

Pear Decline To Get Major Attention in Research Plan

The horticultural research program for 1958 was discussed at a meeting Feb. 21 of the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station advisory committee and staff members.

Problems receiving major attention this year will be pear decline, stony pit, control of storage rots, evaluation of promising new fungicidal materials and testing of albedo resistant cherry varieties.

Pear work will be undertaken to determine the best time for picking red bartlett, from the angle of storage and handling, and work will continue on controlled atmosphere storage of pears.

Tree Nutrition

Studies also will continue on pear tree nutrition with reference to nitrogen sources and time and rates of application and on the place of potash in the fertility program.

Other projects concern work on orchard soil management.

The committee also encouraged continued work on development of new pear varieties under the direction of Dr. R. C. Blake, assisted by various members of the central experiment station staff at Corvallis.

Entomological work relating to horticultural problems will be under Dr. L. G. Gentner and include studies aiming for better control of pear leaf blister mites, pear psylla, San Jose scale, two-spotted and carpinid mites and codling moth on pears. Dr. Gentner will be testing the effectiveness of dormant applications of new experimental types of spray applications.

Attend Meeting

Attending the meeting were Howard Bush, Orville Hamilton, Charles Henry, Ron James, Paul Culbertson, Tom Spatz, Lyle Kenney, president of the Fruit Growers League; Cliff Cordy, horticultural extension agent; Dr. S. B. Apple, head horticulture department, Oregon State college; Dr. Roy Young, department of botany and plant pathology, Oregon State college; Dr. R. W. Henderson, acting dean in charge of Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Oregon State college; Dr. Blake, H. H. White, superintendent, Southern Oregon Experiment Station.

During the meeting, Dr. Henderson and Dr. Apple called attention to the large amount and constantly increasing participation of the staff of the central station at Corvallis in trying to work out solutions of the problems of this area.

They pointed out that in the past year the staff of the central station spent in excess of \$38,000 working with the

Southern Oregon Experiment station staff on horticultural problems of the southern Oregon area. They felt that the research team approach is the most effective and satisfactory method of attacking the complicated problems most of which require attention of specialists in several scientific fields, he said.

State Feeder Assn. Organized In Salem

Salem — A new organization, to be known as the Oregon Livestock and Poultry Feeders association, was formed in Salem Feb. 19, with Arthur P. Ireland of Forest Grove named temporary chairman. Noel Bennion of the state college extension staff was chosen temporary secretary-treasurer.

Ireland outlined the purposes in this brief statement: "The Pacific Northwest is the only region in the country unable to utilize its own most economically produced feed grain. We therefore are forced to import other feed grains from distant areas in which similar livestock products are being produced.

Develop Program.

"We propose to develop a program that will enable this region to utilize all grains not used for human consumption at a competitive feed grain price and to permit growers to use any grain they produce for feed purposes if desired."

The organization grew out of a preliminary study session January 23 when feeders met to consider their common problems. At that time they designed the special committee which met this week and developed the streamlined statement of purposes and aims announced by Ireland.

Another meeting will be called in the near future to complete the organization and formulate a complete statement of aims and purposes.

Labor Represented

The organizers were representatives of beef and dairy cattle, lamb, turkey and chicken groups. Labor was also represented because of its interest in expanding payrolls and maintaining purchasing power. A representative of the swine industry was invited but did not attend.

All interested feeders in all these groups will be given an opportunity to join in this effort and will be approached later by leaders in their respective segments.

The preliminary meeting in January was called by Robert J. Steward, state director of agriculture, at the request of feeder interest groups.

Commend Committee

Steward, following the meeting this week which was held in the department headquarters, commended the special committee on taking "this historic step."

He said there has long been a need for livestock and poultry feeders to present an organized viewpoint on their problems to the rest of the livestock industry and to the cereal grain and forage crop interests.

Ireland said he assumed the temporary chairmanship because as a dairyman he is vitally interested in the economical feeding of cereal grains which is so important to maintain high milk production at competitive costs. He noted he has watched a substantial decline in the manufactured dairy products industry in Oregon due largely to high feeding costs.

Ice Cream Award Won By Jorgensen

Corvallis — Jorgensen's dairy, Medford, took third place in the strawberry ice cream division at the recent Oregon Dairy Industries annual dairy products contest.

James Dunlop, Medo-Land Creamery, Eugene, took second place in that division. James Swett, Klamath Falls Creamery, took first prize for the best strawberry ice cream.

