

Half-Billion Boost Given Economy Annually by State Agriculture

Corvallis — More than one-half billion dollars annual "buying power" in Oregon's economy has been credited directly to the state's agriculture by an Oregon State college agricultural economist.

Dr. Gerald E. Korzan has completed a study of Oregon agriculture showing that gross farm income plus value added in the first step of marketing contributed \$771 million to the state's economy in 1956. The total does not include important dollar payrolls provided by such activities as wholesaling, transportation, and storage of farm products enroute to retail markets.

'Net Income'
The state's 55,000 farmers — about 30,000 of them classed as commercial farmers — received only \$94 million of the total as "net income." Farmers paid out \$301 million to earn \$395 million.

Of the \$571 million, \$176 million value was added in what Korzan terms "the first step beyond the farm gate."

The "first step" included \$68 million in direct payroll for owning, freezing, dairy manufacturing, and other methods of processing or handling Oregon's farm output.

The economist estimated that farm production itself

generated \$79 million of direct payroll — \$53 million paid to hired farm labor and \$26 million to persons employed by Oregon firms selling farm supplies and equipment of all kinds.

Annual employment, not including farm operators and their families, for production and processing is estimated at more than 40,000 jobs when translated to a full-time basis. This is the total hours of full-time workers and part-time seasonal workers figured in terms of full annual employment.

Seasonal Payroll Helps
The seasonal labor payroll carries many advantages for the economy, Korzan explains. It provides summer work for young people and opportunity for homemakers who can spare some time from home duties to earn money for "extras." Processors interviewed in the survey said most seasonal workers employed in their plants are Oregon residents.

Year around employment, however, accounted for the bulk of the total payroll for jobs in such activities as dairy plants, livestock slaughtering and packing plants, and stores handling farm supplies. Fruit and vegetable processing plants, alone, provide about 3,000 full-time jobs.

Beans An Example
Snap beans which require considerable processing is an outstanding example of the economic activity generated by a single crop, the economist states. Buying power of Oregon's annual snap bean crop in terms of local jobs and supplies was estimated at \$29 million — nearly tripling the \$10 million paid to growers. Almost 4½ million of the growers' receipts went for

direct payroll in harvesting. Not included in the \$571 million buying power was employment for production of supplies used in processing farm products. Oregon canneries and freezing plants, for example, spend millions of dollars annually for cans and packaging materials. Egg cartons, paper milk cartons, and wooden shipping cartons are also among supplies, most of which are manufactured in Oregon.

Dr. Korzan's detailed study is being published by OSC and is titled "Oregon Farms Generate Buying Power." Copies will be available soon from county extension offices or the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Trees Need Care Same As Garden Local Agent Says

A good gardener raises good trees, according to Clifford B. Cordy, county horticultural agent.

Trees should be carefully raised the same as a garden, Cordy explained. This means proper cultivation, fertilization and application of mulch.

Before planting the soil should be worked up to eliminate all weeds. A mulch sawdust 4 to 6 inches deep can be put in to extend a radius of three feet out from the tree trunk. This will keep down the weeds and hold the moisture, Cordy said.

Common Mistake
A common mistake is made in over-irrigation, the county horticultural agent said. Many soils in this area are so heavy that when the young trees are over-irrigated, the water drowns them out. Irrigation should be withheld until the first of June. The bulk of the orchards are irrigated but by thorough cultivation will tend to hold much of the spring moisture until June 1.

Young trees will be helped by irrigation, Cordy said. However, it should not be applied too heavily or early. If the young trees can be kept growing after July 1 and all summer the danger period of losing them will be passed, he explained. It is important to maintain good growing conditions and maintain a good growth during the first of the season, he said.

spray to help wet leaves).

Home owners should plant disease-free bulbs. Digging and replanting bulbs in a new location each year will prevent a buildup of this fungus disease in the soil. Well-drained, airy spots also show lower incidence of this disease.

When severe, plants die or at least fail to flower, where mild cases simply spot the leaves and stems. When rain continues a gray mold sometimes appears on the surface of the plant.

