

Farm and Garden

Put All Clippings in Compost Pile For Better Flowers and Vegetables

Corvallis—Those lush clippings you've been mowing off your lawn can help you grow better flowers and garden crops next year if you throw them on a compost pile now, advises R. Ralph Clark, extension horticulturist at Oregon State college.

Garden and landscape plants thrive in soil containing lots of organic material, Clark explains. The organic matter helps hold moisture and plant food in the soil, and makes it easier for plant roots to develop naturally. In city or suburban gardens where large quantities of manure are difficult to obtain, a compost pile can supply much of this needed organic material.

Grass clippings, leaves, weeds, and even vegetable parings and fruit peels will all break down into valuable organic matter when properly composted. To make a compost pile, you first spread a five or six-inch layer of clippings and other material on the ground, add a thin layer of manure or throw on a few handfuls of high-nitrogen fertilizer, and then cover with one or two inches of soil.

Clark says. Continue to build up additional layers over a period of time until the pile is about three feet high, ending with a layer of soil. Sides of the pile should be kept vertical, with the top kept level or slightly dipped to catch and hold moisture. In dry seasons, it's wise to sprinkle the pile to keep it moist. This hastens decomposition of the clippings and other materials.

The compost pile you build this year will be ready for use next year, Clark says. To use the compost, spread and work into the garden soil, or use as a side-dressing or mulch around plants. For a constant supply, many gardeners have two compost piles, using one while building the other for use next year.

More information about

making and using compost can be found in an OSC extension circular, "Composts for Garden Soil." Oregon residents can get a copy at their county extension office, or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Jersey Cattle Club Has Large Dairy Day

4-Hers from Jackson and Josephine counties turned out in large numbers to participate in the Rogue River Jersey Cattle club dairy day at the Josephine county fair grounds in Grants.

John Hughes and Jerry Moore, Eagle Point; Richard Johnson and Nancy Johnson, Wimer, took first place ribbons in showmanship for Jackson county. Champion showman was Tom Case of Grants Pass.

Other results were:

Senior Showmanship
1st—Tom Case, Josephine county
2nd—Roberta Barnes, Josephine county
3rd—Sandy Bird, Josephine county
4th—Joyce Rogers, Josephine county
5th—Marilyn Kelly, Josephine county
Intermediate Showmanship
1st—John Hughes, Jackson county
2nd—Lanny Parsons, Jackson county
3rd—Linda Ballow, Josephine county
4th—Diane Kelly, Josephine county
5th—Julie Bird, Josephine county
6th—Cheryl Bassinet, Josephine county

Intermediate Showship
1st—Richard Johnson, Jackson county
2nd—Zane Strickland, Jackson county
3rd—Sherry Heckert, Jackson county
4th—Carol Martin, Josephine county

5th—Janne Calloway, Jackson county
6th—James Morris, Josephine county

Junior Showmanship
1st—Jerry Moore, Jackson county
2nd—David Strickland, Jackson county
3rd—Christine Moore, Jackson county
4th—Chris Hadley, Josephine county
5th—Eddie McPallum, Josephine county
6th—Kathy Badcock, Jackson county
Beginner Showmanship
1st—Nancy Johnson, Jackson county
2nd—Judy Suhr, Josephine county
3rd—Denise Smith, Josephine county
4th—Dianne Lewis, Josephine county
5th—Allen Jones, Josephine county
6th—Jerry Donald, Josephine county

Dairy Judging
Champion Showmanship: Tom Case, Richard Johnson, John Hughes, Jerry Moore and Nancy Johnson
2nd—Lanny Parsons, Jackson county 278.6
3rd—Roberta Barnes, Josephine county 263.3
4th—Denise Smith, Josephine county 257.1
5th—Gwen Stowell, Josephine county 257.1
6th—Richard Morgan Josephine county 236.3

Horticulturist Here To Study Problems

Some of the current orchard problems are being studied here this week by C. O. Rawlings, Oregon State college extension horticulturist.

Rawling and County Horticultural Agent C. B. Cordy are dealing particularly with orchards where a few trees are not doing well for no obvious reason, Cordy said.

