Northern California Scene Of Annual Beef Cattle Tour

The Cal-Ore Hereford Breeder's association will hold its annual spring tour in northern California for the first time Sunday.

Four Siskiyou county breeders who will show their herds to Jackson county visitors are Jiggs and Betty Kuck, Leonard Shelley, Frank and Margaret Day and Elden and Betty Hoy.

The tour will leave Medford at 8 a.m. and take approximately 1½ hours to reach the Kuck ranch. The tour starts there at 9:30 a.m. and winds up at the Elden and Betty Hoy ranch at 3:30 p.m.

The tour committee is planning on 350 California and Oregon people. Cal-Ore is providing the beef steaks for the barbecue on Frank Day's ranch. The women are asked to provide salad or dessert and their own table service.

Yearling bulls and heifers, plus some cows and calves will be shown at the Kuck ranch.

Leonard Shelley's Shasta Valley ranch will display some yearling polled Hereford bulls and Shelley will tell how he feeds them on pellets. He will also show a few herd bulls. Shelley is considered one of the leading polled breeders in northern California.

Betty and Elden Hoy will display some of their breeding herd and younger bulls. Hoy is one of the oldest Hereford breeders on the west coast.

The lunch stop will be at the Frank Day Hereford ranch where cattlemen will see herd sires, cows and calves and younger bulls. Day will explain a little about his breeding program. The Day ranch is one of the oldest performance tested ranches in the area.

Jim Ellings, head of the California Beef Improvement association, is expected to be at the Day ranch to give a talk on performance testing.

Those planning to make the tour should figure approximately 48 miles from the Jackson county fairgrounds to the Willow Creek school. To reach the Kuck ranch travel to the border quarantine station, past Hornbrook, turn at the Klamath river bridge, drive to Ager, then follow the road to the Kuck ranch, the assembly point. The Shelley and Day ranches are off the A12 rd. The Hoy ranch is near Weed.

Bull Sale

The Cal-Ore association's bull sale committee has set Oct. 9, Wednesday, for the 1963 sale. Minimum age shall be summer yearlings, as before, with the maximum age three years.

Ten heifers will be allowed in the sale. Not more than one of these shall be owned by any one consignor of bulls. These heifers must not have calved at sale time and if they are more than two years old must be bred. They must be heifers from clean pedigree or progeny tested stock. Bred heifers should be pregnancy tested.

The first bull sold will be determined by a ballot box in the sale barn. Everyone on the grounds will be eligible to vote. This way both the buyers and sellers will be able to determine the first bull in the sale.

Following the first bull, a plan similar to the last two years will be followed. Rotation will be determined by drawing from the hat. Other breeds should be sold in a block rather than to scatter them, the committee feels.

The sale committee will inspect bulls in August and will pick up registraiton papers then on all accepted bulls. Ranchers planning to enter bulls should send their list to the Cal-Ore Secretary Earle Jossy, in care of the extension service office at the fair grounds.

Jacksonville Herd Tops In DHIA Testing Program

Jack O'Brien, Jacksonville, placed his herd among the top three for two consecutive months, according to the February and March reports of the Jackson County Dairy Herd Improvement association.

O'Brien ranked third with his herd in February and first in March.

In February, his 47 cows produced an average of 849 pounds of milk with a 37 pound butterfat average. Dry cows were 11.90 per cent of the herd.

In March O'Brien came in first with his 44 cows with 3.75 per cent dry, 1,087 pound average of milk and 44 pound butterfat.

Bill and Jo Hubbard's herd of 31 cows from Eagle Point was first in February with 2.18 per cent dry cows, 1,071 pound average of milk and 41 pounds butterfat average.

Second in February was another Jacksonville herd of 51 cows owned by Jake Vander Stoel; 11.90 per cent dry, 934 pound milk average and 39 pound butterfat average.

John DeYoung, Applegate had 35 cows producing an average of 849 pounds of milk, 37 pounds butterfat average, 12.76 per cent dry.

B. M. Burreson, Gold Hill, had 46 cows producing 993 pound average of milk, 36 pound average of butterfat with 3.81 per cent dry.

Ten Top Cows

The ten top cows included that of B. M. Burreson, 2,686 pounds of milk, 89 pounds of butterfat and 41 days in milking; Straus Brothers, 2,106 pounds of milk, 88 pounds of butterfat and 30 days in milking; O'Brien, 1,776 pounds of milk, 87 pounds of butterfat and 37 days in milking.

