

Dry and Cull Cow Tagging System Now in Operation

Salem — Small plastic tags which Oregon cattle will carry from country brand inspection points or auction markets to the slaughterhouse—whether it be in Oregon, Colorado, California or some other western state—are now being applied by the state's brand inspectors.

The tags will be glued on the left shoulder of all dry and cull cows. They tell where the animals originated and are the key to the new simplified method of re-certifying counties and state for brucellosis.

Fred Pope, animal division chief for the state department of agriculture, says this is how the new program works: Presence of the tag is a signal to blood test for brucellosis wherever the animal is slaughtered. Blood samples will be sent to the State-Federal Brucellosis Laboratory at Salem and submitted to the agglutination test. If the test is clean, the herd of origin and the county will be given credit towards recertification. If it shows a reactor, it will also be credited to the herd and the rest of the eligible cattle blood tested.

To Tag Cull Cows
Department representatives will place tags only on dry and cull cows. In all years, tags will be placed as the cows first come into the yard and this will be done quickly so it will not slow the fast moving operations.

Pope points out that this is an important innovation for the cattleman. It greatly reduces the on-the-ranch testing which has been going on for years. At the same time, the tagging system will bring to light any reactors and pinpoint the need for herd blood tests.

While the tags are a "must" for blood tests in whatever state they appear, Oregon will continue to test all eligible cattle sent to slaughter here.

The tagging plan has been under study by federal and state officials for more than two years. It has gone through field tests, both here and in other states, and is now starting full-scale operation. Seventeen western states have received the "go ahead" signal for the tagging system and other states are expected to adopt it, making the program nationwide.

In addition to being a new tool for re-certification, the tagging system has been approved by the federal Agricultural Research Service for use in brucellosis programs in states which have not yet reached original modified certified status. Oregon reached that status last July and all work done now is to maintain that status.

Crater FFA Plans Ag Newspaper

By DELMER SMITH
Crater FFA Reporter
Central Point — Crater chapter Future Farmers of America plans to publish its news bulletin again this year as it did last year.

This bulletin is a mimeographed letter consisting of from four to six pages. It is composed of articles written by chapter members.

These articles are condensed from college bulletins and leading farm magazines. This gives many boys an opportunity to get experience in writing. The purpose of this news bulletin is to inform farmers on latest farm developments. The stories cover topics like new veterinary techniques, livestock feeding, soil management and many others.

News bulletin editor this year is Larry Ryerson. He also holds down the job of chapter secretary. He is a hard worker in both jobs. He has a project of poultry this year and is an assistant shop teacher in v-o-g.

Gary Meade is assistant editor. He has a crop project this year consisting of ten acres of barley. Meade assigns articles to member boys, collects them and proof reads them. Larry proof reads them again and then Ryerson and Meade put the bulletin together. The boys hope to obtain advertising and have the bulletin printed instead of mimeographed. Approximately 200 adults who have taken courses in agriculture at Crater High school receive this news bulletin. The FFA members would like to have the names of anybody in the area that would like to have this newsletter sent to them. If you would like to have the boys mail you one, please phone NO 4-1103.

CHIT CHAT

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

You don't really appreciate the miracle of modern transportation until something happens to you personally to convince you of its magic.

The other day we received a copy of the wife's hometown newspaper, the Walsh County Journal. This bi-weekly, full of newsy personal items, carried a big story of the annual potato harvest celebration of the Red River area of North Dakota and Minnesota. After reading the story we went to the grocery store and bought a sack of potatoes from that area.

These potatoes cost us 50 cents more than the same size sack of Oregon potatoes and they were peanut size compared to the man-sized Klamath variety. However, the point is that distance is a small handicap now in marketing agricultural products. That is why Oregon farmers must use money and effort in backing commodity commissions for their products. Oregon potatoes must compete with North Dakota potatoes. Dry beef must compete with midwestern beef. Many other state products could be included in this list.

If Oregon products are to compete favorably they must be advertised, promoted and finally sold. Considering fast transportation farm products no longer sell on a California market, Oregon market or New York market. They are selling actually, on a national market.

