

Ag. Dept. Says Watch Out For Sheep Scabies

Salem — Sheep scabies has been diagnosed at Longmont, Colorado, according to notification to the Oregon department of agriculture.

While the outbreak is minor and all exposed animals, cattle included, have been treated, the manner in which it came to Colorado should serve as a warning to Oregon livestock men. Oregon officials assert.

The disease was introduced in Colorado by the illegal movement of seven ewes from Pennsylvania, where sheep scabies is a problem in several areas. The Pennsylvania animals were moved from a scabies area without a permit and without prior dipping and treatment.

Issuance of a permit by the state of destination enables veterinarians to check and supervise treatment of exposed animals upon arrival. As result of disregard of this health protection, all Colorado sheep now moving into other states will have to be dipped and be moved under a permit.

Oregon sheep raisers, says Dr. M. R. Woulfe of the department veterinary staff, are familiar with the extent of scabies in the east and mid-west. Compliance with important requirements, he added, will keep Oregon clear of this menace.

Oregon Tightens Requirements on Livestock Import

Salem — Livestock from other states will find it a bit harder to enter Oregon as result of tightened requirements announced by the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Henceforth, all out-of-state animals entering Oregon stockyards for other than slaughter purposes must be health tested in the first yard, unless they have met full health requirements prior to entry.

However, Oregon will accept cattle from clean herds in modified certified areas if they are accompanied by either an official health certificate or a written evidence of such clean status by an authorized official of the state of origin. Authorized officials include brand inspectors, livestock officers and veterinarians.

Oregon will not accept swine which have been vaccinated with virulent live hog cholera virus. Also, horses must have health certificates and all show animals must meet all the health requirements.

These are chief changes in amendments signed Nov. 30 to Oregon's livestock importation regulations. Copies may be obtained from the Department's division of animal industry, Salem.

Western Oregon Continues Tests

Salem — Deputy state veterinarians in western Oregon will continue brucellosis and tuberculosis testing of small herds the same as they have in the past, the state department of agriculture announced this week.

In the brucellosis and tuberculosis program, infected herds in eastern Oregon will be tested by state and federal veterinarians.

Also in eastern Oregon, testing of herds for recertification will also be done by state and federal men except in emergencies. Cattlemen requiring an emergency testing should contact the department's closest area veterinarian or the main office at Salem to obtain permission to have testing done by a private practitioner deputized by the state.

Brucellosis vaccination in all areas will be carried out by the private practitioners deputized by the state.

Don't Pay Top Price For C Grade Turkey

Salem — Persons who buy turkeys should be aware that Oregon law requires labeling as to grade A, B, or C. If turkeys offered for sale are not labeled as to grade, buyers may find themselves paying a top grade price for a lower grade bird, the state department of agriculture points out.

Grades appearing on all turkeys offered for sale in Oregon are federal grades which are recognized by the state law.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Let the buyer beware is an old Latin phrase which applies to today's housewife as well as those in ancient Rome. California has lately recognized the truth to this old saying by establishing a "consumer counsel" this year in its state capital offices. Oregon has recognized the importance of protecting the buying public by first, establishing the state department of agriculture and secondly, placing a housewife on the state board of agriculture, an advisory group, to represent the consumer.

People who are close to the state board of agriculture say this housewife is doing a fine job in closely checking the food markets. When she finds something substandard she makes a thorough investigation and reports her findings to the rest of the board. Such a woman certainly is a vital member of the board. Unfortunately, under the new state law on organization of the state board of agriculture a consumer representative has been left out. This new law specifies that the board's members must represent some phase of agriculture. It does not provide for geographical distribution. All board members, could come from the Willamette valley, for instance. Nor does this new law provide for commodity representations.

Until the new law becomes effective Jan. 1, the board is represented by commodities—grain, livestock, horticulture, dairy, diversified farming and by consumer interests. It includes representatives from Ontario, Portland, Willamette valley, Milton Freewater, Eugene and Medford.

Indications are that the board members themselves do not like the new law. Those who remain after Jan. 1 will probably try to have some changes made. One of those who is not sure whether he will remain or whether Gov. Mark Hatfield will replace him is Ward Spatz, a member of the pear industry here and a board representative for horticulture and southern Oregon area.

