

# Farm & Garden

## FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON  
State Farm Forester

Southern Oregon small woodlot owners are in a unique position. They are finding themselves with increased taxes on their property. The primary reason for this is the California buying market. This land, for the most part, is selling for home building sites with 40 or 80 acres. Also many California residents are buying land in southern Oregon for Christmas tree farms.

These increased values and taxes are good or bad, depending on what the landowner is presently doing on his property and depending on whether he desires to sell or retain it.

Greater interest in tree farming, Christmas tree and/or other, is being stimulated by these conditions. The present landowner is becoming more aware of the value of his woodlands and is seeking ways to help production on this land to pay increased taxes. Those buying, are mostly interested in their present and future earning potential. New residents from California are familiar with Christmas tree costs in California, so naturally are interested in Christmas tree growing.

**Numbers To Call**

If you are interested or need assistance in managing your woodlot enterprise, contact your farm forester at the state forestry office on Table Rock rd. any Wednesday, phone 664-1213; or at the Grants Pass state forestry office, 761 NE 12th st., between 10:00 and noon any Friday, phone 478-7781.

Several weeks ago, the subject of forestry and foresters was generally explained in this column. The stimulating agent of this article was a panel of Grants Pass people who presented a very interesting and enlightening talk to the Siskiyou chapter of the Society of American Foresters, entitled "The Image of Foresters."

One of the panelists, Mr. "Chuck" Gill, then mayor of Grants Pass, gathered information by conducting a man-on-the-street survey. He simply stopped people on the street, introduced himself, and asked, "What is a Forester?" The information gathered was presented in two categories of social and occupational.

In the social category, the impression of a forester was that he seldom wore ties, he was quiet-not vociferous unless talking about forests. He was the manly outdoors type. The forester's favorite color is green and he is not too active in outside activities.

**From Man on Street**

In the occupational category, statements were obtained in the street which presented this image of a forester.

1. He has a direct relationship with Smokey Bear, 2. he usually owns a sawmill, 3. he has to do with sick trees-actually a tree doctor or surgeon, 4. he is a bureaucratic government employee - more so than any other branch of government, 5. he cruises timber-couldn't tell what a timber cruiser did, but thought he counted trees, 6. from a logger: 'He waits until you get your road built or culverts placed and then tells you to move them. His main job is to hamper private industry', 7. he rides in, flies over, or walks through forests-sometimes for days, but difficult to determine why, 8. From an Insurance Agent: 'He makes about \$800.00 a month and is a good risk.'

This program should have been a real eye opener to this area's foresters, both public and private. I hope that through better public relations between the general public and foresters that this cloudy image can be improved. It is my desire that foresters, both public and private, be of the type to be worthy of the following image given by one person interviewed on the street: "He is a tree and soil conservationist, guides forest cuts and re-seeding as it affects soil, weather and terrain."

**Better Onions Tested for State**

Corvallis - An onion superior in yield, quality, storage ability and resistance to pink root, the most important onion disease, is being sought in field tests being conducted by Oregon State University.

Heading the project, in cooperation with the Western Oregon Onion Growers association, are W. A. Frazier, horticulturist, and E. K. Vaughan, plant pathologist, OSU Agricultural Experiment Station. Cooperating with them are A. A. Duncan, OSU extension vegetable production specialist, and Washington and Marion county extension agents.

Some 450 small plots have been established in the Lake Labish, Gaston and Corvallis areas, Duncan said, to test hybrids, selections, breeding lines and varieties. The onions being tested were developed mostly from the Danvers variety by plant breeders at OSU, University of Wisconsin, private industry and the U. S. Department of Agriculture Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

Although researchers feel the grower selections are already of superior quality, they hope a higher degree of pink root resistance can be incorporated in them, he said.

## Better Drug Seen For Parasites In All Livestock

Corvallis-A new drug that could make quite a dent in the \$50 million loss the U. S. livestock industry suffers yearly because of internal parasites has been tested and found effective by Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment station.

