



FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Half Of Samples Collected For Wheat Protein Survey

By N. C. ANDERSON

Almost one-half of the samples of wheat that will be representative of soil, type, climate and other growing conditions, have been picked up for the protein survey now underway. This is the second year of this survey to determine the effect of various growing conditions on wheat protein.

The project, initiated last year with the Oregon Wheat Commission and Oregon State University cooperating, provided many of the answers which are needed to continue with a strong foreign wheat marketing program. The Oregon State University, through its county agents, have agreed to gather the samples with the Oregon Wheat Commission paying for the cost of the protein analysis.

My samples to date have been picked up at the north Lexington, Lexington and Ruggs elevators of the Morrow County Grain Growers. One and one-half pound samples will be collected from the Heppner, Jordon and Ione elevators as harvest progresses. We will have a good cross section of protein here with 84 samples to be taken.

Soon Morrow county ranchers will be receiving a letter asking for further information which is needed to correlate protein results with some growing conditions. The date of seeding, amount of nitrogen used and approximate yield will be gathered as a part of the survey. This is a project of all of the major states.

Ranchers Have Mixed Emotions On Wheat and Barley Yields

Talking about wheat, we are finding mixed emotions as far as yields are concerned as harvest progresses. Yields are dependent entirely upon the amount of rainfall which fell in each of the communities. As everyone knows, the early June thunder storms were spotted and this is showing up in harvest.

While some of the area in the north Lexington community where wheat harvest is practically finished, has yields as much as 30 bushels an acre, some has gone under 20. This can be traced to rainfall, completely. It appears now that our estimate of early June of the county average of 25 bushels of wheat and 1500 pounds of bar-

ley per acre might be, in the case of wheat, a little high, and in the case of barley a little low. Even the poorest barley producing areas are reporting the best barley crop this year. Many that have completed barley harvest in the north end are approaching a ton per acre of the highest test weight barley they have harvested in their farming experience.

Hudson barley has generally been the highest yielder with the highest test weight, although there are some scattered reports that Hudson has not done too well for a particular grower.

Much interest has been shown by some ranchers in the north Lexington area in Unitan, a spring barley grown in that area in the past two years. It has done exceptionally well for Max Barclay over the two years that he has grown it. Max thinks that it is more winter hardy than Flynn, though it is strictly a spring variety, he has gotten by with seeding it in the fall. This year his yield was 2200 pounds, with a test weight of 50 pounds. Max says it doesn't grow as fast as Flynn, but his experience has been that it has been a higher test weight barley and has, for him at least, yielded a little more.

Paul and Marcel Jones report 1899 pounds of 50-pound Hudson in the south Heppner area. This is real good considering some of the low yields of barley that have been harvested in this area which is not the best barley land in the county. There are some real good looking crops of both barley and wheat in the higher elevations yet to be harvested. It will be interesting to see how far we missed the 25 bushel wheat as an average county yield.

New Wheat Standards Give Growers Concern

Considerable concern, and rightly so, is being shown in wheat grades with some excellent test weight and clean wheat grading down 2 or 3 grades as a result of the changing of tolerances in "wheat of contrasting classes" of the new grain standards. It appears that there might be some relief given from this soon if it is proven that kernels of grain in the samples are not contrasting classes but our "off-type" kernels of the variety being grown.

Burt has been the big offender to date in Morrow county. Forty-Fold is giving much trouble in areas where it is largely grown. Norm Goetze, Farm Crops Specialist, Oregon State University, is working with county agents in the Columbia Basin threshing out various varieties showing typical varietal characteristics to determine the problem. Only 1 kernel of Red Wheat in 200 of soft white is allowed without making a change in grade. This seems to be the only change in the new standards that is giving any significant trouble to date in "holding grade."

Ranchers To Participate In Northwest Tour Polled Hereford breeders and

Polled Hereford Tour to Include Morrow Ranches

The Northwest Polled Hereford Tour will be conducted from July 30 through August 2. This tour starts at La Grande with a cowboy breakfast at the Hibbard Ranch at Imbler. From there most of the polled herds in the Northwest will be visited, ending at the Carnation Farms at Carnation, Wn.

Morrow county will be hosts on August 1, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Leo Barnett Ranch at Boardman. From there, the tour will proceed to the Kirk and Robinson Ranch at 11:00 a.m. After stopping over for lunch in Heppner, the next stop is the Herbert Ekstrom and Sons Ranch at Ione at 1:30. Everyone is invited to come to these ranches where purebred polled Hereford herds will be shown.

This tour is co-sponsored by the American Polled Hereford Association and the Stockman's Weekly Magazine, and will be directed by Bob Neumeier and Bob Teale, tour directors.

Among ranches to be visited on the first two days will be the E. J. Snyder Polled Hereford ranch, Enterprise; the Fleet Polled Hereford ranch, La Grande; Webb Polled Hereford Ranch, Graydon Storey Polled Hereford ranch, Cul de Sac, Ida.; C. C. and James Wolf ranch, Pomeroy, Wn.; and Tompkins Lightning T ranch, Walla Walla. Overnight stops will be made at the Lewis and Clark Hotel, Lewiston, and Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla.

After leaving Morrow county, the tour will go to the Stanley Crocker ranch, Centerville, Wn., and Walter Brailotte Polled Hereford ranch, Moxee, Wn.

