



**Sick Soils Have Effect on Animals**

**Earth Should Be 'Factories,' Not Mines**

By DR. WILLIAM A. ALBRECHT  
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That sick soils will not build healthy animals any more than they will produce sturdy field crops is significant in view of our national tendency to combat soil erosion by allowing much of the fertility-depleted soil to go back to grass.

In place of giving attention to soil fertility measures that feed growing plants, we have too often adopted the practice of "crop hunting" in the mistaken belief that when one crop starves another can be found that will thrive on the same depleted land. But we can't breed crops against starvation any more than a sterile parent can transmit the character of sterility.

Evidences of declining soil fertility are seen in the greater number of deficiency diseases among our farm animals. Veterinarians are constantly faced with increasing cases of strange animal ailments for which no specific body weakness or visible physiological cause can be found. Eye ailments, a tendency to blindness, bad gaits, rounded back lines, inferior condition, poor feeding progress, and even debility and death can be traced to deficiencies in animals' nutrition.

If newer legumes or non-legumes grow more successfully on less fertile land, then such crops must be taking less nutrient from the soil. Thus these crops can offer the animals that feed on them less of protein and of ash which, for animals the same as for plants, are the items drawn from the soil.

**Animals Limited in Feeding.**

Confined as they are, animals are limited in their feeding by the soil fertility of the farm. Supplements such as proteins contain too little of the minerals needed. And when animals protest by rooting up the very earth or climbing the fence in search of better forage, such actions are met by rings in the nose or cumbersome yokes about the neck. Human serfs have been prohibited in this country for about 75 years, but animal slaves can be seen on any trip through the country. Too often they are almost in a state of starvation because their master, the farm owner, neglects his soil fertility.

Our soils must become factories instead of continuing as mines from which the fertility is unendingly drawn. Raw materials such as limestone, phosphorus, potash, and other fertilizing elements, organic matter and other plant nutrients must go back into the soil. In our "soil factories" we must produce more usable nutrients for plant service. Such nutrients must not be hoarded off unless equal amounts are restored.

**Consumption of Fats, Oils**

Recently the United States used approximately 6 1/2 billion pounds of fats and oils in edible products; two billion in soaps, one billion in paints, varnishes, printing inks and linoleum products, and 0.5 billion was used for a variety of industrial purposes.

**Cutting Costs**

The department of agriculture is strongly urging partnership in use and purchase of equipment.

Two Floyd county, Texas, farmers have been showing their neighbors the value of this kind of joint action. These Farm Security Administration borrowers first bought a tractor outfit

together in 1940. Sharing the \$1,030 outlay and the operating expenses proved to them the advantages of partnership.

Their second enterprise was buying a pure-bred Jersey bull, which cost \$150. Then they bought a seven-foot power-take-off mower, a feed mill mounted for transport, and a ground-driven row binder.

The two farmers say that the machinery they joined in buying saved their crops last fall. They figure that what they did as a common sense plan will have to be done by others from sheer necessity.

**Urea for Growing Lambs**

Farmers were told of tests in the laboratories of a university's division of animal nutrition in which the performance of growing lambs fed urea was compared with that of lambs fed diets containing such protein sources as soybean oil meal, casein, skim milk and corn gluten feed. With rations of a 12 per cent protein level, 50 per cent of the nitrogen as urea is as satisfactory a source of nitrogen as commonly used protein concentrates.

**ECHO NEWS ITEMS**

By Mrs. W. H. Cravy

Echo Ladies Aid Society will stage a bazaar and food sale at the Methodist church basement Saturday, December 5. Lunch will be served at noon, and there will be a good supply of bazaar items suitable for holiday gifts.

There were only three clear days recorded at the local weather bureau station in November and 15 days with some precipitation. Total moisture was 2.35 inches, including about 2 1/2 inches of snow which fell the night of the 26th and the 27th. A chinook wind melted all the snow however by the 29th. Maximum temperature for November was 64 on the first of the month, minimum 21 on the 20th.

Jack L. Teel, former Echo school bus driver, is now a private in a camouflage battalion training at Hammer Field, Fresno, Cal. He writes that they are working on camouflaging airfields at present. He finds it hard to get used to seeing farmers haying late in October, as they did there. They have a habit of marching a fellow on a small hike of 15 or 20 miles just to limber him up.

They sure put one in shape, he says. The local service station ran out of gasoline Monday afternoon, but reports that practically every passenger car in the district enters the rationing period with a full tank.

Postmaster Stephen Spike reports sales of \$3,243.75 in war bonds during the month of November.

Twelve Echo high school seniors, accompanied by Supt. M. E. Larive, changed the traditional date of "sneak day" and made a trip to Walla Walla Saturday to have the event off hand before gas rationing went into effect. They visited the state penitentiary, the Whitman memorial and the airport and listened to a broadcast at radio station KUJ at the studio. They returned home Monday.

Mrs. Wm. Helmick was called to Spokane Sunday by the serious illness of a sister who resides there.