Dr. Stuart E. Knapp, OSU veterinary parasitologist, has completed a series of tests confirming that Thibenzole is the best material on the market for controlling internal parasites in sheep. He says he expects the Food and Drug Administration to approve the drug for cattle by the end of the year.

Not only is Thibenzole more effective than commonly used phenothiazine, but it also produces no undesirable side effects, and is safer because an accidental overdose is not as likely to harm the animal.

However, because Thibenzole is not always 100 per cent effective, Knapp recommends using a combination of the two-Thibenzole in the spring, followed with phenothiazine in late fall or early winter. The phenothiazine will kill any parasites missed by the Thibenzole. Alternating the two drugs may help to prevent parasites from building up resistance to either drug.

**Affect Horses, Pigs**

Internal parasites affect horses and pigs as well as cows and sheep. Parasites sometimes kill the animals, but the loss is more often an economic one because the animals don't gain as they should. Although Knapp generally uses sheep for testing, results can be applied to other animals as well.

Knapp pointed out that internal parasites increase as more pastures are irrigated and more livestock raised in smaller areas. He explained that conditions for parasite development and survival are best when temperature is above 65 degrees and ground moisture equals about two inches of rainfall. This occurs normally about two months a year, but when pastures are irrigated conditions are right for parasite growth for nearly six months.

In another phase of his continuing research, Knapp found good evidence that feedlot owners need not routinely treat all sheep for internal parasites when they come into the feedlot. He's looking for an accurate way to determine the level of parasite infestation in live animals. This information is needed to help sheep growers and feeders decide when and how to treat for parasites.

The scientist pointed out the need to study the problem in various areas of the state because environmental conditions differ from place to place, as do types of internal parasites. So far, he has tested cattle and sheep in Douglas county, northeastern Oregon and from several areas in the Willamette Valley.

# Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY  
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

Small towns for many years were the supply base for nearby farms, however, this supply source has shifted to the larger towns in recent years due to rapid transportation.

The declining economy of small towns and non-farm rural area residents have been of serious concern to agricultural leaders and the federal government in recent years. This concern has resulted in such government programs as the Area Redevelopment Administration, Rural Areas Development, and the community development program which has been fostered in the Pacific Northwest by the University of Washington.

Of all these programs, possibly the most practical is the self-help program of community development. Even if nothing else comes from such a program a searching analysis is made of the small town and its problems. The people themselves learn what makes their town strong, what makes it weak and what improvements could be made. Such a study by the people, themselves, is the basic step in obtaining new industry, attracting tourists and making a town a better place in which to live.

Heart of this "operation boot-strap" is the community census which includes: What things do you like most about living in this community? What things do you dislike most about living in this community? What is the attitude of the community toward potential industrial development? To what extent might the people of this community be expected to subscribe to a stock issue for the development of sound local industry?

No doubt about it, a good many American small towns are in serious economic trouble these days. About the most graphic example we saw was a small mid-western town which is no longer the agricultural trading center. Once a population of 200 now it has about 10 families living in it. The big farm implement stores have moved to the larger town, about 60 miles away on the fast highway. Farm families now do their shopping in the large chain stores in the big town and a trip to the big city once or twice a month is a comparatively small problem.

The summer afternoon we visited the town, a cannon could have been fired down both sides of the street without hitting a soul. The only place to eat was a dusty old ice-cream parlor in the center of main street. A portly, white-haired woman with a large apron tied around her ample middle was idly gazing out of the cracked front window. The post office next door had long been boarded up as was the city hall.

Following the folly of prohibition, installed by what critics called "small town conservatism," people have become increasingly critical of the small town. Foremost of these critics was Sinclair Lewis who wrote "Babbitt" and "Arrowsmith," novels condemning the bigotry and narrow-mindedness of some small towns. And there have been other such critical writers as H. L. Mencken and George Ade.