Control measures consist of first removing and destroying all affected leaves, shoots and flowers, followed by a spray using Ferbam at the rate of two tablespoons per gallon of water (add a spreader to the

Farm and Garden

Livestock Districts Explained; Cow May Be Right, Motorist Wrong

Salem — Do you know that if you hit a cow while driving on some Oregon highways the cow may be in the right? If the cow knows more about the law than you do, it's time to be educated about livestock districts. The state department of agriculture offices at Salem are now a central depository for official orders and descriptions of every livestock district in the state.

Livestock districts are regions where it is illegal for horses, cattle, mules, asses, sheep, goats and swine, or any of these animals to run at large.

Boundaries have now been established for livestock districts in all counties except one. An election will be held in May in Clackamas county to determine whether the entire county will be closed. For the other 35 counties the department at Salem now has on record what livestock districts exist, where the boundaries of each are located, by what name or number each district is designated, and what livestock or classes of livestock cannot run at large within a given district.

Right Exists
The right to create, change or dissolve a livestock district by a county or an area within a county has existed over 70 years. In the 1930's the legislature established about 30 districts in which livestock or a type of livestock were not allowed to run at large. The 1947 and 1949 sessions repealed the districts created by statute and then attempted to continue their existence by a savings clause. This stipulated that those districts already created by statute should be continued as if they had come into existence through a local vote.

Realizing the importance of accurate knowledge for purposes of disease prevention, theft and police laws and private rights, the 1957 legisla-

ture directed the state department of agriculture to find out what districts exist and the exact boundaries. M. E. Knickerbocker, chief of the department's division of animal industry was designated to direct the study. He appointed Chester B. Liechty to carry out the field work and conduct the hearings.

Holds Hearings
Then, county by county, Liechty held public hearings to receive testimony or evidence bearing on the existence of livestock districts. State laws and county records were also studied for evidence on existing districts.

These studies definitely had complications. For example, in Dechutes county, fire had destroyed all records in 1927. However, C. L. Allen, Dechutes county judge, who was in office from approximately that time, testified that to his knowledge no districts had been created by local option before 1927.

Liechty praised the cooperation he received from all the county clerks, county judges and district attorneys.

Mapmaking
Besides becoming adept at deciphering the old elaborate

Farming Atlas Out, Shows State Resources

Corvallis — An "Atlas of Oregon Agriculture" that outlines state land and water resources, farm operations, livestock and crops, and marketing and processing facilities has been published by the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station.

Dr. Richard M. Highsmith Jr., of the department of natural resources prepared the Atlas, assisted by an advisory committee drawn from various departments in the school of agriculture.

Both Polk and Washington counties had districts created by local option in 1908. This necessitated a search to see if the counties had the power, at that time, to create livestock districts by the optional method. Don Parker, assistant attorney general with the department searched the law books and found the authority in an 1893 law.

The above examples are only some of the problems encountered in finding the existing boundaries. But the objective of having one unit of state government with complete records on Oregon livestock districts has been reached.

Pear Trees Are Planted on New Experiment Land

By HAROLD H. WHITE
Superintendent, Southern Oregon Branch Experiment Station

Eight sets of plans have been released to contractors who have indicated a desire to bid on construction of the three buildings on the Hanley farm.

These are an office building, caretaker's residence and an implement shed. Sealed bids will be opened May 19.

A total of 3395 pear trees (2480 hybrids plus 915 rootstocks) were planted. These trees came from nurseries the station has located on Gordon Kershaw's farm in Sams Valley. The hybrids are from crosses made in recent years that have not yet fruited. Those labeled as rootstock will be used for transfer of the large collection of pear varieties assembled by Prof. F. C. Reimer.

The group was originally collected and maintained by the Southern Oregon Experiment Station but since July 1, 1955, has been perpetuated under Federal financing. This is the largest collection of pear varieties in the United States and is being maintained as a source of material for pear breeding. Owing to the purpose and nature of this material the trees are planted on a spacing of 12 feet between rows with trees two feet apart within the row.

