

Hearing on Grades For Spuds Planned

Salem — The Oregon department of agriculture will call a hearing later this summer to consider bringing state potato grades in line with the newly announced revisions in federal grades.

At the same time, according to Plant Division Chief Frank McKennon, the department hopes to cover revisions in standards for fruits, including prunes, now coming under federal changes.

The federal revisions on potato standards will become effective July 15, the U.S. department of agriculture has announced.

Details of Changes

A release from Washington gives these details of the federal changes:

For U.S. No. 1, U.S. Commercial and U.S. No. 2 grades the revisions consist in modifying definitions of damage and serious damage by certain factors.

The U.S. Extra No. 1 grade is dropped and this grade and the former U.S. Fancy grade

will no longer exist. The revised federal standards provide for a new U.S. Fancy grade which is similar to the former U.S. Extra No. 1 grade except for these differences:

1. Higher requirements for maturity, shape and cleanliness.
2. An increase in the minimum diameter from 1 1/2 inches to 2 inches, unless otherwise specified.

External Defects

3. A change from the tolerances of 6 per cent for external defects and 5 per cent for internal defects to a total tolerance of 5 per cent for both internal and external defects.

4. A reduction in the restricted tolerance for southern bacterial wilt, ring rot or late blight from 3 per cent to 2 per cent; also a reduction in the tolerance for soft rot, wet breakdown, or frozen potatoes from 1 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent.

Other Changes

Other federal changes in the standards include switching the Size B classification from a range of 1 1/2 inches to 2 inches to a range of 1 1/2 to 2 1/4 inches and adding a Size C classification with a range of from 1 to 1 1/2 inches. The tolerance for oversize is reduced from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

The scoring of defects in all grades will be based solely upon the extent to which the individual potato is affected. The federal standards no longer provide for considering the general appearance of the potatoes in the lot in determining damage.

The revised federal standards are significant to Oregon's large commercial potato industry because Oregon standards have traditionally conformed to the federal ones.

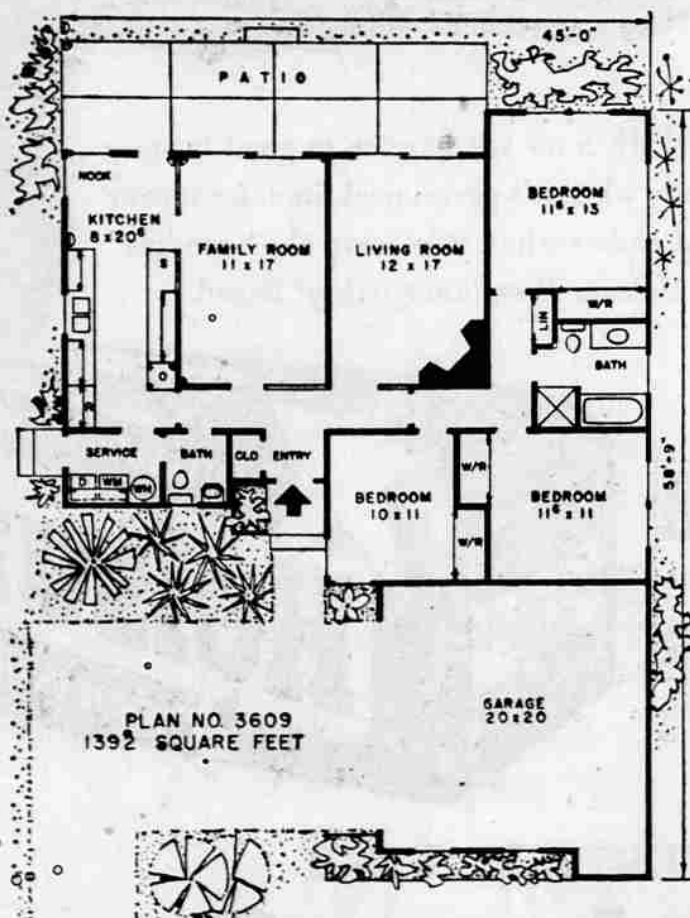
844 Predators Taken During May Period

Salem — A total of 844 predatory animals were taken by 46 federal-state hunters stationed throughout Oregon during a four-week period, May 3-31.