Ward has served both southern Oregon and state agriculture. It might be a good idea for the farmers of this area to write the governor to assure his reappointment. The women, at least, should realize how important it is for the consumers to be represented on the state board of agriculture. The Granges and Farm Bureaus could do some real good here by writing letters insisting on appointment of a housewife to represent the state's consumers or other housewives. Everybody knows the woman does most of the family buying these days.

Recently, we received a report from the University of Idaho agricultural college on fruit and vegetable marketing facilities in retail grocery stores in three Idaho counties. Do you know you are buying good, fresh vegetables and fruit in your grocery store? Are you sure? The people at the University of Idaho weren't sure so they came up with this study. If it hasn't been done already this is something which might be done in southern Oregon.

Here's what trained investigators found out. A survey of 269 retail grocery stores in Ada, Bannock and Kootenai counties revealed most stores sold either fresh or frozen or both forms of fruits and vegetables. A few small isolated rural stores did not.

The investigators did not study the quality of fresh fruits and vegetables directly, but they did check on how often fruits and vegetables were delivered to the stores, and if produce was placed in refrigeration. A large percentage of the stores did not refrigerate their produce, especially in Kootenai county. A half to three-fourths of the stores had three deliveries a week, at least.

Frozen fruits and vegetables were sold by a large percentage of the stores. However isolated rural stores were less likely to stock this type of produce. From 6 per cent to 28 per cent of the unaffiliated independent stores did not refrigerate their fresh produce. Most large stores had day-time refrigeration of fresh produce, but the proportions of medium-sized and small stores with day-time refrigeration varied with the county. The type of shopping area affected the percentage of stores carrying frozen fruits and vegetables. At least 82 per cent of the stores in the various shopping areas carried frozen fruits and vegetables.

So what? So these farmers producing fruits and vegetables might do something about seeing their fruits and vegetables are properly refrigerated and displayed so more of their farm products are sold. It might mean that they should deliver more often to the smaller stores which don't have and can't afford the expensive refrigeration equipment. Or, they might insist that their wholesalers watch the displays of their fruits and vegetables more closely.

The Ford Almanac advises: take a close look at your income tax. How can you avoid it? . . . Buy, sell, do what you can now to cut tax . . . Why not just quit and go to work for the government? . . . Be thankful you don't have to sell this month . . . How about the brother-in-law? . . . Each rat costs you at least \$5; put out bait . . . How about the rats in politics? . . . Buy Mom a Christmas present that expresses your love and thank her for wonderful help throughout the year. That's a good idea. As you start to raise your own kids you wonder how she ever did it. Pop, too!

You have heard it many times—Oregon can feed its own cattle. Now comes the High Dollar Farming and reports this month that the west is feeding its own cattle. However, this news letter includes only California, Colorado, Texas and Arizona. These four states have stepped up cattle feeding 52 per cent in the last four years. Feeding has increased from 24 per cent in 1955 to 24 per cent.

Why this development? More acres and higher yields of grain sorghum is a good source of feed near feeder cattle supply. Also, California's growth in population and income is increasing the west's demand for beef.

As this farm newsletter points out, this is a new opportunity for western farmers and ranchers to earn more money. According to present population trends there will be plenty to go around so midwest farmers needn't fear the competition.

Last Sunday we drove through the Applegate country. The air was sharp and clear above the forested hills with their light caps of snow. We drove down through Provolt and glimpsed an old car junk heap along the lower Applegate. Perhaps instead of merely a Bear Creek pollution committee we should have a county-wide committee to correct unsightly and unsanitary conditions for all our river and streams. Perhaps the people of the Applegate will do something about it through the Grange or the Applegate Cattleman's association. We have noticed Applegate's people don't take long to act.

On the Sunday drive we noticed some dairy farms up for sale. It seems to be the usual process of the little farms disappearing and the big farms getting bigger. It takes three things to be a top dairyman, according to High Dollar Farming—A midwestern dairyman should aim for 350,000 to 500,000 pounds of milk per man with about 30 to 40 cows per man. C. L. Pellissier, extension dairyman recommends 70-cow herds per man with a goal of 450 pounds of butterfat per cow for California where dairy farms are more specialized.

American Cyanamid company is producing a chemical called CCC—but still in the research stage. This chemical makes plants short and stocky and gives them tougher stems. It may affect the flowering and production of some crops.

