

Cloverlawn Guernsey Dairy Herd First In Average Butterfat Production

The Cloverlawn Guernsey farm dairy herd had the highest average butterfat production in the county during June, according to statistics released by the Jackson County Dairy Herd Improvement Association. The same herd topped the list in May.

The Cloverlawn herd, Medford, averaged 49.7 per cent butterfat in the month, well under the 50 per cent average it turned in for May. Average milk production for the herd, which included 13 producing and one dry cow, was 839 pounds.

The Richard and Elizabeth Westberg herd, Ashland, was second again in June with an average of 48.4 per cent butterfat and a 914 pound average of milk. The herd included 13 producing and one dry cow.

Third on the list was the Point herd, belonging to Bill and Jo Hubbard with a butterfat average of 44.4 per cent and an average milk production of 1080 pounds.

The herd, which was also third in May, included 47 producing and seven dry cows.

The Milo Academy herd, Medford, was fourth with 29 producing and five dry cows producing an average of 1157 pounds of milk and an average butterfat content of 43.6 per cent.

George A. Holt's herd, Medford, rounded out the top five with 39 producing and no dry cows contributing an average of 1002 pounds of milk having a butterfat average content of 43.3 per cent.

Top Producing Cows

The ten top producing cows in the county were divided among five dairies, with the Straus brothers herd contributing three cows to the list. Bonnie, belonging to Richard and Elizabeth Westberg, topped the list by producing 1,347 pounds of milk and 94.3 pounds of butterfat. Bonnie was in milk 83 days.

Straus brothers' cows 86, 92, and 78 placed second, sixth and eighth in the list. Their records were: second

cow 1,824 pounds of milk and 93.0 butterfat pounds, 43 days in milk; sixth cow 1,995 pounds of milk, 87.8 butterfat pounds, 31 days in milk; and eighth cow 2,229 pounds of milk, 82.5 butterfat pounds, 54 days in milk.

Eagle Point Herd

The Spear L. Ranch herd, Eagle Point, contributed the number three cow, known as 30. It produced 1,632 pounds of milk, 89.8 butterfat pounds, 48 days in milk. Blossom, belonging to the Milo Academy herd placed fourth with 2,112 pounds of milk, 88.7 butterfat pounds, 30 days in milk.

Spear L. Ranch cow 113 was fifth with 2,199 pounds of milk, 88.0 butterfat pounds, 113 days in milk. Lundette of the Cloverlawn Guernsey farm, Ashland was seventh, producing 1,580

pounds of milk, 83.7 butterfat pounds, 27 days in milk. Bill and Jo Hubbard's Bonnie was ninth with 1,470 pounds of milk, 82.3 butterfat pounds, 93 days in milk. Rounding out the list was Loretta of the Milo Academy herd with 1,911 pounds of milk, 82.2 butterfat pounds, 57 days in milk.

Shipping Points Show Good Year

Salem — Oregon shipping point inspectors experienced their second best year on record during the 1957-58 season — 39,410 carloads of fresh fruits and vegetables were received at shipping point inspection centers throughout the state.

This figure exceeds last year's total by about 1,800 cars, the state department of agriculture reported.

Total potato inspections, 24,501 cars, topped last year's by about 1,400 cars but is short of the record of 1950-51 year by about 1,500 cars. The onion shipments this year were slightly lower than usual because of onion maggot in the Snake river country. About 4,500 cars of onions were inspected for shipment.

Totals for both apples and pears were well above the average yearly figures. Approximately 7,100 cars of pears, and 1,900 cars of apples were inspected this shipping point year.

The larvae of the pronuba moth eat the seeds of the yucca plant, which is fair enough since there would be no plants without the moths, the National Geographic Society says. The yucca's pollen is meager and too sticky to be moved by the wind. When the mother moth lays her eggs in a blossom, she gathers pollen from its anthers and places it on the stigma, thus fertilizing the plant's eggs. When they young hatch they find a banquet of seeds awaiting them. What they do not eat propagates the yucca.

Hormone Spray Will Prevent Fruit Drop

A hormone spray should be applied soon for control of fruit drop, Clifford B. Cordy, county extension agent, has announced.