The group will attend the Carnation Farms sale at Carnation.

persons interested in the breed will make stops in Morrow county as part of the Pacific Northwest tour now underway. Stops are scheduled at the Leo Barnett, Kirk and Robinson and Herbert Ekstrom ranches on Saturday, August 1. The tour which started last week in Union county, Idaho and Washington and will arrive Saturday morning, August 1, at the Barnett ranch in Condon. Their stops include one at the Kirk and Robinson ranch at 11:00 a.m., their next stop at the Ekstrom ranch at 1:30. They go from here to the Stanley Crocker ranch at Golden-dale and on to Carnation Farms where they end the tour with a polled sale.

Vernal Leads Alfalfa Experiment

Alfalfa variety trials grown under flood irrigation at the Umatilla Branch Experiment station in Hermiston were harvested recently. Results of the trials, in their third year, was—Vernal at 3.53 tons per acre as the leading variety; Hynd Brothers Willow Creek Common yielded 3.49, with this being so close to Vernal that it could not be determined as a significant difference.

Vernal and the Willow Creek Common were the leaders in the harvest doing 15% better than Ranger and Lahontan. Many of our growers have dropped Ranger in the past few years for Vernal or Lahontan. Some have also grown Oestan.

Frozen Beef Doubles in Year

Holdings of frozen beef in U. S. cold storage lockers of July 1, at nearly 270 million pounds were half again larger than a year earlier and more than double average for that date. Carrying Capacity Compared In Recreation Farming

Number of animals per acre still applies but with recreation farming, it's people per acre. An article in the July issue of a conservation magazine says an acre of beach will accommodate about 400 swimmers. As for boating, several row boats can be used on an acre of water; but for power boats and water skiing, the limit is about 1 boat per 5 acres of water.

While what's carried is different, the basic conservation concept of carrying a capacity in saturation point still applies. I sometimes wonder if the carrying capacity in hunters in the mountains during deer season might be a little high? Evidently the crop being harvested is evasive enough so that carrying capacity is still adequate!

Study Shows Grain Feeding Helps Prevent Fever

Dairy scientists at the University of Illinois boosted grain feeding of cows three weeks before calving and prevented milk fever. Using six cows with previous histories of milk fever, they boosted grain feeding from the usual 0.5% of the body weight to 1% of the body weight. Blood serum calcium levels of the cows under the heavy feeding averaged 7.9 at calving versus 5.1 during calvings when the cows developed milk fever.

While the study is being continued for more conclusive results in the University herd and in three other high producing herds, this might be well to keep in mind for those Morrow county dairymen who have had a problem of milk fever in individual dairy cows.

Study Shows Gain In Meat Imports

An Oregon Department of Agriculture study on the care and treatment of import boneless beef entering the Port of Portland shows this beef moves through regular trade channels and is subjected to the same routine inspections as domestic meat.

Reporting on the study, J. W. Southworth, assistant director of agriculture for livestock industries, said the meat is inspected by the Federal meat inspection division using a statistical sampling procedure. Within the state the facilities and equipment used in storage and handling were satisfactory and inspected periodically under the Oregon meat inspection program.

The study showed the meat, which is nearly all fresh frozen and largely used for grinding and manufacturing purposes, is clean, maintained under adequate refrigeration and processed with satisfactory equipment.

Southworth said department men found that most but not all of the chain stores receive imported meat.

In its check of beef imports through the Port of Portland the department learned that beef imported from Australia and New Zealand the first six months of this year was only about 1.5 million pounds short of total imports for 1963.

By the end of June imports from these countries for 1964 had reached 5,495,658 pounds. Imports from those two countries in 1963 totaled 7,067,629 pounds and out of that amount the federal government refused entry for 157,205 pounds. To date this year there has been no meat refused entry.

In commenting on this increase in Oregon beef imports, Southworth said he could not account for it, particularly since it is contrary to the present national picture.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Matteson and Delvin Matteson returned Monday from Eugene where they spent several days visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lynch.

Morrow County CROP-WEATHER SUMMARY (For week ending July 24)

Compiled by the Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Portland.

Spring grains are being harvested. Fall grain harvest in full swing in all areas. Lower elevations have completed harvest in all but scattered areas. Yields averaging 20-25 bushels of wheat with some fields yielding 30-32. Excellent barley crop this year with much approaching a ton per acre with highest test weights (47-52) ever harvested. Wheat test weights high, 61.5-64.0.

Nebraska Picnic Set

The annual picnic of the Nebraska State Society of Oregon and Washington will be Sunday, August 9, at Janzen Beach Park (area 3) in Portland, west gate entrance. Basket dinner will be at noon. Program will be at 1:30. Former Nebraskans will register by counties. Friends are welcome.

Saddlery to Move

Gray's Saddlery, which has been doing business in the Hotel Heppner building with entrance on Willow Street, will move to a new location in the Gilliam and Bisbee Hardware as of Wednesday, August 5, Nick Gray, owner, states. Friends and customers are invited to come and see him in the new location. His business will be located in the main room of the hardware store.

Heppner Families Travel to Reunion

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adkins traveled to Milwaukee Friday, where they spent two days visiting at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crismon. From there they continued on to Silver Falls Park, near Silverton, to attend the annual Canoy family reunion that was held Sunday.

Also attending the reunion were Mrs. Prudy Casebeer, Mrs. Don Townsend and her children, Sandy and Randy. They remained in Sweet Home this week on business. Mr. and Mrs. Adkins returned home late Sunday.

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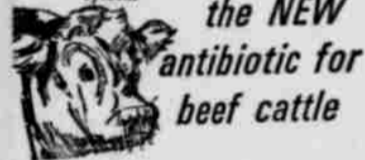
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