

Mechanization Chief Topic Of Horticultural Society

Mechanization will be the chief topic in both the apple and pear and stone fruit sections of the annual Oregon Horticultural Society meeting Nov. 20, 21 and 22 in Corvallis.

A large delegation of local pear growers usually attends the annual event. A few peach growers and vegetable growers from the valley may also attend this year.

New trends in harvesting, processing and packaging will be discussed starting Wednesday at the apple and pear sessions.

New trends in packaging (shrink film, individual polywraps, bulk pack) will be discussed at 2 p.m., Wednesday by a panel consisting of G. C. Crossland, Apple Growers Association, Hood River, moderator; R. A. Patterson, manager, Oregon - Washington - California Pear Bureau, Portland; and O. W. Mann, Stadelman Fruit Company, Hood River.

Mechanical Harvesting
A mechanical harvesting progress report will be given by Robert L. Stebbins, extension horticulture specialist, Oregon State University, and C. King Benton Jr., Hood River grower.

A panel on new trends in processing will include Moderator Roy E. Moser, extension Food Technologist, OSU; Charles Beardsley, Apple Growers Association canner, Hood River; Lois Sather, food technologist, OSU; Clyde Rasmussen, industrialist specialist of the products and division staff, USDA Western Regional Laboratory, Albany, Calif.

Quality has made Rogue Valley pears famous. Harvesting and handling fruit to maintain quality will be discussed by John P. Housell, Hood River grower-packer; H. A. Schomer, USDA principal plant physiologist, tree fruit experiment station, Wenatchee, Wash.; W. M. Mellenthin, horticulturist and su-

perintendent, Mid-Columbia Experiment Station, Hood River; Willard Jensen, Apple Growers Association, Hood River; and Lyle Kinney, Harry and David Bear Creek Orchards, Medford. Talks on orchard disease and insect problems at 3:45 p.m., Thursday, will include a talk on trends in psylla control by Everett Burtis, entomologist, tree fruit experiment station, Wenatchee, Wash. Burtis was one of the Washington scientists who blamed pear decline on the injection of toxin into the trees by psylla.

Outstanding Talk
Possibly the outstanding talk in the stone fruits section Thursday will be a talk on mechanizing the Michigan stone fruit industry by John Carew, chairman of the department of horticulture, Michigan State University, at 3:45 p.m.

Orchard intercropping will be discussed by a panel of Willamette valley and Hood River county agents.

A talk on what California growers are doing to meet the changing labor supply situation in the small fruits section Thursday, at 4:30 p.m., will be of interest to all growers. Speaker is Malcolm B. Douglas, manager, California Strawberry Advisory Board, Santa Clara, Calif.

"Vegetable Harvesters on the March," a panel discussion, will probably be the outstanding talk in the vegetable section Thursday, 9 a.m. Participants are A. A. Duncan, extension vegetable specialist, OSU; C. K. Murphy, vice president, James

Q. Leavitt company, Salem; Gerald Meyer, Boring grower; John Carew, Michigan State University horticulture department.

"Big Horticulture in a Small World," is the topic of a talk by Dr. John Carew, to be given at the general session at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Tree Survey
During the joint session on stone fruits and apples and pears, Raymond B. Hile, USDA agricultural statistician, will report on the fruit tree survey and its implications. Jackson county completed its surveys this summer and mailed the cards into OSU.

G. Burton Wood, head of the department of agriculture economics, OSU, will speak on agricultural policies and their implications.

Robert W. Every, extension entomologist, OSU, will speak on pesticide drift and related problems.

During the joint session on small fruits and vegetables John Cavaleiro, Everett, Wash., will speak on a tour of small fruit and vegetable areas in the United States and Mexico at 11 a.m. Friday.

James S. Smart, Salem, will present the Hartman cup at the climax of the annual Horticultural Society banquet Thursday night. Medford men have won the cup three times in the eight-year history of the trophy. Local winners were Ward Spatz, Medford, 1955; F. C. Reimer, 1959 and Raymond R. Reter, 1961.

1,200 Cattlemen Expected To Go To Convention

BAKER — Some 1,200 Oregon cattlemen are expected to attend the 50th annual convention of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association scheduled Nov. 6-8 at the Baker Hotel.

While the convention does not officially open until Wednesday, attention will be focused on a cattle sale Monday and a beef cooking school Tuesday.

The "Black Sale" Monday will be one of the largest Black Angus auctions in the country. More than 4,000 Black Angus—including some 1,200 Angus steers, 1,500 light heifer calves, 500 fancy bred Angus Herefords and an outstanding consignment of four-year-old Angus cows — will be placed for sale.

Sponsored by the Baker County Livestock Association, the sale will take place at the Baker livestock auction yards at noon Monday.

Cooking School
Tuesday's Beef-O-Rama cooking school will feature the variety of methods in preparing low cost, economy cuts of Oregon beef. An estimated 1,500 women are expected to attend.

