

Supports, Taxes Hurt Oregon Farms

Salem - Two overwhelming problems - the property tax burden and the national agricultural program primarily as it applies to price supports - are striking at the heart of prosperity and efficiency of agriculture in Oregon.

This is the opinion that J. W. Southworth, assistant director of the state department of agriculture, expressed to the Agriculture Conference of the Oregon Bankers association in Redmond on June 21.

Oregon's tax structure, Southworth said, places an almost overwhelming property tax burden upon agriculture because Oregon farmers are producing for a national market in competition with farmers throughout the nation. He pointed out Oregon agriculture pays more property tax in terms of percentages of value than any other state.

With an annual \$400 million basic agriculture production in Oregon, he sees the big question as: "Are we going to continue this man-made tax burden upon it or will we make it possible for Oregon agriculture to compete effectively with that of neighboring states and throughout the nation?"

Solution Suggested

Southworth told the bankers he believes the solution lies in removing the tax load for education from property, though he would leave a tax on property for vital services like police, fire, county roads. For the health and prosperity of agriculture, he would levy the major tax costs against income and some additional source, the most typical of which is the sales tax.

Of the second major problem, the national agricultural support price program, Southworth said this program was not designed to aid the diversified agricultural situation which exists in Oregon. He urged instead a program that will speak to the social-economic problem of the mar-

Garden Tips

Tomatoes
Healthy tomato plants frequently set a good amount of blossoms but then fail to set any fruit.

When the early blossoms on the plant fall it is nothing more than a natural shedding. However, when this shedding continues into the season it ceases to be natural and becomes of great concern to the grower. This condition is called "blossom drop."

In many cases of blossom drop a number of environmental factors are the cause rather than a disease or insect. When the soil moisture is low and the tomato plant is subject to a hot, drying wind, blossom drop is particularly prevalent. Such an environmental condition favors an abnormal elongation of the style in the flower. Since most tomatoes are self-pollinated, this elongation prevents fertilization and fruit set.

Another reason for blossom drop is low night temperatures. Many tomatoes fail to pollinate properly when the temperature dips below 58 degrees. Other environmental conditions that interfere with proper blossom development are sudden periods of cool weather, beating rains and excessive applications of nitrogen fertilizer.

Hormone Treatment

A tomato plant will set fruit earlier if the bloom is sprayed with a hormone. However, this early fruit will probably be seedless and the tomatoes may be deformed.

Corn Earworm

The corn earworm is one of the most destructive pests in the vegetable garden. The worm enters the tips of the corn ear and feeds on the silk and kernels.

In the home garden an individual ear treatment, which is very effective, can be followed. With this hand-daubing method a can of 5 per cent DDT dust is hung around the neck of the operator and the dust daubed directly on the silk and husk necks with a brush. Three or four ears can be treated from each renewal of dust from the can.

This application should be applied as soon as the silks appear as possible. The application should be followed by two or three more applications at approximately three day intervals.

The use of DDT for corn earworm control will result in detectable residues on corn stover, husks, stalks and cobs, and waste. This residue has a zero (0) tolerance for DDT and should not be fed to poultry, dairy animals or livestock being finished for slaughter. The tolerance established for corn kernels for human consumption is met because of the protection afforded by the husks.

Strawberry Rot Nearing Control in State Fields

Corvallis - Oregon strawberry growers, nearing the peak of harvest, are ahead with their old enemy, fruit rot, but a warm, damp spell could once again make a difference after the cool spring.

Even though growers must still face the threat of fruit rot every season, several advances have been made against the enemy in recent years, reports Dr. E. K. Vaughan, plant pathologist with the Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment Station. Chief among these have been new chemicals for control and new knowledge about fruit rot and how it works.

Contrary to popular belief, strawberry fruit rot isn't caused by the weather, although it is a contributing factor. Fruit rot is caused by a fungus, *Botrytis cinerea*, which loves warm, humid conditions and secretes an enzyme which causes the fruit to deteriorate.

Although Oregon berry fields get lots of moisture this spring, cool temperature kept the fungus from functioning at the peak level reached in other years.

