

Milk Protein Testing Starts In OSU Labs

Corvallis - Oregon has started a new milk-testing program that could someday change the historical base for pricing milk primarily on its butterfat content.

The program announced at Oregon State university will provide a milk protein test, first statewide program of its kind in the country, designed to measure this key nutritional ingredient of milk.

While actual pricing of milk on its protein rating is still in the future, many leading dairymen want to screen their herds for protein-production ability in preparation for the expected change, report OSU dairy specialists.

Preliminary tests show considerable variation between cows and within herds in ability to produce high protein milk.

"Dairy industry leaders and researchers have recognized for some time that heavy emphasis on butterfat as a price base for milk has been unrealistic," explained J. Orville Young, OSU dairy technologist.

Butterfat and other animal fats have slipped drastically in popularity among diet-conscious American food shoppers in recent years while protein value of milk is receiving more recognition.

Milk protein is rated as the best natural protein and is used as the national standard for measuring other protein products.

Comments Dairymen Don E. Anderson, OSU extension dairy specialist, commended Oregon dairymen for "this progressive step that gives our state a running start in shaping up local herds to meet the trend."

Anderson and Young will coordinate the testing program that will be conducted through the Oregon Dairy Herd Improvement Association and official test herds in the state.

Expected adoption of protein as a key factor in pricing milk, along with present butterfat ratings, should provide a more equitable pay-out to producers, the specialists pointed out.

The change should also take pressure off butterfat in the milk price structure and permit more realistic pricing of butter to meet competition, it was explained.

Groundwork for the Oregon program began four years ago when OSU researchers began preliminary testing with four dairy herds in Tillamook county and at OSU. Methods developed in the preliminary trials for testing protein and solids-not-fat served as the basis for the new statewide testing service.

Tests also showed that cows have inherited ability to produce high protein milk, thus enabling dairymen to select and breed animals for this characteristic.

Anderson said dairymen with herds enrolled in DHIA or official test herds may obtain application forms and details of the service from county extension agents.

Protein tests will be made only for cows also on test for butterfat and solids-not-fat. Total cost for the three tests would run about 55 cents per cow each month, although the cost will vary among counties. Herds can go on test as soon as arrangements are made with local milk testers.

Spray Supervisor From Libby Firm

Salem - J. J. Rozar, formerly agricultural research manager for Libby, McNeill & Libby at Sunnyvale, Calif., has been named as supervisor of the Oregon agricultural chemical applicators program and is already on the job.

This announcement came from the state department of agriculture, Salem. Rozar takes over the field work carried on until earlier this year by Ray Kelso until he reached state retirement age.

The 1961 legislature brought the commercial application of all pesticides, including farm sprays and dusts, under state control. This broadened previous controls on applicators of herbicides (chemical weed killers) only.

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Aquatic Weeds Bother, Control Measures Given

By RAY HUBBELL, Jackson County Weed Supervisor

Of the various weed problems, water weeds, or aquatic weeds are some of the most troublesome.

Cut Out Program On Public Affairs, Cattlemen Urge

Spokane, Wash. (UP) - The Washington Cattlemen's association has adopted a resolution opposing the Kennedy administration's farm bill, both in principle and in its specific provisions.

In a set of resolutions, the association recently favored less government control and subsidy and encouraged support of marketing and transportation facilities.

The organization favored federal legislation requiring the secretary of agriculture to handle government-owned feed grain stocks so processing would be equitable for various feeding areas.

In other action, the association suggested that the agricultural extension service "keep out of public affairs education."

Resolution on WSU The resolution urged the WSU extension service confine its work to collecting and disseminating factual information. The resolution said, "entrance into public affairs will defy its best efforts to remain impartial and will result in deterioration of the extension service."

Jay Agnew, Centralia, Wash., was re-elected president and Robert Hensel, Waterville, was re-elected first vice president.

Four regional vice presidents elected were John Woodward, Loomis; Henry Schnebly, Ellensburg, Wash.; Dale Bly, Harrington, and Bill Bennett, Oakville, Wash.