Oregon cranberry growers are in trouble. This current quarantine on southwest Washington and Oregon cranberries is much more serious than the mere possibility of not having red cranberry sauce with your Thanksgiving and Christmas turkeys might indicate. Oregon cranberries are grown in the northern Oregon coastal areas, such as Coos Bay, Albany, and southwestern Washington area. Cranberries bring a comparatively small revenue compared to other products such as beef and wheat, yes. But they are an important crop to specific areas just as pears are important to the Medford pear district.

And that brings up an interesting point. What do you suppose would happen if our pear industry faced a similar shipping stoppage? We guarantee pear growers' shotguns would swing on something else besides clay pigeons. What guarantee do you have that the pear industry couldn't be faced with a similar problem in the future? It's too late to yell when a runaway regulation switched onto a publicity-greased straight track roars down on top of you.

Let's ponder the situation. Two shipments of Pacific Northwest cranberries have been found to be contaminated by a chemical which induces cancer in rats, according to a story from the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C. One shipment was sent to California from Oregon and another from southwest Washington into Oregon. A chemical weed killer was recommended by the department of agriculture in 1958 for use ONLY AFTER cranberries have been harvested. This recommendation came too late for the 1957 crop. Part of it was sprayed with weed killer.

The sprayed cranberries from the 1957 crop are being buried near Albany and Coquille, Ore., and at Centralia and Markham, Wash. Burial of this estimated 3 million pounds, according to the news story, will take until Christmas.

We have a number of questions. Why would the cranberry growers commit the same costly error in spraying again? The berries certainly must have been sampled and tested at the processing plants before they were shipped. Why weren't they caught then? How could two large shipments of cranberries get through the shipping point inspectors at two widely divergent points such as near the Oregon-Washington border and the Oregon-California border? Are rats on which the sprayed berries were tested more prone to cancer than humans? Why this big fuss now? Why didn't this attract more attention last year when the "contaminated" 1957 crop was being sold?

Don't say this couldn't happen here because it could. Maybe not the same situation but a similar one. Our agricultural economy seems to be a closely knit one. What happens to one part of it can and often does affect the other part. For instance, some people might say what's a turkey without cranberry sauce and then the turkey sales start to drop off. We like cranberry sauce with our turkey. But, with this current alarm—Oh well, anyone for stuffed beef?

Understanding Aids Beef Promotion Idea

Portland, Ore. — A solid foundation of understanding is necessary at all levels to insure success of beef promotion or other worthy beef industry objectives, the president of the American National Cattlemen's association declared here today.

G. R. "Jack" Milburn, Grass Range, Mont., speaking at the annual convention of the Oregon Cattlemen's association here, said that Oregon's campaign to develop a practical beef promotion program succeeded "because you gained the understanding and support of all segments of agriculture to help you win your recent referendum."

Milburn described efforts of the national cattlemen's organization, of which the Oregon association is one of 29 affiliated state cattle groups, to secure nationwide understanding for cattlemen's attempts at setting up a "generally acceptable" program of producer controlled and financed beef promotion, research and education.

"In a democracy, not all people walk the same path," he observed. "So sometimes we must agree to disagree while pledging not to step on each other's toes."

He explained that programs successful in some areas can not be put into practice elsewhere because of local laws or producers' wishes. "Other groups can learn from your successes and applaud you for them," he said. "But a strong national program will come only from solution of individual problems at the state level first and in their own way and in their own time."

The beef cattle industry and many other American businesses must develop widespread understanding for problems caused them by excessive imports, the executive secretary of American National Cattlemen's association said Wednesday at the OCA meeting.

C. W. "Bill" McMillan of Denver, Colo., outlined the need for a "reeducation" program for congress and the administration in a talk before the annual convention

Sheep, Wool Days Program Slated Friday, Saturday

Corvallis — Production and marketing discussions will highlight the state's first Sheep and Wool Days program at Oregon State college, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13 and 14, according to Dr. D. C. Church, animal husbandman at the OSC agricultural experiment station.

Participants will view research being done at OSC on lamb feedings and Hampshire breeding. Various methods of evaluating grades of wool, staple lengths, shrinkages and grease prices per pound will be demonstrated.

The first day's program will feature a talk by G. Alvin Carpenter, livestock marketing specialist at the University of California, on producer problems in lamb grading and marketing.

