

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Plans Underway For School Session

By N. C. ANDERSON

Foremost in the minds of many of our eligible 4-H club members is 4-H Summer School. While it is several weeks away, applications are now being reviewed by a committee of leaders and parents while another committee is busy gathering the scholarships which are needed to pay the expenses of 27 boys and girls who will represent Morrow county. These 27 boys and girls, selected on the basis of being 13 years or older, having completed at least two years of 4-H club work and all projects enrolled in during 1963 as well as overall participation in club activities, will participate in a week of fun and learning at Oregon State University. The dates are June 15-20.

The scholarship committee, chairman, Mrs. Bernard Doherty, with Gene Pierce, Heppner, Mrs. John Ledbetter, Lexington, and Pete Cannon, Ione, as members are gathering scholarships as needed. Scholarships are \$25.00.

First scholarships to be turned in to the 4-H club council treasury were from the First National Bank, Heppner Branch, Sorop-timist club of Heppner, Heppner Auto Sales, Phil's Pharmacy, Humphreys Rexall Drug and J. C. Penney. Many others have indicated their interest in providing scholarships but have not yet sent in their check.

Within the next few days members of the Summer School selection committee, Bill Collins, Mrs. Marcel Jones, Mrs. Everett Harshman, and Herb Ekstrom Jr., will have selected 27 outstanding boys and girls who will represent Morrow county at this annual event.

Hay Moisture Meter Developed

The farmer who has been twisting, smelling, rattling or even scratching his hay to determine its moisture content may soon have the help of a fast and accurate moisture meter to do the job for him. The instrument is portable and can be used in the field with no special preparation and provides a moisture content reading within two or three minutes. It was developed by Agricultural Marketing Service Researchers of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture with the cooperation of the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station. Knowing the moisture content of forage crops has always been important to farmers. Hay harvested with too much moisture tends to pack, causing heat and mold damage while hay that is too dry tends to shatter its leaves and become brittle, discolored and dusty.

In the instrument developed, the hay sample is to be tested is placed in a cylindrical holder and the holder is placed under the compression electrode. A hydraulic jack then exerts the pressure of 600 pounds per square inch on the hay sample, a meter is adjusted and the moisture content noted.

Scales of Great Importance

Over the years livestock growers have found it almost impossible to get along without a set of scales. Scales have become more necessary as a ranch tool, as the farm operation became more highly competitive as a business enterprise. Successful ranchers found that guessing was not good enough if they were to succeed in their business. A number of livestock growers are keeping detailed records of rate of gain and must therefore weigh at periodic intervals to have comparative weight data. We can remember when it was almost impossible to find a set of scales on a Morrow county ranch, now the trend has turned so that there are dozens of them with various capacities. Newest rancher we know of to purchase scales is W. W. Weatherford, Heppner, who last week bought a set of print beam 15 ton scales to install as a part of his newly built set of corrals. Incidentally, the corrals look good with plenty of capacity for handling many groups of cattle in sorting and working as well as a real good loading chute.

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WE FEATURE

FRANKLIN VACCINES and SUPPLIES

HUMPHREYS REXALL DRUG

Last week I commented on the excellent rate of gain in late December and early January lambs at the Kenneth Smouse ranch. Since then, several have told me that their lambs were doing exceptionally well this spring. Since there are a number of small flocks in the county, these owners should be reminded that the time is approaching when some of these lambs will reach market weight and condition. These lambs will appear in limited numbers to start with. However, they should be sorted out and sold as soon as they weigh from 85 to 90 pounds and will grade as choice. After these lambs became choice and are allowed to slip, it is most difficult to make slaughter lambs of them without going through the feedlot. While it might be a nuisance to cut out a few at a time, it is money in the pocket.

Japanese Wheat Trade Helps Make Record Year

The Tokyo, Japan, office of Wheat Associates reports that U. S. held a top position in 1963—the largest wheat sales in the history of the U. S. Japan wheat trade went into the record books on March 31, the end of the Japanese fiscal year. A total of 62,766,065 bushels of U. S. wheat were purchased by the Food Agency during the past 12 months. These purchases, for dollars, surpass by more than 400,000 tons, the record Public Law 480 year of 1956. It also marks the first time since 1957 that U. S. sales have exceeded Canada.

Compared with 1962, sales in the Japanese fiscal year 1963 were up 82.5% and represent an increased cash value of \$54 million to over \$95 million. Who says that organized combined efforts of Wheat Associates, U.S.D.A. officials and Wheat Growers Associations cannot influence foreign trade? Much credit needs to be given to the Oregon Wheat Growers League who pioneered the first foreign market projects for wheat.

Wool Pools Boost Price

Wool sales reported in Oregon this past week included the Lane-Benton pool at around 26,000 pounds at 67.76c a pound, grease basis, for July deliver. The Lakeview pool of around 48,000 pounds of highly mixed wool sold for a fraction over 62c greased basis for early June and early July delivery. This is 12c more than last year. Wool pools throughout the county are selling at this higher rate this year which will be a real needed boost for the sheep man.

