

GARDENING TIPS

By DON BERRY
County Extension Agent
POISON PROOF HOME

January is a good month to "poison-proof" your home. Most home owners are very conscientious in keeping pesticides out of the reach of children, but neglect some of the other common-place poisons in the home.

Some of the most common household hazards are cosmetics, aspirin, barbiturates, bleach, turpentine, cleaning and sanitizing agents, along with the pesticides. The area under the kitchen sink is the source for 37 per cent of the child poisoning cases.

Storing bleaches, lye and cleaning acids out of reach of the small child can be a real step toward preventing a tragedy. Making a regular check around the house to see that all dangerous materials are well out of the reach of children is important, along with teaching the child as soon as he is able to understand that certain areas or objects in the home are unsafe.

ORCHARD NOTES

Use of prunings: Every orchardist has a number of fruit trees to remove each year.

A suggestion from an Idaho says that the wood could be cut into fireplace lengths and sold. They further suggest that additional income might be made to the orchardist if the wood is cut to 16-inch and 18-inch lengths and tied into bundles 12-inches in diameter. It could then be sold through supermarkets and fruit stands. The bundles could be tied securely with wire and a binder twine handle made so the customer could carry the bundle.

Apple and pear wood is excellent for smoking meats as well as for fireplace use. This consumer pack might be a good project for the youngsters.

Rabbit Control: From Pennsylvania comes the word that common fungicide known as Thiram is a good rabbit repellent. Although not highly poisonous rabbits shun the material.

You can also make good use of Thiram as a spray to control winter rabbit damage in ornamental trees and shrubs, nursery stock and young fruit trees. This material is being made available in farm and garden stores under the name of TAT - Rabbit and Deer Repellent, and Magic Circle Rabbit Repellent.

VEGETABLE NOTES

Growers interested in obtaining asparagus plants this spring may contact the county agent's office for plant grower names.

When holding crowns for planting they should not be allowed to dry out nor develop decay. One year old crowns are best, but crowns two years old may be used if they are dug carefully so as not to damage the roots excessively.

LEAF SPRAY DUE

Both fruiting and flowering peach varieties should be sprayed around Jan. 15 for peach leaf curl. This would apply mainly to home garden peaches since fall sprays applied in the commercial orchards for peach blight adequately control peach leaf curl.

SONIC BOOM

Sonic booms produced by shock waves from airplanes breaking the sound barrier could damage greenhouses.

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that damage caused by sonic boom is deductible as a casualty loss. Since the burden of proof rests upon the grower, pictures and other information regarding the damage should be taken as proof where growers are interested in obtaining these deductions.

COMPOSTING NEWSPAPERS

The University of Oregon has developed a method for composting newspapers which may be of interest to home owners.

They dig a shallow pit as large as a newspaper fully opened. Newspapers are laid flat in the pit to a depth of two inches on top of which a double handful of 5-10-5 fertilizer is spread and covered with a thin layer of soil. The process is repeated until the pit is full. In about nine months it will become a rich black compost without turning, according to reports.

Another method of composting newspapers which reduces the composting time is to build the compost piles on the surface of the ground as above, but cover them with a polyethylene sheet instead of putting them in pits.

Brand Inspection School Given

Salem - A series of in-service training courses for Oregon's livestock brand inspectors will begin in mid-January and be held throughout the state, Fred Pope, chief of the state department of agriculture's division of animal industry, announced Monday.

Conducted by the Salem headquarters staff, the sessions will cover laws, regulations and inspection procedures pertinent to this program.

"It is our intention to hold these sessions quarterly," Pope said.

First of the four-hour clinics were held in Medford, Jan. 11 and Salem, Jan. 14. Others

Local Man Takes Place on State Farm Board

Salem-Only one new member, Frank Rood, who operates a dairy at North Bend, will sit on the state board of agriculture as reconstituted under 1959 legislation, effective Jan. 1.

