

# Farm and Garden

## Rules Amended For Meat Check By Ag Department

Salem—The state department of agriculture calls attention to several amendments in the regulations relating to state meat inspection. These additions were made over a period of time in an attempt to clarify the program, says M. E. Knickerbocker, animal industry division chief.

Under one amendment, no change in the established slaughter schedule may be made unless application is forwarded to the department, or given a department livestock officer, seven days in advance of the desired change. This requirement is made so inspection personnel will be available.

Meat inspectors who work on legal holidays or in excess of 40 hours of straight time in any calendar week, or before 6 a.m. or after 8 p.m., or in excess of eight continuous hours in a day, will come under the overtime provision of the regulations. This means a cost of one and one-half times the straight time allocations.

Legal holidays established under the order are all Sundays, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If holidays fall on Sunday, the succeeding Monday will be considered the holiday under the meat inspection program.

The third revision permits the department to allocate a minimum hourly charge, if meat inspections personnel is available, in plants that require meat inspection at times other than the established schedule. Such services will be charged as four hours if the overtime is four hours or less, or as eight hours if the overtime period is more than four hours.

## Officers Reelected For Potato Group

Bakersfield, Calif. — The Western States Potato Growers council has reelected all officers and directors in a meeting held in conjunction with the 14th annual Kern County Potato Growers Association convention.

They are Claude Auger, Stockton, Calif., president; Roy Hirai, Nyssa, vice president, and Merrill Webb, Red-

## Smaller Plantings Set By Farmers for This Year

Corvallis—Oregon farmers intend to plant about 5 per cent fewer acres this spring than a year ago, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Studying results of a questionnaire sent recently to the national farmers by the USDA crop reporting service, Mrs. Horrell found that Oregon growers plan to seed 18 per cent fewer acres of spring

wheat this year than in 1957. More acres were planted to winter wheat last fall, however, and this would still mean 8 per cent more land in wheat this year, she said.

The state's farmers also indicated they expect to plant 7 per cent fewer acres of oats than last spring, 3 per cent less barley, 2 per cent less sugar beets, and expect to harvest 3 per cent fewer acres of hay. On the other side of the ledger, Oregon farmers said they intend to up their usually small corn acreages by 11 per cent, and increase fall potato acreages by 4 per cent. Acreages of dry field peas will be about the same as last year, it was reported.

## Segregation Pens Now Postponed

Salem — The state department of agriculture said today it has postponed, for the present, putting into effect its recently announced requirement for segregation pens at auction markets for clean cattle tested under the brucellosis program.

Other major changes in the brucellosis eradication program, originally announced as effective March 1, were put into effect March 15.

Under the principal change, all herds not reached by the milk ring test will now be blood tested only once each three years.

Robert J. Steward, director of agriculture, says the state's activity in testing for brucellosis reactors through all slaughterhouses and auction yards will be continued to the fullest extent as a means to trace back and locate centers of infection. The program of milk ring testing will also be continued for the same purpose.

The second major program change entails a reduction in indemnities for reactors, as previously announced.

## NEW RECORD MADE

Salem — A record 4958 cars of vegetables and fruits passed through Oregon shipping point inspection centers during February. This total not only constitutes a record for February, but is 817 cars more than during the same month in 1957, reports the state department of agriculture.

mond, Ore., secretary-treasurer. Directors and the states they represent are Arnold W. B. Whiteley and M. O. Stratford, Idaho; Howard Michaelis, Washington; Ted Still, Colorado, and Hirai, Oregon.

Cheyenne, Wyo., is the highest state capital.

## Seal Given Snider's Dairy By Magazine

Peterborough, N. H. — Golden Guernsey milk, national breed milk distributed in Medford by Snider's Dairy, Medford, has been honored by a national consumer magazine.

Golden Guernsey, Inc., Peterborough, N. H., has announced that their nationally-trademarked Golden Guernsey Milk has been awarded Good Housekeeping magazine's Guarantee Seal.

## Chemist Named For Foods Field

Salem — Thomas P. Marsh, formerly of Los Angeles, recently joined the staff of chemists with the state department of agriculture. He will work entirely with foods. Since the advent of statewide meat inspection, the department is stepping up its laboratory work in the foods field.

At first, Marsh will work primarily on dairy foods and meats. Later, the department plans to bring jams and jellies and other processed food into the laboratory and will concentrate on food items made in Oregon and sold primarily to the Oregon market.