Pete Mitchell, former Echo schoolboy, is taking part in the allied pursuit of Rommel across Libya, according to a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Mitchell in Nyssa. Peter, a lieutenant in the airforce, says, "We have driven Rommel almost to Tobruk. We are right behind him and hope to catch up with the remnants of his army. Is it interesting to see the varied articles

left behind by the retreating force. Those Huns were surely leaving in a hurry. Everything is all right with me and all the boys are in good spirits."

Two bands of sheep belonging to Frank Correa and sons were brought to Echo from summer range on the reservation near Cabbage Hill Monday. This is believed to be about the last of the flocks to be trailed in from the mountains this fall. The Cunha sheep are all here on winter range and the only band in the mountains when Correa left was that of Dave Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Larive and two children spent the Thanksgiving holiday at the home of M. E. Larive, superintendent of Echo schools. Mr. Larive is head of the Wallowa school.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wilson of Forest Grove left for their home Friday after spending Thanksgiving here with Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson.

Only 181 car owners registered here for a mileage ration books. Nearly a fourth of that number were unable to secure A books because of lack of registration slips or defects in title. They will have to go before the rationing board which meets December 2 at Hermiston.

Mrs. Elsie May Gregor, local teacher, went to Walla Walla Wednesday evening to spend Thanksgiving with her husband, who is in the aviation camp there.

A steady rain Thanksgiving day followed by snow that night gave this neighborhood .80 of an inch of precipitation. About an inch of snow remained on the ground Friday morning.

Wet weather interfered with proper oiling of the new cutoff highway from Butter Creek to Echo junction and the road is still closed. It is expected to be opened for travel again in a few days.

William Able and William Greene, Echo high school students, have started a four months course in the N.Y.A. school at Pendleton. Greene, president of the senior class, has been succeeded in that office by Elise Rauch.

A student body play, "Hobgoblin House," is booked for showing Friday evening, December 11. Members of the cast are Jerry Crow, Wilma Brown, Marlis Walker, Dolly Correa, Kenny Coppinger, Louis Penney, Dorothy Madison, Mary Jane Laurie, Mildred Penney, Keith Middleton, George Luciani and Bill Correa.

The lineup of Echo high school basketball A squad includes four sen-

jors, two juniors and three sophomores: Bill Correa, Walt Brommell, Louis Penney, Leon Reese, Dean Robertson, Bill Esselstyn, Joe Correa and Milton Dallman. So far only practice games have been scheduled.



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**Dairy Industry Faces Wartime Crisis Here's what you can do to help!**

**The Farmer—**

**FACES A DIFFICULT PRODUCTION PROBLEM WHICH THREATENS OUR VITAL MILK SUPPLY**

If any group of workers in America deserve an "E" flag for their efficiency in production it is the dairymen who produce our milk and cream. You dairymen realize more than anyone else the importance of keeping up our supply of dairy products. You have displayed your loyalty by making every effort to increase the supply as requested by our government. But as the men from the farms have gone into the armed forces or into defense plants this has become more and more difficult.

Production costs have risen yet the return for milk and cream is determined by a fixed ceiling. Despite their reluctance to do so many farmers have been forced to disperse their herds and turn to crops which require less labor.

Yet in spite of these handicaps America's vital milk supply must be maintained in order to meet our growing wartime demands. Your own boys from the farms who are in the armed forces, our allies, our defense workers, and our civilian population all need this vital wartime food.

**What You Can Do About It!**

Though the dairyman has a difficult situation to face there are a number of things which can be done to relieve the seriousness of present conditions:

1. DON'T LET A MILK COW GO TO THE BUTCHER. Already an alarming number of fine dairy cows throughout the country have been killed. Today our war planners are at work devising means by which farmers will be enabled to keep their herds together. If you keep up the fight it is reasonable to expect some kind of government aid in the near future.

2. QUALIFY FOR "FARM DEFERMENT." Our government, alarmed at the decline in our milk supply, has decided that milkers of 12 or more cows are essential and shall be permanently deferred if other suitable help cannot be found.

Such a stand stabilizes your labor problem. If you are now milking only six cows, build up your herd to 12 or more—build your production plant to its full capacity. Good dairy cows can easily be picked up at local sales. Farmers who are forced to sell would far rather turn them over to another dairyman than to sell them to be slaughtered. Build up your herds now in order to be prepared for an ever-increasing demand.

3. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY near your farm. There are many advantages in joining forces with other dairymen of your community. The Challenge Creameries is composed of 16 strategically located co-operative creameries scattered throughout the Columbia Empire.

One of these creameries is in your community—located to serve you. These farmer-owned creameries facilitate handling. Each one is within an hour's driving distance from farmers who own it.

Such proximity is an important factor in meeting tire and gas rationing, as well as insuring the superior qualities which is the basis of the better returns these co-operative creameries yield.

One of the important features of Challenge Creameries is the fact that all profits are returned to the farmer patrons. This in effect insures the dairyman not only the market price for his milk and cream, but the additional savings made by the creameries' operations.

