

State Veterinarian Tells Effects of Sheep Disease

Salem—The state department of agriculture recently reported that scrapie-infected sheep have been found in Oregon. Most sheepmen and the lamb-eating public still seem to be in the dark on what effect this will have on them.

Because this is so, the state department of agriculture offers this review of the scrapie situation in Oregon, as presented by Dr. K. J. Peterson, state veterinarian with the department.

Scrapie is an insidious disease because of the extremely long incubation period, which ranges from 18 months to three years or more. It is caused by a filterable virus.

As far as the public is concerned, scrapie will have no effect because the disease does not affect humans. It does not affect meat. It affects only sheep and goats.

For sheepmen, scrapie in Oregon must be eradicated now, even at the cost of what may

seem like extreme protective measures. The only other course will permit the disease to become widespread. This will invite an embargo against Oregon sheep and will result in the costly experience of the industry having to adjust itself to live with it. No treatment is known.

Recently a large flock of Oregon purebred sheep was ordered destroyed by the state because three animals in which scrapie was diagnosed were traced to that flock. A fourth suspicious case originated in the flock. Obviously, the Oregon flock was the point of infection, although not a single animal in the flock actually showed symptoms of the disease. Every animal appeared perfectly healthy. This is the aggravating feature of scrapie because of the extremely long incubation period.

State and federal veterinarians under Dr. Peterson and Dr. A. G. Beagle, in charge of federal veterinarians in Oregon, are now engaged, with the help of sheepmen, in tracing every ram and ewe sold from the Oregon Broadmead flock. They are also searching out any breeding stock from Vassar flock in California in which an outbreak appeared. Some of the Vassar stock was sold in Oregon.

These animals and all their first generation lambs will be ordered destroyed as fast as the owners can be contacted. In a few circumstances, it may be necessary to include more than the first generation offspring.

It may take another month to complete this work.

The rest of the animals in a flock to which the Vassar and Broadmead rams and ewes are traced will not be removed. The flocks will be watched closely for a long time.

This eradication program established in Oregon is the same as that approved for the nation. It is also the same program which was used successfully to eradicate scrapie in New Zealand and Australia when it found in those countries in 1952.

In the case of sheep ordered slaughtered under the program, the state and federal department of agriculture will participate jointly and equally in indemnities to be paid. The department has asked three veteran Oregon purebred sheepmen to make the appraisals.

The federal indemnity on scrapie is not over \$75 on a purebred animal and not over \$25 on a grade animal. With the state matching on an equal basis under the joint indemnity agreement, the largest total indemnity that a sheepbreeder can receive is \$150 for purebreds and \$50 for grades.

Under the present eradication program, officials are searching out any rams and ewes taken into non-infected flocks since Oct. 1, 1953, from the known infected flocks. So far, only sheepmen in western Oregon are being asked to help run down these animals. At this point there is no evidence of scrapie in commercial flocks in eastern Oregon.

If they do not have them, purebred sheepmen are advised to obtain purebred registry certificates for all animals which came from flocks where the disease is now known to exist.

Purebred indemnities will not be paid without these certificates.

The first symptom of scrapie is a slight nervousness, usually exhibited for only short periods before the animal settles down with the rest of the flock. Then nervousness increases, and the animal will back up to a fence post or anything at hand to rub its head and a smacking of lips will be evident when scratching or rubbing. They'll pick their front feet high off the ground and hind feet will often move together. They'll not coordinate movement well and this will become progressively worse. They'll lose weight, even though they continue to eat well.

Scrapie is almost always fatal. Normally an animal will live three months after the symptoms appear. Sometimes it will live only 14 days and sometimes as long as a year.

The virus affects the brain. No gross post mortem lesions are found but degenerative nerve cells in the brain are evident on histopathological studies.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Sheepmen are cautioned not to jump to the conclusion that scrapie is at hand just because a sheep scratches, licks, sheep ticks and sheep scab may cause a lot of rubbing. It's easy to determine if lice or sheep ticks are the cause. Skin lesions, a fluid or serum and crusts are evident in scab. With scrapie, when scratching starts, the skin is usually normal although the continual rubbing will later produce some abrasions and lesions.

Weeds and Herbicides

BY RAY HUBBELL
County Weed Control Supervisor

At least 50,000 acres of cultivated land in the state of Oregon, as well as an unknown acreage of brush and timber land are infested with Canada thistle. It prefers rich or rather heavy soils but grown on all types. It grows on acid soils and is as tolerant of alkali as most cultivated crops.

Easily Distinguished
Canada thistle grows from 1 to 4 feet tall and is easily distinguished from other Oregon thistles by its small heads and creeping underground roots that give rise to new plants. Male and female flowers are produced on different plants. Both must be present to produce fertile seed.

