

Beef Cattle Day Set For Burns On March 22

Corvallis — Eastern Oregon cattlemen can take part in a roundup of latest research findings on winter feeding, March 22, at a special beef cattle field day near Burns.

Sponsored by the Oregon State College Squaw Butte experiment station, the program will start at 10 a.m. at the Miles East of Burns on Highway 78, according to W. A. Sawyer, station superintendent.

More effective use of meadow hay, feed supplements, cross-breeding, and control of livestock diseases are among topics slated for discussion. The program will also include an afternoon tour of the station's winter quarters seven miles southeast of Burns. Lunch will be served for a nominal charge at the Grange Hall by ladies of the Grange.

Dean F. E. Price, director of the OSC agricultural extension service, will review research programs for Oregon's range country at the opening session. Other morning speakers will include Joe D. Wallace and R. J. Raleigh, branch station animal husbandmen, who will discuss performance of calves as influenced by time of weaning and use of protein supplement for weaner calves.

Reports on grazing crested wheatgrass by D. N. Hyder, branch station range conservationist, and livestock sanitation and disease control, Dr. Jackson Minar, Burns veterinarian, will complete the morning program.

J. E. Oldfield, OSC animal nutritionist, will moderate an afternoon panel discussion on production and use of meadow hay.

Highlights of the afternoon tour of research facilities at winter quarters include comparative feed trials of alfalfa meal versus cottonseed meal, effect of water and salt intake on utilization of protein, effects of trace elements, and inspection of calves from a Charolais-Herford cross.

Garden Tips

TREES

Lawn and street trees should be fertilized every few years to keep them in good health and appearance. October, March and April are the months recommended for fertilizing.

A 10-6-4 or similar fertilizer will supply a balanced diet for broad leaved trees. Use two to five pounds for each inch of trunk diameter. Thoroughly mix this with two to three times its volume of top soil.

With a crowbar or other suitable instrument make holes one to 1½ feet deep in the feeding zone (the area between the outer margin of the branches and one-half of the way to the tree trunk). These holes should be spaced two to three feet apart.

Fill these holes with the fertilizing mixture, tamping it as you do so with a small stick. The area should be well watered with a sprinkler after the fertilizer is applied.

PRUNING

Spring flowering shrubs should be pruned immediately after the blossoms fade. This pruning will determine the quantity and quality of the blooms in later years as well as the general appearance of the bush.

If you are unfamiliar with the pruning practices followed with the flowering shrubs, fruit trees and bush fruits in your yard write or call your county extension office for your free copy of the pruning bulletin.

Fertilizer Tops Record in Sales

Salem — Fertilizer tonnage sold in Oregon in 1960 topped the total sold in 1959 and was the highest in the last nine years, according to report from the State Department of Agriculture.

Compliments made from inspection fee reports show a total sale of 197,250 tons in 1960 as compared to 186,194 in 1959. Sale of agricultural minerals was also ahead in 1960, at 14,547 tons sold compared to 9,538 for 1959. However, sale of agricultural limes went way down with a report of 48,557 tons sold last year and 81,593 the previous year.

Sales for 1960 hit their peak for fertilizer in the second quarter of the year when almost half of the total tonnage was sold. Sale of mineral fertilizers hit its peak in the first quarter of the year with 6,602 tons sold and limes reached a high in the third quarter when half the total tonnage was sold.

During the final quarter from October to December, totals included 18,584 tons of fertilizer, 1,616 tons of agricultural minerals and 8,137 tons of lime.

--- CHIT CHAT ---

By JOE COWLEY

Mail Tribune "Arm Editor"

Last week we reminded people that the assessor doesn't raise their property taxes. This is done every time the people themselves demand more public services.

However, one of our farmer friends could retort just who is providing public services, anyway? The orchardists voluntarily are attempting to reduce orchard heating smoke by converting to less smoke-producing heaters. This is a public service. The same orchardists are careful in timing their sprays so their fruit will not go to the packing house with too much spray residue on the fruit. This is enforced by the foods and drug administration, but it is still a public service. And the farmers are financing such artificial lakes as Howard Prairie, Hiatt and Emigrant, which are used for fishing, boating and ice-skating.

So, it kind of looks like the farmers are providing their share of public services-free-of-charge, too.

Oregon often follows California's lead, so we hope Gov. Mark Hatfield follows the California governor's move toward solving the agricultural chemical problem. Governor Brown has established a committee on public policy regarding agricultural chemicals. If this committee is as long on work as it is on title, it should be most effective.

