

FARM

County Agent's Office

County 4-H Members Active In Junior Show

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent

Morrow County 4-H boys and girls have entered 19 steers, 12 lambs and one market pig in the 21st annual Oregon Wheat Growers League Junior Livestock Show underway in The Dalles this week.

The first three days of the show were devoted to livestock judging and showmanship by 4-H and FFA entrants. An auction is being held today. All steers and lambs grading USDA good and pigs grading USDA number 3 or better are auctioned.

Four-H members entering the Wheat League Show were: Phil Carlson, Harvey Childers, Becky Doherty, Cindy Ekstrom, Herbert Ekstrom, Jan Ekstrom, John Hall, Patti Healy, Teresa Harshman, John Harris, Keith Nelson, Peter McElligott, Ricky Peterson, Darlene Warren, David Warren, Deborah Warren, Marilyn Warren, Mike Warren, and Dean Wright.

The show is sponsored by the Wheat League to encourage the use of wheat in livestock ra-

tions. Representing the Wheat League in planning and conducting the show is the youth activities committee. Heading up local arrangements were Deane Graves and Bill Healy of the county wheat association youth activities committee.

Gail McCarty, county extension agent, is in charge of the livestock judging contest and is a beef cattle superintendent.

Poison Weeds Point Needs
Recent livestock losses in poisonous plant infested pastures in the county points out the need for pasture rotations and weed control. Livestock usually will not take lethal quantities of poisonous plants unless suitable forage is not available.

Poison hemlock and cocklebur are especially noticeable along streambanks. Both weeds are susceptible to 2,4-D when young. Other livestock poisoning weeds, including chokecherry, may be present. In contrast with most poisonous plants, chokecherry is readily by stock and browsed readily.

To learn more about poison plants and what they look like, ask for the bulletin "Livestock Poisoning Weeds of Oregon," from the county extension office.

Seed Wheat Needs Checking
Wheat growers this year will need to pay much more attention to their seed wheat sources than before. The unusually large amounts of barley, other wheat varieties, other grains, and annual grasses make many stands entirely unsuitable for seed use. Poor broad leaved weed control should also be considered for rejection of seed fields.

For most wheat growers a good safe way to insure the seed used is the best, is to use certified seed or seed produced to comparable standards. Certified wheat seed must meet these standards: purity, not less than 98%; inert material, not more than 2%; other wheat varieties, not more than 0.1%; other small grains, not more than 0.05% (no wild oats, no rye); germination, not less than 85%.

Non-certified seed can be good seed. Usually the competent grain seed handler has sources of seed which he knows were grown from certified seed. The important facts to know about seed are: (1) varietal purity, (2) germination, (3) weed seed, and (4) other crop seed content.

Seed costs are an exceedingly small fraction (perhaps 1/10 to 1/15) of the cost of producing wheat. Gambling with cheap seed is usually a disastrous way to cut costs.

taminated grain is subject to seizure and cannot be used for food or livestock feed. This could mean serious financial loss for both growers and handlers.

Many of the old buildings which haven't been used for grain storage for several years won't meet modern clean-grain standards, according to the farm crops specialist. He advised growers and handlers to make careful inspections of storage facilities before the season begins and take proper steps to meet minimum requirements for protecting the grain.

He said OSU extension specialists have assembled information on FDA grain regulations for proper handling and storage. The information is available from county extension offices.

Big Wheat Crop May Complicate Storage Problem

Oregon farmers, who have responded to the administration's call for more wheat to help feed a hungry world, are now faced with the problem of where to put it after the crop is harvested this summer.

According to Harold Youngberg, Oregon State University extension farm crops specialist, several situations have combined to create a potentially serious grain storage problem for the coming season. It began last summer when the U. S. Department of Agriculture relaxed wheat allotments in the face of a possible world wheat shortage. The 32 percent increase in allotments, coupled with a good growing season, have raised crop expectations in the Northwest to 180 million bushels, 47 percent more than 1966.

Youngberg said that although some land has been shifted from barley and oat production to wheat, estimates are that the feed grain crop will equal or exceed last year's production and will compete for storage and handling space.

In addition, no one is quite sure how much wheat will be in terminals awaiting export when the new crop begins to come in. A shortage of vessels causing delays in export or a large carryover could jam available storage space.

