

Oil Seed Crops Being Evaluated On Possible Use By State Farmers

CORVALLIS — Oil seed crops which might be produced in Oregon on a commercial basis are being carefully evaluated by Oregon State University researchers as part of the search for new cash crops for Oregon farms.

Researchers with the OSU Agricultural Experiment Station are testing Oregon-grown oil seeds for fat and protein content and are also evaluating production potential. Heading up the work are Te Me Ching, seed physiologist, and Hans von Amberg, farm crops research assistant.

Interest in oil seed crops stems from two sources. One is the search for new cash crops to further diversify the grass seed production areas of Oregon. The second is the need for

protein supplement for livestock feeding, an important by-product of the oil seed industry.

Researchers are looking particularly at oil seed crops suitable for industrial use which Oregon, a marginal area for some oil seed crops, might be able to produce in competition with other areas. Crops being studied include many varieties of winter flax, false flax, Crambe and sunflower.

Fatty Acid Criteria

Because of this, the researchers are particularly interested in the fatty acid content of the oil, which pretty well determines its industrial use and the protein content with an eye toward oil seed meal from crops that are non-toxic to livestock.

Using the new gas chromatography method, Mrs. Ching achieves separation of the fatty acids in 60 minutes and obtains

both a quantitative and qualitative analysis. She has found the fatty acid content varies between varieties and possibly between production areas.

The most promising oil seed crop appears to be Lenore winter flax, released in 1962 by OSU. Tests conducted in Minnesota this year showed an oil content of 44-45 per cent and an iodine number of 181, which refers to the degree of unsaturation and the drying quality of the oil when used in paints, Calhoun explained.

More than 1000 acres were seeded to Lenore last year, Calhoun said. Prior to the time when Oregon can have its own processing plant, the seed may be exported to Japan. The date of planting Lenore is crucial with fields seeded before Oct. 1 having the best chance of survival.

Selenium Shots Protect Cattle

CORVALLIS — Now is the time for sheep and cattle producers to consider using selenium injections to prevent white muscle disease in lambs or calves, according to John Landers, Oregon State University extension livestock specialist.

The injectible selenium preparation is available from veterinarians, Landers notes. Labels instructions should be followed for timing and dosage. If white muscle disease has been widespread in the area, it will probably pay to treat the entire flock before lambing, he added.

"If only a few isolated cases have occurred in the past, you may want to wait and treat the young animals as they show symptoms of the disease," he says. "Local veterinarians can recommend the practice most suited to your area."

Animals may be born with white muscle disease, or symptoms may show up anytime after birth, it has been found. The first symptoms are commonly seen when the animal is three to four weeks old.

Symptoms

These symptoms include stiffness and lameness, particularly in the rear legs. The affected animal will drag his legs and have difficulty in moving around. In calves, the disease often affects the heart. The animal breathes heavily and shows distress when exercised. Calves sometimes die suddenly from heart failure.

The use of selenium to prevent or cure white muscle disease was first investigated at Oregon State several years ago by Dr. O. H. Muth and Dr. J. E. Oldfield, OSU Agricultural Experiment Station scientists. Before the OSU scientists found the link between selenium deficiencies and white muscle disease, no effective treatment existed for the condition. It costs livestock producers throughout the world millions of dollars annually.

Western Farmers To Hold Meeting

Medford area Western Farmers Association members will hear a current progress report on this year's WFA operations, and will have the opportunity to nominate local candidates to run for the important policy making Board of Directors at a special district meeting Friday, Dec. 27 in Salem, advises R. Kruswyk, local branch manager.

The feature address, "WFA — The Dividends of Cooperation," by General Manager Harry J. Beernink, will highlight a review of accomplishments for 1963, including patronage dividends earned to date; and reveal WFA plans and programs for the year ahead.

"WFA's Off-the-farm Hands Serving You" will be presented through a color slide message by Dale Smith, director of operations. It will include photos of many important activities and facilities, as well as review a number of interesting farming operations in the Northwest.

Henry J. Hansen, WFA president from Puyallup, will report on association activities from the standpoint of an active farmer member.

The meeting will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. and adjourn around 3 o'clock. A turkey luncheon will be served without cost to members who obtain tickets at least five days in advance of the meeting date. They can be obtained at the local branch or from WFA truck operators, Kruswyk says.

Jackson County Stockmen Talk On Membership, Range, Sales

Membership, grazing on forest lands and feeder sales rules were focal points of discussion during last week's annual winter meeting of the Jackson County Stockmen's Association in the Central Point Grange hall.

