Range Calf Research Findings In Bulletin

Corvallis – A long-range research program aimed at improving winter performance of Eastern Oregon range calves has been summarized in 10-year findings by Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment station.

Improved feeding practices including use of feed supplements along with meadow hay, value of antibiotics in the feed during the first few weeks following weaning, and best dates for weaning calves are among key findings reported by OSU researchers.

Results of trials conducted from 1951 to 1961 at the Squaw Butte Experiment station near Burns are reported in a new OSU bulletin, "Winter Feeding and Management of Range Calves." Oregon residents may obtain free copies of the bulletin from local county agents or the OSU bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

The 24-page illustrated bulletin was prepared by the Squaw Butte station staff and has application to large areas of the intermountain west where ranches rely on native flood meadows for winter hay supplies and on sagebrush-bunchgrass ranges for summer grazing.

Good, sound calf-wintering programs are increasingly important to help offset generally higher production costs of raising feeder cattle, the bulletin points out.

The bulletin reports how use of phosphorus fertilizer on proper sites in native flood meadows increases yield and quality of hay and boosts calf gains. Use of protein supplement with meadow hay for a wintering ration also has brought marked increase in gains.

The place of pelleted hay in a winter program, comparisons of cottonseed meal and urea as feed supplements, and use of copper supplement with meadow hay are other topics discussed.

Authors of the bulletin are Squaw Butte staff searchers Joe D. Wallace, R. J. Raleigh, Farris Hubbert Jr., and W. A. Sawyer, station superintendent.

Short Weights Top Food Checks

Salem — Short weights on foods figure in more than half the October seizures and court actions of the consumer and dairy services division of the state department of agriculture.

O. K. Beals, assistant director, said the department seized two lots of ice cream, one in Portland and the other in Newberg, because they were short on weight. In both instances, the ice cream was released for reprocessing and packaging.

Two court cases, at Tigard and Corvallis, involved short weight bread. One case is pending and the other was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

A Seaside restaurant forfeited a $75 bail after the state filed a complaint charging it with selling frozen dessert that contained more bacteria than the law allows. In a similar case, a La Grande restaurant pleaded guilty and took a suspended $15 fine.

Twenty bags of short weight wieners and nine unlabeled packages of stewing hens were seized at a Salem-area store and later released for proper labeling.

Another Salem market received a warning from the Marion county district attorney after department inspectors picked up 29 packages of unlabeled cut-up poultry. These, too, were released for correct relabeling.

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Ag Board Slates November Meet

Salem — The State Board of Agriculture will meet in Corvallis on Tuesday, Nov. 27, J. F. Short, director of agriculture, announces. This will be the first session in some years held away from Salem, and will be in Room 125, Agriculture building on the Oregon State university campus.

The major item on the agenda will be adoption of final details of the promotional program for the proposed building to house the state department of agriculture. The board has been working on this project since January, when it decided upon a crash program to gain from the 1963 legislature funds for immediate construction of an adequate building for the department.

In addition, the Corvallis agenda includes features arranged by Dean F. E. Price to show the board members agricultural activities at the state university. As director of the agriculture extension service at Oregon State university, Dean Price is ex-officio member of the state board of agriculture.

The Corvallis session is one of two planned to be held away from Salem. At a later date, the board will meet in Portland and at that time will include a tour of the department's grain inspection operations at the Portland terminals.

Garden Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

Fall Care

Continue mowing your lawn as long as there is grass to cut and keep the lawn free of leaves and mulches. They only encourage smothering and disease.

After the grass stops growing, give your lawn mower a good cleaning before winter storage. This will extend the mower's life and the mower will give better performance.

Remove all grass, leaves, and dirt from the mower. Check the blade or cutter bar for sharpness. A sharp blade is important for good lawn appearance and makes mowing a lot easier. Sharpen the blade now so it will be ready next spring.

Adjust the cutting units for rotary and reel type mowers. To check the reel type hold a piece of paper between the knife blade and reel and slowly turn the reel by hand. Each reel blade should cut the paper along the entire knife blade.

Before storing gasoline engines, drain the tank, carburetor and gas lines. Sometimes gasoline in storage develops a gummy substance and forms a varnish-like coating. If this happens it may be necessary to remove the carburetor and clean it with a solvent. Squirt some oil into the spark plug openings and give the cylinder walls and pistons a good coating of oil.

Asparagus Care

Resist the urge to make your asparagus bed look neat for the winter. The tops or brush is better left on. This will protect the soil from erosion and allow the plant to overwinter in a natural, undamaged condition.

Decorative Cones

Fresh cones collected in the fall rapidly lose their pleasing appearance if they are covered with pitch. This pitch can be easily removed from the cone by heating. First, clean the cones of any foreign materials by the use of a blower. The blower and crevice attachment on your vacuum cleaner is very effective for this cleaning. Put the cones on a foil covered tray and place the tray in a warm oven. A temperature of 200 degrees for 15 minutes should melt the pitch. A longer time may be required in some cases.

The cones may also be placed in boiling water for a minute to remove the pitch. This frequently gives the cones a shellac-like finish.