The committee was a direct outgrowth of the sudden crackdown on a relatively small portion of the cranberry crop found contaminated in 1959 with a weed killing chemical that had not been used properly by some growers. Then came some further investigations in use of chemicals which hit other segments of our agricultural production. One of these was the banning of chickens treated with dithyrostibol. This same chemical was not considered dangerous in fattening beef cattle. However, the FDA people are strict about the possible effect of antibiotics in dairy and beef feed.

As one writer put it, "The investigations, the claims and counter-statements by interested parties, some of them called health faddists, stirred up a storm of serious consequence to us all."

The California governor met this problem in the number one farm state by appointing the committee of 15. It is headed by the eminent food technologist, Dr. Emil M. Mrak, chancellor of the University of California at Davis. He added to the committee a group of recognized experts in nutrition, public health, medicine, agriculture, and the food and chemical industries.

After a six months' study and investigation this committee found no cause of public alarm over widespread use of agricultural chemicals. It recognized these chemicals are essential to protect food crops from insects and weeds. The committee also recommended continued vigilant regulation and research in agricultural chemicals. They suggested that the public be kept fully informed.

This state's farmers are about to kill a bill which would provide for appraisal of farm land as farm land, yet would not give farmers an unfair advantage over other landholders and taxpayers. House Bill 1030 would allow owners of farm land to petition county zoning boards (or planning commission) to zone their land exclusively for agricultural purposes.

Land could be removed from this zone classification by the same process as it was zoned. This measure would provide for assessing such agriculturally zoned land as farm land. Once it were removed from this zoning and sold for subdivisions, the farmer would have to pay the difference between the old and on the new land value. This would cover the last seven years he has held the land.

While the farmers are watching the state legislature they should fight a bill which proposes to abolish bounties on predatory animals. This bill has passed the house and is now before the senate, according to week end reports. Counties pay half of the bounty and the state the other half.

Earlier this year some farmers complained of a dangerously increased coyote population in Jackson county. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed setting out poison bait stations using the deadly 1080. But, sportsmen and dog owners protested so strongly that continuation of this program was abandoned. One solution proposed was increasing the county portion of the bounty. Now it looks as if this, on all predators, will be abandoned.

Some counties do not have a predatory animal problem. This county does. Jackson county should be allowed to keep its bounty schedule to meet its own problem. This would be a good argument for home rule. Home rule allows a county to solve its own problems without requiring permissive legislation from Salem. This should give the farmer a big stake in the home rule proposal being worked on by a local committee.

House Joint Resolution 24 approved by the last session of state legislature urged the interim committee on agriculture to direct its attention to conflicting usage of funds or duplication and recommend to the present legislature a more effective use or distribution pattern of expenditures on a priority basis.

The result of this seems to be that some state legislators are demanding that a half-million dollars be lopped from the proposed \$2,730,000 general fund expenditure of the state department of agriculture. Justifiably it created one of the greatest hubbubs in the Oregon legislature.

Gov. Mark Hatfield's budget called for expenditure of \$2,730,468 of general fund money by the agriculture department in the 1961-63 biennium. Jim Short, director of the agriculture department, said the state department of finance and administration trimmed \$181,000 from his request before the ways and means committee saw it. This compares with \$2,510,491 which is the estimated expenditure for the two-year period ending this June 30, and \$2,087,572 spent in the 1957-59 biennium.

Short said his department was budgeted for an expenditure of \$2,574,409 in the current biennium, but was understaffed part of the time.

One cause for the budget rise was the increased demand for meat inspection service and the resulting rise with the expansion of this service. Meat inspection cost \$678,582 in the 1957-59 biennium; an estimated \$733,786 in the 1959-61 biennium and the budgeted \$816,478 in the 1961-63 biennium.

In view of the interim agriculture committee's report, this proposed cut in the ag department's total budget is interesting. The committee report notes that 50 per cent of the red meat animals slaughtered for human consumption are inspected by the department. "If it were not for this compulsory state inspection, much of this slaughter would go uninspected," the report reads. "The state is somewhat more lenient on physical plant requirements and does not have the personnel to make adequate inspection of processed meat."

"The cost of inspection will rise as slaughter numbers rise. The cost of inspection for each animal inspected is higher than that of the federal inspection as the state must inspect a large number of small volume plants," the report continues.

Another agricultural committee recommended that the Oregon livestock industry be expanded through more extensive use of feed grains raised in the state. Two or three weeks ago we read another recommendation that hog raising could be increased in western Oregon. If both of these suggestions are carried out the inspection service would have to be increased. This would mean increased costs.

Agriculture and lumber are this state's two leading industries. State services should not be trimmed if they help promote and protect Oregon's agriculture.

