

Outlook Bleak For Northwest Wheat Exports

Exports of soft white wheat from the Northwest have been particularly hard hit in the wake of larger world supplies and the marketing situation looks bleak for next year.

According to Ray Teal, Oregon State University Extension international marketing specialist, export shipments of all wheat out of the Northwest for July and August dropped to 27.5 million bushels from the 34.5 million bushels exported during the same period in 1967.

Nearly all the decline was in white wheat. Teal said hard red winter wheat exports dropped a little over 1.5 million bushels while dark northern spring wheat shipments increased nearly 2.75 million bushels.

He explained that larger wheat crops in most countries have led to less pressure for PL 480 purchases from countries such as India, Pakistan and Korea. (Public Law 480 covers sales for foreign currency and long-term credit sales).

India and Pakistan are growing dwarf varieties and using more fertilizer with resulting higher yields.

Other major exporting countries, such as Canada, Australia, and Argentina, also have more wheat to offer in competition to U. S. wheat, Teal said. For example, Australia increased its acreage of wheat this year when farmers seeded wheat in sheep pastures destroyed by drought. Losses in wool income from reduced sheep flocks are recovered more quickly by growing wheat than by rebuilding flocks, he added.

In addition, Australia is using more nitrogen fertilizer and irrigating more land. Teal said these changes should produce an all-time record wheat crop in that country.

It all adds up to a tough marketing situation for Northwest white wheat in the future, according to Teal. Foreign aid in the form of concessional sales for foreign currencies or long-term dollar credit was responsible for the export of nearly 100 million bushels of white wheat in the 1967-68 marketing season.

While all of these exports will not be lost during the current season, Teal expects a decrease which could result in large carryovers next July 1.

Some estimates of the carryover of soft white wheat run as high as 40 to 50 million bushels, Teal noted, even though India and Pakistan are expected to purchase wheat after Jan. 1, 1969.

Activities Planned

At the November 14 meeting of Irrigon 4-H Community club, held at A. C. Houghton cafeteria, a Thanksgiving dance was planned for November 15. For next month's activity, a Christmas party will be held at the December community meeting. On November 23 there will be a meeting in Pendleton for members 15 and over. A work day was mentioned for the spring to raise money for the club.

Horseman members gave a project talk. They were Vicki Sullivan and Debbie Huwe. There was a movie shown, "Close Look at Desert Animals".

Cheryl Hinkley, reporter

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Frolicking with Jerry Lewis is every child's dream, and it's quite obvious that Holly Schmidt is enjoying herself thoroughly. She's national poster child for Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, the voluntary health agency of which the famous comedian is national chairman. Separately and together, they're doing everything they can to win support for MDA's fund raising drive, the March Against Muscular Dystrophy, now under way throughout the nation. The drive finances world-wide research and an extensive program of services for patients and their families.

Forestry Planting Tops 13,000 Acres In Oregon in '68

Forest rehabilitation efforts in Oregon during fiscal year 1968 resulted in the planting and seeding of more than 13,000 acres of land at a cost of almost \$288,000, according to Jack Wanek, reforestation assistant for the State Forestry Department.

More than 8,900 acres were planted with nearly four million mixed fir, spruce, pine and Douglas fir seedlings, and 4,200 acres were sown with close to 2,400 pounds of seed.

Site preparation prior to planting or seeding was accomplished on 5,400 acres at a cost of a little over \$51,000.

In northwest Oregon, 3,135,000 trees and 2,160 pounds of seed were put on 10,400 acres of land at a cost of \$221,000. In southern Oregon it cost \$38,100 to put some 382,300 trees and 210 pounds of seed on 1,700 acres of land. In eastern Oregon 133,800 trees were planted on 226 acres of land at a cost of \$10,000. The picture in the Willamette area shows 315,000 trees planted on 791 acres of land at almost \$19,000.

More than 8,000 acres of this work was done on the Tillamook State Forest (formerly the Tillamook Burn) where 5,000 acres were planted with nearly two and one-half million seedlings. About 2,850 acres of this was planted on a first-time basis, and 2,150 acres were replanted where original planting efforts failed.

