

Large Breeding Hen Project Hatches From Small Nest Egg

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor
Eagle Point - If you came rattling up from California in a little jalopy with \$50 in your pocket and a desire for farming what would you invest in?

Certainly not in the poultry business, many local farmers might advise. Too many poultrymen are going out of the business and the price of eggs and broilers has been at a steady low.

But, the Delton Stephenson family had come to the Rogue valley to avoid the sinus trouble he had in California. He borrowed money, hired his neighbor as carpenter and put up two large buildings, one 100 feet by 50 feet, and the other 100 feet by 24 feet.

Farm & Garden

Gardening Tips

By JOHN McLOUGHLIN
County Agent
Corn Earworm

The corn earworm is one of the most destructive pests in the vegetable garden. This worm enters the tips of the corn ear and feeds on the silk and kernels.

In the home garden an individual ear treatment, which is very effective, can be followed. With this hand-daubing method a can of 5 per cent DDT dust is hung around the neck of the operator and the dust daubed directly on the silk and husk necks with a brush. Three or four ears can be treated from each renewal of dust from the can.

This application should be applied so as to contact the silks as soon after they appear as possible. The application should be followed by two or three more applications at approximately three day intervals.

Wheat Industry Faces Problems In Japan Market

Recent market developments in the overseas marketing of northwest - produced white wheat have caused some concern among wheat industry leaders.

Bert Wilcox, county extension agent, said most of the white wheat moving to overseas market through Columbia river ports is sold in the subclass western white.

By federal statute, this subclass of white wheat may contain from 10 to 90 per cent each of soft white wheat and white club wheat. Normally, the average composition of this subclass is very closely related to the average distribution of the club and common white wheats grown within the Pacific Northwest.

Recent variety changes in portions of the Pacific Northwest of the common wheat varieties, which cause a reduction in the average white club wheat composition of the Western white subclass being marketed from the 1963 harvest. This normally would not cause too much difficulty in our markets, except that our best dollar market customer, Japan, has indicated a desire to have white clubs in preference to the common white varieties. This desire has been partly aggravated by an offer from the Australian wheat industry to sell 100,000 tons of soft white wheat, having a protein content of no more than 8 1/2 per cent.

Best Dollar Market
Since Japan is our best dollar market for wheat, and since she does have other available supplies of wheat, Pacific Northwest wheat industry leaders are attempting to meet this competition. They feel that if we should lose this market during 1963, it would be very difficult to regain it during future years.

Consequently, every effort is being made to segregate wheat lots so that the terminal elevators will be able to blend wheat during out-shipments of western white to suit Japan's needs. The following proposals have been made by various trade and industry personnel:

1. Club varieties should be kept separate from common white varieties.

2. Semi-hard varieties like Burt should be kept separate from all other varieties, since they sometimes grade hard and cannot be effectively blended into any quality soft white subclass.

3. Where possible, both common white and white club varieties should be binned on the basis of protein content. Some people have suggested that nine per cent protein on a 14 per cent moisture basis would be a good breaking point in making such segregations.

4. High quality common varieties like Golden should be kept separate from other varieties.

The net effect of these suggestions will be to maintain a high percentage of white club or low protein wheats in the western white subclass for sale in the dollar market. This would leave the remaining wheats for the PL 480 market where low protein quality is not as important.

Pruning Raspberries

Black and red raspberries produce fruit on canes that developed the previous year. To increase the vigor of the canes that will produce next year's fruit and to reduce insect and disease hazards, remove the old fruiting canes as soon as the fruit is picked.

With red raspberries, prune so as to leave 10 or 12 of the most vigorous canes per hill. Continue to irrigate through the summer. An application of one pound of ammonium sulfate to 15 feet of row should increase the vigor of the planting where needed.

Prune these canes back to a height of five feet before growth starts next spring. The fall fruiting canes of the everbearing raspberries varieties is produced on canes of the current season. After this second crop is harvested these canes are pruned back to below the fruit bearing shoots.

A good fertilization program to follow using ammonium sulfate is one pound in the spring, one-half pound at bloom time and one-half pound in early August to each 15 feet of row.

The new shoots of black raspberries are cut back about six inches in early summer when they are about 30 inches high. This induces side laterals which increases the fruiting area and produces better quality berries. Next spring prune these laterals back to 18 inches.

Keeps Family Home
The dairy cows alone would keep the family near home, Stephenson admitted.

"The saying is you can go as far away as you want just so you're back by 5 o'clock milking."

The 3,600 pure white chickens we saw in the building would keep any family busy just hauling feed. They eat about 500 to 600 pounds of feed a day. When they get up to laying they will eat about 1,200 pounds. Feed, depending on the growth or stage of the hens, consists of starter mash, grower mash and pullet developer. All feed comes through Hart's hatchery since the Stephensons are under contract to raise the breeders.

