

State Youth Camp Dates, Location Reported by OSC

Corvallis—The 1959 Youth Range Camp, sponsored each year by the Pacific Northwest section of the American Society of Range Management, will be held Aug. 3 to 8, according to Barry N. Freeman, extension range management specialist at Oregon State college.

Freeman, chairman of the society's youth range camp committee, said the camp will be held in Logan valley, high in the Blue Mountains in Grant county. All eastern Oregon counties, and Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties are eligible to send four boys each to the camp.

Boys chosen to attend the camp should be 14 to 18 years old, and selected through plant identification contests, essay contests on range or out-of-door subjects, or on the basis of leadership, citizenship, and love of the outdoors, Freeman added.

Scholarships Defray Costs
Scholarships covering camp costs of each boy will be provided by local organizations and individuals in each county. A local youth range camp committee is now being set up in each county to help arrange scholarships and select boys.

The camp is a learning experience, society officers emphasized, where boys learn to make wise use of range and ranch resources, and to handle themselves in out-of-door situations. Range and soil judging, plant identification, conservation and ranch organization and management are among topics covered in out-of-door-classroom sessions. Photography, camping, woodsmanship, and sportsmanship will be taught, also.

Changes in Laws For Agriculture Set

(Note—This is the second in a series prepared by the State Department of Agriculture presenting high points of 1959 laws it will administer in the consumer, farm and allied industry fields.)

Salem—The 1959 legislation on herbicide and insecticide application control, brucellosis and livestock brand re-recording carried emergency clauses and these four laws, all amendments to existing statutes, are already in effect.

The insecticide control act is new legislation integrated with the herbicide application control law and is outgrowth of the desire of Malheur county alfalfa growers to protect their chief pollinator, the alkali bee. The new act permits farmers anywhere in the state to establish, by petition to the state department of agriculture and public hearing, areas in which the use of insecticides may be restricted or prohibited.

The herbicide law was amended by a second 1959 act to change the herbicide applicator license year from a "when issued" basis to a calendar year. Present licenses which expire after June 30, this year, may be extended until Dec. 31 for \$5, or one-half the yearly fee.

Changes for Clarification
The changes in the brucellosis, tuberculosis and paratuberculosis law are mainly housekeeping ones, for clarification. They do, however, overcome some of the questions raised by those who objected to some provisions of the 1957 act, now amended.

These 1959 changes: (1) establish in the law guideposts for writing regulations; (2) establish, in the control of these three diseases, equal authority under the general disease control law as under the specific brucellosis act; (3) spell out by law the indemnity qualification and when indemnity shall not be received; and (4) remove a jail sentence from the penalties

which may be assessed against convicted violators.

The fourth new act now effective simplifies brand re-recording procedures which will be used first in the new re-recording period opening next July 1. Heretofore brand owners had to go through an original brand procedure each five years; now owners may re-record by simply applying, on an official blank furnished by the department, to have their brand of record re-recorded in their name. This law also permits the department to adjust fees downward in line with operation costs.

The maximum "per brand" fee established by law is \$10 for recording and \$5 for re-recording. The department is setting a combination brand reduction to \$16 for recording the same brand on cattle and horses and \$8 for re-recording the same brand on cattle and horses.

Weed Control Guide Published

Corvallis—An up-to-date weed control guide for Oregon farmers, orchardists, and home gardeners has just been published by the Oregon State college extension service.

New chemical controls that have passed recent field trials are included in the booklet, "Weed Control Recommendations for Oregon." Residents of Oregon may obtain free copies from county extension agents or the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Handy reference charts list all major crops or plants to be protected, the recommended chemical for weed control, how and when to apply the chemical, and special comments for each crop.

Another section is indexed according to common weeds and the recommended control. Precautions on handling of certain chemicals and care of spray equipment are also included.

Surplus Barley May Be Changed To Good Hog Feed

Corvallis—Prospects that Oregon's bulging barley supplies may be converted into more suitable feed for swine are reported by the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station.

