

Farm & Garden

More Century Farms Sought This Year

Salem — First details of the 1959 Century Farm program have been announced by the Oregon Historical Society and the State Department of Agriculture, co-sponsors. They are looking for farms operated continuously in the same family since 1859 or earlier.

The present owner of the farm must reside in Oregon. The farm must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more. (This rules out any farms rented at any time during the century.)

The present owner must farm the land or actively manage and direct the farming operation.

The line of ownership from the original settler may be through children, brothers and sisters or nephews and nieces; adopted children will receive equal recognition with blood children.

Only the owner of record today will receive the coveted Century Farm honor.

Any farm, except one currently in process of sale to a non-relative, settled anytime during the calendar year 1859 will be eligible if it meets other requirements.

Applications must be on file with the director of agriculture in Salem on or before July 1.

Due to splits through inheritance which have occurred in the original farm, the program will recognize the U. S. Census definition of a farm. This is three acres or more from which \$150 worth of crops are sold yearly.

The 1958 program generated a great deal of interest. Only a few weeks ago Walla Walla county, Washington, asked for full details of the Oregon program with a view to adopting it this year.

All 1959 applications should be filed with the state department of agriculture at Salem on or before July 1.

Again this year the county judges, and in Lane and Multnomah, the county commissioners, have agreed to verify applications in their respective counties after the sponsors have screened them to be sure necessary details are included.

May Apply at County Court

Application blanks and full details of the program are available in the county court offices in every county.

"This program is a tribute both to Oregon pioneer farmers and to their kinsmen of today who have stayed with the agricultural pursuit of the original settler," the sponsors explained. So far as they know, it is the first program to honor those who have stayed with the same farm generation after generation.

Last year's program climaxed with presentation of Century Farm honors at the Oregon State Fair, and a similar finale is being planned for the 1959 presentation.

Among requirements to qualify, the sponsors cite the following:

Azalea Gall Cure Given By OSC

Azalea gall appears as a thickening of a whole or part of a leaf which turns pale green or whitish. The leaves often pucker or develop a cupping on them. A fleshy rosette of leaves sometimes appears at the tip end of the branch.

Flowers are also attacked on some of the evergreen azalea varieties. The flower parts become greatly thickened so that the whole bloom is a hard, fleshy, waxy, irregular gall. This gall becomes covered with a whitish "bloom."

OSC Beef Cattle, Swine Field Days Set May 18, 19

Corvallis—Oregon livestock men will have a chance to look over beef and swine research under way at the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station at two field days this month.

A beef cattle field day will be held May 18, and a swine day May 19, reports Dean Frischknecht, OSC extension animal husbandman. Registration and viewing of exhibits will start at 8 a. m. each morning in Withycombe hall on the campus with field day sessions starting at 9 a. m.

The field days will give livestock producers a quick, overall view of work and latest research findings in feeding experiments, breeding and animal improvement trials, disease-control studies, and management practices, Frischknecht said. Afternoon tours and demonstrations will illustrate and explain new findings and methods.

To Explain Research

Dr. R. T. Clark, USDA western regional coordinator of beef cattle breeding research, Denver, will explain how breeding research can help improve beef herds at the Monday morning session. The beef cattle field day will also report results starting to show from 10 years of beef breeding research at OSC. Visitors will have a chance to see the college herds and the new Beefmaster calves under test at the experiment station.

The swine field day will feature new ways to use barley more effectively in feeding programs, a carcass demonstration, and reports on swine breeding research and evaluation in Oregon. Rudy Setzler, extension livestock specialist at Washington State college, will review the Washington swine testing program.

A dinner session for both field days will be held Monday night. Speaker will be Mrs. Lois Sather, OSC food technologist in charge of flavor testing.

A special program and luncheon for ladies attending the meetings will be held each day. More information about the field days can be obtained at local county extension offices.

Perennial Tips Given Gardeners By County Agent

A small area in every home garden should be devoted to perennial plants, according to Don Berry, county agent.

These come each year from roots and require less care than plants grown annually from seed. Most perennials are heavy feeders and require lots of fertilizer. A four inch mulch of barnyard fertilizer or 2 pounds of ammonium sulphate per 100 square feet annually is important for continuous good production.

Perennials which all home gardeners consider a must are rhubarb, asparagus, and some herbs. Gardeners look forward to asparagus as the first spring vegetable. Fifty roots is sufficient for the average family. One to two year old roots should be set two feet apart in rows three feet apart. These are planted in a trench about eight inches deep and the trench is filled as the plants grow.

