

# Complacency Tendency Seen As Seed Growers' Challenge

PORTLAND — The greatest challenge facing Oregon seed growers today is the tendency toward complacency, according to Dr. J. Ritchie Cowan, head of the Oregon State University farm crops department.

Dr. Cowan spoke during the recent Oregon Seed Growers League 23rd annual convention at Portland Dec. 3. More than 200 growers and seed industry representatives attended the meeting, which ran through Dec. 11.

"We must gear ourselves to be able to produce the varieties which our markets desire," Cowan told the group. "We are at a crossroads, we are moving into a new era. Unless we recognize this, we stand to slip back substantially."

The OSU farm crops head said that the number one concern of the seed grower and the seed handler should be to produce and retain the varieties as genetically pure as possible. He pointed out that slight genetic impurities can have a great impact on today's seed crops, which are often bred to do special jobs, and have a narrow genetic base.

**Seeks Resolution**

Dr. Cowan called on the seed growers to use their best judgment and talent to prepare resolutions during the meeting, resolutions which when carried out will bring new vistas to the seed industry. He challenged the group to pass these resolutions and make it their business to see that they are implemented.

The current status of seed crop estimates was reported by Ray B. Hile, agricultural statistician in charge, Crop Reporting Service at Portland. Hile said that unless more grower support for pre-harvest seed crop estimates was forthcoming, these reports might be discontinued. He asked the League members to consider the crop reports, and if any changes in reporting procedures are needed the crop reporting service stands ready to make these changes.

Emerson predicted lower prices for crimson clover in 1964. He said that growers, to get the most out of crimson clover seed, must hit the early market. It appears that the market for hairy vetch in 1964 should be stable, according to Emerson. He said the market for hairy vetch seed could possibly be better in 1964 than in 1963.

The seed league meeting continued on Tuesday, with election of directors. Members were welcomed to the opening session by Cal Crandall, agricultural committee chairman of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. League president Goldie Marcott, Sublimity, presided over the opening sessions.

The seed industry returns some \$25-million to Oregon agriculture annually, plus generating income for allied industries and services.

# OSU Notes New Trends In Nursery Business

CORVALLIS — Today's backyard gardener can buy most of his garden needs at a neighborhood shopping center as self-service becomes a more important part of Oregon's \$17 million nursery business.

Mass merchandising of plants in containers and more specialized growing are two notable trends in Oregon's nursery business, says Dr. A. N. Roberts, Oregon State University horticulturist.

Both consumers and growers benefit from container plant production, Roberts noted. Shoppers like budget-priced small plants and they like to buy them in bloom. Growers find that container growing lends itself to assembly line production and lower unit costs.

Another advantage seen by growers: an enormous number of plants can be grown in a small area regardless of soil condition. One Oregon grower with 10 acres of container-grown plants has installed an overhead irrigation system for both watering and dilute liquid feeding.

Retailers find container plants, if watered, can be kept fresh-looking for weeks. Balled-and-burlapped shrubs are more difficult to water. If they're not moved rapidly through marketing channels, they must be plunged in peat or sawdust for holding, Roberts reports.

**Still Problems**

With all their good features, growers find that there are still problems connected with container growing. Container-grown plants need more meticulous care — regular watering and feeding, plus winter protection. Add to this, problems of handling and distribution. In some cases, growers may find that labor costs are greater, particularly if they do not mechanize certain operations.

Certain varieties of roses, rhododendrons, azaleas, heather, conifers and ground covers are among those most profitably grown in containers.

Roberts says that shoppers are more apt to buy a blooming 2- to 3-year old rhododendron than an older plant that isn't in bloom even though the latter may be the better buy.

Do-it-yourself gardeners, he says, generally like small plants at a small price, but are becoming increasingly quality conscious and will pay the necessary higher price for superior plant material. They are also learning most about nursery stock grades in their garden club meetings.

Another notable trend is more specialization, both in plant materials and the stage at which they are marketed, says Roberts.