As the patches commonly only spread by root development, it frequently happens that all flowers in a patch may be of one kind—either male or female. Failure of such patches to set seed has led many people to believe that the plant is not spread by seed. In some cases, seed is not produced a buntantly but seed when produced usually has a high germination. One pound of Canada thistle has roughly 283,200 seeds.

Leaves Long Narrow
Leaves are usually long and narrow with numerous cuts or indentations along the margins. Each point between the cuts ends in a short, sharp spine and the edges are much ruffled. The underside of the leaf commonly is lighter green than the upper side. New shoots that arise from the roots do not flower the first year, but make rosettes flat on the ground in the fall.

Canada thistle flowers may range in color from rose, purple or lavender to white. The blooming period lasts all summer so buds, flowers and seeds may be found on a plant at the same time.

As is the case with other thistles, seeds are provided with down that aids in their spread both by wind and water. The down breaks off easily and leaves brown seeds difficult to separate from grass or clover seed.

Variation Noted
There is a great deal of variation in different plants in color of flowers, shape of leaves and other features. One patch may be quite different from another nearby. The two patches may then cross-pollinate and the seeds may produce plants with still different characteristics.

The seed is often found in grass seed, clover seed and other crop seeds. Canada thistle seed may pass through the digestive tract of animals uninjured. Thus feeding hay or grain with the weed seed in it will help to infest all parts of the farm. Plows and harrows may spread the weeds by cutting off parts of the roots and dropping them in other places. Goats and sheep often transplant thistles. Trucks, wagon beds, combines and hay balers used on thistle-infested farms and not completely cleaned before leaving can spread the seeds to thistle-free farms.

Probably the greatest damage caused by Canada thistle is the actual loss of the ground and added expense of farming infested areas. Thistle seed in grass of legume seeds necessitates costly additional cleaning of crop seeds.

The state seed law requires that if Canada thistle seed is present, the amount per pound must be stated on the label. If seed of small size like white clover has more than 18 seeds of Canada thistle per pound, it is illegal to sell or offer for sale within the state. With larger seeds, such as red clover, the legal limit is 9 seeds per pound. Screenings containing the seed of Canada thistle must be devalued or destroyed.

From 8 to 18 inches below the ground surface, lateral roots develop bearing buds 8 to 12 inches apart. These buds form new plants. Each lateral root eventually begets downward sharply and then becomes a vertical root that may go downward 7 to 10 feet or farther. Most of the feeding roots are in the subsoil.

2-4D is an excellent chemical for control, however complete eradication requires repeated applications over a number of years. New chemicals tested in Jackson county the last two years appear to be promising for complete eradication of all known Canada thistle patches. Anyone knowing of any uncontrolled Canada thistle is requested to call the county agents' office, giving his name, address, phone number and location of the thistle.

GUESTS FOR SUPPER
Chicago — Robert Murphy has turned the other cheek to the rabbit kingdom. For weeks, Murphy said, everything that sprouted in his backyard garden was promptly nipped up by a family of rabbits. Murphy Wednesday took them into his house, to the delight of his daughter, Donna Lynne, 3. "I'd rather feed them a little milk," he said, "than have them eat up my whole garden."



SQUIRREL BAIT — After finding a baby squirrel near his Minneapolis home, five-year-old Gregory Froseth quickly solves the feeding problem by using a water pistol to squirt milk into his furry friend. It didn't take Mr. Squirrel long to catch on either, now he puts his mouth over the pistol whenever it is brought to him.

51 Local Animals React to Testing

Salem — Fifty-one reactors were found among Jackson county cattle tested for brucellosis in April, according to leaders of the federal-state brucellosis eradication program.

The percentage of infection in Jackson county was reported less than two per cent, even though more reactors were found there than elsewhere in the state.

Almost one per cent or 287 of the Oregon cattle tested were reactors, it was reported. Counties with more than 10 reactors were Gilliam, 37; Douglas, 32; Baker, 25; Malheur and Multnomah, 14 each; Crook and Umatilla, 11 each.

Because of a high number of reactors in the relatively small number of cattle tested, Crook county showed the highest percentage of infection, 14.5 per cent. The same situation accounted for Harney's 10.5 per cent of reactors.

No reactors were found on April tests in Wheeler, Sherman, Polk, Lincoln, Hood River, Deschutes and Curry counties.

Watch for Disease When Buying Pigs, Veterinarian Says

Corvallis—Hog feeders planning to buy weaner-size spring pigs should keep a sharp lookout for disease, advises Dr. L. R. Vawter, veterinarian in charge of the Oregon State college diagnostic laboratory.

Last year, several hog feeders in western and northeastern Oregon experienced costly death losses from diseases brought in by recently purchased feeder pigs, as well as other hogs purchased at sales, stockyards, or other farms may have been exposed to several hog diseases such as swine dysentery, hog cholera or swine erysipelas.