Governor Mark Hatfield reappointed six of the members and substituted Rood for Mrs. Kenneth Livingston, Portland housewife, who has served the past two years as consumer representative. The new law eliminates consumer representation as such.

The first session of the "new" board was slated for today at the state department of agriculture headquarters in Salem, says Frank McKenney, director of agriculture.

At that time, the members will draw lots for length of their board terms, ranging from one to six years. Two of the seven members will draw six year terms.

They will also elect a chairman, a post held the last few months by Ernest Jerstedt of Carlton who was appointed to the board last May.

All board members save Frank Tubbs of Adams, who is in New Delhi, India, were sworn in and received their commissions from Governor Hatfield at 11:30 a.m. Tubbs has been in India to supervise the U.S. wheat exhibit at the World Agricultural Trade Fair, and is scheduled to return about Jan. 30.

The reorganization law calls for a non-partisan board. The present membership includes four Republicans: Jerstedt, Rood, Frank Tubbs, and Joe Saito of Ontario. Democrats are: R. A. Long and Ward Spatz, originally appointed two years ago, and Hubert F. Willoughby, Harrisburg.

State Drops Costs On Fertilizer Work

Salem - Fertilizer dealers can chalk up one decline in business costs. On Jan. 1 the state department of agriculture reduced the inspection fee from 10 cents to 5 cents per ton on commercial fertilizers sold in Oregon.

O. K. Beals, division chief, said funds for the state work in this field built up faster than anticipated as result of increased usage. Hence the drop in inspection fees. No change was made in the 2 cents per ton inspection fee on lime and agricultural minerals.

Work will be held at Pendleton, Jan. 18; Ontario, Jan. 20; and Redmond, Jan. 22.

Crater Schedules Adults Course

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The first is a crops and soils science class which begins Monday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m. The class will be held each Monday for 10 weeks. Guest instructors include experts in their fields, Griggs said. Course material will include basic soils needs, fertilizers, pastures, hay and silage, seed crops, row crops, weed sprays and insecticides. Refreshments and films are included on the program.

The second course is farm electricity scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m. The classes will be held each Wednesday for 10 weeks. Material will cover phases of electricity which will help farm operators and home owners, Griggs explained. The classes will include instruction in both building wiring and electric motors.

Those persons wishing more information may call Ed Griggs or Bill MacFarlane, vocational agriculture instructors, at the Crater ag department, NORMANDY 4-1103, Central Point.

December Estray Bulletin Lists

Salem-Of 31 cattle reported missing in December from Oregon ranches, 11 are from the Burns area and seven from Hermiston, the latest estray bulletin by the state department of agriculture indicates.

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Lower California extends for a length of 810 miles.

Farm and Garden

Events Listed in Jersey Cattle Club Meet Here

The American Jersey Cattle club will meet this spring in Fresno, Calif., for its annual convention, Mrs. Thomas Sawyer, told those attending the annual meeting of the Rogue River Jersey Cattle club Saturday.

Mrs. Sawyer, whose husband, Thomas Sawyer, is president of National All Jersey, Inc., urged all members to attend. Convention headquarters will be the Hacienda hotel. Board meetings will be held in Modesto, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. Jersey men will act as hosts. Saturday and Sunday activities preceding the Fresno meetings will include tours of Jersey farms and establishments and a barbecue super Sunday afternoon. The Sawyers are nationally known Jersey breeders.

Keith Hockersmith of Grange Cooperative will talk on how to raise calves during the March meeting of the Rogue River Jersey club. The talk will result from considerable research by Hockersmith at the request of the local Jersey club, Delbert Mongold, Eagle Point, club president, said.

The annual Oregon Jersey Cattle club picnic will be held in Jackson county this July, Mongold announced. A Jersey club queen contest will be part of the activities.