"Specialist propagators" in Oregon are building up a business with California nurserymen on a "contract rooting" basis. Cuttings are sent from California to Oregon, where they're rooted, and sent back to California as rooted cuttings or liners. Oregon's weather is favorable to rooting many California plants that are difficult to root in the warmer southern climate.

**Specialization**

Specialization in plant material has brought about healthier nursery stock because the specialist can be concerned with only a few plant species and take the precautions necessary to keep them pathogen-free and true-to-name.

Is the container-grown plant going to be as good a plant as one balled and burlapped? In general, plant quality should be comparable, Roberts states. The container-grown plant should have a well-developed root system but not be allowed to become pot bound. Sometimes in the transplanting, problems occur, but these can be overcome.

The light potting mixtures used must be mixed with soil and watered frequently when transplanted to prevent a dry pocket from developing around the roots. However, reminds Roberts, it takes time for any plant to adjust to being moved. The sooner root-soil contact is reestablished the less the shock of transplanting.

What about the nurseryman who has a general family-size operation?

The small grower is not going to be replaced entirely, Roberts believes. The personal service he renders and the variety of plants of all sizes he offers, are difficult to duplicate on a mass basis, it was pointed out. However, he will have to be efficient if he is going to pay his family a fair wage and still make a profit.

Roberts emphasized that the nursery industry in Oregon is becoming more a business, and less a "way of life." He says this means more attention to sound management principles.

# FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

By request we will devote a portion of this column to pest control for the hobbyist type of economic plant grower.

In many instances retired or elderly persons like to keep constructively occupied by growing certain tree fruits in back yards or in other limited areas. The same is somewhat true of those persons who like to grow vegetable gardens. The following discussion will in large measure be applicable where home-makers of any age are growing landscape or floral plants.

The average home orchardist will be concerned mostly with such insect pests as scale, spider mites, twig borers, and codling moth. Investigations have shown that the most common cause of poor control of these pests was not the use of the improper chemical agents. The timing of spray applications was not at fault either, in instances where poor insect pest control was a problem. In practically every case, the method of application was at fault.

**Poor Coverage Blamed**

In some cases, poor coverage with the spray chemical was evidently the cause of lack of control. In other instances an excellent job of coverage was accomplished with the sprayer being used, but poor pest control was still the result. In most of the cases that have been investigated the lack of control was due to the mechanical sprayer or duster equipment, rather than to improper timing of the spray or dust application. The two items of equipment that do the poorest job of pest chemical application to economic plants are discussed as follows:

The sprayer that operates off the domestic water system is generally a bad item of home farm equipment. Where good pest control is desired, a tank type of compressed air sprayer is the best method of applying sprays for pest control.

The simple (piston) air pressure type of duster is also almost worthless for the application of chemicals in dust form for pest control. A simple crank type of duster that has both an agitator and blower is the only means of applying pest control chemicals in dust formulation that is effective.

**No One Understands**

Earlier in this column we stated that no one understood the European Common Market. This was in the face of local and national opinion that the Common Market was well understood. Recent items from domestic as well as European sources indicate that the Common Market is not well defined or a stable factor in European or world markets.

Spider mites that sometimes become pests of house plants can be washed from the plants by flushing the tops and foliage under the domestic water tap.

The livestock markets have not been too active. It may pay to feed some animals for a few weeks longer rather than market them at this time. The weather in many cattle producing areas has forced many animals to market that normally would have been marketed in a more orderly manner.

# Farm & Garden



NEW DAISY—Pinwheel, a new Gloriosa daisy being introduced by Burpee seeds in 1964 is a bold five-inch Gloriosa in a pattern of mahogany and gold. The plants grow vigorously at 2 1/2 feet. If planted early they will bloom the first year giving a mass-bloom effect in a garden. They will last for years and survive zero weather and hot summers.

# FARM Woodlot Facts

By DICK OLSON  
Oregon State Farm Forester

With increasing activity in Christmas tree buying and selling, many questions regarding cutting and transporting regulations are being asked. The primary purpose of these regulations is the protection of timber property both public and private owned.