Cut Alfalfa Early
With the first cutting of alfalfa hay near agronomists at the station are calling attention to the importance of cutting when the alfalfa is showing not over 10 per cent bloom. Research has shown that the stage of maturity at which alfalfa is cut has considerable influence upon yield, quality of hay, and longevity of the stand of alfalfa. The researchers have found that alfalfa cut in the bud stage contains over 19 per cent protein and about 13 per cent crude fiber. However, when cutting is delayed until the field is in full bloom, the protein content is less than 16 per cent but the crude fiber has increased to over 33 per cent. Since crude fiber is undigestible while protein puts milk in the pail or meat on the animal, it is the protein that determines the value of the hay. For maximum yield of protein per acre, cut when not over 10 per cent of the plants are in bloom.

Codling Moth
Dr. L. G. Gentner, entomologist, Southern Oregon Experiment station, reports that the first codling moth of the season was caught in the bait traps on May 3 but as yet no eggs have been found. Eight new chemicals for control of codling moth are being tested by Dr. Gentner in Experiment Station plots. These materials are being exposed because the codling moth like some other insects may become resistant to DDT. Results of these tests will be available in the fall of 1958.

On May 6 the first brood adults of pear psylla appeared.

For control measures on these insects watch for announcements in the paper from your county agents' office.

Remember: Research is the process of finding out what we are going to do when we can't profitably continue doing what we are doing now.

Beekeeping Meet Set For Friday

Beginners in beekeeping, as well as amateur apiarists, are invited to attend the regular meeting of the Rogue River Valley Beekeepers' association in Bigham hall, county fairgrounds, Medford, Friday, May 9, at 8 p.m., according to W. B. Tucker, county agent.

Delmar Smith, president, said that a door prize will be awarded which will enable the winner to start in business producing honey.

Dr. W. P. Stephen, assistant professor of entomology at Oregon State college will lead the discussion on "important steps for successful bee culture." A motion picture entitled "Bees and Honey" in color has been ordered to supplement the discussions.

The insecticide spray programs are increasing as crop blossom time approaches — the methods of protecting the honeybee will be presented. There is no enrollment fee and any person interested in apiculture, either commercially or as a hobby is invited to attend, Tucker said.

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--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Sunday is Mother's Day. The typical farm scene in the spring is an expression of the maternal instinct. The cow suckling a calf. A flock of ducklings being led across the pond by their mother, their little webbed feet all paddling in rhythm. Downy yellow chicks crowding under their mother's wing at nightfall. This is farm life and an expression of the maternal instinct.

Although nobody seems to pay as much attention to her as far as marking a special day—Mother's Day also should be considered Grandmother's Day. You might say she is somewhat of a "past-master" mother. We have in mind, especially, a pert little Irish grandmother who raised six big, strapping sons and three daughters on a farm in the Dakotas, then without a cross word raised a granddaughter.

She served her day on the farm when time was not measured by the swing of a clock's pendulum as much as by the rise and sinking of the sun. She worked in the fields during harvest time, handling a team of horses while the men did the heavier work. Even now it isn't hard to imagine her small, wiry figure perched on the edge of a high wooden seat, her small hands tugging on the reins as she wheels the large draft horses around the field pulling the heavy reaper. Although 93 years old now, her faded blue eyes snap and her jutting Irish chin sticks out further as she tells how "thim wimmen is spoiled nowadays! Thim with their own office jobs makes 'em too independent like. I worked, too, worked real har-r-rd, but didn't get paid for it."

Her eyes sparkle as she shows visitors faded old photographs of a grain harvest on the farm under the burning hot Dakota sun. She tells about how as a girl and later as a wife in her own farm kitchen she bustled around preparing the huge mid-day harvest meal. There would be large enamel coffee pots with steaming, black liquid, large loafs of bread right out of the oven, small plates of butter freshly churned that morning, and chunks of meat and large bowls of potatoes and other vegetables grown in the garden plot. The long plank table set on saw-horses in the shade of the house practically sagged in the middle with all this and the large pies and cakes.