Bartlett's should be sprayed between July 25 and 31, D'Anjou between Aug. 19 and 24, Bosc and Comice between Aug. 26 and 31, and Seckels between Aug. 15 and 20, he said.

The hormone is effective for about 30 days on Bosc, 25 days on Bartlett, and 20 days on Comice. D'Anjou and Seckel, according to Cordy, and sprays should be timed so that they are applied that many days ahead of the completion of harvest.

In preparing the spray, Cordy said that 25 grams of hormone per acre on Bartlett and Bosc, and 37 grams per acre on Comice, D'Anjou and Seckel should be used.

He added that one fourth pound of neutral copper per 100 gallons on Bartlett's should be added if blight is a problem.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE G. COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

We drove out to the new Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station property near Jacksonville Tuesday to see for ourselves what was going on.

The contractors are coming right along with the three buildings there. The trusses from the old Rogue Valley ballroom are already in place on the largest building which will house the equipment and machinery. The walls are also up on the office building and the caretaker's cottage. We noticed a small knot of men on the edge of the barley field so ambled over to see what was going on. Harold White, station superintendent and Agronomist John Yungen were explaining their new layout to men from Oregon State college.

Yungen explained to us that the station is raising the comparatively new Bonneville type of barley to see what it will do on the new location. This is more of a test to see how even the soil is as far as productivity goes. A farmer doesn't have to be so particular. However, the experimenters do.

Yungen explained that the Bonneville variety is a higher yielding than the Velvon variety widely grown here. He estimated the yield with Bonneville is about 20 per cent more. Also, Bonneville variety has a stiffer straw. It isn't so apt to fall down. Only trouble with this variety is that it thrashes harder. The beard is harder to break off. However, adjustments can be made on the combine.

One other objection with the Bonneville is that it must be planted earlier—not later than April 10. It needs more moisture which usually comes in the early spring.

Then, too, Velvon is more susceptible to smut than the Bonneville variety. This is a fungus-like disease which gets into the kernels and turns them black. It isn't too serious in this area.

Bonneville is recommended variety for both spring and fall grain. It can be used in this way since the winters here are comparatively mild, Yungen explained.

At the other end of the field about 25 acres is planted to a variety called Atlas 46. This is a later maturing variety, the agronomist explained. Practically all such grain raised in the valley is used for feed. Barley is generally in short supply here since the diversified farmer doesn't have too much room in which to grow it. It usually comes in from Klamath county area, Willamette valley and eastern Oregon.

Yungen said hail hurt about 40 per cent of the grain crop being grown on the new experiment station property. The Safflower plot was least affected. It looked as if the tomatoes and sweet corn were hard hit. However, both seem to be coming along fine. The tomato crop will be a little late because of the hail, it was explained.

The corn and tomatoes being raised on the new property are part of a fertilization experiment. Those working with tomatoes are trying to find out how nitrogen added to the soil will affect them. So far those tomatoes fed nitrogen seem to be developing stronger vines. The experiment is far from completed yet, however.

Before the experimenters will say what the tomatoes will or will not do under fertilization conditions, the crop will be harvested, weighed, graded and sized.

The Ace variety of tomato is the popular one here. Housewives take notice — agricultural authorities here say the valley raises as good a tomato as will be found anywhere. It is so sweet that it can be eaten like an apple.

The experiment station is conducting some work to see if this same high type of tomato can be brought into the market earlier to give our local crops a fighting chance with those of Yakima, the Willamette valley and California. This work is a direct result of some meetings held earlier this year with vegetable growers of the valley. Then they asked representatives of the extension service and the experiment station to do something to help bolster the vegetable industry of the valley.

One of the things the additional water brought in from the Talent project is supposed to do is to boost the development of truck gardens in the valley. These types of crops require more water. How long will this experiment take? Yungen says the time is indefinite since new varieties of tomatoes are being brought onto the market every day.

The corn experiment is with field corn. The station is always testing new varieties. Such testing usually takes three years anyway. One year is not enough, Yungen says. This is because of seasonal differences mainly. Experimenters need a good cross section of seasonal variations of weather before they will release a variety as okay. Feed dealers of the area deserve much credit for working with the station. The dealers buy their seed on recommendation of the experiment station. This doesn't mean the station will recommend only one variety. Four or five varieties may be equally good, Yungen said.