Most hens will lay about a year before they are sold for stewing hens, but by receiving special feed hens will go back to laying after a brief spell and remain in production two years instead of one. This reduces the number of replacement layers, too, of course.

The two girls, Kay, 18 and Laqueta, 14, own the registered Shorthorns, and three grade Shorthorns, plus some of the dairy herd. Kay's Holstein has produced 68 pounds of milk a day and Laqueta's 72 pounds. All the milk goes to the cheese factory in Central Point.

Paid \$1.50
The girls bought their Guernseys at \$1.50 each at the livestock auction. They have taken several blue ribbons with them.

Although the Stephensons had to grub and clear much of the 50 acres (eight or nine acres is irrigated), and rebuild their home they are not through building yet. They are planning to lengthen their two barnlike chickenhouses to get more layers in them.

One thing Mrs. Stephenson has given up on, though, is trying to keep an attractive flower garden. Kay's Shorthorn calf seems to like to leap through it. Before that it was sheep who seem attracted by flowers. The girls are though with their 4-H sheep projects, however, and no sheep can be found on the place. They would like to have horses, but have not quite convinced their parents they would be practical additions to the family livestock.

MILK POOL MAN
Salem - Robert H. Ely, Jr., Tillamook, who has been assistant manager of the Tillamook County Creamery association, has been named to the position of milk pool supervisor with the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Range cattle that are bothered by horn flies are poor foragers.

Elm Leaf Beetle Needs Spray Now
American elm appears the worst hit locally with the elm leaf beetle, according to County Agent Don Berry.

To prevent another generation, all homeowners finding the beetle on their trees should spray right away, he advised. They should use DDT or add Sevin or Dibrom. The recommended application for DDT is three pounds to 100 gallons. Sevin should be applied at two pounds per 100 gallons and Dibrom a quart to 100 gallons.

"These trees are big and really need commercial sprayers," Berry advised. "We don't promise that the trees will come back this summer, but the spray application will help the home owner to keep what green he has on the tree. If trees are defoliated once it is not too detrimental."

Some corn ear worm has been seen in local gardens. The silks on the young corn should be dusted now with a brush with 5 or 10 per cent DDT. The silks should be dusted again as the ears develop.

State Revises Pesticide List
Salem - Oregon's list of pesticides highly toxic to man and restricted to use for commercial purposes was revised by an order issued Monday by the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The revised list becomes effective July 11. Pesticides on this list are not registered for sale or distribution for home or garden use.

The order has removed Dimethoate from the restricted list and placed Zinophos on the restricted list.

Those pesticides now on the restricted list are: TEPP, Parathion, Methyl Parathion, EPN, OMPA (Schradan), Systox (Demeton), Phosdrin, Thimet (Phorate), Disyston, Endrin of 2.5 per cent and above, Zinophos (0,0-diethyl 0-2 pyrazinyl phosphorothioate), Ethion, Phosphamidon, Methyl Demeton (Meta Systox), Delnav, Dinitro - O - Cresol (DNOC), Dinitro-O-See Butyl Phenol (DNOSBP), and Endothal of 20 per cent and above.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor
Irrigation districts provide the life blood of agriculture - water. Yet, from what we have observed of local districts, they have no exact operating procedure or set of by-laws to govern themselves. This has been the basis of much of their trouble in recent years.

How important are irrigation districts? "Irrigation is most important to the 17 states ranging from the Pacific Coast to the tier from North Dakota southward to Texas," one authority noted. Most of the irrigation is in the western states. These special districts provide irrigation for almost 5 million acres. In 1940 it was only 3 1/2 million acres.

Locally, at least two more irrigation districts will be in operation when the Rogue basin project becomes a reality. This will mean five irrigation districts in Jackson county.

The extremely flexible operation of irrigation districts is both beneficial and dangerous. Beneficial, because decisions can be made and policies carried out with a minimum of delay. Dangerous because apparently there are few checks on their operation other than the farmers who receive water, the board of directors representing the water-users and the basic regulations in state and federal law.

Few if any investigations are made by state or federal governments into the affairs of an irrigation district other than to have federal officials periodically examine the district's finances. And, this happens only when a district is under contract to the federal government for repayment of dam and reservoir construction and rehabilitation work.

Very few water-users take the time or effort to attend district board meetings unless there is a big fight over some issue. The interest does not appear any more intense in districts with a large number of small water-users and landowners.

Yet, this colossus of an irrigation district when becoming established has very few restrictions as to the amount of land which can be included. Irrigation districts may not be limited to a single county. The law provides that petitions for formation of a district should be sent to the government of the county covering the greatest amount of land within the proposed district. Interstate compact allows irrigation districts to include territory in more than one state.

Two such irrigation districts now contain part of Montana and North Dakota. Two others include parts of Nebraska and Wyoming. One other includes parts of Nevada and California.

