

Two New Seed Crops Shown During Station Field Day

Southern Oregon branch experiment station personnel introduced two new seed crops to 30 farmers and visitors during the annual field day on Hanley rd. Wednesday.

Both plants have an industrial importance and might be raised and harvested here easily, depending on the results of further trials, Agronomist John Yungen explained.

Crambe, which resembles wild mustard, came from Africa. Crambe seed has an oil containing acid used in rubber manufacturing. This plant produces a small whitish flower and seeds round and tan colored about one-eighth of an inch in diameter. It might be grown as easily here as wild mustard, Yungen said.

Indian iron weed resembles peppermint and produces an important adhesive used in the new Epoxy cements which are especially strong, the agronomist explained.

Although iron weed resembles peppermint it has no peppermint smell. The leaves are bitter tasting and were used by the Indians in an anti-worming compound. The only problem is that it may take the full season to mature it, Yungen said.

Crambe yielded a little over 2,200 pounds of seed per acre. About 2,000 pounds is considered good, the research man said.

Another new crop is a special corn used in corn confection products such as corn nuts and corn curls. A corn confection company is interested in finding a new area of production. The corn plants grow quite tall here compared to those grown at the point of origination, Peru. This area has longer days.

Experiment station personnel are continuing to seek early vegetable varieties so local truck crop farmers can compete more successfully with early marketed crops from other sections. Rogue valley vegetables have long been known for their high quality.

Yungen pointed to a plot of hybrid onions planted April 12 and now are sizing up well. These will be stored for five or six months and tested. Rogue valley onions are marketed over a long period of time, he noted.

Some other plots included Italian Romano flat pod beans which are becoming popular in the Willamette valley. Blue Lake variety pole beans, black eyed peas and the new OSU 395 tomato new being grown in local gardens.

Morning sun, an early maturing sweet corn put in trial plots in 1957 seems to have a good size and quality of ear. The variety is planted June 1 and matures in 78 to 80 days. Suckering on sweet corn is neither beneficial nor harmful, Yungen said.

Cherry Rootstock
Trees being the office showed the P12-1 cherry rootstocks which are bacterial canker tolerant and are being used to propagate new cherry varieties.

Several cherry varieties have been found to be either resistant or partially resistant to albedo cherry virus, which is a very destructive virus to the cherry industry in the Rogue River valley.

Two promising black cherries which are resistant and are in demand in the market are Lomida and Macmar. Another black variety, Esperan, which produces excellent fruit is only partially resistant to the albedo virus.

Several varieties of white cherries, which are resistant to the virus, may serve as pollenizers for the black varieties.

These include Coram, Waterloo and S-15. The S-9-15 is a Canadian variety which produces unusually large fruit.

Some other experimental plots included bush bean varieties for seed. With mechanical harvesting of bush beans making more frequent replanting necessary, growing of bush beans for seed could become an important agricultural activity in Jackson county.

In other plots, the researchers are studying the effect of irrigation on alfalfa seed production. Other plots show 20 different alfalfa varieties.

Field Corn
Field corn research occupies a large part of the test plots. There are field corn plots to test out weed control materials, field corn plots for fertilizer trials and plots showing 40 hybrid varieties for silage and grain production.

Irrigation studies are being conducted on alfalfa for hay and show a 50 per cent increase in hay production due to irrigation.



STATION SUPERINTENDENT—Porter Lombard, new superintendent of the Southern Oregon branch experiment station on Hanley rd., conducted visitors on a tour of the many crop experiments going on. Among these are two new seed crops which may mean new marketable crops for the valley.

ates a storage and drying problem, Yungen explained. Some local farmers are using it however. John Ousterhout near White City plans to turn his turkeys into maize to fatten them. Artificial drying equipment could be used, but this is expensive, Yungen said. Maise yields would be pretty good, however, with local production at two tons of seed per acre.