Idahybrid 544 is a good standard field corn and can be used for silage as well as for grain. Another good one is Illinois 1570. Other recommended varieties are KY 4, KS 5, KS 6 and PAG 244.

Earlier this month Yungen attended a northwest conference on fertilization in Idaho. There he read a paper on crop rotation—an experiment conducted by the Malheur experiment station in eastern Oregon. Yungen had participated in this experiment while working there. Actually, it is called a regional phosphate experiment. The work was conducted in North Dakota, New Mexico, Oregon and Montana.

By applying different rates of phosphate fertilizer the experimenters wanted to see what effect it would have on a rotation of crops over a six-year period. Barley, alfalfa and field corn were the main crops used in the rotation. Sugarbeets were tried the sixth year after the fertilizer had been applied. The beets were examined for phosphate content. Yields and soils were measured also.

The experimenters discovered that application of 480 pounds of actual phosphate per acre left enough in the ground over a six-year period to support a good sugar-beet crop. Additional amounts applied did not increase the yield. Such an experiment would work in Malheur station where soils are basic, but not here where the soils are slightly acid.

While attending the meeting at Pocatello, Yungen examined the irrigation projects developed under the Bureau of Reclamation there. Useless desert land is being converted to crop land. Some of it is private development. Yungen said he was surprised to see so much land under sprinkler irrigation. Usually such projects bring in surface and ditch irrigation. Rolling topography makes the sprinkler system necessary, however.

Believe it or not, the water is brought to the farmer under pressure in many cases, Yungen said. This eliminates the need for pumps. Reason for this is the bureau feels some of the land has to be irrigated. Several of the irrigation projects are located near American Falls.

We received this little jingle in the mail the other day in a letter—

"Dear Mr. Editor—
The rain split my cherries.
The hail got my pears
The slugs got my cabbage
And I'm up for repairs."

The letter continues — "Now really Mr. Editor why don't you make a few suggestions to the valley folks to start

walnut groves now and be able to get the kids thru college later.

"Of course the trees grow slowly but the grafts grow rapidly. California's crops run into millions. Why not Oregon? This valley can produce nuts, I mean that grow on trees and you don't have to get up at five to milk them, either, and rain don't split them."

Signed,
Your Faithful Subscriber

Agriculture authorities of this area state that walnut trees have never done consistently well in this area since the soil is too thin. Trees may produce large amounts of nuts for 15 years, then they start to decline. Also, the Rogue valley is too far from markets such as Portland to make commercial walnut tree raising profitable.

During the fall meeting of the Jackson County Stockmen's association, forestry officials agreed to postpone ear-tagging. This was on condition that stockman using government range lands cooperate to see that such lands were not overgrazed — that they put no more than their designated number of animals on the government grass. This agreement has been carefully kept by the stockmen concerned which speaks well for the public relations of the forestry officials and the cooperative spirit of the cattlemen. The Applegate area was particularly concerned.

We observed an experiment at OSC being carried on with rats to test the affect of irradiated foods. This was to determine what effect Atomic bomb fall-out might have on foods and in turn on the people who might eat them. Five of the basic foods were prepared in typical Army mess-hall fashion, exposed to the deadly rays then fed to the rats.

Our guide explained that of their 1,200 rodents examined over a four-year period no ill effects had been found. This is part of a nation-wide experiment. The rats have a much shorter life span than humans so this experiment is equivalent to four generations of human life. This would take it back as far as the American Revolution.

After eating, each rat was removed from the cage and vitamins squirted past clenched teeth.

"You will notice that these little animals are being fed vitamins the same as your children possibly receive after every meal."

"By the scruff of the neck, too?" A tour member asked.

Pelleted Alfalfa, Cull Peas Used As Concentrate

Corvallis — Pelleted-quality alfalfa hay and cull peas can serve as a protein concentrate in wintering or fattening rations for weaner steer calves, according to Dr. David C. England, Oregon State college animal scientist.

