

Tractor Problems Highlight Course

"Every tractor you buy is a compromise," Mike Petri, of International Harvester, told approximately 50 persons attending the farm machinery care and maintenance short course session Monday.

385 Cattle Sold At Midway Sale; Market Varied

A total of 385 cattle were sold at the Midway auction Friday, according to Bill Bray owner-manager.

The market was reported strong on stocker calves, steady on slaughter cattle and slow on feeder steers.

Good to choice steer calves were in good demand. Sale top on five head of 378 pound steer calves was \$33.40. Four head of 439 pound steers sold at \$31.30, four head of 340 pound steers at \$32.75. Other penlots and single steer calves sold from \$29 to \$32.

Good calves weighing 426 to 500 pounds sold from \$26 to \$29.50. Good to choice heifer calves sold from \$25 to \$27.50. A pen of good pooled heifer calves sold at \$26.10. Other penlots of medium to good heifers went out at \$24 to \$26.

A few good yearling steers sold from \$24 to \$25. Medium yearling steers sold for \$21 to \$23.50. Good yearling heifers weighing 500 to 600 pounds sold for \$21 to \$22.90 while medium grade heifers moved at \$19 to \$21.

Holstein steer calves sold from \$23.50 to \$25.25. Seven head of 640 pound yearlings went out at \$21.50 and others sold from \$20 to \$22.50. Thirty-one head of Holstein stocker heifers weighing 450 to 600 pounds sold from \$20.50 to \$22.

"The cow and calf market was strong with a large number in the sale," Bray commented.

A consignment of Angus cows and calves sold for \$245 to \$260 per pair. Hereford cows with calves sold from \$200 to \$239 per pair.

Eight head of good springer Hereford cows sold for \$212 per head. Other springers sold at \$150 to \$185.

Slaughter bulls sold at \$18.40 to \$19.20. Veal went out at \$24 to \$27.50.

A few standard steers and heifers sold for \$19 to \$21. Young fat cows sold for \$16 to \$17.40. Utility cows sold for \$14 to \$15.75, cutters brought \$12 to \$14 and canners \$10 to \$12.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

Every farmer and rancher should establish on his property some weed control plots.

Such plots should be representative of the area soil conditions and be infested with the usual population of weeds that it is desirable to control. The control of noxious weeds by means of herbicides is expensive but, it is probably the only way that such pests can be economically controlled in an economy where manpower is becoming too expensive. Where properly used chemical weed control tends to eliminate all of the harmful effects of weeds on the economic crop. At best mechanical and labor control allows a certain amount of competition from the noxious weed species.

It may be well to apply a lime sulfur or sulfur containing spray to young non-bearing fruit trees. This would be true even though good pest control could be obtained by delayed applications of other than sulfur bearing sprays. The benefit from sulfur will be gained from its role as a plant nutrient. Many plantings of young trees are on soils that have not been receiving either sulfur bearing fertilizers or sprays. The use of super phosphate and ammonia sulfate fertilizers under such conditions will also supply the plants or trees with nutritional sulfur. There are, however, instances where the use of these fertilizers is not desirable. In such cases sulfur bearing sprays will be beneficial for more than pest control.

Excellent service information is available from the company mechanics and from the service manual given every new tractor owner, the IH representative said. Any oil is not the best oil, only that recommended in the service manual, Petri said.

Follow Specifications. Poor engine timing, overheating, water pump problems all can be avoided by following factory specifications as given in the operator's manual, Petri said.

Earlier Monday, R. H. Feely, Mobil Oil company, Portland, gave a talk on lubrication of farm machinery. Mike Huber, Oregon State university, lectured on farm safety.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

We haven't been following this doe deer hunt controversy very closely, but one thing we have learned in the last few days is that a large number of deer are grazing on farm land.

And this causes at least three problems: A deer management problem because deer that get on posted land are not accessible to the general hunting public. A farmers' problem because some hunters disregard locked gates and "no hunting" signs if they think deer are on farm meadows. This results too often in shot livestock and damaged property. And a law enforcement problem—too few sheriff's officers and state police to run down farmers' complaints of shot livestock etc.

We were examining some good looking calves this week out in the Camp White area. The rancher pointed to one which was limping along on three legs. "Shoulda knocked that one in the head and butchered it," he said. "But we kept hopin' it would improve. A hunter shot it in the leg this fall."

If someone put a bullet through a law office or a store the police would go all out to find the guilty party; especially if there were many such offices and stores shot at and if merchandise was damaged.

Yet every year a number of valley farmers lose livestock due to hunter carelessness and wanton disregard of private property rights. We understand one local farmer got downright insulting when refused access this fall to some private farm land. This particular farmer says he loses one animal every year to a hunter's bullet, so who can blame him?

That animal is just as valuable to the farmer as a rack of shoes, suits or dresses or part of a private law library. The local farmer or rancher is not getting adequate protection of his property, particularly during hunting seasons. And he won't until the state legislature wakes up to the fact that using a gun is every bit as dangerous as driving a car and requires licensing of shooters.

