NEW ORCHARD—Elk Lumber company, Medford, is planting a new orchard which may eventually reach a total of 1,000 acres. It is the lumber company's own "green belt zone" to act as a buffer strip between the lumber company plant and the encroaching subdivisions. Don Doty, farm superintendent, examines a young pear tree.

Pear Acreage Set By Elk Lumber Firm As Buffer Zone

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Elk Lumber company under the supervision of Dan Doty, orchard field superintendent, is developing its own "green belt" zoning.

The company is gradually planting 800 acres of pear orchard as a buffer strip between burgeoning subdivisions and the lumber plant. The orchard eventually may include one thousand acres plus a packing house and cold storage plant.

Elk is also restoring the pioneer Vinton Beall house, built about 1860 on Beall lane, near Central Point. The home, complete with its gingerbread trimming, and old-fashioned outbuildings, will be home to the Doty family.

"We got into the orchard business by the back door, actually," explained George Flanagan, lumber company manager. "I could see the time when homes would be built right up to the plant if we didn't do something soon. And subdivision sites are not compatable with lumber mills – kids crawling around the machinery etc. So we decided to acquire some farm acreage as a protecting strip and for possible further plant expansion."

"We discovered the only way we could justify a $1,000 an acre investment was to put in pears since only such a crop outside of a specialty crop like grass seed would return a profit on the investment and pay the taxes," Flanagan explained further.

Takes Best Land

"I have felt for a long time that it is a crime that subdivisions are taking the best agricultural land out of production when there are plenty of hills and slopes to build on which are not as suitable for farming," he remarked. "We have received lots of favorable comment from Medford oldtimers."

From Cal Poly

Dan Doty, a slight, blond, blue-eyed young man, received his technical training in agricultural engineering at California Polytechnic Institute and his practical farming experience on an eastern Washington grain and livestock farm.

"No, I'm not a horticulturist, nor have I had any orchard experience other than this," Doty answered Mail. "But, trees are plants and must be raised exactly as plants. You might say I'm growing up with the orchard."

The company has two blocks totaling 50 acres which it recently purchased not far from the plant. It also has a small tract near the older orchards.

The newly acquired older pear orchards are evenly split up among Bosc, Bartletts, D'Anjous and Comice. The new acreage will be half in Comice and half in Bartletts as each block is developed. A large motorized scraper, used formerly for creating the plant's mill pond with a 60 foot land plane is now being used for the leveling and grading operation.

The lumber company's by-product of pulverized bark is being used as mulch for both young and old trees. Experimentation showed the trees mulched with bark did better in the sandy loam soil.

If and when it is practicable to heat, Doty plans to stay. Presto-logs, but oil probably will be the fuel he may find have to heat a large portion of the orchard since approximately of the old orchard was never heated although the eight-acre block near the plant is heated.

Two hundred [illegible] and trees recently have been planted, all Comice and Bartletts.

Doty blames the heavy dew and plantings 50 to 100 trees a year. By leveling the land before planting he estimates he recovers his leveling costs by ease of irrigation and elimination of water puddles around the trees.

One advantage of not being a horticulturist is that Doty does not feel restricted to follow any prescribed practice or school of thought.

"Don't say we aren't going prune meticulously. They said that about olive fruit and they now pick olives, cherries, and prunes mechanically. A horticultural operation is a changing one," Doty reminded with a grin. **Partly Mechanized**

The Elk lumber company plan operation is already mechanized somewhat. Doty imported the front end of a farm wagon for mounting with pulverized bark. This hauls and spreads with half-four tons of bark mulch. He plans to buy a large self propelled spreader on large six-foot balloon tires to the orchard machinery. This will eliminate soil compaction caused by a cold-pitted tractor dumping or spreading fertilizer on the orchard. Mechanical thinning and pruning may be feasible too, since the dwarf rootstock effect tree.

"Farming is changing from everything close to into to be done on a large scale to go out and it takes up to do it. So going to be in the pear business on a large scale although we like to go slow and stick close mindedness for the pear industry," Flanagan said.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

The weather is at times an unstable factor among the many that contribute to crop production.

However, if the quantity that we know as weather is evaluated seasonally, it can readily be seen that it is the one factor more than any other that determines crop areas. Many persons are prone to feel that availability of markets are of first importance in this respect. Crops are grown commercially where such natural factors as weather will permit and then transported to market.

It is still very early for planting in the home vegetable garden. Plants of some species may be grown in cold frames or greenhouses for later transport to the vegetable garden.