Marsh comes to Oregon from the Los Angeles Health Department where he served as a chemist in industrial hygiene for six years. Prior to that he spent five years as a chemist with the U. S. Public Health Service in Washington, D. C., and five years with the Los Angeles City Health department.

He received his B. S. and M. A. degrees from Oregon State college, and did advanced work at Purdue university and the University of Southern California.

## Rate Lobbying Shows Results

Salem — The effectiveness of combined efforts from the Pacific Northwest is indicated in ICC Examiner Otto A. Hanson's recommendation that the commission condemn reduced rail freight rates on dressed meat coming into the Pacific Northwest, according to Robert J. Steward, state director of agriculture.

"Examiner Hansen's recommendation to the ICC fur-

## Gardens Delayed By Spring Rains

By DON BERRY  
County Horticulture Agent  
Spring rains have delayed the early bird gardeners, however on light soils early gardens should be planted as soon as possible.

Good soil preparation is the foundation for a successful garden. Working the soil when it is too wet will leave it cloddy and stiff, and it is better to delay cultivation until excessive water has drained out even if a few of the early crops are not planted.

The addition of fertilizer and organic matter when the soil is prepared for a seed bed is a good practice. Where obtainable barnyard manure spread two to four inches deep and worked into the top six inches of soil will not only maintain high fertility but also loosens heavy soils. Where barnyard fertilizers are not available the application of sulphate of ammonia at one pound to two pounds per hundred square feet or a complete fertilizer at four to six pounds worked into the surface ahead of planting is beneficial.

Sawdust applied about three inches deep and worked into the surface soil will help loosen the soil, he said. Extra nitrogen should be applied along with it, since sawdust takes the nitrogen from the soil. In addition, later applications of nitrogen to the garden will be required to keep the plants growing vigorously. Any kind of fresh sawdust is good and you need not worry about pitch or resin. Sawdust also makes an excellent mulch for shrubs, strawberries and cane berries. Here again extra nitrogen should be used to keep the plants vigorous.

## --- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY  
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

All you have to do to bring the neighbors over for a chat on a bright, sunny day is to start pushing a lawnmower.

The other day one of the neighbors started leaning on the fence to waggle chins with us when somehow the conversation got around to farming. He used to be a beef rancher in Montana before and during World War II. His spread was up near Glacier National park where things got pretty rugged in the winter. He had done considerable wheat farming in other localities, too. This veteran sod-buster and cowpuncher got out of the business when his son decided he had had enough.

Now in his mid-70's this fellow looks anything but feeble. He seems mid-stride in life. No cane supports a rheumatic body. His blue eyes are still sharp and keen. A wealth of knowledge on farming has been tucked away under that white thatch of hair. Only trouble is it's not being used except on the garden patch he's recently plowed behind his house. We have run across a number of old farmers like him who are neither really old nor worn out—just retired. But why should all of these old fellows can't be reformed into some sort of an advisory group to give the younger farmers the benefit of their experience.

The old timers can usually find the easy way to do things. This being the back-scratching or political season (you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours) any labor-saving ideas in that direction should be timely. One old veteran of the soil decided his steers could just as well be doing some good while scratching their backs. He strung a heavy cable across one end of his pole-type shed in the feed lot. He wrapped some heavy burlap around one section of this cable and soaked it with insect-killing chemicals. It saves him considerable spraying as the solution runs down over the backs of his animals as they scratch. Too bad political lice can't be removed the same way.

This same old fellow started "pioneering" when he was 62. Being a county official might have prompted it. We have noticed over the years county officials seem to have a yearning to high-tail it for the brush now and then. He and his wife lived in a corn crib while he cleared and started developing his 100 plus acres with his two sons.

Only way you could reach his farm in those days was by pulling yourself across a boiling white section of river in a flimsy ferry. No telephone line extended into this wilderness so this was one county commissioner who spent a peaceful evening at home. By the time civilization did reach him he had left politics far behind him. That included the state senate later.

Such a man could easily teach the younger politicians and farmers a thing or two. As we said, he did things the easy way. The old senator carefully classified his land as to soil types and then grew on it only suitable crops. He evidently had learned early in life that "Mother Nature" and "Mother Earth" are logically thought of as female elements. You can't control 'em and you usually wind up doing things their way.

This old gent usually got underway on a troublesome chore by saying, "Well now, being a lazy man I just have to sit down and think for a bit. Hate to use a lot of energy when I don't have to." It's too bad such wisdom has to be thrown on the scrap heap of "progress."