Immediately certain sports clubs protest this would interfere with the U.S. Constitutional right to keep and bear arms. But there's nothing in that Constitution which says a man has a right to go out and shoot up a fellow citizen's property.

Times have changed since the frontier days. It was a family custom to teach a son to handle a rifle safely and accurately. Family security depended upon it. A rifle was a precious article handed down from generation to generation and handled with respect and given to a young man after he had demonstrated he knew how to use it properly. Now anyone can buy a gun whether he knows how to use it or not.

Hunters cannot control the small percentage who give the whole hunting fraternity a bad name so stricter regulations are needed as population increases. Resulting shrinkage of game lands puts more hunters in each game populated area where his carelessness stands more chance of endangering others and their property as well as himself.

Law enforcement officers have their hands full tracking down the numerous other complaints they receive daily to effectively control careless hunters. The local law enforcement agencies are traditionally understaffed. Perhaps a strong plea should be made to the county budget committee, for instance, to raise sheriff's deputies' salaries to keep what efficient deputies they have and to allow money to hire more.

Like air pollution controls voluntary cooperation apparently is not enough.

Recent comments from farmers from widely separated geographic areas in the valley reveal there are plenty of deer feeding on private lands. Perhaps those who oppose the doe season haven't considered this. We saw some pasture land last week in which cattle had not been grazing for some time which had been chewed down by deer.

One plan proposed locally some time ago was to extend free hunter damage insurance to farmers who would allow organization hunters to hunt their lands. Later it was learned this was not considered feasible by insurance companies so it never got past the talking stage.

Now California is about to propose a new voluntary plan. It originated in the southwest where it was called the Texas plan. In California it is called the "Potter Valley plan."

Under this plan the landowners would apply to the California equivalent of the state game commission for doe permits on their property and request a certain number. The commission would decide on the feasible number of permits after a property inspection. After buying the permits the landowner could sell them to anyone.

As one writer put it, "Suddenly the landowner possesses a new and marketable crop, and those who need the dough or wish to thin the herds competing with their livestock for range food have a cinch way of collecting."

Hunting clubs could resell doe tags which they figure their original membership doesn't need and create associate memberships.

So as the same writer so aptly put it, "Everybody gets fat except the deer and the unattached deer hunter." This plan does appeal to greedy human nature so has a big chance in passing in California where it is being proposed now. And since politically active southern Oregon draws heavily on California ideas due to the increasing migration from that state to this area Oregon may follow this plan some day. However, if it should prove practical in the golden state we will probably ignore it as we have such other things as the need for more intensive and more rapid planning development.

Why discuss hunting problems now? Because it will be too late during hunting season. And besides the state legislature is in session. It is discussing all kinds of problem even Tom and Jerry's problem of cat control.

Various Means Set For Noting 4-H Event

Siskiyou County 4-H members, leaders and parents of Siskiyou County will observe National 4-H Week, March 2 to 9, this year in a number of ways, reported Farm Advisor, Bill Ruddiman.

In many towns in the county, local clubs will have displays in store windows or other business houses explaining and showing what 4-Hers learn. Radio programs prepared and produced by the 4-H members will be heard during the week over the radio stations of the county, and special news items will be prepared by some of the clubs for use in newspapers. A number of service clubs and farm organizations have invited 4-H members to appear before their groups and tell about their 4-H experiences and observation of the week.

A new 4-H club in Hornbrook has been added to the county's roster of 4-H clubs bringing the total number to

15. Approximately 450 Siskiyou County boys and girls are members of the fifteen clubs and 140 adults are serving as their volunteer leaders, training them in the arts, skills and science of agriculture and home making. The 4-H program is sponsored by the University of California Agricultural Extension Service and is administered by the Farm Advisor's Office.

This year the 4-Hers are saluting the organization's "pioneers" of the county. In the 1920's, the 4-H program was started in Siskiyou County by 4-H Specialists from the University of California at Berkeley. An Etna high school teacher, Professor R. E. Wixom, supervised the clubs locally in those days. Many Siskiyou county residents recount with pleasure their association with these first 4-H clubs in the county. Only a few of these were still in existence when M. V. Maxwell, the first farm advisor in Siskiyou county arrived in 1933. These served as the nucleus of the present program.

Many of these 4-H "pioneers" are parents of present members, and are leaders in the 4-H clubs which replaced the clubs they belonged to. One of them, Joe Eller of Grenada, who belonged to the Etna 4-H club as a boy, is now the president of the County 4-H Club Council, an organization of the county leaders.

Eller is the electric project leader in the Grenada Club and his whole family is in 4-H. His wife Donna, is a home economics leader in the Grenada Club, and is chairman of the county-wide 4-H Home Economics Advisory Committee and his three children are all 4-H members.

Phoenix High Student Semifinalist in Event

Phoenix - Miss Laura Griffith, Phoenix High school, has placed as one of the three in the semifinals, which was held Feb. 22 in Portland, in the Voice of Democracy contest sponsored by the VFW.

