

FARM

County Agent's Office

County is Rated Above Disaster Area Situation

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent

The Morrow County USDA Disaster Committee, after studying the returned questionnaires of 135 farm or ranch operators, decided last week not to ask that Morrow county be declared a disaster area.

This decision was based upon the information supplied by about 1/3 of the county's farm operators. Approximately 350 questionnaires were mailed. Average barley production was reported at 98 percent of that grown in 1965 and hay yielded approximately 80% of that of last year.

Of the 115 operators reporting, 86 reported having livestock totaling 12,421 head of cattle and 417 sheep.

Recent changes in the emergency feed grain program show an increase of price of commodity credit feeds grains to 90 percent of support price, with daily limits to animals of four (or five) pounds.

Previously the cost was 75 percent and daily limit maximum of 10 pounds per animal.

No further meetings are planned by the local disaster committee unless the livestock feed situation in the county deteriorates.

Insects Have Biological Place in Weed Control

The discussion of weed or insect control often leads into the subject of biological control for these pests. Biological control by insects and plant disease is a natural process which has been going on since the origin of land plants. The conscious use by man of this method of controlling weed pests is relatively new.

The success of control depends upon two acts of man. The plant must be introduced without its predators, and natural predators free of parasites must be introduced to carry out their work unhampered.

Most of biological control is carried out by entomologists of the USDA, Entomology Research Division, Insect Identification and Parasite Introduction Research Branch. Since most of our pests come from foreign lands much of these divisions work is involved in searching for parasites and predators abroad. Stringent screening and feeding experiments are done there. This includes all plants growing in areas where the pest exists in this country.

If research shows promise in this country, experimental releases are made.

In Oregon, in cooperation with federal entomologists, insects have been introduced in an attempt to control St. Johnswort, Gorse, tansy, ragwort and puncture vine. The control of St. Johnswort has been spectacular here in Morrow county and elsewhere in the state, but several introduced insects were involved. Pests of gorse and tansy ragwort are now well established.

The puncture vine seed weevil was introduced near Pendleton and near Hermiston in 1963. The present status is unknown. With other introductions often numbers did not build up rapidly at first.

Last year a flea beetle was released in southern Oregon which feeds on Canada Thistle.

A number of insects under tests show promise for control of Mediterranean sage, alligator weed, Dalmatian Toad Flax and halogeton. Additional species are being brought in for control of tansy ragwort and puncture vine.

Protein Survey Made in County

The complete protein survey of Morrow county 1966 wheat samples was recently received. The averages for Gaines wheat at the following named elevators are: Ruggs 7.3, Jordan 7.4, Lexington 6.6, Heppner 7.1, North Lexington 7.6 percent.

Brucellosis Free County Awarded Area Certificate

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent

The long awaited Brucellosis Free Area Certificate for Morrow county was recently presented to Gene Winters, county agent for Morrow County Cattlemen by Dr. Stan McGough, federal veterinarian from Pendleton.

The certificate, first of its kind to be granted an eastern Oregon county, certifies that representative tests of all herds of cattle in Morrow county show no brucellosis is known to exist in the county, and that approved surveillance procedures are being conducted under the cooperative State-Federal brucellosis eradication program.

Signing the certificate were Glenn B. Rea, state veterinarian; O. J. Halverson, federal veterinarian, and F. J. Muhern, director of Animal Health Division, Agriculture Research Service.

This coveted certificate is the result of nearly 20 years work by the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association and the County Extension office in cooperation with the State and Federal veterinarians. First action was taken by the livestock sub-committee at the 1947 Extension Agriculture Planning Council. The group proposed the county adopt a brucellosis control program.

A petition with 190 signatures was presented to the Morrow County Court in 1948. A hearing held in June, 1948, showed the interest by county cattlemen with a compulsory brucellosis testing program established in 1949. At that time Morrow county being the only eastern Oregon range county having a compulsory program.

During the early years of the program large numbers of cows were tested. In 1952 and 1953 more than 10,000 cows were tested each year. The last herd to be tested was in 1953.

In 1956 Morrow county received accreditation as the first modified - certified brucellosis free range county in Oregon.

Wheat Growers Slate Workshop

The annual fall workshop of the Oregon Wheat Growers League will be held at the Elks Lodge in Pendleton, Thursday, October 13, at 9:30 a.m. according to Don Woodward, president. A full agenda has been developed including wheat legislation, freight rates, public relations, the Agri-Business Council of Oregon, herbicides and many other problems pertaining to wheat.

All seven of the state standing committees will meet in session and report their recommendations to the entire group late in the day. These recommendations will be carried back to their respective counties for further action.

Rex Warren of Oregon State University will be featured on the day's program with a discussion on herbicides. Other speakers will be Dick Crabtree of Pacific Northwest Grain and Grain Products Association and Marlon Thomas of Oregon State University.

State Committee Chairmen who will lead their respective committees are as follows: Domestic wheat utilization, Gail McKinnis, Summerville; Federal agriculture programs, Edwin Miller, Jr., Heppner; production and land use, Bill Jaeger, Condon; marketing, Glen Brogitt, Helix; transportation, Snell Weatherford, Olex; taxation and legislation, Larry Kasberg, Wasco; youth activities, Malcolm Faragher, Dufur; and public relations, Dick Skiles, Wasco.

President Woodward announced that anyone interested in wheat production and problems related to wheat is encouraged to attend.

Feeling Better

Mrs. Charles Carlson, who was hurt in a fall at Seaview, Wn., while on a vacation trip in mid-September, is back home after spending time in Pioneer Memorial hospital here and in Pendleton hospital. She suffered a shoulder injury and a chipped bone in the fall. Her arm continues to be in a sling after a cast was removed, and she says that she is feeling better.