A large number of beef type cattle are now being pastured in the old Camp White area. This is at best a temporary pasture. It would seem that the forage that is available for these animals would be greatly improved if an application of 30-40 lbs of nitrogen per acre had been applied to the pasture about three weeks ago. The grasses would now be more productive of a superior type of grazing foliage than is now the case.

Indicates Ignorance

Anytime a modern agricultural expert claims that he and co-workers have made a discovery regarding plant growth, it often indicates an ignorance of what has been discovered and known by man for many years. It is often an ego-deflating task to read old agricultural books and records. Some of this literature is in language other than English. The largest progress made by recent man has been in the fields of pest control and new varieties. The ancients knew about as much as we youngsters about such items as plant nutrition, physiology and soils.

We still feel strongly that the county government should not grow economic crops. Such crops may be used to feed patients, prisoners, or even sold for cash. The fact that such crops are grown for only by taxpayers in the area is enough to keep government out of this business. Some day the county will have a surplus of some item and then will it be made available to schools, hospitals or put on the market. The growers of truck crops and even of beef cattle should see that the county stays out of the farming business.

Spraying of fruit crops has been a problem so far this year. The weather tends to favor the pests rather than the farmer who must spray to protect his crops.

Where orchard soils are lack of molybdenum notice, it will be all right to begin making distinct applications as well as accomplishing some cultivation.

But all that and that is available but in the final analysis each producer must produce his own crop.

Egg Safe License Exceptions Noted

Salem – Those eggs you sell from your farm need a license from the Oregon department of agriculture.

This made of station was issued this week by the Oregon department of agriculture.

Egg producers and dealers, who sell graded eggs to retail stores, sales and bakeries must have permits from the department.

The license does not apply to old producers, however.

Listed by Kenneth Carl, chief of the Dairy and Consumer Services Division, as exceptions are: sales made direct to consumers or to a licensed dealer; sales to consumers by retailer, who does not grade eggs and sells only those graded by other persons; and sales of ungraded eggs.

Porsche Car Dealer Announced for Area

Porsche Car Northwest, Inc., has been formed as a new company in the automotive field recently, according to an announcement by Knute M. Qvale, president of Riviera Motors, Inc., Portland.

Authorized dealer in Medford is Morse Motors, at West Sixth and Ivy sts.

Riviera is Volkswagen distributor for Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. It will distribute Porsche parts and provide its own service school for mechanics in Portland.

✦ Chit Chat ✦

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Anybody who has studied the sciences, or anybody with just plain horse sense will tell you you can't force something big and solid through a narrow funnel.

This proposed fruit processing plant for the valley is big and solid, or could be. But a comparatively small group of people are trying to bring the plant in through a funnel of their own narrow interests.

This same narrow approach to such an industry has failed before and could easily fail again. If it is a good thing for the people of the valley let the people participate in extending the Paul A. Mariani Fruit company, Cupertino, Calif. to Grants Pass or to Medford. After all, it is going to take a lot of just plain dirt farmers to make it a success —to provide sufficient acres of fruit, or vegetables, or both so the plant can run at full capacity and make a profit.

We have had a chance to compare two methods of attracting industry. This one with a series of small private meetings and the one with the big, public, community-wide approach. The latter was much more successful. The first has built up "the great potential" and the second has developed a strong community spirit and established two solid plants.

True, it may be necessary to make many tests of soils and plant types to see if the types and qualities of fruit and vegetables can be grown here in sufficient quantity. There is nothing to get excited about, we are reminded repeatedly. But there is no better way to get people excited than to try an under-cover approach no matter how unselfish it may be.

The ground-work has been laid. This is just the beginning of the operation. This would be a good time to let the public know exactly what the problems are and what the goal is before this thing goes much further. The man who seems to be handling all of the negotiations says Mariani is pleased with all of the public interest. But comparatively few people have had a chance to express an opinion.

Josephine county growers and would-be growers had indicated an interest in planting 1,692 acres to strawberries and cane berries. Yet the reports we get indicate 2,000 acres must be firmly pledged before a plant can be established in the valley. Jackson county growers contacted say even a tentative pledge is too premature. They apparently want to see the color of the blue-prints first.

There are number of contradictory opinions and questions being expressed which should have and could have been answered in public meetings. One highly respected agricultural expert backed by another who usually contradicts him says any such plant would need pears as a base. They are here already in quantity. Strawberries are not. Many doubt if they ever will be. Others say they can be, but contradict present successful strawberry growers who are a little dubious due to present lack of qualified growers.

The proposal, we are told, is to bring in a strain of Marshall strawberry which is resistant to local berry diseases. The Marshall has long been considered a top berry for freezing, but is subject to yellows. The new strain has been grown in the Willamette valley successfully, we are told, also. But what can grow well in the Willamette valley won't always grow here.