State Farm Prices Dip Slightly For Month Of April

Corvallis — Oregon farm prices turned downward last month in contrast to national farm prices which continued to rise, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Lower livestock prices in the state during April more than offset a slight rise in crop prices paid farmers. Mrs. Horrell said. Milk, beef cattle, hog, lamb, and wool prices slipped during the month and helped lower the price index. It marked the first drop in meat-animal prices in the state since October.

However, crop prices inched up a little during April, largely due to increases in prices paid farmers for corn and potatoes. This helped Oregon farm prices stay about 3 per cent above those of a year earlier, although they stand about 1 per cent below last month.

Fruits High
On the national scene, record high prices for fruits and vegetables, and a substantial increase in prices paid for cotton, gave the national farm price index another monthly boost. Prices received by the nation's farmers gained 1 per cent during last month and now stand 10 per cent above April, 1957 and at the highest level since January, 1953, Mrs. Horrell said.

Prices of things farmers buy also moved up 1 per cent last month to a new record high, 6 per cent above a year earlier. Prices paid for farm production items were responsible for the increase, as higher prices for feeder cattle, feed, baby chicks, and turkey poulters more than offset slightly lower prices for feeder lambs, building materials, and fertilizers.

Farm family living items had unchanged from the previous record high in mid-March as a rise in food prices was balanced by unchanged or lower prices on other items.

With both prices received and prices paid by farmers advancing a like amount, farm product purchasing power held its own at mid-April, Mrs. Horrell said. The parity ratio—the government's yardstick for measuring the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers—stood at 87 at mid-April, unchanged from mid-March but 5 points above mid-April 1957.

Bangs Testing Drops in State

Salem—Brucellosis testing in Oregon range areas dropped in April as is normal at this time of year, the state department of agriculture reports. However, the vaccination of calves continued normally during the month.

During April 1798 herds containing 27,621 cattle were blood-tested for brucellosis. In this testing, 249 cattle reacted for a percentage of 0.902. Nearly 500 herds containing an estimated 9840 cattle were milk ring tested. Eight suspicious herds were disclosed.

Calf vaccination was conducted in 1032 herds containing 23,406 calves. More than 6000 cattle were tested at salesyards for movement back to the farms; among these 30 reactors were found and sent for immediate slaughter.

Most of the testing in April was concentrated in Douglas, Jackson, Lane, Malheur, Baker, Grant and Umatilla counties. During the month, Baker, Lincoln and Polk counties were submitted to the USDA in Washington, D.C., for certification as brucellosis-free areas. The necessary papers were also submitted for recertification of Marion county.

Three tuberculosis reactors were found in 2938 cattle tested. The reactors were disclosed in cattle in Jackson, Josephine and Wasco counties.

Spray Now For Oak Leaf Minor

DON BERRY
County Horticultural Agent

Home owners who have had trouble with oak leaf minor should spray for the control of this pest. White oaks are particularly susceptible to attack by leaf minor which causes leaves to turn brown and fall during the summer.

He said, however, little information is available on market promotional activities under state legislation, the survey will seek information on voluntary programs with which state agencies cooperate.

Rowell stated that over the years considerable information and data have been developed on types of state and federal regulatory legislation affecting marketing.

He said, however, little information is available on market promotional activities under state legislation. Many states have developed these programs, he continued, and some overall information on them and their coordination or differences in the various states would be valuable.

The results of this survey will be compiled and summarized by Rowell's office for

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

How many of you have had this happen? The phone in the office jangles insistently—insistently because the wife is calling. She has suddenly remembered that at her office that perhaps the stove has been left on. Without thinking you pick up the phone again and call a neighbor. She goes over, turns off the stove and the incident is all but forgotten. Except that is, to thank her.

This is neighborliness. And in this age of that fast dwindling spirit you are lucky if you have a neighbor like that to rely on. The time when neighbor helped neighbor build a barn, a house, cut his hay and a great number of other things seems almost vanished.

Neighborliness takes the form of many things. It represents the borrowed cup of sugar. It means the special jar of preserves for a sick neighbor or a pot of stew. Also, it's the worn rut of a path between houses. It stands for the firm handshake between minister and his parishioners. An exchange of gossip over the back fence or at the store is yet another form.

