

# FARM

## Northwest Wheat Harvest Survey Shows Variance

After being blitzed by heat and drought, and frost and hail, Pacific Northwest wheat farmers can expect a fair, good or excellent crop, depending upon their location.

This was the opinion of Dale Stuart of the Agricultural Development Division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Myron Shenk, Plant Division of the department and formerly Oregon State University, after a survey of the wheat situation covering close to 3,000 miles in the Northwest.

The survey, which included the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, is one phase of a matching fund project to learn what changes take place in the quality of wheat during storage and handling and the protein content of wheat from various areas.

Participants are the Tri-State Grain Standards Committee, wheat commissions and departments of agriculture of the three states and the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Consumer and Marketing Service.

The survey is industry financed and is the third and final one to be made under the project. Three weeks were required for this survey and contacts were made with growers, elevators and industry representatives. It is a vital part of the project as it is necessary to know the crop conditions previous to the actual sampling at harvest. After harvest samples will be taken from warehouses and elevators in the three states. This year 10 Washington elevators, six Oregon warehouses and 11 Idaho stations are participating.

Stuart says survey results indicate the Pacific Northwest will have a high quality wheat this year. Exceptions will be those isolated areas affected by drought and frost. He said volunteer barley, rye and wild oats will not be as serious a problem this year as last year.

The survey showed that river counties of both Oregon and Washington will have a somewhat limited crop this year because of lack of moisture.

Parts of Umatilla County and adjacent areas will have nearly normal yields in fallow lands, while areas cropped last year will have yields considerably below normal.

Late May and early June rains apparently brought considerable relief to the drought stricken areas where harvest is normally later than the river counties of Oregon, with this especially true in the Grand Ronde Valley, the Baker area of Eastern Oregon, the Palouse country, Washington and northern Idaho.

Total precipitation in the Palouse region is below normal, but much of the rain came in a form which resulted in very little runoff. Cool weather and late spring rains helped prevent a dry growing season in many areas of southwestern Washington and record yields are anticipated.

Some 45,000 acres of wheat and peas in the Cottonwood-Grangeville region of northern Idaho that showed a potential of near-record yields were severely damaged by hail in June, with from 15,000 to 20,000

acres declared a total loss.

Frost June 29 that pushed the thermometer down to 22 to 24 degrees (one station reported 19 degrees) hit southeastern Idaho. Record breaking yields of wheat had been predicted here but it appears certain varieties of hard red wheats were hit especially hard. Varieties flowering at that time appear to be almost a total loss so are being cut for hay.

## Japanese Look At Beef Industry On Oregon Tour

By DONALD OSTENSEN  
Oregon Cattlemen's Association

A delegation of Japanese beef industry leaders took a look at the Oregon beef industry last week—and they liked what they saw. The Oregon Cattlemen's Association and the Oregon Beef Council were assisting as hosts to this Japanese team.

This Japanese survey team will spend three weeks in the United States observing beef industry activities.

What made the visit doubly significant is the expectations for Japan to increase the level of its beef imports from 42.5 million pounds in 1967 to 65 million in 1969 and possibly 85 million in 1970.

Denji Ogawa, leader of the five-man delegation visiting Oregon and other western beef center and chairman of the Japan Meat Trade Cooperatives, said Japan is looking to the United States as a potential supplier of prime and choice dressed beef for "the restaurant and carriage trade."

Japan is also interested in importing more live animals, Angus and Hereford bulls and heifers, to improve the bloodlines of the nation's own considerable cattle industry.

Katsuya Amal, President of both Amal Meat Co., Ltd., and of the Young Japanese Meat Dealers Association, said cuts of Japan's famed Kobe beef suitable for Sukiyaki use in fine hotels and restaurants, is actually sold by the gram in Japan, and would run as high as \$7.50 to \$8 per pound retail.

While Japan does charge a 25 per cent duty on beef imports, FOB Tokyo, plus a 10-cent per pound industry promotion fee, Oregon cattle leaders said comparable quality beef from this country could easily compete in the Japanese market.

Describing the numerous meetings which Oregon cattle industry leaders had with visitors during their three-day stay in Oregon, Denny Jones, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, said that except for the necessity of working through an interpreter, it was much like any gathering of cattlemen.

"We talked about the things all cattlemen talk about, experiences in calving, bulls, the number of cattle being fed," Jones said the visitors seemed not only greatly interested in all that they saw, but also appeared to enjoy thoroughly the top-grade beef served to them here.

Oregon Beef Council Chairman Jim Brooks said there is no doubt but what Japan can be developed into an important market for Northwest beef, and could foresee "Beef-O-Rama" type promotion in the not too distant future, to demonstrate to the Japanese housewife how to choose, buy and prepare various cuts of beef.