Research Fights Foot Rot

The Oregon Wheat Commission meeting in Moro on April 15 inaugurated a three-year research grant to Oregon State University for basic research in foot rot of wheat. The work will be confined to research on Columbia Basin straw breaker which is now known as foot rot. The research program is being set up so that it will in no way duplicate research being carried out by the states of Washington and Idaho who too are concerned with the micro-biological aspects of this disease.

Morrow county ranchers, while

not suffering near the degree of infection as some other Columbia Basin counties last year, it is estimated lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in reduced wheat yields from foot rot. In addition to this research grant being provided by the Oregon Wheat Commission, the commission will budget \$7,000 to OSU for new variety research and \$500 to continue the protein survey.

Poultry Products Show Highest in Price Decline

While we have known this all along, many people will be interested in an article published in the April 20 issue of the U. S. News and World Report which deals with the Congressional investigation ordered by President Johnson on farm and consumer prices. Comparison was made of farm prices and consumer prices in 1953 compared with 1963. All farm prices have declined in 1963 compared with 1953. The outstanding example is the price of poultry products that has declined 34.7%. Others, all minuses, are bread and other wheat products, 2.2%; milk and other dairy products, 5.2%; meat products, 15.2%; shortening and other fats, 25%; and all food products, 5.3%. On the other hand, while consumers have blamed farmers for high price of foods, it is interesting to see that with the decreased prices received by farmers, consumers were paying 21.8% more for bread and other wheat products, 7.3% more for milk and other dairy products, 5.8% more for meat, 1.3% more for shortening and 9.7% more for all food products.

The only item that there was a decrease in was in poultry which was a 25.3%. This, of course, reflects a highly efficient enterprise that of poultry and egg production. This industry has adjusted with modern equipment until now the family flock ranges from 10 to 20,000 layers. Twenty years ago the standard recommendation for commercial flock was 2,000 layers. Those who are interested will enjoy studying further these comparisons in the April 20 issue of the U. S. News and World Report.

KINZUA NEWS

The Doubledeck club journeyed to Fossil Wednesday to have their card session with Helen Wright at her home. High was won by Shirley Williamson, and low by Virginia Kelso. Floating was won by Virginia Kelso and Marge Boring. Grand high went to Vonnie Browning and grand low to Evelyn Smith. Others enjoying this evening were Marilyn Bailey, Virginia Sittin, Bonnie Campbell, Vi Slinkard, LaVina Conner and Kathryn Slack.

Miss Eulalia Spoor left Wednesday for Portland after spending several days here. She was guest of honor last Sunday at a pot luck dinner at the church and will return in June to help with the Vacation Bible School.

Boardman News

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Allen were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Lehman in West Linn. They also attended the Portland Garden Show at the Coliseum.

Mr. and Mrs. Lefe Smith of Pendleton were Sunday visitors at the home of Mrs. Smith's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marlow.

Charles Nickerson went to Portland last week to visit at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Esther Knight.

Money receipt books in duplicate and triplicate are on sale at the Gazette-Times.

Chats With Your Home Agent

Spring Months Bring Busy Time

By ESTHER KIRMIS

Better dresses, lighting, money, laundry clinic, judging and demonstrations, and parent's night, have all come in for their share of time this past week. It seems like we want to do all these things before school lets out. Hence the flurry of activities.

Workshop Closes April 20

Mrs. Beulah Hynd, clothing workshop leader, has taken 10 women through a Better Dress Workshop at the Lexington school the past five Mondays. Wools and blends have been made up into some lovely costumes. Completing the course are Mrs. Andy Van Scholack, Mrs. Gene Ferguson, Mrs. Ralph Beamer, and Mrs. Jerry M. Dougherty of Heppner; Mrs. Louis Carlson, Mrs. Gary Tullis, Mrs. Howard Crowell, Mrs. L. A. McCabe, Mrs. Paul Tews, and Mrs. Donald Peterson of Ione.

These women and students of Mrs. Roland Bergstrom's Dress-making I class will be asked to display their garments at the Homemakers Festival on May 13 at Ione.

We don't know who was more embarrassed the other day when Hillard Brown, elementary school principal, opened the door to the dressmaking room and found the women in various stages of undress! He was only going to invite them to hear Mrs. Goshen's grade school chorus sing.

Lighting Series is Popular

We are still visiting units on "Don't Be in The Dark About Lighting." Mrs. Riley Munkers, Heppner, was hostess to the Heppner Unit on April 14, and the Soroptimist of Heppner invited us to give the lesson at their meeting of April 16; we have some good bulletins on lighting in the office, if you'd like one.

