

SPI Inspection Fees Increased

Increases in costs of making federal-state shipping point inspections have resulted in the Oregon Department of Agriculture's raising its inspection fees in an effort to offset these rising costs.

The increases, which became effective September 8, average 30 percent and range from 20 percent to 40 percent. All of the fees have been increased, but the time schedule for the start of overtime charges remains the same.

This is after eight hours of shed operation (per scheduled shift) or 6 p.m., whichever comes first on Monday through Friday of each week, and any time on Saturdays, Sundays, or any day declared by law to be a holiday for state employees.

The new overtime rate is \$5.50 per hour for all time involved and is in addition to the regular inspection fees. Previously it was \$4.00.

Mileage rate for those inspections involving unusual travel is now nine cents per mile. Previously it was eight cents per mile.

Shipping point inspections for fresh commodities and processing fruits and vegetables on which the inspections are requested come under an Oregon Department of Agriculture program that under the law must be self-supporting. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969, the program cost \$70,000 more to operate than was received in fees but the department was able to meet the additional costs from a reserve fund.

The department presented its problem to its Shipping Point Advisory Committee and, after providing those who had used the service during the past two years with the proposed increases, held six hearings to discuss the proposals—one in each SPI district.

Objections to the increases were voiced at some of the hearings, but no alternate proposals were made that would assure adequate funds to maintain the service.

George Moose, chief of the Plant Division, which administers the program, said the new fees were put into effect after all testimony given at the hearings was weighed against the necessity of maintaining an adequate program and no alternative could be found.

FARM

Annual Meeting Set By Sheep Growers

Oregon Sheep Growers have set the annual meeting of sheepmen for December 3, 4 and 5 at the Imperial Hotel in Portland, according to Walter Shumway, president, McMinnville.

A list of noted speakers appearing on the program for the three day event include Dr. Max Judge, Food Technologist, Purdue University; Dr. W. C. Weir, Ruminant Nutritionist, University of California; Davis, Calif. George Hislop, Yakima, Wash. Dr. Robert Dickson, DVM, Bakerville, Calif., and Dr. Lavon Koger, DVM, Washington State University.

Participants from Oregon State University include Dr. O. Burton Wood, Director Experiment Stations; Dr. Jim Youde, Agricultural Economist; Dr. James Oldfield, Head of Department of Animal Sciences and Dr. Ralph Bogart, Animal Geneticist.

The conference will consider a list of ten selected topics set by the executive committee of the Sheep Growers. The topics will revolve around the subjects of Grading and Marketing Lambs, Merchandising and Processing of Lambs and Feeding and Care of Sheep and Lambs. The annual "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest will be held December 5 at the Benson Hotel. Competition is open to young ladies from age 10 through 21 for garments made of 100% American loomed wool. Details of the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest are available from the county extension offices.

Cleve Dumdi, Secretary of the Oregon Sheep Growers Association, said many important decisions will be made this year at the annual conference business meeting and that the general program is designed as a fast moving busy three day conference.

Weekly Crop Report

Some grain emerged. Fall seeding underway throughout county. Some areas need more moisture.

Many calves being delivered. Fall pasture prospects look excellent.

OSU Researcher Says Ag Co-ops Important

Agricultural cooperatives have become an important part of Oregon's economy, according to Dr. James G. Youde, one of several Oregon State University agricultural economists studying co-op formation, function and financing.

"Latest available figures," Youde reports, "indicate that gross sales of Oregon cooperatives providing farm supplies, processing and marketing, and related services now exceed \$375 million annually, and that net sales—those excluding business between cooperatives—are approaching \$290 million."

And, he points out, these figures do not include business conducted by the state's production-oriented and financing co-operatives, which also generate substantial economic growth.

"There now are about 100 agricultural or ag-related cooperatives headquartered or operating in Oregon," Youde continues, "and co-op memberships are now estimated to total more than 65,000."

The OSU researcher notes that cooperatives, among other things, have enabled farmers to extend the ownership and control of their products into processing and marketing channels. This has helped farmers earn higher returns and also has increased competition for supplies of raw products.

