

Pear Crop Estimates Lower, Pack-Out 778,000 Boxes

June pear crop estimates are even lower than the May estimates, according to an independent survey of local orchards. Total estimate is 778,000 packed boxes. The Bartlett crop is estimated at 15 per cent of average and total packed boxes at 195,000. Red Bartletts are set at 5 per cent of average and 3,000 packed boxes. The D'Anjou estimate is 30 per cent and 300,000 packed boxes. Bosc are estimated at 30 per cent and 180,000 packed boxes.

Farm & Garden

Commercial Cattle Records Suggested

By SEDG NELSON
Siskiyou Farm Advisor
Yreka-It is becoming obvious that even our commercial cattlemen must have records of production on their cattle in order to run a herd efficiently and to keep up with the times. Progressive registered breeders have for many years kept individual records on the production of each cow in the herd. The California Beef Cattle Improvement association was founded for this purpose. They are even utilizing electronic computers to facilitate the record keeping.

We are not suggesting our commercial cattlemen go this far, although some have. A small pocket size loose ring notebook should do the trick. A page is assigned to each cow in the herd and on this page is her record. Just how much information you put down depends on your own set up and on how complete a set of records you may want. Information on this page should include first identification number. We suggest a hot iron brand number which can be located on either loin or under your registered brand. To facilitate this program, our office now has a complete set of numbers 0 through 9, four inches high,

FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
Farm Forester
At this time of the year most everyone's mind turns to fire. If for no other reason than seeing a large column of smoke blotting out the sun. Fire has been said to be the greatest enemy forests have, thereby making it man's greatest enemy too. Fire does not only destroy future timber products, but destroys watersheds, wildlife and its habitat and aesthetic values. Everyone who travels the roads and highways of this great land of ours has a responsibility to "Keep America Green." Bringing us closer home, "Keep Oregon Green." Some of the general public is aware of these responsibilities but many more should be.

Better Farming Trophy Presented

Central Point - Roger Kirkham, 2361 Old Stage rd., Crater high school student, has just been awarded the first place trophy in the better farming contest for the Rogue-Umpqua Future Farmer of America district. Roger's project consists of 16 head of registered Berkshire hogs, four acres of field corn and three acres of sweet corn. Second place winner was Mike Elmore, Grants Pass, and third, Bob Waterman, Pacific chapter. Roger will compete at the Oregon state fair representing Crater in the contest. The contest is sponsored by the Oregon FFA awards foundation. Its purpose is to improve FFA members' home farm supervised farming programs and selection of winners is based on size, quality, knowledge, management and record of the project.

Moss Control Tips Now in Bulletin Form

Corvallis - Persons with moss in their lawns will find helpful a new fact sheet published by Oregon State University Cooperative Extension service. Entitled "Control of Lawn Moss," it is now available from county extension offices or the OSU Bulletin Clerk. Generally, moss cannot invade a vigorous, healthy lawn, the bulletin points out. It urges homeowners to determine the problem that allowed the moss to get started and correct it before attempting moss control. DISAGREE OVER LAOS Washington - The State Department does not believe a new 14-nation conference on Laos is needed despite a British report Monday that talks with Russia on Laos have broken down.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Farm safety is something everyone assumes the common-sense farmer naturally follows. And farming doesn't seem dangerous to those who have been farmers all of their lives.

However, for many years farming has ranked as the third most hazardous occupation. Only mining, including quarrying and petroleum drilling and construction have higher death rates.

If there are many deaths from farming there are even more injuries. Not everyone is as lucky as the local young rancher who was thrown off his cat going down a steep bank and after a period in the hospital bowled the high score of 270. "I should have such an accident!" some people in neighboring lanes commented.

This man was an experienced farmer. Trouble is there are many people moving into rural areas who are not farmers by training. They may not realize when a horse kicks them they should get a tetanus shot to prevent lockjaw, for instance.

Farm ponds can be dangerous, too. We remember visiting a local farm with a city family about a year ago and remember the worry when their young son turned up missing. He was floating around in the middle of a farm pond on a raft wondering what all the excitement was about.

Back strain and falls also cause their share of serious injuries. How many former farmers do you know with bad backs?

Rural fires are another danger. State Fire Warden Curtis Nesheim estimates that most of the fires his crews are called out on are within 17 miles of Grants Pass. One reason for this is that in Josephine county Illinois Valley has the only rural fire department. Jackson county has several rural and volunteer fire departments; do you know the phone number of yours? Do you have the number posted where everybody in the family can see it quickly?

The past two years, particularly, Jackson county has had a number of rural farms burn down because they were in isolated spots where they couldn't be reached in time or were outside the boundaries of a rural fire protection district. This has happened so often that we think the time has come to consider a county rural fire department with central headquarters and branch stations which could cover the outlying areas.

But, meanwhile there are things you can do to prevent fires on your farm, in your rural home. The most important is to be aware of such main farm fire causes as defective chimneys, chimney sparks on combustible roofs, unsafe stove and furnace installations, inadequate lightning protection, improper use of electricity, spontaneous ignition, misuse of gasoline and kerosene, carelessness with matches.