Fred Straub, new membership chairman, and Fred Offenbacher, vice president, both of the Applegate, are jointly working on a more up-to-date membership list, then will put on a drive for joint county and state membership. It was reported they will meet with Josephine county people later to work out a membership liaison with them since a number have joined the association and sell their cattle through the feeder sales.

Approve Joint Dues

After considerable argument and discussion the association went on record approving the Oregon Cattlemen's Association proposed combined state-county dues schedule. The graduated system is based on the number of cattle each rancher owns. Dues are payable each January.

The problem of collecting dues at feeder sales will be worked out and publicly announced later, it was decided.

Fred Offenbacher pointed out that the OCA has fought hard against beef imports which affect the earnings of every stockman in Jackson county.

Austin Klahn, Rogue River National Forest range specialist, related the background of the range problem starting with Ed Harshman's survey in 1958 through 1961. The ranges were classified to get continuity of production, he explained.

Detailed plans will be worked out by this spring on a use study of one allotment per district. This should give a more accurate picture of the range condition, he said. The primary

purpose of range classification is to determine the amount of feed needed to support cattle.

Leroy Offenbacher, Applegate, feeder sale chairman, said some problems occurring at feeder sales makes a set of written rules necessary.

Feeder Sale Rules

These rules are: (1) All cattle should be sifted at the ranch (2) Nothing but good beef type cattle should be sold at the sale. (3) Sick or unthrifty cattle should be sifted at the yard. (4) The sifting committee will sift all unfit cattle. (5) The association wants to stress dehorning and will insist on dehorning in the future. (6) Good quality cattle sifted for hours or size will be sold by penlot immediately after the sale or taken home, at the option of the seller. (7) Deadline for accepting cattle will be 11:30 a.m. the day of the sale, to eliminate confusion.

Both Bill Marshall, Klamath Falls, OCA first vice-president, and OCA Secretary George Johnson, Prineville, emphasized that the state association needs resolutions from the grass roots. These are always acted upon. The association needs support in a large and active membership to make these resolutions effective, both men said.

Marshall noted that the first six months of 1963 saw a 14 per cent increase in beef imports over the same period in 1962. If this rate increases a large number of Oregon cattlemen will be out of business, he said.

Governors To Help

The governors of seven western cattle-raising states are working on this problem. Gov. Mark Hatfield has been contacted, Marshall said.

Brand inspection has improved, but there is room for more improvement, the OCA official

noted. The association needs to continue its study of change of ownership brand inspection and tie it down to districts, he said.

The brucellosis vaccination program has been extended two more months from the Dec. 15 deadline, Marshall said. The federal government pays 50 per cent of the cost and state 40 per cent with curtailed expenditures due to the defeat of the recent tax bill, the various county courts may be asked to help make up this cost allocation.

He noted the beef council has helped the OCA do a better job and has allocated considerable of its funds to OCA programs and activities.

The next full membership meeting will be Thursday, April 18 in the Central Point Grange hall.

Trade Decision Considered Unfair

SALEM — The Governor's Import-Export Committee has protested the inequities of the recommended decision given by a five-man international panel for final settlement of the 18-month "chicken war" between the United States and the European Economic Community.

The committee's chairman, William Shinn, sent the following telegram to Christian Herter, special representative of the president for trade negotiations with the European Economic Community:

"This committee appointed by Governor Hatfield to study and represent Oregon agriculture on problems of import and export trade requirements, has been advised of the GATT panel's compromise advisory decision that tripled import levies by EEC countries had caused only

\$26 million damages to U. S. poultry industry. Our committee representing all Oregon agricultural commodity groups protests this radical reduction below U. S. estimates of \$46 million damages as unfair to U. S. and its poultry industry and therefore should not be accepted."

Estimate Set

In presenting its case to the panel, the EEC, commonly known as the Common Market, set its estimate of the loss to the U. S. poultry industry at \$19 million.

The compromise decision is only advisory, but many on both sides have expected it to be accepted as basis of final settlement.

The United States made its protest after West German tariffs on poultry had jumped from 4.9 cents per pound to about 13.42 cents per pound in a two-year period. A comparison of shipments of U. S. poultry shipped to the Common Market from January to July of this year with the same period a year ago shows only 31.2 million pounds shipped in 1963, while the figure was 136.2 million pounds in the same period in 1962.