These districts may cover less than one square mile or almost 1,400 square miles. These districts have the power to annex lands, to consolidate with one another and to dissolve.

Presently in Oregon the landowners affected must petition for formation of an irrigation district. Those who wish to be excluded can petition to do so. A public hearing is held, then an election. In Utah, the governor may start proceedings to form an irrigation district upon recommendation of the state engineer. With current move in Oregon to centralize more power in the hands of the governor it could happen here, too.

The theory in water-users voting (those with two acres or more) is those receiving the beneficial use of water may vote. With more and more subdivisions planting houses instead of fruit trees and crops within irrigation district boundaries this theory no longer holds water.

A number of purely residential land owners within districts receive no irrigation water at all although they are assessed for same. Locally, more subdivisions within districts are being given irrigation water to avoid an uproar at board meetings.

Several states allow a landowner to vote by the amount of acreage he owns or the number of acre-feet of water allocated to his land. Those favoring this type of vote feel that an irrigation district is in effect a large corporation and those with the majority of interest should control.

From a brief study, the California Districts Securities commission seems like a good watchdog group which might be copied in Oregon. This agency was established in 1931 and grew out of a legislative investigation conducted the previous year because districts were having financial difficulties during the general depression.

This commission investigates and reports on how sufficient the water supply is, soil fertility, feasibility of proposed works and economic soundness of the project for which bonds are to be issued. It may also recommend project modifications. It must approve issuance of bonds and expenditures from bond sales. Among many other functions it keeps records on the financial and physical condition of the units and examines district books and affairs.

One authority gives the understatement of the year: "Irrigation districts sometimes become involved in turbulent controversies."

And if you think local districts have problems! In one district two directors were recalled. Then the people tried successfully to recall a county supervisor (county commissioner) who recommended a certain person to fill out one of the unexpired terms resulting from the recall. All of this happened in a little over a year.

During three years one district had a county grand jury probe and indictment, a recall election, a fistfight at a board meeting, numerous mass meetings, hirings, firings, charges and countercharges.

We could go on and on. Somebody or some group will have to come up with a tightly legal, practical set of bylaws for the efficient operation of an irrigation district. This will take considerable time and many more amendments. But, it must and will happen.

Beef Fat Discussed By Oklahoma Man

By SEDG NELSON
Saskiyou Farm Advisor
Yreka - J. C. Hillier, of Oklahoma State University, has the following to say about fat and its location in and on a carcass. This is a portion of a talk on meat animal evaluation.

"Fat. We have tended to make our animals conform to our ideas of conformation by adding fats in variable thicknesses, over what every bone and muscle contour an animal possessed. We have talked about uniformity of width and depth as being superior traits, whereas they are marks of mediocrity. We can have the rib and loin section as wide as a heavily muscled shoulder and round, ham or leg by only loading the mid-section with fat."

"This trait we have selected over many years and have it pretty well established in most species as a heavy rib cover of fat. We must reverse our thinking on this point."

What we actually need is a uniform thickness of external fat cover over the entire animal, with liberal marbling in the lean tissue in relation to outside cover. Such an animal will possess the bulging rounded contour of muscle and bone. The hollows will not be filled with fat.

"Extreme depth and straightness of under line is often obtained by loading the whole part of the body, from brisket to flank with an abundance of fat, in variable thickness. Depth of body secured in this manner adds nothing to the vital capacity of the animal or to the desirability of lean tissue in the preferred cuts. It does detract materially from the value of cuts from the lower parts of the body and thus from the total value of the animal."

"Even in the face of the present pressures against fat, it is my belief we need to continue to improve the tendency of our cattle and sheep to fat-

New Publication Set for Horsemen

"Fence Talk" was the name selected by members of the Jackson County Horseman's association (JCHA) as the name for the monthly bulletin which will be edited and published by Ted Christensen, chairman of the membership and activities committee.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT
Whether or not summer pruning is a good practice continues to be a problem to many valley commercial fruit growers as well as to some home owners when it concerns home orchard trees and certain ornamental plants.

Summer pruning in all of these instances is a good practice if it improves the shape of the tree. This is accomplished by the removal of branches that are making growth in an unwanted direction or are becoming too dormant. In some instances where plants or branches of plants are growing too rapidly, the desired growth habit can be obtained by cutting them back rather than their complete removal. This practice is also adaptable to the training of ornamental plants. It serves to thicken and broaden the growth habit of the plants so treated.

The trunk borer spray for peaches and certain other stone fruits should be applied soon. A major consideration in this regard should concern the spray chemical that is to be used for control of this pest. The use of DDT at the recommended rates will do three separate and distinct things wherever it is used.

In the first place it will do a good job of trunk borer control at relatively low cost. Secondly, it will leave a very permanent residue in the agricultural soil of stone fruit orchard areas. Lastly it will favor high populations of mites, because it is very detrimental to the natural predators of these pests.