Junior Jersey club members honored during the annual meeting and the honors received include: Sandra Bird, Grants Pass, Jersey club queen; Gary Daland, Grants Pass, grand champion 4-H Jersey at the Josephine county fair; Denise Smith, champion judge, Junior Spring Dairy Show; Lanny Parsons, Gold Hill, third place winner in National Junior Jersey production contest, milk division and first place winner in the Oregon Jersey junior production contest.

Other juniors honored included: Rickie Anderson, Eagle Point, champion showman in the Junior Spring Dairy show; Jack Esp, Eagle Point, grand champion 4-H Jersey in the Jackson County 4-H and FFA fair; Tom Case Jr., Grants Pass, winner of the Fred Meyer All Jersey Calf award at the Oregon State fair in Salem.

Award certificates were presented Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Mongold by the Oregon Jersey Cattle club, also. The Mongolds' World Record Pin Glory was honored for producing over 6,000 pounds of butterfat in a lifetime record. During her lifetime she produced a total of 116,632 pounds of milk and 6,823 pounds of butterfat. Honored as a tested sire was Sparkling High Voltage of the Mongold herd whose 10 daughters averaged 11,029 pounds of milk at 5.6 per cent butter fat or average 629 pounds of butterfat. Recognized as excellent sire bred by owner was the Mongold Sparkling High Voltage. The Mongold herd was honored also for holding a classification of over 85 per cent butterfat average. Actual herd average was 87.20 per cent.

The Jersey heifer sale will be held at the same time as the annual meeting, Mongold reminded club members.

"We want to make every effort to top all other sales," the club president said. "The western regional Jersey sale last year and the year before were the highest regional sales in the United States."

To Back Sale

Sawyer said the Western States Jersey organization will be backing the sale. Part of the money brought in from the calf sale, also to be held at Fresno State college, will be used for Jersey club youth activities throughout the United States, he added.

The National All-Jersey organization will hire a field man to manage and promote Jersey milk sales for Washington, Oregon and Idaho, Sawyer said. So far 15 applications have been received.

No one can use the words "All Jersey" in connection with dairy products unless they belong to the All Jersey organization, Sawyer said. All distributors and producers of Jersey dairy products become members through contract and can use the trade name, Sawyer explained. This was worked out by an attorney who specializes in trade mark law. Formerly distributors operated under a franchise.

A lengthy discussion was held on Jersey milk promotion as tied to pure-bred Jerseys. Sawyer traced the development of Jersey milk promotion. He and Mongold discussed the pros and cons of restricting marketing promotions to dairymen with a re-

quired percentage of purebred stock.

The Jersey cow is tied to the sale of Jersey milk, Sawyer said. The small amount of money and manpower causes the promotional program to move slowly, he pointed out.

Putting E. Lea Marsh, American Jersey Cattle club president on the All-Jersey board, Sawyer said. He has shown considerable interest and thought in an All-Jersey effort. The board, at Marsh's suggestion, has resolved to appoint a committee to study a voluntary contribution proposal and to come up with a plan. Contributions to a promotional program might be made by cow or by each 100 pounds of milk produced, Sawyer explained.

Discussing the Jersey milk promotion program Sawyer said it does not draw a line between purebred milk producers and those with grade herds. The All-Jersey board wants to build a demand for milk from purebred Jerseys, Sawyer pointed out. The current suggested program is to require those in the Jersey milk promotion program to add 5 per cent purebred stock each year. Eventually this will be increased to 50 per cent and perhaps even to 100 per cent.

The All-Jersey board studied breeding programs for various livestock in the United States in setting up the recommended requirements. Milk promotion and Jersey breed promotion should be tied together, Sawyer said. He emphasized that the national board is letting the state organizations set their own requirements. An even balance should be kept between no restrictions and the 100 per cent purebred herd argued for by some Florida members.

Mongold suggested that the program requirements be made flexible according to the number of Jersey producers and the milk market demands in each area. Grade Jersey herd owners are needed to boost the program and should not be driven out, he emphasized. Dairymen are more apt to buy purebred cattle if allowed into an association to "rub shoulders" with the purebred people rather than to be isolated.