The interim committee report also pointed out that the state ag department is severely hampered by low salary

March 31 Set As Deadline For Wool Plans

Wool and lamb producers must complete all details of marketing not later than March 31 in order for the sale to qualify for payment under the 1960 wool program, M. B. Caster, office manager, Jackson county agricultural stabilization and conservation office pointed out today. Later marketings of wool and lambs would be eligible for payments under the 1961 program.

The office manager explained that, under program regulations, wool which is "marketed" means title has passed to the buyer. The wool has been delivered to the buyer either physically or through documents which transfer control to the buyer, and the last of the factors needed to determine the total purchase price payable by the buyer (price per pound, weight, yield, etc.) is available.

Thus, wool will not be considered as "marketed" and so eligible for 1960-program payments unless all details of the sales are settled and all the information needed on the sales documents — including the net sales proceeds — is completed by March 31.

Payments under the 1960 program will be made this summer when the payment rates can be determined, based on the average prices received by producers for shorn wool during the 1960 marketing year. The 1960 wool program year runs from April 1, 1960 through March 31, 1961.

Producers have 30 days after the close of the marketing year — that is, until April 30, 1960 under the 1960 wool program — in which to file applications for wool and lamb payments with the County ASC Office.

One of several compounds may be added to table salt to make it flow freely during damp weather. They are tasteless, odorless, finely ground, insoluble powders that keep the salt crystals from sticking together when the humidity shifts from high to low.

Such chemicals, particularly for key personnel and specialists. "The level of these schedules should be raised so as to secure and keep capable staff and thus eliminate costly turnover," the report recommends.

It seems silly to appoint an interim committee to come up with recommendations on this state's agricultural problems, pay good taxpayers' money to finance its investigations then oppose suggestions made by well-qualified people. And these recommendations were made after considerable field study and searching questioning during hearings.

The various programs instituted by the state department of agriculture were approved originally by the state legislature. Most of the programs are for the protection of the consumer. Any reduction in the requested budget allocation would greatly reduce this consumer protection, according to Ward Spatz, Medford fruitgrower and member of the state board of agriculture, the advisory group to the state department of agriculture.

One of the more controversial bills before the senate agricultural committee is a proposal to prohibit the sale of raw milk in Oregon. We sympathize with the Grade A milk producers who must maintain expensive equipment for pasteurization and meet stringent sanitation rules, then are consistently undercut price-wise by the raw milk producers.

However, the fiercely competitive and tight Grade-A market has forced a number of dairymen to go into the raw milk business. A number of them have as sanitary and healthful facilities as the Grade A operations. Unfortunately there are a few of the very small operations which don't.

The House has sent the state senate a bill which would allow shooting of firecrackers under roosting starlings (small birds resembling blackbirds) to protect holly growers in the north end of the state. We understand these birds also cause widespread damage by blanketing feed yards with their excrement. Anyway, we'll bet many people will suddenly find large flocks of starlings in their backyards come Fourth of July. This might even make sale of fireworks legal again in this state.

Read Weedicide Label To Get Best Control

By M. R. HUBBELL
Jackson County Weed Supervisor

Remember last summer that big patch of weeds that grew up and perhaps spoiled the looks of your place?

They may have presented a fire hazard or just been a nuisance. Many of these problems can be corrected with weed control products that are on the market today. Read the label and be sure the product you purchase will answer your problems. It will

Milk Dispenser Booklet Published

Corvallis-Prox and cons of using restaurant-type bulk milk dispensers in the home are pointed out in a new Oregon State college bulletin.

The OSC agricultural experiment station study of Portland households using such dispensers indicates that they're best adapted to large families in higher income levels. For one thing, families using dispensers started drinking more milk—nearly one-fourth more.

Homemakers who have dispensers seem to like them. They name the following main advantages: convenience, saves refrigerator space, and milk is colder.

Disadvantages: takes up kitchen space, cost of dispenser and increased consumption, milk spillage, and spout dripage.

From the dairy's point of view processing, packaging, and distributing milk in bulk cans costs about the same as in paper containers. Dairy advantages would have to come from increased sales of milk per household, from new customers, and increased sales of other dairy products resulting from the delivery man's personal contact with the customer.

The bulletin, "Economics of Bulk Milk Dispensers for Home Use" is available without charge to Oregon residents. Copies may be obtained from local county extension offices or from OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Salem — Work on several fronts made gains in 1960 in the battle against brucellosis infection in Oregon cattle, according to the annual resume from the state department of agriculture at Salem.

The past year's work of the federal-state cooperative testing teams working on this disease is reflected in this brief summary on the various phases of testing:

Farm testing—Reduced from 11,742 herds in 1959 to 7,378 herds in 1960. A corresponding reduction occurred in the number of cattle tested on farms.