Approximately 30 people heard plans to construct a green house 40 feet by 20 feet between the office building and shop starting in September. This can be used for short term experiments which can't be done in the field, Superintendent Porter Lombard said. Studies in the new structure will include soil moisture, screening of insecticides and fungicides, the life cycle of insects and diseases, propagation of parasites for biological control

Jackson Assists With Soils Study

Corvallis—A thirteen man advisory committee has been named to work with Oregon State university agricultural experiment station scientists who are exploring the possibilities of new crops to grow under irrigation on older alluvial soils in the Willamette valley.

The project is being supported by a five-year grant from Pacific Power & Light company. Emphasis is being placed on soil management and cropping practices to determine the production potential with irrigation of Dayton, Amity, Woodburn and Willamette-type soils.

Research is being conducted on the OSU Hyslop agronomy farm near Corvallis and in Linn county, where Glenn Jackson, a PP&L official, has made land and equipment available to researchers.

Advisory committee members are Hector McPherson, Jr., Albany; Orville Smucker, Harrisburg; Everett Huxton, Junction City; Henry Hagg, Beaverton; Glenn Hogg, Salem; and Harold Larkin, Monroe, all farmers.

Committee Listed
Others on the committee are Loyd Creswell, Stayton, representing the food processing industry; Grant Braun, Portland, fertilizer industry; Bob Ohling, Salem, financial institutions; Lee Hansen, Portland, and Andy Schmidt, Medford, PP&L, and O. E. Mikesell, Linn county agent, and James Ammon, Marion county agent, Cooperative Extension Service.

Coordinating the research project for the experiment station is Dr. D. D. Evans, professor of soils. OSU departments cooperating in the work include soils, agricultural engineering, agricultural economics, farm crops and horticulture.

Committee members and nine valley county extension agents inspected the initial plantings of beans and corn the past week when they toured the project tracts. Arthur King, extension soil conservation specialist, underlined the importance of the work in stating that more land needs to be placed under irrigation if agriculture is to expand to the Willamette valley.

Dr. Spencer Apple, Jr., head of the horticulture department, told the advisors where is needed for high quality processing crop and that the production of horticultural crops is keyed to irrigation. He also earned the in-

dustry will grow only as fast as the market, since almost all horticultural crops are grown on a contract basis.

Dr. J. Ritchie Cowan, head of farm crops, told the group that "white" lands, which total approximately 800,000 acres in the valley, are now thought of as "ryegrass land". However, crops management and varieties may fit a different pattern if water is available, he noted.

Dr. Horace B. Cheney, head of the soil department, reported the Dayton and associated soils are acid soils and the Dayton has a limited effective soil depth. "All types under study have a problem of drought in mid-summer, and the slowly drained soils, Dayton and Amity, have high water tables in winter and spring. Each soil has a combination of fertility problems," he said.

Water Problems
Dr. John Wolfe, professor of agricultural engineering, told the advisors the two main water management problems are the build up of the water table and the infiltration of water into the soil. Dr. Emery Castle, professor of agricultural economics, explained the crops must be profitable to the farmer and make efficient use of irrigation water.

Experimental plots of bush beans, peas, corn for grain, corn for silage, sweet corn, sudangrass, soybeans and forage legumes were shown to committee members. They later offered suggestions for cropping methods or new crops. Dr. R. W. Henderson, experiment station assistant director, presided at the meeting.

In addition to Pacific Power & Light, the project is also receiving support from the Pacific Northwest Plant Food association, California Chemical company and R. M. Wade and company.

'Mr. Ed' Actor Dies Of Blood Disease
Los Angeles — (UPI) — Veteran actor Larry Keating, 64, who gained fame as the grouchy neighbor next door in television and motion pictures, died Monday of leukemia.

Although he had been ill for several months, Keating continued working until last week in the "Mr. Ed" television series in which he played an acid-tongued neighbor. He played Harry Morton on the "George Burns and Gracie Allen Show" for six years.

OSU Expert Says Apply Fertilizers In Fall Season

Corvallis — Fall is the best time to apply fertilizer to Western Oregon fields and farmers should be planning the necessary applications now, reminds Arthur S. King, Oregon State university extension soils specialist.