Bargaining cooperatives in the state, he reports, also have helped farmers increase raw-product prices.

Youde estimates that co-ops now handle, for example, more than half of the milk produced in Oregon; close to half of the grain and seed; more than a third of the vegetables, fruits and nuts; and nearly a third of the farm supplies.

Reflecting the ever-increasing importance of cooperatives throughout the nation, October has been designated National Cooperative Month. Theme of this year's observance is "Cooperatives: Progress Through People."

Concerning the observance, Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin recently stated, "The cooperative concept—the idea of progress through people working together—has long been a vital force in the free enterprise system, especially in agriculture."

"Many co-ops," Hardin continued, "have helped farmers to increase their incomes. Cooperative marketings of farm products and purchases of supplies and services now exceed \$17 billion annually."

OSU, Youde notes, conducts a varied program of research, teaching and extension activities that concern agricultural cooperatives. For example, research and extension personnel have been instrumental in developing information vital to successful co-op mergers. Such mergers can help make cooperatives more efficient and economically viable.

DO YOU REMEMBER?



DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN . . . 4-H Fairs in North Morrow county were one of the highlights of the year at Boardman? Club booths display work of some of the groups, stressing such



themes as "Cook and Save", "Working Together for World Understanding", "Serving as Loyal Citizens through 4-H", and "Going Ahead with the 4-H Pledge".

Hearing Draws Grape Growers

Asserting that there is a fantastic opportunity for grapes for wine in Oregon, representatives of the grape industry approved the Oregon Department of Agriculture's proposal to establish a quarantine against the grapevine fanleaf and leafroll viruses at a hearing in Salem recently.

They also ask that phylloxera, an injurious insect pest of grapes, be included on the quarantine list and that the state take steps to establish regulations covering intrastate movement of grape stock.

The regulations as proposed by the department cover interstate movement of grape cuttings.

The quarantine proposed would cover all states and territories of the United States. Cuttings would have to come from nursery stock certified to be free from leafroll and fanleaf and be accompanied by a certificate of inspection issued by an authorized inspector of the state of origin.

When shipment is made of the cuttings into Oregon the department would be notified and the cuttings held by the person

Knitty Stitchers

The meeting was called to order by Sharon McCarl. Joyce Marquardt led us in the pledge to the flag. Judy Ledbetter led us in the pledge to the 4-H flag. There was no old business. New business was to elect new officers.

The officers elected were: Barbara McCarl, president; Carlita Marquardt, vice-president; Jan Edwards, secretary; Lolita Marquardt, news reporter, and Margie Viall, treasurer.

The new name chosen for the club is "The Knitty Stitchers". The next meeting will be November 3.

Lolita Marquardt, news reporter

Final Sign-up Set for Workshop

Final sign-up date for taking the "Sewing Pants for Women" workshop in Morrow county will be October 15.

This free workshop is open to any interested woman, with classes being held in Heppner, Ione and Boardman.

Interested Boardman women are invited to contact Mrs. Mel (Lois) Allyn, chairman of the Boardman Extension Unit, or project leaders Mrs. Bob Sicard, or Mrs. Cleve Hinton. Heppner, Ione and Lexington women call County Extension Office, 676-9642.

Grain Exports Show Increase

Grain exported from the Ports of Portland and Astoria in August was 15,693 tons ahead of the previous month. Inspection figures of the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Grain Division showed the shipments totaled 218,891 tons in August.

Incoming grain at those ports in August was also ahead of the previous month. The August figure was 339,434 tons and, in July, it was 227,654 tons.

Protein analyses made by the grain laboratory in August to-

taled 4,082, which were 1,578 more than in July.

At Pendleton August inspections covered 14,090 tons of incoming grain weighed and inspected and 780 tons of inspection and diversion grain, while in July 5,752 tons of incoming grain were inspected and weighed and 420 tons of inspection and diversion grain moved.

Merrill in August had 19,218 tons of inspection and diversion grain and the previous month 1,136 tons.

HAYRIDE AND DANCE

SATURDAY, OCT. 18

For Grades 9-12

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DANCE -- 9-12 P.M.

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