Forcing people to buy

"cheap purebred stock" doesn't help promote the breed either, another club member pointed out. It also takes awhile for a new member to learn what makes good purebred stock and should not rush out to buy purebred cattle before he can make a wise purchase, it was agreed.

Farm Prices Hold Steady in State, Down For U. S.

Corvallis - Prices received by farmers in Oregon and over the nation edged downward at the close of the year, but Oregon prices remained one per cent higher than a year ago in contrast to national prices which were down 7 per cent.

Lower price tags on meat animals and milk led the slight downward trend in farm prices in the state, reported Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college. Studying U.S. department of agriculture reports, she found price drops for these same commodities, along with lower prices on cotton and tobacco, combined to push the national average lower.

Partly offsetting these lower December prices received by farmers were higher prices on most vegetables, broilers, and turkeys, Mrs. Horrell said.

While prices received by farmers slid a little, prices paid by farmers remained steady. There was no change during December in any of the production, living, interest, taxes, or wage rate items paid by farm families, Mrs. Horrell found.

Farm costs in 1959 were more stable than in any year since 1940, Mrs. Horrell noted. At the close of the year, the parity index—the government's official yardstick of farm costs—stood only one per cent above December, 1958.

However, the parity index remained stable only because of a lot of balancing in individual items, Mrs. Horrell added. For instance, in family living items, higher prices on used cars counterbalanced lower average food and clothing prices. And among production items, higher price tags on motor vehicles were offset by lower prices on feeder livestock, building materials, and farm supplies.

With prices received by farmers slipping only a little, and prices paid by farmers holding steady, the purchasing power of farm products held unchanged last month. The parity ratio—the government's yardstick for measuring the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers—stood at 77 in December.

This is the same parity ratio as in November, but 6 points below December, 1958 and 23 points below the level set by Congress as a "fair" exchange rate, Mrs. Horrell pointed out.

Farm Chemicals Usage Session Is February 11

Salem-Four hundred persons are expected to attend a one-day conference on use of agricultural chemicals at Oregon State College Thursday, Feb. 11, under joint sponsorship of the college and the state department of agriculture. The session will open at 9:30 a.m. in the Home Economics building.

The conference is an outgrowth of recent developments in the spray residue field and will attempt to bring present knowledge on the subject into focus for Oregon people.

Originally designed for ground and air applicators of farm sprays and dusts, the Feb. 11 session has been expanded to include representatives of county courts, garden clubs, processors, chemical companies, county agents, and farm, labor and consumer organizations.

Urged to Attend

Anyone interested in using, selling or handling chemical pesticides is particularly urged to attend. F. E. Price, dean of agriculture at the college, and Frank McKenney, director of agriculture, will chairmen the morning and afternoon sessions, respectively.

Virgil Freed of the state college staff will keynote the session with an opening address on "The Importance of Chemicals to Agriculture."

Other speakers will discuss pesticides from the standpoints of industry, government regulations and public health.

State and federal laws relating to all agricultural chemicals, clearance under the federal regulations and labeling requirements will highlight the afternoon program.

Farm Notes

Washington -UPI- The Agriculture Department has estimated that there were 4,140,000 sheep and lambs on feed for market on Jan. 1, 7 per cent or 308,000 fewer than one year ago.

Sheep and lambs on feed in the 11 Western states totaled 1,383,000, 6 per cent less than on Jan. 1, 1959. Decreases were registered in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, New Mexico, Utah, and Nevada.

In Colorado, the main feeding state, there were 555,000 head on feed Jan. 1, 3 per cent more than a year earlier.

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765 pounds of surplus dairy products in the first 10 months of the dairy marketing year, the agriculture department reported.

This was 8 per cent below the volume of purchases in the corresponding period a year ago. Department officials said this indicated that production of dairy products - butter, cheese, and non-fat dry milk - has been more nearly in line with demand.