Irrigon Has Activities

We practically lived in Irrigon last week. The North Morrow 4-H Leaders council met on April 14 to discuss its quota of 4-H Summer School applicants this June and how to obtain \$25 scholarships for each one.

Around 45 4-Hers learned that good money management involved three things—at the Irrigon Community 4-H club on April 16. (1.) Know what you have to use, (2.) Planning what you want it to do for you, and (3.) Seeing that it does.

Assisting us in the money discussion were Mrs. Lewis Shade, Mrs. Max Jones and Mrs. Andrew Skiles.

"Marie Demonstrates the 4-H Way" was a film shown to 4-H leaders of both south and north Morrow on April 16 and 17. Pointers on demonstration and 4-H judging were discussed.

Laundry Clinic at Boardman

By the time you read this the Laundry Clinic at Riverside high school will be a happy memory. But this past week we really "covered the waterfront" in Boardman advertising the clinic.

We gave out handbills to all the school children and high school students to take home, visited all the trailers in McKenzie and Baker Trailer courts, and posted large advertisements in all the business places of the town. But how the wind and dust blew that day!

Researchers Study Fatal Calf Disease

Researchers studying the disease entity that has been killing young calves in Eastern Oregon are now preparing autogenous bacterins for inoculations they hope will give calves some protection against the disease or diseases.

Dr. Glenn B. Rea, state veterinarian, Oregon Department of Agriculture, said the killed bacteria from infected animals in a herd with the disease will be suspended in a solution for inoculations.

Purpose of the inoculations for the animals is the stimulation of body defenses against the organism that is thought to be responsible for deaths of the calves.

Rea said coliform organisms had been found in some of the animals and are part of the problem, but that there are indication other elements are involved.

Units to Study Salad Pointers

A toga'd citizen of early Rome tossed salt on some lettuce one day and made it more palatable, and the dish we know as salad came into being, informs Esther Kirmis, Morrow county extension agent.

Since then the French, the Italians, the Spanish, and the Swedes have enjoyed salads. Servicemen of World War I brought the idea to America and we have been enjoying salads of every description ever since, she adds.

Knowing that salads can add variety, color, and nutrition to meals, the members of the Extension units have scheduled, "Adventures in Salads," as the lesson for their May meeting, notes the agent.

Training meetings will be given to project leaders on the nutritive values, different salad greens, care of greens and vegetables, salad dressings, and attractive displays of salad on April 29 at the Mrs. Harold Walker home in Boardman and April 30 at the Heppner Fair Annex. Both meetings begin at 10:30 a.m.

In turn, these project leaders have scheduled meetings for their friends, to give them pointers on salads:

May 6—Rhea Creek Grange hall, Heppner; Mrs. Robert Bergstrom and Mrs. Albrekt Wright, leaders.

May 6—Mrs. Burl Wattenburger's home, Pine City; Mrs. Burl Wattenburger and Mrs. Jasper Myers, leaders.

May 7—Mrs. Leland McKinney's home, Ione; Mrs. James Lindsay and Mrs. Leland McKinney, leaders.

May 7—Old Irrigon school, Irrigon; Mrs. Eva Anderson and Mrs. A. B. Latrell, leaders.

May 12—Mrs. Ray Drake's home, Heppner; Mrs. Claudine Warren and Mrs. Gene Ferguson, leaders.

May 19—Mrs. Walter Haye's home, Boardman; Mrs. Walter Haye and Mrs. Harold Walker, leaders.

All meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. Interested women are welcome, invites Miss Kirmis.

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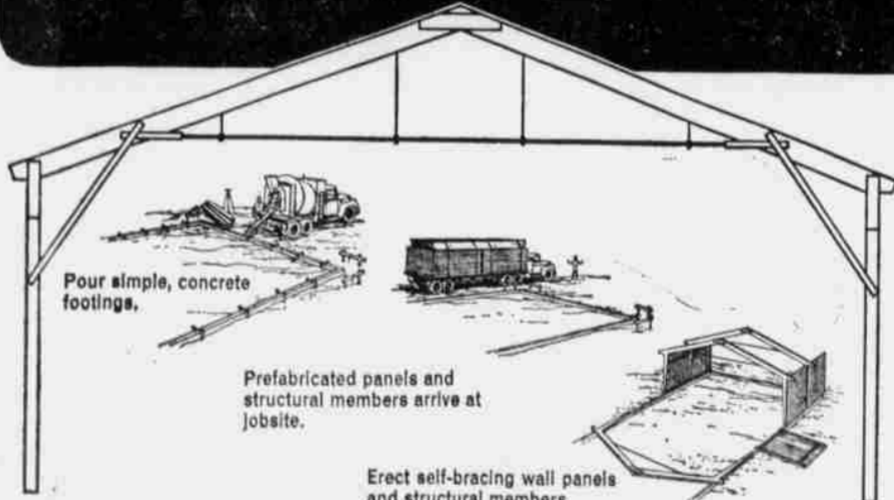
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