

FARM

Livestock Brand Owners Missing

Usually the Livestock Division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture is concerned with strayed livestock. This time it is strayed owners of livestock brands. Some 1,500 of the approximately 17,500 applications mailed to owners of livestock brands for renewal of their brands have been returned to the department marked by the postal service as "unable to locate". The department has taken every possible step to locate these people through the postal service, having gone so far as to pay the 10 cents required to obtain forwarding addresses of those brand owners who have moved and not notified the department. This procedure has resulted in some 900 address corrections being received. Under the law livestock brands must be renewed every five years and a new brand book

published. Yearly supplements are published each following year. Those brands not rerecorded are considered as available for other livestock owners after a reasonable time. The department started mailing the applications for rerecording shortly after the first of July and as of August 7 over 5,500 of the approximately 17,500 applications mailed had been returned and rerecorded by the Livestock Division. Wilma Russell, supervisor of brand recording for the department, is advising persons who have not received their applications to contact the department immediately and ask for their renewal application. She also urges brand owners to immediately inform the department when they have a change of address or have transferred their brand, since this is a separate process from rerecording.

Oregon Economy Requires Burning Says Farm Bureau

The Oregon Farm Bureau federation Aug. 4 said that a statement by Governor McCall asking for a ban on agricultural field burning is inconsistent with Oregon's economic interests and efforts by the grass seed industry to control air pollution. Over \$30 million of new wealth is created by the grass seed industry in Oregon, according to David Nelson, OFBF executive secretary. This is a renewable resource that creates an indirect benefit to the state's economy of approximately \$200

million, said Nelson, quoting economists at Oregon State University. Producers have stated that an accelerated research program is necessary to find alternatives to burning, which is now the only cultural practice through which certain diseases can be controlled. A \$25,000 research fund is being raised by producers since a special research appropriation was not approved by the legislature.

OSU research indicates that production of fine fescue seed is reduced to one fourth to one third of the production with no burning, as contrasted to burning in early August. This loss in production efficiency would destroy the grass seed industry, Nelson charged.

He said the Farm Bureau disagrees with the governor's statement that smoke from field burning is a "threat to health." He explained that research by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and OSU to date has indicated that smoke from field burning is not a health hazard.

Nelson went on to say that the Farm Bureau also disagrees

with the governor's saying that current legislation (H. B. 1228) is inadequate. H. B. 1228 is a positive program by producers to control air pollution by regulating field burning with a schedule developed by the Environmental Quality Control commission, Nelson explained. At their June 28 meeting, he said, the majority of the Environmental Quality Control commission members agreed that much more needs to be learned about conditions related to field burning and asked their staff to maintain statistical information so that revisions in the field burning schedule could be made at a later date.

A complete ban on agricultural field burning would destroy the industry and is about as practical as a complete ban on the operation of automobiles, which researchers say are the number one cause of air pollution, Nelson concluded.

Grain Producers Urged to Enter Fair Exhibits

By HAROLD E. KERR
County Extension Agent

The Morrow County Fair is almost here. Grain producers are urged to collect samples to enter the classes at the fair. Exhibit requirements are listed on pages 1 and 17 of the premium book. This year should be one of the best in recent years for outstanding exhibits.

Left out of last week's article about certified seed growers was Rudy Bergstrom who has 15 acres of lone barley. This winter barley has out-yielded Hudson barley at the Pendleton Experiment Station.

A Pacific Northwest Wheat Summary released August 1 by David Herbert, Agriculture Statistician USDA, shows wheat stocks up significantly. On July 1, 1969, stocks of all wheat classes in Oregon and Washington totaled 44.5 million bushels, 82% higher than a year ago. Farm stocks were up 73 percent and off-farm were up 85 percent.

Wheat was used for feed to a greater extent this year than previously. In 1968, 11.2 million bushels were fed to livestock in Oregon and Washington compared to 7.6 million in 1967.

An interesting set of statistics came across my desk this week. The U. S. Farmer is producing over 20 percent more products on 6% fewer acres than in 1957-59.