DDT has certain other disadvantages but they need not be enumerated here. Consult your pesticide dealer for materials and advice.

Problems With Mildew
Many home owners continue to be plagued by mildew of their ornamental plants. Roses and many other ornamental plants can be afflicted by this disease. Where the plants are in dense shade and have some tolerance to sulfur sprays, wettable sulfur is perhaps the most economical control for mildew. In other cases Karathene or actidione should be used for mildew control. The proper procedure for control where it is very bad is to pull out the susceptible plants and grow some that cause less trouble.

Tomatoes in this area have set fruits at night temperatures that are considerably below 65 degrees F. In fact, tomato fruits have been set at night temperatures that have been as low as 50 degrees F.

Several questions have been asked regarding the sudden death of young fruit trees. In some instances, too much nitrogen fertilizer had been applied. In other instances it seemed that the very wet weather was responsible. This was often accompanied by cankers or sour sap as symptoms that could be readily related to wet soil conditions.

ten at an early age and on low energy ratings.

"For efficient production now and in the future this has to be our direction. At the same time, we must realize that only the fat that is properly placed adds to the value of our meat animals. Energy expended for the production of trimmable fat, whether the trimming be at the wholesale, the retail or the consumer level, is largely wasted as far as human food is concerned. We must devise ways and means of evaluating our animals as converters of feed to edible meat, rather than in terms of feed to live weight increase alone, without regard to the composition or usefulness of the weight gained."

The best method to date for finding animals that convert feed to edible meat is the progeny testing program.

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FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
State Farm Forester
This may seem like a strange time to be discussing Christmas trees, to the general public. However, this is an important time for the Christmas tree grower and I may also add, buyer.

Midway Auction Reports Very Active Market

A very active market, strong on all classes, was reported at the Midway Auction Yard Friday when 390 head of cattle and 235 sheep were sold.

Steer calves between 350 to 400 pounds brought \$27 to \$28.40 and 450 to 500 pound calves \$25 to \$26.50.

Good to choice heifer calves brought \$24 to \$26.10; good yearling steers \$23 to \$25.50 and medium grade yearlings \$22 to \$24.

Good yearling heifers prices were from \$22 to \$22.90 and medium heifers \$19 to \$21.50. Holstein steer calves sold for \$23 to \$25.10.

Yearling holstein steers from 550 to 600 pounds brought \$21 to \$23.90, 650 to 750 pound feeder holstein steers \$19 to \$21.50.

A pen of Angus cows with baby calves at side, sold for \$240 per pair. Other pairs sold from \$200 to \$230 for the better kind and from \$180 to \$190 for medium grade pairs.

Choice veal brought \$24 to \$26.30, medium grade and heavy calves \$22 to \$23.50. Slaughter bulls ranged from \$18 to \$19.10.

Fat cows' prices were \$16 to \$18.90, utility cows \$14 to \$15.30, cutters \$12 to \$14 and canners \$8 to \$11.50.

Lamb, mixed fat and feeder, brought \$17 to \$18, 25 yearling wethers \$11.90 and slaughter ewes \$2.90 to \$4.90. Fat hogs sold for \$18.10 to \$19.90.

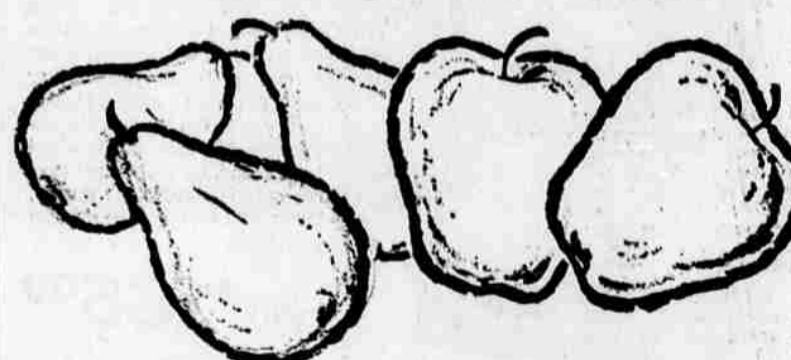
The sale was considered very good for a summer sale, with the market appearing to be steady for awhile.

Otter Referendum Slated Through Aug. 3
Salem-The Oregon Department of Agriculture has announced July 15 through Aug. 3, 1963, as the dates for the producer referendum on the creation of the Otter Trawl Commission of Oregon.

All of the 33 commercial otter trawl or other trawl fishermen, who registered with the Oregon Department of Agriculture between June 1 and June 22, are eligible to vote in the referendum.

ONE CENT FEE
Salem-An order issued by the Oregon State Department of Agriculture has extended until June 30, 1964, the one cent per pound fee on all 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T type herbicides sold or used in Oregon.

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