

Polled Hereford Conference Features Two Local Speakers

Eddie Meeker, manager of the Arrowhead ranch, Phoenix, and Richard Ireland, Ashland area rancher, spoke at the recent Northwest Polled Hereford conference in Salem.

Meeker traced his care and feeding of a calf from the day he is dropped until he sells him. The birth of a good, healthy calf depends on proper care of a cow, he pointed out. He discussed how he creep feeds fall calves and how he creep feeds spring calves for a while. He stressed the importance of creep feeding before weaning time.

He also discussed how he separates bull calves from heifer calves at five or six months of age. Meeker explained he weighs calves at weaning time and culls out the undesirables. This way

Farm & Garden

Frost Slated to Address Conservation Meeting

W. T. "Jack" Frost, in charge of snow surveys and water forecasting for the Soil Conservation Service in Oregon, will be the principal speaker at the Rogue Soil Conservation district's annual meeting.

The meeting will be held at the Central Point Grange hall beginning at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21, according to Harlan Cantrall, Applegate, chairman of the District's Board of Supervisors.

210 Cattle Sold At Midway Sale; Light Run Noted

A total of 210 cattle were sold on an active market with a light run at the Midway auction yard Friday, March 15, according to Bill Bray, owner-manager.

Good steer calves brought \$29 to \$32.75. The top price was received on a pen lot of Angus calves from the Cottrin ranch.

Medium steer calves sold for \$24 to \$27. Good heifer calves brought \$24 to \$26.40. Medium heifers sold for \$21 to \$23.50.

Good yearling steers sold for \$22 to \$25.80. Common and medium steers earned \$18 to \$21.50.

Yearling heifers sold for \$19 to \$23.50. Holstein steer calves brought \$22 to \$23.90. Yearling Holstein steers sold for \$18 to \$21.

Good cows with calves brought \$200 to \$237.50. Medium grade single pairs sold for \$175 to \$210. Fat steers and heifers sold for \$20 to \$22.50.

Slaughter bulls sold for \$17.50 to \$19.10. Fat cows sold for \$16 to \$18. Heavy utility cows earned \$14.50 to \$15.75, cutters \$12 to \$14 and canners \$10 to \$12.

"Don't miss the dairy sale," Bray advised. "Monday, March 25 at the Midway Auction yard 56 Guernsey cows, eight heifers of the Mel Anhorn herd plus outside consignments will go on the block."

Results Given: Number of steers, 142; average weight in, 546 pounds; average weight out, 955; gain per head, 409 pounds; average days on feed, 136; average daily gain, three pounds; pounds of feed per head per day, 18.8 pounds; pounds of feed per pound of gain, 6.27; feed cost per pound of gain, 19 cents.

Scott Valley Ranch Finishes Out Cattle

Yreka - The Crystal Creek ranch in Scott valley is another example showing it can be profitable to finish your own cattle to slaughter grade, according to Sedge Nelson, Siskiyou county farm advisor.

"We have been advocating use of local feeds on local feeders as a means of increasing a ranch's income and the county's economy," Nelson said.

These steer calves were self fed a ration consisting of 85 per cent local barley, 10 per cent commercial concentrate, and 5 per cent molasses. The entire mix was pelleted. Hay was fed the first month free-choice while getting on feed. They had pulmonary trouble the first month and didn't do well, but even so the average gain was three pounds a day, Nelson reported.

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Value in at 27 cents, \$147.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

"And all the neighbors cats and dogs will never more be seen—They'll all be ground to sausages to Johnny Roebek's machine."

After listening to a discussion of the dog control budget by the county court we suspected if one member of the county court could have found such a machine he would install it immediately and do away with the dog control staff.

Last week the county court listened to County Dog Control Officer Chris Hagler good naturedly and modestly explain his budget needs. Then they were run through the budget time wringer and came out pretty mangled. The \$34,460 total is slightly higher than the current year's allocation.

Chris needs a new truck to replace one which is literally falling apart and two radios so he and his two-man field crew doesn't have to run around finding telephones to check with the office when searching for stray dogs and cats. The dog control staff puts in 4,000 to 4,400 miles a month and 11 to 16 hour days, even working some Sundays with no overtime pay. Chris would like to add a man to his staff to cut down on this overtime, but the way things look he will be lucky to keep what he has. One girl runs the office and misdemeanor prisoners are used for work around the pound.

If State Rep. John Dellenback and Tom and Jerry, those famous TV "meases," are able to get through their cat control bill Chris will have even more to do. He already needs more runs for his dogs, so more facilities for cats will be required. As it is now, the dog control crew try to run down complaints on stray cats the same time they are looking for stray dogs.

And it looks as if the entire county is footing the bill for its two main cities—Medford and Ashland. Chris says if these two cities had their own dog control staffs, but his used the county pound, he could get along easily with his present crew—at least until the cat and dog population increases even more. Meanwhile the farmer provides his own dog control with a sharp eye and long rifle.

It's a long jump from dogs to horses, but—the Jackson County Horseman's association is still campaigning for adequate horse activity facilities in this county. Now we have 4-H horse clubs which take up an entire 4-H fair day with their activities and have blessed little room at the fairgrounds south of Medford for them. The Pony of America club has an active group here, too, plus all the other senior horsemen's groups.

They left a printed memo to the public on our desk last week to point out that the general Oregon public do not realize all the activity and benefits 100,000 horses bring to this state.

Central Point Banker Talks on Horses, Cattle

Cliff Ayers, president of the First National bank in Central Point, was the main speaker at the Jackson County Horseman's association, Wednesday, March 13.

Fifty-two persons attended the meeting, and of that number twenty signed up for membership in the organization.

