

Bee Inspections Hit Disease Snag, State Dept. Says

Salem - Oregon's program to control American foul brood and other diseases in honey bees is entering choppy seas. On the one hand, it is buffeted by alarming findings of a heavy incidence of the disease in some areas inspected so far this year. On the other, it is buffeted by lack of funds to handle the situation.

The state department of agriculture stepped up its bee inspections this year, put 16 qualified inspectors in the field including some recruited from department personnel whose work is slack when bees are busy. Probably three times more manhours will be spent in bee inspections this year than previously - which may account in part for uncovering more disease.

At the end of June, the department made this report on American foul brood infection:

Hood River county, covered completely, showed almost 40 per cent of the colonies were diseased.

Yamhill Incomplete

Yamhill county, not completely, 13 per cent infection with the Sheridan district showing 75 per cent infection. Folk county, not complete, 8 per cent infection.

Marion county, not complete, 6.5 per cent infection.

Jackson and Klamath counties, not complete, in each over 5 per cent infection.

Preliminary reports from other counties indicate a similar high infection.

Kenneth Goeden, apiary supervisor for the department, says 1 per cent is a realistic county average.

American foul brood, by the way, is a deadly disease that not only kills colonies but lingers on for years in equipment, thus reinfesting bees. For this reason, state law requires burning and state supervision.

While the bee industry itself (sales of honey, beeswax and bees) adds about a half million dollars annually to state gross income, the real concern over the present situation lies in the estimated \$100 million dollar value of honey bees to fruits and many other farm crops.

Modern farming methods have made the honey bee on a pedestal as the prime pollinator, a role enjoyed in earlier days by the wild bees. At the same time, modern farming with its quick transportation means and widespread movement of bees and equipment, has created some of the serious bee disease control problems.

The department is now studying every possible way to see enough funds to keep the program in the high gear attained this season. The inspection service is supported entirely through apilary registrations (\$1 for the first six colonies and 15 cents for each additional) and a 1959-60 legislative appropriation of \$24,000.

By the end of the current registration year, the department says between 35,000 and 38,000 registered colonies will be involved in the inspections.

The cost to maintain an adequate inspection program under present conditions is more than the funds available. The department is giving thought to an advisory group to meet with it to study means of solving the problem.

Wheat Reports Climb for Year

Salem - Export of wheat from Portland terminals reached 71.7 million bushels for the year ending June 30 to climb 11.7 million bushels above the preceding year. On a cargo basis the total 1959-60 export represents 240 ship loads.

The 1959-60 overseas movement of wheat loaded at Portland was 1.9 million bushels under the record 1956-57 shipments of 73.6 million bushels, according to J. F. Short, director of agriculture.

At Astoria, export grain business slowed to about 193,000 bushels, just under 50 per cent of the previous year's loadings from that point. What moving into Astoria, the state inspection records show, stood at 3.3 million pounds, just half of the year earlier.

Total wheat movement into Portland the past year was 95.8 million bushels, less than a half million bushels under 1958-59.

Only 1.5 per cent of the wheat receipts at Portland dropped from a substantial drop from comparable 4.4 per cent in 1958-59.

Jap Beetles Come Here - Fortunately Oregon Approves

Salem - This may splinter all the rules of good reporting, but the Japanese beetle is an attractive little creature, with its copper-colored wings over a shimmering metallic green body. It's about one-half inch long and roughly as wide.

But it has some vicious habits. Like eating a wide variety of vegetation, including the voracious nibbling at fruit trees and lawn grasses. It likes seed grasses, too, and would revel in the luxurious grass fields of Oregon's countryside. In fact, it will take on any of 275 crops and fruits.

Because of these ungentle traits, many states and the federal government have erected barricades in the form of quarantines against it. That started years ago when the beetle first came to this country on a shipment of materials from Japan - which explains why in this country it is known as the Japanese beetle.

Large Sums Spent

Large sums of money have been spent to erase it from the face of eastern seaboard and southern states. (Michigan spent \$150,000 to treat about a third of its 90,000-acre infestation; damage to grasses in Kentucky reached \$3 million). The beetle manages to keep chewing away, either as a grub in the spring of the year or as the handsome adult in the summer. By hook or crook it keeps alive - in far too many numbers - chiefly due to an increase in adult members in the East.