The Pacific Northwest does not produce major quantities of any protein concentrates commonly used for cattle feeding. However, considerable quantities of cull peas are available seasonally in parts of this area.

Large supplies of alfalfa hay of more than 16 per cent crude protein are also usually available. And, with hay pelleting equipment now available, ranchers and feeders were wondering if this high-quality alfalfa hay might serve as a protein concentrate for wintering and fattening feedlot cattle, he said.

Compares Results

In his experiments with weaner steer calves, England compared results using soybean oil meal, cull peas, and pelleted high-quality alfalfa hay as a protein concentrate during a 146-day feeding period. All concentrate rations were pelleted and added to a basic grain mix except the alfalfa, which was fed separately. The roughage ration during the experiment consisted of peavine silage with a crude protein content of about 11 per cent, fed free choice.

Animals on the wintering ration received about 3½ pounds of concentrate a day. Those on a fattening ration received 7½ pounds per day. Results of the experiment indicate that, per unit of protein, pelleted high-quality alfalfa hay, and cull peas, are as effective as soybean oil meal in promoting gains then added to weaner steer calves, England stated. It remains to be seen, however, to what extent pelleting of alfalfa will influence use of alfalfa as a primary source of protein for fattening cattle in areas low in protein concentrate, he added.

Further experiments are to determine the value of pelleted alfalfa for cattle of various sizes on rations containing large amounts of grain, England concluded.

Six Locations Are Available for Brands

Salem — Owners of horses, mules and cattle recording new brands may choose from six locations—either right or left hip, right or left rib or right or left shoulder. This is in line with the state department of agriculture's regulation enacted as a result of 1957 changes in the livestock brand law.

Owners of sheep, goats, hogs, poultry and foxes may also record brands, but they are not restricted as to location.

INSURANCE COST RISES

London — (UPI) — British insurance underwriters have boosted the "war risk" premium for ships using Iraqi ports sevenfold — from 10 cents to 70 cents per \$280. Iraq, which is in the throes of a rebellion, has a short coastline along the Persian Gulf and is a major oil producer.

Commodity Group Problems Aired At July 7 Meet

Salem — Oregon's commodity commission and administrative officers met on July 7 in the Agriculture building in Salem to discuss matters of general interest and mutual problems.

Included in the topics covered were grower and public relations, cooperation between commodity commissions, mutual administrative problems and state department of agriculture office services offered at cost to commodity commissions. The 1957 legislative authorized these services as needed and requested by any commodity commission.

The commodity group representatives also discussed possible amendments to the commodity commission enabling act which would allow changes in the individual budgets to be made more easily. Don Duncan, executive secretary of the Filbert commission and administrator of the Filbert control board, was appointed chairman of a committee to study this problem. He will be assisted by R. C. Kuehner, executive secretary of the chowchows and creeping red fescue commission, and Don Thomas, executive secretary of the Oregon dairy products commission.

Second Conference

This was the second conference of commodity commission officials; the first one was held in Salem last February. Agriculture Director Robert J. Steward called the first meeting at the request of several of the commodity commissions. At that time they decided to continue these conferences on a quarterly basis. At the July 7 meeting it was decided to hold following conferences under alternating sponsorship of each of the seven commissions now in operation. Lee Albright of McMinnville, who was one of the representatives of the Oregon dairy products commission, presided at this meeting. The next joint conference will be hosted by the Oregon wheat commission in Pendleton in October.

Following their own meeting the commodity commission officers met at the capitol with the legislative interim committee on government reorganization. The legislative committee had requested comments from the commodity group representatives on its studies of the California plan of operations for self-help commodity boards or commissions.

Warm waters on the Gulf Stream pass near the New England coast but have little direct effect on winter temperatures because prevailing winds blow from the land.

Rattlesnakes get a new rattles every time they shed their skin — about three times a year.

Machinery Use Helps Trim Cost

Corvallis — Use of more machinery and fertilizer and less manpower and horsepower is helping the state's farmers hold the line against rising costs, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Although last year's farm output was a third larger than in 1940, it was produced on the same acreage of cropland by fewer farmworkers and on fewer but larger farms, Mrs. Horrell noted.

