

GARDENING TIPS

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

Onions
For best control of the onion maggot, apply Diazinon directly into the furrow with the seed when planting. This will protect the onion against invasion by the maggot later on.

The onion maggot overwinters as a brown pupa buried several inches in the soil. The pupa transforms to an adult and emerges over a period of several months in the spring as a slender gray fly about one-fourth inch long. The females lay eggs about the base of the onion plant or in cracks in the soil.

Within a week the eggs hatch and the maggots crawl down the plant and enter the bulb. They completely mine out small onion bulbs and form cavities in the larger bulbs. They feed for two to three weeks in the soil, pupate for two to three weeks and then emerge as adults to start another generation.

Diazinon may be applied in the granular or liquid form. Apply the 5 per cent granular Diazinon at once and a half teaspoons per twenty feet of furrow.

Dilute the 25 per cent Diazinon liquid concentrate at the rate of one tablespoon per gallon of water and use this

emulsion at the rate of one pint per 20 feet of furrow. An easy way to apply the emulsion would be to punch a hole in the center of the bottom of a tin can with a large nail. Then dribble the emulsion into the furrow right on top of the seed before closing the furrow.

Parsnips
There is no basis for the belief that parsnips that remain in the ground over winter and start growth in the spring are poisonous. All reported cases of poisoning from eating so-called wild parsnips have been traced to water hemlock (Cicuta), which belongs to the same family and resembles the parsnip somewhat.

Lawn Weeds
Now is the time to get busy and spray those lawn weeds that are hard to control with chemicals later in the season. Chickweed, speed well and knotweed are actively growing and are most susceptible to chemical treatment now.

Chickweed grows in patches and has narrow leaves and rather inconspicuous white flowers borne in clusters. Spray chickweed with Silvex and repeat the spray in three weeks to kill any regrowth.

Speedwell spreads over the surface of the ground and has a small blue flower. Spray speedwell with a mixture of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T.

Knotweed is an annual and the seedlings are at the stage when 2,4-D will control this weed. Knotweed, when mature, is a wide spreading mat-like weed with waxy stems and small narrow leaf blades. It is very common along hard packed paths and roadsides.



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FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
State Farm Forester

It's later than you think! The way it now stands, a landowner in the state forestry's southwest district will need a permit to burn after April 1, 1963.

For this reason, you landowners who have burning to do, NOW is the time to do it. It is much more convenient for you and also the forestry department if you do "our debris, or other burning before the permit is required. Of course, it is not always possible, but most of the time it is, if a person is aware of this situation and the effective date.

No one can tell what is in store for this area as far as fire conditions this summer. One thing for sure, it won't be good. For every one's sake let's all be extremely careful about fires this summer and practice the old familiar slogan, "Keep Oregon Green."

A repeat of the 1962 Poorman's Creek fire, for example, is not necessary. This fire, located just west of Jacksonville, burned over 425 acres of brush and timber land. Several homes were jeopardized but none damaged, thanks to quick control measures by the state forestry department's fire crews. This fire scar like many others around Jackson and Josephine counties should for many years remind local residents and tourists about fire danger, but will it?

Poorman's Creek
Speaking of the Poorman's Creek fire, a few weeks ago, a tree planting crew planted five acres of land owned by a Mr. Dixon. Dixon appreciates the numerous benefits of trees to his land both now and for years to come. In my way of thinking, this is natural resource conservation in its truest sense. He might never realize any benefit from these trees except the satisfaction of knowing trees are there for future use. Mr. Dixon would have liked to replant all 60 acres burned by the fire, but was unable to this year. He is planning to seed or plant next year and from then on until the land is restocked. The ground and plant condition this year is perfect for restocking. This is usually the case after a fire, for the first year or two, but then problems increase with grass and brush competition.

To summarize this article: Do necessary burning after April 1. Be careful with fires this year, "Keep Oregon Green," and if you are a landowner that sustains fire damage to woodland, plan to reseed or re-plant the first year if possible.

"Remember only you can Prevent Forest Fires."

Dairy and Consumer Division, State Department of Agriculture, said 10 of those discontinuing production served the Eugene area and 42 the Portland area. The figure for the rest of the state was 70.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

A great number of people who grow plants tend to be experimental minded. This is a worthwhile trait if it is not carried on to the point of frustration.

In this instance a sense of what is practical for a given set of plant environmental factors is important. If your soil, its drainage, or the availability of water for summer irrigation has seemed to have been unfavorable for the growth of certain plants in the past it is not wise to continue to try to grow these crops. In some instances the limiting factor may be one of exposure to direct sunlight. When it is possible to predict from past experience which plants do best under your conditions, concentrate your best efforts on them. This does not mean that new varieties or species should not be planted on a trial basis.