Others were Gilman's Dairy farm cow, 1,940 pounds of milk, 83 pounds of butterfat and 28 days in milking; Victor Birdseye's cow, 1,276 pounds milk, 80 pounds of butterfat, 29 days in milking; Vander Stoel cow, 1,940 pounds of milk, 78 pounds of butterfat, 28 days in milking; Gilman's Dairy farm cow, 1,624 pounds of milk, 78 pounds of butterfat, 44 days in milking; Edgeoaks dairy, 2,550 pounds of milk, 76 pounds of butterfat, 44 days in milking; Don Geren's cow, 1,823 pounds of milk, 75 pounds of butterfat and 31 days in milking; Lewis and Ruth Clark's cow, 1,562 pounds of milk, 75 pounds in butterfat and 58 days in milking.

The 20 cow herd of Frank Silva, Eagle Point, ranked second with no dry cows, 816 pound average of milk and 43 pounds of butterfat average for March.

Applegate Herd Second

John DeYoung, Applegate, was second with 35 cows, 13.09 per cent dry, 1,168 pound average of milk, 42 pound butterfat average; and C. C. and Sadie Williams, Ashland, were fifth with 42 cows, 14.6 dry, 988 pound milk average and 41 pound butterfat average.

Gilman's dairy farm had six of the ten top cows in March. Their milk production ranged from 1,749 pounds to 2,316 pounds of milk and from 72 to 76 pound butterfat average. C. C. and Sadie Williams had the top March cow with 1,778 pounds of milk, 84 pounds of butterfat, for 28 days in milking. Another Williams cow ranked eighth with 1,473 pounds of milk, 74 pound butterfat average, for 37 days in milking.

An O'Brien cow ranked sixth with 1,823 pounds of milk, 75 pounds of butterfat, for 120 days in milking.

A Jake Vander Stoel cow ranked second in March with 2,319 pounds of milk, 77 pounds of butterfat for 59 days in milking.

Portland – (UPI) – Bachelors degrees will be awarded 627 Portland State seniors on June 9.

Farm & Garden

FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
State Farm Forester

Usually at this time of the year, people are troubled to see forest trees dying. Sometimes it occurs singly but more often it occurs in small patches. Both of these cases are noticed by the general public as well as timber owners themselves. The individual who is hit hard, perhaps the hardest, is the city home owner with a small lot, who loses his Douglas fir or Ponderosa pine shade tree due to insects. Numerous requests for information about how insects kill trees are received by the Farm Foresters office. The county agent and the U.S. Forest Service also receive many calls about this matter. For this reason, this week's "Farm Forest Facts" is about one of this areas worst insect tree killers and its control.

This years most dreaded insect tree killer is the Western pine beetle (Dendroctonus Brevicomis). The Western pine beetle attacks and breeds primarily in Ponderosa pine.

In an examination of a dying Ponderosa pine tree, the real killers, the Western pine beetles, often escape detection because they are concealed within the outer corky bark or have completed their development and emerged. The large grubs or beetles commonly found between the bark and wood of these trees are of other species and of only secondary importance.

The Western pine beetle attacks only the main trunks of trees with bark sufficiently thick to protect its various stages through its development. It does not breed in limbs or small tops, and seldom attacks trees under six inches in diameter. The needles of infested trees fade rapidly and progressively from green through the yellows to a red and then to reddish brown. They die from the center of the needle cluster outward and usually from the top of the tree downward. The third year after attack, about 80 per cent of the needles drop from the trees, and after the fifth year practically all the needles have been lost.

Whether a tree has been attacked by the Western pine beetles can best be determined by examining the bark of a suspected tree. If the tree has been attacked, small amounts of fine yellow reddish borings will be lodged in the crevices of the bark or deposited on the ground around the base of the tree. Around, or closing the point of entrance of a pair of beetles, will usually be found pink or red pitch in the form of a small tube, about the size of a quarter. Trees lacking in vigor will have inconspicuous "pitch tubes" or none at all. The real evidence of a devastating attack by this insect can be found by removing a section of bark. If a maze of criss-crossed tunnels, tightly packed with reddish borings, is found winding through the cambium layer and bark, the tree is doomed. These are the egg gallaries constructed by the adult beetle.

A Few Can't Kill

A few beetles cannot kill a tree. It has been estimated that a concentration of 12 pairs of beetles per square foot of bark surface, or about 6,100 beetles, are required to kill an average sized Ponderosa pine. It has been estimated further, that enough new beetles are produced in a single infested tree to kill five other trees of the same size.