Tops should be kept growing vigorously in order to insure next year's crop. A light harvest may be made the second year. Spindly shoots indicate lack of fertility or over-harvesting. Besides fresh eating, asparagus is also excellent for home freezing. Mary Washington or Paradise are the best local varieties.

Rhubarb Suggested

Rhubarb is easy to grow and may be harvested lightly the second year after setting. Roots should be set four inches deep and three feet apart. Three or four plants well cared for will generally supply family needs. Riverside Giant is large and green while the cherry and strawberry varieties are red. All do well in this area.

Many herbs may be planted by seed or cuttings in the spring. These may be used fresh or dried to enhance the flavor and nutrition of home cooking. Anyone interested in planting herbs should stop by the Jackson county extension office and pick up the booklet "Savory Herbs, Culture and Use."

CHIT CHAT

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Tentative plans call for adding three farm foresters to the state forestry department staff, according to word received from the office of state forester.

These plans call for putting one man at Medford to serve Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties. A second man would be placed in Corvallis to serve Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties. Plans are undecided about the third man but probably he will be at LaGrande to serve Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Baker counties or at Coos Bay to serve Coos and Curry counties and part of Douglas county. The new man will be in addition to Jack Mace who covers about a six-county area as service forester.

The money to finance the new projects will not be available until after July 1, 1959. So the new foresters will be established some time after that date, it was reported.

The three farm foresters tentatively scheduled are in sharp contrast to the 11 requested in the proposed farm forestry program for 1960-61 biennium. The present farm forester staff has been serving 12 counties in which 22,176 woodland owners are located. Annual reports show that now each farm forester assists nearly 300 owners per year. During each year's peak period there are over 30 requests a month for assistance which pile up.

However, the three new foresters, if put into operation, should help considerably with the heavy load already being carried by service foresters. Official statistics from the Oregon Board of Forestry show 36,111 woodland owners, mostly farmers, who have 5,023,000 acres of the best forest land in Oregon.

The new farm foresters will work closely with and act as forest consultants to county groups such as county extension units, land use committees and federal agricultural stabilization and conservation committees. These men will also handle the special problems occurring in their assigned territories.

Senate Bill 237 pertaining to the organization of the state department of agriculture is up for the governor's signature, the last we heard. This bill provides for the appointment of a state director of agriculture, organization of various divisions of his department, and the appointment of the advisory state board of agriculture. Main purpose of the bill was the removal of the state department of agriculture and the advisory board from politics. However, we still think it fails its purpose.

The bill as it now reads places too much power in the hands of the governor. Appointments to the state board of agriculture would have been made upon consulting the state's agricultural industry, according to the original terms of the bill.

The original clause specifying geographical representation for board members has been eliminated. This means that southern Oregon which is now ably represented by Ward Spatz, Medford, would not necessarily have to be represented according to the terms of this bill.

Incidentally, Ward has not yet received word from the governor on whether he is or is not a member of the board. He did send in his resignation when the Republicans took over the governor's office. However, this has been neither accepted or rejected.

One provision in the bill is good. This states that the state board of agriculture "shall encourage and work to long time planning to develop and promote agriculture research." We hope this provision is used fully. Regardless, how people may feel about the bill it looks as if objectors will have to wait until the next session of the state legislature, two years from now, before anything can be done.

Many years ago during family dinners we were lucky to have a little cousin who liked to eat everybody's fat scraps. This was ideal for us because we didn't have to worry about being scolded for wasting food. However, that little cousin like a lot of other people today now prefers lean meat. Therefore, we were interested in a recent announcement by Swift & Company that it is buying its hogs on the basis of yield of four lean cuts.

The four lean cuts are the ham, loin, Boston butt and picnic. These make up over 60 per cent of the total value of the hog, the company points out. This seems only a logical development since its lean meat which really sells these days. However, this is not a new development by the company for it has been experimenting with this new buying method for several years at South St. Paul, Minn. The standard system of grading is by weight, backfat thickness and length.

The company learned that a top grade hog could vary as much as \$2 per hundred in cut-out value. It learned, also, that it is much easier to determine or evaluate the hog on the basis of these four lean cuts as the animal stands live on the hoof instead of on the rail. The Swift buyers feel they can estimate the true value of the hogs on a much more accurate basis. Anyway, this may start a new trend in hog buying and the consumer may see more lean hog products on the market in the near future.