Pollution is a subject that receives some sort of attention in this area for twelve months of each year. The pollution of streams and of air we breathe receive most if not all of the attention of certain reform groups as well as constituting the areas in which governmental agencies like to show some muscle.

Other Forms of Pollution
There are at least three other forms of pollution that are far more serious threats to our way of life than are the two mentioned above. We have called attention to the saturation of the area soil water by household detergents in previous columns. This one threat alone can have more detrimental effect on the people of this valley than will either air or stream pollution. There is of course some overlap of the problem of detergents in soil water and stream pollution. These harmful detergents will add to the present problem of stream pollution as they get into the streams in drainage water.

Another form of pollution that is serious in the valley is one of the nature of eyesores. Unpainted buildings, falling buildings, fences that lean and properties that house huge heaps of junk fall into this class of pollution. Take any paved road from Medford to almost any point and the countryside presents a poor picture for human habitation. Lots of improvement could be made in this area in this respect.

Another form of pollution is also a serious one and concerns the minds and will of our people and especially of the teenagers. Too many of our adults expect something for nothing. The will to work and earn is fast disappearing. The welfare state is acceptable to too many people. The young person absorbs this type of thinking rather fast. We should retain laws that permit youngsters to do certain types of labor. It may prevent future additions to the juvenile home.

The atmosphere around us is subject to frequent cleaning just from winds and rains. The streams are cleaned by freshets and floods. The other areas of pollution mentioned above are not so easily or frequently renewed and made usable again.

Foot Rot a Problem In Gaines Wheat

Foot rot is a problem in Gaines, a new semi-dwarf variety of winter wheat. The same conditions that produce maximum yields also produce foot rot. At the present time there is no known control measure, according to Bert G. Wilcox, county extension agent.

Early fall seeding in good moisture with ample fertilizer are the necessary ingredients for top yields from Gaines. The same conditions foster foot rot, a native fungus also known as straw-breaker. Plans are being laid for a four-year study to control foot rot. The study will be carried on by Washington State university where the wheat was developed.

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Weed Control In Spring Cereals Given Explanation

By RAY HUBBELL
Weed Control Supervisor

Weather conditions are such that much of our spring planting of grain is under way. Soon the crop as well as weeds will be coming up.

In most fields the need for weed control can be determined before the time arrives to take to the field with the sprayer. Timing being an important factor in selective and weed control we should be prepared and have our sprayer calibrated for the intended work.

There are three important factors in calibrating a field sprayer. These are speed traveled, pressure used and nozzle size. Before starting calibration, the rig should be thoroughly cleaned, tank and booms. Nozzles and screens should be removed and cleaned, all fittings checked for leaks. Then with clean

water, a test run made over a known acre area at a constant speed and pressure. The amount of water used from a full tank will determine the amount of weed killer to be used in this amount of water per acre. If this proves to be too much or too little a re-run should be made adjusting speed, pressure or nozzle size until the desired condition is obtained.

Recommended Rates
Recommended rates of 2,4-D Amine run from one-half pound to one pound with 1/4 of a pound mostly being used in 10 to 20 gallons of water. Since oats are less tolerant than other cereals no more than one-half pound should be used.

Applications to wheat, oats and barley should be made as soon as they have six to eight inches of growth, well tiller-

ed and before the heads start into the boot.

Drift of 2,4-D to susceptible crops should be avoided. Spraying should be done on calm days using low pressure and large nozzle sizes.

Wind and rain both being detrimental to spraying conditions, being prepared could mean the difference between clean or weedy grain. If you have your grain spraying done commercially take advantage of their service and notify them early enough so your fields can be watched and weed control measures applied at the correct time.

APPOINTMENT TOLD

Salem - [Name] - A. C. Light-hall, Jr., Baker, has been named a member of the advisory committee to the Department of Planning and Development, the governor's office announced Monday.

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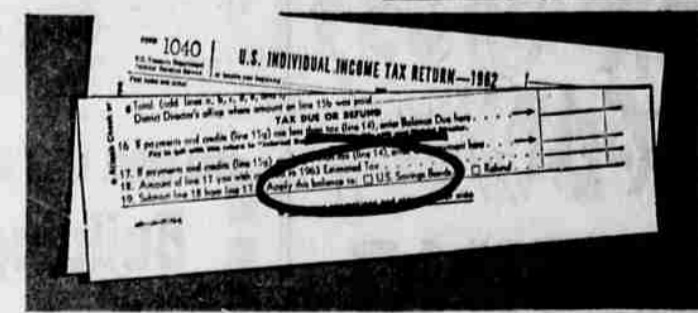
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