Slaughter and slaughterhouse testing—There was an increase in the number of herd tests from 5,183 in 1959 to 7,733 in 1960 though the actual number of cattle tested in this program phase dropped from 53,276 in 1959 to 48,069 last year.

Reactors—The herds in which reactors were found dropped from 589/1000s of 1

per cent to 172/1000s of 1 per cent. In a few counties the percentage of reactors was greater than for the previous year but only because testing was virtually all done in reactor herds.

Calf vaccination—Statewide calfhood vaccination dropped from 161,808 in 1959 to 158,546 in 1960 with the decline largely in vaccinations at saleyards. However, calf vaccination in western Oregon dairy counties increased 13 per cent from 16,124 calves in 1959 to 18,178 in 1960. The drop in beef calf vaccination, cattleman report, is due to heavier sales of calves in 1960 than the previous year.

Milk ring testing—This testing was stepped up to four times around (instead of three) on most of the dairy under this screening test. Suspect herds on the milk ring test are blood tested with these results reflected in the farm testing.

Lighter carryover stocks, particularly tree fruits, resulting from poor weather conditions last year have helped strengthen this year's outlook. Trade reports indicate that prices for all major Northwest fruits and vegetables have held firm or advanced on better quality packs, the specialist noted.

A few clouds on the horizon could dim the picture, he added. Labor contracts in many processing plants come in for renewal this year. Also, higher costs for transportation, packaging materials, and equipment have been announced. These and other economic considerations could change this area's competitive place for national markets, Groder explained.

Strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits appear

Fruits, Vegetables Show Good Future For New Season

Corvallis — One of the brighter spots for Oregon agriculture in 1961 is the market outlook for local fruits and vegetables, reports Oregon State college extension service.

Good sales of fresh, canned, and frozen fruit and vegetable products during the past year have sparked optimism in the packing and processing trade for the year ahead, said R.H. Groder, OSC fruit and vegetable marketing specialist.

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headed for good balance between supply and demand with no burdensome carryovers from a year ago. The strawberry industry, in serious trouble a few years ago with over-production, has been trimming back to stabilize prices. Oregon strawberry acreage for 1961 is estimated 1,000 acres less than the previous year. As a result, carryover stocks of canned and frozen fruits next July

will likely be smaller than a year earlier and should strengthen market prospects, Groder stated.

The outlook is also good for Oregon's important crops of snap beans, peas, and sweet corn. Some bean processors have offered higher prices for the 1961 crop than in 1970 and have indicated a desire for increased acreage and production, the specialist said.

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Harry and Fred Plog. "Scabby fruit costs the grower lots of money," says Fred... "we use CYPREX to do the best job we know how to control it!"

Scab got tough last year in Hood River... perhaps the worst scab season in 40 years and especially bad on Newtowns. Growers were faced with a very real battle to keep fruit clean and sometimes they lost.

But not Fred Plog and his father, Harry. They won. Using the remarkable new fungicide, CYPREX 65-W... they really did a job on scab.

"We just didn't have scab on the Newtowns that got CYPREX at pink, petal fall and first cover," says Fred Plog. "The four sprays on our Delicious trees, at pink, bloom, and second cover and pre-harvest, gave us further proof that CYPREX is the best yet."

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Authorities have called CYPREX the most important fungicide developed in its field in the past 50 years.

It is a new and unique fungicide that actually combines both of the important properties a scab control material can have. It is an outstanding protectant... with eradicant action even at ½ pound per 100 gallons. At ¼ of a pound, the dosage used in the Northwest, CYPREX is a full-fledged eradicant with a back action (or kickback) of from 36 to 48 hours from the beginning of a scab rain.

Used as a protectant, CYPREX puts a tough fungicide barrier on the surface of the leaf. Because of built-in spreader-sticker action, it disperses and covers all surfaces.

A rather remarkable feature of CYPREX is its property of redistribution. Without leaving the original foliage unprotected, some CYPREX will splash from leaf to leaf during a rain, extending control to new growth.

Because of its local-systemic action, CYPREX protects the entire leaf. Sprayed on an under surface, it penetrates the leaf, goes through and protects the upper surface as well.

CYPREX as an eradicant application utilizes all the above properties. It spreads and sticks and penetrates to burn out established scab before it gets a foothold... killing spores that have germinated and started into the leaf.

CYPREX is a remarkable scab

control material, and its combination of advantages made the difference between a fair crop and a good one for many growers last season. CYPREX cannot, however, perform miracles. It does not eliminate the need for reasonable timing, good coverage and sound orchard practice.

Consult your local agricultural authorities for further information. Or write for leaflet PE 5061, American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division, Los Angeles 54.

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