Special treatment to break down hard-to-digest barley fibers looks promising as OSC scientists seek ways to parlay local feeds into meat supplies for expanding West Coast markets.

Oregon ships in about 70 per cent of its pork needs, and hog prices in Oregon are usually among the highest in the nation.

Preliminary findings by OSC researchers indicate a combination of maltenzyme treatment and pelleting may overcome main shortcomings of barley for hog feed.

Barley soaked in water, then treated with small amounts of malt, boosted hog gains 1/10 pound daily over hogs fed straight ground barley, report J. E. Oldfield, OSC animal nutritionist, and L. M. Larson, research assistant. "Soaking," alone, gave no benefits as it had in earlier poultry nutrition trials.

Malt Aids Enzymes
Malt provides additional enzymes in the hog's stomach to help digest fiber. Malt added only \$1.50 a ton to feed costs in the OSC study where malt comprised 2.5 per cent of the total feed weight.

Next step is to test a combination of malting and pelleting barley to learn if the stem treatment in pelleting will replace soaking for breaking down barley fiber. Soaking barley commercially would be costly, requiring large vats and drying equipment.

Pelleting barley, even without the malt treatment, increased gains more than 1/10 pound daily. The combination treatment will also be watched closely by Oregon barley growers who last year harvested 20 million bushels compared to a 10-year state average of 13 million bushels.

Cattle Feeding Results Reported

Corvallis—New findings in beef cattle feeding, including adjustment of rations for animals receiving hormone treatment, have been reported by the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station.

Results are summarized in a bulletin, "Results of 1957-58 Milton-Freewater Beef Feeding Experiments." Oregon residents may obtain free copies from local county extension agents or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

David C. England, OSC animal scientist, and Norton Taylor, Umatilla county extension agent, conducted the trials in cooperation with Umatilla county beef producers.

More than 200 animals provided by local ranchers were used in the trials. Major findings include adjustment of grain intake as animals gain weight, best protein levels, comparison of various types of roughages, and experiments with single and multiple hormone implants to stimulate growth.

Farmers Lose Stock Mainly from Coyotes

Salem—Farmers lost 447 head of livestock, including 400 sheep, to predatory animals in the first quarter of 1959, with coyotes the culprit for over 40 per cent of the sheep destruction.

Dogs were responsible for 127 of the sheep killed and bobcats, raccoons, mountain lions and even the eagle had claws in the act.

Other livestock losses to marauders included 17 goats, 25 calves, 2 cows and 3 pigs, according to the cooperative report of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service and state department of agriculture.

Grain Movement Drop Noted At Portland

Salem—Grain movement into Portland in April dropped approximately 400,000 bushels from April, 1958, but export shipments climbed 800,000 bushels, the state department of agriculture's grain inspection division reports.

Grain arrivals in Portland in April totaled 4.8 million bushels, vs. 5.2 million a year ago and 5.3 million bushels in March, this year. In each year, bulk of the grain moving into this port was wheat.

Salem—Oregon's shipping point inspections of fruits and vegetables for the 10 months to May 1 have totaled 2354 cars ahead of a year earlier, reported the state experiment of agriculture.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Two weeks ago Oregon State college held a Livestock field day. Only two men went from Jackson county, possibly because it came on Monday, the organizing day of what is now a busy week for most stockmen.

Aim of the field day was to show stockmen what the Oregon agricultural experiment station has been researching. Broad objectives of OSC's research program are to develop new knowledge, concepts, methods and principles of beef cattle improvement which may be used later by the stockmen, according to OSC's scientists.

OSC is now developing three lines of Herefords and one line of Angus. These three lines are from different foundations. One such line is Lionheart breeding from an English imported bull, Atok Lionheart, in British Columbia. One line is from Domino Prince breeding from the Crowe ranch in California. The other line is a combination of original OSC cattle and a bull from the Fulcher ranch. The Angus are Prince Sunbeam and Missouri Barbara breeding.