In 1909, food provided almost 3,600 calories per day per person compared with about 3,200 today, mainly because a smaller portion of the population is doing the heavy labor that requires more calories.

Purdue university animal scientists say good legume pasture is "unexcelled for bred sows and gilts."

Three out of five U.S. farm homes had telephone service in 1958.

Federal, State Vets to Handle Small Herd Tests

Salem — Due to a cut in funds the State Department of Agriculture advises that only state or federal vets will be used in the annual testing of small dairy herds not reached by the milk ring test. This means dairying operations ranging from one to five cows. Also, all retesting of infected herds will now be done by state or federal veterinarians.

Eastern Oregon counties not designated as primary dairy counties will be most affected by this change inasmuch as the reduction in funds hit the fee testing operations. Previously the minimum dairy herd was tested by the private veterinarians who hold deputy state veterinarian assignments in the disease control program.

If an emergency exists and it is impossible for a state or federal veterinarian to do the work, owners should apply to the department at Salem for permission to have another veterinarian do the testing.

Dr. L. E. Bodenweiser, state veterinarian, also announces that anyone wishing to have one cow tested on an annual basis, or at the time of sale or trade, must secure the services of and pay for a private veterinarian.

Jackson County Clover Producer

Salem — The Ladino Clover Commission elected Kenneth Harris of Madras as its new chairman, at its semi-annual meeting held in Corvallis recently. Roy Stevenson, Madras, was elected vice-chairman, and Willis Freeman, Madras, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Nearly all Oregon production of ladino clover seed is in Jefferson county, with the remainder in Josephine and Jackson counties.

Ladino clover seed acreage in Jefferson county was reduced by winter kill several years ago, since then commission funds from assessments on growers' sales have been very limited.

Commission efforts last year included cooperation in an Oregon Seed Council survey of seed marketing possibilities in the far east. This past summer the Commission joined the Seed Council in sponsoring the Oregon visit of a German seed team.

Jefferson county has some new ladino clover seed acreage which should show increased yields following a short crop this year.

Secondaries Set For Fertilizers

Salem — Nine secondary elements may be included in fertilizers offered for sale or sold in Oregon after Jan. 1.

The state department of agriculture says when such elements are used they must meet minimum units now established by the department and when claimed, the label must list the name and amount of the secondary element.

Elements authorized for use and the minimum amount which will be recognized are: calcium, 1 per cent; magnesium and sulfur, each 0.5 per cent; copper, iron and manganese, each 0.1 per cent; boron, molybdenum and zinc, each 0.01 per cent.

After Jan. 1 the state will analyze against the secondary element label claims the same as it does for the primary elements, according to J. D. Patterson, the department's chief chemist.

The order establishing the secondary elements in the fertilizer guarantees follows a public hearing held last month.

Codling Moth Said Top Pest

Salem — Codling moths and cattle grubs hold first place again this year in the listings of the most undesirable pests present in Oregon, the state department of agriculture reports. But some new ones appear in the 10 "most important" pests picked in two categories.

Newcomers to the pests of crop and forest are bark beetles, black poplar beetle, gray garden slug and the corn earworm. Holdovers are the pear psylla, western cherry fruit fly, aphids, the garden symphylid and spruce budworm.

The annual selection of the ten most important pests of man, animals and household includes, besides cattle grubs: horn flies, cattle lice, mosquitoes, carpet beetles, termites, earwigs, sheep head, houseflies

Revised Brucellosis Test Rules Given by Ag Dept.

Salem — Revised regulations governing the brucellosis and tuberculosis testing program in Oregon were announced this week by the state department of agriculture. Revisions were hammered out in sessions of the official state brucellosis advisory committee and the voluntary brucellosis committee with department officials. They are geared to the modified certified status the state now holds.

One of the major changes relates to the handling of cattle held in herds quarantined for brucellosis. At present, some 220 herds are under quarantine of the 34,785 herds on department records.

Henceforth, to remove an animal from a quarantined herd, permission must first be obtained from the state department of agriculture, one of its assistant state veterinarians or from federal veterinarians in the field.