Farm and Garden

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

We said goodbye to an old friend four days ago. We said it with a lump in our throat and a stinging mistiness in our eyes. This fellow had been our friend and partner for over 11 years and was leaving on a long trip. We would never see him again. We mention it in this column since he is like the partner of many farmers.

One farmer on a local turkey farm says his partner takes the place of three good men in handling the birds in the field. Herdsmen have come to know him as a friend and companion while standing watch over the flocks on the lonely mountain pastures. Children have both trusted and loved him. He has protected a good many from onrushing cars on busy streets and the dangers of the nearby millpond or irrigation ditch.

We remember this big Collie, with his tail waving like a triumphant plume, guiding school children across a busy street. Those who strayed out of the crissling lines were promptly but gently nudged back into the safety zone. Nothing which trespassed on his property was too big nor too tough for him to tackle. Whiskey-soaked bums and stray salesmen were quickly dispatched with an ominous growl and a quick charge. On the ranch he was a constant companion of a young ranch-hand and his horse. One time Robbie, the Collie, was holding the reins while his master was inspecting the far end of an irrigation ditch. The horse suddenly decided to join his rider and both dog and horse were sailing over the ditch.

That accounts for the slightly crooked tooth. The scar on his nose was caused by a .22 bullet from a Christmas rifle. A slight scar on one forepaw came when he stepped on his puppyhood. An Airdale had growled threateningly at his master and was stopped nearly at the cost of a leg.

Robbie was a furry comforter against the cold night air on overnight camping trips in the mountains, someone to talk to during a spell of loneliness, a mischievous puppy with an air of wisdom, a patient retriever of tossed balls. He was all of these things and we hope he understands when the veterinarian puts him out of the misery of old age. We turned him over to a farmer-friend who will take him on his last trip. We didn't have the nerve to do it ourselves.

Recently, we moved into a house which has the two things important to most men, a broad fireplace and a deep bathtub. And while moving in a new neighbor said "howdy." There was a time when we thought most people had forgotten the cheerful meaning of this word. We would like to hear it used more often around Medford and vicinity.

We have been interested in the pelleting process for feeds since so many articles have appeared in the popular farm publications. Some seem to think that both hay and feed can be put into pellet form and used profitably by the farmer and others do not.

During a recent state feed dealers' meeting Dr. Wise Burroughs, Iowa State college, said the cost of this processing is so high that increased feed efficiency and rate of gain are not enough. A local agricultural authority claims that much alfalfa hay has enough protein without the pelleting. How the hay is taken care of and the stage at which it is cut are among factors which determine its protein content.

Now protein in itself is not considered a good basis by which to judge feed value. Calorie-protein ratios are now being used to indicate the calories of productive energy. In other words, how feed can be converted into energy units is the key to efficient feeding, according to the new trend. So farmers' wives may be surprised soon to find their husbands discussing calories for their livestock.

Most of this work has been done with poultry. Cost of feed required per unit of product is the real measure. Feeds, then, must be both efficient and economically sound. This is determined by the rate of growth in production and the potency and balance of the ration, according to G. F. Combs, University of Maryland. Now, while the farmer is working on an ever-shrinking margin of profit his costs must be kept to the thin line. Those farmers who realize the more potent the feed, the less feed required per unit of product, will be ahead. They will be using less feed and getting more for what they do feed.

Research in Maryland was concentrated on broilers. There the farm scientists discovered energy levels ranging from 505 to 1,240 calories of productive energy per pound have been shown to give rapid growth.

"It is particularly important that rations be formulated so that both energy and protein will be efficiently utilized in order to produce products most economically," Combs stated in his study.

Oregon State college is conducting a study to test the efficiency of pellet feeding. According to reports, dairy cattle are less productive on pellets, but the reasons have yet to be learned. This is based on the exclusive feeding of pellets. So far there seem to be two main advantages—absolutely no waste if the stock are good feeders, and it is possible to set up self-feeders. Under the second main advantage enough feed could be put out for cattle in one day to last them a week. However, some farmers may say this is not the proper way to keep a check on the cattle's condition.

Other agricultural authorities report there is no magic in pelleting livestock feeds. It is a good idea, they say, to check into the quality of hay roughages used. If the hay is ground finely before pelleting you can't be certain of the quality. Dr. James Oldfield, of OSC's animal husbandry department has pointed out that quality control is needed to evaluate the total protein energy vitamin and mineral value of such feeds.

Ranch equipment for hay pelleting is coming, agricultural authorities predict. J. D. O'Connor and Sons of Klamath Falls are credited with the first commercial pelleting in this state.