The trouble is that new pigs may not show symptoms of sickness for a week or 10 days after you get them home, Vawter says. Then when disease breaks out, your own herd has already been exposed.

Safe things to keep newly purchased hogs entirely separate from the rest of your herd for at least three weeks, Vawter advises. Provide separate water and feeding facilities, and treat for roundworms if it seems necessary. If a hog appears ill, call the local veterinarian at once so any sickness can be controlled before it spreads.

You can spot possible sickness by watching for hogs that go off feed, act depressed, or have diarrhea, the veterinarian says.

Vawter also said buyers should beware of runt pigs. These are usually small because of a heavy load of internal parasites, or possible chronic intestinal infections.

High Energy Feeds Blamed for Hen Illness

Chicago—(U.P.)—The American Veterinary Medical Association says a new illness affecting hens in the South and East seems to be related to the use of high energy feeds which commonly contain large amounts of added fat.

Examination of affected birds showed as much as 65 per cent fat in the liver compared with the normal fat content of about 10 per cent, the association said. The first symptom, it said, is that the hen quits laying.

METER LOOT HIGH

New York—(U.P.)—The pennyante bandits who steal coins from parking meters apparently hit the jackpot last year. Traffic Commissioner T. T. Wiley said about \$25,000 was stolen from parking meters during 1956.

Farm and Garden

Plastic Sheet Used For Silo Covers

Corvallis—Plastic sheets recently put on the market as silo covers may be a good investment if farmers buy the right type and use them properly, says M. G. Huber, Oregon State college agricultural engineering specialist. Sheets can be used on upright, bunker, trench and stack silos.

Buy only black or colored plastic, Huber advises. Clear plastic may become brittle and deteriorate in sunlight. He also recommends the heavier six mil thickness of plastic which costs slightly more than four mil plastic but will stand more abuse. One mil is one-thousandth of an inch.

Success of the covering depends upon an air-tight seal around the edges, the specialist says. Edges of the sheet can be held down with dirt or silage. As the silage settles, slack in the sheet should be taken up to remove danger of wind damage.

It is also important to protect the sheet against punctures that might be caused by children, falling objects, or animals. Punctures and tears should be repaired immediately. Huber states, since a hole the size of a pin head can let in enough air to cause silage spoilage. Small breaks in the plastic can be repaired with waterproof adhesive tape.

Jersey Cattle Club Dairy Show Saturday

The Rogue River Jersey Cattle club junior dairy show will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday at Gold Hill.

Participating in the event will be 4-H club members, Future Farmers of America and other young livestock enthusiasts. Judging contests will be held in the morning, and showmanship contests will be conducted in the afternoon. Bill Wivell, Coos Bay, will act as judge.

Apply Walnut Blight Spray Now, Agent Says

Walnut blight spray should be applied now, according to C.B. Cordy, county horticulture agent.

Cordy recommends 2 pounds copper-A to 100 gallons of water with a little sprayer. The application should be made again in about a week.

DHIA Selects Ten Leading Herds in County For April

The Jackson County Dairy Herd Improvement association has selected the top five herds in the county for the month of April.

Owners of the herds are Grief and Nelson, Ed Ramsay, Fritz and Helen Carlson, Chet Jensen and Hubbar and Vaughn.

Top Herds

Grief and Nelson's her consists of 31 cows, of which two were dry, producing an average of 859 pounds milk and 46.6 pounds butterfat; Ramsay's herd consists of 37 cows, one dry cow, producing 1,038 pounds milk and 45.8 pounds butterfat; Carlson's herd consists of 28 cows, producing 1,194 pounds milk and 45.3 pounds butterfat; Jensen's herd consists of 27 cows, two dry cows, producing 877 pounds milk, 41.1 pounds butterfat; and Hubbar and Vaughn's her consists of 59 cows, six dry cows, producing 984 pounds milk and 40.2 pounds butterfat.

The ten top cows in the county are Bert, owned by Grief and

Nelson, 1,408 pounds milk, 94.7 pounds butterfat, 28 days in milk; Red, owned by Grief and Nelson, 1,377 pounds milk, 86.8 pounds butterfat, 70 days in milk; No. 81 owned by Gilman's Dairy Farm, 1,845 pounds milk, 86.7 pounds butterfat, 40 days in milk; Myrth, owned by Richard and Elizabeth Westerberg, 1,875 pounds milk, 86.3 pounds butterfat, 30 days in milk.

Top Cows

Naomi, owned by Hubbar and Vaughn, 2,190 pounds milk, 85.4 pounds butterfat, 30 days in milk; Beverly, owned by Birdseye Bros., 1,197 pounds milk, 85 pounds butterfat, 31 days in milk; Mindy, owned by James A. and Neola Edge, 2,084 pounds milk, 83.8 pounds butterfat, 44 days in milk; Jewel owned by J. E. Parsons, 1,566 pounds milk, 83 pounds butterfat, 41 days in milk; Erna, owned by Burrenson Bros., 1,665 pounds milk, 79.9 pounds butterfat, 33 days in milk; and No. 12, owned by Straus Bros., 2,271 pounds milk, 79.5 pounds butterfat, 64 days in milk.