Dr. Burton Wood, Oregon State college agricultural economist, feels big changes are taking place in farming and that agriculture of Oregon is not keeping up with them, according to Robert Henderson, Oregon State college. Henderson said leadership is needed to keep up with the changes and the agriculture board is one agency which might provide that leadership.

Dr. Wood said, however, when appearing before the board that "Our farmers are really aware of what is underway and they will look over all individual operations from the standpoint of where they are going to be."

He added that a statement from the board would relieve panic in some circles of agriculture and suggested the board help farmers see through the complacency which exists in some industries.

Dr. Wood said a top merchandising manager of a food organization in the east cast some doubt about the future of the Pacific Northwest frozen food industry. Dr. Wood reported this executive was doubtful if his company will be buying any products from the Pacific Northwest in the next five years.

Reasons given were: first, the rising transportation costs; second, the company representative said his firm cannot depend on the Pacific Northwest for a source of supply.

"You have a one-crop agriculture and you are subject to instability in climate," this marketing man said. "Some years you have a lot and other years not much."

"Just a few days ago we submitted samples to a test panel for frozen strawberries. It was of significance to us that only one of the professional testers gave any preference to Pacific Northwest berries."

Dr. Wood commented that this means Oregon agriculture has to guard against any complacency on products. Oregon farmers must be alerted to the fact that they must work with processing organizations and other groups to keep apace.

"These terms of contracting and integration and corporate farming are much misunderstood in the minds of many farmers and they close their minds to it. Get it out to the farmer that this is nothing new and some farmers are pushing agriculture in this direction."

The agricultural specialist said the small farmer is disturbed since he feels it is shaping up as a struggle for independence. The board can help by making a statement giving the farmers a view of what is ahead. This would alert them to "these needs" and "will give assurance," Dr. Wood suggested.

Regarding the dating of pesticides, board members suggested that O. K. Beals and Dean Patterson of the Foods and Dairies division of the state department of agriculture meet with Jackson county people interested in the problem. Included in this meeting would be Frank Stewart of the Western Agricultural Chemical association and two men from Oregon State college.

Henderson told the board about two years ago cooperative regional projects on pesticides were formed to keep up with the Miller amendment. Several thousand dollars were spent then on California stations to serve as clearing houses on pesticides and he thought maybe the board could work through that regional project.

Beals and Patterson made their report on this problem. All inorganic pesticides may be considered stable, such as arsenicals, copper compounds and fluorine compounds. Organic pesticides being diluted are stable. Examples of these are DDT, TEPP, parathion, nicotine, and 2,4-D. A few organic pesticides may lose effectiveness after being diluted for consumer use, it was pointed out. Well known example of this is TEPP as formulated in dusts.

Dating of inorganic pesticides would be of no value, the report stated. The dating of concentrated pesticide organic material also would be of little value, it was pointed out.

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## New Specialist Hired By State For Label Work

Salem—"The state department of agriculture is launching upon a broad program in the consumer packaging and labeling of food products," according to Robert J. Steward, state director of agriculture.

He announced that Walter L. Morgan, Jr., of Longview, Wash., has been added to the department staff as a food specialist.

In Longview, Morgan was plant superintendent for Interstate Packers for six years. His work in Oregon will be guided by O. K. Beals, chief of the department's division of foods and dairies, weights and measures.

Because of the wide ramifications in the consumer food field, Morgan's activity will develop on a gradual basis. At first, he will be checking labels of consumer packages for compliance with the truth-in-labeling provisions of the Oregon Food act, which is a counterpart of the federal food act.

Later he will devote considerable time to sanitation inspections of food processing plants whose main business is sales within the state of Oregon. Most of this will be on a seasonal basis.

Eventually the program will be expanded as Morgan assists in training district representatives to carry on these duties.

A U.S. Army veteran, the new food specialist majored in food technology and minor in food chemistry at Oregon state college; he received his B.S. in 1952. He was born in Astoria and grew up in Silverton.

Morgan is married and has three daughters.

## QUICK RESPONSE

Marietta, Ga. — Maxie Eugene Spears, 38, advertised in a farm market bulletin for a job and now is assured of at least a year's work. Sheriff Jesse Cooper answered the ad, served a six-month - old vagrancy warrant on Spears and took him before a judge who sentenced him to 12 months on a road gang.

Nearly four-fifths of U. S. agricultural exports go to trade agreement countries.

## ICC To Consider Portland Hearing

Salem — The Interstate Commerce commission has advised Robert J. Steward, state director of agriculture, it will give careful consideration to his request for a regional hearing in Portland on the railroads' recent general freight rate increase.