So far, though a biological control through milky disease - a bacterial organism that attacks the grubs - now appears promising, attempted controls have come off second best.

Although the state department of agriculture has been trying for 15 years to fire real flames on the beetle, it has not succeeded.

On July 11, the department had a tender watch on all cross-country airplanes landing at Portland, Klamath Falls. It had also changed with the Air Force for inspection of military planes.

This just goes to show department reaction when Hugh Taylor, its plant division chief, heard many live Japanese beetles had been found on continental planes landing in California and Washington.

Results of Oregon's watch? To July 22, department inspectors had picked from planes landing at Portland 11 Japanese beetles - all dead.

"We hope we never see a live one in Oregon; realistically, that's almost too much to expect," comments Taylor.

If any live beetles should be found, by the way, airport officials are required immediately to "bomb" the plane with an insecticide.

Signs Depicting Value of Timber In Area Planned

Road side signs depicting the value of lumber to southern Oregon economy and explaining various logging operations will be tried on an exploratory basis in the near future, according to the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association.

Al Smith, public relations chairman for the association, said the move was made as a result of a recent meeting of the committee to discuss ways of carrying the story of lumber to the general public.

Other methods which will be used include a facts and figures folder for distribution to chambers of commerce, a speakers bureau made up of industry representatives who will be available to service clubs, and assistance from Hoo Hoo International in promoting "Forest Product Week" later this fall.

Leonard Howe, chairman of the subcommittee on signs, said there still was a need for pictures and items of historical interest in the logging industry for display in a special section of the Southern Oregon Historical museum in Jacksonville.

He said those having pictures of personal value will have the pictures returned after the committee has had copies made for exhibit. Additional information concerning the exhibit may be obtained by contacting the SOCTFA at 50 East Main st., Medford.

Glenn Dysen, president of the association, complimented the committee on its accomplishment since it was formed about a year ago, and pledged to continue efforts in the lumber industry to promote better forest practices and forest management of renewable timber resources.

Phair To Study Farm Problems

Pendleton - Ron Phair, Republican Congressional candidate from the 2nd District, said today he would "postpone all other campaign plans until completing an area probe of farm problems."

Phair returned from Chillicothe Monday where he conferred with Vice President Richard Nixon on Oregon farm problems.

Phair said he would call non-partisan meetings of farmers in the 2nd district starting this week to find out how they feel the present farm problems should be approached.

The candidate said he hopes to hold meetings in Pendleton Wednesday, in Milton-Free water Thursday and in La Grande Friday.

Big Damage Suit Held in Abeyance

Portland - (UPI) - A \$52,000 damage suit filed against the Richmond Water district and its individual directors by a Portland Negro couple has been ordered held in abeyance until after the appeal of the discrimination part of the case is heard in the circuit court of appeals in San Francisco.

The decision was announced here Monday by United States District Judge William East after a motion for dismissal for damages was brought before the court by directors of the water district.

The suit was filed by Mr. and Mrs. Rowan Wiley.



NEW COMPACT CAR—The station wagon model of the F-85, Oldsmobile's entry in the compact car field, gets a road test at Lansing, Mich. Official unveiling of the new entry has been scheduled for later in the month. (UPI Telephoto)

National Safety Council Gives Tips on Fires

Farmers and their families should provide for fire protection, the National Safety Council suggests.

Farm families should understand the different types of fires, their behavior and methods of suppression.

Home fire-fighting equipment should be available and kept in a handy place for instant use, the National Safety Council notes. This includes axe, working bar, rope, ladder, sand, water buckets or other extinguishers.

Family first aid supplies should be available and easily accessible.

Water should be available from a supplementary supply, and in sufficient volume for fire-fighting.

Strong Ladders

Ladders and ropes should be strong enough to support a person's weight and reach to the top of all farm buildings.

Farm plows, discs and orchard spray machines should be kept in readiness for fire fighting.

