

# Trees Said Profitable For This Area's Farms

Farmers who are not planting their submarginal land to trees are missing a good bet, according to Jack Mace, of the local office of the state department of forestry.

A farmer is entitled to a payment of \$11 per acre a year during a 10-year contract, Mace explained. This comes under the conservation reserve section of the soil bank act.

If a farmer wants to plant trees for prevention of wind or water erosion. This could be done under a five-year contract, Mace said. However the trees cannot be harvested before the end of the five-year or 10-year contract, he stated.

"For taking part in the Conservation Reserve program, a farmer may receive cost-sharing and annual payments," the forestry man said.

**Aids Farmer**

"The practice or cost sharing payment helps the farmer establish conservation measures," he added. "The federal government will pay—(1) 80 per cent of the cost of trees and planting, not to exceed \$30 per acre; (2) 80 per cent of the cost of cultivation during the first and or second year for each cultivation.

The annual payment provides income for land taken out of production. The state committee has established the county regular annual payment rate of \$11 per acre for both Jackson and Josephine counties, it was explained. The total annual payment to any farm producer in any year may amount to as much as \$5,000.

The land which is eligible under the soil bank program comes under three main classifications, Mace said.

1. Land which was tilled or was in regular crop rotation during the first year of the contract period. This includes land which was established in permanent vegetative cover (other than trees since 1953) and which was classified as cropland at the time of seeding.
2. Land devoted to tame hay on property which does not qualify as cropland under definition of cropland. This must be also land from which a crop has been harvested for hay or ensilage during either of the two years preceding the first year of the contract period.
3. Land which was tilled or was in regular crop rotation during the first year of the contract period and which constitutes (or will constitute, if till-

age is continued) an erosion hazard to the community. (Such land is not classified as cropland.)

**May File Application**

Producers wishing to participate in the Conservation Reserve program may file an application for a Conservation reserve contract at the county Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Office, Mace said.

"The state forester has entered into a working agreement with the U. S. Department of Agriculture through the forest service, to make effective and competent technical forestry assistance available to eligible cropland owners, tenants, and shareholders of Oregon," Mace explained.

"Trees on your land are like money in the bank at compound interest," the forestry man said.

"The demand for wood will go up as our population grows. Increasing use of wood for charcoal, paper, lumber, poles, veneer, plastics, particle boards, and other products yet to be developed, give assurance of future markets."

**Demand Increasing**

Demand for Christmas tree production is increasing, Mace noted. The day of entering a forest to cut a Christmas tree for personal use is rapidly nearing an end due to forest regulations, Mace pointed out. Now there are over 20,000,000 trees cut annually in the United States for the Christmas trade. The demand exceeds the supply. Last year the United States imported \$5½ million worth of Christmas tree stumps from Canada.

Mace said the Christmas tree industry is profitable around Salem and Portland.

The Shasta fir is the most suitable tree for this area for Christmas tree production, Mace said. It doesn't grow so fast. The Douglas fir is considered suitable if it doesn't grow so rapidly that the branches become too widely spaced. Noble fir is also being used. Austrian pine is coming into use particularly on southern slopes where the drying conditions are bad, Mace added.

The meat of watermelons varies in sweetness, fiber and color, the latter often ranging from deep red to light pink and sometimes even to yellow.

About 90 per cent of all the farms in the United States now have electric power available to them.

About one million acres of sugar beets are cultivated in the U.S. each year.

# 4-H Medal Winners Announced Locally By Extension Agent

Outstanding work as young farmers in 4-H Club projects has won for four Jackson County 4-Hers county medals in the national awards program, it was announced.

Jim Frink of Central Point and Russell Elmore of Applegate have been named to receive county medals in the boys' agricultural program sponsored by the International Harvester company.

Jim, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Frink of Central Point, has been a club member for the past five years and his outstanding work in swine, crops, tractor, sheep, dairy and horse were cited as reasons for his obtaining the Boys' agricultural medal. A six-year club member, Russell Elmore, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Elmore of Applegate, has completed projects in beef, forestry, tractor maintenance. His well rounded 4-H program has earned him the boys' agricultural medal.