People have been talking about a horse arena and track in this county as part of a fairgrounds development lately. So far we haven't heard any facts or figures.

Here are some in the plans for the Sunrise Track, Inc., prepared for Greenacres, Wash. This quarterhorse track site will include 41.8 acres costing an estimated \$4,000.

Plans provide for a 10-horse starting gate on a quarter mile straightaway plus a three-eighths mile oval track. It will have parking available for 1,100 cars, covered grandstands for 2,400 spectators, plus clubhouse facility for 200 persons. There will be 234 box stalls.

The track will be located on the Idaho-Washington line and within a few minutes drive from Spokane and Coeur d'Alene by freeway and super-highway.

Total construction of the track and facilities is \$161,000. This includes offices, clubhouse and jockey room, grandstand, box stalls, restaurant and restroom, feed barn and tack room, electrical, water and sewage facilities, completion of grading, landscaping, fences and saddling stalls, starting gate, photo finish camera, communication system, office equipment etc.

Shares are being sold in this venture which may be the only way even a much simpler track costing far less will have to be financed in Jackson county. The track will have a central location. This should be borne in mind when such a venture is planned for Jackson county. It's something to think about, anyway.

Gardening Tips

By JOHN McLOUGHLIN
County Agent

Grapes

Remember that grapes are especially sensitive to 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T. Do not use these chemicals near a grape vine or on equipment that is to be used for spraying grapes.

Cantaloupes

Folklore claims that reducing the number of cantaloupes per vine will increase the earliness, size, and sweetness. Tests at the University of California, Davis, showed that limiting the number of fruits did not influence earliness, size, or sweetness. Cantaloupes should be allowed to set and mature fruit naturally.

Did you ever think about the formation of a cantaloupe? A single cantaloupe vine may set three to four good fruits and sometimes as many as six. At least 400 seeds need to develop to each fruit in order for the fruit to be marketable. Melons with less than 400 seeds are usually small or misshapen.

One pollen grain is needed for fertilization of each ovule. Each fertilized ovule then becomes a seed. This means that over 400 pollen grains must be transferred to each fruiting flower in order that a good fruit may develop.

The wind is inadequate for this pollination. How does it happen? The honey bee is once again the indispensable agent in carrying out the task of pollination.

Camellia Cuttings

The camellia growth produced this past spring is sufficiently mature in late June and early July for cuttings. These cuttings should be approximately six inches long and include at least three leaf nodes. Make a straight cut just below a leaf node. Remove the

leaves on the lower half of this cutting and insert the cutting half way into the rooting medium. Root inducing hormones may be applied to the cutting before it is planted. A rooting medium consisting of three parts coarse sand to one part peat moss has produced good results. Coarse river sand, perlite, and vermiculite may also be used. Keep the cuttings in a shaded area and water often enough to keep the rooting medium moist. Do not saturate this medium. Provide a humid atmosphere for the cuttings by enclosing in a glass, plastic or cheesecloth covered frame. Keep the cuttings covered until they show signs of rooting, at which time the cover can be gradually removed.

The cuttings should root in six to ten weeks. Renewed growth and a general healthy condition of the tops indicates the cuttings have rooted and are ready for transplanting.

Transplant the rooted cuttings into separate containers. Examine these plants periodically to insure that they are not pot bound. They may be set out in the open garden in two or three years.

Nursery Licenses Needed For All Sales

Salem - The state department of agriculture advises that all auction houses in Oregon that sell nursery stock must obtain a nursery license from the department. This is required under 1963 legislation which became effective on July 1.

For some years public auctions have been exempt from nursery law, but henceforth they will need the same license as other dealers in nursery stock. This is \$17.50 plus \$1.75 for the research fund.



MR. ED'S MOTHER - Kitty Wilson Nodder, Central Point. The W. M. Hamlins have five Tennessee Walkers on their ranch. She is shown here with her colt, Copper Commander, three months old. Both horses are at the Big Oak farm about a mile north of

Tennessee Walker Featured At Central Point Area Farm

By MARY ALICE BRUSHA

Big Oak Farm, located about a mile north of Central Point, is the home of the finest bloodlines in the history of the famous Tennessee Walking horse.

The farm is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hamlin. It consists of 12 acres and is on the right side of Highway 99.

"Kitty Wilson Nodder," the dam that foaled "Mr. Ed," the famous talking horse of the television series is one of the Tennessee Walking mares now residing at the ranch. "Kit" as she is affectionately called by her owner, Mrs. Hamlin, stands 15 hands, three inches high, and tips the scales at 1250 pounds. She is nineteen years of age, and ins almost a perfectly marked mare even to the prominent star in her forehead, to the four white socks on her feet. Her latest contribution to the horsemen was the new baby colt, "Copper Commander." The latter was sired by the great, "Go-

Boy-Sun" who was recently retired from any saddle classes at the last Eugene All Breed Horse show. He holds the distinguishing title of being undefeated in any halter classes.

Famous Trainer - Mr. Ed was sired by "Allen's Yellow Hammer." He was trained by Della Mallory, the nationally famous trainer of dogs and horses at Eureka, Calif.