Washington -UPI- The Agriculture Department says New Jersey cranberry growers may seek federal emergency loans to tide over the next crop year.

The department reports many New Jersey cranberry growers have suffered serious losses because of inability to market their 1959 crops.

Washington -UPI- Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson said today the five-nation wheat utilization committee's study of food requirements in the Far East could help the area's economic development.

The wheat utilization committee grew out of discussions here last spring among representatives of five principal wheat exporting nations which explored the possibilities of using surplus food to bolster world peace. The idea was advanced by President Eisenhower in his "food for peace" message last January.

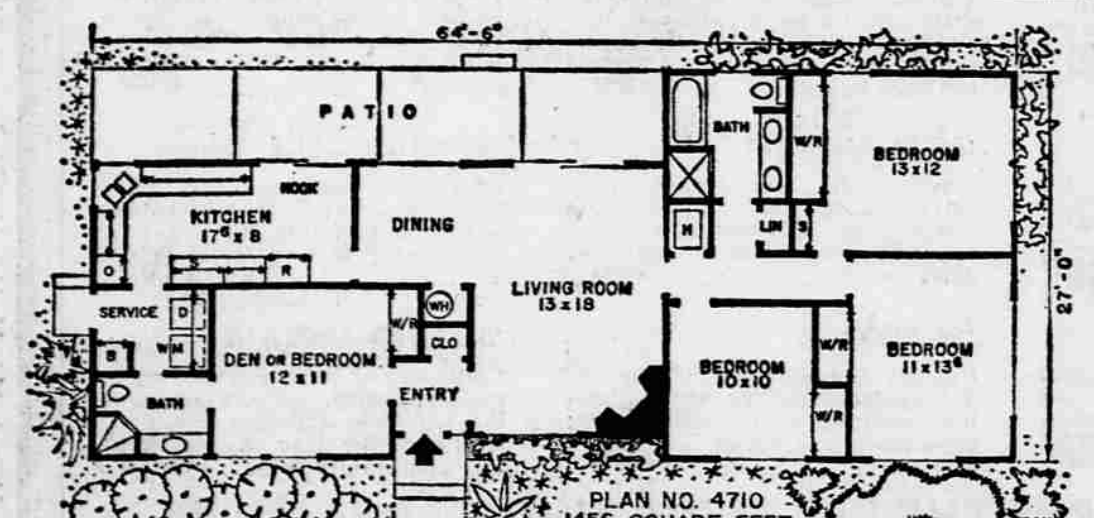
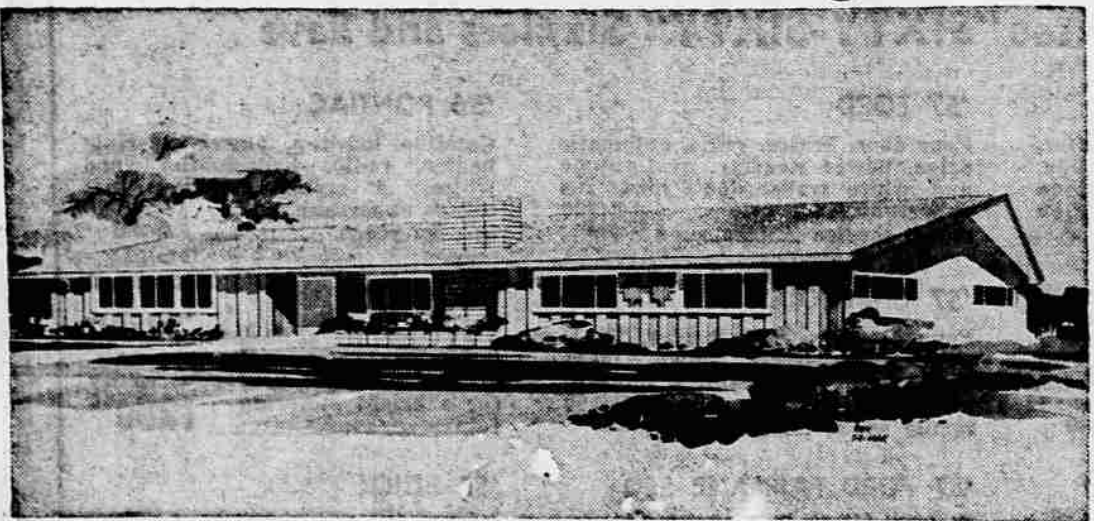
Washington -UPI- The Agriculture Department said Tuesday the National School Lunch Program is becoming an increasingly important market for foods.

