

Starkey Experimental Range Emphasizes Cattle Movement

BY JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

ment and adequate range riding. "Results of studies at the Starkey emphasize that management of summer ranges should be based largely on the grasslands. Records of

utilization since 1940 show grasslands are grazed much more heavily than adjacent timbered range. Consequently, efficient use of summer ranges is largely dependent upon securing proper distribution of use over all range types," the report noted.

Farm & Garden

FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
Oregon State Farm Forester

A great amount of activity is now taking place at the Elktion State Forest nursery. It began on November 27, and already a million trees have been lifted and packaged for shipment or storage. Some landowners in Jackson and Josephine counties have already received their seedling shipments. The two Oregon State nurseries, in Elktion and Corvallis, will have over 6 million tree seedlings for distribution this year.

In the Pacific Northwest, production at the five public nurseries in Oregon and Washington looks good this year. The cool, damp spring and summer has been very beneficial to the older seedling classes but it did hamper sowing operations early in the year. Total production in the 2-0, 3-0 and transplant classes is expected to be about 65 million. Of this total, the Forest Service expects to plant 30 million, Bureau of Land Management will use 10 million, Oregon State Forestry department, 4.5 million, Washington Department of Natural Resources, 2.1 million, and 17 million seedlings will be available for general public sales.

Two Million Seedlings
Private nurseries have nearly 2 million seedlings available for sale this winter.

To realize maximum value from woodlands, they must be fully stocked. The planting of nursery grown trees is one way to get reproduction on unstocked forest land.

Besides making unstocked woodlands more productive, the planting of trees help conserve soil and water values. When market conditions are favorable, cash crops of fence posts, poles, Christmas trees, fuel wood, pulpwood and saw logs can be grown at a profit from plantations.

If you are an owner of unproductive forest and/or agricultural land, don't put it off another year. Contact your Farm Foresters office for information concerning tree planting, nursery order books, government cost share planting, etc.

Five Oat Varieties

Booted for Siskiyou
Yreka-Five oat varieties are recommended for 1963 for hay for all of Siskiyou county, according to Farm Adviser Dave West. Recommended are Kanota, Shasta, Sierra, Overland and Park.

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Pesticide Laws Effective Soon

Salem - Federal regulations governing pesticide residues on raw agricultural products will become Oregon's regulations on Jan. 25.

Director J. F. Short of the state department of agriculture signed an order to this effect January 4. The order followed a hearing Dec. 28 in which adoption of the federal tolerances as Oregon's requirements was at issue - except no issue developed, as no one offered testimony either for or against at the hearing.

Federal pesticide residue tolerances prevail on raw agricultural products that move in interstate commerce. For this reason, federal tolerances are rather uniformly used by the various states.

Moreover, J. D. Patterson, SDA's chief chemist, points out that the financial outlay for investigations and studies at the state level would be extremely costly and time consuming. This seemed unnecessary since Oregon investigations presumably would come up with the same results as the federal government.

Because changes occur rather rapidly in this field, the department anticipates it will need to hold periodic hearings to review the tolerances.

Heavy Bone Best For Breeding

Yreka - Breeding cattle should be selected with heavy bone, according to Siskiyou county farm adviser Sedg Nelson.

"Even with the development of meat type beef, we still want big cattle, large frames and thick bone," Nelson commented.

"With increased interest in carcass composition there is a need for an accurate way to estimate muscling in live cattle. Sythe, Ors and King at Texas A & M studied the relationship between bone thickness and muscling in 28 Hereford steers. Strong positive correlations obtained showed bone weights to be closely related to bone length (greater length, greater weight).

"The positive correlations between bone weights and the yield of loin, rib and round suggest that a close relationship existed between bone thickness and muscling in these cattle.

"Others have noted a significant relationship between cannon bone circumference in the live animal and the yield of primal cuts (chuck, rib, loin and round). Thus it seems that size of bone is one valid factor in estimating red meat yields in live cattle."