"Painful experience and expensive futile prosecutions under the old system with its numerous exceptions leads us to adopt the new and tighter program, which will apply to fewer and fewer herds as time goes on," says Dr. M. R. Woulfe, assistant state veterinarian.

Another important change prohibits the home slaughter

of Bang's reactors. Such reactors must now be slaughtered at slaughter plants under either state, municipal or federal meat inspection. This means protection for consumers everywhere and eliminates the cost of sending state officials to farms to supervise the slaughter of reactors. It will also take the confusion out of indemnity payments. Owners will receive indemnity when animals are slaughtered at licensed plants.

A third major change requires that all cattle brucellosis or tuberculosis status of which cannot be readily determined will be tested at the first auction yard they enter. These same animals will require a second test on the ranch or farm of destination in not less than 30 days after the first test.

Under the new cull and dry cow testing program, when a producer takes an animal direct to a meat plant or sells cattle through an auction yard for slaughter he should insist that the animals be tagged for identification. It is only by this means that the department can credit his ranch and county with the blood test from samples at slaughter. The various combination of letters and numbers on the tag permits officials to trace back to origin.

Farm Notes

Washington — (UPI) — Agriculture department officials plan to begin sending contract forms later this week to farmers, processors and food dealers who want to sell hormone-treated caponettes to the government.

Poultrymen and the food industry agreed voluntarily last week to remove treated birds from the market at the request of Arthur S. Fleming, secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

Fleming also obtained from drug producers a voluntary agreement to stop sales of the produce-stilbestrol-for use in poultry. Stilbestrol is a synthetic female sex hormone which has been known to produce cancer in laboratory animals.

The Agriculture Department said last Friday it was ready to accept offers to sell treated caponettes to the government. A department spokesman said a few offers were received Monday and contract forms might be sent out later in the week.

Washington — (UPI) — The Farm Bureau Federation has launched a campaign to promote cranberries for Christmas dinner.

The bureau has asked state farm bureaus and the food industry to join the sales promotion campaign. The move is aimed at countering the after-effects of the Thanksgiving cranberry cancer scare.

Washington — (UPI) — More than 400 young farmers opened the 25th annual convention of the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association here Monday.

Boys and girls attending the meeting are winners of state or regional vegetable growing, judging, and marketing contests.

Washington — (UPI) — The Tariff Commission announced today it would hold a public hearing March 22 to consider the effects of lamb and mutton imports on U.S. sheep growers.

The Tariff Commission study originally was requested by groups including the National Wool Growers Association and the National Lamb Feeders Association.

State Condemns 65 Meter Units

Salem — The state department of agriculture's two-meter testing units tested 2713 bulk delivery meters the past year and condemned 65, or about 2.4 per cent, for repair.

W. B. Steele, in charge of the weights and measures program, says another 852 meters were adjusted to work within tolerances permitted by the state.

The tests were on gasoline and fuel oil meters used at wholesale plants and for deliveries to commercial customers and home users. Bulk of the liquid metered equipment is tested with 100-gallon testing equipment although it takes the state's 500-gallon test equipment to check 319 meters.

Steele says in making the tests the two inspectors, Wayne Robertson and Jack Holman, ran 673,520 gallons of petroleum products through the meters, then pumping back into trucks or storage tanks.

and roaches. Only horn flies are new on this list.

Fertilizers and Lime Sales On Increase

Salem — Oregon farmers bought more fertilizers in the first nine months of this year than in corresponding 1958, the state department of agriculture reports.

Tonnage totals reported to the department through September were 167,400 tons for 1959 and 165,512 for 1958.

Lime usage, as reflected in the nine-months tonnage fee reports, soared: 67,265 tons in 1959 and 39,741 tons in 1958. Agricultural mineral sales, on the other hand, declined: 8810 in 1959 and 11,774 in 1958.

Record Corn Crop Estimated for 1959

Washington — (UPI) — The Agriculture Department's final production report of the year Wednesday estimated the 1959 corn crop at a record 4,361,170,000 bushels and the wheat crop at 1,128,151,000 bushels.

The final wheat estimate, made up of 923,449,000 bushels of winter wheat and 204,702,000 bushels of spring wheat, compares with November estimates of 1,117,430,000 bushels of winter wheat and 208,097,000 bushels of spring wheat.