Fulfilling the initial cutting or harvesting requirements of Oregon law will cost you only time if you comply. But, if you fail to comply, it could cost you money.

If you are planning to cut Christmas trees there are two basic things to take care of before cutting. One is permission to cut. The other is to obtain a permit to harvest miscellaneous forest tree products from the nearest state forestry office.

After the first of the new year, the remainder of the requirements regarding harvesting must be fulfilled. All merchantable trees harvested in western Oregon must be reported to the county assessor before March 3.

After receiving the report, the assessor will bill the owner according to the millage rate in the county. The only exception to this requirement would apply to land under the Optional Law (no harvest tax) or classified reforestation lands. Under the latter, a harvesting permit must be obtained from the state tax commission in addition to the State Forestry permit. Then, after cutting, a detailed report on tax commission forms must be sent to the commission, accompanied by a payment of 12 1/2 per cent of the stumpage value as determined by the commission. This must be done not later than Jan. 30, following cutting.

**Need Bill of Sale**

Oregon forest law requires a bill of sale in possession when transporting more than five Christmas trees, in addition to harvest permit or proof of land ownership on which the permit was obtained. The bill of sale must specify the date of sale, name and address of the buyer or receiver, number and species of trees, and the legal description of the property from which the trees were cut, and be signed by the landowner. Inspections will be made by state patrolmen and local law enforcement officers.

Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) regulations also affect transportation. The following classes of trucks, however, are exempt from obtaining PUC permits:

1. Oregon farmers when using farm plates to truck Christmas trees and boughs grown on their own farms. They may also haul farm grown trees and boughs for other Oregon farmers in exchange for labor or for a nominal fee.
2. Private carriers with combined weights not over 6,000 pounds. Private carriers are those who actually own the products that they haul.

Both 1 and 2 (above) involving diesel trucks, however, are required to pay a diesel fuel tax when trucking over public roads.

For those truckers not qualifying for the above exemptions, contact your local PUC office for specific regulations.

# Pear Shipments Below Last Year

SALEM—Pear shipments are increasing, but are below 1962, according to an early December report from the state-federal shipping points.

M. D. Murphy, supervisor for fruit and vegetable Federal state shipping point inspections, reported that only 912 cars had been inspected by the end of November this year compared with 2,654 cars a year ago at that time. Hood River shipped 300 cars in November, Medford 97 cars and Portland 26.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture reported apple shipments slow in November, but above last year with a total of 636 cars inspected to date this year compared to 398 last year. Hood River was the heaviest apple shipper in November with 211 cars. Ontario had three cars, Milton-Freewater 21 and Portland 37 cars.

Onion shipments showed an increase in November with 567 cars moving out from the Malheur county area, three cars from Medford, and 274 cars from the Salem area. Total shipments in October were 803 cars.

# Bang's Shots Still Available

SALEM—Cattlemen and veterinarians throughout Eastern Oregon can let up on feverish activity to heat the Dec. 15 deadline on "free" vaccination of calves for Bang's disease.

The vaccination program will be carried on in both eastern and western Oregon as in the past, at least for the foreseeable future.

This word was released by Salem Dec. 9 following a joint meeting of the state brucellosis advisory committee and the State Livestock Auction Board with state and federal department of agriculture veterinary officials.

Industry spokesman on the two advisory groups urged officials to give priority to vaccination in the brucellosis control program. This reshuffling of state and federal services was one to accomplish continuance of the vaccination activity.

# 4-H NEWS

Bobbin Robbins  
Saturday, Dec. 7, the Bobbin Robbins 4-H Club had a workshop meeting. We made skirts, blouses, bonnets, etc. etc.

Three dolls were donated to the club by Marla Jean Hall, Dorothy Franek and Diana Piers. The dolls' clothes are for the children in Doernbecher Memorial Hospital in Portland.

The next meeting will be Jan. 11.

Jean Levizow, Reporter

# Central Point Man Seed League V. P.

PORTLAND — Ken Harris, Madras, is new president of the Oregon Seed Growers League. Harris was elected to the post during the 23rd annual meeting of the League at Portland Dec. 9-11.