SINGLE ADULTS

Computer Matching

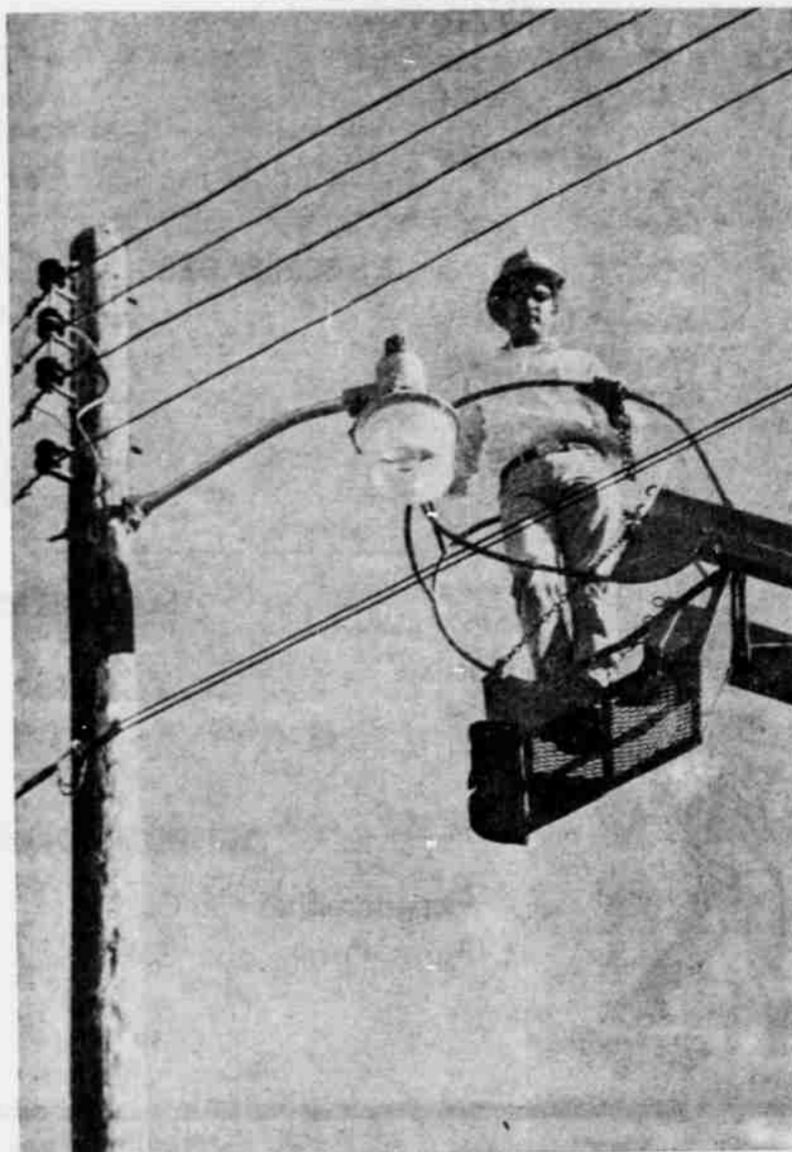
WRITE: COMPATIBILITY TESTING OF OREGON
2803 S. E. 122nd
PORTLAND, OREGON

For FREE Personality Test

No Hunting
No Trespassing
Signs at the
Gazette-Times

People You Should Know

BILL GENTRY



Street Lights Don't "Just Go On" By Themselves

CALL US . . . when a light burns out on your street, we'd appreciate your call right away. We're proud of our service and your public lighting system, and want to keep it always at top notch condition.

There's more — quite a bit more — work and maintenance in keeping Heppner's streets brightly lit at night. And it's a job that's the responsibility of your Columbia Basin Electric Co-Op. Above General Foreman Bill Gentry replaces a unit in one of the fixtures on a downtown light.

In future years, in cooperation with your city government, we plan to modernize the city's street lighting system.

Good Municipal street lighting means a lower accident and crime rate, a more attractive community and happier, safer citizens!

YOU LIVE BETTER ELECTRICALLY — With

COLUMBIA BASIN ELECTRIC CO-OP

Serving Wheeler, Gilliam and Morrow Counties



Can you tell which Geigy herbicide was used here?

Could be Atrazine, Simazine, or even new Pramitol™ herbicide. The outstanding results are no clue . . . because all of these Geigy herbicides keep non-crop areas around the farm or ranch weed-free for months. With an easy-to-make, once-a-year application, too.

Each Geigy herbicide has special features that enable you to obtain best possible weed control in non-crop areas. All are economical. And the correct one to use simply depends on your specific problem. You can use the following guide:

Atrazine 80W Wettable powder. For spray application before or soon after weeds emerge. Ideal for areas with low rainfall.

Simazine 80W Wettable powder. For spray application before weeds emerge. Ideal for areas with ample rainfall.

Pramitol™ 25E Emulsifiable solution. For spray application on established weed growth. Ideal for areas where weeds got a head start.

Pramitol™ 5P Pellets. For dry application before or after weeds emerge. Especially effective against hard-to-kill, deep-rooted perennial weeds.

See your supplier now for the Geigy herbicide that will solve your weed problem in non-crop areas for months with a single application this fall.

Or, for more information, write us today.

Geigy Agricultural Chemicals, Division of Geigy Chemical Corporation, Saw Mill River Road, Ardsley, New York 10502.

Geigy

CREATORS OF CHEMICALS FOR MODERN AGRICULTURE

We Will Deliver Your Processed Meat

Free Charge To Heppner, Ione, Lexington

WHOLESALE MEATS

CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING SCHEDULE:

Hogs Tuesday
Cattle Wed., Thurs.
Sheep Any Day

Follett Meat Co.
Ph. 567-6651
Hermiston, Oregon
On Hermiston-McNary Highway