

Wool Incentive Prices Told for Marketing Year

A shorn wool incentive price of 62 cents per pound and a mohair support price of 72 cents per pound have been announced for the 1964 marketing year, Albert Straus, chairman, Jackson County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee, said today.

The price of pulled wool will continue to be supported at a level comparable to the incentive price for shorn wool. For 1964, the marketing year will be the calendar year, as announced last October. The 1963 marketing year is the 9-month period, April 1 through Dec. 31, 1963.

The Chairman said that the incentive price for shorn wool continues the level in effect since the beginning of the program in 1955. The mohair support price is four cents lower than for the 1963 marketing year, as required by law, the mohair support is within a range of 15 per cent of the comparable percentage of parity at which wool is supported.

Continuation of Price

Continuation of the 62-cent level for wool in 1964 was recommended by most of the producer representatives whose recommendations were sought by letter and public press, the Department of Agriculture has stated. Many of them said this would keep the program on a sound financial basis.

Payments for producers for the 1964 marketing year will follow the same methods employed for the current 1963 marketing year, and will be made beginning in April, 1965. Shorn wool payments will be equal to a percentage of each producer's cash returns from sales. The percentage will be that required to raise the national average price received by all producers for shorn wool up to the announced incentive price. Mohair payments will be determined in a similar manner.

Support for pulled wool is provided by means of payments on lambs that have never been shorn. The payments will be at a rate per hundredweight of live animals marketed to compensate for the wool on them on a basis comparable to the national average incentive payment per pound of shorn wool.

Payments now being made under the national wool program are for the 1962 marketing year. Current marketings of wool and lamb (from April 1, 1963 through Dec. 31, 1963) may qualify for payments under the wool program for the 1963 marketing year.

BEER KEGS 'READY'

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI)—Four youths were unharmed today on charges of assault with deadly weapons—two beer kegs from California Highway Pil. Joseph J. Brennan who said the youths threw the kegs from a car he was chasing and one of them just missed him.

*TRIN-N-NG



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Chit Chat

By JCE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

We read with concern recently a small news item which announced that a team of scientists were in the Rogue valley to investigate some disease affecting nuts.

Reading further we were somewhat relieved to learn they were concerned over the kind that hangs from trees, not those with two legs under them.

After attending a large variety of public meetings, hearings, informal gatherings and watching such developments as control of air pollution, water pollution, distribution and planting of trees, preservation of historic sites, we have become convinced that this valley needs more "nuts" to get things done and to preserve what natural assets we have already.

We seem to need our "nuts" to keep the teeter-totter of local politics and bureaucracy in balance with the needs and desires of the people. According to public reaction or lack of it, there seems to be little concern that private citizens have demanded audits of the books at Medford Irrigation district and those of the Howard Prairie concessionaire. We are not intimating that anybody is being dishonest, but you would think people would wonder why these insistent requests were made.

If some peculiar things started happening within the organ which pumps blood through your arteries you naturally would want to find out exactly what was happening. It's just as important that water flow smoothly through our valley's agricultural arteries, but apparently few people are concerned over the "palpitations" at Medford Irrigation district office.

We have attended several meetings of the MID board. Each one had matters important to the district's water users. However, the highest number attending these recent meetings have been six. If irrigation water should be cut off from these non-attendees suddenly in mid-season there would be angry protests. But, this would be exactly what they deserve.

Again, we are not saying there is anything dishonest here. We are concerned over the lack of interest. This seems to be a national trend . . . to go along unquestioningly with the "common practices" of such a public or semi-public office. It seems to be the local custom, for instance, not to obtain written easements for irrigation canals or ditches extending across private property. A verbal easement seems sufficient now, will it be adequate in the future when this property is sold to somebody from outside the valley who is not aware of such local customs? Of course it takes a real "nut" to question such things.

There has been considerable discussion among private citizens as to the Howard Prairie concession contract. But, have many citizens, as individuals, taken the trouble to find out whether it is adequate or inadequate for the county? Not even the severest critics will deny that it is one of the best run recreation areas in the state. In fairness to the concessionaire they should get answers to their questions, then if necessary do something about it, or shut up.

Few people bother to attend school board meetings, school board meetings or similar gatherings. They seem to rely on the officials knowing what they are doing. In fact, it doesn't seem to bother people there are no budget meetings or hearings where there should be. Why shouldn't irrigation districts?