## First All Pinto Show Scheduled At Tumalo Arena

The Central Oregon Council for the Arts and Humanities is sponsoring the Oregon Pinto Breeders & Exhibitors Association first All Pinto Show August 10 and 11 at the Tumalo Arena, on Highway 20, six miles North-West of Bend and just West of Tumalo, Ore.

The show will commence at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, August 10 with ten Halter Classes: Weanlings, colts & fillies; 1 yr-2 yr. mares; 3yr-8yr mares; 1yr-2yr colts; 3-yr-8yr stallions; 3yr-under geldings; 4yr-8-yr geldings; 8yr-over mares; 8yr-over stallions; and 8yr-over geldings.

Starting at 1:00 p.m. on the same date, the performance classes, for Pintos only, will start with western pleasure, junior (18 & under); western equitation, junior; stock horse, open (no age limits); western pleasure, open; English pleasure, open; trail horse, open; and then the performance classes are to be followed by games. The games are: pole bending, open; lexical barrels, open; figure 8 race, open; and scurry, open.

Of particular interest is that between the morning Pinto halter classes and the afternoon Pinto performance classes and Pinto games, there will be an exhibition of Pinto equestrian feats; 3-gaited classes, jumping, and dressage—all standard competitive events at national and international Horse Shows.

Trophy and ribbons will be given to five places, and a saddle to the high point horse of the show will be given.

In order to be recognized for any high point awards, for this show, Oregon Horse Association, or the Pinto Horse Association,

all horses must be registered with the Pinto Horse Association of America, which is recognized by the American Horse Show Association. Registration of horses may be done at the show grounds, as several inspectors will be on hand to take applications of unregistered Pintos.

Olen Mouser, Gerking Road, Bend, is an inspector. Mouser is chairman of the August 10-11 show and ride. Entries for the show may be obtained from Mouser or from the show secretary, Miss Patricia Kennedy, Rt. 2, Box 80, Troutdale, Oregon, or from the Robert Mill, President Oregon Pinto Breeders & Exhibitors Association, Rt. 2, Box 466, Troutdale, Oregon.

All entries close July 30, 1968, and are to be sent to the Show Secretary, Miss Kennedy. Entry fees for Halter Classes are \$2.00; Open Performances, \$3.00; Junior Performance Classes, \$1.50; and Games are \$2.00. A \$50 extra fee is charged for all Post entries.

On Sunday, August 11, the Oregon Pinto Association will conduct a Trail Ride. The Trail Ride will start at 10:00 p.m. at the Tumalo Arena. The Trail Ride is about 10 miles long and is open to all breeds. A \$1.00 fee is to be charged for the Trail Ride.

Exhibitors Association, Rt. 2, Box 466, Troutdale, Oregon.

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## Many Believed Unaware Of Right to Security Pay

"We are concerned that many people may not know about their right to payments based on changes in the Social Security Law," said John Pasek, field representative of the La Grande District Offices as he told of a recent incident.

"An 18 year old high school senior approached me and excitedly asked, 'Mr. Pasek, is it true that I can get social security checks from my mother's work if I go to college next fall?' After Dave calmed down and supplied more facts, it developed that his mother, who died two years ago, had worked under social security for several years but had not worked for about three years before her death.

"With this information I was able to assure Dave that he would be entitled to payments next fall. In addition he has checks coming to him starting with February, the month the change was effective."

Previously a mother needed 1 1/2 years of work under social security in the three years before her death, disability, or retirement in order for her children to be eligible on her account. Beginning with February, children can be entitled to monthly checks if their mother

had worked long enough at any time to be insured. This is the same requirement that must be met for a child to be entitled on his father's account. The actual length of time it is necessary to work to be insured will vary according to the year of death, retirement, etc.

Payments can start with February, 1968, but they can be based on a death that occurred at any time in the past. Children of a woman worker who started receiving retirement or disability payments in the past could also qualify under this change. In the same manner some dependent widowers and husbands may now be entitled to monthly payments.

Persons who think they might be effected should write, visit, or phone (963-4131), the Social Security District Office at 1802 4th Street in La Grande. They may also visit a representative between 9:00 a.m. and noon on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Neighborhood Center, 120 S. Main, Heppner.

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## Lower Railroad Rates on Grain Suspended by ICC

The long awaited reductions in railroad grain freight rates were published to become effective June 25 only to be suspended by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Reductions ranging from 2.5 to 7.2 cents per bushel were suspended pending ICC investigation after opposition from the truck, barge, milling and grain export industries, according to M. Snell Weatherford, Council of the transportation committee, Oregon Wheat League.

The suspension is being appealed by the railroads with support from the grain producer organizations of Oregon and Washington. If the appeal is successful the new rates could become effective 40 days after the June 25 suspension order. If suspension is not lifted then application of the rates would have to await completion of the ICC investigation and its subsequent ruling as to the legality of the rates. Even if the rates are upheld they will likely become effective too late to be of benefit to much of the 1968 grain crop, Weatherford said.