We mention all this in this column on this farm page because neighborliness grew and flowered in rural America, especially in the West. Now as the cities reach out their long tentacles of paved streets and sidewalks thick with heavy traffic this spirit of neighborliness is vanishing. It's the little things like this which make life mean just a little bit more. That's one of the reasons we like a small town like the one we live in. It's a little town near Medford and we like it. It's part of rural America.

No, it's not the sophisticated thing, the modern, high society thing. It's social all right, but as plain as the clothes hanging on the backyard lines—or the home-baked apple pie.

Maybe you, like others, think only "characters" believe in this sort of thing. But we like "characters." The people we have written about in this column might be called "characters." Yes they are real people. And we have a special liking for "characters."

They are the people who aren't afraid of getting their hands dirty, or getting them covered with callouses. It's not fashionable to help take care of a poor sick family. Only "characters" do it. Those people who advance a new idea—artists, inventors, writers, scientists might all be called "characters."

They don't stick to the straight narrow lines of what "most people do." They don't want to. They want to be different. They get the idea of large parks, recreation centers which everyone can use. And it's the other people—the ones who are more conservative, who say "I think we are going too fast with this idea." Where would we be if it weren't for the "characters" or if they strictly conformed to the ideas of "the right kind of people?"

Last week we were writing about one of our characters. He is one of the small independent farmers who most people don't think too much about when bills are passed to help the farmer—supposedly.

We think more attention should be paid this small farmer since—and there's plenty of argument on this—the irrigation projects planned and now abuilding in this valley will mean more farms of the smaller type. We should get to know these fellows, study their problems and see what we can do to help them.

Old Hans was such a farmer. He lived up in the hills of a neighboring state when we last saw him. Hans raises peas and goats. The goats are used for his milk and perhaps for sale to the local hospital for a few extra little luxuries like a small sack of tobacco, a newspaper or magazine. The peas are planted on land he leases.

Hans is a rarity since he is one of the few blue-water sailors who do what most sailors dream and talk about—getting a little farm. Hans had worked hard as a sailor before the mast in the coastwise lumber trade plus a couple of trips half way around the world. He made good money off his acreage for peas at that time were bringing good money on the market.

In fact, he made much more money than many of the more conventional type of farmer. And he knew how to save it. His credit was good in the local, small town independent bank which was the only one he trusted.

Hans looked like a typical hermit, which he was most of the time. Early in the morning he could be seen out bending his six-foot rawboned frame over the small garden plot. His long, rough cut white hair was almost down to his shoulders. His large, thickly caloused fingers which had once hauled on the lines of heavy canvass sails were almost tender with the small green plants.

His cabin was made of logs chinked with clay. It could be 110 degrees outside and as cool as an early spring morning inside the cabin. The logs provided their own insulation. Old Hans was always saying, "He invited us in one day for a large tin cup of sweetened goat milk. With the goats wandering in and out, bells clanking and parts of farm implements scattered around, the cabin looked half cabin and half barn."

Old Hans didn't have much more than a grade school or part of a high school education but he read thoroughly, every old newspaper and magazine he could get his hands on. His lease money was kept in the bank, untouched. He didn't believe in too many luxuries. He liked to talk with someone who would discuss world and national news. Lots going on and old Hans liked to keep up on all of it, although he didn't like to get too close to the people who might make that news, not even the small town news.

Marketing Survey Led By Oregonian

Salem — A national survey of marketing promotional activities under state legislation is being headed by Market Development Chief Paul T. Rowell of the Oregon department of agriculture, it was announced.

As chairman of the National Association of Marketing officials' committee on marketing services and promotion of agricultural products, Rowell has mailed a questionnaire to all NAMO members throughout the country.

In addition to promotional activities under state legislation, the survey will seek information on voluntary programs with which state agencies cooperate.

Rowell stated that over the years considerable information and data have been developed on types of state and federal regulatory legislation affecting marketing.

He said, however, little information is available on market promotional activities under state legislation. Many states have developed these programs, he continued, and some overall information on them and their coordination or differences in the various states would be valuable.

