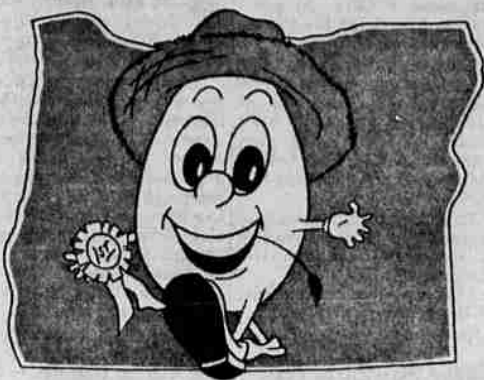


Meet EGGbert



"A Good Oregon EGG"

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AND
PACKED BY

MEMBER OF SOUTHERN OREGON EGG FARMS

EGG PROMOTION—The Independent Egg Producers Council is placing these posters wherever their eggs are sold in stores. Purpose is to point out locally produced eggs which are fresher than imports. Since Oregon is an egg-deficit area, egg men are concerned that the state's potential markets may be taken from them by out-of-state producers, particularly by California producers. "Eggbert" will start appearing on local egg cartons soon.

Independent Egg Producers Start Sales Promotion

Oregon consumers will be meeting "Eggbert," a good Oregon egg, in their grocery stores soon.

Residue Tests And Checks Told By OSU Chemist

Corvallis (Special) — Ways of improving testing of pesticides and preventing any chemical residues which would result in seizure of a crop because of excessive residues were explained Friday by Dr. Virgil H. Freed, head of the Oregon State university department of agricultural chemistry.

Dr. Freed made his comments before the vegetable section of the Oregon State Horticultural Society meeting at OSU. He and Marvin Montgomery, OSU agricultural chemist, reported on the present status of pesticide residues on vegetable crops Friday.

Present methods of testing and control are adequate 95 per cent of the time, Dr. Freed noted, but scientists are concerned about the five per cent when a chemical misused or used under unusual circumstances could result in chemical residue appearing on the crop.

Chemicals are thoroughly checked by scientists and cleared by the federal government before they can be used on food crops, he pointed out.

Constantly Checking
Staffs of agricultural experiment stations, the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Federal Drug Administration are constantly checking to see that chemical practices are up on the latest scientific information, he stressed.

When they are used in this manner, competent scientists are satisfied that no harm can result, Dr. Freed added.

However, use of agricultural chemicals under certain conditions can leave traces on harvested crops and it is then that the crop is seized by authorities if the residue is found to exceed tolerance level and it is in the area that Dr. Freed feels that there is a need for improved testing.

Researchers are faced with the problem of not being able to test each chemical under all different conditions. Chemical tolerances are granted for crops grown under "usual" conditions and may not take into consideration the effect of different climatic and soil conditions.

Refinements in analytical techniques are occurring quite rapidly, with researchers and growers both struggling to keep abreast of new developments, he noted.

For instance, Dr. Freed pointed out that crop inspectors are now using testing equipment which allows them to check more samples for residues than ever before and at a faster rate.

Dr. Freed also sees a need for more study of chemical toxicity to determine precisely how safe a chemical is and where biological zero tolerance can be established. Above all, the chemists stressed, users of agricultural chemicals should read the

The happy egg from happy hens is attired in a bright yellow straw hat, has a broad smile on his bright little face and is carrying a blue ribbon.

"Eggbert" appears on posters distributed by southern Oregon egg farms and sponsored by the Independent Egg Producers' Council.

Purpose is to make the consumers aware of the fresher Rogue valley eggs produced by 14 member farms from Ashland to Grants Pass, from Medford to the Applegate, to Eagle Point. All the egg production from these farms is distributed in southern Oregon. Flock size ranges from 1,000 birds to 10,000 layers.

"We are attempting to show which eggs are produced and packaged locally," a spokesman said. "Some are packaged here, but not produced here."

Local Eggs Fresher

Local eggs are getting into the markets in two to three days to allow time for cleaning and cooling. Eggs shipped in from California, mainly, and perhaps some from Washington, are older.