Coyotes led the list with 327 reported trapped by the hunters; 44 of these were taken in Lake county and 38 in Malheur.

The largest number of bobcats were also trapped in Lake county—hunters there reported 28 of these predators caught during the month. Harnew and Malheur were second and third with 25 and 21, respectively.

This Week's Town, Country House



By HAIWATHA ESTES

If you family enjoys indoor-outdoor living, this is the home for you. This design offers relatively large rooms throughout and yet the total square footage is less than 1400. Also, for privacy, the four main rooms of the home all face the rear yard and still the overall width is only 45 feet.

Extending over 32 feet across the rear, the partially roofed patio will be an integral part of your entertaining and activity area. Sliding glass doors in the living room and family room can be opened for airy, easy access to this private terrace, and a door from the large eating area in the kitchen will save steps when summer suppers are to be served outside. Wide eaves offer your choice of sun or shade while you

relax or entertain outdoors. Highlight of the living room is the broad stone fireplace. A half-wall, open above, separates the living room and hall. A louvered section over a half-wall screens the family room from the front entrance hall. Half-walls are also used to define the family room from the kitchen while increasing the feeling of open space and allowing mother to watch the small children, either in the family room or on the terrace.

In the kitchen, the range and oven are built in. Washer and dryer are located in the service area. The handy half-bath opens to both the service area and hall, to double as a powder room.

Three bedrooms are secluded in a quiet hall that can be closed off from the rest of the house. Wide ward-

robes and plenty of windows make these rooms convenient, restful and attractive. A pullman lavatory, recessed tub and stall shower are features of the master bath.

To save closet space, a horizontal forced air heater has been located in the attic. A large attic recess and a built-in ladder have been provided for easy access.

Upturned gables, shuttered windows and an abundance of stonework lend a rustic air to this ranch style home.

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 Haiwatha Estes, P. O. Box 404-7, Northridge, Calif.

Enzymes Now Added To Brighten Jams

Corvallis—Addition of enzymes to blackberries to remove some of their dark purple-red color has made possible brighter, redder, more attractive jams, jellies, and wines.

Oregon State college food technologists have successfully developed a method of adding an enzyme to blackberries that removes some of the dark, undesirable color, without any changes in flavor or texture of the fruit.

Called anthocyanase, the enzyme acts as a catalyst and changes the blackberry pigment to a new colorless chemical compound.

New Hay Wafers Noted in Booklet

Corvallis, Ore. — New "hay wafers" for dairy cows are compared with baled and pelleted hay in a publication just issued by Oregon State College agricultural experiment station.

Research by Dr. I. R. Jones, OSC dairy scientist, and Benjamin F. Magill, dairy technologist, is reported in detail in the illustrated 10-page booklet.

Chopped alfalfa compressed into a wafer combines the advantages of easy-to-handle pelleted hay and the feed value of high-quality loose or baled hay, the researcher explains.

Title of the booklet is "Baled, Wafers, and Pelleted Hay". Copies may be obtained from county extension agents or the Oregon State college bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

TO REPRESENT WEST

Salem — Earl Reitsma of Corvallis, supervisor of the state department of agriculture's turkey and poultry improvement programs, has been named to the executive committee of the national program. He was selected at the biennial plans conference held last week in Louisville, Ky.

Farm and Garden

Epidemic Tremors Study Proposed By State Poultry Advisory Council

Salem—If an experiment can be designed to give worthwhile answers to the problem of epidemic tremors vaccination, the state department of agriculture's poultry advisory council will endorse the use of the vaccine in Oregon for such an experiment. The program must have approval of the department and Oregon state college.

This action was taken at a meeting held last week in Salem. The council, which is composed of members of the poultry industry, acts as an unofficial advisory group to the department's division of animal industry.

According to Dr. K. J. Peterson, state veterinarian, epidemic tremors (chick encephalomyelitis) occurs in Oregon flocks. To date, no vaccine has been proven effective.

Vaccine Produced

Only two places on the Pacific coast—one in Seattle and one in California—produce a vaccine for epidemic tremors. Both of these are large poultry farms and the vaccine is used only on their own flocks.

Dr. Peterson said if a program can be worked out that would provide much needed reliable information on the use of vaccine for this disease, the department and the college will approve the experiment.