Last year, according to revised figures, the total wheat harvest was 1,461,714,000 bushels. It was made up of 1,179,269,000 bushels of winter wheat and 282,445,000 bushels of spring wheat.

COMMISSION TO MEET

Salem — The Highland Bentgrass commission has scheduled its next meeting for the afternoon of December 22 in the conference room of the state department of agriculture building in Salem.

Grain inspected on arrival at Oregon terminals picked up in November to 7.8 million bushels from 7.6 million bushels in October but was under the 9.8 million bushels inspected in November, 1958.

Both beef and pork liver are good sources of minerals and vitamins. They also compare favorably in proteins and calories.

Stockmen's Course Full of Information

found pigs lose about one week's gain each time they are moved to new quarters.

Backed by Research

Cowan is a geneticist who has some very specific ideas for the breeder. He is an energetic, forceful speaker and has considerable research to back up his ideas. Much can be done by the breeder to improve the cattleman's position in this changing agriculture, he stressed.

Many other interesting talks were given by Washington State university personnel. Tuesday afternoon was spent touring the farms to see the work going on. We observed a litter of Palouse pigs seven weeks old—about 17—weighing 950 pounds. We also observed the results of some of the other work with sheep and beef animals.

One can certainly realize the challenge to all of agriculture or "Agribusiness" after attending such a conference as the "Short Course."

Less Insecticide May Save More Tomatoes

Riverside, Calif. (Science Service) — Some tomato growers may save as much as \$30 an acre and still get better pest control by using less insecticide. Many southern California growers regularly apply from three to seven insecticide treatments per season for control of fruitworm, russet mite and other pests. Many of these treatments are unnecessary and only reduce profits.

Klussendorf spoke on nutrition in stress periods, medicated feeds and zinc in animal nutrition. If lambs were fed properly regarding Vitamin A shipping fever then could be no problem and there would be no need for antibiotic feeding. His concern sells antibiotics but not Vitamin A.

Bubbenzer is a farm manager with much practical experience. He raises beef and pork on his farm and has worked out some practical housing and feeding arrangements. He believes in the same pen for pigs from start to finish as he has

Farm Bureau Plans Stronger Help in Price Bargaining

Washington (UPI) — The American Farm Bureau Federation is quietly completing plans to set up a new organization designed to give farmers a stronger hand in bargaining for the prices of their crops.

The farm group's new marketing and bargaining subsidiary will start out in a small way. It is expected to begin operations next year with a one-man staff concentrating on service to local and area-wide farmer cooperatives which sell fruits and vegetables to processors.

But this relatively small start does not disguise the fact that the nation's biggest farmer organization is stepping into an area of growing importance in the fast-changing farm and food industry.

Working With Farmers
The Farm Bureau subsidiary, not yet formally named, will be working with farmers who contract for the sale of their crops without going through local or central open markets. In many cases, contracts are signed before the crops involved are even planted.

Contract marketing has been widely used in the past by farmers producing crops for canning, sugar beets and several other commodities. Farm Bureau officials now see signs that the system will spread to other major crops that have, until now, been sold mostly in bulk through open markets.

Farm Bureau spokesmen said that after their new subsidiary gets started on its program of aid to local bargaining groups in the fruit and vegetable field, the next step is likely to be expansion into poultry marketing. After that, they said, may come the same type of activity in marketing hogs, cattle and other livestock.

The farm group said its bargaining subsidiary would not do any nationwide bargaining of its own. It is not going to be a device for getting a monopoly for any food or for fixing prices, officials emphasized.

The main job of the new organization, these officials said, will be to strengthen the hand of local and area farmer bargaining groups by giving them as much information as the buyers have.

The local groups would be fed reports on supply and demand conditions and contract prices for their crop in other areas. The new national group would also analyze proposed contract terms in advance and might give legal and other aid in setting up new farmer bargaining groups.

If producers of any one commodity want to coordinate the work of bargaining groups in scattered growing areas, the new Farm Bureau subsidiary could serve as a clearing house.

On a housing basis, 1,077 of the married men live in Corvallis, 196 living in college housing, 150 commute from outside Corvallis, and 40 are here without their wives.

For production of meat, forage should be evaluated on how much meat it will produce, not how many tons of forage per acre are produced or how much total digestible nutrients are produced per acre, according to Kansas State University.

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