What this all means is that farmers may find they have to store grain on their own farms until the backlog moves out of the ports and country elevators. And new regulations covering grain storage and handling developed over the last 10 years make it imperative that farmers plan ahead as not to get caught with their sheds down, Youngberg warned.

East Better Prepared
He pointed out that western Oregon grain growers will probably face the most critical storage problem if the bulk of the grain is cut in both the Columbia Basin and the Willamette Valley areas at the same time, as happened last year. Some estimates are that Willamette Valley grain production will double this year, and few new storage facilities have been built in the past 20 years. Eastern Oregon is in much better shape in terms of country elevator space.

"The congestion might last for 30 to 60 days until the terminals could be cleared to handle the excess," Youngberg observed. "This would put pressure on the areas where the harvest is the latest—usually the Willamette Valley."

If growers are forced to turn to temporary or makeshift storage facilities in order to complete the harvest, keeping the grain clean and dry may be even more important than getting it cut before the fall rains.

Youngberg explained that grain inspections will be made by both the State Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Food and Drug Administration. These checks will include tests for contamination, and the presence of bacteria and toxic molds. He said temporary storage facilities usually increase the possibility of contamination by insects, birds, rats, and other pests. In addition, moisture and humidity can promote the growth of certain molds which may contain toxic substances.

Careless or improper handling can bring on these conditions and unless the problems can be solved by expensive heat or chemical treatments, the con-



THIS REPRESENTATIVE group of fifth graders at Heppner Elementary school holds books they prepared on the recent soil conservation tour before giving them to Ralph Richards (left), conservationist of the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation District. Fifth graders of Ione and Heppner made the tour on May 5 under sponsorship of the district. Boys (from left) are Luke Padberg, Wayne Gentry, John Boyer, John Hollingsworth, Michael Stevens, Doug Gonty, Dana Sweek, Kyle Robinson, and Robert Hughes. Girls (from left) are Cindy Leonnig, Diana Raymond, Norine Cecil, Charma Marquardt, Patricia Van Schoelck, Kathy Arrington, Kristi Hagewood, Delvina Turner, Luanne Easton and iDane McLaughlin. (G-T Photo).

Fifth Graders Prepare Books On Conservation

In a project just completed before the end of school, fifth graders prepared books on conservation practices observed on a soil conservation tour taken on May 5. They presented the books to Ralph Richards of the district last week, and these will be shown at forthcoming soil conservation conferences.

The pupils—all the fifth graders of Heppner and Ione—spent the day visiting ranches of the area, leaving from Lexington at 9:30 a.m. on May 5.

They learned of the soils profile, good and poor range conditions and moldboard plowing. At the Kenneth Turner ranch, they saw diversion ditches, learned how they were built and learned of their purpose. At the Allen Tom farm they were shown spots where top soil is completely washed away by erosion, and at the Doug Drake farm they viewed land that had been retired from farming.

They saw the farm pond at the Turner place and were shown erosion dams, gully control practices and witnessed work that had been done in leveling a creek bottom.

At the ranch of Orville Cutsforth, Jr. they viewed ponds, wells and irrigation, as well as grass seeding, and at the Tad Miller farm they saw stubble mulching.

Lunch was at Ione, after which they went to the Paul Pettyjohn place to see creek channel improvement. At Marion Palmer's they viewed a dike used to turn water from bottom land, and at the Clell Rea place saw more channel improvement.

Good grass and pasture land was seen at the farm of the late Newt O'Harra. The trip concluded after visits to the Paul Brown and Al Bunch farms where they inspected strip cropping, sod waterways and windbreaks.

The trip was arranged by Richards, and Vernon Munkers and Kenneth Turner, supervisors for the district, accompanied the youngsters and assisted with the explanations.

Cooking Club Meets

The Coolettes 4-H Club met at the home of Mrs. Wallace Wolff on May 31. We made sandwiches and read from our book "Mealtime Fun."

Lisa Collins, reporter

'Tune-Up' Day Set For Quarter Horses

Columbia Basin Quarter Horse Association held its last meeting May 24 at the Umatilla Electric Co-op association building in Hermiston.