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Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The farmer's hot stove league is in operation with farm problems being fully discussed by both farmers and non-farmers.

And there seem to be plenty of farm problems to start off the new year.

The past week has seen headlines on the dairymen's price problem. "Oregon's fluid milk program would continue to be administered by the state's department of agriculture under a proposed bill adopted Wednesday by the Oregon Dairymen's association," according to one news story.

The governor would appoint a seven-man audit and stabilization commission to advise the agriculture department. The commission would include four producers and three processors. To be commissioners producers must have earnings of at least 51 per cent from sales of Grade A milk. One processor would be from a cooperative association and two would represent independent processors. Such a commission would represent various geographical areas in the state. The state department of agriculture would have emergency authority to establish prices and market orders with approval of the commission.

This sounds very concrete and definite. Actually, it isn't. One of the leading Oregon dairy industry spokesmen said, "I came back from the meeting just as confused as before."

He also said no proposal was made in bill form. It was a very rough draft and the proposal would be presented to the state legislature, probably, in outline form. The original dairymen's proposal was a voluntary set of controls to take it out of the hands of the state department of agriculture. This proposal tosses it back to the department.

So, one would guess from this spokesman's comments all that those attending the Oregon Dairymen's association session could hope to get out of it would be a brass ring on the "Dairy-Go-Round."

The expected debate between Processor Gordon Coleman and Dairymen Dick Westerberg didn't come off. Dick, quickly sizing up the taut situation, figuratively changed his striped dairyman's overalls for a pair of striped pants. Diplomatically, he became as indirect as a county school superintendent at a hot school district reorganization meeting and talked all around the subject.

The pear industry has been busy with a whole series of meetings. The massive machinery from interlocking directorates of this oligarchy is running quietly and efficiently with little public noise. As usual it is getting things done.

Recently two representatives of the Medford pear district attended a San Francisco meeting of the Northwest Bartlett and California Bartlett promotion groups. Planning for next season is still in formative stages, according to one pear shipper. Another meeting is set for late in May. People from all California pear districts attended the meeting to establish new cooperative agreements.

The problem in both states is overproduction. Medford's comes from last season's Bartlett overproduction which is crowding the winter pears and causing carry overs. California has 14,000 to 15,000 acres of new Bartlett plantings coming into production in the next few years.

Roughly two-thirds of Medford pears go to fresh pack and one-third to canneries. Last year 20,000 tons went to the fresh market and about 10,000 to 12,000 tons to the cannery. And Bartletts are still in the terminal market and are being sold below storage and packing prices. Actually, shippers say, the current school lunch program is merely giving shippers and growers something instead of nothing for their pears. Incidentally the pears which were sold for juice to the Walnut Creek Canning company near Oakland brought about \$5 1/2 a ton.

The Bartlett pear peeler evolution has also added to the amount of pears on the market. Peelers have gone from the Ewalt peeler, to the "feeler peelers" to the new chemical peeler. The Ewalt peeler trims about one-eighth of an inch off the pear and the knife is preset. The "feeler peeler" or contour peeler automatically shapes itself to the pear contour and removes comparatively little. It has placed a third more pears in the can. So, instead of getting 40 cases of canned pears to the ton, canneries get 50 cases per ton.

Incidentally, the pear growers have a program coming up Monday, Jan. 28 sponsored by the Jackson county extension service. Topics range from pear pest control to rehabilitation of declining pear trees. The peach growers have their program the next day, Jan. 29. Topics include prediction of peach harvest sizes, planting trends of fresh peaches, and peach insect pests.

County Judge Earl M. Miller promises to get the Jackson County Regional Planning Advisory committee under way again in the near future. The Rural Area Development program would be part and parcel of it. Although unimpressed with the bureaucratic array of talent displayed at the regional meeting in Portland this fall, we still feel this program is important to Jackson county.

