

County Agent's Office

ASC Committee Sees Flood Repair Job

By N. C. ANDERSON
The county ASC Committee has found that an outstanding job of clean-up and flood damage restitution has been done with agricultural conservation program practice funds. Committee members toured a majority of the county last Friday with special emphasis on creek bottom and irrigation structures to determine uses made of ACP funds.

On many ranches much of the damage has been erased although it is easy to see the tremendous financial outlay required to put this land back in-

to some kind of production this year. Many were fortunate to get pasture and hay seedings through silt layers, reducing production to a minimum, while in other cases fields had to be leveled and seeded.

There are many dams to be replaced, but with the ingenuity and initiative of many farmers, irrigation ditches are carrying water to the fields with little delay. Heavy flood damage at the Delbert Ebert ranch near Lone resulted in miles of silted irrigation ditches that were cleaned of silt not once but twice from resulting December and January

beyond repair. Many miles of roads were washed out completely or had the gravel washed from the surface.

On Rhea, Hinton and Buttercreeks, many ranches were damaged when 10 or 12 dams had washed out completely. By building flumes and temporary diversions, many ranchers are able to divert water at this time of high water level to get irrigation water on their fields. A cooperative effort on Buttercreek found Burl Wattenburger constructing a considerable expanse of irrigation ditch to use his neighbor's dam, replacing temporarily a dam that washed out near Pine City.

Ranchers, not only those on the creek bottom, but also those who lost tons of silt on dry-land areas, have cleaned up the scars from the flood by working diligently and putting all resources to getting land back into production at the earliest possible date. G. W. Cutsforth, Jr., Glenn Campbell and Ron Haggewood, members of the county ASC committee with ASC office manager Dave McLeod; Soil Conservationist Ralph Richards and myself participated in the Friday tour.

Saddle Horse Field Day Set for Saturday, May 1

Four-H saddle horse club leaders recently made plans for their third annual Field Day which will be held on May 1, 1965. This has been a popular event with saddle horse club members as they have the opportunity to spend the day in practicing showmanship, horsemanship, participating in games and demonstrations.

On the program which will start at 9:30 a.m., leaders Bob Bergstrom, Charles Daly, Everett Struckmeier and Floyd Jones will work with different age groups in demonstrating and give club members an opportunity to practice showmanship and horsemanship. Ron Currin, Buttercreek, has been asked to give pointers on saddle horse judging. Those attending will get the experience of filling out judging cards and placing a class of 4 saddle horses.

The event of the day which will follow a sack lunch at noon is a demonstration by Ruff Severe of Severe Brothers Saddlery, Pendleton. Mr. Severe will demonstrate the steps in training a saddle horse starting out with a green colt and showing a well trained horse. After stake, key-hole and ring races that will be divided by age groups, the members will see a demonstration on loading saddle horses which will include training and safety precautions. The Field Day is scheduled to be through at 4:00 p.m.

Four-H saddle horse members are invited to attend and bring their saddle horses. The clubs will provide a cold drink for the noon meal. The event is scheduled to be held at the Wrangler grounds below Heppner.

Pointers on Reestablishing Or Seeding New Lawns Given

For those who might have lost their lawn by silting over from winter flood waters, or feel it is time to reestablish a lawn this is the time to be giving the job your attention. The best time for seeding a lawn in Eastern Oregon is April and early May. There are many things to keep in mind in starting a new lawn, perhaps the most important is that a well constructed lawn is in the long-run inexpensive and quite permanent. The least of all the expense is the seed so

Chats With Your Home Agent

IFYE to Jamaica Coming To County for Visit in May

By DONNA GEORGE
Nellie Van Calcar, Oregon International Farm Youth Exchange delegate to Jamaica, is scheduled to relate her experiences while visiting rural homes and 4-H activities in Jamaica when she comes to Morrow county May 14-16. (Notice the slight change in schedule—previously she was scheduled to be here May 13-14.)

Plans are being developed for her to visit various schools in the county on Friday the 14th. In addition she will be available to report to other groups, particularly on Saturday, May 15. Interested 4-H clubs and other groups are encouraged to contact Donna George at the county extension office to arrange for Miss Van Calcar to visit their community gathering or meeting.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of our neighbors in Jamaica.

4-H Applications Due April 20

Four-H club members the world over look forward to chances to meet other 4-H members from different areas. Likewise, several older 4-H members in Morrow county hope they'll be present to share the experiences of Oregon 4-H summer school with other members from throughout the state.

During this week of June 14-19 about 2000 Oregon 4-H'ers will reach the Oregon State University campus in Corvallis to participate in a busy schedule of educational classes, discussion groups, sports, social events and recreation.

Local 4-H members who were 13 or older on January 1 of this year and have successfully completed 2 years of 4-H work are encouraged to apply by sending

don't skimp on the amount used or look for cheap seed mixes. There are no bargains.

In planning the new lawn, allow for costs of 3 cents to 5 cents per square foot. Plan ahead for any new drives and walks as well as sprinkling systems which should be installed before seeding. The seed bed should be worked prior to the planned seeding date so that it will have a chance to settle.

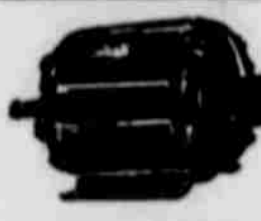
In the case of lawns destroyed by silting over it will be necessary to work in a lot of organic material such as sawdust, well rotted manure, or compost to overcome the unsatisfactory soil condition left by accumulated silt. This flood silt has little if any organic matter, "bakes" and "crusts" preventing a good stand. In making a seed bed it is well to work in fertilizer broadcasting half before tilling, saving the other half to add to the soil surface at seeding time. 16-20-0 applied at the rate of 12 pounds per 1,000 square feet is a good fertilizer to use. After leveling and firming the surface working and reworking the soil surface lightly to kill weed seedlings it is time to fertilize and seed.

Our experience has found that Merion Bluegrass is the best adapted grass for Morrow county conditions. Merion Blue makes a dense dark blue-green turf that "wears" well. Plan on 3 pounds per 1,000 square feet which should be divided in half seeding the first half one direction and the second half in a direction at right angles to the first. Rake lightly to mix seed first. Rake lightly to mix seed with top half inch of soil Roll lightly to firm the soil and hasten germination.

A quarter inch mulch of sawdust, peatmoss, straw or lawn clippings will cover exposed seeds and help hold moisture. To insure germination, keep the seeding moist by sprinkling lightly and as often as necessary to keep the soil moist under the mulch. For those who need explicit directions we have several excellent lawn bulletins in the office including step by step procedures in starting a new lawn, caring for a new lawn and insects and diseases.

has sent the 1965 County Fair Premium Book information to the Gazette Times to be printed. In preparation, the fair board, fair committee, extension agents and 4-H and open class superintendents have diligently worked and made plans for changes desirable from last year's listings to improve the premium book and the fair.

Copies of the premium book will be sent out in early May to 4-H families, judges, superintendents and last year's exhibitors.



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