Three relatively new chemical materials have appeared on the market to aid growers in their fight. Although no material will always be "best," Captain has shown the most consistent performance locally, followed by Thiram and Dyrene, Dr. Vaughan said.

To help the growers, a series of spray recommendations for control have been developed by OSU following tests at Corvallis and North Willamette Branch experiment station.

Plant Culprits Sought By Oregon Department

Salem - The man on the street and the lady in the kitchen are familiar with state and local police officers who take care of obstreperous newcomers and floater of the human variety.

But few are so well acquainted with the small corps of investigators looking for traveling culprits of another kind and on another front.

These culprits are insects and bugs, viruses, fungi and disease-spreaders that can make a home garden, flowers or acres of field crops look like a forsaken battlefield. The investigators are the state's survey entomologists and pathologists whose business it is to search out intruders of these species and push the alarm button when they appear.

An example of what goes on year after year to protect Oregon agriculture and home gardens is conveyed in the report made to the recent western plant board meeting in Wyoming by Harold J. Foster, plant division staff, Oregon department of agriculture.

New Surveys

New surveys show no further trouble from Dogwood borers which hitchhiked in on shipments from a southeastern state in 1960 and were apprehended and fumigated.

They searched at airports and arterial highways for the devastating Japanese beetle, which alarmed California two years ago by appearing in the statehouse grounds at Sacramento. It's not in Oregon yet. This year would be a strategic one for it to appear, what with the heavy tourist travel to the Seattle fair.

On the Atlantic seaboard, the Japanese beetle cuts an estimated \$10 million damage swath through farm crops, lawns and ornamentals - which explains why Oregon's plant hawkshaws have been trapping regularly for it since 1945.

The khapra beetle, a glutton that can work its way through as much as 40 per cent of stored grain in a year, is another target for the survey entomologists. They again searched all known Oregon grain and feed retail outlets and warehouses for this pest. Fortunately for Oregon, it was not found.

Surveys continue for other unwanted pests which might multiply under Oregon's climatic conditions, also still missing. These include the European corn borer, European chafer, gypsy moth, imported fire ant, white fringed beetle and Asiatic beetle.

Nor do the three men looking for pests overlook surveys for those that have gained a foothold but are held in check by timely controls suggested by the state university research and extension teams. These include the Oriental fruit moth which is partial to peach trees; spotted alfalfa aphid which appeared in Jackson and Malheur hay crops; cyclamen mite, now at low ebb and of apparent little threat to strawberries; and the pea leaf miner, which

171 Receive Cash Awards From State Scholarship Commission

Eugene - The State Scholarship commission has announced awarding of 171 cash scholarships to high school seniors for purpose of attending Oregon public and private colleges and universities.

The grants range in value to \$500 and may be renewed for a maximum of four years as long as the applicant remains eligible. The commission acted under a legislative act.

Commission members include Chairman E. B. Lemon, Corvallis; Mrs. Cheryl MacNaughton, Portland; Lynn McCready, Eugene; Thomas Scanlon, Portland; and Sidney Schlessinger, Salem.

Winners, by county, included: Baker; Sally Davis, Sue Strong and Joanne Welsh, Baker; T. Greg Remaklaus, Pine Valley, and Dennis Braswell, Eagle Valley.

Clackamas; Forbes Davidson, Nicholas McKlem, Br-

an LeVe and Gary Weiss, Milwaukie; Joanne Bergstrom, Marilyn Gill and Gerald Wolcott, Clackamas; John Lathrop, Oregon City; Nicola Thomsen, West Linn; Edward Bernard, Suzanne Byrd and Roberta Kennedy, Sandy.

Clatsop; Julie Ann Thompson, Alice Timmerman and Janice Snow, Astoria; Beverly Smits, Seaside; D. Ricky Edwards and David Reed, Warrenton.

St. Helens Girl Wins
Columbia; Judith Jacobs and Jeffrey Wycoff, Rainier; Sharon Williams, St. Helens; Karen Davis, Scappoose.