We have been interested in the program developed in Taos, N.M. because of its broad scope. It has included a bridge across the Rio Grande gorge, plans for a community house, Spanish Fortness Mission Museum (apparently similar to the Jacksonville museum), Small Business administration loan to a cleaning establishment, men's wear store, a state utility linemen's training school and Picuris Pueblo - various projects including water and sewage, publication, arts and crafts, etc., a Christmas tree farm, an A & W Drive-In and the Ojo Caliente Community Center.

In answer to our inquiries, Terry L. Moynihan, manager of the Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc., wrote:

"The board of trustees of this cooperative expressed interest in the RAD program about 1 1/2 years ago and began by carrying articles in our newsletter to consumers. Approximately a year ago we learned that Rural Electrification administration had a Rural Area Development staff, and requested that James S. Wood (assistant to the director, special projects) be assigned to visit this area. Mr. Wood spent a week with us last spring and we set up meetings in each of the areas served by the cooperative and made special visits to particularly interested groups.

"These people were all informed as to what was available to them and were encouraged to use these facilities in developing projects.

"One important thing we have learned is that you never want to become discouraged and that you must keep pushing the projects. If you intend to see them through to a successful completion, it takes a considerable amount of time and patience. We have worked with the local Area Redevelopment administration committee, but at times have had to help them circumvent red tape when time was a factor.

"We are certain Mr. Wood can be of great assistance to you and your area, as he was to us. If he cannot do the job himself, he can refer you to someone who can. And if at any time we can be of further assistance, please let us know. We shall be glad to do anything we can."

So the program is set up, it has worked in other areas, particularly in Taos, N.M. and the help is available. The rest is up to the people of Jackson county. We hope they don't allow this program to become bogged down in slow committee maneuvers.



CATTLEMAN DIES—A. B. (Bert) Hoy, prominent Siskiyou county cattleman died Nov. 15. He was a pioneer in the registered Hereford movement in California and was named Siskiyou county cattleman of the year in 1956. His ranch was two miles from Weed.

Fruit Supplies Gain, According to Specialist

Corvallis - Increased supplies of fresh and processed fruit along with an increased domestic demand are seen for

1963 by R. H. Groder, Oregon State University extension fruit and vegetable marketing specialist.

Estimates are that total supplies will top those available during the first part of 1962. Supplies of canned deciduous fruits are expected to continue large, while dried fruits and tree nuts supplies will be somewhat smaller. Increased demand is expected to come from the population increase coupled with high consumer incomes.

The export market viewpoint does not appear as bright, Groder notes. The United States is expected to find it more difficult to export citrus fruit and apples due to increased supplies in foreign countries.

In 1963 and the next few years, total U.S. deciduous fruit production should continue its upward trend of the past two or three years based on national tree numbers and acreage figures, Groder adds. This is expected with apples, sweet and sour cherries, peaches, pears, prunes and cranberries.

In Oregon, the loss of prune and nut trees from the October storm may reduce local production and income in 1963 and keep the state from following the national trend.

Growers faced with replanting should consult their county extension agent for information on planting stock and also consider long run market prospects and competitive positions when making planting decisions, Groder emphasizes.

Although strawberry acreage is being reduced, yields per acre have increased as have imports. Marketings during recent months have been slow and unless storage withdrawals improve between now and May, carryovers may put pressure on prices in the new season, he cautions.

Spring planting plans should not be made without a further look at cold storage holdings, prospective plantings and market conditions, Groder cautions.

Good Hereford cows with calves at side sold from \$200 to \$242.50 per pair. Medium grade pairs went from \$185 to \$200 per pair.

Fat heifers, 700 to 900 pounds, sold for \$21 to \$22.80. Young, fat cows sold for \$17 to \$20. Good utility cows sold for \$15 to \$16.50. Cutters brought \$12 to \$14.75. Canners sold for \$9 to \$12. Choice veal went out at \$28 to \$29. Slaughter bulls sold for \$20 to \$21.10.

