

FARM NEWS

County Agent's Office

Fire Prevention Urged As Threat Constant

By N. C. ANDERSON

With at least four grain and grass fires occurring this past week, it is evident that even though grass and grain growth is somewhat less than 1963, there is still enough to have the constant threat of fire.

Frank Anderson told me he was amazed at the way the short Omski stubble carried the fire that burned grain and stubble at the Dale Brown and Frank Anderson ranches last Monday afternoon.

Incidentally, this fire destroyed many man hours of labor and a year's results in the fertilizer plots established there in cooperation with the Sherman Branch Experiment Station. Sixty-four plots comparing various rates of nitrogen, sulfur and phosphorus alone and in various combinations were burned. Luckily, the cereal nursery had been harvested on Friday. Part of the minor element experiment was salvaged and the annual cropping trial was missed by the fire.

These fires should be a reminder to everyone that the fire season is now on and that the best way to prevent fire is to keep it from starting. Fires do start, however, so it is best to be prepared to put them out.

We have noticed many high pressure sprayers filled with water, ready to go, out in the field during harvest. We have found some tanks mounted on trucks which have been listed with the voluntary rural fire control program as being available for fires empty when called upon. We remind everyone to keep in mind this fire control program and the instructions that community fire wardens have given most everyone.

Many have complained of not being able to get through on their telephone line to make important contacts. When a fire breaks out in a community and a phone call must be made, please get the message through and then hang up. If there are questions, check with your fire warden for the information.

For those who might not have up-to-date information we will again list those who are responsible in various communities in this voluntary program: Bob Rietmann, Don Heliker, Bob Jensen, Darrel Padberg, Lloyd Rice, Raymond Lundell, Louis Carlson, Paul Tews, and Ralph Crum all of Ione; Roy Martin, O. W. Cutsforth and Kenneth Peck, Lexington; Andy Van Scholack, Jerry Brosnan, Frank Anderson, Harold Wright of Heppner and Darold Ham of Hardman.

There are several fire fighting units owned by Morrow county distributed throughout the area, which these wardens have access to, as well as listings of other individually owned equipment available on call. While a real good job is being done by everyone in prevention and control of fires, it can be even more effective if the organization is given a chance to work.

Grain Lab Shows Grading Results of Select Samples

A visit to the State Grain Grading Laboratory at Pendleton last Wednesday was an interesting experience. Main reason for the visit was to have some samples graded so that I might determine exactly what these graders were calling "contrasting classes."

Wheat of contrasting classes has been the big problem in making grade under the new standards. It was my contention that some high protein off-type kernels were being called contrasting classes.

It was good to review techniques of grain grading since I had had occasion to use this experience. I found that the grain graders were also quite concerned with the new standards and a bit perplexed as to why the tightening on contrasting classes since the original tolerance was low enough to prevent any great contamination.

Samples that I took over and those in the lab which were run during my visit showed definite hard red winter and hard red spring contamination. This means that those with wheat that has been graded down because of contrasting classes will need to be more particular in selecting their seed wheat and in keeping fields cleaned of other varieties.

This is easier said than done but we know it is possible from the number of samples that are grading No. 1 for some growers. I refer mainly to Burt and Fortyfold which are the main problem varieties in our county.

While most of the grain graded down is from areas where Turkey varieties have been grown in the past, we still find other areas growing wheat with hard red spring or hard red winter contamination. There is some thought that this one standard might be revised before next year.

In the meantime, those who need clean seed that would grade No. 1, should be looking for it rather than to use seed that is not pure hoping that the standards will be changed be-

fore another crop is harvested.

First Wheat Certificate Issued
Harold Beach, Lexington farmer, won the distinction last week of getting the first check issued for wheat certificates under the 1964 wheat program. The local ASCS office began making payments on July 30. Payments will approximate one and one-half million dollars to those who have signed up in the new wheat program.

Unusual Heavy July Rains Hit Over Wide Areas

The storms of last week which frequented the county were freakish for July weather. I noted that in the East Oregonians that some new records were made in rainfall for the month of July in the Pendleton area. I think that this is no doubt true for Morrow county also.