Chairman John Winchell of ICC Division 2, which will hold the hearings, stated the commission has received requests for regional hearings at other points as well as at Portland.

Steward's request stressed the need for a Pacific Northwest hearing to enable more growers and shippers in this area to attend and testify. All agricultural interests in attendance at a PUC shippers' meeting in Portland on March 10 supported the need for a regional hearing.

The deadline for filing of verified statements for carriers has been postponed to April 21. Extension has been granted until June 9 for those in opposition to the increases to file statements.

## Weight Regulations In Revised Booklet

Salem — The state department of agriculture has revised printed regulations relating to weights and measures, according to Walter B. Steele, deputy state sealer.

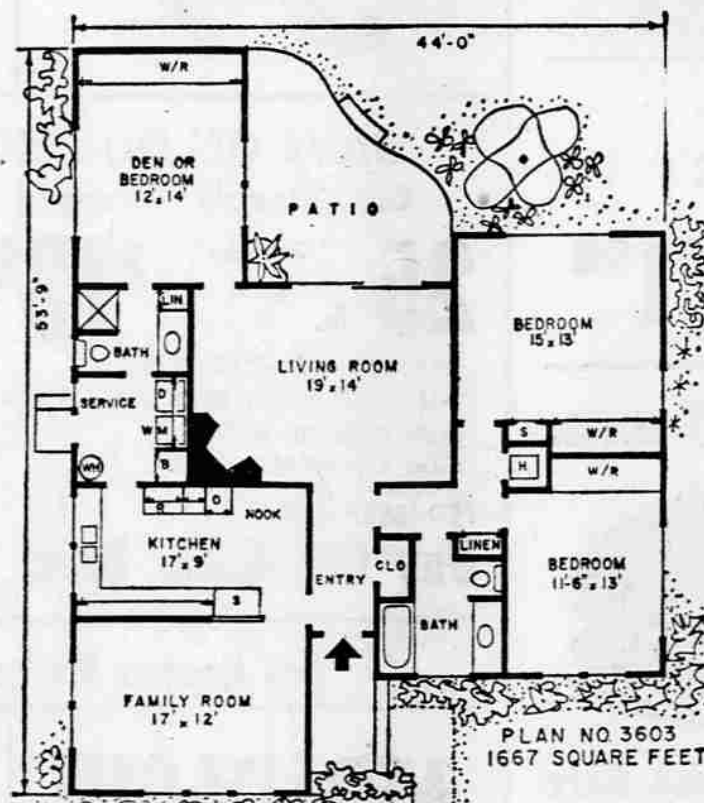
The rules give specifications, tolerances and regulations for commercial weighing and measuring devices. Oregon's rules are patterned after the National Bureau of Standards' weights and measures handbook 44, second edition as amended.

The state department of agriculture is responsible for administering weights and measures laws in Oregon.

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## This Week's Town, Country House



## By HIWATHA ESTES

Most in demand today is the "charm" home with three bedrooms, two baths and a family room. Add flexible planning and a delightful exterior and you have this medium size home.

Like an Old Country cottage, the exterior combines natural materials to their best advantage — stained wood shingles, vertical board and batten siding, field stone and wrought iron. A flower pot shelf provides a spot for color beneath the front windows, and a planter adds interest to the roofed entry.

Kitchen and family room combine to make a light, airy activity center — playroom, television room, or the place

for informal entertaining. Oven and surface cooking units are built in.

The service area is amply large enough for washer, dryer, water heater, freezer and a handy broom closet. Convenient to the work area is the three-quarter bath, which opens to both the service room and den. With this semi-private bath and a wall-to-wall wardrobe, you may prefer to use the den as a master bedroom or guest room.

Two spacious bedrooms and the master bath open from the center hall. Casement windows in the bedrooms are high-set for ample light with privacy.

The rear living room has a

big corner fireplace and glass doors that opens to the partially sheltered patio.

If you prefer a front living room and rear family room, these two rooms could be interchanged by simply rearranging the kitchen. A garage could be attached during construction, next to the family room, if a wider home is desired.

Complete working drawing 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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IKE'S WT. 41-Lbs. } Feeding trial  
TOTAL WT.....83-Lbs.

## AFTER 8 WEEKS ON FEED

MIKE'S WT. ....144 lbs.  
IKE'S WT. ....143 lbs.  
TOTAL WT. ....287 lbs.  
Starting Wt. ....83 lbs.

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