wheat base by 8%.

Farmers Urged to Attend Meeting With Sec. Freeman

He would like to remind everyone of the Report and Review meeting with Agricultural Secretary Orville L. Freeman, scheduled for Thursday, October 10 in Walla Walla. The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Exposition building at the Walla Walla fairgrounds and will be geared toward "dirt farmer" participation with plenty of time provided for question and answer periods and farmers advise and recommendations encouraged.

Suggestions on Eliminating Rural Fire Hazards Given

While it is still hot and dry, we have gotten by this summer in pretty good shape as far as rural fires are concerned. But the threat of fire is always there. Here are a few suggestions for doing away with these hazards:

1. Clean up in and around the house, farm buildings and fuel storage facilities. This involves removing fire hazards from attics, closets, storage rooms, shops, garages, and other locations likely to accumulate such hazards. Keep dry grass and weeds away from fuel tanks and out-buildings. Clean up debris around these structures. Sterilize soil around these areas with a suitable soil sterilant. Atrazine 4 lbs. and Amitrol 2 lbs. product applied in 100 gallons of water does a good job.
2. Firefighting equipment such as shovel, rake, water bucket and axe should be kept at strategic locations around the farmstead or in trucks or pickups. Be sure they are in useable con-

Blettel is Reelected Head of Farm Bureau

Morrow County Farm Bureau resumed fall meetings Tuesday, September 24, when members met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Blettel.

Officers for the coming year were elected. Reelected as president of the group was Herman Blettel; Irving Rauch, first vice-president; Gene Majeske, second vice-president; Larry Lindsay, voting delegate, and Don Heliker, field crops representative. A secretary is yet to be chosen.

dition. Place fire extinguishers in farm buildings, homes and vehicles.

Be sure enough hose is available to reach from a tap to the far side of any farm building.

4. Firebreaks or plowed fire lines should be prepared between range or forest land and the farmstead.

5. Report all fires promptly. Be sure every family member knows how to report a fire and whom to call. When reporting a fire give explicit directions to the area, give your name and address.

Seeding by Airplane Broadcasting Uneffective

From time to time we have had questions on the value of compressed earthen or other types to coated seed pellets for range seeding. It was interesting to review a publication compiled by the Agricultural Research Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management made with seed pellets in Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, and Utah, using quite a variety of various grass seeds in the pelleted form.

In the summary and conclusions the statement was made that sums up quite well my experience with this type of seed. The summary stated: "In all the studies conducted to date there is no known account on Western range lands of a single successful stand produced by airplane broadcasting of either compressed earthen or coated seed pellets."

Mr. and Mrs. David Eckman and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Jim McClelland, Colfax, Wn., Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Gray and daughter left this week to make their home in Portland during the school year. Ron is attending Multnomah college.

Chats From Your Home Agent

4-H Staff Family Visits II IFYE on Europe Tour

By ESTHER KIRMISS

Cal Monroe of our State 4-H Extension staff, Corvallis, has really seen Europe this summer as one should see it. He and his family had the opportunity of visiting 11 IFYE (International Farm Youth Exchanges) in eight European countries who had visited Oregon in the past ten years.

Of special interest to us in Morrow county his visit with Marie-Victoire von Rosengen in her home town of Colmarberg, Luxembourg, Marie was an IFYE guest with the Fredrick Martin family of lone in 1961.

Quoting from Monroe he says . . .

"We had planned to visit Marie in August on the day of the celebration of Luxembourg's 100th anniversary. Marie, however, is governess and nurse to the Prince baby, grandson of the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, and was asked to accompany the baby and his family to Switzerland for the entire month of August. So we changed our visit to July.

"Even then it was necessary for Marie to spend her nights with the Prince, as the entire family was out of the country, leaving complete responsibility for him in her hands.

"We spent two nights with Marie's parents and brother on her home farm about 20 miles north of Luxembourg City. They have a large farm, all in one piece, (very uncommon for this area) and are progressive farmers.

"Marie spent practically an entire day with us touring most of Luxembourg. We saw her country more thoroughly than any other country. She also took us to the home of her fiance, where we met him and his parents. They plan to be married next spring. His family has a dairy and good-sized farm with excellent old buildings. They will live with his parents."

Most IFYE's Have Returned To Their Home Area

In his thumbnail sketches, the State 4-H agent has noted that most of the IFYE's that had visited Oregon have returned to their home area, or at least to a nearby area.

"They are in positions of leadership and responsibility, not only in agriculture, but in other areas of endeavor," says Cal. "They are respected citizens."

"The same can be said for the Oregon IFYE delegates who represented us, he continues, with the exception of relatively few, they remain in their own community. Their sphere of influ-

ence may be even enlarged by their reaching into new communities.

Countries Touched

Eight countries were touched by the Monroes in this "IFYE Travel." They included England, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and Scotland.