The Jackson county home rule committee brought some duplications and inefficiencies in county government operation to light, but apparently few of the general public took notes and bothered to follow them up. Once in awhile a member of the county budget committee will mention these ideas as something new. Perhaps one or two of these ideas will be adopted, such as the county purchasing coordinator who in effect is now an administrative assistant to the county court (another home rule idea.)

State officials now tell us that if the people vote down the tax bill the people will lose many of the services they have demanded. Actually how many of these services have the people demanded?

Climbing to the national government level, we commented to a local businessman the other day that it's too bad that the state department couldn't be "cleaned out" to make it more responsive to demands from the people for changes in international relations. In other words, why can't the state department and related agencies be made to take a tougher stand on trade discrimination against U.S. imports?

Our businessman who has tilted with Washington windmills many times, by letter and in person, replied that such bureaucracy is too firmly entrenched.

How many times have you gone to a public meeting and were asked what group you represent? Why do you have to be in any group?

It's also getting to the point that people who have something at stake in dealing even with a local governmental agency have to hire a lawyer to represent them. In fact, one local lawyer makes a very nice piece of change appearing at zoning meetings and similar official gatherings. Can't the people speak for themselves anymore?

Some observers say the group of active critics is growing. We hope so. Then the "nuts" will no longer be called "nuts," but citizens with a public conscience.

There's a book in the public library written by a noted historian, John Truslow Adams, and called the "March of Democracy." After attending meetings of public bodies with few citizens there to watch, we have often wondered of late if Democracy isn't stumbling a little while it marches.

We like the New England town meeting idea. The town meeting is not over the people or above them, it is the people. We are encouraged by a meeting in the South Talent area. Some people there have taken the time to study the protective benefits of zoning and are earnestly trying to do something about it. They will work with the county planning commission, but they are not willing "just to take somebody's word for it."

Tours, Contest Set For Soils Meeting

By R. G. McCARTY
Josephine County Agent

The planning committee for the state convention of the Oregon Association of Soil Conservation districts met Friday with the officers of the Oregon Association of Soil and Water Conservation districts, under the leadership of their president, Elmer Peterson. Conrad Nystrom, chairman of the local planning committee, served as chairman for the meeting.

Plans were made to hold the state meeting at Grants Pass on Nov. 13 through Nov. 15 at the Josephine County Fairgrounds pavilion. The meeting will start out at 10:45 a.m. on Nov. 13 with a soils judging contest. Headquarters for the contest will be the Jerome Prairie Community hall. Art King, Oregon State University, and William Hill, Soil Conservation Service, will give the instructions for the soil judging contest at 10:45 a.m.

The actual contest will start at 1 p.m., and will be open to adults, 4-H club members and vocational agriculture students.

709,146 Packed Boxes Set As Pear Season Pack Out

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

End of the season pear pack-out estimate for the Rogue valley is now 709,146 boxes, it was reported today.

Average crop is 3 million boxes. This compares with the May 8 Jackson County Fruit Growers' League estimate of 1 1/2 million packed boxes and the July 2 estimate of 778,000 boxes made by a local pear grower.

The new total includes 140,000 boxes of Bartletts, 8,146 boxes of red Bartletts, 200,000 boxes of Bosc, 335,000 boxes of D'Anjou, 1,500 boxes of Winter Nellis, 12,000 boxes of Comice, 10,000 boxes of Seckels and 2,500 boxes of Packham Triumphs.

FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON
Oregon State Farm Forester

During the next month, the woods will not only be blooming with multicolored leaves but also with school children. Approximately 50,000 students and 3,500 teachers throughout Oregon will participate this year in school conservation tours.

Some counties hold their tour in the spring and some in the fall, depending on the wishes of the local school administration. In southwest Oregon, Jackson county will hold their tour this coming spring and Josephine county, this week.

School conservation tours use "outdoor classrooms" for conservation. The Josephine county tour will bring approximately 700 sixth grade students to the Ed Grosh tree farm, where persons trained in natural resources management discuss and demonstrate a variety of topics. These topics are: (1) fire control, (2) seeds and cones, (3) precommercial thinning and pruning, (4) timber management, (5) Christmas Trees, (6) Forest Soils and (7) Tree Identification.

A permanently located forest demonstration area is set up for realistic presentations. Groups of students and teachers are conducted to seven stations. Each one has a separate phase of conservation or forest land management. Fifteen minutes at a station is usually allowed. Two men per station instruct continuously from about 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The school conservation tour is a cooperative undertaking by public and private agencies and individuals who want Oregon citizens to be better informed regarding the wise use of natural resources. The enthusiastic support of conservation agencies, tree farmers and individuals is responsible for the success of the program throughout Oregon, this program is coordinated through the local County Extension Agent.