Mrs. Roland Sackman, Omak, Wash., was elected president of the Cattlewomen's auxiliary of the cattlemen.

Bellingham, Wash., was selected as the site of the 1963 convention.

Strawberry Aphid Control Urged

Corvallis - May is one of the crucial months for control of the strawberry aphid, the insect that comes both with and without wings and that is responsible for the spread of virus diseases in Oregon strawberry fields.

Only the aphid spreads virus diseases to both new plants and fields as well as to established plantings, point out R. W. Every, extension entomologist, and I. C. MacSwan, extension plant pathologist at Oregon State university.

Aphid control is an important factor in maintaining a high level of production and prolonging the life of strawberry plants, the specialists note, and a community control approach is the best method. While an individual grower will benefit from control measures in his own fields, winged aphids are often air borne to neighboring fields, spreading disease as they go.

The best way to fight aphids is to spray or dust both old and new plantings of all strawberry varieties in the spring when aphids begin to reproduce, usually in early May. Recommended chemical applications for aphids will also control other pests of strawberries.

Critical periods for control are May and June and again in September and October. The small, pale green, wingless adults winter in leaf buds between the folds of small leaves, reproducing both winged and wingless young in the spring. Since aphids sometimes build up in the fall, plants should be examined in September and October and if aphids are found, a plant protectant should be applied.

Beef cattle prefer loose salt to block salt and so do many ranchers. It takes energy and calories to stand and lick salt blocks, energy and calories that might better be used for extra weight gains.

OSU Specialist To Study Markets In Caribbean

Corvallis - Roland Groder, Oregon State university extension fruit and vegetable marketing specialist, has been named to a six-man team of federal and state cooperative extension workers that will study market possibilities in the Caribbean area for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The team will conduct a first hand study of the possibilities of expanding the market for U.S. farm products in the area and will develop discussion material for urban and rural people and professional agricultural workers throughout the nation upon return.

The team will leave about June 15 and return in late July. It hopes to gain information to help U.S. farmers and professional agricultural workers improve their understanding of foreign food and fiber needs, problems of export marketing, and basic facts underlying a successful U.S. foreign trade policy.

Visits are scheduled to Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua and Trinidad. Primary emphasis will be placed on cash market potentials for U.S. agricultural commodities in such developing countries as Haiti, Venezuela, Brazil and Mexico.

One of Four Groups Groder's team is one of four extension groups which will visit major world areas to conduct marketing studies for the USDA. The other teams will visit countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe and South Asia. The studies are carried on by the USDA with U.S. agricultural interests to maintain and expand foreign markets for farm products.

Information gained from the study tours will be used to help meet the need of farmers and others to be fully informed regarding the importance of foreign agricultural markets which last year took the production of one out of every six harvested American acres.

Observations made abroad will enable the groups to supply information farmers and agricultural exporters need regarding products foreign consumers want most, the varieties that best meet those desires, and harvesting, packaging and marketing methods that best facilitate foreign sales.

Other members of the group include George M. Beal, extension economist, New Mexico State university; W. Y. Fowler, extension economist, New Mexico State university; H. W. Herbison, marketing economist, North Dakota State university; Verle B. Houghnaboom, extension economist in farm management, University of Vermont; and A. G. Kewarkian, agricultural economist, sugar and tropical products division, Foreign Agricultural Service.

A staff member of the Foreign Agricultural Service familiar with the area and its agricultural trade problems will accompany them.

COMPOSER MARRIES

New York - (UPI) - Composer-producer Jules Styne and actress Margaret Brown were married by Rabbi Julius Mark. Styne composed such stage and screen successes as "Gypsy," "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," "Bells Are Ringing" and "High Button Shoes." A previous marriage ended in divorce.

OSU Researchers To Measure Flavor On Dried Milk

Corvallis - Oregon State university scientists have received a \$23,100 grant to design a method for measuring flavor in whole dried milk - a new creamy product that resembles fresh whole milk.

Only water is removed from this new milk powder; all solid milkfat, proteins and non-fat solids remain, explains Mrs. Lois Sather, food technologist who heads up the study.