She has been invited to the finals which will be held in Portland March 2. If she should be a winner in Oregon, she will go to Washington, D.C., for national judging March 31 to April 2.

Dormant Spray Effective In Two Weeks, Agent Says

The dormant spray on pears may be applied any time now that weather and soil conditions permit, according to Dr. C. B. Cordy, county horticultural agent.

"Delaying another week would give better psylla control as they are not yet all out of their protected winter quarters," both Cordy and Dr. Peter Westgard, Southern Oregon Experiment station entomologist, pointed out.

In air blast sprayers use 10 gallons of dormant oil or five gallons of superior oil plus 12 gallons of liquid lime sulfur or 18 pounds of polysulphide per acre. Another effective combination is 10 gallons of dormant oil or five gallons of superior oil plus either five pounds of parathion or 3 1/2 pounds of 50 per cent diazinon or five pounds of trithion, the two scientists pointed out.

For Hose Rigs. For hose rigs use two gallons of dormant oil or five gallons of superior oil plus three gallons of liquid lime sulfur or five pounds of polysulphide per 100 gallons or use oil plus one pound of parathion or three-fourths pound of 50 per cent diazinon or one pound of trithion per 100 gallons, they recommended.

Cattlemen Meet In Montague Hall

Montague - The Siskiyou County Cattlemen association will meet on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Montague hall.

Beef cattle disease problems will be outlined by Dr. Ernest Chastain of the University of California staff. His talk will be augmented with slides. A question and answer period will follow the talk.

All Siskiyou county cattlemen are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

GOES ON TRIAL

Portland - (UPI) - Former State Sen. William Grenfell went on trial in Circuit Court today on a charge of failing to remain at the scene of an accident. The charge grew out of a two-car accident here last October in which a man was killed.

Emulsified or water suspensions of theophosphate may be used in place of the powders. Observe cautions on the label when using parathion, diazinon or trithion, Cordy and Westgard suggested.

"This spray is an important one and the trees must be thoroughly wet with it in order to be effective," Cordy and Westgard said. "It should be completed before the bud scales at the base of the blossom buds loosen and fall. This should be around March 10 to 15."

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Gardening Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent
Garden Mulch

A mulch is a material that is spread on the soil to conserve moisture, prevent weed growth and soil compaction, and to moderate extremes in temperature.

Another quality of a mulch that comes into play in the home garden is its appearance. Thus we find products such as bark mulch, sawdust and peat moss being used in the home garden for a mulch.

Use whatever material you find most satisfactory, but keep in mind the following points for best results. Apply the mulch material when the soil has warmed up. For annuals or other plants being set out, apply the mulch when the plants are large enough so they will not be buried by the material.

Peat moss often packs after a heavy rain or irrigation. When it dries, a felted surface that sheds water develops. Therefore, keep peat moss loose and moist for best results.

When sawdust, bark-mulch or other wood products are plowed under or worked into the soil, a temporary shortage of nitrogen usually occurs. To

rectify this, add one-half pound of ammonium sulfate for each bushel of sawdust. On a soil that is adequately fertilized each year, no additional fertilizer is necessary until the mulch is turned under.

Remember that leaves are apt to pack and used as a mulch become soggy. Avoid using a leaf mulch around plants with basal leaves such as Primrose.

Mulches close to plant stems encourage shallow rooting and active growth in that part of the plant till well after fall frosts occur. Keep the mulch away from the crown or stem of woody plants and most leafy plants.

Juniper Care. Junipers damaged by the twig blight should be sprayed when new growth starts in the spring. Juniper twig blight causes a yellowing and dying of the scale-like leaves and is followed by the death of the twig or branch. These symptoms are often severe in the center of the plant where the branches join the trunk.

Use a copper spray with a spreader stickler and repeat at two week intervals. Three applications should give good control of this disease.

Livestock Market Discussion Heard

Montague - Morris Prather spoke on the Valley Livestock Marketing association to the Shasta Valley Farm center Tuesday evening, Feb. 19 at the Montague hall.

John McMurry, chairman, conducted the business portion of the meeting which was well attended. Bills coming before the legislature were discussed. Of particular interest was one which would require the minimum pay rate to man, woman or minor to be \$1.50 per hour for any type of ranch work.

Deadline for young people applying for the Farm Bureau scholarship is March 13. Young people must be members of a Farm Bureau family and plan to study either any phase of agriculture or home economics. Blanks and further information are available at the farm advisor's office in the court house.

Prather, who has been manager of the Farm Bureau livestock marketing association for Siskiyou county for the past 19 years, spoke of the advantages of dealing with this group, who ship cattle both from Stockton and Red Bluff. He gave an outline of the history of the cattle business in Shasta Valley. Being a member of a pioneer stock-raising family and having spent most of his life here he spoke with interest and authority on his subject, members of the audience commented.

The nation's public school teachers this year will earn an average annual salary of \$5,733 - \$220 more than last school year, the National Education Association reports.

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NOTICE

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