After the pitch is removed you may want to apply a clear finish to enhance the cones. Lacquer, shellac, varnish or liquid floor wax may be used for this.

Since 1950, the number of milk cows in the United States has declined 4½ million, but the milk supply continues at a record rate. Average milk production per cow has increased from 5,134 pounds a year to 7,004 pounds.

SPEAKER—D. E. Alexander, Napa, Calif. feedlot operator, and California's livestockman of the year for 1962 is shown with his wife at the banquet table at the recent Siskiyou County Cattlemen's association annual dinner meeting in Yreka. He spoke on "dual grading."

FARM

Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
Oregon State Farm Forester

Christmas tree shortages, fifty-dollar stumpage and prospects of profitable tree cropping on a 20-year rotation to meet the demands of pulp, paper and hardboard plants for a supply of wood chips is making woodland tree farming an attractive business.

Seedlings are in Demand. The woodland owner is planting trees. In order to meet this demand, the state of Oregon through its board of forestry, maintains two tree nurseries with an annual capacity of over 30,000,000 seedlings. At present 25,000,000 trees are distributed each year. About 17,000,000 are used to rehabilitate state forest and other public lands. The balance is made available to private land owners.

Limitations

There are definate limitation of forest tree seedlings. The United States Forest service co-operates financially in the administration of the nurseries and under the terms of the agreement trees can go only into some form of farm or forest planting which will come under the classification of woodlands, shelterbelts or windbreaks. Furthermore, the state board of forestry has adopted a policy that trees will not go into competition with the commercial nurserymen of the state. One step required to meet these conditions has been to eliminate any tree which is primarily of an ornamental nature from the nurseries. Another, and most important, is to require the purchaser to sign a certificate to the effect that trees are to be planted outside the boundaries of any incorporated city. Trees purchased from the State Nurseries cannot be resold with the roots attached.

The supply of forest tree seedlings carried at the nursery include both conifers and hardwoods. The former are usually all two-year-old trees and will range in height from 4 to 12 inches, depending on the species. The hardwoods are one-year-old trees and will vary from 6 to 12 inches in height.

Prior to each planting season the state prepares an order blank which indicates the trees available and the costs. On the reverse side is a certificate that must be filled out and signed before the trees will be shipped. The costs may change from season to season since the nursery is operated on a cost basis. Last year the price per thousand trees ranged from 12 to 15 dollars, depending on open species. Copies of order blanks can be obtained around the first of November from your Farm Forester, P. O. Box 71, Medford, Ore., or from your county extension office.

Trees Bundled

The trees are packed in bundles of not less than 50 trees of an individual species. Bundles will not be broken and no order will be accepted for less than one dollar. Shipments will be made by parcel post except where weight exceeds the maximum amount allowed under postal regulations. Orders of this size are usually shipped via auto-freight. The price quoted on the order blank will be F.O.B. the nursery. The purchaser must either pick up the trees at the nursery or pay the shipping costs.

If you have idle lands or cutover lands that do not seem to be coming back to trees, tree planting is a way to bring these areas back into production.

For more information about trees available this year and methods of planting keep watching this weekly column. Next week's article will discuss seedling care before and after planting.

300 Cattle Sold, Market Active; Other Sales Set

Phoenix – The Rogue Valley Auction sold 300 cattle at its regular Saturday, Nov. 17 sale in Phoenix, according to Manager Bob Bever.

The market was active on all classes of cattle. Steer calves sold at $27.50 to $28.70. Heifer calves sold at $23.50 to $24.80. Yearling steers sold at $24.60 to $25.10. Yearling heifers sold at $21.50 to $22.70. Holstein steers weighing 400 to 550 pounds sold at $20.50 to $22.10. Heavy Holsteins sold at $18.90 to $20.10.

Stock cows and cows and calves were very active. Cows with small calves sold at $193 to $215 per pair. Springer cows sold at $152 to $180 per head. Slaughter cows were higher than the week before. Young cows sold at $17.80 to $20.10. Utility cows sold at $16.20 to $17.40. Yellow cows sold at $12.50 to $14 and shelly cows sold down to $8.50.

Special Sale

"There will be a special all-breed sale here on Saturday, Nov. 24," Bever reported. "Many cattle are consigned already. Feed cattle are high. We will have good buyers here for this sale."

"If you have cattle to sell bring them in Saturday. Also, the next Jackson County Stockmen's association feeder sale will be held at this yard on Dec. 4. We already have over 500 cattle consigned for the sale," the yard manager said.

A special pony sale will be held at the auction yard on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m. Ten head of Shetland ponies from Ray Frost, Cave Junction, and 25 head from other Welch and Shetland breeders of southern Oregon will be sold.

Oregon Group Hears Report On Mastitis

Salem—The time may not be far distant when regulatory action will be necessary to clean up the lingering mastitis situation in Oregon dairy cattle.

This conclusion came the past week after the Oregon mastitis control committee heard Dr. Calvin Sevy, of the U.S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C., report mastitis control developments in other states.