You may have missed it if you hurriedly thumbed through the Mail Tribune last Thursday. But, last week, a cooperative organization for milk producers was formed. The name is Oregon-Washington Milk Sales, Inc. Purpose of the organization is to eliminate the abuse of quantity discounts as practiced by some producers in the two states.

As far as we could find out no definite administrative procedure has been set up yet. This will probably be worked out as the organization develops. A series of meetings well-attended by dairymen led up to Oregon-Washington Milk Sales, Inc. We aren't sure what effect such a co-op will have upon dairy product prices. However, it will prevent a milk price war which seemed to threaten the two-state area.

There is little doubt that the dairyman like everyone else deserves a fair price for his product and a right to make a decent living. The total paid to Oregon milk producers in 1956 was \$46,262,000 which makes dairy farming a fairly important industry in the state.

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Spring Junior Dairy Show Planned for May 16 Here

The Spring Junior Dairy Show will be held Saturday, May 16, starting at 10 a. m. at the Jackson county fairgrounds, it was announced at a recent meeting of the Rogue River Jersey Cattle Club.

The meeting was held Saturday at the E. B. Poyer home in Ashland.

The junior show was a major event for youth sponsored by the Rogue River Jersey Cattle club composed of purebred Jersey breeders of Jackson and Josephine counties. Every boy and girl with a dairy project in 4-H and FFA are invited to participate in the showmanship and judging contests. Ray Kleiver of the Oregon State college will act as judge.

Demonstrations Planned

Demonstrations will include fitting, clipping and cattle grub control. A Jersey princess will be crowned to represent the local club at the state fair in Salem this fall. A food booth will be maintained by the local club ladies.

R. L. Wyant of the Wild Plum ranch, Ashland, was a guest at the meeting. Mrs. L. S. Ties and daughter, Carolyn, a former Jersey princess, were visitors, also.

The meeting ended with a panel discussion on various calf-raising methods. Every breeder told of a good method perfected during the years and all agreed antibiotics helped in lowering the mortality rate and disease problem.

Gold Hill Youth Wins Dairy Award

Word has just been received that four Oregon boys are winners in the 1958 National Junior Production contest sponsored by the American Jersey Cattle club.

A total of 70 Juniors submitted records on 88 cows. The Oregon boys placed in the top 15. Placing third in the milk division was Lanny Parsons, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Parsons of Gold Hill. His registered Jersey cow, Observer Worth Cream gave a total of 14,990 pounds milk and 649 pounds for butterfat, milked twice daily in 305 days. Lanny was awarded \$75 and a trophy and invited to attend the 91st annual meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Club to be held at Hagerstown, Md., June 2.

Other Oregon placements were: Leroy Barber, of Aurora, fifth and Richard Reiling of Klamath Falls, 14th, both in the milk division, and John Lindow, of Independence, placing third in the butterfat division.

Still Too Early To Spray Cherries

Many home owners who have been calling the county extension office with regard to spraying cherry trees should be advised that it is too early to spray now for worms in the cherries, said Don Berry, county agent.

Trees which are showing considerable numbers of black aphids may be sprayed with Malathion, or Diazinon at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 gallons of water or a heaping tablespoon of Malathion per gallon of water, for aphid control, he said.

Sprays for the fruit fly (worms) are not due until the adult fly emerges from the soil some time after mid-May, Berry said. As soon as the first flies emerge a notice will be put in the paper and growers will be notified. The spray should be completed within five days.

Anyone who is interested in receiving a notice for timing of this spray should notify the county agent's office, Berry said.

Dali in London To Publicize Book

London—(UPI)—Surrealist Salvador Dali arrived in town Wednesday night with a square box containing scrap iron, nuts, bolts, copper engraving plates and an explosive charge.

Dali said he planned to explode the works and produce "such engravings as man has never seen before."

Dali is here to publicize a new book written about him by Fleur Cowles.

Peine Receives Chlorination

The Medford water department's No. 1 pipeline from Big Butte springs is receiving periodic chlorination this week, according to Bob Lee, city water superintendent.

Lee said that some 30 users along the line, including the Camp White area, may notice the taste. He said the chlorine was harmless in the quantity used.

He said the chlorination's purpose is to clean out the pipe and to test the operation of equipment in case chlorination should ever prove necessary in an emergency.

He said the chlorinated water would not enter the distribution system of the city.

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