Almost 2,000 pounds of seed went into seeding or reseeding another 3,400 acres. More than 450 miles of road were improved in the Tillamook Forest during the year.

As of June 30 this year, 86,600 acres of the Tillamook State Forest have been planted, 199,000 acres seeded and 220 miles of snag-free fire breaks constructed. Completion of reforestation there is expected by the 1972-73 season.

Club Elects Officers

Ione Livestock and Crops 4-H club met last week in the Ione High school library at 3:30 p.m. They discussed new and old business, and voted to make signs to put at the edge of town. We had to elect a new news reporter, who is John Ekstrom. At the October 10 meeting we elected the following officers: Herb Ekstrom, president; Glen Griffith, vice-president; Clay West, secretary, and Danny Akers, reporter, now held by John Ekstrom.

John Ekstrom, reporter

Irrigation Water Lowest in State In Thirty Years

Irrigation water supplies this year in Umatilla, Morrow and Gilliam counties were the poorest since the "thirties" until the unusually good August rains temporarily improved the situation, according to a report released today by A. J. Webber, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Portland.

Most stored water supplies were exhausted by mid-August even though "rotation" and "on-and-off" distribution plans were employed. Many water users improved their water application efficiency this season and quite a few applied all their water only to the better producing lands.

Precipitation at Pendleton from September 1, 1967 to August 1, 1968, was reported as 57 percent average by the U. S. Weather Bureau. August rains increased this percentage only slightly to 61 percent average.

A winter of unusually heavy snow accumulation will be needed if the 1969 water supplies are to be satisfactory in this region.

As forecasted for the statewide outlook, Oregon's 1968 water supplies have been severely short in most areas. The outlook for water in 1969 is drastically poor unless the coming winter brings a superabundance of deep mountain snowpacks with water content greatly in excess of usual amounts.

Oregon Farmers' Income Placed At \$147.6 Million

Crops and livestock produced on Oregon farms in 1967 grossed \$523.6 million but after deducting \$441.7 million in production costs farmers had a net income of only \$147.6 million, and this included an allowance for government payments, rents received and home farm products consumption.

These figures received by the State Department of Agriculture from the U. S. Department of Agriculture also showed that, while crops and livestock in Oregon in 1967 grossed \$13.7 million more than the previous year, production expenses increased so much that farmers' net income from crops and livestock in 1967 was \$7.7 million below the previous year.

Crops contributed 56.3 percent of the total gross or \$294,566,000. Gross income from livestock was \$229,077,000. With a gross income of \$135,612,000, meat animals made the largest contribution, 25.8 percent. However, the gross from meat animals was \$3,075,000 below 1966.

Dairy products showed a \$1,976,000 increase over the previous year for a 1967 gross of \$49,860,000. Poultry and eggs were down to \$33,018,000 from a gross in 1966 of \$36,622,000 and miscellaneous livestock declined from \$11,291,000 to \$10,587,000.

Gross income from food grains increased by \$6,943,000 for a 1967 total of \$46,345,000 but feed crop gross income dropped from \$33,402,000 in 1966 to \$26,511,000 in 1967.

Vegetables and fruits and nuts increased their gross incomes. The gross from vegetables in 1967 was \$70,647,000 compared with \$65,778,000 in 1966, while fruits and nuts went up to \$71,195,000 in 1967 from \$65,622,000 the previous year. The "all other crops" category increased its gross to \$79,868,000 in 1967. The previous year it was \$71,165,000.

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Figures Reveal Grain Movement Downward Trend

A reduction in sales of grain for export is indicated by inspection figures compiled by the grain division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. These figures not only show September of this year running behind the same month a year ago and August of this year, but also show a decline in both

Bank Reports Record Gains

In response to the U. S. Comptroller of the Currency's quarterly statement of condition call, First National Bank of Oregon has released deposit and loan figures which exceed those for any comparable date in the bank's 103-year history.