Beef-O-Rama, sponsored by the Oregon Beef Council, is a salute to the 50th anniversary of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

Helene Kralowec, well known beef cooking authority from Portland, will conduct the program which begins at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Baker Community Center.

The convention, which marks the founding of the OCA 50 years ago at Baker, formally opens Wednesday morning.

U. S. Campaign Set For Pears

The first national advertising sales promotion campaign in behalf of West Coast Anjou, Bosc and Comice pears for the 1963-64 season, including those from the Medford area, will start about Nov. 7.

Sixty-five radio stations are being used in 31 cities located in the nation's largest populated areas, reports Richard A. Patterson, general manager of the Oregon-Washington-California Pear Bureau in Portland, Ore.

He said the campaign this year again will use the "The Fruit of the Gods" theme, with the slogan "Great Zeus, What Juice."

Some of the promotion this year is devoted to the larger sizes. In the merchandising kits and promotional material the larger pears are referred to as "Economy Size," "Pears for Pairs," "Extra Value Size" or "King Size."

The bureau also again is putting great emphasis on the importance of retailing pears "Ripe and Ready-To-Eat."

There is a historical basis for using the "Gift of the Gods" theme to sell pears. The Greeks cultivated pears even as early as 850 B.C. and Homer referred to pears as "Gift of the Gods." Roman conquerors had carried pears to all parts of the Old World by 350 B. C.

many of those grown in the Northwest.

Attending the meeting were: William Shinn of the Cherry Growers and Industries Foundation, Salem, committee chairman; Tom Ruckman of the Fescue Commission, Imbler; Frank Rood of the Oregon Dairyman's Association and chairman of the State Board of Agriculture, North Bend; J. E. Klahre, Apple Growers Association, Hood River; Allen Tom, The Dalles, National Wheat Growers Association; Roy Ward, Oregon Filbert Commission, and Cecil Tuller, Northwest Cannery and Freezers Association, both Portland; Ray Reter, Medford pear grower and shipper; and William T. Geurts, Oregon Turkey Growers Association, Salem.

It was noted at the meeting that U.S. agricultural tariffs are already very low and that the U.S. does not make use of non-tariff absolute restrictions as practiced by most other countries.

Committee members also pointed out that the specialty crops federal government sources had said might be hurt by the trade act would include

Research Team Uses Defoliant On Pear Trees

The Southern Oregon Branch Experiment Station's research team has found a material for defoliating pear trees which will aid in their post-harvest care, it was reported today.

It is the same material used to defoliate cotton. After the chemical was applied by a hand-gun sprayer to D'Anjou and Bartlett pear trees immediately after harvest this year it caused the leaves to drop off the trees in about two weeks.

This material could help control certain pests as mites and scale, Dr. Peter Westgard, station entomologist, explained. The early defoliation would deprive mites of a food source, green leaves. This would result possibly in reduced numbers overwintering. It would also get the mites off the trees and onto the ground where their death would be greater.

Early defoliation would make better tree coverage from post-harvest sprays due to no interference from the leaves, Dr. Westgard explained.

Station Horticulturist and Superintendent Dr. Porter Lombard said the early defoliation of the pear trees would let the growers begin pruning before the fall rains and cold weather.

He said defoliation would benefit tree nurseries by defoliating their small trees early enough to dig before the winter months. However, further studies will be required before any recommendation of the material can be given orchardists, he said.

Early pruning due to post-harvest defoliation makes it possible to avoid wet winter weather

Water Report Due For Shasta Valley

YREKA — A meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6 for all Shasta Valley ranchers interested in the forthcoming water study for the nine northern California counties, according to Farm Advisor David L. West.

The study was requested by the Nine Northern California

Supervisors' Association. The farm advisor offices of these counties were asked to make the study, West explained.

"We have just finished compiling the report for the Shasta Valley portion of Siskiyou county," the farm advisor said. "In line with our policy, we want to be sure our figures are sound and acceptable by you ranchers before turning in the report."

The figures in this report may have far reaching effects on future agricultural planning, he added.

when it is harder for crews to move ladders through the orchards, especially in the "Big Sticky" country.

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401 Cattle Sold; New Sale Nov. 15

A total of 401 cattle was sold Friday, Nov. 1 at the Midway Auction, Table Rock Road, according to Owner-Manager William Bray.

"Prices generally were lower than the previous week's feeder sale," Bray noted.

Good steer calves brought \$23 to \$25.50. Medium steer calves earned \$20 to \$23. Dairy crossbred calves brought the gate at \$16 to \$19. Good heifer calves sold at \$20 to \$22. Medium heifer calves sold for \$18 to \$20 and plain quality calves went out at \$15 to \$17.50.

Heavy Feeders Sell Low
Good yearling steers, 575 to 625 pounds, sold for \$21 to \$23.10. Medium yearling steers went out at \$18 to \$20 and Okey type yearlings sold for \$16 to \$18. The heavier feeder market was very dull. Good 800 to 900 pound steers sold for \$18 to \$20.

Good yearling heifers brought \$18 to \$19. Medium heifers sold for \$16 to \$18.