Elected vice president for the organization was Don Bohnert, Central Point. Rex Warren, extension farm crops specialist at Oregon State University, was re-elected secretary. Ira Strauss, Corvallis, remains treasurer.

Dr. Grant Blanch, one of the key speakers during the Tuesday session of the convention, discussed the Oregon tax picture. Dr. Blanch, who is an agricultural economist at Oregon State University, told the Seed League that more than 20 per cent of the net income of farmers in Oregon is paid out in the form of ad valorem property taxes. This percentage doesn't include taxes on personal property.

**Suggests Broader Tax**

Dr. Blanch pointed out that the extremely high taxes on Oregon farmland place the farmers of this state in a poor position to compete with growers in other areas. One of the answers to this problem, according to Dr. Blanch, would be to broaden the tax base by increasing the proportion of people who pay state income tax. Blanch pointed out that only 62 per cent of Oregon income earners pay any income tax.

If the proportion of people paying income taxes cannot be increased because of political reasons, Dr. Blanch said a state sales tax may be necessary to take some of the tax burden off real property. He also commented that the state of Oregon furnishes a smaller share of local school support than is furnished from the general funds of many other states. This is one reason for the heavy tax burden on farm lands.

Two of the speakers for the day stressed the growing importance of overseas markets for Oregon seeds. Jack Wells, of the Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA, and Alenby White, Northrup - King Seed Company at Minneapolis, told the group that they must be prepared to provide the kind of seed the overseas markets want if they are to sell to these markets.

# Intercropping Panel Subject For Fruit Program

CORVALLIS—Factors determining whether orchard intercropping pays or not were the subject of a panel discussion Thursday before the Oregon Horticultural Society's stone fruits section meeting here recently.

The panel stressed that the only reason for intercropping is added income during the early life of the orchard and that management determines the success or failure of an intercropping program, according to D. L. Rasmussen, Marion county extension agent and panel moderator.

Advantages and disadvantages of intercropping new orchards were outlined by Rodney Chase, Springfield orchardist. Advantages cited were to provide income until trees come into bearing, irrigated crops insure adequate moisture for new trees and new plantings make more growth under irrigation.

**Disadvantages**

Disadvantages pointed out by Chase were that trees tend to grow leggy, requiring more corrective pruning; that trees grown with tall crops tend to form narrow crotches and that weeds are an increased problem, requiring narrow weed control equipment.

He expressed the opinion that "anyone wanting to see some return, before trees are producing, would be wise to consider intercropping."

Lee Foster, Hood River county extension agent, noted several factors which must be considered if an intercrop such as strawberries, tomatoes, potatoes, etc., is to be grown on land planted to young trees.

These included the adaptability of the crop to the area and soil, the acreage available, the availability of markets, the amount of equipment needed for efficient production and the availability of labor.

Two of the biggest mistakes that can be made, he added, were to try and grow an intercrop without adequate equipment and to grow a crop without a market outlet. If good management practices are followed, there are several crops that can be grown satisfactorily, Foster said, but intercropping may not always be practical.

Joseph F. Beatty, Salem area grower, sketched some of the intercrop combinations used in the Willamette Valley and reported on his experience with cherry trees as interplants in three sweet cherry plantings made during the past 10 years.

When interplanting or intercropping a sweet cherry orchard with additional cherry trees, the overall cost, available equipment, kind and number of trees, ease of cultivation, spray requirements and the number of years the orchard is to be left interplanted should all be considered, Beatty stressed.

# Quarterhorse Clinic Stated For March 21-22

The State of Jefferson Quarter Horse Clinic will be held at the Medford Armory March 21-22, 1964, according to an announcement made at the December meeting of the Jackson County Horsemen's Association by Ed Mayfield, Eagle Point.

Guest speakers at the event will be Leonard Milligan, Denver, Colo., who will speak on horsemanship in general; Dr. Lear, representative of the Carnation Farms, feeding and conditioning of horses; Dr. Wheat of the University of California at Davis, general confirmation, and Red Randall, noted California horse trainer will give exhibitions on training.