Host Families are Needed In Morrow County

Each year the State 4-H club office urges us to secure host families for the six foreign students that come to Oregon. We haven't had one in Morrow county since 1961 when the Keith Rea's and Fredrick Martins, lone, entertained an IFYE in their home. We think it's about time we had another visitor.

If you're interested, contact the County Agent's office for an application blank.

Dean Wilmer, an Oregon IFYE who is visiting now in Northern Ireland, will be in the county three days in January. Make a point to hear him.

Dates Chosen For Achievement Nights in County

North and South Morrow 4-H leaders have scheduled achievement parties for Saturday evening, October 26 and Friday evening, November 8, respectively, announces Joe Hay, county extension agent.

The dates were picked at recent meetings of the North and South Morrow Achievement Party committees. Members of the North Morrow Achievement Party committee are Mrs. Harold Van Horn, chairman; Mrs. Chester Wilson, Mrs. Ival Sullivan, Mrs. Helen Franke and Mrs. George Sawyer, all of Irrigon. Working on the South Morrow Achievement Party committee are: Mrs. Louis Carlson, lone, chairman; Mrs. Gene Cutsforth, Lexington; Mrs. N. C. Anderson, Heppner, and Mrs. George Luciani, Pine City.

The North Morrow Achievement Party is scheduled to be held in the new Irrigon school cafeteria. It will get underway at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck supper. The program will include entertainment and presentation of 4-H pins and special awards and will start at 7:30. The South Morrow Achie-

Co-op Biddies Resume Meetings on Monday

An important meeting of the Lexington Co-op Biddies is called for Monday, October 7, at the Lexington City Hall at 1:30 p.m., with all members urged to be present. Among important matters to be considered is the outlining of the year's schedule of events.

Those serving on the refreshment committee are Mrs. Ola Ruggles, Mrs. Edna Peck and Mrs. Frieda Majeske. Program committee consists of Mrs. Edna Turner, Mrs. Florence McMillan and Mrs. Fay Ferguson, all of Heppner.

ment Party will feature many changes from past achievement parties. The committee has planned a short awards program, followed by carnival type games, dancing, and movies. "This should be a much more enjoyable, informal and relaxed achievement party," Hay stated. Refreshments will be served while the games, dancing and movies are in progress. The event will be held at the new Heppner High school cafeteria-multipurpose room starting at 7:30 p.m.

Ruth Peterson, Portland, spent last week with her mother, Mrs. Lucy Peterson. She was on vacation from her job in Portland.

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Like Paul Revere, these local electric systems are only part-time soldiers. Besides helping defense outposts scan the roof of the world with sleepless radar "eyes," they have a regular job.

Rural electrics now serve faraway dots on the map around Kotzebue, Anchorage, and Kodiak. Twelve widely-scattered cooperatives are the only source of power and light for 87 per cent of all farms in Alaska . . . bring big-city conveniences to over 100,000 consumers in the land of the midnight sun.

These arctic counterparts of electric cooperatives in older states help to speed the growth of this new frontier. As power suppliers to part of the vast defense system that encircles our country, rural electrics help give all Americans added security and peace of mind.



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Chemical fallow with Atrazine gives outstanding Cheatgrass control

The practice of chemical fallow promises to take another important step forward with the introduction of new Atrazine herbicide into the program. Even under this year's conditions . . . which experts have been calling "one of the worst situations we can remember" . . . control of Cheatgrass and other weeds was outstanding with chemical fallow based on Atrazine.

A single spray of 1/2 lb. of Atrazine 80W per acre (plus a contact herbicide such as Amitrole), applied to emerged weeds in early winter, generally eliminated the necessity for tillage until late April or May.

Multiple benefits

The primary benefit of this program is to keep Cheat and other grasses and weeds under control (and Cheat that's controlled can't produce seeds for next year). In addition, moisture and soil nutrient losses are held to a minimum and soil erosion . . . by both wind and water . . . is reduced because the stubble mulch has not been destroyed. All this plus a real saving in labor.

For 1963-64

This is the year to try Atrazine on a trial basis. Treat one of your smaller fields with the combination of 1/2 lb. of Atrazine 80W per acre plus the

locally recommended amount of a contact herbicide. Prepare to be amazed at the fine control of Cheat next spring . . . without having touched a weeder!

Spray with ground equipment any time after weeds emerge up to January 1st. Be careful about overlap, however, since a double or triple dose of Atrazine could adversely affect next year's stand of wheat. And, don't treat shallow or very sandy soils. (If you're on two-year fallow, the rate of Atrazine 80W is 2 lbs. per acre.)

Readily available

Atrazine is readily available in 5-lb. bag sizes. Chemical fallow with Atrazine can help you get more production per acre . . . and do it for less money.

Geigy Agricultural Chemicals, Division of Geigy Chemical Corporation, Saw Mill River Road, Ardsley, N. Y.

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