

## Heptachlor use still possible if precautions are taken

Continued use of the wireworm seed treatment, heptachlor, may be possible if farmers observe strict precautions with treated seed, says the Oregon Wheat Growers League.

Seed grain treated with heptachlor to fight wireworms has been blamed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with killing geese, pheasants and other birds in parts of Umatilla and Morrow counties.

"Cover all bulk seed shipments and clean up any seed spills on the highway and in fields," said OWGL President John Cuthbert.

Wheat growers have been unable to find any substitute for heptachlor, which is under a 1982 deadline for ending all use.

"We have requested the maker of heptachlor to help us in obtaining evidence that could help convince the Environmental Protection Agency to extend the 1982 deadline, said Wes Grilley, executive vice president of the OWGL.

"If we can prevent the deaths of game birds it improves our chances of getting clearance" for continued use of heptachlor, Grilley said.

At least 15 meetings have been held with farmers to tell them of the need for careful use and control of treated seed grain.

The wheat growers fear that the Fish and Wildlife Service will press for an immediate ban on heptachlor use. Finding a substitute for heptachlor has proved frustrating, wheat league officials said, because chemical companies and state universities seem to show no interest in researching the subject.

## Oregon NFO backs Atiyeh, opposes RARE II wild areas

Republican gubernatorial candidate Vic Atiyeh was endorsed by the Oregon National Farmers Organization, during the farm group's annual convention last week in Lincoln City.

In other political-related developments, the state NFO chapter also passed a resolution stating the farm group's opposition to creating large federal wilderness areas through the U.S. Forest Service's proposed RARE II program.

The Oregon NFO resolution did favor granting wilderness status to "small, unique areas that follow well-defined natural management boundaries adjacent to present wilderness areas."

In order to counteract what it termed "a potential dangerous monopoly" of Northwest meat packing plants, the Oregon NFO also resolved to attempt to pool livestock production so that the state farm organization could bargain for a contract with the packers.

State President Don Peterson of Lone urged members to set up farm commodity meetings in their home areas, in order to generate collective bargaining power aimed at establishing profitable price levels.

"Profitable price levels in the country translates into earned income, which is the only new income available to the economy." The new earned farm income, Peterson said, would result in a lower inflation rate and lower interest costs to producer and consumer alike.

### Wheat League backs measure 6

The board of directors of the Oregon Wheat Growers League has endorsed Ballot Measure 6—but not without reservations.

Measure 6 is the property tax limitation proposal that will come before Oregon voters in November.

The wheat growers recommended that if Measure 6 is approved by voters, the 1979 Legislature should immediately submit the following changes in it to the state's voters:

1. Remove the restriction that two-thirds of the registered voters must vote on tax measures, with a two-thirds majority;

2. Remove the restriction on change of ownership assessment;

3. Clarify the bonding capacity of state and local government.

The board's unanimous action came on a motion by Stan Timmermann, Pendleton, and followed a presentation of both Measure 6 and Measure 11, the legislature's alternative to Six.

## Firewood up for grabs

throughout most of

## Umatilla National Forest

The Umatilla Forest is now open for firewood cutting except for active sale areas, announced H. B. Rudolph, Forest Supervisor.

Sufficient rains have fallen to permit the public to cut wood throughout the Forest.

Firewood permits are still required and may be obtained in person or by mail from the District Ranger offices in Pendleton, Dale, Ukiah, and Heppner.

Even though the Forest is

being opened for cutting, power saws must be equipped with a spark arrestor containing a woven wire screen with a maximum opening size of .023 of an inch. Screens are available at most power saw dealers and power saw repair shops. Inspection of saws for spark arrestor screens is no longer being required to obtain the permit, but saws may be inspected in the woods by a Forest Officer.

## Kinzua and U.S. Forest Service to swap land

Kinzua Corporation of Heppner and the Umatilla National Forest are proceeding with an exchange of certain lands located in Grant, Morrow,

Umatilla, and Wheeler Counties.

Kinzua Corporation is offering 1,272.72 acres to the Umatilla National Forest in

exchange for 1,760.04 acres of National Forest land.

The exchange lands are located mostly around Wellmore and Wilson Prairie.

There are also 40 acres near Coalmine Hill and 40 acres near Hidaway Springs involved.

The lands being considered

are primarily timber and range lands. This exchange may be completed by mid 1979.

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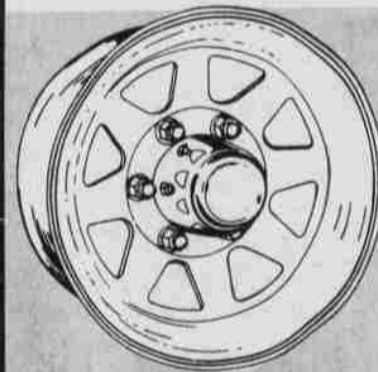
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