**Others Listed**

Two other Applegate 4-H Club members, Philip Krouse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Krouse, and Truman Elmore, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Elmore, have been named medal winners in the most animal phase of the national awards program. These medals are presented by Thomas E. Wilson of Chicago.

Philip has had seven years of 4-H Club work and has completed projects in tractor, forestry, junior leadership, electricity, swine, beef and sheep. His work in establishing a breeding flock of sheep and a herd of Hereford cattle has won him the most animal award. He was recently named grand champion wool exhibitor at the state fair for the second year in a row, an indication of the breeding program that he is using in his sheep flock.

Truman has completed 8 years in 4-H Club work and has carried forestry, electricity, tractor maintenance, beef, sheep, and swine as 4-H projects. He has carried the beef, sheep, and swine projects all eight years that he has been an active 4-Her. His outstanding work with these projects in establishing a small flock of sheep and a breeders herd in sheep and swine has won him the meat animal award. The club members will receive their medals at their achievement programs.

# ---CHIT CHAT---

By JOE COWLEY  
Farm Editor

Just for fun we looked up the definition of farmer in Webster's dictionary. One of those listed is, "One who takes taxes to collect, paying a fixed sum for the privilege." We also looked up the definition of farm, one given is "a district or division of a country leased out for the collection of the revenues of government."

Probably quite a few farmers think this ancient definition of a farm is fast becoming a true one.

Simplifying the figuring of depreciation and offering a wider selection of ways to figure it would help the farmer in a tax way. And that is what the state board of agriculture is trying to do. The board is working through the state tax commission to get a state law to conform with federal regulations in figuring depreciation.

Now only the straight line method is permitted, allowing the farmer—or anybody else—a set deduction from taxes every year for 10 years as depreciation on equipment.

The federal government under its income tax law gives the choice of five different methods of calculating depreciation. One of the methods—quick depreciation—would allow a farmer, for instance, to depreciate out his equipment and spend the difference he makes in overhauling his equipment.

However, this proposal would probably only affect the farmers who have a lot of money in equipment and who buy new equipment every year.

Carrying the financial angle further, a movement is underway to allow the Production Credit association to keep a tax free reserve to cover bad loans. This would bring state regulations on a level with the federal laws. They allow national banks a tax-free privilege of maintaining a reserve to cover bad loans.

We have heard agricultural leaders insist it isn't fair to compare farm products with wood products unless both are kept on a finished product basis. Robert J. Steward, director of the state board of agriculture, has suggested that farm products be re-measured on a new basis. However, some people figure most food is processed now, so any change in the figuring would not be fair. The idea behind this proposal seems to be that by proving agriculture in Oregon is even more important than it appears to be, more federal funds might be obtained to finance farm research.

The Jackson county agriculture committee is pressing for procedure compelling manufacturers of insecticides, fungicides, pesticides and herbicides to designate the date of manufacture either on the label or some place on the container. The chemist of the state department of agriculture is doing some research into this problem, we are told. In fact, this scientist has suggested the label read—"this material effective to"—and give the date. This would be similar to the dates you see stamped on flashlight batteries or boxes of photographic film.

Otto Bohnert, Central Point farmer, a number of years ago lost over \$1,000 on his clover crop when slug pellets proved defective. Trouble is he didn't discover the pellets were old until too late. The state board of agriculture received reports from several parts of Oregon that defective DDT was a severe handicap in combatting Laegus bugs in alfalfa.

Otto also tells us rumors that vegetable farming is on the increase in the valley are unfounded. Vegetable crops are on the decided decrease here.

A big reason is little fruit and produce raised in the valley is consumed here. There seems to be little market for it. Potatoes raised in the valley are given as high a grade as any shipped in and sell just as cheaply—if not cheaper, Bohnert reports. However, the housewife seems to prefer those shipped in from Idaho and elsewhere. She seems to be working against herself as well as the valley farmer.