At this time there are five of these majestic registered pure bred walking horses at the ranch. One of the most handsome is "Giovanni's Victor," a 21-year-old beauty and which is one of the first of this breed to be brought to the Rogue Valley. For several years, he was a prominent figure with the Sheriff's posse here. A black beauty displaying well bred manners and a star-studded forehead along with all the other characteristics of a pure bred only add to the greatness of this state-ly horse.

Probably the most famous horse on the ranch is, "Go-Boy - Jewel." She was sired by the nationally known "Merry - Go - Boy." In 1957, she was a two-year-old World's champion mare. And now at the age of eight she has been three times winner of the title, "Champion Mare of the Pacific Coast," and two times winner of the "Reserve Pacific Coast Grand Champion." She too has never been defeated in any model halter classes. She represents the true champion that she is, the smart ears, a perfect head, wonderful eyes, a full and well set body, and a breast that belongs to an outstanding Tennessee Walker. Jewel is owned by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Murphy, 2956 Fairview Place, Medford.

According to the biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse, by Ben A. Green, it was originally called the southern plantation horse; the fox horse; horse of all work; and the nodding work horse.

Green in his version of the breed has this to say regarding present origin. It seems that during the Civil War, and the reconstruction period thereafter horses were stolen on both sides. The merger of the stream of the southern horse blood with the northern horse resulted in the recognized Tennessee Walking Horse of today.

This strain has been firmly established for 100 years. No other breed of horse has this 'running walking gait' so characteristic of these horses by heritage. Some gaiters have been made to look like the running walk by using torture methods of 'soring feet.' When properly trained the Tennessee Walkers have perfect manners and can be handled by anyone.

The Hamlins have just finished construction of a new barn. It is one of the finest and most modern in the county.

The filbert crop also looks poor, with less than average tonnage expected. In addition to wind damage last fall, the soggy spring resulted in a light bloom and poor pollination in filberts.

Nationally, the June 1 fruit crop prospects pointed to below average harvests for commercial apples, pears and cherries. Plum and prune crop prospects looked about 11 per cent above average, although only a light crop is in prospect for Oregon.

Now the structure can accommodate eight horses, but upon expansion will easily provide ample quarters for 15 animals.

National Director - Mrs. Hamlin is quite an equestrian and is very active in all the sports of horses. She is the treasurer of the Jackson County Horseman's association. She is one of the directors of the recently organized "Tennessee Walking Horse Owners and Exhibitors Association of Oregon" which is affiliated with the national organization at Lewisburg, Tenn.

This is the first time such an organization has been formed on a state-wide basis. In the past only open show classes were conducted, for professionally trained Tennessee Walkers. Now nearly all shows held in the state have walking pleasure classes. Such classes prohibit the use of weighted shoes and set tails, and are for the amateur rider, who has a good pleasure horse, and wants to show it off.

Mrs. Hamlin desires to contact all persons owning Tennessee Walkers, or anyone interested in them. Any individual or group wanting information and data on the Walking Horse classes held in Oregon may obtain such material by calling her. (664-3263)

Another group of Tennessee Walking horses to be coming to the Rogue Valley are those of Lowell Merrill's, a retired fruit grower, from southern California will be bringing four of these horses with him. One of these will be the "Champion Walking Horse" of the California State Fair, "Go - Boy - Dixiecat."

Crater Chapter Tops Lamb Show With Champion

Don Mainwaring, Crater FFA Chapter, exhibited the grand champion FFA lamb at the recent first annual 4-H and FFA lamb and wool show at the county fairgrounds.

Clint Gibson, Crater, was grand champion FFA showman. Grants Pass FFA chapter won the FFA team livestock judging contests.

FFA awards by classes: Suffolk Market lamb - Dan Barton, Eagle Point, 1st; Ross Conger, Crater, 2nd; Clint Gibson, Crater, 3rd; and Gordon DeHass, Eagle Point, 4th.

Southdown Market Lamb - Dan Mainwaring, Crater, 1st; Suffolk Cross - Darrell Dowell, Eagle Point, 1st; Kenneth Dowell, Eagle Point, 2nd; and Terry Bezoff, Crater, 3rd.

Ewe and Lamb Production classes, Suffolk-Ross Conger, Crater, 1st, and Clint Gibson, Crater, 2nd, Southdown-Dan Mainwaring, Crater, 1st.

Wool Fleeces - Clint Gibson, Crater, 1st; Ross Conger, Crater, 2nd; and Gordon DeHass, Eagle Point, 3rd.

Showmanship - Beginner - Dan Mainwaring, Crater, 2nd; Advanced - Clint Gibson, Crater, 1st; Ross Conger, Crater, 2nd; Darrell Dowell, Eagle Point, 3rd; Gordon DeHass, Eagle Point, 4th; and Ken Dowell, Eagle Point, 4th.

Beginner - Dan Mainwaring, Crater, 2nd; Advanced - Clint Gibson, Crater, 1st; Ross Conger, Crater, 2nd; Darrell Dowell, Eagle Point, 3rd; Gordon DeHass, Eagle Point, 4th; and Ken Dowell, Eagle Point, 4th.



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