In Oregon, the program thus far has been primarily one of education. The committee is now at the point where it agrees it has exhausted efforts in this direction to forward prevention and control of mastitis.

At the conference with Dr. Sevy, the Oregon committee indicated the need to coordinate the program here with that of the adjoining states and the U. S. Public Health Service.

Revising Ordinance

The U. S. Public Health Service is now revising its milk ordinance and code and probably will include standards calling for the exclusion of mastitis infected milk from fluid milk supplies, Dr. Sevy related.

He also revealed that new test standards are being developed to degrade producers whose dairies show abnormal milk conditions due to mastitis.

Kenneth E. Carl, chief of the Oregon Department of Agriculture dairy and consumer services division was chairman of the November conference. Besides the department, also represented on the Oregon committee are Oregon State university, the Oregon Veterinary Medical association, the Eugene and Portland city health departments.

Cherry Industry Receives Boost In New Trees

By DON BERRY
County Extension Agent

Recent developments have stimulated grower interest in reviving a local sweet cherry industry.

High quality sweet cherries were once grown and shipped in carload lots from the Rogue River valley. The Albino cherry virus disease swept through the valley killing most of the sweet cherries during the 1940's and early 1950's. This combined with a trunk and limb disease called bacterial gummosis and the appearance of the cherry fruit fly in the early 1950's practically annihilated our sweet cherry industry.

Oregon State university scientists working through the local experiment station and the extension service have recently come up with answers to these problems. Two new varieties of good quality albino resistant sweet cherries, the MacMar and Lamida, may be planted locally. MacMar is a Royal Anne type sweet cherry and Lamida was developed to replace our Bing variety. Scion wood of these varieties is being increased at both OSU and Southern Oregon Experiment Station and is expected to be available in small quantities next Spring.

Order Now

Meanwhile, growers who plan to set out sweet cherries next year should order Mazzard root stocks through their nurserymen now. Although F12-1 Mazzard stock and Mazzard seedlings are recommended for use in Oregon because of their high tolerance to the bacterial canker disease, the F12-1 stock is favored because it is more tolerant to the disease than Mazzard seedlings.

The albino resistant sweet cherry varieties should then be grafted or budded on the Mazzard trunk after field growing them for a year or more. Sprays for control of cherry fruit flies will be necessary to keep sweet cherries free from worms as soon as the trees are old enough to bear fruit.

State Hort Group Plans 77th Meet Nov. 28-30

Corvallis – The 1962 trade expansion act and the coming session of the Oregon Legislature will be two of the topics considered during the 77th annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society, Nov. 28 to 30, on the Oregon State university campus.

More than 1,000 growers, processors, fieldmen and representatives from related industries are expected to attend the session, the largest agricultural commodity meeting in the state. James Smart, Salem, is society president.

Sen. Wayne L. Morse will speak on the trade expansion act and is expected to explain its provisions as they relate to Oregon's multi-million dollar horticultural industry during a general session of the society.

A panel discussion dealing with the topic, "A Legislative Program for Horticulture" has been scheduled for another general session. Members of the panel will include State Sen. Walter Leth, Salem; A. A. Duncan, OSU extension vegetable production specialist; F. E. Price, OSU dean and director of agriculture; and Robert L. Conroy of Conroy Packing Co., Woolburn.

Special Events

Other special events planned during the meeting include the annual "5-50 Strawberry Luncheon," honoring outstanding growers who have produced at least 50 tons of strawberries in the last year with a minimum yield of 5 tons to the acre. Guest speaker at the luncheon will be Manuel Moran, berry processor from Mexico City, Mexico, who will outline the development of the strawberry industry in Mexico.

Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr., will be the speaker at the society's annual banquet. His topic will be "The Rumble of the Storm." Also at the banquet, the winner of the Hartman Cup, presented annually to an individual for outstanding service to horticulture, will be revealed.

The society's meeting is open to all persons with a professional interest in the horticultural industry, Smart said.

Though the U.S. farmer makes up 9 per cent of the nation's labor force, only 2 per cent of the boys who plan to attend college plan to major in agriculture. Thousands of good agriculture-related jobs go unfilled each year.

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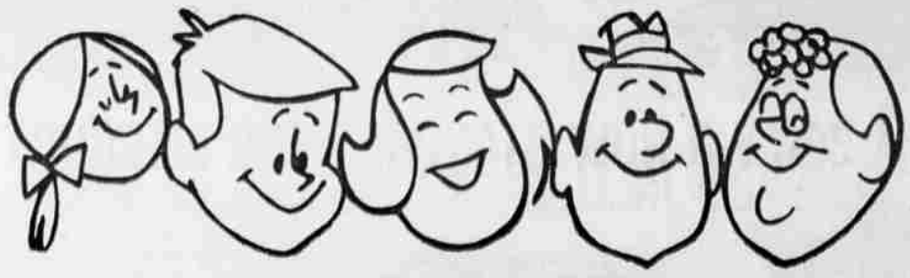

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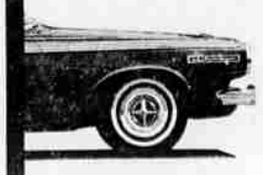

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