Other talks scheduled for Friday include: influence of red clover pasture on reproduction by Dr. F. F. McKenzie, OSC animal husbandman; lamb feeding studies by Church; lamb marketing in the northwest by Pross Clark, secretary of the Portland Livestock Exchange; recent results of sheep breeding research by R. L. Blackwell, director of the U. S. department of agriculture sheep breeding laboratory at Dubois, Idaho; and a report on lamb taste panel efforts by Lois Sather of the OSC food and dairy technology department.

Foot rot in sheep will be discussed by Dr. J. A. B. McArthur, superintendent of the Union branch experiment station; Dr. Dean Smith, OSC veterinarian; and Dr. J. M. Kovach, veterinarian from La Grande.

Doug Chambers, president of Cascade Meats, Inc., Salem, will speak at the dinner on "Livestock in Color."

Saturday's program, scheduled to end at noon, will feature talks by Dr. J. E. Oldfield, OSC animal husbandman, on the white muscle problem in sheep and Blackwell's discussion on inheritance of wool characteristics.

Roy A. Ward, general manager, Pacific Wool Growers, Portland, will talk on marketing of valley wools; and M. D. Fell, wool buyer for the Pendleton Woolen Mills, Portland, will speak on marketing of range wools.

Hort Men to Hear U.S. Ag Official

Corvallis — Two nationally-known speakers will keynote the Oregon State Horticultural Society's 74th annual meeting, Nov. 19 and 20, at Oregon State College.

A former Oregonian, Ervin L. Peterson, assistant secretary of the U.S. department of agriculture, will speak at the Friday morning general assembly. His talk, titled "Yesterday, Today or Tomorrow," will follow the theme of the meeting which is to review the past 100 years and explore the future of the state's fruit and vegetable industry.

J. Roger Deas, of the American Can Company is New York City, will talk on "America's Secret Weapon" at the Thursday evening banquet. Deas also is a former west coast resident, having lived in California much of his life.

Thursday afternoon's general assembly will feature a discussion on marketing by OSC agricultural economists, H. F. Hollands, G. E. Korzan and G. B. Wood.

Most of the meeting is divided into four sections for growers of vegetable crops, apples and pears, stone fruits, and small fruits to discuss their special interests.

About 1000 growers, fieldmen, scientists and other agricultural leaders are expected to attend the two-day meeting to study new developments in production and marketing. Sectional meetings will begin Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

Bacteria Attacks Protein in Wool, Hair

Melbourne, Australia (Science Service) — A rod-shaped spore-forming bacterium has been identified that can attack the protein in wool and hair. Researcher G. S. Molyneux of the United Dental Hospital, Sydney, Australia, reports that the bacterium uses wool as its sole source of nitrogen; in experiments it attacked sheep's wool more rapidly than human hair. A pink pigment is also produced by the bacterium as it "eats" wool, the scientist says in the current Australian Journal of Biological Sciences. This may be a factor in "pink rot," a disease of sheep.



PREFERS TRACTOR SEAT—Mrs. Dora Dorich, veteran farmerette, prefers the tractor seat to the rocking chair. This 62-year-old woman remarked recently, "Nobody is going to take my tractor work away from me." She does most of the work on her leased 72-acre farm on Hanley rd. across from the Southern Oregon Branch experiment station. She employs occasional part time help and sometimes a full crew for her walnut and rhubarb harvests.



TOP SOW—This 500 pound sow is considered the top sow on the Dora Dorich farm on Hanley rd. across from Southern Oregon Branch experiment station. This purebred Landrace sow has just farrowed her fourth litter, producing 10 offspring. The first litter numbered 12, the second 11, the third, 15.

High Cost of Money Hits Borrowing Farmers Now

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Farmers and ranchers may face a new kind of squeeze brought about by the high cost of money, a Washington, D. C. farm credit spokesman warned.

Addressing the Federal Land Bank of Wichita's Stockholders' Conference meeting here recently, Fred W. Gilmore, Director of Land Bank Service, Farm Credit Administration, pointed to increasing demands on the nation's money supply as a fact that is being felt down on the farm.

Said Gilmore: "Increased borrowings by business, industry and individuals continue to be the order of the day. For example, during the last three years, consumer credit has jumped \$8 billion—from \$40 billion to \$48 billion. And during the last two years the total residential real estate debt has increased \$20 billion. Due to such increased demands for money all along the line, money is scarce and is getting scarcer. It's no wonder interest rates have shot upward."