When the beetles alight on the trunk of a tree, they seek crevices in the bark and bore small holes directly into the cambium layer. If they encounter too copious a flow of sap or pitch, they may be drowned or "pitched out." However, if the flow of sap is weak, the beetles are able to continue their boring through the cambium or vital growing layer of the tree. During the summer months, it takes only 14 days for the beetle to kill an average-sized Ponderosa pine tree.

The adult Western pine beetle is brown to black, cylindrical, rather stout, and is from one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch long. In Ponderosa pine trees of this area, eggs laid in trees attacked during June and July develop into beetles by August and September. During September and October, these new adults attack and kill other trees, in which they and their progeny pass the winter in the egg, larval, or beetle stage. Thus, two sets of trees are killed annually in this area.

Control of this pest has been and still is very difficult. Once a Ponderosa pine tree has been successfully attacked by the insect, there is no known method by which it can be saved. The best natural control – birds – especially woodpeckers, devour vast quantities of immature beetles. These birds in search of food, may nearly strip an infested tree of its bark.

The best direct method of control is to fall and burn infected trees and spray the surrounding trees with Thiodan. This is a chemical that is still being tested, but looks very promising.

Trunks of the trees should be sprayed heavily as far up as a power sprayer will reach. In cases of acreage greater than five or ten, aerial spraying may be the only answer. Spraying should be done in early June and again in September.

The most promising method of combating the Western pine beetle is improved forest management practices. Thinning of stagnated stands and sanitation logging are two of these practices. A healthy fast growing tree or stand of trees is the best insurance against beetle attack.

Woodland owners having one thousand acres or less of timberlands in Western Oregon, may apply, until Aug., 1963, to the State Forester for classification under the small woodland option timber tax law.

Timber and land classified under the act is exempt from further ad valorem taxation until it is over 90 years of age.

Land supporting timber over 60 years old cannot be classified under this act.

The optional tax is based upon the productivity of the land and to get the most benefit from placing timberlands under this act, intensive management practices should be followed.

Interested landowners in Jackson and Josephine counties can obtain further information from your farm forester. I can be contacted at the Medford state forestry department office on Wednesdays. In Grants Pass I can be reached at the state forestry department's office on Fridays between 10 a.m. and noon.

Small timberland owners' problems are numerous and various. You are invited to contact me concerning any matter pertaining to your woodland. My services are free to the landowners of the counties I service.

The best possible management of woodlands is my number one concern. Drop in and see me in my office or call 664-1213 in Central Point or 476-7781 in Grants Pass. The address of the Medford office is 5286 Table Rock rd., mailing address – Post Office Box 71, Medford, Oregon. The Grants Pass office address is 761 N.E. 12th street in Grants Pass.

Stripe Rust Found In Local Wheat

Stripe Rust of wheat has been found in the Bear creek basin and in Sams Valley. Lemhi 53 has more rust than White Federation, and the new Gaines wheat has the least amount of rust of the three varieties, according to Bert Wilcox, county extension agent.

Stripe Rust is caused by a fungus, which may overwinter in the red spore stage on volunteer or fall-seeded wheat and certain wild grasses. The alternate host for this rust is unknown.

Stripe Rust has been known as yellow rust because of the yellow or orange-yellow postules of the summer stage. Stripe rust seems a better name, however, because one of its main features is the arrangement of the postules in long stripes on the leaves and rarely on the stems and heads. As the crop matures, black spores are produced in stripes which are covered by the epidermis. On seedling plants, and sometimes on older plants, the stripes are not distinct but the yellow color distinguishes the rust from other cereal rusts, Wilcox says.

Stripe rust thrives with cool summers, mild winters, and prolonged cool, wet springs. Hot, dry weather will check the development of the disease.

The controls are to plant tolerant varieties and delay fall seeding in years of high infestation.

210 Cattle Sold At Midway Yard; Prices Steady

A total of 210 cattle were sold at the Midway auction yard Friday, May 24.

Owner-Manager Bill Bray said prices were holding steady on stock calves, but weaker on heavy feeders and slaughter cows.

A pen of good 375 pound steer calves topped the sale at $30. Other penlots weighing 350 to 400 pounds sold from $28.50 to $29.90.

Weaner heifers were in light supply. A few head sold from $24 to $26.70. Good yearling steers, at 550 to 600 pounds, moved at $24 to $26.30. Medium steers sold at $21 to $23 and common crossbreds went from $19 to $21. Good yearling heifers sold from $21 to $23. Medium yearling heifers went out at $19 to $21.

Holstein steer calves sold for $23 to $25.20.

Yearling Holstein steers sold for $21 to $22.50.