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Hail Official's Suggestion To Wipe Out Lower Rates On Midwest Meats Into State

Oregon's cattle raising, packing industry and related enterprises will not be held to a "cow-and-calf" operation if the Interstate Commerce commission accepts the recommendation of its examiner, Otto A. Hanson, according to Public Utility Commissioner Howard Morgan and Robert J. Steward, state director of agriculture.

Hanson recommends wiping out the recently reduced

rail freight rates on fresh meat shipments from the midwest to Portland and the Pacific Northwest by as much as 40 per cent.

The state officials hailed Examiner Hanson's report as a "signal victory" for the region's livestock and packing industries, which employ more than 3,000 workers in 130 Oregon slaughtering plants alone.

"The new rate reduction is

doing irreparable harm by pushing the structure between live animals and dressed meats out of balance and subjecting northwest packer to unfair competition from Midwest dressed meats," Morgan explained. "Northwest livestock and meat packing industries require immediate return to the old rate structure, under which those industries were built, either by reducing rates on livestock or by suspending the reduction on dressed meats."

Morgan said the I. C. C. allowed the 40 per cent rate decrease on fresh meats to the northwest to become effective Aug. 15 without a public hearing, and that PUC representatives and industry interests "led the fight" for Washington, Oregon and Idaho last fall at an I. C. C. hearing in Denver.

Case Shows Damage
"This meat case demonstrates the damage that can be done by percentage increases in freight rates and the manipulation of tariffs for the benefit of favored industries or regions through discriminatory reduction," he continued. "Not too many decades ago the east coast had a thriving meat packing industry. Through rate manipulation, that industry has been snuffed out and today the east coast is served by packers in the midwest. My office and the state department of agriculture are fighting to keep the same thing from happening here."

"This case also demonstrates the effectiveness and importance of unified action," Morgan continued. "In Oregon every branch of state government from the Governor on down took affirmative action, backed by the meat packing industry, Chambers of Commerce and industrial freight rate organizations and we won our part of the case."

"In California, which is more adversely affected by these rates than Oregon, the Governor and state agencies remained silent, while the Los Angeles and San Francisco chambers of commerce disagreed on procedure. The examiner ruled that the California rates should remain in effect. The moral is pretty clear," he concluded.

To Attend Meet Of PCA Group

Lawrence Michaels, Canyonville, president, Lester Adams, of Provo, vice president, and three other directors of the Southern Oregon Production Credit association will attend the 1958 summer conference of P.C.A. directors and secretary-treasurers at Portland, June 19 and 20.

Irvin Patten, secretary-treasurer of the Southern Oregon Association, said the Portland meeting will bring together more than 40 farmer and rancher directors of P.C.A.'s; representatives of the federal (Oregon and Washington only) and district farm credit boards, and officials of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Spokane.

Discussions of administrative and operating problems of the associations and the bank will highlight the two-day workshop session, according to Patten. A special feature will be formulation of plans for observing the 25th anniversary of production credit service and the 35th anniversary of the credit bank.

The credit bank, organized in 1923, is a wholesaler of P.C.A. loan funds, Patten explained. The P.C.A.'s are now buying out the government's investment in the bank.

Other directors of the Southern Oregon association attending the Portland meeting will be Lawrence Luy, Medford, Melvin J. Lattie, Medford and Wesley Chappell, Bandon.

Deschutes Rancher Suffers Estray Loss

Salem—Between 50 and 60 white face cows are missing from a range in Deschutes county. This loss is the heaviest reported on the state department of agriculture's April estray bulletin.

Eight other Oregon farmers and ranchers in Deschutes, Wallowa, Coos, Marion, Grant and Douglas counties reported 15 cows, ten calves, one steer and one bay mare strayed or stolen.

Henry A. Matschiner, supervising livestock officer with the department has issued descriptions of the missing animals to county sheriffs and state police, as well as to the department's district livestock officers and brand inspectors.

Set Out Late Vegetables Now, Advises Agent

Late vegetables should be planted now, advised Don Berry, county horticultural agent.

"Now is a good time to set out frost sensitive plants such as peppers, tomatoes, and egg plants," Berry suggested.