There are various types of pellets. One is the straight alfalfa pellet or one with 10 per cent molasses added. Pelleted cubes are popular for beef. These contain two-thirds alfalfa and one-third grain. Molasses or antibiotics may be added, or pellets may consist of a straight grain cube.

According to dairy specialists at Kansas State college, if a farmer gives his cows all the hay they'll eat with enough concentrate added, it isn't necessary to give them any extra mineral except salt. These specialists say cows getting alfalfa hay need a concentrate which has about 12 to 14 per cent protein.

There seems to be no limit for the ingenuity of the farm scientists. At Washington State college hard alfalfa seeds are being treated with radio waves to soften them up. Germination is said to increase from 60 per cent to 96 per cent.

People who are interested in Jackson county's participation in the Oregon Beef commission referendum say not nearly enough farmers have registered and few have voted. Fifty-nine were eligible for the voting scheduled from Feb. 10 to Feb. 24. We counted 38 who had voted as of last Friday.

A statement in Hoard's Dairyman recently should give the farmer something to think about. The article in this publication indicates the farmers' political influence is waning. This may in part explain why Benson feels his job as secretary of agriculture is fairly secure. The big pressure bloc isn't so big anymore.

Refunds Are Distributed to Egg Producers

Patronage refunds totalling \$522,618 are currently being distributed to the farmer members of the Oregon Egg Producers, Grant Young, Medford branch manager, has announced. Medford area members' share of the 1957 patronage refund payment will total \$54,157.

On Jan. 1, the association continued its policy of redeeming its capital certificates in five years by recalling the 1953 issue at the face value of \$573,810. In addition, \$135,444 was paid out to members as 1956 interest on outstanding certificates.

Altogether, the Oregon Egg Producers are currently distributing a total of \$1,231,872 to western Oregon farmers. Young pointed out that with 1957 agriculture markets again at depressed levels, the payments represent a welcome boost to local farm income.

Audit Figures

Final audit figures for the 1957 operation of the farmer owned marketing and purchasing association showed a dollar volume of business in excess of \$9,500,000. Although feed and supply volume declined slightly from the record high reached in 1956, sales for both departments in 1957 represented the second highest volume attained in association history. Egg receipts increased by 12 per cent and were the highest since 1945.

The patronage refund being returned to local producers represents a refund of 8 1/2 per cent in the feed department and a four per cent refund on all farm supply purchases. The management reported that the association closed the 1957 business year with assets exceeding \$34 million and no mortgage indebtedness.

Dunbar Carpenter, route 3, Medford, has represented Jackson and Josephine county farmers on the board of directors since 1953.

Fifty-Two Head Set For Cal-Ore. Sale

Fifty-two head of cattle will be offered for sale at the annual California - Oregon sale scheduled here March 19 and 20, according to Earl Jossy, county extension agent.

Consignors include Applegate Farm, Jacksonville, a bull and two cows; Bernice Bigham, Eagle Point, two bulls; Dale E. Bigham, Eagle Point, a cow; Ralph L. Cook, Medford, four bulls; Robert H. and Nettie Field, Central Point, four bulls and four cows; David H. Holmes, Medford, a bull; Norman and Lois Jacob, Merrill, six cows; Donald K. Nichols, Ashland, three bulls; and Seven Oaks Herefords, Central Point, three bulls and four cows.

R. E. Smiley, Grants Pass, two bulls and a cow; R. W. Smith, Medford, a bull; Bill and Gayle Wood, Eagle Point, three bulls and seven cows; Yankee Creek ranches, Medford, three cows.

15 Associations Sponsor Conference

Corvallis — Fifteen leading industrial, professional and trade associations throughout the Northwest are cooperating in sponsoring the statewide conference on research and development for Oregon small business, scheduled March 13 to 15 at Oregon State college.

Five other colleges of the state also are sponsors for the sessions, which are designed to benefit small businesses of the state by showing how research programs and findings can be used to advantage in improving products and marketing methods.

Leaders in planning the conference are the Oregon department of planning and development, the Portland offices of the U.S. small business administration and the department of commerce, Corvallis Chamber of Commerce, and Oregon State college.

Oregon is the first state in the nation to have a statewide conference for small business as recommended at the national meeting called last September by President Eisenhower. Gov. Robert Holmes is honorary chairman and will be the opening-day luncheon speaker.