370 Cattle Sell At Midway Yard In Friday Event

A total of 370 cattle were sold at the Midway Auction yard at its regular Friday sale, according to Bill Bray, owner-manager.

Choice steers calves at 230 to 325 pounds sold for \$30 to \$34; 350 to 425 pound calves sold for \$28 to \$30 and 450 to 550 pound calves brought \$28 to \$28.

Medium quality steer calves generally sold for \$25 to \$27. Good to choice heifer calves sold for \$25 to \$26.80. Medium quality heifer calves went out at \$23 to \$25.

Good yearling steers, weighing 575 to 650 pounds, sold for \$26 to \$27. Those weighing 675 to 750 pounds went at \$24 to \$25.75. Medium quality yearling steers sold for \$22 to \$25.

Forty head of 800 pound Hereford heifers sold for \$23.10. Other penlots of 550 to 700 pound heifers sold from \$22.50 to \$24.50.

Holstein Steer Calves
Holstein steer calves sold for \$22 to \$24.50, light yearling Holstein steers went out at \$21 to \$23, with 800 to 900 pound steers going for \$20 to \$21.50.

Good Hereford cows with calves at side sold from \$200 to \$242.50 per pair. Medium grade pairs went from \$185 to \$200 per pair.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

Pruning of fruit trees is one of the major winter season agricultural jobs that is necessary each year in this area. To accomplish this task each year requires a great number of man days is one of the more expensive operations the orchardist has in connection with the production of a fruit crop.

Since pruning of fruit trees is largely a hand operation that requires a large labor force, every man in the area who is willing and able can find employment in the orchards during the winter. Needless to say that many men are willing but not able, while a greater number are able but not willing to undertake such work. The laborer's earnings for pruning will vary widely depending on several factors. Among these are such things as whether or not the pruning is paid for on an hourly basis or by the unit. Trained, efficient, fast pruners can make good wages when they prune by the unit or for so much per tree.

A large portion of the pruning labor force are neither trained or efficient, instead they more or less accomplish the job by a random hacking out or off of the trees limbs. In this instance a foreman who is well trained in pruning must be employed with each group of pruners to get a fairly decent job done and at a rate the orchardist can afford.

Improper Pruning
Many fruit trees in this area have been improperly pruned for several years. Their limbs are relatively old and are usually covered from base to tip with fruit spurs that are several years old. These old spurs are several inches long and may be forked two or three times. They blossom each year, but set little or no fruit. Such fruits as are produced are apt to be small and misshapen. Trees in such condition do not produce much if any new wood or new short spurs that are necessary in order for the tree to produce good quality fruit of favorable sizes. If pruners would concentrate on old spur removal in such trees for a year or so, it would be the best treatment that could be applied.

The simple removal of limbs or limb tips is not an effective way to improve the health and performance of a spurry old fruit tree.

It should be emphasized that bearing trees of any age from 6 years old and up can become covered with old spurs.

The time when farm equipment will be needed is near and it may be well to check over each item carefully at this time. Where repairs are needed, they should be scheduled for early attention. In some instances farm machinery dealers may have winter rates for equipment repairs. At any rate it will not cost any more to repair farm equipment now than later and if delays due to break-downs are avoided, it may be far cheaper to accomplish repairs now.

Special directors' meeting of the Jackson County Stockmen's association will be held at 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 17 in the Jackson county extension service office.

All directors, committee chairmen and committee members are urged to attend, according to Gordon Stanley, Lake Creek, association president. Plans will be made for the forthcoming year.

Corvallis Jury Finds Man Guilty

Corvallis - (UP) - A Circuit Court jury here has found Henry Mazingo, 39, guilty of manslaughter.

The jury of eight women and four men returned the verdict 4 1/2 hours after receiving the case.

Mazingo had been charged with first degree murder in the shotgun slaying of his wife, Ethel Mae, 25, at the couple's home at Greenberry near Corvallis last Oct. 21.

He faces a possible maximum sentence of 15 years in the Oregon Penitentiary.

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