Last Wednesday night, storms did considerable damage to some summer fallow in various areas especially in Eightmile. Louis Carlson reports one-half inch fell at his place about 6:30 Wednesday evening, while another .33 was recorded from his gauge the next morning. Neighbors on either side had less with only .12 at the Jess Warfield ranch.

At the Ray Dolven ranch on Swaggett Butte, Wednesday night's storm made the third cloud burst in two months. At the Fred Rauch ranch in lower Sandhollow, Orville Matheny reports "enough moisture in the summer fallow tempting me to see even though I know it is too early."

A few early weather reports to be received in the office for the month of July are: Harry Proudfoot, Buttercreek, .55; Don Heliker, Ione, .42; Kenny Smouse, Ione, .61; Lonnie McCabe, Ione, .69; Frank Anderson, Heppner, .75; Kenny Smouse reports for his ranch north of Ione 7.32 inches since September 1, 1963 and 3.05 since January 1, 1964. Harry Proudfoot, Buttercreek, reports 7.15 since September 1, 3.55 since January 1.

While everyone welcomes rain at any time of the year in Eastern Oregon, I am sure that our ranchers would much rather have had this rain last of May or next October.

Brucellosis Reactors Low

A report on the brucellosis eradication program for the past fiscal year was recently released by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture. The report shows that less than 3/10 of 1% (0.289) of the Oregon cattle tested for brucellosis were reactors. A year ago, 0.42% were reactors.

There were 122,386 cows in 38,481 herds tested with 354 reactors. Seven counties had no reactors. These counties were Benton, Clatsop, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Sherman and Wheeler. Wheeler county has not had a reactor since the fiscal year ending in June, 1960. Calf vaccinations jumped to 168,800 for the fiscal year just ended from 155,250 the previous year. For Morrow county, 20 herds with 162 head were tested with 1 reactor. Calves from 114 herds totaling 3,266 were vaccinated.

New Herbicide Market Monday mornings' mail



AN ORANGE A DAY for Teddy, horse of Alan Buchanan, is the ration for vitamin C that the owner aloes the horse in getting him ready for the Umatilla County Fair, to be August 20-22. Alan, a member of the Saddle-ites, says that Teddy takes a quarter of the fruit per bite, eating it skin and all. (Lyons Photo)

brought the announcement that Tordon 22K is now on the market. This herbicide is the one that has looked so promising in experimental trials established in Morrow county and other areas during the past two or three years. It is hoped that this material will bring a cheaper control of hard to kill perennials including Canada Thistle, morning glory, and Russian Knapweed. Recommended rates are 2 pounds per acre which we understand is 1 gallon of the Tordon 22K.

Machine is Egg Breaking Soon

Here's a trend of times: Western Farmers Assoc., Seattle, Wn., has added an automatic egg breaking machine in its plant. It can process 21 cases of eggs an hour, separating whites and yolks or producing liquid whole eggs. The Co-op now packs egg products in 30 pound tins, but is getting ready to use 55 gallon drums and later may use refrigerated tank trucks if they prove practical. The Co-op has also modernized its drying equipment, using it not only for eggs but also to dehydrate poultry meat.

Higher Storage Rate May Up Wheat Price

Announcement that the Federal government will calculate a higher storage rate in setting selling prices of present grain inventory owned by the CCC means that this government-owned surplus will be held for a higher selling price than has been expected, Al Lamb, manager of Morrow County Grain Growers, said this week.

"This should mean some increase in wheat prices," Lamb said. Secretary Orville Freeman has announced an increase in the carrying cost from 1 cent to 1 1/2 cents per month. As a result the CCC will calculate a higher storage rate in their resale formula, "Loan plus reasonable carrying charges," and therefore the open market will be able to advance to a higher level before CCC sales can take over, Lamb said.

Peace Corps Expands Poultry Market

Twenty miles east of New Delhi, India, a young Peace Corps Volunteer is teaching villagers how to raise and market poultry and eggs. He has changed the eating habits of the villagers, improved their diets and given them a new source of income. "A hundred others like him," says N. C. Anderson, extension agent of Morrow county, "both young and old, in other Indian villages are having similar experiences."