An eminent strawberry grower says a crucial thing is timing the berry bloom so the frost doesn't hit them and reduce the crop to half or less. This requires a strain which will bloom after the spring frost. He is trying the Cascade—not the Marshalls, or the new strain.

Then, say the berries make it through the spring frost. Then comes harvest time and need for pickers. Two thousand acres as prescribed by Mariani would require 20,000 pickers, a successful berrygrower tells us. This means a big labor recruiting drive. Can and will the local people do it? Or, must Mexican Nationals be brought in?

Local pear growers haven't had much luck in getting local people to pick for them. But, strawberries can be and are picked by many women and children who physically couldn't pick pears. Local berry growers rely heavily on high school students and say they get good results. One grower is continually working in a group of new pickers with experienced ones. He takes time and patience in training and arranges work to hit the peak of teenage energy. Perhaps such a program could be applied on a large scale.

We were told the big hindrance in getting this new industrial development going is lack of information—not enough information as to water content of vegetables and berries for a proposed quick dry freeze process, and on how the selected strains of berries and perhaps vegetables selected by Mariani could be grown on the valley's varying soil types.

Such information would have been provided through an Over-all Economic Development Plan under a Rural Area Development program as contained in this session before. And the purpose of RAD is attraction and development of such industries as the Mariani Fruit company. Providing the RAD committee members are truly community representatives and not appointed for political reasons you would have the advantage of a community-wide approach, too.

"I JUST ORDERED MY WFA SPRING SEEDS—HAVE YOU?"

FERTILIZER
33½-0-0
16-20-0
0-20-0
Potash
Gypsum

WFA 7-ALL PURPOSE FORAGE MIX
• For Silage
• For Forage
• For Hay

DON'T GUESS—SOIL TEST!
ORDER TODAY—FROM WFA

WESTERN FARMERS ASSOCIATION
773-8239
17 W. 4th
Serving Northwest Agriculture Since 1917

Pasture Work Set With Chemicals

By RAY HUBBELL
County Weed Control Supervisor

Very often one of the most neglected areas on the farm is the pasture.

Here, because we expect grass to be "able to take care of itself," weeds and brush often spring up in profusion. These plants reduce the productive capacity of the pasture and result in hidden losses that can be easily remedied by the application of chemicals.

Such plants as dandelion, plantain, sour dock, blackberries and many other plants can be controlled or eradicated through proper application of chemicals. Such control permits the grass to re-establish itself and adds productive areas to the farm. Fortunately most of these plants are readily controlled by spring application of chemicals.

For the usual broadleaved weed such as plantain or dandelion, an application of 2, 4-D Amine-A at the rate of one quart in 20 gallons of water per acre will result in good control. This, followed by an application of fertilizer, will bring the pasture back strong. This application, while damaging to clovers, does not usually kill them out and they re-establish themselves quickly.

Blackberry Control

For brush such as blackberry, which may be taking over the pasture, an application of LV Brush Killers at the full leaf stage will give good control. One gallon of LV Brush Killer in 100 gallons of water applied after full leaf will control many of the brushy plants found in pasture and may be used for spot application of patches of perennial weeds such as Canada thistle. For best results on brush, the application should be made after full leaf but before midsummer.

Thorough application to get all of the plants is essential for control. Some follow-up application may be necessary the next year for complete eradication. As brush plant dies off, grass will move in and grow to occupy the space and provide additional pasture.

Gardening Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN
County Extension Agent

Iris Leaf Spot

For control of this disease spray with Captan (two tablespoons to a gallon of water) every two weeks. Since Iris leaves are hard to wet be sure to add a spreader sticker to the spray solution.

Iris leaf spot first appears as small brown spots with water-soaked edges. As the spots age, they develop a grayish center with a red-brown border. On badly infected leaves these spots will coalesce and the infected leaves will die.

The fungus overwinters in the infected iris leaves. By removing and burning the iris leaves in the fall and by proper spacing to provide for good air circulation, this disease should be no problem.

High quality seed may cost more to buy, but it is the cheapest in the long run if you want a good looking lawn. Read the seed tag or label on the bag to note the quality of the seed in the bag before purchasing.

There are many prepared lawn seed mixtures on the market. Many of them are low grade and contain grasses which are short-lived or which do not make a neat appearing lawn. Avoid mixtures containing ryegrass, redtop, meadow fescue, orchardgrass and bentgrass. The best mixtures for Southern Oregon are those that contain a high percentage of Kentucky bluegrass or improved varieties of it and fine-leaved fescues (creeping red fescue).

