

Gold Hill Dairy Herd Tops List According to DHIA April Records

Cows owned by Glenn and Edna Chase, Gold Hill, topped the average butter fat production for April with 46.2 pounds, according to the Jackson County Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

The 24 cow Chase herd had three dry cows when tested and produced 1,146 pounds of milk and 46.2 percent milk average for April.

Other top herds were Rogue Valley Holstein farm, Eagle Point, 14 cows, one dry cow, 1,197 average milk production, and 45.0 average pounds of butterfat; Gilman's Dairy farm, Medford, 97 cows, 7 dry, 1,060, and 43.2; Straus Brothers, Gold Hill, 127 cows, 17 dry, 1,039, and 43.1.

Bitterling Has Top Cow

R. Bitterling, Eagle Point, had the top cow for the month and placed two others in the top 10 cows' list. Bitterling's Friskie produced 2,046 pounds of milk, 126.9 pounds of butterfat for 77 days in milking.

State Farm Prices Reported Steady Compared To U.S.

Corvallis - Oregon farm prices held steady in April, in contrast to national farm prices which moved up a notch. However, farm prices in the state still stand nearly 5 per cent above a year ago and the highest for any April since 1953, reported Mrs. Elvora Horrell, Oregon State college economist.

The farm price index in the state held unchanged. An upturn in prices farmers received for their crops was offset by a downturn in prices they received for livestock and livestock products. Mrs. Horrell found as she studied reports from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Across the nation, farm prices climbed as prices on eggs, potatoes, hogs, corn, and cotton turned upward. Only partially offsetting these increases were lower prices on milk, strawberries, oranges, and some vegetables. As a result, national farm prices stand 1 per cent above April 1959.

Farmers' Costs Climb

Costs of things farmers use also moved up during the month to another new all-time high, Mrs. Horrell said. The index of prices paid by farmers for commodities and services, including interest, taxes, and farm wage rates, rose nearly one per cent during the month ending April 15 to a level 1 per cent above a year earlier.

With prices received and prices paid by the nation's farmers up the same amount during April, farm product purchasing power held unchanged last month.

This left the parity ratio—the government's yardstick for measuring the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers—at 80 last month, the same as a month earlier but 2 points below April of a year ago, Mrs. Horrell added.

A patent has been awarded for a combination cigarette lighter and miniature camera.

VI produced 1,749 pounds of milk, 96.2 pounds of butterfat for 56 days in milking. Bitterling's Countess produced 2,081 pounds of milk, 92 pounds of butterfat for 29 days in milking.

The Straus Brothers, Gold Hill, placed cows in second, third, fourth and fifth places. Cow No. 58 produced 2,325 pounds of milk, 107 pounds of butterfat for 70 days in milking. Cow No. 55 produced 2,160 pounds of milk, 101.5 pounds of butterfat for 74 days in milking. Cow No. 15 produced 2,328 pounds of milk, 97.8 pounds of butterfat in 48 days of milking. Cow No. 57 produced 2,304 pounds of milk, 96.8 pounds of butterfat for 33 days in milking.

Soil Moisture Study Grant Given To OSC

Corvallis - A new research tool that could help agricultural scientists solve some of Oregon's irrigation and fertilization problems is being developed at the Oregon State college agricultural experiment station.

The new project will try to work out ways to keep constant amounts of moisture in soil being used in irrigation and plant-growth research, reports Dr. John W. Wolfe, OSC agricultural engineer. The project is being supported by a \$17,500 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Agricultural scientists like to keep everything that can affect their experiments at a set level, Wolfe explained. At present, however, experimental plants have to be watered at intervals, and the amount of water in the soil around the plants varies from day to day.

Tries New Method

Wolfe has been experimenting with a method that uses a stream of air to carry water vapor into pots of soil. By carefully regulating the flow of air, he found it was possible to get the water vapor to condense onto soil particles.

The new research will try to develop equipment and techniques that will use this method to supply moisture to potted experimental plants at the same rate they use it, Wolfe said. This would give agricultural research scientists a way to keep a constant amount of moisture spread uniformly through soil being used in their experiments.

Such a method of supplying moisture to experimental plants could help agricultural scientists develop better methods of predicting and timing irrigation needs, as well as making possible expanded basic research on how plants use water to carry on their life processes.

Governors Urged To Form Council

Seattle - Western governors were urged Monday to form an interstate council to promote greater industrial development.

Washington Gov. Albert D. Rosellini called for a western council for economic development during his welcoming remarks at the 1960 western governor's conference opening session.