Growing out of the first factor is the problem of higher freight rates. Bohnert said he discovered a few years ago it cost him twice as much to ship by rail into Portland as it did a Roseburg farmer. Bohnert ships his onions into San Francisco by truck. Trucks, he said, are easier on his onions. He can get them into market in 12 to 16 hours when it generally takes about three days to ship into San Francisco by rail.

Bohnert used to be among the largest fruit and produce men here. During the last few years due to this double squeeze he has dropped from 30 acres of potatoes to none. He used to raise such things as melons, asparagus, rhubarb, raspberries and strawberries, to mention only a few. Now onions is the only remaining crop of that type he now raises. He is concentrating more and more on seed crops such as alfalfa.

Another example is Bob Fields at Seven Oaks who stopped raising potatoes. He is now reported growing sweet-corn, onions and concentrating more on his purebred Hereford stock. We hope later to develop more into this particular phase of agriculture in the valley. Then we want to talk to more of the area's vegetable growers and learn why this particular phase is not growing here as some agricultural authorities say it should.

A few dates to keep in mind are—Nov. 29 and 30, 16th annual Oregon state corn show at the Clackamas county fairgrounds, Dec. 2, meeting on current marketing problems, Marion county courthouse—7:30 p.m. in room 82; Dec. 23, winter meeting of the American Society of Range Management (Pacific Northwest section) in Bend.

Other meetings are—64th annual meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's association at Klamath Falls; Dec. 5-6, 72nd meeting of the Oregon state horticulture society at Oregon State college; 17th annual meeting of the Oregon Seed Growers league, Multnomah hotel, Portland.

Women who read the story in Sunday's Oregonian about hordes of mice invading southeast Oregon can get off the high stools and drop their skirts. Clifford B. Cordy, county horticulturist, says this report is greatly exaggerated. There is nothing mysterious about the increase of field mice—and it applies to the entire state—such a thing occurs in cycles, Cordy explained. It was reported that many of the potatoes were left in the fields due to an unseasonable rain. Naturally the mice would gnaw into them. This might explain the 8 per cent estimate placed on potato crop losses in Klamath county because of mouse damage.

We had mouse fears in our house, too. The little woman spotted a hole in a pillow. We told her if the pillow squeaked when she placed her head on it she could be sure a mouse was in there. For some reason, that didn't calm her fears.

**Estray Notice Shows 13 Cattle Missing**

Salem—Thirteen strayed or stolen cattle are listed on the November estray bulletin, published by the state department of agriculture. Henry A. Mat-schiner, supervising livestock officer has given all the department's livestock officers and brand inspectors a description of the missing animals.

State police and county sheriffs have also been alerted to be on the lookout for the missing animals.

Included on the estray bulletin was information from the Elmore county, Idaho sheriff who asks Oregon officers to watch for a missing registered Hereford bull, and two other animals, owned by a farmer near Hill City, Idaho.

Eight other owners reported cows, calves and heifers missing from farms and ranches in Benton, Linn, Jackson, Wasco and Malheur counties.

Lean meat contains about 73 per cent of water.

**Top Stitchers Receive County Medal Awards**

Outstanding work in sewing and fitting garments that they made in 4-H club work has won for 11 Jackson county 4-H club members a county medals in the national awards program, it was announced.

Judged on the basis of the construction technique of their garments, the suitability for the individual involved, and the ability to model the garment, were the factors considered in the presentation of medals awarded by the Simplicity Pattern Company.

Named as the outstanding stylists in Jackson county for 1957 were:

Gwen Palmerton, Applegate; Julie Ashton, Central Point; Vernola Hutchison, Central Point; Nyla Murray, Antelope; Marjorie Wonderly, Medford; Ursula Bates, Medford; Elaine McKay, Central Point; Karen Jossy, Antelope; Maryeda Frost, Evans Valley; Diane Putman Eagle Point; and Georgia Hubbard, Antelope.