Good Cows

Good cows with calves sold from $180 to $205 per pair with common kinds going from $150 to $175 per pair.

Fat cows sold for $14.50 to $15.50. Cutter and utility cows sold for $13 to $15 and canners went out at $10 to $12.90.

"Although the stocker market is still good, we can look for somewhat lower demand in the near future. Many pastures are now filled and there are not as many buyers in the market now as there were a week or two ago. The slaughter cow market is weak due to a heavy run of grass-fat cattle on California," Bray said.

Swine Committee Set By State Department

Salem – Three swine breeders, a commercial hog feeder and a veterinarian have been asked by the Oregon department of agriculture to serve on a swine advisory committee.

The committee will advise the department on the necessary policies and practices in control and regulation of swine and swine diseases. Working with them will be representatives from Oregon State university, the extension service, Oregon department of agriculture and the federal animal disease eradication division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Insemination Increase Noted By Siskiyou Farm Advisor

By SEDG NELSON
Siskiyou Farm Advisor

Yreka – Artificial insemination of beef cattle has been used throughout California for some time with varying success.

Various hormones have been tried in order to bring cows uniformly into heat and to increase the efficiency of A. I., but so far none can be recommended for use.

Picture Changing

A. I. has been used on beef cattle in Siskiyou county also. Elden Hoy, a Hereford breeder, used A. I. for two calf crops to get the greatest use from an outstanding herd bull he owned. Joe Smith, an Angus breeder, has been using A. I. for many years with good success. So far, A. I. hasn't been used in commercial herds to any extent. Only one small commercial herd has tried A. I. as far as I know.

The picture now appears to be changing here somewhat. Our office is receiving more and more requests for information on A. I. Dan Sabio, representing Curtiss (George Holt, Jackson county representative) has been offering his service for many years in Siskiyou county. A new inseminator, Aage Hansen, Modesto, is now living with Barnes at Etan and is offering semen from Armour's BCI bulls.

Two commercial herds, Glenn Barnes and Charles Peckham, are having 220 cows artificially bred by Armour bulls now. Stuart Higgs also plans to use A. I. on his cows.

The principle of A. I. is good because proven bulls are used which can transmit desired carcass characteristics as well as gaining ability and conformation. There is better control of disease. More uniformity is possible. The big problem in beef is to be able to identify the cows in heat and get them serviced so a high per cent calf crop is obtained.

Many beef herds have their cows serviced only once by an experienced inseminator. This entails keeping the cows with newborn calves (at least 40 days old) in a handy field for 24 days. The owner rides the herd early in the morning and in the evening and cuts out cows that are bulling. They are serviced 12 to 18 hours later and given a paint mark for identification. The inseminator comes by twice a day to do this job.

Takes Two Hours

It takes about two hours a day to locate the cows to service. They are then turned out with a pick up bull to catch those who were not bred.

From 50 to 70 per cent of the cows should be bred from this service. The balance of the cows returning to heat are caught by the pick up bull. Possibly one bull per 100 cows is sufficient. First calf heifers have a lower conception rate with the one service, possibly 70 to 65 per cent, therefore, about two pick up bulls are needed per 100 heifers.

Inseminator costs ran around $7 per cow for the one service. Additional costs include pick up bulls, extra labor for riding, etc. Over-all costs, however, are not much greater than breeding under natural conditions.

Offenbachers Win Guesing Contest

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Offenbacher, Applegate, came the closest to guessing the top price at the first two feeder sales held in the Rogue valley last October.

For the guess of $28 per hundred pounds, the Applegate area rancher and his wife were treated to a steak dinner as guests of Arnold Harrang, farm field representative, Medford branch, First National Bank of Oregon. Actual top price was $27.70.

At that time, at a feeder sale by Rogue Valley Auction, Inc. on Oct. 7, 1961 white face steer calves brought $24 to $25.70 per hundredweight. At an Oct. 9 feeder sale at Midway Auction yard choice steer calves sold over $26.

Midway sold choice steer calves for over $26 again on Oct. 16. At the Jackson County Stockmen's association feeder sale Oct. 26 at Phoenix, heavy calves at 497 pounds sold for $27.40.

How did the Cal-Ore cattlemen guess? From $23.70 to $29.10 per hundredweight. These were the guesses: $23.70, $24.60, $25.50, $25.70, $25.80, $26.75, $27.35, $28, $28.10, $28.20, $28.70, $29 and $29.10.

FATHER OF YEAR

Portland – (UPI) – Neil T. Smith Jr., of Burns, Monday was selected Oregon Father of The Year by the Oregon Cow Belles.