The board then discussed

the current ornithosis situation in Oregon and the future handling of infected flocks. The members unanimously passed a resolution recommending a meeting of federal and state authorities concerned with ornithosis be called promptly to discuss the problem.

Members of the poultry advisory council are William Martin, Milwaukie; C. M. Burmeister and D. H. Mishler, both of Portland; Howard Hughes, Hillsboro; Fred Peterson, Junction City; Lewis Clark, Eugene; Carlos Johnson, Oregon City; and Tom Dybvad, Canby.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Sunday, July 20 is the date for the Ben Tucker picnic at TouVelle state park.

Previously we had stated Aug. 20, but we were misinformed. It's July 20. This picnic sponsored by the Medford Rotarians and the Eagle Point Grangers is a chance to show a little appreciation to a good friend and neighbor. It's also a chance to get better acquainted with both farmers and some of the businessmen of the community and some just plain citizens. The public is invited.

A group of people Tuesday were examining cases of pear decline in the valley. Loss of vigor may be another way to describe it. The trees thin down in foliage, the leaves lose their color and a poor crop also results. Although agriculture authorities here say it first became serious from 10 years ago people in the business only became acutely conscious of it during the last year or two.

Nobody seems to know the reason for it. Speculation on causes have centered around rodent damage around the base of the tree, poor irrigation practices and root stock.

"It's hard tracking it down," one agriculture authority said recently. "The decline is appearing in different environments. It is noted as a serious problem in California, Oregon and Washington. It has become a serious problem for some people and not serious for others."

"It's hard tracking it down," he continued. "This research is just plain damned hard work — sweat and tears. Trouble is, 90 per cent of the time you can't score."

Dr. Louis Gentner, entomologist at the Southern Oregon Branch Experiment Station, recently attended a meeting of the Pacific Branch of Entomological Society of America in San Diego, Calif. This group includes entomologists and representatives of the agriculture and chemical industry of nine Pacific states, the Hawaiian islands and British Columbia. It has a membership of 1100 and meets every summer in different sections of the west.

Dr. Gentner returned with all kinds of interesting notes on papers presented at the meeting. These took up all phases of entomology or bugology for those of you who don't like big words. These papers dealt with recent developments on research into pest control. They dealt particularly with insects which are developing resistance to some chemicals. These papers are to be published later in a national journal of entomology. About 150 or more papers were presented.

One of the most interesting papers perhaps to people of this area was one presented by Dr. W. P. Stephen, Oregon State college. He reported on his studies in pollination of pear trees here. Apparently seedlessness of D'Anjou, Bosc and Comice result from self-pollination. There was no significant difference in size, shape or quality between pears which had seeds and those which did not, Dr. Stephen said.

Trees kept free from other pollens and insects showed 92 per cent decline in yield by the third year, Dr. Stephen said. These trees obviously needed cross pollination from year to year from other pear varieties to keep up production of fruit.

Another interesting paper was read by a representative of the citrus experiment station at Riverside, Calif. There scientists carried on experiments with insecticides in relation to bees. Safest insecticide tested, according to this report, were Dipterex, Thiodan, Trithion and Phosdrin, in that order. These phosphate materials were all considered safer than parathion.

The soil insecticides of Aldrin and Heptachlor were still effective in controlling root weevils in strawberries after five years, according to experiments conducted in Washington. Lindane and Chlordane were losing their effectiveness, they discovered. Applications were made to the soil before setting the plants. Doses used were 2 1/2, 5 and 10 pounds of actual chemical per acre. This was mixed with the soil before setting the plants, it was emphasized.

This paper applies to the Rogue valley since much root weevil trouble occurs around here. It works in the soil and on the roots of quite a lot of ornamental plants locally.

The grain peach aphid was effectively controlled for as long as 86 days by treating seed pieces of potatoes, it was reported. Formulations of Thimet and Disiston were applied before planting. This same material was also applied to the soil in 2 per cent granules. The granular applications were more effective than the seed piece treatment, entomologists said. The treatments also controlled leaf hoppers and flea beetles.

Since sugar beet seed production is fairly heavy in this area this note may be interesting. Scientists at the Riverside, Calif., station found that greenpeach aphid was responsible for spread of virus yellows in sugar beets during the past two years.