George Ade once wrote, "Down in the Ague Belt there was a town called Miasma. It needed paint, sidewalks, toothbrushes and Bibles. Everybody in Miasma believed the sun rose just in the edge of Widow Clevison's hog lot and set over on yon side of the sand ridge."

A local critic has said somewhat bitterly, "Small people live in small towns." But it is also true that big people have come from small towns. People like Charley Russell, president of Southern Pacific railroad company, from Jacksonville; Pinto Colvig, famous Ringling Brothers' Circus "Bozo the Clown" and voice for many Walt Disney cartoons, also from Jacksonville. Also, there is Carleton E. Morris, from Talent, author of the well-known "One Man's Family" radio series which ran almost as long as "Amos and Andy."

Often one family or group of people will control the town's government and society. But this is also true in big cities and is blamed for the rapid turnover of business executives.

Such a self-study as provided by the community development program in Jacksonville may have all the effects of the painkiller in Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer." Like Aunt Polly's cat in the book a town under this program may find it being turned inside out and written in its critical torment. Heaven help those who may find themselves in its path.

A small town's fulfillment seems to lie in the past or a light-industry promoting future. People like to think of a town with old-fashioned ice cream parlors, a town band concert in the village green, church suppers, bazaars and fairs, horses clopping through streets pulling carriages, and bicycles built for two. These are things of the past, which if reinstalled could draw spending money and residents. So are historic buildings.

A small industry or two or three, plus a training program for skilled help to help attract such industry provides a firm economic base for such a small town. Perhaps a combination of both old and new developments would be better.

"Operation Boot-strap" is just that. It must come from the people and requires a continual effort. A member of the Winlock, Wash. Community Development association wrote: "Things were very bad in our town and some of the local businessmen went to the University of Washington at Seattle to consult with this department (bureau of community development). A meeting was called, but few came (to the first study group program). The enthusiasm stimulated then created an immediate desire and interest for a second meeting when many attended."

"Questionnaires were handed out in the beginning concerning things of local importance such as: how is the mayor doing for the town, should the police chief be fired, is the council progressive, are people attending church, eliminate the snobs, get acquainted with your neighbor, take interest in all local affairs, clean and paint the town, clean up the cemetery.

"We declared a holiday in business and everyone turned out and we painted every building in town. The women made up many sandwiches and pots of coffee and we had a fine dinner hour. It was suggested we take more interest in our local cemetery so we created a district and added a few mills to our real estate taxes. We sold \$200 worth of large trees which had grown from small plantings. Today we have about \$1,200 a year coming in and are soon to build a nice house for the sexton, office, restrooms and a place to keep the various machinery.

"A new feeling was built in and the farmers whom had somewhat felt neglected really felt a part of our town and took a new interest. (Various farmers were appointed to committees to report on dairying, eggs and poultry, strawberries.) A general good feeling was created between everyone and the desire to trade locally happened. We also had a trade committee.

The Winlock association learned of an industry looking for a location. Merchants and townfolk contributed \$100 to \$500 each to buy a site and obtain water. The land cost \$7,000 and the water development \$16,000. A total of \$25,000 was raised in a few weeks. A "beautiful factory" was built. The town realizes \$2,000 and the school district \$3,000 in taxes each year. The payroll totals nearly \$2 million annually with over 100 persons employed. Since then two other plants each employing 10 men have been erected.

"We have again come together and supplied money for a small plywood plant, and a shingle mill. We are getting along and while we have many empty buildings, a few houses, we have \$3 million in bank deposits, some good stores, a modern disposal plant, a fine water system, good fire department and good school.

## FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

Weather as a factor in economic crop production has perhaps never been as marked as it has this year.

Pollination weather was a bad for some tree fruit crops. Freezing weather prevailed during the period when some tree fruits could have set fruit. This period was followed by several weeks of cloudy, showery and/or windy weather that prevented newly pollinated pears to properly set. This is an involved subject and cannot be discussed at length in this column.