Farmers have learned more about how to use commercial fertilizers in recent years, she pointed out, and these fertilizers have become cheaper in relation to land and other costs of production. Fertilizer costs have gone up only about 6 per cent in the last 10 years. Land values have risen about 40 per cent, and other production costs have gone up from 20 to 25 per cent.

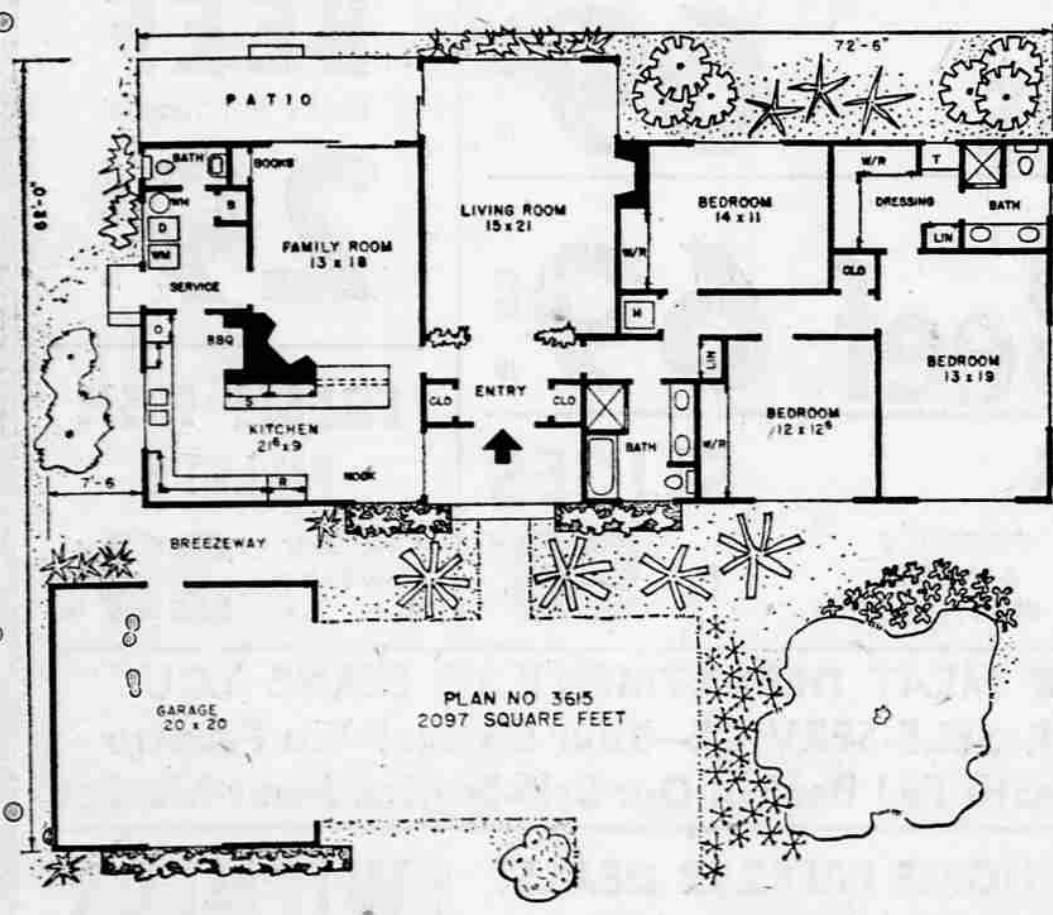
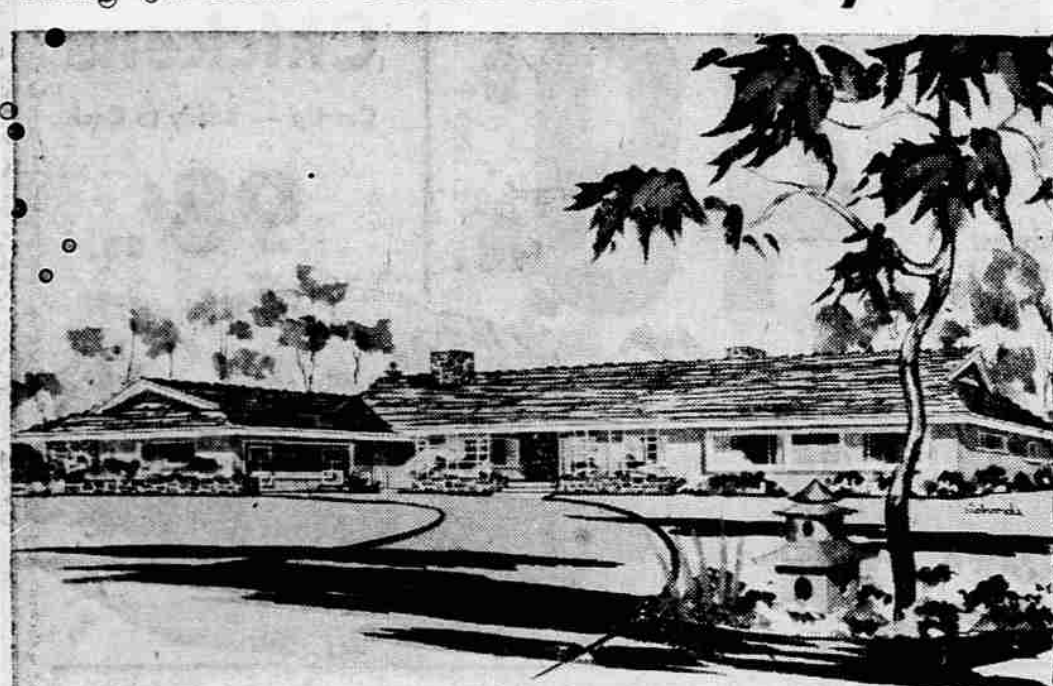
During the same period, new machines have been developed and old machines improved, eliminating the need for many horses and farm laborers, Mrs. Horrell noted. Wage rates paid farm workers have increased 30 per cent in the last 10 years, but costs of operating farm machinery have gone up only about half that much. As a result, use of tractors and other machines has nearly tripled, while use of hired labor on farms has been on the downturn.