President Ralph J. Voss announced record high deposits of \$1,552,930,359 and loans of \$994,225,959 were listed October 30, the official call date. These figures represent increases of nearly \$144 million in deposits and \$128 million in loans over the previous third-quarter call on October 4 of last year.

The Heppner branch reported deposits of \$6,127,654 and loans of \$6,526,225 as of October 30, according to John Venard, manager.

Comparable totals for the branch a year ago were \$6,105,766 in deposits and \$5,528,026 in loans.

HEPPNER SCHOOLS LUNCH MENUS

Monday, Nov. 25 — White beans, Jell-O salad, cinnamon roll, fruit, milk.

Thursday, Nov. 26 — Turkey with dressing, gravy, peas, rolls, butter, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, milk.

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incoming and export grain inspections at Portland and Astoria the first three months of the fiscal year starting July 1, 1968.

Grain exported from Portland and Astoria in September, 1968, dropped to 199,924 tons from 238,246 tons in August. In September a year ago inspections covered 372,637 tons of export grain.

In the period July 1-September 30 of this year inspections were made on 619,688 tons of grain for export. For the same period a year ago the figure was 894,247 tons.

Inspections on incoming grain at Portland and Astoria this September covered 242,387 tons. A year ago the total was 442,090 tons and in August this year 302,722 tons.

The total for incoming grain through September 30 this fiscal year is 780,597 tons. This is 270,722 tons less than for the same period a year ago.

The same downward trend is indicated in inspection figures for the Pendleton office of the grain division. That office's figures showed inspectors checked 59,460 tons of inspection and diversion grain from July 1 through September 30, 1968, and 20,270 tons of grain unloaded, graded and weighed. In the

same period a year ago the inspection and diversion grain totaled 134,404 tons and grain unloaded and graded and weighed 23,394 tons.

At Merrill the trend was reversed. For the first three months of this fiscal year the inspection and diversion grain figures totaled 52,982 tons, while for the same period a year ago the total was 47,408 tons.

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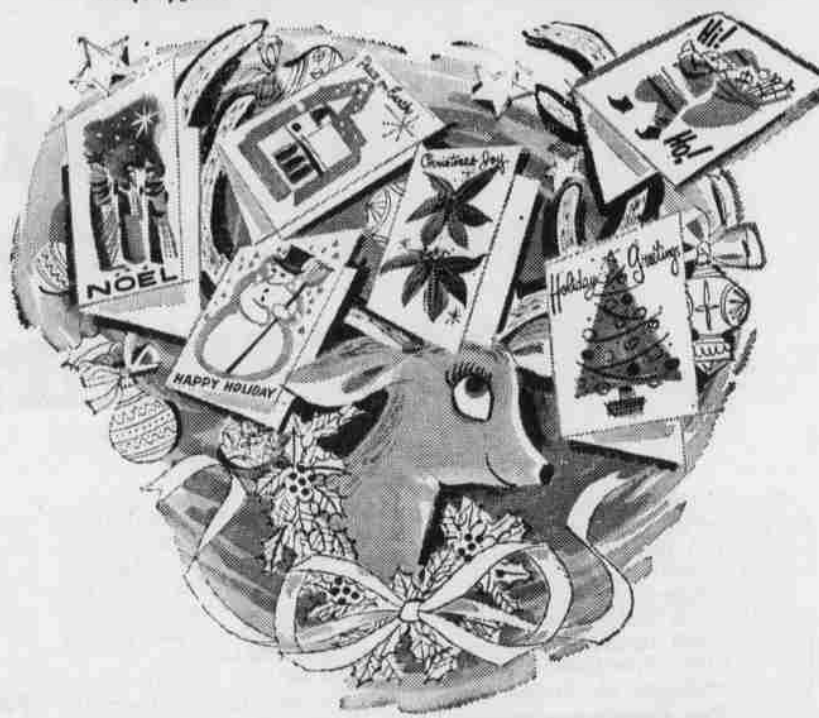
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