Locally, Gentner is testing what non-phosphate miticides

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ClackamasCounty Willamette Valley Said 'Heart, Hub' of State

Salem—The first two Oregon farmers to be officially qualified for the 1958 Century Farm program honors come from Clackamas county. They are Ross Marquam and William E. Baker.

Their claims have been verified and approved by the Clackamas county judge, C. E. Latourette, Oregon City.

Judge Latourette is the first county judge to submit approved names for this honor to the sponsoring groups. The century farm program is a joint recognition for continuous farm ownership since 1858 or earlier and is sponsored by the Oregon Historical Society, Portland, and the state department of agriculture, Salem.

The sponsors have as yet no check on the number of applications pending before other county judges (in Lane and Multnomah before county commissioners). Deadline for submitting applications to county officials for verification and approval is July 20.

can be used for effectively controlling spider mites. These include Kelthane and Tediion as some of the newer chemicals. He is also trying out quite a number of phosphate materials and some other materials for codling moth control. These experiments are being conducted in case some of the mites here show resistance to DDT. Such cases have shown up in some other areas.

The local entomologist is also testing such materials as Dieldrin, Toxaphene, Endrin, Heptachlor for pear psylla control in case they show some resistance to Parathion and Malathion. He said some indications in Washington show they lack control with phosphate materials. Testing of a chemical called Sevin shows both good codling moth and pear psylla control.

Speaking of bug control — we hear rumors that the Medford area was really jumping — with fleas. We tracked down these rumors and discovered that actually only two reports of flea cases had come to officials concerned.

One man pleaded, "You must have some sort of a cure. My wife said if I didn't get rid of these fleas she would divorce me!"

Don Berry, entomologist at the extension office, recommends certain measures to control fleas. First, put DDT on the dog. Don't put any on the cat since cats lick themselves more than dogs and may be poisoned. A special powder is manufactured for cats. Then dust the dog's bedding place thoroughly with DDT. For spraying the lawn and area which contain fleas a mixture of DDT and water is recommended. Use two heaping tablespoons of DDT in three gallons of water. Spray the lawn and area thoroughly.

Berry explained that the young fleas feed in organic matter like manure and live in dogs' beds. The adult fleas may go more than a year without food. So, when people move into a house and start poking around dark corners they may suddenly be chewed alive.

A number of local stockmen and representatives of the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service plan to make a tour in the near future of some experimental pasture plots on their range lands. Stockmen have long been concerned over the mandatory decrease of herds on this government range lands. The problem is how to make the pastures support more herds on range. As one cattleman put it, "This means the difference between a cattleman eating or not eating!"

Myatt finished the report this spring as his doctor's thesis at Clark University, Mass. In it, he traces not only the history and economic development of the valley but also gives some interesting sidelights on the dominant role it has played in Oregon's 99 years as a state.

The first of the west's agricultural areas to be opened, the Willamette valley contained 97 per cent of the 1850 population of the area that was later to become the state of Oregon. Dr. Wilfred G. Myatt points out.

Today, even with the great growth in other regions of the state, the 130-mile long by 30-mile wide Willamette valley floor still has about 66 per cent of the people of Oregon, he noted.

Looking ahead, Myatt sees much greater increases because of the "same things" that attracted the early settlers — rich soils, woods, water, mild climate, and beautiful scenery.

This is called the world's largest purebred registry organization, according to the announcement. Headquarters are in Kansas City, Mo.

Fifty-two junior Hereford breeders were placed on the association's official roster during June. The organization maintains active accounts for more than 80,000 breeders of registered Herefords throughout the country.

The Hereford association during the last fiscal year recorded 430,951 purebred calves.

Jossey Returns from Summer School

County Agent Earle Jossey returned Tuesday from a month regional extension service summer school at Colorado State university at Fort Collins, Colo.

Jossey was granted a \$100 scholarship by the Farm Foundation study farm policy. He also took a course on public relations.

Colorado State is one of three schools which conducted regional summer schools for extension agents. Others were Michigan State and Cornell.

William Nunn of Minnesota State college conducted the session on public relations. Tyrus R. Tim of Texas A&M instructed the session on farm policy.

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