Under improving reproductive efficiency in beef cattle, Fred F. McKenzie, OSC animal husbandman, says artificial insemination can be adapted in certain beef cattle programs. When properly set up this breeding method can be made to pay.

Examine bulls for breeding soundness and avoid questionable ones, McKenzie suggests. Check the breeding performance of cows and do what seems necessary to improve the herd's overall reproductive efficiency.

One big problem to the beef industry is white muscle disease. This causes serious economic loss to the beef cattle industry particularly to ranches located in some fertile, irrigated areas where forage production is high. This disease results in white, damaged areas appearing in affected animals' muscles. Both calves and lambs get the disease. Nearly all of a year's calf crop has died from this disease.

OSC studies are aimed at producing the disease experimentally, and to prevent the disease under conditions which cause it. Some indications are that feeding protein supplements like linseed oil meal may help prevent the disease. The OSC staff hopes to eventually eliminate the white muscle disease.

Interest is growing rapidly in use of pelleted feeds for all livestock. Stockmen, particularly, are interested in using pellets in feedlot operations. One thing which limits pellets' use is lack of enough mills and equipment for handling high-roughage rations on any large scale. Outstanding disadvantage is high cost of processing which will vary from \$6 to \$15 per ton.

Pellets containing 60 per cent roughage seem most promising, OSC scientists said. Information is slight on this subject. Most nutritionists favor a comparatively coarse grind. No published information is available on preferred pellet size. Cattle gain more on pelleted high roughage rations because they eat more feed this way. Generally, stockmen can expect gains of 2.5 to 3 pounds a day. There is no information on undesirable carcass effects.

Recently one of the large meat wholesalers adopted a system of buying on the basis of lean meat in hogs. This firm recognizes that Americans are leaving their fat on their plates. OSC scientists notice the same trend. Practical methods can be used now to predict fat and protein composition of beef carcasses.

Weight of fat in a hollow probe (something like your dentist uses to tell if you have a cavity) and observation of the percentage of fat area in the rib cross section are two best prediction means.

W. Dean Frischknecht, animal husbandry specialist, outlines production testing systems. First, each cow and calf must be identified so cows are credited for each calf produced. Calf records should be kept on weight, grade, adjusted weight to 205 days of age or weight per day of age, corrected adjusted weight for age of dam, and calf's number.

All this is pretty technical. But the housewife should understand that more efficiently produced beef will give her better quality meat. OSC scientists know their research must be aimed at the housewife. They are studying trends of nutrition consciousness—vitamin C added to juices, enriched breads, etc.—that more women are working part time, requiring more quick-to-cook foods, more food at a lower price is being sought.

Some time ago we noted in this column that as long as the housewife demanded "convenience foods" she could expect to pay higher prices for them. Compared to other products, food products are today's bargain, even "convenience foods."

Incomes have risen 44 per cent since 1947-1949 while food costs have climbed only 19 per cent, according to the United States Department of Agriculture consumer price index.

Yet, people are slow to grab this bargain. We now spend only 22 per cent of our disposable income or take-home pay for food compared to the former 25 per cent.

Stockmen are just becoming aware that beef must compete for the housewife's food budget money. The housewife pushes her grocery cart past shelves in an average supermarket containing 5,000 different food items. Such a store in 1940 carried only 1,000 different food items.

J. C. Miller, head of the department of dairy and animal husbandry, explained the coordinated livestock program at OSC. The aim is to conduct research to find the answer to livestock problems, to provide sound classroom instruction for all students, and to make research findings available to the farmers and ranchers through publications, the extension service and group meetings.

To carry out this program is a department of 21 trained specialists all holding advanced degrees from 10 leading colleges and universities in the United States. Assisting them are 12 graduate assistants working for master's and doctor's degrees. Backing these two groups are the herdsmen and office force.

