

Homemakers Rate Boneless Turkey Following Retail Market Testing

Corvallis—"Boneless" turkeys were a hit with most homemakers who tried them last Thanksgiving.

The success of one of the newest products of the Oregon turkey industry has been reported at the conclusion of a retail market test and consumer acceptance survey conducted by Oregon State University marketing specialists.

Of the 50 homemakers surveyed, 41 said that they would buy boneless turkey again if it is available and 30 replied that they would serve turkey more often if they could buy it in this form.

Although the Oregon turkey industry has been a leader in developing boneless turkeys and has one of the better products for sale, boneless turkey has not generally been available in retail stores, report Charles Fischer, poultry marketing specialist, and Mrs. Zelma Reigle Neugart, food marketing specialist.

During the test, boneless

turkey was sold in 11 Corvallis supermarkets. Consumers had a choice of two kinds. One was rolled like a log with light and dark meat mixed. The second was molded into the shape of a turkey, with light and dark meat separated as in the regular turkey.

To suit individual taste differences, most consumers said they liked to have the two meats separated. More than two-fifths of the homemakers surveyed bought boneless turkeys weighing less than six pounds.

Like Flavor

One of the things most liked about boneless turkey was the flavor. Convenience ease of preparation, carving and slicing were other plus factors mentioned. Mrs. Neugart said. Of the 23 who had reheated their turkeys since the first roasting, 20 said the flavor was the same as when it was first served.

Dislikes mentioned in the survey included dryness, the fact that boneless birds can't be stuffed and no giblets. Two persons thought it wasn't as festive looking as a whole bird.

Practically all the dislikes mentioned can be overcome, the specialists point out. Dryness was most likely caused by overcooking, because research conducted at OSU shows that the recommended temperature for whole turkeys is too high for boneless turkey.

Retailers were also complimentary about boneless turkey and all 11 stores planned to carry the item through the Christmas holidays. Several indicated plans to carry it in limited quantity throughout the year.

All meat retailers, Fischer noted, indicated that they believe boneless turkey is an item with "considerable potential" and one that could develop in popularity as boneless ham has done.

The survey indicates good acceptance of the product if available in sizes desired by consumers, the specialists report. However, they stress, introduction of boneless turkey on the retail market should be accompanied by an educational and promotional program to make consumers aware of it and how it should be prepared.

GARDENING TIPS

By JOHN McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

Rose Pruning

Now is the time to prune your garden hybrid tea roses. Proper pruning will improve the appearance of the bush and will stimulate the formation of quality blooms.

The final form of a properly pruned hybrid tea rose bush is vase shaped with an open center. This form will allow good light penetration and air circulation through the bush. Also, it will be easier to obtain a good spray coverage with this form. Usually from three to five canes are left on the bush to form this vase shape. The number of canes left will depend on the vigor of the bush. The more vigorous the bush, the more canes left on the bush.

First, remove all the leaf litter and mulch that is around the base of the bush. This will give you a better view of the bud-head and you can see if there are any basal breaks. A basal break is a new cane arising from the bud-head or from a bud at the base of an old cane. These breaks will develop into strong vigorous canes and should be left on the bush.

Remove any canes that arise beneath the bud-head. These are suckers which are inferior in the quality of their

flowers and they also rob the rest of the bush of its vigor.

Pruning

Next, prune out all dead, diseased, and injured wood, all weak growth and any canes growing in the center of the bush. When removing this growth, prune flush to the bud-head, a bud or a good cane. Do not leave any stubs on the bush.

At this stage the bush should consist of strong healthy canes growing in a vase shape form with an open center. Since roses produce the best bloom on vigorously growing new wood, we now prune the remaining canes. If there is an abundance of canes, remove the old canes back to the bud-head. This will stimulate the growth of new canes.

The exact height to prune the remaining canes will depend upon the variety of the particular bush. Vigorous growers, such as Peace, are usually pruned back to a height of 30 to 36 inches. Less vigorous growers, such as Aztec, are pruned to 10 to 14 inches. The height to prune your particular varieties will be learned with experience. Don't hesitate to experiment.

Be sure to cut the canes back to just above a bud.

Rose Society

Those interested in rose growing can benefit greatly by joining the Medford Rose Society. This Society meets the fourth Monday of each month. At their meetings they discuss the many aspects of growing roses. Their next meeting is at 7:45 p.m., March 25, at the County Courthouse Auditorium. "How to Plant a Rose," "Selecting Old Garden Roses" and "Selecting Climbers and Floribundas" are some of the subjects to be presented. The members will be glad to see you and will make you feel right at home.

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FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

Recent weather has been such that many farmers and ranchers feel that the spring season is advanced and that as a result they are late in their schedule of accomplishments. This can be both good and bad depending upon how fast certain operations can be accomplished now that there is favorable weather for outdoor activities.

Dormant sprays of lime sulfur and oil should be made as soon as possible. If these sprays are made too late, some shock or effect on normal growth of the sprayed plants may occur. Where the regular dormant or delayed dormant lime sulfur and oil cannot be put on with a degree of safety, growers should consider a spray of a phosphate and oil. The agricultural chemical salesman can supply advice in this instance.

Low night temperatures at this time of year are of concern to the fruit growers. The reason being as advanced as it is as compared to normal will find many orchardists in a rush to complete pruning, put out heating oil and accomplish their spraying. The limiting factor in these operations is the lack of adequate labor. Our welfare state has tended to reduce the supply of labor to the point that many growers are desperate for labor.

The logging and lumber industries gave in to labor demands for pay increases until many of the small operators were forced to close shop. The published reason was that Canadian lumber could be bought at a cheaper rate. We wonder which lumber is the cheapest when a large portion of our labor is out of jobs and the creative taxpayer must ultimately support them. Both labor and management are at fault when costs of production are allowed to get out of line with wholesales and retail market values of the finished or semi-finished product.