Local egg producers note that the current egg price is about the same with prices on smalls somewhat higher. However, no local producers appear to have any of these. It was noted.

This is a peak time for egg consumption and a time of low production, egg producers noted. A shortage of eggs exists in the local area now.

Currently, the independent local producers are moving for standardization of Oregon's law to conform with neighboring states and the U. S. Department of Agriculture standards. Oregon now has lower requirements on weight size than neighboring states which ship their eggs into Oregon.

The independent producers will meet at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 20 to elect officers at North's Chuck Wagon restaurant.

Corn Title Given 2 Local Growers

Central Point-Dixon Salts-gaver, Central Point, was awarded first prize premium award for the best 10 ears of corn in district 3. At the 21st annual Oregon Corn Show, held Dec. 1, at Canby, Oregon.

The State is divided into four districts, region 3, consists of the counties of Jackson, Josephine, Coos, Curry and Douglas. First prize winning ears were of the 34-40 variety, John Nealon, of Table Rock, received second place in district 3 for his ten ears of corn on exhibition. Nealon's were of the Idaho-bird 544 variety.

Carl Hoyer, fieldman for the Grange Co-op Supply, helped in picking and selecting the corn.

The first Oregon State Corn Show was held in 1937, with the exception of a five year period during World War II the show has been held annually since that time.

Label on the can or bottle before the chemicals are used. Labels contain the best information available in a condensed form, they emphasized.

Alternative Source of Tax Money Needed

Corvallis — All who feel property taxes are oppressive should work out alternative revenue sources to achieve the needed reforms, Dr. Grant Blanch, Oregon State university agricultural economist, told vegetable growers Friday afternoon.

Dr. Blanch made his comments in a talk on property taxation before the vegetable crop section of the Oregon State Horticultural Society which ended its 77th annual meeting at OSU Friday.

Taxes levied against all property in Oregon have more than doubled in the last 12 years, he noted. Farm property taxes are becoming an increasing proportion of operating costs.

Pointing out that farmers have always accepted their responsibilities and been willing to pay their fair share, Dr. Blanch pointed out that taxation ranks high among problems facing Oregon farmers.

Value Estimates

Property taxes are levied according to value, he explained. Three methods of estimating true cash or market value for tax purposes are capitalization of net income, sales comparison and replacement cost minus accumulated depreciation.

In Oregon, county appraisers use sales comparison almost exclusively on farm property, which creates many hardships on farmers whose lands lie in proximity to urban areas, he pointed out.

The sales comparison technique is frequently abused as the real estate market for farm property is not a perfect market, sales are few and financing arrangements affect prices, he said.

Oregon agricultural producers are seriously and adversely affected by increased property taxation, he said, as modern technology demands that farmers increase their property holdings to be competitive even though the ratio of income to farm property value is very low.

Taxes levied against farm property in Oregon have been rising while net money income from farming has been falling. The increase in taxes and decrease in income has compounded the adverse economic effects of the property tax on Oregon farmers, he continued.

Many content, Dr. Blanch said, that the property tax fails to meet the test of important criteria of sharing the cost of government services. These criteria are ability to pay, benefits received and equality of treatment.

However, the property tax does have certain practical advantages in that the amount of tax revenue is not affected by changes in economic activity; it provides a relatively definite amount of revenue from year to year; real property is difficult to conceal and evasion is almost impossible, and, as a fixed cost, it interferes very little with production of goods.

Changes are obviously needed to bring the system of financing local services more nearly in line with accepted criteria of how to distribute the costs of locally administered services, Dr. Blanch pointed out.

Seeks Other Source
Secondary and elementary education are the major items supported by property taxes, but this is a general society benefit and responsibility and is not directly related to property ownership, he stated. This cost should be funded at an increasing proportion from some other source, he believes.

There is a need to return to the tax rolls much of the tax exempt property, he continued. Equality suggests that if it is propitious to tax some properties according to value, it is right that the exempt properties be accorded the same treatment. Such a move would also result in a broader tax base.