Farmers may be paying substantially higher prices for their hay since Oregon hay stocks have been reported a third smaller than a year earlier. Main reason for the decrease is that Oregon farmers sold and fed hay at a record rate from January through April this year, say OSC economists.

Other factors complicate the hay situation. Prospects for future hay in Oregon this year look 83 per cent of normal. That's a little lower than last year and six per cent below average, according to OSC agricultural economists.

The water supply forecast for spring and summer doesn't help any. Forecasts for April-September streamflow are below normal for all streams except the Lostine river, agricultural economists report. Oregon mountains' snowpack was 61 per cent of normal for April 1 and has melted rapidly since.

Uncle Sam has been buying lots of eggs but OSC ag economists report no apparent effect on stabilizing egg prices, as of May 13. Actually, U. S. egg prices have dropped. USDA purchases have removed only a part of the total weekly production. The USDA so far has purchased 60,500 cases of shell eggs. To become effective the government would have to buy at least five times this amount, the economists say. They predict this program, extremely heavy slaughter of hens, and heavy movement to breakers will turn the egg prices upward eventually. However, locally the housewife can still buy three dozen small eggs for \$1.17.



REBUILD WAGON—Harry Gay, on top, and Les Baker, adjusting wheel, are two of the Phoenix Future Farmers of America chapter members working on a wagon for the Jackson county 4-H wagon trek this summer. Each of the FFA chapters in the county—Phoenix, Eagle Point and Crater at Central Point—are repairing and rebuilding wagons for the trip. The Jackson county 4-H group plans to leave Jacksonville on June 8 for one week of 4-H summer school at Corvallis. They have enough wagons but badly need horses, according to Glenn Klein, county 4-H agent.

Beef Test Group To Meet June 1

The organizational meeting for the Oregon Beef Cattle Production Testing association will be held in Redmond, Monday, June 1, at 9 a.m., according to Earle Jossy, county agent.

Interested cattlemen met in Redmond last February and, after discussing the desirability and operation of a testing association, appointed a committee to study the problem. The committee has completed its work and will report at this meeting.

Purpose of this organization will be to further the improvement of beef cattle and the use of proven scientific testing methods in the breeding and selection of beef cattle, Jossy said. The organization hopes to provide the Oregon cattle industry with practical standards for measuring the production and performance of beef cattle, and personnel for advisory and supervisory services, and to encourage education, research and development on subjects relative to the improvement of beef cattle, the county agent said. The organization will assemble and record data on the production and performance of tested cattle in Oregon and to affiliate with the Performance Registry International.

Cattle breeders who are interested in attending this meeting can call the county agent at the county extension office for further information. Transportation will be pooled to save mileage, if desired.

Silage Storage Explained by Agent

By EARLE JOSSY
Jackson County Extension Agent

Silage wilted in the field is more nutritious and more palatable than forage stored by other methods.

Forage ensiled immediately after cutting may contain as much as 80 per cent moisture. Ensilage in this moist condition may produce silage with a putrid odor unless a good preservative is used. High moisture silage is almost certain to lose much value in seepage. This often amounts to 10 per cent of the total dry matter.

Wilting from two to six hours will reduce the moisture to the ideal of 60 to 65 per cent. At this stage a double handful of newly chopped forage compressed between the two hands for 30 seconds will open slowly when released and there will be very little free moisture. If the ball remains tight and there is much free water, the forage is too wet. When too dry, the ball will spring apart rapidly.

Forage is stored in silos of many types—bunkers, pits and upright silos are preferred in Jackson County in about that order. Many stockmen and dairymen are using bunker silos and self-feeding the forage by use of movable racks which allow the cattle to move forward as the feed is used.

Capacity Varies
Silo capacity varies with the depth. Well-packed silage 10 feet deep will weigh 30 to 35 pounds per cubic foot; 10 to 15 feet deep, it weighs 35

to 40 pounds, above 15 feet in upright silos it will weigh 45 pounds per cubic foot.

Cows fed silage as the main source of forage will eat about 1 1/4 tons of silage per month.