"O! Mis Callahan sets the best table 'roun," the farmers would say so it wasn't hard to get harvest hands when the grain was ripe for the cutting. Those were the days when it wasn't hard to get a good hired man. It was a time, too, when come harvest time neighbors from miles around would come to help with the harvest and the harvest equipment would be rented for the number of days it required to harvest grain.

This peppery little Irish woman has seen a complete evolution or cycle in farming. While she was still on the farm the horse drawn equipment gave way to the snorting, panting, steam belching monsters which rolled up and down the fields. Sounded more like a railroad had invaded the farm. These were soon replaced with the modern sleek, gas and diesel powered equipment which now must be owned by each farmer and causing the farms to grow bigger and gradually squeezing out the small family farm.

Perched next to the window of her small front room many thousands of miles from her farm, the little Irish grandmother shakes her head in wonder over the goings on of the younger folks. Cards and letters from friends keep her up with the news along with the local paper which she practically devours each night. She keeps her mental powers tuned up by trading Irish wit with the local priest who drops in occasionally to check on the well-being of "th' ol' miracle."

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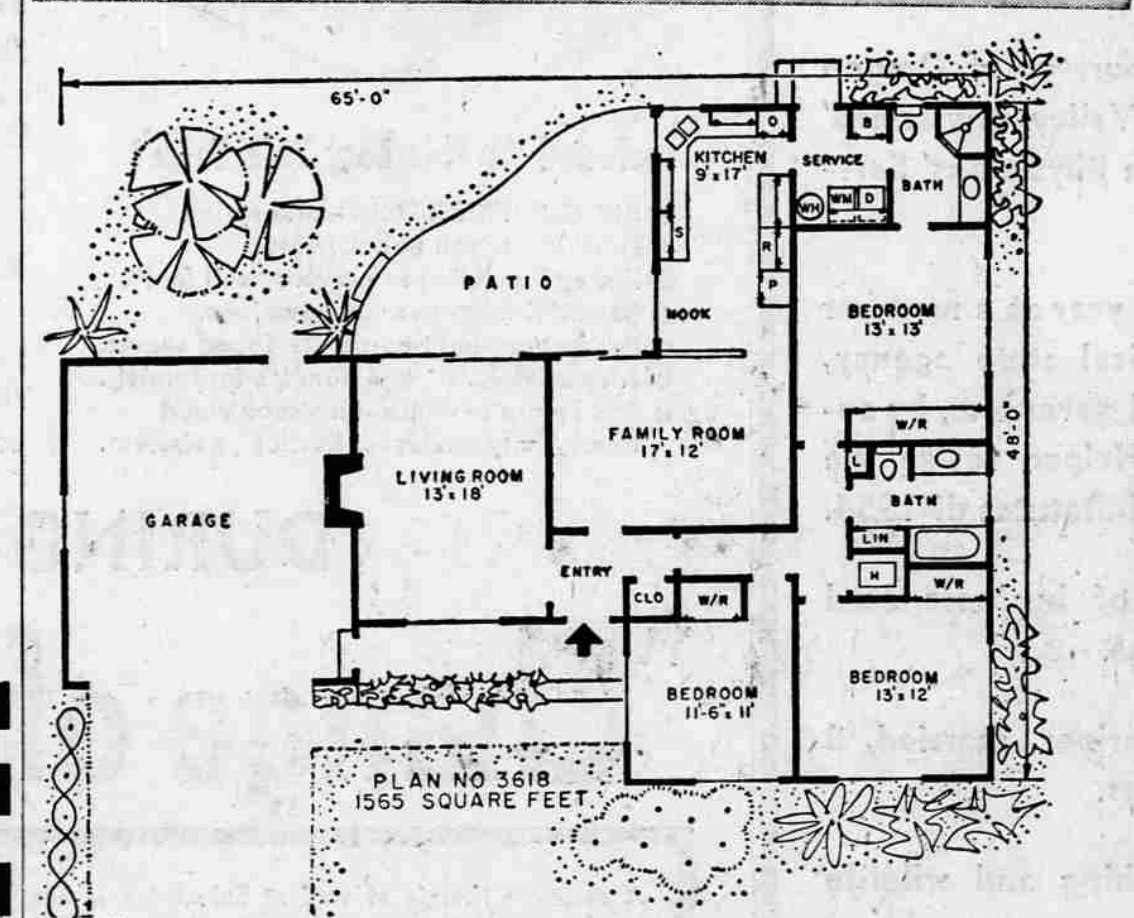
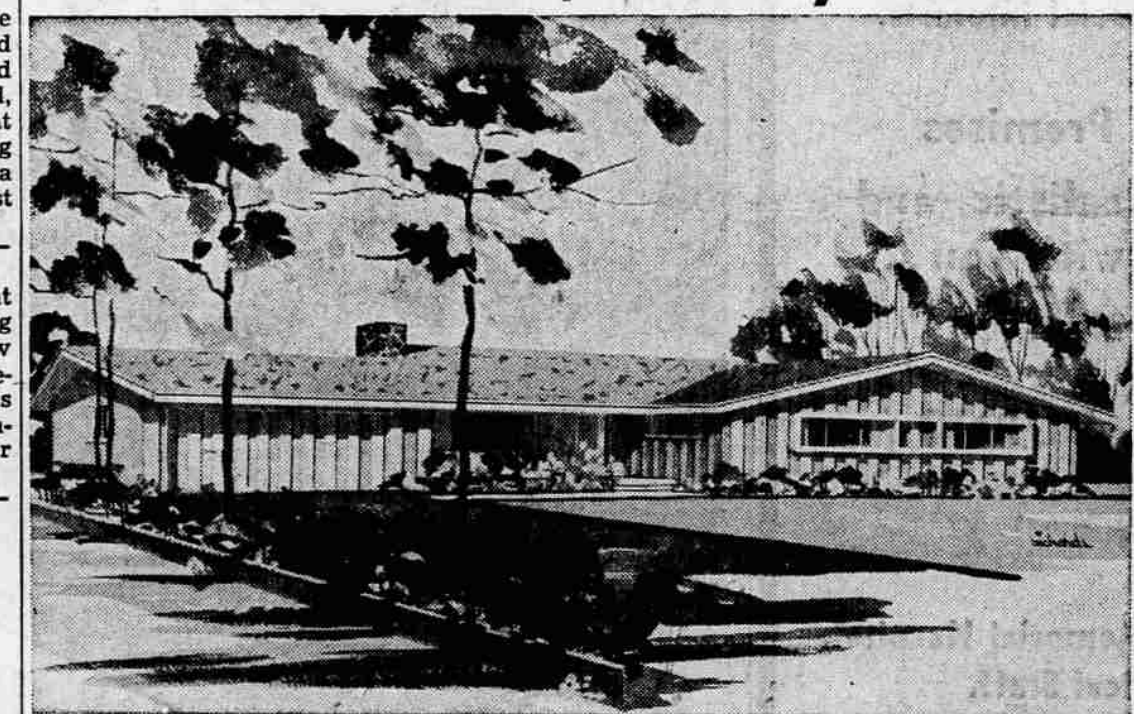


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This Week's Town, Country House



By HIAWATHA ESTES
Beautiful simplicity of line and economy of construction make this contemporary home doubly attractive.

The crushed rock roof covering could be changed to cedar shakes or shingles if desired. Long horizontal frames surround the basement windows. Vertical siding and stucco combine for exterior interest, and a stone planter edges the covered porch.

Family activities was a major consideration in planning the big kitchen-family room. At one end of this area is the step-saving work area, with built-in appliances, corner windows over a double sink, and a spacious eating area. Only a half-wall marks the separation between this and the activity area, where the small children have room to play or where one may enter

the hall, one in the family bath.

Fixtures in bath are semi-partitioned. The dressing table pullman lavatory has a mirrored medicine chest above and storage cabinets underneath.

The forced air heating unit is centrally installed in a closet off the hall. Two passage doors open from the double garage — one to the back yard, the second to the covered front porch.

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.