

# Pear Irrigation Studies On Soils Near Medford Analyzed by U.S. Expert

## Efforts Made to Determine Conditions Of Local Soil Most Favorable To Big Yield and Quality

Ed. Note: This is the second and concluding installment in an analysis of pear irrigation studies conducted on soils of the Medford region and given by Arch Work, assistant irrigation engineer of the United States department of agriculture at the January 28 meeting of the Fruit Growers' league.

It has been found that the heavier irrigation has injured the quality to an appreciable extent. It must be remembered that each of these orchards is well drained.

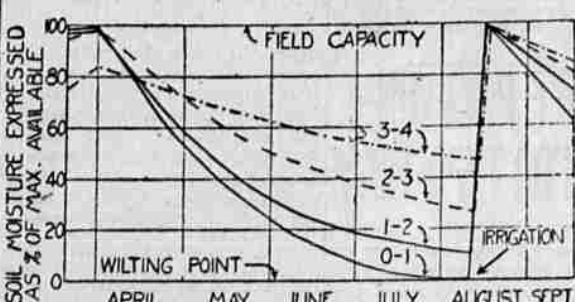


Figure 3 is a typical soil moisture chart for a clean cultivated pear orchard on clay adobe soil.

CHAPTER II. The following method of correlating fruit growth with soil moisture was developed by M. R. Lewis, agricultural engineer of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station and the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. During 1932 the rate of growth of the pears in cubic centimeters per day was determined from careful measurements of a large number of fruits on each plot, made at weekly or semi-weekly intervals. By inspection of the soil moisture data the periods were selected during which the average available moisture content in the upper three feet of soil in each plot was more than 50 per cent of the available moisture capacity.

The rate of growth per day for each plot and for each interval between fruit measurements during these periods of plentiful moisture supply was then determined. As a step these rates of growth were averaged for each orchard. The resultant rate of growth may be called "1932 moisture - unlimited rate of growth."

There is an important point in connection with the "moisture-unlimited rate of growth." Under conditions of "normal" soil moisture, one-half of the total growth in the Bartlett pears on the Fitch orchard occurred in the 30 days prior to the first picking on August 17. One-half of the total volume increase of the Anjou pears on the Medford Experiment station and Klamath orchard occurred in the 30-day period immediately prior to harvest on September 8. Under conditions of "normal" soil moisture, these fruits grew as much in the last 30-35 days before picking as in the 100 or so days before that period.

The chart shows further that when soil moisture in one foot is depleted to the wilting point the roots at that depth practically cease extracting moisture. When this occurs the rate of extraction at other levels does not increase. This indicates that when roots in one portion of the root zone cease extracting moisture the remainder of the roots are not able to speed up or furnish moisture to the tree at a faster rate. Consequently, when any considerable portion of the root zone ceases to furnish the tree with moisture the tree will show signs of distress.

Some evidence secured in 1931 indicates that a pear tree may wilt and partially defoliate when 35 per cent of the roots cease extracting moisture from the soil.

Now, whether these results will apply to some of the lighter soils in the Medford area in whole or in part, remains to be determined. It is entirely possible that the Medford growth curve for "sticky" soils may more clearly coincide with the shape of the generally accepted growth curve (illustrate on Fig. 1). Investigations to determine the optimum conditions of soil moisture for pear orchards on the light soils of the Medford area are now being planned.

Due to curtailment of funds it will be necessary that the experiments on the Fitch and Klamath orchards be discontinued. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Chester Fitch and Messrs. Dave Wood and Frank Riddle of the Klamath orchard, on behalf of Dr. Aldrich and myself, for the co-operation they have given through the last three years. The association has been, to us, one of real pleasure.

THE END.

Figure 2 is a graph showing the deviation of growth from normal rate expressed as a percentage of normal rate versus available moisture in percent of maximum available. The y-axis is 'DEVIATION OF GROWTH FROM NORMAL RATE EXPRESSED AS % OF NORMAL' ranging from -20 to +20. The x-axis is 'AVAILABLE MOISTURE IN % OF MAX. AVAILABLE' ranging from 0 to 100. Three curves are shown: 'NORMAL RATE' (a horizontal line at 0), 'MEDFORD' (a curve that rises to +20 at 100% moisture), 'KLAMATH' (a curve that rises to +10 at 100% moisture), and 'FITCH' (a curve that rises to +10 at 100% moisture). A dashed line represents the 'DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL RATE OF GROWTH VS. AVAILABLE MOISTURE'.

Figure 2. The curves show the deviation from "normal" of the rate of growth of fruit for any particular condition of soil moisture.

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Mr. Albert Burch, former president of this league, has generously offered for use in such experiments a portion of his mature Danjou orchard near Medford.

The soil type there is Medford fine sandy loam. The orchard is typical of a large acreage of bearing orchards on the same or similar soil types in the Medford area.

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# JURY LIST GIVEN APPROVAL STAMP BY COUNTY COURT

In addition to the names published in Tuesday's Mail Tribune, the 1933 jury list for Jackson county includes the following: Culbertson, Homer W. Ashland, 309 Bridge street; Cluark, Frank C. Medford, 1917 E. Main; Charley, L. C. Medford, 305 N. Grape; Crane, Wm. A. Central Point, salesman; Carter, Hester, Ashland, 321 Alta avenue; laborer: Chas. Chas. E. Medford, 1004 E. Main; mechanic: Cupp, Jno. Medford, 155 Vancouver; clerk: Carr, Lester, Phoenix; farmer: Combs, F. W. Talent, farmer.