There are several varieties of tomatoes which are good, he said. However, the Ace variety seems to do better in the Rogue valley area. This is the favored variety of commercial vegetable growers, the agent added. It is well-flavored, firm, has good color and good quality. The California Wonder variety is considered best of tomatoes, and Black Beauty for egg-plants.

Tomatoes should be set out five by five feet but can be grown closer if space is limited—three by three feet, Berry said. Peppers, tomatoes and egg-plants can be set out in borders around the yard, also, if the gardener desires. Also, they can be staked out or placed on walls and trellis.

Many times a transplanting solution helps when setting the plants out. This booster solution consists of two heaping tablespoons of complete fertilizer in a gallon of water, Berry recommended. A cupful

Correct Labels Meeting Topic For Staff Men

Salem—Correct and informative labeling of packaged food products will be one of the principal subjects discussed at the semi-annual staff conference May 26-28 of the state department of agriculture's division of foods and dairies, weights and measures.

O. K. Beals, division chief, said another important problem to be studied is effective public relations in the enforcement field. One day will be devoted to facets of the dairy inspection program; at the same time weights and measures inspectors will discuss problems in their field.

Robert J. Steward, department director, will address the group on May 27. Also scheduled to participate are Dorothy Sherrill and Zelma Reigle, Oregon state college consumer marketing specialists, who will lead a discussion on consumer reaction to labels and advertising. Don Chapman, vice president of the Equitable Savings and Loan association in Portland, will speak on public relations.

Personnel of the division of foods and dairies, weights and measures, are actively engaged in the enforcement of state laws dealing with dairy and food products, feeds, fertilizers and economic poisons, and testing of weighing and measuring devices throughout the state.

Fifteen members of the division's 43-man staff are located in areas outside Salem.

Poultry School Planned Here

A 4-H poultry school for southern Oregon will be conducted by Oregon State college poultry specialists Saturday, May 24 at the Jackson County fairgrounds in Medford.

Charles Fischer, poultry marketing specialist and Noel Bennion, poultry specialist, will conduct the school. Starting at 10 a.m., the program will include brooding and rearing chicks, poultry judging, candling and grading eggs, and preparing poultry for exhibits. The program will end with a question and answer session at 3 p.m. The school is designed for 4-H poultry project members but is open to the public.

Farmers To Plant Fewer Vegetables

Corvallis — Oregon farmers plan to follow a national trend and plant fewer crops of most vegetable crops for processing this year, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Hearing Planned On Meat Labels In Salem Friday

Salem—The state department of agriculture will hold a public hearing Friday, May 23, at 1:30 p.m. in room 372, state office building in Portland, to consider minor changes in the administrative order establishing standards of identity for hamburger and ground beef.

According to O. K. Beals, chief of the department's division of foods and dairies, a few changes appear necessary in order that the regulation be uniform with those of the federal meat inspection division.

At the hearing, discussion will center on the labeling of specialty products such as "steakettes," "chopped steak" and "choppettes," Beals said. Federal regulations allow these specialty products to be labeled by name when further information appears on the label describing the process or processes used in their preparation. Under the state department's administrative order, signed Jan. 13, products consisting of ground beef are to be labeled either "ground beef" or "hamburger."

No other problems have developed in the enforcement of this regulation, Beals continued, and no other changes are contemplated. The standard of identity provides that hamburger or ground beef sold in Oregon shall contain no more than 30 per cent analyzable beef fat and the optional addition of ascorbic acid and monosodium glutamate if declared on the label.

Hereford Tour Set for June 1

The Annual Cal-Ore Hereford association tour for members and friends will be held June 1. The tour will start at 9 a.m. at the Ralph L. Cook ranch, Hillcrest-Phoenix rd., three miles east of Medford at the end of Barnett rd.

10 a.m.—Arrowhead Ranch—Hillcrest-Phoenix rd.
11 a.m.—Clover Smalls—2½ mi. east of Phoenix on Fern Valley rd.

12 noon—Charcoal broiled steaks at upper end of Lithia park — Cal-Ore furnishes steak, potatoes, coffee and soft drinks. Bring salad or dessert and dishes.