"Perhaps of all the factors affecting the West, none binds us more closely together than our need for economic growth," said the host governor.

Search Still On For Historical Century Farms

Salem - The Oregon Historical Society and the state department of agriculture are conducting their third annual Century Farm program this year. This will honor a new crop of families whose continuous Oregon farming activity extends back to 1860 or earlier.

The program will climax with an assist from the Oregon State fair and the award ceremonies on the fairgrounds Tuesday, Sept. 6. Plans for the final celebration were made recently at a conference of leaders of the three organizations.

State's Hunting Grounds Draw Vet

Salem - Oregon's attractions to hunters induced Dr. Richard W. Elliott to pull up roots from his home town, Ypsilanti, Michigan, and come to work for the state.

"I've been as far west as Montana and British Columbia to hunt and have always wanted to be in Oregon so I could hunt here," he revealed upon arrival in Salem.

Along with Dr. E. L. Reed of Pensacola, Fla., Dr. Elliott is a newcomer to the veterinary staff of the state department of agriculture.

Dr. Elliott, in private practice 22 years in Ypsilanti after graduation from Ontario Veterinary College, will be assigned later to a district as assistant state veterinarian in animal disease control.

Dr. Reed, a Florida practitioner for 10 years and a meat inspector during army service, will shortly be assigned as a district veterinary meat inspector. He received his DVM degree at the Auburn, Alabama, veterinary college.

Woodland Meeting Planned For Eugene

The newly formed Oregon Small Woodland Association will hold its first meeting at 8 p.m., Wednesday, May 18, in the courthouse annex in Eugene, according to Duane L. Hatch, Lane county extension agent.

Purpose of the newly formed association is chiefly to study problems of management and improvement of small forested tracts suitable for tree farming.

Other purposes are dissemination of information on establishment, growth, harvesting and marketing of forest crops produced, educating and informing the landowners and public regarding small woodland management problems and promoting protection of growing trees and development of better forestry methods and practices, to serve as a forum in recommending problem solutions and improving forest management, harvesting and marketing, and to represent owners of small woodlands before legislative bodies and administrative agencies.

"All owners of small woodlands, from one to 5,000 acres are invited to attend the first general meeting and are urged to become members," said Hatch. "A great need has been felt for such an association in which the smaller owners will have representation in legislative matters such as timber taxation, and for the general purpose of furthering knowledge of proper forest management and practices for smaller owners."

The first meeting will be devoted to a study and discussion of timber taxation, Hatch said. This is most important for those who will grow trees for the future. A panel will consist of Dean Ellis, chairman of the state tax commission, Paul Linfer, tax expert of the industrial forestry association, and Verne Bronson, of the new Small Woodland association.

Eligibility explained

Any owner of forest lands from one acre to 5,000 acres is eligible for voting membership in the association.

Owners of more than 5,000 acres of forest land whose interests and problems are primarily those of concern to

Search Still On For Historical Century Farms

Washington - An Agricultural Research Service study shows that life insurance companies hold a larger share of farm mortgages than any institutional lender.

ARS said that as of Jan. 1, 1959, farm mortgages owned by life insurance companies amounted \$2,661,000,000. This represented 23.6 per cent of the outstanding farm mortgage debt.

Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson has called attention to National Soil Stewardship Week, May 22 to 29, and urged participation of all citizens because of the importance of soil and water resources to the nation's welfare.

Soil Stewardship Week, sponsored by the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts and various national church organizations, begins on Rural Life Sunday, May 22, and continues through the next Sunday.

Washington - The Rural Electrification Administration is in the midst of a week-long observance of its silver anniversary.

Exhibits denoting the success of this 25-year-old government lending agency fill the big patio of the agriculture department's administration building.

There is the model of an all-electric home, in which heat is supplied by electricity. Also, there is the model of the first atomic power plant to be built on an REA-financed system. And there is ample evidence showing how electricity has been brought to rural communities since the REA was established by executive order on May 11, 1935.

The agriculture department said in response to questions about the status of 2-4-D for the control of weeds, there has been no withdrawal of its registrations for uses of this chemical.

The chemical has been used widely for weed control for many years. Registrations given under provisions of the federal insecticide, fungicide, and rodenticide for the use of 2-4-D are supported by broad experience and research conducted by public and private institutions, the department said.

It added that the labels for registered products contain instructions and adequate precautions for use to protect the public. As in the case of other agricultural chemicals, the department said, studies are being continued on the use of 2-4-D for the control of weeds in pastures, forage, and field crops.