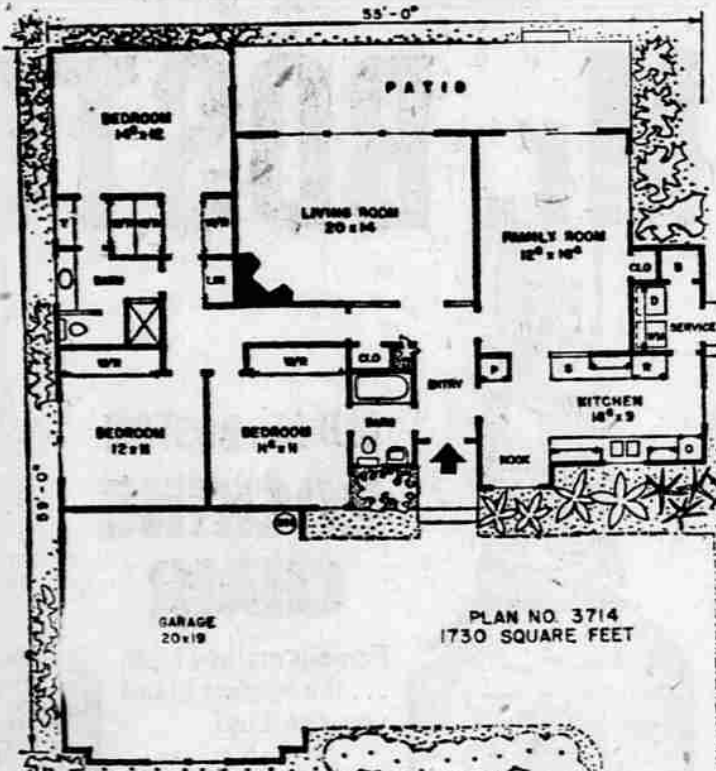
A field chopper, self-unloading wagons or dump trucks are essential for efficient handling of green forage. The forage must be evenly distributed and well packed. A wheel tractor with a bucket or blade is good for this purpose. The silage taken out of a silo can be no better than the forage put in. The crop is

best cut at the early bloom and should contain a good percentage of legumes to grass.

Pit or bunker silos should be sealed to avoid excessive top spoilage. Sawdust spread four inches deep and wet down has worked well—plastic silo covers covered with a thin layer of sawdust or soil are ideal. Top spoilage on well packed silos will be limited to 8 to 12 inches.

For further information on making and feeding silage call at the county extension office or write for PNW Bulletin 14.

This Week's Home of Distinction



There is no doubt that the ranch style home is by far the most popular design with prospective builders today.

Here is a home that not only offers a good basic ranch style exterior, but also an up-to-date floor plan which is hard to beat. It incorporates all the outstanding features which surveys have shown are most desirable by modern home builders.

Textural contrast has been provided on the front elevation by the use of both vertical and horizontal wood siding, a cedar shake roof, wood double-hung windows and brick veneer, planter, step and front entry landing. The kitchen nook extends past the front kitchen wall to supply additional eating space and at the same time add interest to the exterior design by providing a break in the eave overhang at the front.

The entry leads to a center hall from which every room in the home is accessible. This is the most desired feature in any home today. Both the living room and family room are at the rear of the home. The family room and partially roofed patio flow together through the large aluminum sliding doors.

The plan provides three wardrobes and a large dressing table in the master bedroom with access to the three quarter bath from the dressing room and the hall. The oversized bath has a long pullman lavatory, a water closet concealed behind a partial wall with swinging doors, and a king-size shower. The family bath is between the front bedroom and entry, where it is available to the work and

play areas as well as one bedroom.

The planter next to the entry closet will receive ample light from the large living room windows over the partial wall used to separate the hall from the living room.

The water heater is in the garage for easier servicing and where it will not damage the floor in case it should develop a leak. The forced air heater is located in the attic to conserve space.

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

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