Canfield, Ira D. Phoenix, orchardist. Cameron, Frank, Jacksonville, farmer; Cox, Gordon, Trail, farmer; Cushman, Ebel, Trail, housewife; Conner, C. J. Pinehurst, laborer; Dodge, Mrs. Jessie Edwards, Ashland, housewife; Doty, Roscoe L. Medford, lumberman; Davis, U. Grant, Ashland, millwright; Danford, Kittle, Ashland, housewife; Darding, Cynthia T. Ashland, housewife; Davies, Samuel S. Ashland, laborer; Deiter, Theo. Collierville, laborer; Duggan, J. F. Central Point, farmer; Doty, W. D. Medford, laborer; Dizey, Henderson T. Medford, laborer; Dunn, P. Henry, Medford, engineer; Driskell, W. W. Butte Falls, laborer; Davenport, Elizabeth E. Ashland, housewife; Dixon, B. C. Talent, service station; Dimick, Edw. Emma, Medford, housewife; Dickey, Bob, Rogue River, farmer; Egan, John, Ashland, laborer; Ditzworth, Hobart A. Trail, liveryman; DeCarlow, Chas. W. Ashland, farmer; Dunlap, Bertha, Eagle Point, housewife; Davis, Guy E. Medford, laborer; Engle, Fred S. Ashland, insurance; Emery, Hazel, Ashland, housewife; Ellis, Chester, Butte Falls, laborer; Erskine, Noel, Medford, music teacher; Estes, Rankin, Medford, pool hall; Eads, Geo. Henry, Medford, transfer business; Ender, Henry G. Jr., Ashland, merchant; Eicher, Claron, Central Point, laborer; Edwards, H. N. Medford, clerk; Frink, Sadie L. Beagle, housewife; Flak, Geo. Norman, Medford, farmer; Ferguson, Wm. Homer, Gold Hill, farmer; Franco, Lulu B. Ashland, housewife; Frisstone, James M. Ashland, laborer; Fry, Geo. D. Medford, clerk; Field, Harvey J. Medford, clerk; Fredette, H. C. Medford, retired; Purry, R. S. Phoenix, farmer; Prink, Lem G. Talent, farmer; Prost, Eugene, Medford, laborer; Farrell, J. G. Medford, farmer; Garber, Doris, Central Point, housewife; Grimes, J. A. Medford, teamster; Gowland, Alice E. Ashland, housekeeper; Orason, Lucy, Clifton, housewife; Oyer, Ed, Ashland, mechanic; Gearhart, Howard H. Ashland, laborer; Garrett, J. L. Medford, merchant; Greene, Horace, Medford, truck driver; Goldy, Geo. W. Ashland, lumberman; Garner, J. Medford, caretaker; Glenn, Mary E. Talent, housewife; Green, Ross J. Medford, truck driver; Greenwood, Frank O. Rogue River, farmer; Gray, Lincoln, Ashland, farmer; Greene, Geo. J. Pinehurst, farmer; Garison, P. I. B. Siskiyou, farmer; Newman, Robert, Medford, painter; Nye, S. G. Talent, farmer; Newberry, Earl T. Talent, farmer; Neathamer, Jim Wm. Rogue River, farmer; Nahn, Chas. T. Medford, farmer; Nelson, Frank, Medford, farmer; Netherland, Frank D. Trail, farmer; Olson, Marmie E. Medford, electrician; O'Brien, Lawrence C. Butte Falls, farmer; Oda, Everett S. Ashland, carpenter; Orr, Albert E. Medford, merchant; Offensbacher, John, Ruch, farmer; Olson, E. Medford, stenographer; Putnam, Myrtle, Ashland, housewife; Pankey, L. H. Ashland, farmer; Perry, H. H. Eagle Point, farmer; Peters, Samuel A. Ashland, laborer; Pressell, C. O. Ashland, carpenter; Powell, H. D. Medford, surveyor; Perry, Arthur, Medford, reporter; Porter, Ruth A. Ashland, housewife; Putney, Marie Iverson, Medford, housewife; Powell, J. E. Medford, laborer; Pankey, T. J. Central Point, farmer; Putnam, Geo. F. Phoenix, farmer; Pennington, L. Medford, battery shop; Porter, E. H. Medford, retired; Peterson, John, Medford, caretaker; Pence, Ed, Trail, laborer; Phipps, Mary E. Medford, housekeeper; Pratt, Alice F. Ashland, nurse; Perry, Wm. Eagle Point, farmer.

# LIONS AND GUESTS EAT WITH JOBLESS FOR KITCHEN TEST

The community relief kitchen, sponsored here by the Medford Lions club, was crowded today noon, when members of the club and guests met there for luncheon, greatly enriching the kitchen treasury and obtaining for themselves much valuable information regarding the relief project. The report submitted by the Lions club showed that 321 meals were served at the kitchen between November 4 and January 15, and that from December 7 to January 15 a letter was granted 1040 persons, including many women and several families.

Officer George Prescott reported that since opening of the kitchen, house to house begging has practically ceased.

Mrs. James H. Owen complimented the Lions club on the fine work accomplished in the kitchen and described the kitchen as far better than any other relief kitchen in the state.

Mrs. Edwin L. Knapp, member of the governor's relief committee, gave an interesting talk on the work of the kitchen, and Frank Rogers, building inspector, stated that the hospitality of the shelter was sufficiently cordial to make destitution almost desirable.

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# Halt Foreclosures Farm Mortgages

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 1.—(AP)—The Prudential Insurance company announced today the suspension of all foreclosures on owner-occupied farms in the United States and Canada, effective indefinitely. The suspension involves 37,000 farms and