STRAYED ANIMALS

Salem — More than 80 strayed or stolen animals are listed on the January estray bulletin of the state department of agriculture. Heaviest loss was sustained by a Lake county rancher who reported 36 yearling calves missing.

Drastic Changes Announced For Brucellosis Testing

Salem — Drastic changes in procedures and payments under the cooperative brucellosis testing program in Oregon will become effective March 1, this year, the state department of agriculture announced on Feb. 20.

The changes are the result of a heavy cut in the federal share of the cooperative funds anticipated to carry the state through to the certification goal set for June 30, 1959.

The adjusted program calls for reduction in federal indemnities for reactors to match the state payment of \$8 for grade cattle and \$12 for purebreds. This will also be effective March 1. Some counties have a voluntary indemnity program in amounts similar to or under the state level.

The revised program will not affect free vaccination and testing on farms and ranches until each county is certified to be free from brucellosis.

One phase of the revised program requires livestock auction markets in eastern Oregon to make available approved, separate clean pens on and after March 1, for purposes shown below.

All counties except Hood River east of the Cascade mountains, and also Jackson county, are designated as range counties. Hood River

Downward Trend Halted on Milk

Corvallis — The recent downward trend in Oregon's milk production seems to be halted, according to Stephen C. Marks, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Milk production in Oregon during 1957 has been estimated at one billion, 137 million pounds, Marks said, the smallest annual output since 1926. However, 76 million pounds of milk were produced in Oregon this January, topping December's output by three million pounds and matching that produced during January, 1957.

Mild weather over the state during January stimulated a higher average output of milk per cow, Marks explains, with this average output reaching a record level for the month. Incomes of dairymen last month were slightly lower than a year ago, however, with wholesale milk prices partly offset by lower grain and hay prices.

Across the nation, tentative estimates by the U.S. department of agriculture set 1957 milk production at 127 billion pounds, one per cent above 1956's record output.

Certificate Given Snider Dairy Entry

Corvallis — A gold certificate award for fluid milk products went to David Kurtz, Snider Dairy at the recent Oregon Dairy Industries 47th annual conference.

Kurtz was presented the certificate for his entry of Grade A half and half and Grade A pasteurized whipping cream.

The dairy products contest is a highlight of the conference for dairy plant managers, plant technicians, and dairy industry representatives to review latest trends in manufacturing dairy products.

Record Reported in January Inspections

Salem — A January record, 5,348 carlot equivalents or 173 cars a day, was set by the amount of vegetables and fruits inspected last month at Oregon's eight federal-state shipping point districts, the state department of agriculture reported.

This is 23 cars a day more than during January last year, and breaks the previous record of 165 cars a day set in January 1951.

Extra Soil Bank Funds Temporarily Approved

Washington — The House has voted temporarily to provide \$250 million in extra soil bank funds this year to cover an expected flood of farmer applications. The lawmakers also agreed to slap a \$3,000 ceiling on soil bank payments to any one individual or corporation.

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and all other counties are classed as dairy counties.

In no event will testing be required or paid for by cooperative funds if cattle are going to slaughter or to an approved quarantine feed lot. Neither will free vaccinations be administered for female calves in auction yards if the calves go directly to slaughter, or to an approved quarantined feed lot.

Otherwise, these differences will prevail between range counties and dairy counties for eligible cattle going

Lemhi 53 May Be Grown Here

Lemhi 53, a new spring wheat variety, will be grown commercially in this area this year for the first time, according to officials at the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station.

The variety has been tested in trials at the station since 1954 and has performed in an outstanding manner, they report. It has yielded about 15 per cent more than White Federation 38, a recommended variety commonly grown here, while the test weights per bushel of the two have been equal.

Lemhi 53 is a white chaffed wheat with a blocky head, of moderate height with fairly stiff straw, and it carries resistance to stem and leaf rusts. It was developed for irrigation, but it has performed well under dry land conditions of this area, they said.

The variety possesses a "considerable" degree of cold resistance for a spring wheat. Official United States Department of Agriculture grain standards class it as a soft white wheat.

A small amount of certified seed is available for growers this spring, according to the station.

Local Company Gets Third Place Award

Corvallis — Milton Gordon, Borden company, Central Point, took third place in the cottage cheese contest at the recent Oregon Dairy Industries annual dairy products contest.

Curtis Jensen of the Eugene Farmers Creamery is Oregon's 1958 sweepstakes butter maker.

Jensen won first places for both the sweet cream and cultured cream butter divisions for an uncontested title to the sweepstakes trophy. Awards for tops in each division included a trophy and gold watch.