Ayers spoke to the group on the rapid increase in the business of cattle breeding since the last war days. The first registered Angus cattle were brought to the Rogue valley by John Cupp, of Central Point, in 1953, and since that time the number has risen to 2,000 head, with the addition of 60,000 head of beef cattle. Although even with the increase in the cattle, as well as the consumption of beef, the rangeland has been on the decrease.

According to Ayers, "One of our failings has been in selling out cattle as feeders." Continuing, Ayers relating the problems facing cattle groups in the 4-H clubs, said, "These boys and girls are going to be our future farmers, and are deserving and entitled to all the help we can give them. The bank in Central Point has been instrumental from time to time, and been able to work out the necessary financing needed by the local clubs, with their beef projects."

However none of the horse groups have as yet been dealt with, but according to Ayers, he says he feels sure the bank can also arrange the necessary financing for any of the 4-H groups, in the same manner as the beef, with the interest rate of 8 per cent.

At Crater High school, today is being conducted the second largest Future Farmers program, in the state of Oregon, Ayers said.

"Chuck" Poythress, owner and manager of the Midway Roping arena extended an invitation to all horse groups as well as 4-H clubs to use the facilities at the local concession for any of their activities and to also participate in the

Dodder Means Serious Loss on Farm, Recommended Treatment Prescribed

By RAY HUBBELL
Weed Control Supervisor
Dodder represents a serious loss of income to many alfalfa seed growers. No single treatment or practice will control dodder.

Crowder's lime and money will both be wasted unless he is willing and able to closely follow the recommended schedules set down by the manufacturers of the chemicals intended to be used. Depending upon weather conditions, dodder seed should soon begin to germinate.

Chemical control with C.I.P.C. (emulsion or granular) or Dacthal applications should be made just prior to or during this germination period. Usually this occurs around March 20 to 25 in the Rogue valley. Fields should be clear of litter. Shallow cultivation in the spring with a spring tooth harrow, will help control grass and weeds as well as help prepare the soil by breaking up clods and litter. Cattle should not be allowed to graze off the stubble. Animal droppings furnish an ideal spot for dodder to germinate and protect the dodder seed from the treatment.

Control Period
Dodder is susceptible to chemical control during a very brief period, beginning at seed germination and ending when the parasite is firmly attached to the alfalfa plant. This period varies from 10 to 14 days depending on soil and temperature conditions. No prediction of dodder germination can safely be made. Personal inspection by the grower or custom applicator is required. Close checks being made for the first signs of the whitish yellow, hair-like shoots or spots where it showed up the year before. Warmer south slopes encourage earlier germination of dodder.

C.I.P.C. applications to set soil have been most successful, however, granulars should not be applied if foliage is wet or damp from dew or rain as crop injury or stunting may occur. Six pounds of active C.I.P.C., emulsion or granular should be used per acre.

Dacthal plots applied last year indicate 7½ pounds to 10 pounds per acre of the 73 per cent wettable powder should give control. More work is to be done this year with Dacthal and other new promising control measures for dodder.

Complications
The control measures are further complicated. The above mentioned chemicals are not cleared for use on forage for dairy or slaughter cattle. Most fields' first cutting is used for hay and most alfalfa seed fields are non-irrigated. Chemical application after the hay has been removed will be late for most germinating dodder seed and

moisture conditions are not generally favorable at this time. If moisture is available, burning after the hay removal will help reduce the dodder infestation, then C.I.P.C. applications made for control through harvest.

Killing dodder attached to alfalfa stubble is difficult. The alfalfa stem below the point the dodder has attached has to be destroyed, or it will start growing before the alfalfa recovers. Frequent inspection should be made during burning to be sure that the dodder is destroyed.

Even under the best conditions, 100 per cent dodder control seldom results. Fields should be patrolled frequently and any patches that escape treatment should be destroyed.

Due to the erratic results with C.I.P.C., it is suggested growers using this chemical for the first time, treat only a small area. Satisfactory control here will determine using the treatment on a larger scale.

Oat varieties are: Parker, a white oat of medium height. Its yields have been among the top group for three years at the Southern Oregon Experiment Station, Carleton and Winema—These can be used as grain or hay. They have yielded well in station trials. Shasta—It is a tall, late maturing variety that can be used for hay. It is susceptible to rust.

Barley varieties are: Bonneville—It must be seeded early or it may use up the available soil moisture before the heads are properly filled. It tends to thresh harder than some varieties, resulting in more heads left on the kernels. Wocus—It is closely related to Bonneville, requiring early seeding in order to mature properly. Velvon—It yields well but is susceptible to loose smut. It does better than Bonneville where soil conditions are not favorable for Bonneville. Trebi—This variety has good yielding ability but it has a weak straw. It threshes well and the test weight is usually high. / las—This is a quick maturing variety that can be seeded later than the other varieties.

Wheat varieties are: Lemki 53—It is a beardless, white wheat with resistance to stem rust. White Federation 38—A beardless, fairly stiff-strawed early maturing spring wheat. It must be planted early to make satisfactory yields.

The general fertilizer recommendations for these crops are 40 pounds of nitrogen, 40 to 60 pounds of phosphorus, 40 to 60 pounds of potassium and 15 to 30 pounds of sulfur per acre. The recommendation are pounds of available nutrients, not pounds of fertilizer material.

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Farm Teen Board Contest Slated

Yreka - Two girls between 12 and 15 years may be nominated from Siskiyou county to be on the nation-wide Farm Journal Teen board, according to Bill Ruddiman, county 4-H farm advisor.

Nancy Mathews, Etna, served two years ago on the board. Nominations are due at the HEAC meeting April 3 at Etna. A brief story, 500 words or less by the girl on, "How 4-H is Helping Me," should accompany each nomination. Ruddiman said.



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