**Horse Group Moves**

Mayfield, also vice president of the State of Jefferson Quarter Horse Association, stated that the State of Jefferson Quarter Horse sale previously slated to be held at Medford has been moved to Grants Pass, due to the inadequate stabling facilities at the local fairgrounds.

Don Faber, Jackson County commissioner, gave a talk explaining his opinions to the members and guests regarding the fairgrounds and all horse activities in Jackson County in general.

Jack Brown, chairman of the trails committee, reported that he had recently submitted the plans and proposals by the JCHA regarding trails on the valley floor to Robert (Bob) Hawthorn, Medford parks and recreation director.

President John Belknap reminded the members an election of officers will be held at the January meeting. A nominating committee will be appointed by the JCHA board of directors at their Dec. 18 meeting at Kim's restaurant.

The February meeting will be held at North's Chuck Wagon at which time the new officers will be installed for the 1964 term.

# Stock Nutrition Course Scheduled To Start Today

EAGLE POINT — Keith Hockersmith, field representative for Grange Co-Op, will conduct a nine week course on animal nutrition as part of the Eagle Point vocational agriculture department's adult education program.

Vo-Ag Instructor Nat Etzel and various resource personnel will assist him.

The course will be held each Wednesday night from 7:45 to 10 o'clock. Etzel said it will cover livestock feeding, nutrition and management.

The first meeting will cover fundamental animal nutrition, nutrients, feed tags, second, use of feeding tables and the feeding of roughages, pasture, silage, hay, green chop and processed hay; fourth, minerals; fifth, pasture management; sixth, new ideas on dairy feeding; seventh, new ideas on beef feeding; eighth, new ideas on swine feeding; ninth, feeding horses and sheep; 10th, review, summary and individual discussion of feeding problems.

The tuition of \$5 includes refreshments and outline of the course. No pre-registration is required. Those persons wanting further information may contact Eagle Point high school.

# Range Course Set To Start Today For Cattlemen

Summer range for cattle in the mountains of Jackson county is a vital link in beef cattle management affecting 10,000 cows, according to Earle Jossy, county extension agent.

This segment of the livestock industry represents an annual income of \$1 million in Jackson county. This is new income and is renewed each year. It represents an industry which does not contribute to pollution of air, soil or water.

Range in itself does not produce this amount of money but is essential in the production because it provides food for cattle while hay is being harvested from the irrigated meadows on the floor of the valley.

A short course in range management will be held Dec. 17, 18 and 19, 10:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m., in the extension auditorium on the fairgrounds in Medford.

This school is sponsored by the Jackson county extension service. Dr. Dillard Gates, range management specialist with Oregon State University, will be the instructor. The school is intended to help range users obtain the best return from this resource without causing damage or depletion of the forage.

Anyone interested can contact Earle Jossy at the county extension office or call 773-8215. Forty people have signed up so far.

# Cooperation Of Dairy Meeting Jan. 6-8, Eugene

CORVALLIS — The need for more cooperative effort among dairymen will be stressed at the 17th annual meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's Association Jan. 6 to 8 at Eugene, according to H. P. Ewalt of Oregon State University, association secretary.

Ewalt, who serves as OSU extension dairy specialist, said key speakers were chosen for their knowledge of dairy organizations. Featured speaker will be W. F. Penney, Seattle, manager of Northwest Dairymen's Association, who will discuss the need for smaller dairy cooperatives to band together for greater efficiency.

Aaron Dudley, Los Angeles, editorial director for Nelson Crow Publications, will explain the workings of the California milk marketing laws, and the importance of dairymen getting together and speaking with one voice when they take a stand on state or national legislation.

**Talk On Cooperatives**

The case for consolidation of cooperatives will be presented by Dr. G. Burton Wood, head of the Agricultural Economics Department at Oregon State. Wood will also discuss general business conditions throughout the nation, as well as the economic outlook.