Chairmen Virgil Chapman of Boardman and Roice Fullerton of Heppner reported that the trophy saddle to be presented to all-around working horse champion had been ordered from Chuck Baker at Baker. The saddle will be given at the annual Quarter Horse show of the association to be held October 7.

A tune-up day for halter and working classes has been scheduled for June 11 at the Hermiston fair grounds for anyone with registered quarter horses. Ribbons will be given for three places. There will be no entry

fees as this is an educational project with Ron Davis, judge, giving instruction on showing. The showing will begin at 1:30 p.m. and Virgil Chapman is chairman for the tune-up day. Further information may be obtained by calling 567-5229 days.

Gary Barney, local horse trainer, will also be on hand to demonstrate the three reining patterns used in quarter horse shows.

Fims have been ordered from the American Quarter Horse Association on training, showing and judging to be shown at the future meetings of the local association. Training clinics, conducted by experienced trainers, are also planned as soon as arrangements are made.

Summer School, Camp Beckon 4-H Members

By MARJORIE WILCOXEN
County Extension Agent

4-H Events Scheduled

Monday morning, June 12, 27 Morrow County 4-H members will board a bus enroute to the 4-H Summer School at Oregon State University at Corvallis. They will return Saturday, June 17, after attending classes such as livestock, hunter safety, plant science, camp counselling, recreation leadership, home economics, art appreciation, music appreciation, food science and technology, international programs, photography, plant and soil science and many others.

The special activities include a barbecue, an "International Potpourri", the Bankers Night Banquet, a track meet, a talent show and a "Hootenanny". The county representatives this year are John Hall and Sherri O'Brien. They will attend special classes and represent Morrow county at meetings and other activities.

Summer Camp Planned

Plans are in full swing for 4-H Summer Camp. The camp is held every year at Cutsforth Park about 20 miles south of Heppner in the Blue Mountains. This year the dates are June 29-July 2.

The camp counselors—older 4-H members—attended a camp counselors training meeting at Camp Magruder in Tillamook county. Those attending were Sandi Carlson, Nancy Doherty, Linda Early, Maureen McElligott, Pat McElligott, Tom McElligott, Chris Munkers, Chuck Nelson, Keith Nelson, Kristin Nelson, Kerry Peterson, and Deborah Warren.

They will be in charge of carrying out the camping program under the guidance of 4-H agents and leaders.

And now the most important aspect of the camp—the campers. Members of 4-H who are eligible to attend camp this year have received their letters of application.

There is room for only 60 campers, so we will limit camp

participation to the 9-12 year olds. In making selection, if we have more than 60 applicants, those who haven't attended camp before will be given first choice, and then those who have attended before to fill out the quota.

Parents and leaders will be welcome to assist in the setting up of the camp. "Set-Up Day" is scheduled for Sunday, June 25, at 9:30 a.m. Bring a sack lunch. Coffee and punch will be furnished. Come prepared to work with tools, hammers, pliers, wrenches, etc. Cleaning equipment is already there. We will clean, mend, and set up tents and cots and give the entire area a general cleaning. As many of you already know, it is a job, but is a task that is very worthwhile and has its own reward—a clean camp for 60 eager 4-H campers.

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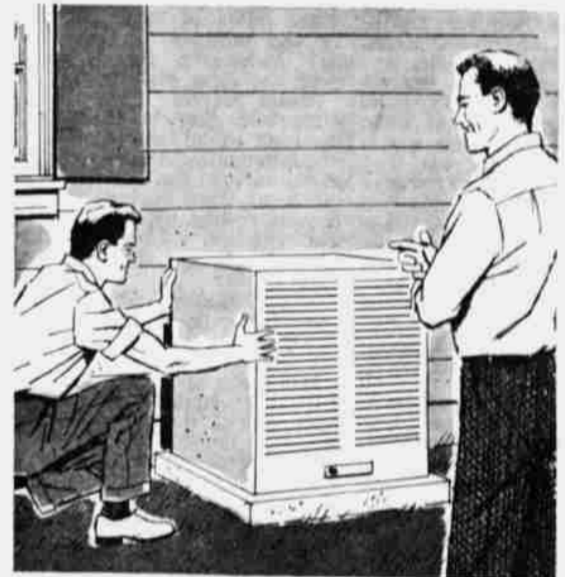
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