Fall fertilization practices are easy and mean better yields next year—particularly on forage and other perennial crops — when made any time from early September until rain saturates the soil, he points out.

When planning fertilizer programs, farmers should also remember the value of soil testing, King stressed. When existing levels of potash, phosphorus, lime and boron are adequate, even fall applications will not pay.

Last year's soil test can guide this year's applications, but don't depend on older tests, King warned. Good yields can change plant nutrient levels in a short time. Soil sample boxes, directions and information sheets can be obtained from county extension offices or from many fertilizer dealers.

Reasons Given
Reasons for fall application of fertilizer are many, the specialist says. In Western Oregon, most perennial forage crops and winter annuals start growing in the fall and adequate fertilization at this stage helps next year's yields. Winter rains will move fertilizer down to the root zone, where it is needed.

Fertilizing in the fall is easier. All parts of the field can be covered with power equipment easily and quickly. Fall applications avoid the damaging soil compaction which often accompanies spring applications. The OSU soil testing laboratory can give faster service.

Additional information about fall fertilization practices can be found in Extension Circular, "Fertilize in the Fall," which is available from county extension offices or from the OSU bulletin clerk, Corvallis.

Josephine county fair has a parking problem similar to Jackson county's 4-H and FFA fair. Everybody wants to park up front. And this would be the only criticism we would have of the fair. The grounds were amazingly clean. There was a small park area with play equipment for the youngsters and it was well used.

The square dance Saturday night added color with a swirl of light skirts, a clack of boots and shuffle of dance slippers on the wooden platform. Spectators ringed the dance which was not an exhibition, but could have been.

And there was many more things to see — The Grange exhibit was good with its fat, round and orange pumpkins, the display of 1,000 items which could be raised on one acre and many, many others. The carnival was jammed into a narrow space and may have to be eliminated altogether, fair board willing, to make room for new buildings.

One of the people most responsible for the fair as it is today estimated a total four day attendance of 28,400 people for a new record. The last day's attendance, Saturday's, also hit a new record for the last day, 7,621 people. He noted the fair is rapidly outgrowing its present grounds. This would back up the belief that there would be plenty of room for two fairs in the Rogue valley, but it's just another item on a long list of things in Jackson county which everybody talks about but nobody does anything about.

FROM THE GROUND UP
By BART BARTLETT
About this time of year the question of brown rot control always comes up from the peach growers of this area as their crops approach the harvest period.

Brown rot of stone fruits is a difficult thing to control by even the most expensive means once it is allowed to get going in an orchard. However, its control in this area is rather simple and economical when handled by alert growers.

In areas where stone fruits are grown under climatic conditions of high temperature and high soil and atmospheric humidity, the control of brown rot can be very difficult. Locally brown rot is always more of a problem in orchards that have stone fruits that ripen over a period of several weeks.

Early maturing peach varieties in an orchard which also has late maturing varieties will often be the cause of brown rot problems. Consult your spray chemical salesman for advice and materials for brown rot control.

Salt or saline accumulation in agricultural soil is not at present a pressing problem in this valley. However, in some instances there is evidence that salts are accumulating to the point that certain economic plants cannot be grown.

Practical or commercial experience does not show that controlled atmosphere storage of certain pear varieties is as good as is claimed by the experimenters. There is a tendency by commercial storage places to go rather slowly in regards to adopting their storage techniques to controlled atmospheres.

Lawns may turf diseases the ravages of many turf diseases at this time of year, particularly for this season. The temperatures are cool and in many areas there is a deposit of dew each morning. These conditions contribute to the propagation of many bacterial and fungus diseases.

The tax bill will be voted on by the people in a general election. It is good that the people of Oregon want to look the tax bill over before falling dead and paying their taxes. The legislature could only agree reasonably on one thing and that was their own pay. The governor has been used in so busy running for vice president on anyone's ticket that he has shown no leadership. Let's hope that our paid government accepts its responsibilities in future state business.

Chit Chat

By JCE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

There's something about a fair! It's crops, livestock, carnival, various exhibits, people plus happiness.