Washington - The Agriculture Department said today the farm share of the consumer's dollar rose one cent to a total of 38 cents in the first quarter of 1960.

This was the first increase in the quarterly average since the January - March, 1958. Even with the increase, the farm share of the food dollar in the first quarter still was one cent below a year ago.

From the first quarter of 1958 to the fourth quarter of 1959, the farm share dropped from 42 cents to 37 cents, declining in nearly every quarter.

The farm share of the food dollar is based on the money spent for domestic farm foods.

Washington - The Agriculture Department predicted today retail food prices will rise seasonally in the near future, but probably will average close to those of a year ago.

Total supplies of food will be about as large this spring as they were a year ago, the department said in its publication, "The National Food Situation."

The demand for food will continue strong.

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Man Found Guilty By Klamath Jury

Circuit Court jury has convicted Michael Joseph of manslaughter in connection with the fatal shooting Sept. 20 of Okie Richards on a ranch near Chiloquin.

Farm Notes

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Garden Notes

ELM LEAF BEETLES

Home gardeners who have had trouble in past years with elm leaf beetles should spray soon.

These pests first become noticeable to the home gardener when the leaves start turning brown and the tree takes on a sickly appearance. Trouble starts when the black and yellow striped beetles emerge from the ground in the spring and start feeding on the leaves. Soon clusters of bright yellow eggs appear on the undersides of the leaves and hatch into greenish yellow worms which eat the green portion of the leaf leaving only a clear filament.

Later in the summer the home owner may notice the adult beetles crawling down the tree trunk and gathering in clusters at the base of the tree. Since there are several broods a year, damage starts early and continues until fall frost.

Control for elm leaf beetles consists of spraying the tree with two pounds DDT and two gallons of Malathion per 100 gallons of water. Ordinarily one spray containing these materials applied during the first part of May will prevent serious beetle damage to elms for the remainder of the season. Occasionally where infestations are severe a second spray is needed. This should be applied only if a buildup of beetles is noted.

OAK LEAF MINOR

Home owners who have had trouble with oak leaf minor should spray for the control of this pest as soon as possible.

White oaks are particularly susceptible to attack by leaf minor which causes leaves to turn brown and fall during the summertime. Trees which are severely affected by this pest take on an overall sickly appearance and partially defoliate.

A combination spray using Malathion plus DDT is used for controlling oak leaf minor, aphids and other pests on oaks at this time of year. Four pounds each of DDT and Malathion per 100 gallons of water should be used and the trees sprayed thoroughly.

NIXON APPOINTS AIDE

Washington - Vice President Richard M. Nixon has appointed Stanley E. McCaffrey, Berkeley, Calif., as his executive assistant. McCaffrey, vice president of the University of California, is a childhood friend of Nixon.

One woman out of six over the age of 25 will have entered college classrooms by 1960, against only one in eight in 1950.

More Producers Need Egg Permit

Salem - Producer compliance with the new egg dealer permit feature of the Oregon egg law is falling short of field inspectors' hopes, the state department of agriculture once again urges producers who sell eggs to retailers, eating houses or food manufacturers to apply for the state permit or license.

It is available either through the Salem headquarters or Portland branch office.

"Our egg inspectors are still finding eggs in retail stores that have on the cartons names of producers who do not have a state egg dealer permit," reports W. E. Upshaw, Portland branch manager in charge of the egg enforcement program.

The producer is exempt from the license if his sales are limited to consumers or to licensed dealers. Some retailers are so licensed; if a licensed retailer buys from producers upgraded eggs and grades and labels them, the producer is exempt from the license.

So far, the department has simply notified producers of violations to gain cooperation. "The idea of going to court to gain compliance with this law is unpleasant and it is our hope that producers who have not done so will apply for the permit," Upshaw says.

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NAME SCIENCE ATTACHE

Princeton, N.J. - Dr. John Turkevich, 53, a Princeton university professor who helped design the atomic bomb, has been appointed the first scientific attache to the United States embassy in Moscow. Turkevich, born of Russian parents two years after they came to the United States, speaks Russian fluently. He is awaiting credentials to leave June 7 for his two-month assignment in the Soviet Union.

At least one member has health insurance in about 73 per cent of all American families.

Court Refuses To Reconsider Spy Case

Washington - The Supreme Court refused Monday to reconsider its decision upholding the espionage conviction of Col. Rudolf Ivanovich Abel, Soviet spy who cloaked his activities by posing as a Brooklyn photographer.

In a brief order, the court refused to change its 5-4 ruling March 28 that Abel must continue in Atlanta for his spy activities on behalf of Russia.

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