A duty or the lowering of poultry tariffs or other trade compensation for the loss of the chicken business was made to the Common Market officials by the U. S. American officials stressed that they would raise tariffs on selected European goods in retaliation.

For Rubber Products

This year, two Oregon growers cooperated with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in growing Crambe, a crop which yields Erucic acid for use in specialty rubber products and in synthetic rubber. Presently the U. S. imports about 2 1/2 million pounds of Erucic acid oil annually from Europe where it is refined primarily from rape seed.

The analysis showed one variety of Crambe containing about 60 per cent Erucic acid, Mrs. Ching said. Calhoun commented that seed quality of that variety was good, with yields reaching about 2000 pounds per acre with hulls.

Mustard and rape seed, which also yield Erucic acid, appear to be as well adapted to Oregon conditions as Crambe, Calhoun said, with all hitting about the same yields. The question is which is better. Crambe has fewer disease problems and appears to be easier to grow, he added.

Wild sunflower from the Klamath Falls area was investigated this year by the researchers who are interested in sunflower production as a source of edible oil. Sunflower is next to safflower in polyunsaturated oil content. Wild sunflower is used as an index to the potential of commercial production of sunflower varieties.

Initial trials at OSU showed feeding of soybean oil meal or linseed oil meal, both good natural sources of selenium, to be effective in white muscle disease prevention. However, Dr. Oldfield points out that lamb producers who feed high quality legume hay probably don't need additional protein supplement.

Feeding selenium is effective experimentally, but this method is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration. So the selenium injection has become the preferred method of prevention or cure.

In addition to preventing white muscle disease, injection of the selenium preparation has brought about dramatic im-

provements in lambs and calves already showing disease symptoms, according to Dr. Muth.

White muscle disease is widespread throughout the United States and is found in many other countries of the world. The disease is common in the Northwest, where selenium is frequently lacking in the soil.

Milk Inspection Not Hurt by Cuts

SALEM—Continued efficiency in services rendered by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, within the budget cut necessitated by reduction in funds, was emphasized during the department's dairy and consumer staff conference last week in Salem and attended by Thomas Blamley, dairy inspector for Klamath, Lake and Jackson Counties.

Speaking to the group, State Director of Agriculture J. F. Short said the department had met the emergency of the budget reduction, and it had necessitated a restriction of services.

He noted that several groups affected by the reduction of services had conferred with him regarding the reductions but after studying the budget had recommended no specific changes.

Short complimented staff members on their good work. He noted that the stature of employees of the department among other state groups was very, very good and the teamwork of employees envied by all.

Slaughter Plants May Bid Meat

SALEM—Slaughter plants under the Oregon Department of Agriculture's meat inspection program now may bid for contracts on meat for resale purposes at military installations in Oregon.

The department has been informed by Sixth Army headquarters that its meat inspection system has been approved by the army for use by army nonappropriated fund activities "within the restrictions imposed by current laws regarding interstate shipment, the Humane Slaughter Act and labeling."

Dr. M. L. Houston, who heads the meat inspection services of the department, said approval of the state system by the army means it is considered basically equivalent in standards to that of the federal meat inspection division.

North Korea Rejects Unification Appeal

TOKYO (UPI) — Communist North Korea issued its annual rejection Monday of the United Nations appeal to cooperate with the world organization in bringing about a unified, independent and democratic Korea.

A North Korean Foreign Ministry statement broadcast from Pyongyang by the Communist New China News Agency said last Friday's U.N. General Assembly resolution was "null and void because the resolution was passed without the participation of North Korean representatives and without North Korea's approval."

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Oregon 4-H'er To Visit LBJ During Meet

CORVALLIS — An Oregon 4-H club member will meet President Lyndon B. Johnson next April and be among six 4-H members reporting on 4-H growth and achievements of 4-H clubs work in the U. S.

The State 4-H Club Office at Oregon State University made the announcement today.

Linn County 4-H member Roger Hamlin, 17, who lives near Corvallis, will meet with President Johnson during National 4-H Club Conference, April 20 to 27.

From the nation's capital, the group will be flown to New York City for television, radio and press conferences and to the West Coast for similar public appearances.

Four-H is a public educational program supplementing training in school, the home and church that has as its aim helping boys and girls attain manual and mental skills and develop citizenship potential. There are 2.3 million youths now enrolled in the 4-H program under the guidance of 308,000 adult volunteer leaders.

Largest Membership

Oregon is enjoying its largest 4-H membership on record. Nearly 35,000 boys and girls are in 4-H clubs led by 5,000 volunteer leaders, according to Burton Hutton, state 4-H leader.