At the Uttar Pradesh Agricultural University, a small group of Peace Corps Volunteers, now in little more than a year introduced commercial poultry raising to more than 100 villagers. The poultry raisers have formed their own cooperative and now market their produce in Delhi and the surrounding area.

The State government now wants Peace Corps Volunteers to start poultry development projects in four districts in eastern Uttar Pradesh, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Azangarh and Deoria. Volunteers will be stationed at State poultry farms or at state extension centers in each of the districts. They will work singly in teams of two, traveling throughout the districts to encourage farmers to raise poultry, to upgrade flocks, increase egg production, and to develop new markets.

Twenty-five hundred miles west of New Delhi in Ankara, Turkey, the Middle East Technical University is establishing a poultry demonstration unit. Peace Corps Volunteers with experience in commercial poultry raising will be assigned to this METU unit. They will train university students in the techniques of poultry raising. These students, in turn, will work in rural areas helping to start village-run poultry units. Other

Peace Corps Volunteers will be assigned to community development projects in rural areas to encourage small farmers and villagers to get into the poultry business.

In a dozen other countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, Peace Corps Volunteers are helping the people improve their standard of living through the introduction of poultry raising projects. These countries recognize in poultry development a source of both food and income for the people. Consequently, they are asking the Peace Corps for more volunteers with training and experience in commercial poultry raising and marketing.

"You don't have to be a college man," says County Agent Anderson. "If you know the poultry business and would like to share your know-how with people in India, Turkey, or any one of several other countries, just fill out a Peace Corps Volunteer Questionnaire and send it to Peace Corps, Washington, D. C. 20525. Questionnaires are available at the County Extension office at Heppner or at your nearest post office."

Arriving home last Monday from a ten day vacation in Central Oregon and on the coast were Mr. and Mrs. Len Ray Schwarz and son, Ronnie. After spending several days fishing at Paulina Lake near Bend they were joined by Mrs. Schwarz' mother, Mrs. Ida Coleman of Ione, who has been working at Campfire Girls summer camp, Camp Kilo-wan.

Ullman Hails Bill On Beef Imports

Congressman Al Ullman said that Senate passage of the bill limiting beef imports "now gives us a fighting chance to get the bill enacted into law."

The 2nd District Congressman, sponsor of a similar measure in the House, hailed the action as "a major victory" in the move to restore a measure of stability to America's livestock industry.

The Senate amendment on beef imports was attached to a House-passed bill, H. R. 1839, which now comes back to the House of Representatives. Ullman said that he has been conferring with the leadership to find a way to get the bill to the floor for a vote. He indicated that, "despite the obvious pitfalls, the situation looks promising."

"I will continue to do everything possible to secure final enactment," he stated. H. R. 1839, as passed last Tuesday by the Senate, includes provisions to limit annual beef imports to the average of the years 1959 through 1963. This would permit 670 million lbs. of fresh or frozen beef and veal imports per year.

Salem residents visiting at the L. D. Neill home this week-end were Mrs. Eldon Kinton and her daughters, Nancy and Mrs. Ralph Morgan, Sunday, they all attended the birthday anniversary honoring Mrs. Phebe Bartholomew at the Butter Creek ranch home of Jasper Myers.

Morrow County CROP-WEATHER SUMMARY

For week ending July 31

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

Spring grains in later maturing areas benefited from recent rains. Fall grain harvest well underway in most areas of county; 75 to 85 percent of harvest completed in North Lexington area. Yields in higher elevations running 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Some second cutting alfalfa on creek bottoms and third cutting in Boardman-Irigoien are being put up. Melon harvest expected to start next week. Need more hot weather. Harvest and having held up since Wednesday because of rain.

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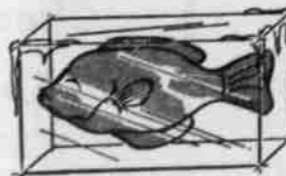
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