The rates were opposed on the basis that they are below cost-of-service and would unfairly destroy competition, would give grain exporters and coastal grain mills unfair advantage over interior mills, and would eliminate traditional railroad rules and services essential to stabilizing total grain shipping costs.

The railroads and their supporters assert that opposition charges are without foundation, and that the new rates are essential if the railroads are to continue to haul grain and are essential to the survival of many country grain elevators, that the reductions more than offset any cost increases resulting from lost services and will result in higher prices to farmers for grain.

## New School Year Brings Changes

IRRIGON — The A. C. Houghton grade school in Irrigon will open on Tuesday, September 3. The coming school year promises to be very interesting and quite different from former years in this area.

The 7th and 8th grades, Junior high students, will be going to the new Riverside High school in Boardman, while grade school youngsters from Boardman in grades 1 through 6 will be brought by bus to Irrigon.

Seventh and 8th grade students will not be charged a fee as high school students, but will be requested to purchase student body cards.

New teachers will meet Tuesday, August 27, with Ron Daniels, county school superintendent. All Morrow county teachers will meet at Riverside High in Boardman on Wednesday, August 28, for teachers in-service work day.

There will be no pre-registration or bus routes before September 3, which will be the first day of school. However, new students are asked to come in for registration on Thursday, August 29, or Friday, August 30.

## High Wallowa Lakes Enjoyed on Vacation Trek to Mountains

Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Jones, joined by Dr. Ochs and sons of Crescent City, Calif., and a friend, Ted Nederman of Portland, enjoyed a week of horseback riding and camping in the Wallowa mountains recently.

The group traveled to the end of the Lostine River, from where they went by horseback to Mirror Lake, where they established their base camp. In the ensuing week, they visited many beautiful lakes, among which were Glacier Lake, Razz Lake, and Minam Lake.

The campers enjoyed the scenery, taking many colored slides of the scenic views, and hiking, along with much horseback riding.

## Drop in Number Of Farms Noted

By 1975, the number of farms in Oregon will dwindle to approximately 25,000 if the current trend continues. This statement by the Agri-Business Council closely follows a similar prediction made in California.

Farmers are going out of business in Oregon at the rate of 1,300 a year. In 1950, the state boasted of a healthy agricultural economy for its 59,827 farms. Today, agriculture is far from healthy and the number of Oregon farms has dropped to less than 36,000.

Meanwhile, the Council of California Growers notes that its state will see a decrease from today's 65,000 farms to 30,000 or 35,000 by 1975 unless something is done to make farming more profitable.

Farmers today are generally receiving less for their products than they did 20 years ago, while their costs have soared 25 to 40 percent.

Food prices account for 17 1/2 percent of the family budget, a smaller percentage than ever before. At the same time, the farmers share of the food dollar has shrunk from 30 cents in 1949 to 32 cents today.

During this wave of migration from the farm, growers are making efforts to get better prices for their products both through militant bargaining groups such as the NFO, and bargaining legislation pending in Congress.

If the exodus from the farm continues, the consumer can expect to pay the penalty. Farms will ultimately be taken over by corporations, and corporate stockholders will demand a fair return for their investment — something that individual farmers haven't been able to get.

## Gigantic Auction To Raise Funds For Ag Building

A gigantic benefit auction will be held at the State Fair, with proceeds going to the Agricultural Hall of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI).

The announcement was issued today by OMSI's executive director, Loren McKinley, who added, "We hope to raise \$10,000 for the expansion of our ever-changing agricultural display center."

McKinley notes that the county chairmen throughout the state are now gathering items for the event. "Total market value of the items to be auctioned will be over \$15,000," said McKinley, "so we will be offering some outstanding values."

The auction will be held on Sunday, September 1, between 4 and 7 p.m. According to Robert Stevens, manager of the State Fair, there should be approximately 50,000 people on the fairgrounds during this period.

On September 30, 1967 the Max Lehmann Memorial Agricultural Hall at OMSI was dedicated by Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman. Since that time, nearly 300,000 visitors have been made more conscious of the economic and scientific importance of agriculture.

Agriculture is the state's second largest industry. The OMSI Agricultural Hall explains the significance of this industry through a series of 44 changing displays, in terms that the urban public understands.

The idea of an agricultural hall at OMSI came from Max Lehmann. Ironically, he died before he saw his dream come true. His memory, however, prompted hard work by grass-roots fund raising groups in the rural communities. Nearly \$60,000 came from auctions, pie socials and other money raising events.

Auctions at the county level have provided much of the necessary funds to complete the agricultural hall. The first one was held in 1965 as Tillamook County established the pattern, and collected \$2,800 in the process. Morrow county was among the others which raised funds through an auction.



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