

Fifth CRP signup underway

Farmers who want to enter highly erodible cropland into the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 10-year Conservation Reserve Program may do so during the program's fifth signup period July 20-31, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Peter C. Myers said.

Myers also said that no bonus annual rental payments will be made on CRP land offered during this signup period.

During the signup period, producers will be given the option to enter into a CRP contract beginning with either the 1987 or 1988 crop year. "CRP cropland offered for 1988 contracts during the fifth signup may not be grazed after October 1," Myers said. "Gleaning of 1987 grain or crop residue is considered part of the harvesting operation and is permissible."

The CRP is one of the conservation initiatives contained in the Food Security Act of 1985 designed to reduce soil erosion. Under the CRP, owners and operators of highly erodible cropland agree to cease production on the land for a 10-year period and to devote it to conservation uses.

Land is considered highly erodible if it meets either of two standards. Under the first standard, the land must have an erodibility index equal to or greater than the number eight for either wind or water erosion.

Mites block the oxygen flow to a bee's flight muscles so infested bees don't fly well, said Wilson, an entomologist for USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

"If they can't fly, they can't collect the nectar they need to make honey," he said. He heads this honey bee research at the agency's Subtropical Agricultural Research Laboratory in Weslaco, Tex.

"Fumes don't hurt honey bees, but irritate them enough to make them fan their wings," he said. "Of course, this is what we want, because fanning spreads menthol fumes around the hive."

Because menthol is usually used in products like cough drops, he said, using it as a pesticide to kill mites would constitute a new use under the law and require registration by the environmental Protection Agency.

Honey bee losses to mites could seriously threaten the \$150 million

a year U.S. honey industry, according to Wilson.

Since 1984, the parasite has spread from Mexico to 31 states in all but the Rocky Mountain region. A common practice of northern beekeepers—bringing bees south for the winter—has moved the mite northward, Wilson said.

Because of the potential for purchasing infested bees from the south, northerners starting out in the business have stopped buying queens or hives from southern breeders. Several dozen breeders have been driven out of business, Wilson said.

Some states have gotten rid of the mite by destroying infested hives—a costly practice. Threats of reinfestation or further spread still remain, the scientist said.

Treatment of an infested hive would cost only 50 cents to a dollar—a "reasonable cost" to a beekeeper, Wilson said. Flavor and quality of honey are unaffected, he said.



Helping Hand

Lion Rusty Estes (center) presents a check for \$500 to Heppner EMTs Pennie Miller and Carl Lauritsen. The Heppner Lions Club donated proceeds from their fireworks sale toward the purchase of a portable defibrillator for the Heppner ambulance.

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Barrel winners named

The following results of the Heppner Barrel Club's running on July 22 have been submitted.

Open: first place- Mary Ann Munkers.

Novice: (first run) first-Penny Hoffman, second-Heather Eckman, third-Holly Eckman, fourth-Sara Greenup, fifth-Trisha Mahoney.

sixth-Amy Greenup and seventh-Karen Temple. (Second run) first-Heather Eckman, second-Holly

Eckman, third-Sara Greenup, fourth-Amy Greenup, fifth-Karen Temple and sixth-Trisha Mahoney. Age 10 and under: first-Laurel Temple.

Around About

By Justine Weatherford

July has seen us experience such a variety of weather. Before the warmest days cooled here, two great-grandmothers and another grandmother joined me in a delightful look around about the cool, windy and then wet, northern Oregon Coast. When Irene Swanson, Marian Brosnan, Helen Curran and I returned home on Friday, July 17, we seemed to be followed eastward by the coolness of the coast.

We enjoyed our three-night adventure as we viewed so much between Waldport and Astoria and then sped home up the mighty Columbia. We found kite flying is so colorful and interesting now, watched a great catch of salmon come into Depot Bay and were pleased with the Oregon State University Marine Center at Newport.

After chance meetings with Faye (widow of Hubert Wilson) now Mrs. LaMarr Barnes and her Arizona husband at Lincoln City and with Heppner's Jerry Rood on the dock in Newport, we made a thorough tour of the new, beautiful Newport Senior Citizen Building.

Visiting the historic Lewis and Clark Salt Cairn and strolling along Seaside's Broadway was pleasing. An early afternoon stop at the large "Yankee Trader" antique shop near Warrenton, which belongs to the Curran cousins Mary and John Supple, showed that they are still stocking some antique items they bought in Heppner last fall on their annual deer hunting visit here.

At exciting Astoria we all enjoyed visiting in the attractive, hillside home of Rupert and Dorothy Kennedy, formerly of Boardman with whom Irene stayed from Thursday until our foursome left Astoria on Friday. Marian, Helen and I were thrilled with visits to the super, new Marine Museum, the historic Flavel Mansion and nearby Heritage Museum and the hilltop Astoria Column. Great-grandmother Brosnan distinguished herself by climbing up the 174 steps inside it to the column's top where she got a tremendous view of the big area that she was visiting for the first time.

This nearly last week of July has some of us scratching our heads as we fill in the questionnaire concerning Morrow County services, regarding the possible development and operation of a transportation system in our rural area.

Last Saturday, July 25, I truly enjoyed attending the H.H.S. class of 1967 reunion. It was great to see so many of the 20-year-old teenagers I have wondered about. It surprised me that I happened to be about the only ex-teacher attending. The evening's M.C., Jim Jacobs, called me brave. I don't feel attendance took courage; I had a pre-conceived idea that this class would do well.

HEPPNER GAZETTE—TIMES

&
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LAST WEEK'S ANSWER: The White House **WINNER:** Tareena Nash

RULES:

- 1) Enter at Charlie's Pizza or at Heppner Gazette-Times.
- 2) First correct entry drawn each week wins prize.
- 3) Entry deadline is Monday.
- 4) One winner per week.



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