# Farm and Garden

## Local Representation Set For Hort Meeting

A large delegation is expected to represent this area at the Oregon State Horticultural society's 72nd annual meeting in Corvallis, it was reported today.

A number of those attending from the Medford area will be speakers during the Dec. 5-6 sessions. David Lowry, Medford, is on the board of trustees and Orville Hamilton, Central Point, is first vice-president.

One of the more interesting sessions, under the apple and pear section, is expected to be a talk by Elmer Hansen, Oregon State college horticulturist, on controlled atmosphere storage problems. C. B. Cordy, Jackson county horticulturist, examined this type of storage when he attended the national meeting of county agents in Boston this fall.

Cordy will participate in a panel discussion of rootstocks and new varieties scheduled for the first morning session on Thursday, Dec. 5.

During the same morning period, L. C. Terriere, entomologist and chemist at OSC, will explain resistance of orchard pests to insecticides.

Hamilton Chairman

Orville Hamilton, Central Point, will act as chairman in opening the Friday morning session. Cordy will also participate in a panel discussion on establishing young trees successfully.

During the Friday afternoon session, L. G. Gentner, entomologist at the Southern Oregon experiment station will talk on insects under "What's New in Chemicals for Insect and Disease Control."

Another talk expected to draw considerable interest is one on bulk handling of fruit by S. W. Porritt, horticulturist, Summerland experiment station, Summerland, British Columbia.

Under the stone fruits section, Don Korth, Phoenix, will participate in a panel discussion during the Thursday morning session. This will be a discussion on the

## Vote Dates Set On Fryer Commission

Salem—A producer referendum on the proposed Oregon fryer commission will be held from Dec. 9 through Dec. 21, director Robert J. Steward of the state department of agriculture announced today.

Ballots will be mailed before Dec. 9 to all producers who registered with the department by Nov. 18. Ballots may be returned by mail to the department at Salem or they may be deposited in ballot boxes in the offices of county extension agents in Eugene, Albany, Salem, Oregon City or Hillsboro.

Any registered producer who does not receive a ballot in the mail by Dec. 9 may obtain one from Market Development Chief Paul T. Rowell at the state department of agriculture in Salem, or from any of the five county agents' offices listed.

Public hearings were held last May after broiler and fryer producers petitioned for a self-help commission.

The commission will be created if two-thirds of the registered producers voting favor it and if the number voting represents at least one-third of the total Oregon production.

If created, the commission would be authorized to assess and collect not more than 1.5 percent on producers' sales of broilers and fryers. The funds would be used for research and promotion of this industry in Oregon.

