

WHEAT AND LADINO CLOVER FATTEN BEEF PROFITABLY

The use of wheat as a feed for fattening cattle with irrigated pasture is proving practical on a number of farms in Oregon, and it is shown by demonstration figures to be an economical method of producing beef. The results of such a feeding test are included in an experiment station bulletin entitled "Surplus Wheat Feeding Experiments in Oregon," issued at Oregon State college.

In tests carried on last summer it was found that wheat fed to cattle on irrigated ladino clover pasture gave results equal to or better than those obtained a year earlier when barley was used as a grain supplement. The test was made by using twelve head of beef calves pastured as two groups on the same area. Seven head were fattened first, followed by five later, with the result that the pasture supported almost exactly three animals per acre during the 190-day feeding period.

It was found that an average feeding of 3.76 pounds of wheat per head per day gave with the pasture an

average gain per head of 156.91 pounds or an average daily gain per head of 1.65 pounds. Of the total gains on wheat and pasture amounting to 941.5 pounds per acre of pasture, 546.19 pounds were credited to the ladino clover and 395.13 to the wheat.

The returns from both pasture and grain were somewhat better when wheat was fed than when barley was fed under similar conditions a year earlier, the bulletin shows. As irrigated pasture is becoming more and more common throughout Oregon, its use in connection with wheat offers an important source of profit for the livestock raiser, according to those who are interested in livestock feeding.

The bulletin which reports on this phase of wheat feeding experiments also includes the results of using wheat as a feed for growing and fattening cattle with hay, growing and fattening sheep and lambs, and feeding wheat to dairy cows, hogs and draft horses. Copies may be had free at any county extension office.

WESTERN OREGON STOCK RAISERS CALL MEETING

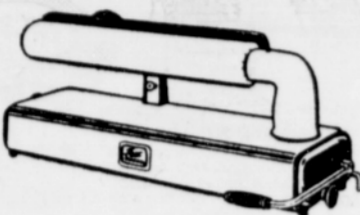
Gold Beach in Curry county has been selected as the convention city for the Western Oregon Livestock association, which will meet there April 9 and 10, according to announcements sent out by H. A. Lindgren, secretary-treasurer of the association and livestock field man in the extension service at O.S.C.

The meeting will be organized on the committee basis as was done in 1940. Announcements of committee assignments are being sent out in March. Those planning to stay in Gold Beach for both days of the convention are requested to make reservations with R. M. Knox, county agent, who is heading a committee in charge of housing.

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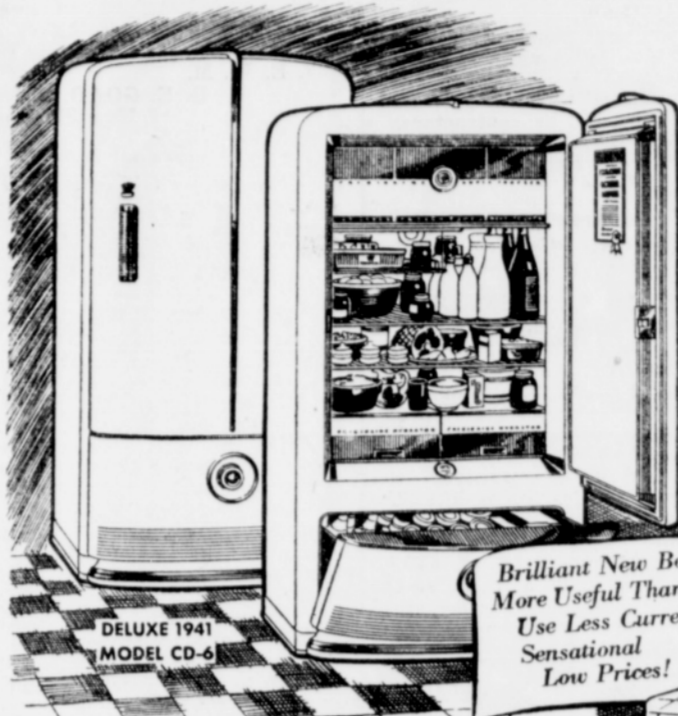
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MORE OREGON WHEAT MEN TAKE INSURANCE FOR '41

Final figures on federal wheat crop insurance in Oregon for 1941 show that 48,056 growers have taken out insurance this year compared with 2009 in 1941, reports Will Steen, chairman of the state AAA committee. The paid-up applications cover about 300,000 acres compared with about 294,000 last year, and guarantee that growers will have 4 1/2 million bushels of the 1941 crop to sell.

Last year 3,654,054 bushels were covered, while total indemnities paid at the end of the season amounted to 146,339 bushels. Drouth, frost, wind and hail were the causes of crop losses to growers last year, although only 23 per cent of the insured growers sustained losses.

The greatly increased number of policies written this year, but which represent only a slight increase in acreage covered, is caused by the fact that a far larger number of smaller wheat producers in western Oregon and other sections outside of the main Columbia basin wheat belt took insurance this year, according to Steen.

RURAL ACCIDENTS GREATER THAN CITY

Rural accidents caused the greater number of traffic fatalities in Oregon during the year 1940, but urban fatal accidents showed the greatest percentage of increase over the previous year, figures compiled by Earl Snell, secretary of state, disclosed today.

There were 295 rural fatal accidents last year, compared to 120 fatal accidents in cities. Rural fatalities in 1940 were 4.2 per cent over the rural fatalities for 1939 while urban fatalities last year were up 17.6 per cent.

In 1940, rural fatalities constituted 62.7 per cent of the total fatal accidents reported in the state while in 1939, rural fatalities constituted 64 per cent of the total. The proportion of rural fatalities to the whole in 1940 was thus lower than in 1939.

Rural accidents consistently cause the greatest percentage of fatalities in this state, Snell's figures revealed. In 1937 they were 62 per cent of the total, in 1938 they were 52 per cent,

and in 1939, they were 64 per cent. The vacation month of June saw the greatest number of rural deaths for any month of 1940. Twenty-seven persons were killed that month in rural accidents. November was second with 26 fatalities while January with nine, was the lowest.

BOTULISM ALSO FATAL TO CHICKENS

Any spoiled canned foods which are even suspected of containing the botulism organisms are best completely destroyed or buried because they are just as poisonous to chickens as to man, says G. V. Copson, head of the bacteriology department at Oregon State college. Whole flocks of chickens have been destroyed by feeding spoiled corn or beans to them, causing the disease commonly called limberneck, which is in reality botulism.

"Since the same germ causes botulism in man and limberneck in fowls, it is highly dangerous to feed spoiled vegetables to chickens," says Copson. "Furthermore, any chance appearance of limberneck in chickens is a warning to be on the lookout for botulism in home canned vegetables. The only safe way to be certain of avoiding botulism poisoning is to make sure that all home canned ve-

getables are boiled for 20 minutes before being tasted, and on the day they are to be consumed."

In fowls botulism produces a general intoxication by which the muscles become progressively paralyzed, Copson explained. First there is a paralysis of the leg and neck muscles, followed by a stopping of the heart. In a recent test conducted at the college a bantam hen fed canned corn inoculated with laboratory cultures of the botulism organism developed limberneck in 24 hours and died in two days.

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