Savings from increased use of fertilizer and machinery have helped farmers meet the cost-price squeeze of the last few years, Mrs. Horrell said. Pricewise, most commodities grown in Oregon still average well below the level set by Congress as a "fair" exchange rate between prices received by farmers for the products they sell, and prices paid by farmers for the goods and services they must buy, she emphasized.

Oil was first discovered in the United States near Cuba, N. Y. in 1627. A Franciscan missionary was led to the site by Seneca Indians, who used the crude petroleum that bubbled up in a spring for medicine and as a paint base.

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This Week's Town and Country Home



Long, clean lines and the lavish use of glass lend a quiet elegance to this 2,097-square-foot Contemporary home.

The three bedrooms, two and a half baths, and its many luxury features make this a home to own proudly and live in with a maximum of comfort and a minimum of care. A shake roof tops the soft-shaded stucco exterior, and square-cut stone has been utilized for both planters and veneer.

Two guest closets flank the double entry doors while planters open the living room to the foyer. The big stone fireplace is flush in the wall, allowing unbroken wall space for ease in arranging furniture. A broad picture window

extends across the end wall of the living room and glass doors lead to the rooftop patio. Sliding glass doors also merge the patio and family room — a spacious, informal activity center, with a high corner fireplace and a snack bar open to the kitchen.

Backing the family room fireplace is the barbecue in the kitchen. Oven, surface cooking units and refrigerator are built in.

The service area provides space for washer, dryer, broom closet, frozen food locker and a handy clean-up bath. The center hall may be closed to maintain quiet and privacy in the bedroom wing. Big wardrobes in the bedrooms double as sound proof-

ing between the activity area and sleeping zone. The family bath—with recessed fixtures and pullman lavatory — can serve as a guest powder room.

The luxurious master bedroom has an unusually large wardrobe-dressing room with linen closet and built-in vanity, and a three-quarter bath with "Mr." and "Mrs." lavatories.

Complete working drawings 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, Homes for Living, may be purchased for \$1. Send all orders for either plans or books to Hiwatha Estes, P. O. Box 404-7, Northridge, Calif.