Cook; Margaret Lorenz, Bandon; Dennis Chenoweth, Tamara Roseman, Richard Van Calcar, Linda Wells and Martin Young, Marshfield; John Christiansen, North Bend; Frances Stevens, Coquille; Laura Hill, Powers.

Cook; Robert Cooper and Donna Hereford; Crook County high.

Curry; Connie Shaw and Sherry Dahrens, Pacific High; Deschutes; Ann Dyer and Priscilla Miller, Bend; Bonnie Nordman, Redmond.

Douglas; Hayward D. Reed and Daniel Dodd, Douglas; Marilyn Brown and Judy Levine, Drain; Carol Fuller and Ralph Shircliff, Myrtle

RECORD CONTRIBUTIONS
New York - \$100 - A record total of \$301,693,627 in contributions was received in local United Fund and Community Chest campaigns last fall, it has been announced by the United Community Funds and Councils of America. The organization said the funds were collected in 2,200 local campaigns in the United States and Canada. The total was \$23 million more than the amount contributed in the previous year.

390 Fat Lambs Shipped in Pool

Approximately 390 fat lambs were shipped out Sunday through the Jackson county lamb pool to San Francisco, County Agent Earle Jossy reported.

Price paid was 21 cents a pound. Lambs were reported in "pretty good shape" this year.

A wool pool shipment is planned for July 10 from Southern Oregon Sales shipping dock, Jossy said. Announcement of the new wool incentive payment is expected soon, he added.

Patricia Lourine, Taft; Joyce Day, Waldport, and Michael Erickson, Newport.

Linn; Barbara Buchanan, Susan Fiegenbaum, Larry McDaniel, Dianne Schmidt and Frank Thompson, Albany; David Nielsen and Kenneth Roberts, Sweet Home; Edith Matheson, Lebanon; Jean Lucas, Central Linn.

Malheur; Bruce Hamilton, Judy Johnson and Denise Murata, Ontario; Paul Okano, Nyssa.

Marion; Robert Cornie, Betty Shelton and Janee Speight, North Salem; Daniel Foster and Lynel Selnes, Cascade; James Spence, Silverton; Kay Urban, South Salem; Judy Strochime, Stayton; and Charles Volz, Mt. Angel.

Polk; Dianne Van Order, Dallas; Peggy Norris, Central.

Sherman; Lynda Marden, Sherman County High.

Tillamook; Bonita Henderson, Kerry Honey, Loretta Weston, Tillamook; Janet Alberding and Sandra Phillips, Neah-Kah-Nie.

Umatilla; Richard Furrer, Hermiston; Nolan Ferguson, Weston; Nancy Rugg, Pilot Rock; Stanley Morgan and Huletta Johnson, McLoughlin High.

Washington; Roger Bergman and Frederick Dunbar, Washington; Jeffrey Earnest, Beaverton; Michael Salvason, Hillsboro; Douglas Jones, Sunset; Sharon Strom, Sherwood; Richard Newlin, Jesuit.

Wheeler; Robert Williams, Mitchell.

Yamhill; Andrew Bristol, Frank Kowing and Judith McKenzie, McMinnville; Linda Pollock and Ronald Sloan, Sheridan; Steven Talmadge, Amity and Monty Elliott, Willamina.

Union; Robert Cockrell, Union.

Wallowa; Jacqueline Powers, Enterprise.

Wasco; Sharon Taylor, The Dalles; Gary Miller, Wasco County High.

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SCHOOL'S OUT...CHILDREN PLAYING...DRIVE CAREFULLY...



The boys and girls in Medford and the Rogue River Valley are out of school now to enjoy a summer of fun. PLEASE help them to keep enjoying it! Youngsters will still be going to school playgrounds and playing at home... they are apt to dash into the street anytime... into the path of YOUR car. The Medford Traffic

Safety Council urges YOU to make SAFE DRIVING a very personal responsibility. Have your car thoroughly checked for safety... be doubly careful to observe traffic signs and regulations... watch out for children everywhere - and give them the right of way!

DRIVE WITH EXTRA CARE

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