Short of a recession, the farm credit official sees little easing in the tight money market situation. High Interest to Continue
"There is more and more thinking in informed circles that we may have to learn to live with relatively high interest rates," Gilmore observed.

The farm credit official was optimistic, however, in the ability of the 12 Federal land banks to continue to keep loan funds available for its farmer - members. "Loanable funds are obtainable by the land banks," Gilmore said, "through the sale of bonds to the investing public."

In their efforts to expand, modernize and to otherwise increase the efficiency of their farming operations, farmers are using more credit, Gilmore reported.

During the year ended June 30, farmers took out \$4,363 land bank loans, Gilmore said, on which they borrowed \$459 million of new money. This represents a 37 per cent increase in number and 68 per cent increase in amount over the previous year. "New money" does not include the refinancing of balances of old land bank loans. Gilmore said that farmers now have \$2.3 billion in loans outstanding through their land banks. Farmers obtain first mort-

Why Sit and Rock at 62? That's the Time To Farm

At an age when most people would be content to sit in a rocking chair on the front porch and watch other people do the farm work, Mrs. Dora Dorich is a full-time farmer at 62.

"I do my restin' in the tractor seat," she remarked, her blue eyes twinkling beneath a floppy-brimmed work hat. "I won't do all the heavy lifting or other hard muscle work, but nobody is going to take my tractor work away from me!"

Mrs. Dorich enjoys doing the work she has done all her life on her leased 72-acre farm on Hanley rd. There she raises 300 hogs, 65 purebred Landrace breed. This is the increasingly popular meat-type hog developed in the Scandinavian countries to meet the growing demand for more lean meat and less fat.

Of the 65 hogs, 50 of them are sows, three are boars and 10 or 15 are pigs of all ages. The remaining hogs are bred up to seven-eighths of the purebred Landrace and sold as weaners. Excellence of her hogs was proven this year when a Ralston Purina company representative in Hawaii put in an order for some of Mrs. Dorich's hogs to be shipped across the Pacific. Hawaii is a land where a roast pig is the main dish in a traditional native feast.

"Just plain dirt farmer" might be the best way to describe this slight, small (5 feet, 2 inches, tall) female farmer. She puts in a 14-hour day seven days a week with an occasional day off to spend with her family.

She is familiar with the horsepower in a tractor and also the four-footed kind of horsepower. Before she leased her present farm across from the new Southern Oregon branch experiment station she farmed with horses at the E. K. Anderson place in the Talent area. There she raised hogs and grain.

As you watch this energetic little woman talk to her hogs as she pushes them into position for a better view by the visitor you realize raising hogs is a labor of love. Each has a name.

"Sure, they're gentle. I practically adopted hogs after I started raising 'em," Mrs. Dorich remarked.

The farmerette has always been the farmer in the family. Up to her husband's death, three years she did the farming and her husband worked in a lumber mill or in the woods. Now, as then, she does most of the farm work herself, with three-days-a-week hired help. During the rhubarb season and when the few walnut trees on her farm need harvesting she hires extra help. Her comparatively small amount of rhubarb she sells to truckers.

Her family skill was bred into her from the time she grew up on the family homestead in Nebraska, famous for its hog and grain crops. Her farm on Hanley rd. is tailored to her simple, frugal needs. The large barn and one or two equipment sheds were on the place when she leased it originally. She got some scrap lumber from a nearby lumber mill for pens and hog sheds.

Mrs. Dorich farrows 14 sows at a time with each in its own farrowing pen with infra-red bulbs providing the right temperature and a hot-water

heater warming the drinking water. In the spring Mrs. Dorich will turn her hogs out into an adjacent sugar-beet field. This veteran farmerette raises her own corn. She considers Ida Hybrid 44 the best. She is also trying out some field corn recommended by the experiment station across the road. She raises some oats, barley and some wheat. By raising most of her feed she figures she can cut her costs at a time when the hog market is in the doldrums.

Has Large Litters

By careful handling and feeding the second litter sows average over nine little pigs. Many breeders try for 10 and 14 is considered tops.

Mrs. Dorich used to be in the nursery business, but just plain farming suits her best. At one time, too, she bred and raised burros. However, neighborhood children used to steal rides on the colts before they could carry much weight. Mrs. Dorich became so tired of having to constantly fend off the children from seriously injuring her four-footed pets she finally gave up this sideline. Farming, after all, is her main business.

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