This year's annual pool saving of the Challenge Creameries exceeded \$54,000.00. This sum is to be distributed among the various farmer-owned Creameries.

This additional income has enabled many dairymen to continue operation when they would otherwise have had to sell their herds. Consider membership in one of these co-operative farmer-owned creameries.



**A Unit of One of These Co-operative Creameries is Located in Your Community**

Central Oregon Co-operative Creamery	Redmond, Oregon
Dairy Co-operative Association	Portland, Oregon
	Vancouver, Wash., Salem, Oregon
Eugene Farmers Creamery	Eugene and Triangle Lake, Oregon
Farmer Co-operative Creamery	McMinnville, Oregon
Lower Columbia Co-operative Dairy Association	Astoria, Oregon
	Greys River, Wash., Clatskanie, Oregon
Pine Eagle Dairyman's Co-op. Assn.	Halfway, Ore., Richland, Oregon
Umatilla Co-operative Creamery	Hermiston, Oregon
Union County Co-operative Creamery	Union, Oregon
Wallowa County Creamery Association	Wallowa, Oregon
Farmers Co-operative Creamery	Baker, Oregon

**The Consumer—**

**SHARES IN THE PROBLEMS OF THE CRISIS FACING OUR DAIRY INDUSTRY**

Today we are faced with a shortage of milk supply and an ever increasing demand for dairy products—a problem which is IMPORTANT to every citizen of America.

Briefly the problem is this:

1. Our armed forces must have the best that we can provide them. They need more butter, milk and cheese. Recently the War Production Board has frozen a large part of our national butter supply and is demanding more of our cheese and 90 per cent of our spray process dried milk.
2. We have steadily increasing demands from our allies. England is desperately calling for more dried milk and cheese. Russia is pleading for butter. Lend-Lease demands are growing and must be filled if we are to keep faith with our allies who are taking the brunt of the war.
3. Defense workers who are so essential to our war needs must be kept working at highest pitch. Their demands for dairy products are growing.
4. Civilian consumption of dairy products has grown tremendously. Increased buying power and the shortage of many other types of food such as meat, sugar, coffee and canned goods has caused tremendous sales increases in butter, milk and cheese.

such a condition indicates the need for a new emphasis on production and for more manpower on our farms if we are to keep up with our rapidly growing demand.

**Rationing is Here!**

We are fortunate that we live in a dairy country. We normally produce far more dairy products than we consume. The Columbia Empire annually exports butter and cheese in large quantities to other states and to foreign markets. Our co-operative dairy organizations have helped to develop the industry and improve the dairyman's conditions.

Despite these advantages we are now—today—faced with the fact that we are for the first time since World War I PRODUCING LESS THAN WE ARE USING.

Whether we realize it or not RATIONING IS HERE! Dairy authorities have recommended that the limit for butter be placed at 16 pounds per capita per year. While this amount is well over the average consumption for people in southern states—it is considerably less than the average consumption in the northwest. This means we will have less butter per family during coming months.

**What You Can Do To Help**

1. RATIONING DEMANDS YOUR CO-OPERATION. Every loyal citizen will agree that we must share our supply of dairy products with our armed forces and with our allies. In order to do this you must economize on the use of butter, milk and cheese. Price increases may come. In case they do they will be justified. Rationing may become more severe—but if so, you may be sure that it will be justified.

2. DON'T IMPOSE ON YOUR GROCER. Don't expect him to do the impossible. Don't ask him for more than your share. Be fair in your purchases of butter, milk and cheese—it may prevent more serious rationing and increased shortages for the future.

3. SELECT YOUR DAIRY PRODUCTS CAREFULLY for their food value. If your purchases of butter and cheese are limited select them for their quality and food value. Remember not all butter, cottage cheese and American cheese are the same in food value.

**Production is Declining**

Despite this growing demand for dairy supplies our dairymen are faced with a serious obstacle—a severe labor shortage which has forced many farmers to sell their dairy herds. Enrollment of men on the farms, labor gravitating to the city defense plants, and increased production costs coupled with fixed price ceilings have caused this decrease in supply. The current rate of creamery butter production in the western United States is 10 per cent less than a year ago—



**Umatilla Co-operative CREAMERY**

Hermiston, Oregon

CHALLENGE CREAMERIES will maintain the integrity of its brands. Challenge has always stood for the highest quality, and the highest food values of any dairy products in the local market. This quality and food value will be maintained. This is our pledge—our part in co-operating to help the consumer during this wartime crisis.

Of the 7,708,768 pounds of butter marketed by Challenge Creameries during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1942, 40.64 per cent was U. S. 93 score—the highest commercial grade. 34.37 per cent was U. S. 92 score, and only 25 per cent was graded below the highest grades recognized by Oregon's Consumer Labeling Law.

Practically all of the 2,538,816 pounds of natural cheese marketed last year was of the highest commercial grade. Challenge butter, natural cheese and cottage cheese have won a majority of the first prizes awarded in quality competition during the last three years.