Holstein steer calves went out at \$17 to \$18. Yearling Holstein steers sold for \$15 to \$16.75. Utility cows went out at \$13 to \$15.75. Cutters sold for \$11.50 to \$12.50.

"Our new feeder sale will be on Friday, Nov. 15," Bray announced. "We expect another large sale."

"So far, our two previous sales have been highly successful, especially compared to similar sales held at other yards. We are able to attract more buyers who are willing to bid

to the top of their orders because they have confidence in us and know that we are selling the cattle, not buying them.

Market Lower

"However, we must face the fact that the market is lower and that we cannot get more than the market. We are not claiming we can accomplish any miracles and get last summer's prices. We do guarantee to have plenty of buyers present at every feeder sale. We guarantee we will get every cent your animals are worth on that day. We can do no more than that.

"We hope the present storm will extend over California and bring their grass. That would create a new market for thousands of calves and light yearlings," Bray concluded.

Purebred Sheep Go On Sale Nov. 9

One hundred seventy-five purebred ewes and ewe lambs of 11 different breeds will be offered at the Sixth Annual Purebred Sheep Breeders Association sale scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 9. The sale will be held at the Polk county fairgrounds located one-fourth mile south of Rickreall on highway 99W and 10 miles west of Salem on highway 22, reports Don Kessi, Harlan, chairman of the committee.

The sale will start at 10 a.m. and will run continuously until completed. Lunch will be served on the grounds.

The purebred sheep breeders offering the ewes and lambs come principally from the Willamette Valley, one of the highest producing areas of quality sheep in the world. Breeds to be offered in the order of sale are Romney, North Country Cheviot, Dorset, Lincoln, Corriedale, Columbia, Cheviot, Hampshire, Southdown, Suffolk and Shropshire.

In past years the sale has attracted 4-H and FFA buyers interested in getting started with purebred flocks, Kessi reports.

Sales catalogues are available from John Leffel, Secretary, Bred Ewe Sale, Box 348, Dallas, Ore.

Senior Citizens Now Eligible For House Loans

GRANTS PASS — Rural housing loans are now available for senior citizens, those of 62 years or over, according to Eugene M. Denney, of the local Farmers' Home Administration office.

These loans may be made to eligible individuals or to groups to provide rental housing for senior citizens. They apply to dwellings in rural areas or in small communities of under 2,500 population.

Funds may be used for remodeling or for construction of a new dwelling, for purchase of a building site and, in some cases for purchase of a previously occupied dwelling.

Terms are favorable since the interest rate runs at 4 per cent a year with a long term repayment period, Denney said. If an applicant family is short on repayment ability they may have to provide a co-signer.

Individuals, groups and corporate agencies of a state or local government may borrow to provide rental housing for senior citizens who have lived recently in rural areas. Loan terms vary, depending on whether the loans are made to profit or non-profit groups. The loans provide for remodeling and construction of dwelling units with all related facilities. The units may be apartment buildings, duplexes or detached houses.

Further information and application blanks may be obtained by contacting the Farmers Home Administration offices in the Southern Oregon Bank Building or by mail addressed to P. O. Box 311, Grants Pass, Denney said.



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FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

There are always far more questions than answers in the field of plant nutrition.

The answers are not entirely complete when only one crop on one soil type is all that is under consideration. Therefore, it is rather easy to see how complex the problem or problems become when many crops growing on dozens of soil types must be considered. The problem is complicated then by numerous nutrients, differing crop plants and varying soil types.

Lots of experimental plots involving fertilizers, plants and soils at best only tell the experimenter what happened in the instance of the plots. It does not indicate that the results can be applied across an adjacent road or ditch and give similar production.

Such things as soil moisture supply, past cropping history, soil depth and many other factors tend to make each field different from every other field. Many fields even show differences every few yards.

Light Soils

Very light or sandy soils tend to be more uniform in their need for and responses to applications of supplemental plant nutrients than do heavy clay soils. This is largely because the lighter textured soils more uniformly lose their mineral content by leaching than do less remenable clay soils.

Nitrogen is usually the first major element of plant nutrition to become lacking on agricultural soils. The trace elements may be in excess supply or certain ones may be in short supply from the first year of cultivation of a virgin soil. The trace elements also are more often in good supply in the soil but are in a fixed condition so that economic plants can not secure enough for their normal growth. This is a highly specialized field and fortunately does not normally limit production in a very large portion of the agricultural soils of this area.

Now that the nature and extent of the problem of plant nutrition has been considered, the best that can be done is to offer a few guide lines for the use of plant nutrients once you have decided to make fertilizer applications.

Potash, phosphorous and calcium fertilizers can be and perhaps should be applied during the fall or early winter in this area. This is true especially in case of deep rooted crops. Certain pastures and meadows that have heavy surface runoff of winter rain water probably should receive late spring applications of complete fertilizers. Cover crops in orchards or pasture crops can get full applications of nitrogen. Fruit trees should not receive fall applications of nitrogen fertilizer.