However, loss of revenue from reduced property tax-

tion would have to be replaced from some other source or sources. In the field of education, this could mean increased state aid to local school districts or even federal assistance, he noted.

If state aid is increased, the state would require additional money for other services. Possible sources for additional revenue might be heavier reliance on the graduated net income tax by broadening the base, a general sales tax or a gross income tax.

FARM Woodlot Facts

Christmas trees

Christmas Trees are not always chance-by-products of forest lands. They are often a deliberately planned and managed farm crop. They are a big business in many areas of the Pacific Northwest.

Each year, about six million trees, mostly Douglas Fir, are cut in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. A low estimate of the sale value of this crop is ten million dollars. Trees are shipped to markets in nearly every state and in some foreign lands.

The two main factors that make Christmas tree growing attractive in Jackson and Josephine Counties are: 1. The close, large California markets and 2. The good natural Christmas tree growing soil and climate.

A good Christmas tree has buyer appeal. More specifically, it has fresh, clean foliage and a dense, uniform, well-balanced crown of evenly spaced branch whorls that sweep gently upward. Good shape in a Christmas tree varies considerably with the kind of tree and the likes of people in different areas.

Whether a land owner is thinking about managing natural Christmas tree land or starting a plantation, he must consider soil, climate, location, roads, protection, labor supply and cost. Christmas tree farming, like any other business, takes long-range planning.

Farming tips
Farming natural Christmas trees consists generally of removing brush and helping the trees to shape themselves by systematic thinning, pruning and shearing. Farming under plantation conditions involves site preparation, planting, cultivation, systematic pruning and shearing. In future articles these cultural practices will be discussed and explained.

In past years many a local grower has lost money on his Christmas trees. The reason for this type of loss is that no written agreement was signed. Buyers picked trees up with a promise to pay when trees were re-sold or for other such reasons. This type of verbal agreement has no place in business. Christmas tree growing, as stated before, is a business and should be treated as such.

A written sale contract should be entered into by seller and buyer. To protect his investment, a grower should receive half of the sale price before the trees are cut and the other half at the time the trees are picked up or delivered. Copies of sample Christmas tree contracts can be obtained from your Farm Forester's office.

One Oregon grower who has marketed his crop profitably over the past 20 years makes these suggestions for wholesaling trees: 1. Cut good trees; 2. Cash on the barrel-head is the best credit policy; 3. Do not hold trees for anyone for any length of time without a substantial deposit; 4. Advertise plenty and you will have plenty of buyers; 5. Accept no more orders than you can deliver; and 6. To market safely, time the cutting right. Cutting should not begin earlier than November 8. It should be completed and the crop sold not later than December 10.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

The places where most of this country's food and fiber are produced are still referred to as farms and their operators as farmers. To one who is middle-aged or older and who grew up on a farm there are vivid memories of farms as they existed during the early part of the present century.

During the past score of years the farm and farmers of this country have undergone very drastic changes. The operator still may wear overalls, work hard, appear stupid and short of money, but he operates a rather large business insofar as the amount of cash and credit business he accomplishes annually is concerned. The new term for modern farming is Agribusiness. It is now possible to secure an academic degree from college in this field.

The general farm that once grew a great variety of crops has largely disappeared from the American scene. Farms are now very large in area and the operators tend to

grow large acreages of relatively few crops. In other words, he has become a specialist in the production of certain economic crops. The government helped this happen by paying out subsidies on crop production. Their reason for paying the subsidy was to save the small farmer and the family size farm.

At any rate we in this country can be grateful for being well fed. Sometime

when we feel the urge to give the farmer a good cussing, it may be well to remember how well we eat and at a fairly reasonable price.

New Crops

More and more is mentioned each year about such new crop plant innovations as red apple sports, redder peaches or hybrids of some of the field crops. The seller of these items is often aided by the crop specialists who

tend to encourage the production of the newer sorts. One wonders if many mistakes aren't being made in this regard. The newer red apple sports are more beautiful than the old standard

sorts, but all too often they do not have good eating quality. True we say they mature earlier and can be harvested earlier and bring extra money in the market place.

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