We packed the family in the car late Saturday afternoon and rolled down the highway to Grants Pass and the Josephine County fair. It took a lot of maneuvering around and squeezing to find a parking place, but nobody was impatient or in a hurry.

Being confirmed "people watchers" we stood near the gate for awhile and watched the people drive up. Almost all of them had big grins or smiles on their faces. Benches had been arranged in shady nooks near the fair grounds for those who were tired or had tired children. These contained a few fathers holding infants while mother got the baby's bottle warmed, older people sitting in groups discussing old times or just plain resting and young couples who simply wanted to hold hands and look.

We grabbed a quick snack at one of the many food booths run by various organizations, watched as the "cook" bawled out one of the "waitresses" under the pressure of waiting, hungry people, saw them make up later with a big smack in the middle of the fairway.

While munching on a hamburger at one of the picnic tables we heard a young wife tell nearby fellow diners how she and her husband had brought their young children to the fair to celebrate their anniversary.

We stopped at the rabbit barn to see "all the Easter Bunnies." An acquaintance asked us how we liked the fair and commented it is "a shame Jackson county doesn't have something like this." Most of the blue ribbon winners were from Jackson county and he had seen many Jackson county people at the fair, he said.

This is an old, old refrain. Apparently, the county court isn't interested, the fair board doesn't care as long as there is a 4-H and FFA fair, even on the present rapidly dwindling fair grounds, and the groups who claim they are interested don't have enough "git up and git" to do anything about it.

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State Horse Show Blackberry Spray Okayed by Vet Needed Now, Weed Man Says

Salem — State veterinarian Glenn B. Rea of the Oregon department of agriculture said last week he felt the state fair horse show could be held without causing an increase in the number of cases of equine influenza.

Noting the disease seemed to have run its course, Dr. Rea said he was basing his decision on reports from more than 30 veterinarians representing the horse population centers of the state.

Between 700 and 800 cases of the disease have been reported since late May with the greatest concentration in the northwest section of the state and down the Willamette valley.

Dr. Rea said the epidemic apparently reached its peak in mid-July. As late as two weeks ago he recommended against horse shows and congregations of horses, but told horse groups the decisions on holding shows would have to be made on local levels. Several shows and rodeos were held and so far no new outbreak of the disease has been reported.

However, the veterinarian reminded horsemen that they should guard against carelessness and lack of sanitation. He pointed out that needless illness can be prevented by being alert and watchful.

Ashland Riders Plan Play Day

The Ashland Wranglers will hold a play day at 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 1, in the Wrangler's arena, Ashland.

Visitors should drive on Highway 99 through Ashland and about a half mile past Tolman Creek rd. A highway sign will point to the arena.

Age classes include juniors to 12 years, seniors from 13 to 18 years, and adults, 19 and over.

Bull Calves Mature Quicker, O'Brien Ranch Study Shows

By LETHA COOK
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Experiments under way at the ranch of livestock producer E. R. (Gene) Brown, O'Brien, have every indication of adding further proof to a new theory advanced by experiment stations in beef cattle raising, that bull calves mature to beef market stage quicker with more profit than steers.

Experiments show that bull calves will put on muscle instead of fat, that they already have their own supply of hormones and don't need artificial ones and are good eaters.

This project is being observed by R. G. McCarty, Josephine county extension agent, and Dr. A. T. Ralston, in charge of the beef cattle department at Oregon State university, as well as members of the Oregon Cattlemen's association and other stock owners.

It is the first and only project of its kind in the state and promises to show a greater positive result than similar experiments carried out near Augusta, Mont., and by

Purdue university at Lafayette, Ind. **Confined to Feedlot**
On Nov. 1, 1962, Brown confined 10 six months old Hereford bull calves to the feedlot. They weighed an average of 400 pounds at a total cost of \$1,000 or 25 cents a pound.