There has been a measure of biological control of insects this season. This has largely been true only where tree fruit crops were lacking and no effort was being made to control such pests as green fruit worm and codling moth. In fact, full biological control of all economic pests would require an insect predator that could eat or kill a large range of pests. It is not too difficult to manage the control of a single economic pest by means of a predator. The difficulty comes when some spraying must be done to control some other pest and this spray kills the pest and the beneficial predator as well. What is needed is a predator that will consume or control all insect pests.

**Pear Decline Seen**

Many orchard trees that have no crop are showing symptoms of decline. These trees should be marked now for removal. In a season such as this when growing conditions have been excellent and there is no crop all trees that have any future promise should be growing well.

Check the back areas and corners of all agricultural properties for damage to economic plants that may have been caused by some of the larger animals of this area. At this time damage to crops has been reported that would indicate that deer, porcupines, and jack rabbits are active and feeding on the plants in question.

One pest that is plentiful

## Strawberry Crop Said Above Average

Corvallis - Oregon strawberry fields are expected to yield 79 million pounds of berries this year, a shade above average but down seven per cent from last year's harvest, reports Stephen C. Marks, Oregon State University extension agricultural economist.

The figure is based on the June 1 crop conditions and U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates. The prediction for Oregon is the same as in May, although the June figure for the nation as a whole was reduced, he noted. The USDA now expects a total of 492 million pounds for all season strawberry groups. This is 23 million pounds less than 1962 production.

Nearly all of the state's strawberries are produced for processing, Marks pointed out. In 1962, growers sold only 4.4 million pounds on the fresh market out of a total production of 85.4 million pounds.

The weather is the key to this year's crop, Marks said. Like last year, harvest started late. However in 1962, weather favorable to strawberries continued through June and into July, lengthening the season and upping production. A sudden prolonged hot spell could reduce the 1963 harvest time.

The bulk of strawberries usually produced for processing this year is the common leaf hopper. It may damage such crops as spinach, strawberries, and grapes. A dust of DDT should eliminate this pest. Consult your seed store managers for materials and advice.

Many pastures of the local area do not present an appearance that indicates good management. The cattle on these pastures look much the same way. There seems to be a general lack of direction from the extension authorities in assisting many cattlemen in getting their pastures and meadows freed of weed and fertilized in a manner so that the maximum beef production can result.

Barber colleges should expect a rush of students and their promise should be great as it seems that this could be a stepping stone to better things, at least from a political standpoint.



pounds, down 10 per cent from last year.

Meanwhile, strawberry imports from Mexico the first five months of this year are larger than any previous comparable figure, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Through June 1, imports totaled an estimated 29.9 million pounds, compared with 21.8 million for the same period in 1962. Total imports last year were 32.5 million pounds.

Carryover stocks of frozen strawberries at the start of May total 79.5 million pounds, compared with 76.6 million a year ago, Marks said. Carryover on May 1 during the past five year period has averaged around 89.9 million pounds.

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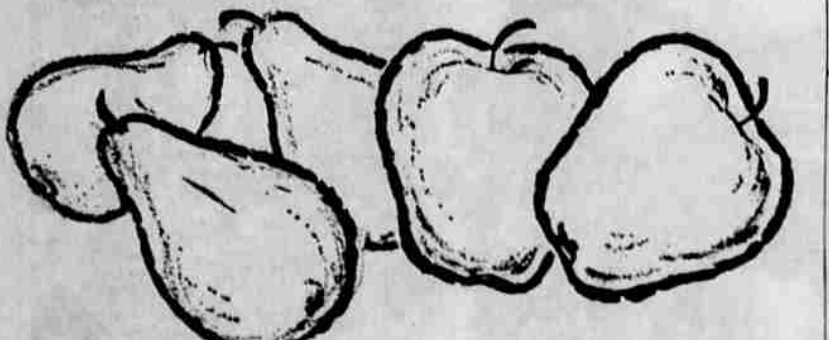
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