## How To Judge, Manage Soil Outlined By OSC

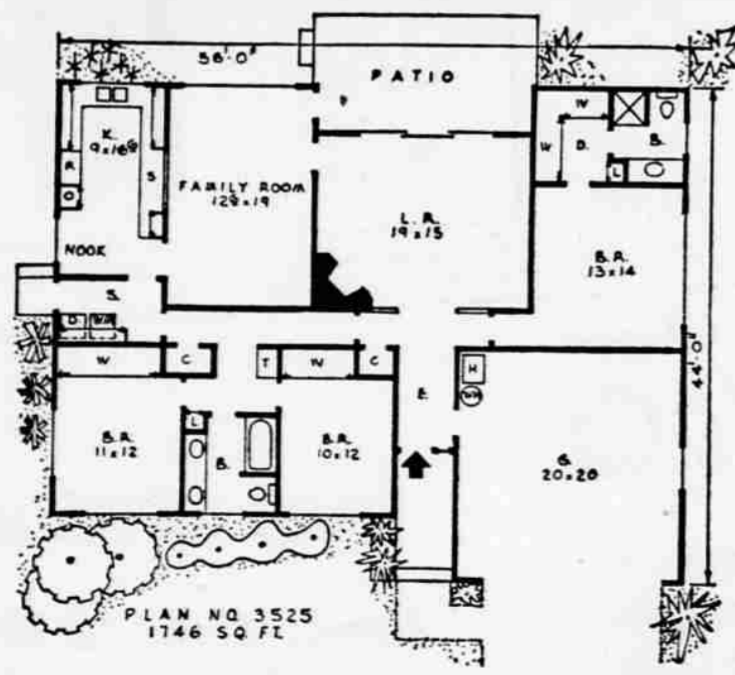
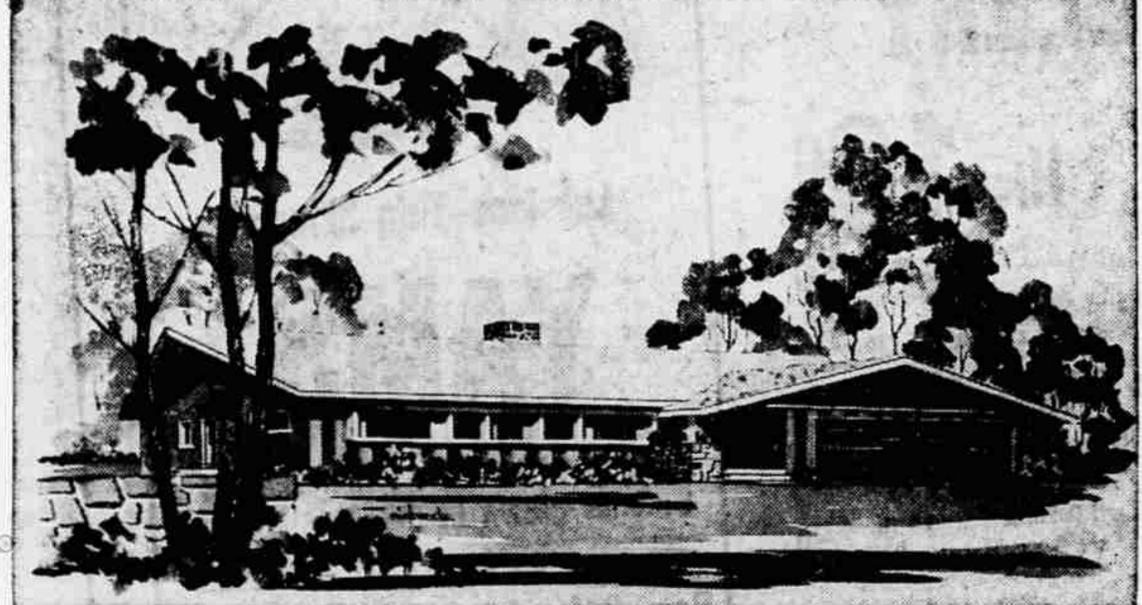
Corvallis—No one expects to pick popcorn from prune trees or to market pork chops from black Angus, but the impossible often is expected of the soil, according to two Oregon State college soils men who are authors of a new bulletin designed to help Oregonians make best use of their wide range of soil types.

Published by Oregon State college extension service, the 32-page booklet, "Soil Judging From the Ground Up," was prepared by Arthur S. King, conservation specialist, and Murray Dawson, soil scientist. Copies may be obtained free from county extension offices or the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

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# This Week's Town, Country House Plan



This 1746 square foot home incorporates many unusual features planned to meet the problems of modern living.

The center hall plan makes all rooms accessible to either entrance and to each other. The master bedroom suite is set apart, away from the work areas as well as the children's rooms. Thus anyone arising early or sleeping late will neither disturb nor be disturbed by the rest of the family. A spacious dressing room and tiled three-quarter bath completes this bedroom suite.

The family bath, with double pullman lavatories and recessed fixtures, separates the children's bedrooms. Both bedrooms have exceptionally large wardrobes and large windows. Extra closets along the hall contribute to the storage space.