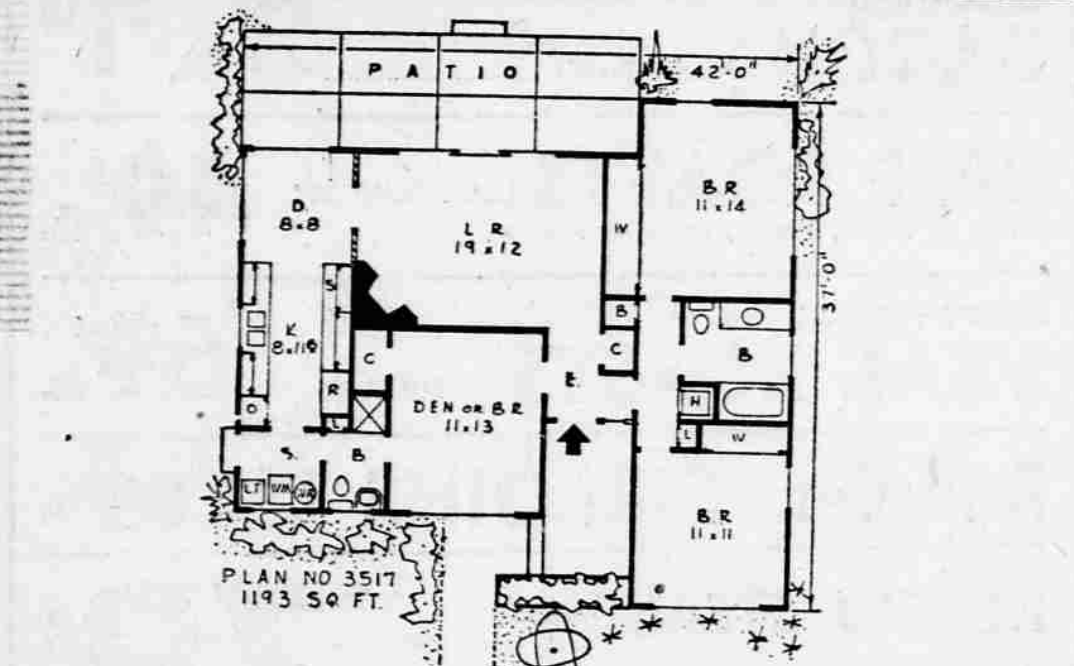
Three TB Reactors Found in Cattle

Salem — Three tuberculosis reactors and 495 brucellosis reactors were found in Oregon cattle tested under the federal-state control programs during January, according to the monthly report from the federal and state veterinarians' offices at the state department of agriculture.

In the brucellosis work, 56,728 cattle were blood tested in 2,568 herds, more than eight-tenths of one per cent of the cattle reacted. Calf vaccination was conducted in 1,187 herds containing 22,756 calves.

An estimated 35,700 cattle were tested in 1,785 herds under the milk ring method; this disclosed 179 suspicious herds.

This Week's Town, Country House



By HIAWATHA ESTES

Here is a home tailor-made for family life — modern, informal and economical to build.

The open plan takes advantage of long summer evenings to make the patio a part of the living area. The activity zone faces the rear yard and possible barbecue or pool. Twelve-foot wide glass doors open between the unusually spacious living room and the patio. In colder seasons this wall of glass seals tight to present a picture window view of your garden. The big stone fireplace can be enjoyed from both the living room and dining area. For snacks and lunches you have the corner breakfast area in the kitchen, close to the counter-top range. Built-in oven

and other appliances are spotted for step-saving, and plenty of overhead cabinets offer much needed shelf area for dishes and supplies. A big pantry adds to the storage space. You'll find more storage cabinets above the washer and dryer in the service area. A handy three-quarter bath opens to the service and is accessible from the den, or fourth bedroom.

The center hall serves as a "sound barrier" between the activity zone and the children's rooms, and can be closed off from the rest of the home to assure quiet at "nap time" and early bedtime. The den and three-quarter bath could double as a guest room or "private suite" for an older family member. Flanked by two linen closets,

the family bath contains a recessed tub, stall shower and twin pullman lavatories.

The trim, low lines of this 1676 square foot home would be equally attractive in a city or suburban setting. The colorful rock roof tops board on board siding and cut - stone veneer and planter. Brightly painted frames box the aluminum casement windows to continue the horizontal lines.

Complete working drawing of the above plan can be obtained at a cost of \$7.50 for the first set and \$3 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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