The output per man-hour on the farm increased 82% between 1957 and 1968. In 1967, one U. S. farmer supplied the food and fibre needs of 43 persons, compared with 23 in 1957-59.

Superintendents Of Fair Told

Unsung heroes of county fair are the many superintendents in both 4-H and Open Class that year after year contribute their time to planning, working and guiding the events at the fair. Superintendents of each 4-H event at the fair are 4-H leaders who have already spent a year working with the members.

General Superintendent for 4-H Home Economics events this year is Mrs. Roland (Donna) Bergstrom of Lone. Superintendents for 4-H foods are Rita Wolff, Pat Pettyjohn, Carla Leighton and Grace Steers.

Clothing superintendents are Betty Carlson, Bonnie Adamson, Barbara Hinkle, Shirley McCarl and Helen Black.

Style Revue superintendents are Donna Bergstrom, Eileen Padberg, Bonnie Adamson, Gladys Van Winkle, Gladys Hobbs and Beverly Doherty.

Knitting superintendents will be Nancy Ekstrom, Bess Kerlin and Rachel Harpelt. Demonstration and Contest superintendents are Ruth McCabe, Mildred Davidson, Rita Wolff, Daria Umbarger, Pat Pettyjohn, Nancy Ekstrom and Betty Carlson.

General superintendent for 4-H Agriculture is Gail McCarty, Morrow County 4-H and Livestock agent. Other livestock superintendents are 4-H Bee, Louie Carlson, Pig Scramble, Don McElligott, Dairy, Kurt Gartenbein, Swine, Dick McElligott and Pete Richards; Sheep, Gene Hall and Bernard Doherty. Superintendents for miscellaneous 4-H classes are Flowers, Rita Wolff; Rabbits and Poultry, Mrs. John Phillips, and Leathercraft, Pete Richards.

Terry Corbin visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Corbin the past week-end. He left Sunday to return to his job in Portland.

Wheat Certificates, Allotments, May Be Phased Out of Use

Failure of both the Food and Agriculture act of 1965 and the International Wheat Trade convention has brought about three major Oregon farm groups on the question of acreage allotments and other federal regulatory programs and a return to the market system.

Claude Williams, Prineville, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau federation, said at the opening session of the OFBF's annual mid-summer resolutions conference in Bend last week that wheat farmers are harvesting a bumper crop but prices are at a disastrously low level.

John Welbes, Pendleton, executive vice president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, and Denny Jones, Juntura, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, participated in the conference and gave the views of their respective organizations concerning Farm Bureau's proposed marketing plan that would replace the current farm program.

The Farm Bureau program would phase out acreage allotments, wheat certificates, annual diversion programs and direct payments over a five-year period. During this five-year transition period the Cropland Adjustment Program of retiring land on a long-term basis would gradually be expanded with emphasis on whole farms and a special transitional program would be available to low-income farmers.

The Farm Bureau program was presented in testimony August 5 before the Senate Agriculture committee by representatives of the American Farm Bureau and presidents of several state Farm Bureaus, Williams said.

He concluded that he was very much pleased that the large number of farmers and ranchers represented in the Farm Bureau, the Wheat League and the Cattlemen's association are in agreement on many issues about the future needs of agriculture in Oregon and the United States.

Charges Brought Against Former Stockyard Agent

Delbert Anson, former operator of Hermiston Livestock Commission Co., Hermiston, has been charged with violating weighing requirements under the Packers and Stockyards Act, the U. S. Department of Agriculture said August 8.

Anson is registered as a livestock market agency and dealer. He operated in north-central and northeast Oregon as well as in south-central Washington. The market has operated under new management since Dec. 15, 1968.

The administrative complaint was filed by USDA's Packers and Stockyards Administration (P&SA).

Filing a complaint does not prove that Anson violated the P&S Act. He has a right to a hearing to determine if the evidence supports the charges.

P&SA alleges that Anson: (1) Bought and resold livestock as a dealer at weights other than the correct weights; (2) Failed to issue to livestock sellers scale tickets containing adequate information; and (3) Failed to operate livestock scales to insure weighing of livestock bought or sold.

If the charges are proven, he would be ordered to stop such practices. His registration may also be temporarily suspended.

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