In November and December they were fed 109 bales of hay, 55 1/4 pounds per bale, at a cost of \$75.27 and \$66 worth of grain at four cents a pound. During January, the calves consumed 69 bales of hay at a cost of \$47.35 and 576 pounds of grain at \$23.04, a total expenditure of \$211.66 for three months.

Jan. 14, one bull was sold to Wayne Petch, Cave Junction, for a 4-H project. It weighed 510 pounds. Petch's animal will be finished out as steer beef.

Feb. 7, the largest and smallest bulls of the nine remaining, weighed a total of 1,240 pounds at the weigh station in Cave Junction, showing an average gain of 220 pounds since the beginning of the program, or 2 1/2 pounds per day.

Over the three month period having consumed \$211.66 worth of hay grain, nine bulls gained an average of 1,980 pounds, adding the gain of the 4-H bull 110 pounds at time of sale, 2090 pounds of beef at 25 cents, \$522.50 with a net over feed cost thus far of \$310.84.

The grain mentioned above is a prepared ration of several grains, minerals and concentrates of a type commonly used for fattening beef animals. When the animals are ready for slaughter about May 1, they will be given a ribeye test by the state grader from Oregon State university. They will be carefully graded and all cuts will have attached test cards so consumers can make reports on the quality of the meat.

Purdue Test
In a recent report by County Agent McCarty, it was noted that Purdue university in Lafayette, Ind., in a three year test comparing performance of bulls and steers in similar trials, that bulls gained more per head daily, at 64 cents less cost per hundred-weight than steers. Purdue's results showed about the same per cent of the carcass in the round, rib, loin and chuck. However, steers had heavier loins and ribs while bulls had heavier chucks. Rounds were the same.

Montana agent A. B. Cobb, figures he netted \$16 per head on his uncastrated cross bred Charolais bulls. Cobb claims that bulls produce leaner, more flavorful, juicier meat in comparison to steer beef which has large amounts of excess fat which must be trimmed off and sold at a loss. Ninety per cent of the customers who returned the test-paste cards rated the meat as excellent on counts of flavor, tenderness, juiciness and leanness.

Cobb conducted this particular trial under several adverse conditions. It was one of the worst Montana winters in 50 years and a particularly high price feed year. He started them three months later than weaning. They were wintered on hay because trucks could not get into the ranch with supplementary feed. The bulls barely held their weaning weight during this time. Weaning is considered the time to start the feedlot program in these experiments. A steer of the same cross was mistakenly held with the 80 calves in Cobb's program. It required an additional month to finish out.

Brown's trial bulls are kept in a barn with an adjoining corral away from heifers and cows. They are gentle contented animals spending about 70 per cent of the time sleeping. He said he would show the animals and talk with 4-H groups and leaders or others interested, with advance notice. They are also welcome to observe the ribeye tests which will be taken in Grants Pass previous to slaughter. Complete reports will be made available after the project is finished.

Beef from this trial will be served at the annual Oregon Stockmen's association dinner.

Plans for 4-H Style Revue For Oregon State Fair Given

Corvallis — "Fashion Photos" will be the theme for the 4-H Club Style revue at the 1963 Oregon State fair when 4-H club members model their own creations in three performances for the public.

The style shows will continue the pattern set last year, reports Miss Ruth Brasher, Oregon State university state 4-H agent. Intermediate and senior girls again will have their own shows. Each showing will be held in the auditorium of the 4-H-FFA building on the Salem Fairgrounds.

Intermediate girls, ages 12 through 14, will take the spotlight Saturday, Aug. 28, at 2:30 p.m. Senior girls, those 15 and older, will model for the public twice on Sunday, Aug. 29, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Margaret Black, Salem, will be the organizer for all showings.

To Judge Selves
Also as last year, participants in the style revue will judge themselves, Miss Brasher said. This change was made to strengthen the learning experience of participants in observing clothing construction and deepening their understanding of selection of a complete costume, she explained.

Several blue ribbon winners are selected in each group by the girls themselves. The style revue champion, chosen from the senior blue ribbon group on the basis of her 4-H club record, will receive a trip to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

More clothing exhibits than ever before are expected to be shown during the 1963

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