Coroner Rules Death Accidental

Olympia - (UPI) - A vacationing California woman who was found dead here Saturday night died of accidental suffocation, a coroner's autopsy revealed Monday.

The dead woman was Mrs. Eleanor R. Main, 60, Santa Monica, Calif. She and her husband were vacationing in the Johnson Point area near here.

Mrs. Main's body was found face down on a sandy beach late Saturday by a passing fisherman.

The coroner's report disclosed that suffocation was the cause of death, probably after Mrs. Main suffered some type of attack.

Couple Admits Bad Check Charges

Woodburn - (UPI) - Lee Kastler of Hubbard was arrested on a bad check charge here Monday after his wife admitted passing 31 of the checks in various western Oregon towns.

Kastler was charged in connection with passing a bad check at a Woodburn service station.

His wife was arrested earlier for passing a similar check at a market. She pleaded guilty to the bad check charge and said she had written 30 others within the past two months.

SOC Graduate Has Poem Book Printed

Ashland - Clyde E. Smith, a recent graduate from Southern Oregon college after retiring from a career of postal service, has now added to his accomplishments by compiling a book of his own poems which has been published by Iverson's printing under the name of "The Spirit of the West."

His book is divided into three sections: poems concerning Oregon, California, and miscellaneous. In dedication to Dr. Elmo Stevenson, SOC president, the book represents many years of effort and research into the history and folklore of the area.

According to Smith, his hobbies include an extensive stamp collection for which he has won a number of prizes.

Two Shelton Boys Take Bath in Tar

Shelton - (UPI) - It took several hours to remove a heavy coating of tar from two young Shelton boys who took a bath in the sticky stuff Sunday.

Stanley Watters, 8, and his brother Gerald Jr., 9, became mired down in a small "lake" of the tar at the Shelton airport where they had been playing.

Their predicament could have become serious had not a young cousin happened by. Virgie Watters, 7, ran to the nearby family home and summoned help.

The boys' father and two other men succeeded in extracting the brothers from the tar pit after about 30 minutes, then applied a potent mixture of road oil and wax remover to clean off the tar.

A sheriff's deputy said the tar pit was a remnant of a former mill operation at the airport.

Timber Sale Plan For BLM for 1962 To Be Made Soon

Development of the Medford district timber sale plan for fiscal year 1962 encourages the cooperation of prospective purchasers and buyers of land management interests, according to Ross A. Youngblood, Medford district manager.

He announced that suggestions for timber tracts to be included in the sale plan for the year commencing next July will be accepted until Sept. 15.

Although plans for timber harvests, including procurement of right-of-way easements and road construction, are tentatively prepared several years in advance by bureau foresters, special emphasis is now being given to formulation of the plan for fiscal year 1962. The 1961 timber sale plan was published last June, Youngblood said.

Highest Priorities

Highest harvesting priorities are given to stands which have been damaged by fire, wind, insects, or disease and to those stands which have reached maturity with consequent reduction of growth rates. Cutting priorities for timber on the 905 thousand acres of O and C and public domain land in the Medford district are established by the district manager and his staff after consultation with the district advisory board and other interested persons.

The advisory board is comprised of representatives of the forest products industry, agriculture, mining, livestock industry, labor, recreation, and the general public.

When completed, the timber sale plan presents estimated volumes of some 65 to 100 tracts located throughout the five forest management areas: Glendale, Gallego, Applegate, Trail and Greensprings. The approximate times when the tracts are to be offered for oral auction bidding are also given.

Management Practices

Harvests embody sound forest management practices and are based upon the principles of multiple use and sustained yield, according to Youngblood. No timber will be advertised for sale unless the

district's tentative plan is read and to submit a map and description of the timber involved as well as indicate any access across private land for which the plan can assign right-of-way. Evaluating suggestions, the condition and maturity of the timber, need for retention as a source of seed, protection of soil, water, and recreational values, and fish and game management are also considered.

Additional information concerning the preparation of the 1962 timber sale plan or the management of lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the United States department of the interior in the Medford BLM district can be obtained by contacting the office at 1133 South Riverside ave., Medford.

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