All over Oregon, these school conservation tours have been well accepted by the school administrations as well as the children. A letter from a Josephine county sixth grade teacher said, "I wish you could have heard the students talking about Forestry on the way back to town." A letter from an eighth grade class in Jackson County said, "We would like to express our gratitude for the conservation demonstration through this letter. . . . We hope that in future years other weight grade classes will be able to attend a similar tour."

Interested individuals, parents or otherwise, are invited to visit the school conservation tour area on the days of the tour. For further information about the place and time, contact your county agent or your farm forester.

As adults let us conserve our God-given natural resources and teach our children to do the same.

Gardening Tips

By JOHN McLOUGHLIN
County Agent

Shelled nut meats will begin to turn rancid in six to eight weeks at room temperature and three to four months in the refrigerator. Storage life will be extended in a freezer, but oil in the kernels will become rancid in time.

Dry Ice Method
By putting dry ice in a container of walnut kernels, you will force the air out and replace it with carbon dioxide. This creates an airless storage and avoids rancidity and storage insect damage. The nuts are perfectly safe to eat because carbon dioxide is harmless. Be sure the walnut meat is dry before putting them into the jar.

You would follow these steps when using the dry ice method: Place a layer of nut meats in the bottom of a quart jar. With the use of tongs, place a one-inch cube of dry ice near the inside of the jar, but not touching the glass. Fill the remainder of the jar with the walnut meats and screw lid on loosely. Leave the jar undisturbed until the dry ice disappears. Then screw the lids down tight and store in a cool place.

Do not seal the jars until all the dry ice has disappeared. The carbon dioxide could build up enough pressure to explode the jar if the jar is sealed before the dry ice disappears.

ECO Homecoming Set for Nov. 1 and 2

LA GRANDE — Plans for the Eastern Oregon college homecoming week end, scheduled for Nov. 1 and 2, are under way, according to Denise Murata and John Gibson, student co-chairmen.

In addition, an effort is being made to notify all EOC alumni of the dates, the co-chairmen indicated.

Highlight of the week end's festivities will be the football game between EOC and Oregon Technical institute at 1:30 p.m.

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SEVEN OAKS BULLS—These three bulls are Ready Bull sale. The sale, set for the Jackson County Fairgrounds Wednesday, will include both Herefords and Angus and Siskiyou and Lane county animals.

60 Range Ready Bulls Set For Annual Cal-Ore Sale

About 60 range-ready bulls will be sifted Wednesday morning at the Jackson county fairgrounds to lead off the third annual Cal-Ore Hereford association's bull sale.

The bull sale committee is hoping for sunny, clear skies that day in contrast to last year's sale which sent a swift stream of water through the center of the fairgrounds and forced many would-be buyers to return home early to take care of their stock.

Last year most of the animals went to valley ranchers. This may be true this year, too, but a number of consignors are from out of this county which also attract many outside buyers. Some top bulls will be coming from the Eugene area and Siskiyou county, Calif.

Local cattlemen feel the bull sale has helped their on-the-ranch sales by attracting buyers to the valley. The top 80 per cent of the bull crop for the past two years have averaged \$650 at the sale. An even stricter culling this year is aimed at raising the overall average.

The Cal-Ore Bull sale is actually older than the well-known Red Bluff bull sale in California. It lapsed for several years and was renewed two years ago through the efforts of Eddie Meeker, manager of David Holmes Arrowhead ranch, Phoenix, and County Agent Earle Jossy. This ranch has a number of it well-known top grade bulls in the sale, also.

This year's consignors include: Arrowhead ranch, Phoenix; Hoots Angus ranch, Grants Pass; Ireland Hereford Ranch, Ashland; C. A. Miller, Grants Pass; George Z. and Olive E. Newman, Glendale; Donald K. Nichols, Ashland; Mike Owen, Eugene; Seven Oaks Hereford ranch, Central Point; L. L. Shelley, Montague, Calif.; Leota Small, Phoenix; Spear Point Hereford ranch, Medford; and Waldo Hill farm, Salem.

Farm & Garden

No Special Drive By IRS on Spending

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Commissioner Mortimer M. Caplin of the Internal Revenue Service says that the IRS is not conducting any special campaign against expense account spending, even though armed with new legal authority.

Caplin told a convention of the American Bankers association Monday, "Nobody is second-guessing you as to what room you should take or whether you should take that second drink. . . . We do not want to interfere with legitimate business expenditures."

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