Two of the biggest mistakes that can be made, he added, were to try and grow an intercrop without adequate equipment and to grow a crop without a market outlet. If good management practices are followed, there are several crops that can be grown satisfactorily, Foster said, but intercropping may not always be practical.

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# No Inspection For Greenery

SALEM — Many Oregonians will be sending out-of-state friends and relatives holly and greenery to deck their homes this holiday season.

And, for the holiday season no inspection by the Oregon Department of Agriculture will be required on cut greenery and cut holly going out-of-state.

However, while cut holly does not require an inspection, any potted holly must be inspected.

Final date for shipping or carrying this cut greenery into California and Utah without inspection is Dec. 31.

# USEFUL GIFT SALE

- Tub Enclosure \$29.95
  - 52 Gal. Water Heater \$52.50
  - Built-in Oven & Range \$149.50
  - Range Hood with Fan, Light & Damper \$23.95
  - Preway Dishwasher \$149.00
- Light Fixture Sale**  
from 30% to 70% off list
- ALSO
- Medicine Cabinet—Surface Mounted, 18" Wide \$13.95
  - Garbage Disposer \$27.95
  - Stainless Steel Sink with Single Handle Faucet and Strainers \$49.95
  - Base Board Heaters 2000 Watts \$24.50
  - Portable Heaters with Fan & Thermostat \$13.95
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# MEAT DIET

Meat now accounts for about a fourth of the shopper's food dollar, and the demand is expected to grow.

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# Garden Tips

By JOHN W. McLOUGHLIN  
County Extension Agent

The poinsettia plant is almost as symbolic of Christmas as the Christmas tree. A few precautions in the placement and care of your poinsettia will add weeks to the life of your plant.

Be sure the plant you purchase is in a strong healthy condition. Large flower brackets, strong stems and the presence of lower leaves are points to look for when selecting a high quality plant.

The ideal location for a poinsettia is a sunny, draft-free location with a humid atmosphere and a temperature of 60 degrees. Such an ideal location exists in very few, if any, homes. However, keeping the plant in a location approaching this ideal will add to its bloom life.

**Keep Soil Moist**

Keep the soil moist and the plant away from sources of heat. The humidity in heat source areas is greatly reduced. The humidity may be increased around the plant by placing the pot in a tray or container partially filled with a media such as pebbles or sand. The tray is then filled with water to a point just below the level at which the pot is set in the media.

Poinsettia leaves will eventually fall naturally and the plants should be allowed to go dormant. At this time place the plants in a cool, dark place until spring. Do not water the plant during this dormant period.

When the ground warms up and danger of frost has passed, plant the poinsettia in a sunny position in the garden. The plant may be removed from the pot or the pot may be plunged up to its rim. Cut the stems back to two eyes. Water and fertilize the plants through the summer.

Flower formation in poinsettias is correlated with a short day length as in chrysanthemums. Therefore, do not expect the poinsettia to flower naturally in your summer garden or in the house if it receives artificial light. Flowering results may be obtained by artificial shading as with chrysanthemums.

The best way to have house sized plants for next Christmas would be to take cuttings in the fall. Make the cuttings with four or five nodes. Remember, to bring these cuttings into flower you must keep them away from artificial lighting.

# Ireland Herefords Tops Off Sales

ASHLAND — Richard Ireland, Ashland area cattleman, returned home yesterday after a trip to Texas to buy some yearling heifers and a cattle haul to California.

The heifers from the Gollihar ranch near Dallas will go with his new Major Domino bull as a continuation of his breeding program.

The acquisitions back up two recent sales where Ireland's polled Herefords ranked either at or near the top.

His recent production sale at the Jackson county fairgrounds averaged \$544. His top ten females brought \$847 and top 25 females \$726. His highest selling animal earned \$1,000. Most of the cattle went out of the county. Twelve head stayed in this valley. 18 went to California and 11 to Washington.

At the recent Sacramento, Calif. Polikarama Ireland's animals took a fourth, two sixths and two eighths in classes of 25 or 30 cattle from all the western states were represented at the event.