Eight OSU experts will compare various whole milk powders with whole fluid milk particularly for flavor. Their reactions will be compared with those of a least 120 OSU student milk drinkers who will be asked to score their preferences for various whole milk powders.

Encouraged by the success of instant nonfat dry milk developed during the war, work was started on a dry whole milk that reconstitutes instantly and can be stored two to three months on the kitchen shelf. As soon as certain problems are overcome in manufacture and storage, whole dried milk will probably be available to consumers, says Mrs. Sather.

Flavor Changes One of the problems noted by USDA scientists is that whole milk flavor changes during storage. When fresh, dried whole milk is as tasty as fluid milk. But the fresh taste doesn't last. Milk develops off-flavors and begins to stale 9 to 12 weeks at room temperature. It retains fresh flavor somewhat longer, however, when stored in the refrigerator, says Mrs. Sather.

Development of whole dried milk could supplement fluid milk and enrich diets of many families here and abroad. OSU dairy specialists say it could also provide a new outlet for surplus supplies of whole fluid milk particularly in major midwest dairying states.

As a side project, OSU workers will also run some flavor studies on canned condensed milk. Lyle Calvin, OSU statistician, will assist Mrs. Sather in the two-year study.

New Barley Type Has Stiff Straw, High Grain Yield

Corvallis - A new high-yielding, stiff-strawed spring barley has been released by Oregon State university for irrigated areas of the Snake River valley of Oregon.

Named "Vale" after the Malheur county seat, the new variety has out-yielded other leading feed barleys over the past six years at OSU's Malheur Branch Experiment Station. However, its major advantage is improved straw-strength to stand up under heavy yields on the higher producing irrigated lands in the area.

Vale will be recommended to replace Bonneville, present leader on irrigated soils in the area, stated F. E. Price, director of OSU Agricultural Experiment station.

The new variety is a six-row, white, smooth awned barley with a semi-club head. It was developed at the Utah State Agricultural Experiment Station by R. W. Woodward, USDA Agricultural Research Service, from a cross of a Glossy field hybrid with a Velvon - Wisconsin cross. The selection was sent to experiment stations in the Rocky Mountain region for testing and has been on trial at the Malheur station since 1955.

E. N. Hoffman, Malheur branch station superintendent, said 4,000 pounds of seed - enough to seed about 35 acres - was distributed this spring for further increase.

Average yield of Vale at the branch station from 1955 through 1961 was 109 bushels per acre compared to 102 for Bonneville and 95 for Trebi. Test weight of Vale is comparable to Trebi and slightly better than Bonneville. It is similar to Bonneville in threshing characteristics.

Superior straw strength of Vale gave it marked advantage over other varieties in standing up under heavy yields, winds, wet soils and combinations of conditions that cause lodging.

Vale did not lodge during five of the seven test years and averaged only 3 per cent lodging for all years compared to more than 14 per cent for Bonneville and nearly 33 per cent for Trebi. Average heading date for Vale was May 31, a few days earlier than the average for Bonneville and about three days later than Trebi.

If a calf is old enough to eat hay or grain, he's old enough to need additional salt - either mixed in feed or offered separately.

Best Vegetable Varieties Listed

Corvallis - Home vegetable gardeners will be happier with their results and have fewer problems if they will plant recommended varieties in their summer gardens, reports A. A. Duncan, Oregon State university extension vegetable production specialist.

A new leaflet, entitled "Fresh Market and Home Vegetable Varieties for 1962," has just been published for Oregon. It is now available from county extension offices as an aid to both the commercial grower who produces for fresh market and the home gardener.

The publication covers vegetable crops grown in all parts of the state, tells recommended varieties to plant for the best results, and gives hints as to which varieties are best suited for storing in freezers. It also lists new varieties which are being introduced on the market as well as including notations on altitude and the length of the growing season.

Too often, the home gardener is not taking advantage of the new varieties which have been developed through research to give more satisfactory yields and quality, Duncan noted. The result is disappointment with the garden.

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