The family room and living room provide recreation areas for both adults and youngsters. Both open to the partially roofed terrace and to each other to provide ample room for large gatherings and parties.

In the living room of the big corner fireplace faces triple glass doors that slide open for indoor-outdoor pleasure in summer.

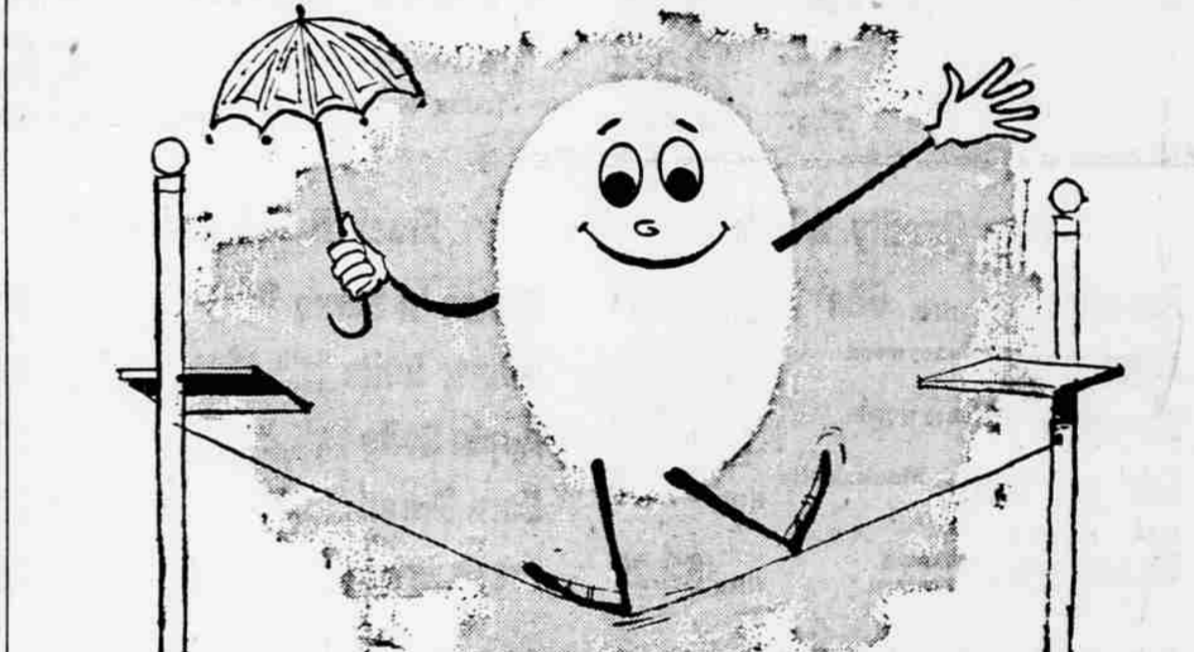
Truly a work-saver is the U-shaped kitchen, with built-in oven, countertop cooking, refrigerator, dish-washer and big double sink. A broad window lights the corner breakfast nook, and a pass-through counter is situated above the range to facilitate serving meals in the family room. The service area accommodates the washing machine and dryer.

An integral part of the plan,

the double garage contains the forced air heating unit and water heater, plus extra space for storage or work bench.

Natural materials enhance the simplicity and good taste of the modern exterior. The low clean lines of the rock roof are repeated in the boxed gable and the framing of the windows. Soft-hued stone is used in the chimney veneer and for the planter beside the covered entry. An attractive mail-on design finishes the garage door.

Complete working drawings of the above plan can be obtained at a cost of \$7.50 for the first set and \$5 for each additional set, when ordered at the same time. This plan will be available for a period of four months from this date. Please allow two weeks for delivery. If the above home does not entirely meet with your satisfaction, a new home plan book, TOWN and COUNTRY HOMES may be purchased for \$1. Send all orders for either plans or books to: Hiawatha Estes, P.O. Box 404-T, Northridge, Calif.



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