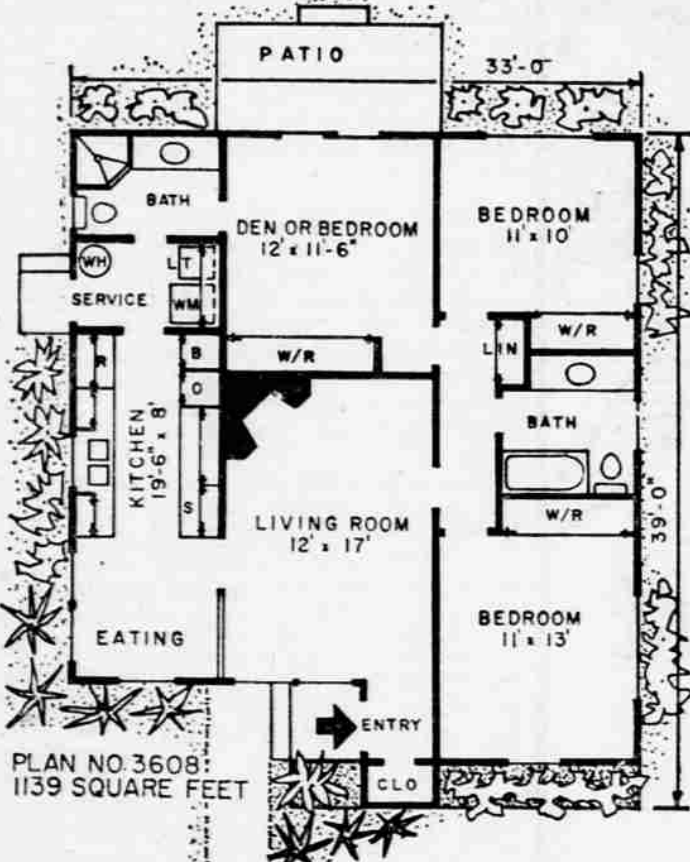
2 p.m.—Don Nichols Ranch, 2785 East Main rd., Ashland.
3 p.m.—Howell Cook Ranch, 325 Butler Creek rd., Ashland (Valleyview district).
4 p.m.—Ireland Hereford Ranch (formerly Henry Owen's Ranch), 1680 Butler Creek rd., Ashland.

\$35,000 Damage Suit Filed in Court Here

Flossie Ellen Cook, Ashland, filed a suit in circuit court Tuesday seeking \$35,000 general damages and \$2,390 special damages from Lewis G. McLaren, Medford, for injuries allegedly suffered in a traffic accident.

The collision, involving a car in which Mrs. Cook was riding, collided with a truck owned by McLaren March 21, 1957, at 10th and Front sts., Medford, according to the complaint.

This Week's Town, County House



By HIAWATHA ESTES
Although it is planned for a 50 foot lot and covers only 1139 square feet, this enchanting home is deceptively spacious. Not a square foot of living area has been wasted. Unnecessary partitions have been omitted to create a feeling of expanded space, and halls have been kept to the essential minimum.

From the covered porch you enter a small foyer off the living room. Traffic channels easily from the front door to either the kitchen or bedroom hall without crossing the conversational areas of the room. Focal point of the living room is the big corner fireplace.

A half-wall with wood louvers over, is located between the dining area and living room. This unites these areas with the open kitchen. Thus the housewife can join in family conversation while she goes about the work of meal preparation and clean up.

Range, oven and refrigerator are built in, and cupboards, ample counter tops and a broom closet assure step-saving efficiency. Washer, dryer and water heater are out of the way in the service entry. A laundry tray may be substituted for the dryer, if desired. A three-quarter bath opens to both the service area and master bedroom.

With a sliding wall of glass that opens to the patio, this bedroom could be converted into a den for a smaller family.

Large sliding door wardrobes have been provided in all bedrooms.

The family bath has a pull-man lavatory with a cabinet below for towels and accessories. A line closet opens onto the bedroom hall.

Band saw rafters at the gables, trims the steeply pitched roof. Shutter-framed diamond paned windows add Old World paintness to the exterior. The stone used in the fireplace and chimney is also used as veneer and extends to form two planters.