The program currently is serving more than 12-million children from coast to coast through 61,000 schools. During the 1958-59 school year, local food buying in these schools amounted to about \$510,000,000 and the total for the current school year is expected to be up by five to 10 per cent over last year.

SWITCHES SIGNALS

Los Angeles -UPI- Attorney Paul Augustine Jr. Tuesday advised his client, Robert H. Gebhart, 34, to switch his plea from innocent to no contest. He had been charged with smuggling parrots from Mexico after police learned the parrots' conversation consisted of "Buenos dias, senior."

This Week's Home for Living



By HIAWATHA ESTES

Neither tremendous size nor high cost are prerequisites for a convenient, comfortable, minimum upkeep home. This is proven in this striking design for a three bedroom and den home of only 1456 square feet.

To simplify roof construction and to protect the sliding glass doors from the summer sun, the patio has been completely roofed.

The den, office, or fourth bedroom is accessible to the entry. With a through living room, less space is used for halls and you have a view to both the front and rear. A dining ell is open to the living room. The large sliding glass doors in both the kitchen and living room add a tremendous visual expanse

and actual living space to the house with the proper inter-relationship of indoor and outdoor areas.

The corner sink is an added feature of the kitchen, and note how the door from the nook to the dining ell has been located so as to provide the maximum area in both these areas.

Both baths have pullman lavatories and showers and are conveniently located to all rooms plus the outside of the house.

In addition to the large wardrobe, there is a floor to ceiling storage closet in the master bedroom.

The low gable roof is covered with heat reflecting colored rock which will guarantee a cooler home during the hottest summer days. If de-

sired, your contractor can substitute other types of roofing during construction.

Painted concrete blocks are used for the chimney and impressive planter. The front of the home is attractively finished in board and batten siding. Aluminum casement windows are used throughout. All combine to give this design a prestige-home look. Plans for a separate double garage are included.

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 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-T, Northridge, Calif.

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GROW BIG FRUIT TREE PROFITS EVEN IN ACID SOIL

You can do it with Viking Ship/Calcium Nitrate

Acid soil can rob you of fruit tree profits three ways.

1. It can slow the conversion of ammoniac nitrogen to usable nitrate forms. Even with heavy applications of ammoniac nitrogen fertilizer, fruit trees can actually starve.
2. Because of low calcium, acid soil is susceptible to compaction and puddling. Feeder roots may become water-logged and die.
3. Excess acidity can cause the formation of toxic chemicals highly dangerous to living tree roots.

Viking Ship Calcium Nitrate can help you fight these acid-soil dangers. The fast-acting nitrate nitrogen in Viking Ship is available without conversion.

Unlike ammoniac forms, nitrate nitrogen is not trapped in upper soil layers. It moves with water to the root zone where it can go to work immediately to give trees a vigorous start, help them set big crops.

Viking Ship also provides 20% water-soluble calcium* that helps counteract soil acidity. By improving soil structure, it helps prevent compaction, so that tree roots can forage easily for nourishment.

And Viking Ship is easy to apply. It can be spread evenly or metered accurately in irrigation water; it dissolves quickly; it leaves no residue. Ask your fertilizer dealer for complete information about Viking Ship Calcium Nitrate.

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