New Commissioner

We have a new county commissioner. He ran for election on his business ability. His first publicity in office is in connection with a proposal to remodel the courthouse in order to house more county employees. In recent times about 15 employees have been moved from the courthouse to the fairgrounds. In spite of this, the county government still needs space for employees. This should be explained more fully to the people of Jackson county.

Pastures should receive an application of nitrogen fertilizer about now. It's early for vegetable gardening. Such plants will do better and fruit as early if their planting is delayed for awhile yet.

Woodlot Tour Set For Saturday

"Forest Management" and "Growing Christmas Trees for Profit" will be observed and discussed on the Jackson county farm forestry committee tour next Saturday, March 9, according to Earle Jossy, county extension agent.

The tour will leave the Jackson County Extension office at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Tour stops will include bureau of land management forests on Poor Man's creek to observe tree planting by machine, also thinning, pruning and removing weed trees on established stands.

Lunch will be at the Tally-Ho restaurant in Talent. During the lunch hour Gary Sander, Oregon state university extension forester, will show slides and discuss Christmas tree growing.

A private forestry project owned and operated by William Hust on Wagner creek will be visited in the afternoon. Hust has a Christmas tree plantation as well as a commercial timber tract.

Anyone interested will be welcome on this tour.

CHANGE OF LUCK

Blackburn, England—Mrs. Alice Renshaw didn't have enough money to buy coal so she decided to chop up an old chair for fuel. While she was chopping, a roll of bills totalling \$1,166 fell out of the upholstery.

487 Cattle Sold At Midway Yard; Some Sell Lower

A total of 487 cattle were sold at the Midway Auction yard during its regular Friday, March 1 sale, according to Bill Bray, owner-manager.

Prices were a little lower on stock calves after the previous high prices, Bray noted. Feeder cattle over 600 pounds were slow, but cows and calves were the highest selling this year.

Good to choice steer calves weighing 320 to 360 pounds sold at \$30 to \$31.20. Good calves weighing 380 to 450 pounds brought \$25 to \$29.40.

Good heifer calves went out at \$24 to \$28.40. Medium heifer calves sold at \$22 to \$24.

Good yearling steers weighing 550 to 600 pounds sold at \$22.50 to \$25.10. Steers weighing 600 to 800 pounds sold at \$22 to \$23.50.

Good and choice yearling heifers went out at \$20 to \$22.80.

Holstein steer calves sold from \$23 to \$26.25. Holsteins weighing 400 to 500 pounds sold at \$22.50 to \$24.25.

Tops Sale

A pen of four fancy Hereford cows with two calves on the ground topped the sale at \$280 per head. Five older cows with calves sold for \$260 per pair. These were from the Chester Wendt ranch.

Other pairs sold from \$185 to \$225 per pair. Slaughter bulls sold for \$18 to \$19.20.

Fat cows sold for \$16 to \$17.50. Heavy utility cows went out at \$19 to \$16.40. Cutter cows sold for \$13 to \$14.80 and canners sold for \$10 to \$12.50.

There are now over 19 million dairy cows in the U.S.—about one for every nine Americans.

Agent Explains Seedling Checks To Local Growers

Alfalfa seed growers with 1963 alfalfa seedlings are reminded that seedling inspections should be applied for before or immediately after seeding according to Bert Wilcox, county extension agent.

One of the requirements of the Oregon alfalfa seed certification standards is that alfalfa to be taken for seed must have been inspected and passed in the seedling stage, and at blossom time. The blossom time inspection must be applied for by July 1st each year seed is produced. Harvesting before inspection forfeits certification.

Talent and Lahontan alfalfa varieties are harvested for seed in Jackson county under the seed certification program. Talent alfalfa seed classes eligible for planting are breeder, foundation or registered. Only breeder or foundation classes of Lahontan are eligible.

Land when planted must be free from volunteer alfalfa. Foundation fields must be free of alfalfa for at least four years, registered for three years, and certified for two years. With registered and certified the time interval may be omitted if the previous crop was of the same variety and met Foundation or Registered requirements.

Alfalfa field inspections are made by Oregon State university extension seed certification specialists.

Blowdown Topic of Farm Forestry Meeting March 13

Woodland farmers wondering how to make the most of blowdown from the Oct. 12 storm will find many of the answers at the third annual meeting of the Small Woodlands association, Wednesday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m., Harris Hall, Eugene, reported W. G. Nash, Creswell, president.

"Woodland Salvage" is the apt theme of the meeting—the first general session of the small woodland owners since the Oct. 12 storm that caused some \$4 million damage to Lane county timber.

Henry Davies, Lane Extension forester, will moderate the panel discussion keyed to "Salvage". Panel members will report on surveying the problem, reporting loss on income tax reports, and marketing the salvage.

Panel Members

Panel members will be Tom Cochran, Eugene, representative of Industrial Forestry association; Richard F. Smith, consulting forester, Woodland Management, Inc., and Deloss Johnson, internal revenue agent.

Woodland owners are advised to come with questions: "We anticipate many questions will be asked and are setting aside ample time on the program for the question-answer period," Nash said.

The Small Woodlands association, organized in 1960, is open to all "small" woodland owners, Nash said. In Lane county, these "small" owners (with timber holdings from one acre to 5,000 acres in size) account for 380,000 acres.

Membership in the association is statewide. Officers are

Concord, N. H.—Rep. Waldo Bigelow has filed a bill calling for these signs to be posted in each of the state's 49 liquor stores: "Caution: Excessive use of alcohol beverages may be habit forming."



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