

Moldboards and matches 33 participate in Bike-a-thon

By the Soil Conservation Service

Growers are currently in the beginning stages of their spring tillage programs and now is a good time to stress residue management.

Heavy residue cover provides tremendous protection against erosion, but it does interfere with tillage and seeding. The objective in conservation farming is to maintain an adequate amount of residue on the soil surface at seeding time, yet allow a reasonable succession of tillage implements to work the field during the season. During years of above average precipitation, larger yields produce excess residue and may compound weed problems. Temptations turn to moldboarding, excessive tillage, or burning stubble to solve these problems. These residue management alternatives work, but they go too far. The amount of residue remaining after these practices are completed is not adequate to prevent soil erosion. There is also a cost directly related to soil loss and nutrient loss resulting from these practices.

For every ton of straw burned, the loss in plant nutrients is estimated to be about \$5. This assumes all of the nitrogen and one-half of the sulfur is volatilized. As a general rule, winter wheat produces 100 pounds of residue for every bushel of yield. A 40 bushel yield would then leave 4,000 pounds per acre of residue after harvest. Burning this residue costs a grower about \$10 per acre in lost nutrients.

There is a cost associated with soil loss due to inadequate residue cover. The plant nutrients in a ton of average top soil is valued around \$6. One inch of top soil loss is equivalent to 169 tons of soil per acre. Soil loss, in tons, can then be multiplied by six to figure dollar value lost by soil erosion. As the soil profile becomes shallower, yield decreases more rapidly. Declining yields, as a result of topsoil loss, is often hidden since these areas are not harvested separately. Improved varieties and other technology have significantly raised grain yields. However, the cost of fertilizer, seed, equipment, and labor probably does not meet the yield on poor and eroded areas. Unfortunately, eroded areas produce the least amount of stubble and these areas need the most protection.

Adequate crop residue, produced and left remaining on the soil surface, has a direct beneficial effect on soil moisture intake, soil fertility, decreased soil surface crusting, and ease of tillage. Hard, dense soils require more energy to till than mellow, friable soils.

What is adequate residue? The following table is a general guideline to the amount of residue needed on the soil surface at seeding time, to provide protection from wind and water erosions.

Field Slope	Surface Residue Needed
0 - 3 percent	1,000 lbs.
8 - 15 percent	1,200 - 1,500 lbs.
15 percent plus	1,500 - 2,200 lbs.

Every grower's goal should be to make each tillage operation accomplish the result intended - but no more. Farmers need to select a sequence of tillage operations that leave an adequate residue cover at seeding time. Recently, each grower received a chart from ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service) showing the amount of residue reduced by various types of farm machinery. Use the chart to see how your particular sequence of tillage reduces your residue at seeding time. Compare your end result with the residue required for water erosion control given here. If you're not maintaining enough residue by seeding time, you should consider reducing the number or severity of tillage operations.

Straw length is an important consideration in residue management. Straw, which is short and evenly distributed, will flow through tillage implements well, and still protect soil against erosion. In some years, a power-driven flail may be desirable to shorten stubble length after harvest. Eliminating one tillage operation or using a less destructive implement will add valuable residue cover. One consideration, for example, may be to replace a disking operation with a chisel operation. You may find a portion of your field that could be farmed with a less destructive implement while still accomplishing the same farming objective. Finally, a contact herbicide may be a valuable spring tillage aid by killing weeds early, and reducing the number of tillage operations needed during the season. Any form of reduced tillage requires careful management but the preserved soil resource will pay long-term dividends.

Holy Land presentation slated in Heppner

Les Fowler will begin a six week, multi-media presentation of the Holy Land on Friday, April 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Heppner.

Fowler said about 15,000 slides will be seen during the six week series.

There will be no charge to attend the presentations and child care will also be provided at no charge.

Americans now spend nearly \$200 billion yearly on leisure and recreation.



Story and photo By CATHY PECK

The annual area bike-a-thon took place under threatening skies this year, but 33 participants rode to the finish. Margaret and Bill Nichols were co-chairmen of the event this year, the fifth since the event's organization. Bikers rode 22 miles between Ruggs and Lone, stopping at four checkpoints along the way. In lone, they were given a hot dog picnic lunch.

"Many people, including the Morrow County Search and

Rescue Possee and Posseettes helped with the bike-a-thon. Millie Breeding and Cindi Lawson registered and tagged bikers. Leona Winters assisted bikers at a check station, and Linda Dunaway and Mary Wilson helped during the picnic lunch at the Lone Legion Hall.

Search and Rescue members also helped throughout the morning, beginning at the starting line with an explanation of the event to the participants. Captain Dan McBride was assisted by Eddie Olson, Fred Breeding, Rich

and Olson, Jerry Brace, Bob Montgomery, Jim Launer, Norris Dooney, Bill Baker, Bob Nairns, Terry Voltz and Gary Lawson. Morrow Co Sheriff Larry Fetsch and Deputy Greg Tullius also assisted.

Food for the lunch was donated by Central Market, S&I Market and Del's Market. Pepsi-Cola Company donated soft drinks. Proceeds from the bike-a-thon will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital for the study and treatment of children's cancer.

Science Fair winners announced

By CATHY PECK

Winners at the Lone Science Fair, held April 15 were announced at a Cardinal Club meeting that same evening.

Fifth grade winners were first place - Dustin Padberg and Jill Conklin; and second place - Michelle Beck. Winners in the sixth grade were first place - Cathy Martin, Dick McElligott and Kim Snyder. Second places went to Pat Clough and Doug Raaf. Judges for the Science Fair were Dorothy Krebs, Joel Peterson, Del LaRue, and Darrel Wilson.

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade were not judged. Those students presented group projects. Kindergarten students had studied animal habitats and constructed a display of animal burrows. The first grade displayed a study on shadows. The students traced a shadow at morning, and again at noon, and compared them. Second grade did a study on magnets and made a videotape which ran during the fair.

The third grade presented a project on seeds, growing bean and grass seeds. They



Pat Clough with his project called 'What is electrolysis?' Pat won a red ribbon

also grew crystal gardens. Fourth grades had four group projects including a display on dinosaurs, kept a log of chemical reactions, studied the amounts of sugar in different breakfast cereals and presented a report "How much Cereal Is In Your Sugar?" They also studied food chains.

Coordinator for the Science Fair was fifth grade teacher Karen Beck.

Also announced at the Cardinal Club meeting were new officers for the 1982-83 school year. Linda Conklin

will serve as president, vice president will be Nancy Miller and Joan Doherty will serve as secretary.

Children's choir to act at Heppner Nazarene Sun.

The children's choir of Crestline Church of the Nazarene, Spokane, Wash., will present a musical, "His Fleece Is White As Snow" at the Heppner Nazarene Church on Sunday, April 25 at 10 a.m. Mrs. Paul Barber of Spokane will direct the musical.

The group will also provide special music during the 11 a.m. worship service, said Floyd Wilks, pastor of Heppner Nazarene.

"Everyone is welcome to attend these special services," Wilks said.

What's Your Opinion?



Question: "Are you going trout fishing this Saturday?" "If my wife wasn't campaigning I would," said Bill Kuhn, Heppner. "We usually do a lot of fishing."

The legal yard in the time of King Henry I of England was the distance from the king's nose to about the end of his thumb.

Children's Choir From Spokane, WA Presents The Musical 'His Fleece Is White As Snow'

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Place- Church of the Nazarene

Time- 10:a.m.

-Everyone Welcome & Invited-

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