All lawns, old or new, need fertilizer in the early spring. This early spring fertilization will ensure that the grass will have all the necessary minerals during this good grass growing weather. Call the Jackson county extension office (773-8215) and request your copy of "Home Lawns For Oregon." This bulletin will serve as an excellent reference for the care of your lawn.

Carpenter Ants

If you see a swarm of insects around the porch pillars, sills, studs, etc., of your home, don't draw the conclusion that your house is infected with termites. In all probability it is a swarm of carpenter ants. Both termites and carpenter ants are serious wood pests and immediate action should be taken to combat them. However, control measures for the carpenter ant and termite are not similar.

By taking a close look you can easily distinguish between the two. The carpenter ant worker is about one-half inch long, black or reddish black, long legged and wasp waisted. Reproductive ants are similar to the workers in color and shape but have two pair of wings, the front pair of wings being much larger than the hind pair.

The termite worker is yellow to gray in color, up to one-half inch long, short legged and thick waisted. Reproductive termites are brown or black, thick waisted and have two pair of wings of approximate equal length.

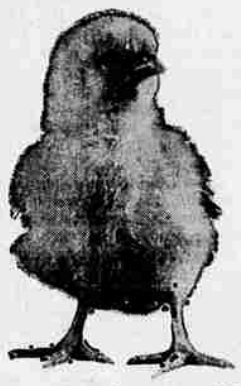
Other distinguishing features are that the carpenter ant will leave a pile of sawdust and can be seen running rapidly about while the termite does not leave a sawdust pile and remains hidden from view.

Control: Dust or spray chlordane around the area where the ants are observed. Ants crawling over the treated area will be killed. Household type sprays are adapted for indoor use while emulsion concentrates are less expensive for covering large areas outdoors.

If possible locate the colonies and treat with chlordane. This may mean removing siding or boring holes in a porch pillar and blowing chlordane dust into the opening.

STOCKMEN FEED PELLETS
Your coarse or unpalatable roughage will make a base for a modern balanced ration that you can feed with little labor and no wastage. The increased meat or milk produced will give you maximum returns on a small cash investment.
MORTON MILLING CO.
500 Ross Lane, Medford

Ford TRACTORS
Phone 772-6425
SPECIAL
Military Jeep—Good Condition $450.
1 Yard Carry All Like New for 3 Point Hitch
NASH FORD TRACTOR & IMPLEMENT CO.,
3005 Crater Lake Hwy.



TIME for CHICKS
...and your chick starting needs.
Now is the time to order your chicks—to cash in on favorable egg prices early next fall. Place your order with us for chicks of top-producing strains. We can also supply you with all your chicks' starting needs—Purina Chick Startena, Disinfectants, Check-R-Tabs, Tylan, feeders and fonnts. And, of course, our friendly service is always available. Be sure to visit our Checkerboard store real soon.
Watch for Our Chick Bargain Days Ad in Wednesday Paper
Farm Store 18th & S. Fir
Monarch SEED & FEED CO.

SUPER SCAB CONTROL FOR APPLES AND PEARS
Cyprex® provides powerful, economical control along with flexibility to meet any threat from scab throughout the season

Cyprex is recommended by all western states as the preferred scab fungicide.
These recommendations are based on comparative trials by plant pathologists in all Washington, Oregon and California areas where scab is an economic problem on apples and pears.

Cyprex is superior both as an eradicant and a protectant. Low economical rates in protection schedules have proved to be far more effective than other protectant materials. And by merely increasing rates slightly Cyprex also becomes a powerful eradicant, giving up to 48 hours of "kick-back" action.

Cyprex is compatible with most insecticides and fungicides. It is also now available in dust form. Consult local authorities for further information. Or, contact American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division, Los Angeles 54, Oakland 12 or Portland 8.

Start Cyprex sprays early during the critical rainy spring months to prevent scab from becoming established.

Cyprex always "pays off." These pears show what you can expect from a Cyprex-sprayed orchard. Crops thus protected assure higher dollar returns.

Cyprex is versatile, economical. Gives protection at low rates. At slightly higher rates gives powerful "kick-back" control.

• CYPREX IS NOW ALSO REGISTERED for blossom brown rot and leaf spot on cherries (sweet and sour) and blossom brown rot on peaches

CYANAMID
CYPREX® 65-W FUNGICIDE

CYANAMID SERVES THE MAN WHO MAKES A BUSINESS OF AGRICULTURE

Top Tonnage Begins With ANCHOR Pelleted Fertilizer
For complete selection and service, Call . . .

GRANGE CO-OP SUPPLY ASSOCIATION
HIGHWAY 99 – CENTRAL POINT
PHONE 664-1262 OR 773-4022
421 A STREET – –ASHLAND
PHONE 482-2143