Oregon Farm Prices Slip During April

Corvallis—Prices paid Oregon farmers slipped slightly during April while farm prices over the nation continued upward, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Lower prices for poultry and grains other than wheat were largely responsible for the dip in Oregon farm prices, Mrs. Horrell said. Potato prices in April, averaging less than half those of a year ago, also held down the Oregon price index. However, Oregon farm prices still average 2 per cent higher than a year ago.

Meanwhile, farm costs throughout the nation moved up during April for a record high as labor and operation costs and farm family living costs continued to rise. During the last year, farm costs have outpaced farm prices. This has put buy power of farm products in a squeeze.

At the same time, factory wage earners has a more favorable buying power than a year ago with hourly wages up 5 per cent during the past year and only a 4 per cent increase in prices of goods and services city workers buy.

Self Cleaning Tines
Won't ball up with grass or sod.

BIG 3 h.p. Engine!

Springfield Rotary Tiller

\$169⁹⁵

Nothing Else to Buy!

Budget Terms
If you so desire!

Ask For Demonstration in The Dirt At Our "Farm Store"

See the Tiller in Actual Operation Doing the Same Job You'll Ask It To Do.

Monarch SEED & FEED CO.
6th & Bartlett 10th & So. Fir

ASTOUNDING PLANT GROWTH!

FROM Amazing! New! **GIB-GRO** CAPSULES

STIMULATES WONDERFUL PLANT GROWTH 3 TIMES NORMAL SIZE IN FROM 2 WEEKS INDOOR-OUTDOOR

• Regulate Plant Growth
• Control Flower Formation
• Control Flowering Time
• Increase Fruit Setting
• Break Dormancy
• Stimulate Seed Germination
• Increase Lawn and Turf Growth
• Produce Earlier Seed
• Increase Herbicidal Effectiveness
• Eliminate Transplanting Shock

FREE COMPLETE ATOMIST APPLICATION WITH HOME SIZE GIB-GRO UNBREAKABLE

ONLY 2 CAPSULES
IN APPLICATION MAKES ENOUGH SPRAY TO effectively treat dozens of plants of all kinds indoors and out. Now raise huge gladioli, begonias, mums, delphinium, phlox, daisies, carnations, roses, dahlias, etc.

8 POTENT CAPSULES \$2

ORDER AT ONCE! LIMITED SUPPLY.

RESULTS NEVER BEFORE POSSIBLE

PHENOMENAL RESULTS FROM EXPERIMENTS
by laboratories and scientists all over the country show that a ROSE BUSH SHOT UP TO TWO TIMES ITS NORMAL SIZE. A GERANIUM PLANT GREW TO A THREE FOOT GIANT. A CHRYSANTHEMUM IN FOUR WEEKS TWICE THE SIZE, SET TWICE AS MANY BLOSSOMS AS AN UNTREATED ONE. *A SINGLE TREATMENT INCREASED THE YIELD OF BEANS. *FRESH AND DRY WEIGHT OF CELERY INCREASED UP TO 80%. *PROVED EFFECTIVE IN SETTING TOMATO BLOSSOMS. *FURTHER EXPERIMENTAL WORK NECESSARY.

NOT A FERTILIZER, HORMONE OR VITAMIN

Home Gardens GIB-GRO	Professional GIB-GRO-N
8 capsules w/Atomist...\$2	20 tablets (20 grams)...\$30
24 capsules w/Atomist...\$5	40 tablets (40 grams)...\$38
36 capsules w/Atomist...\$7	60 tablets (60 grams)...\$53

GIB-GRO NOW AVAILABLE AT

MONARCH SEED & FEED CO.
305 South Fir — Phone SP 2-5687
103 North Bartlett — Phone SP 2-2460

BIG Y SEED & SUPPLY
North Pacific Hiway — Phone SP 3-3160

PACIFIC SEED & SUPPLY
East 4th & Front — Phone SP 2-2413

Just guide it... or ride* it!

REO 18-Inch Royale

\$139⁹⁵

America's largest-selling reel-type power mower!

Velvety cut — 5 keen-edged blades shear grass off in smooth, even pattern — makes finest lawn look even better.

No pushing — Power-propelled by rugged REO 2 1/4 hp. 4-cycle engine. Uses regular gas. Automatic Rewind Starter. Handle controls.

***Optional Rider Attachment — Gives you the luxury of a riding mower at low extra cost. Quickly attached in place of handle. Saves walking, makes mowing fun!**

Monarch Seed & Feed Co.
Cor. 10th & So. Fir • 6th & Bartlett