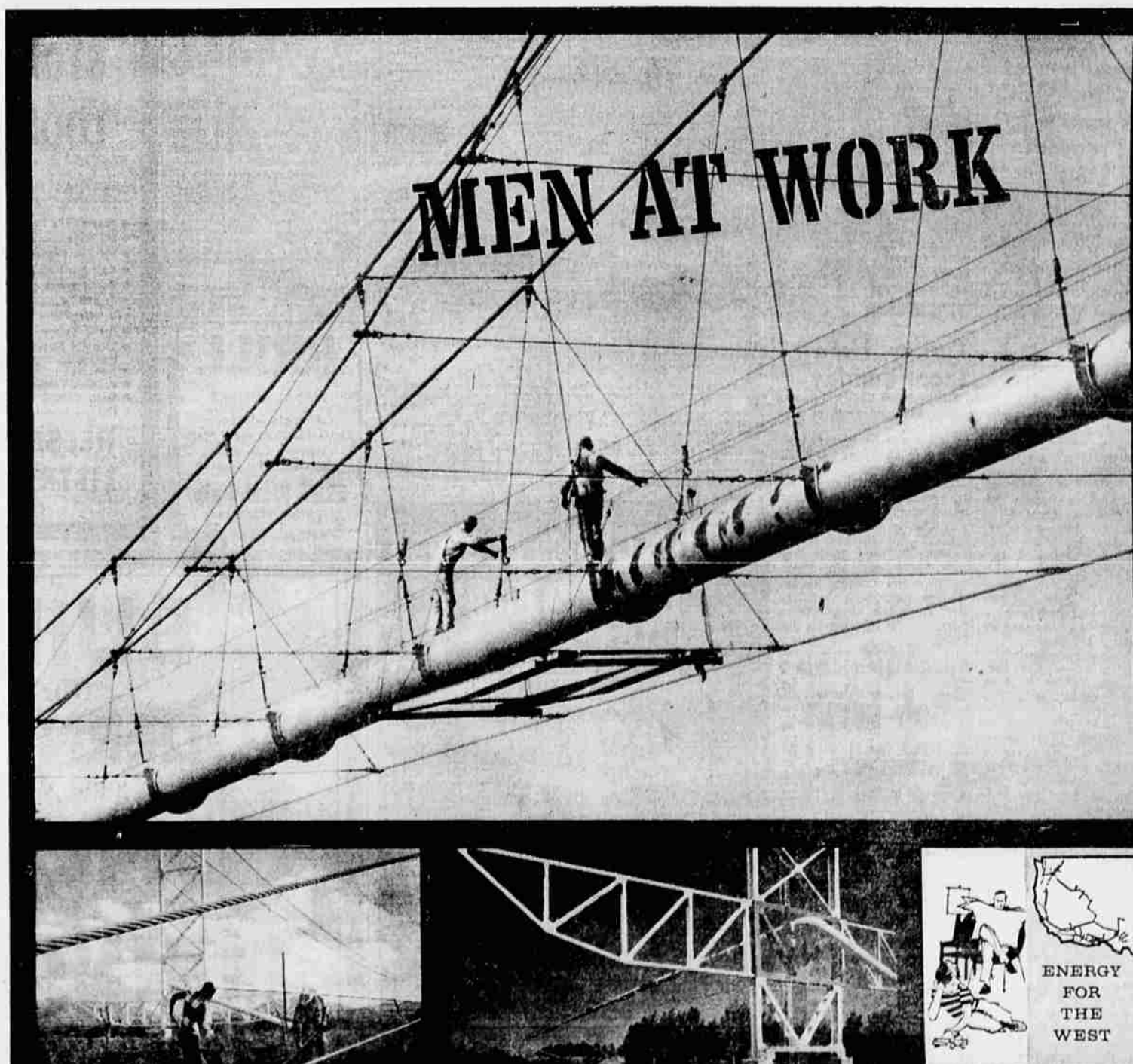
Hamlin, who has a start in a successful career in agriculture as the result of his 4-H projects, will report to the President about how 4-H helps young people through career exploration programs. He has leased a 140 acre tract located south of his father's farm and is farming the land himself. He rents tools and other equipment from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hamlin.

A 4-H club member for eight years, Hamlin became interested in field crops three years ago, planting 10 acres of peppermint. The following year he added dill and sweet corn. Last year, he cleared and leveled 15 acres of wooded land, an 11-month job. While in 4-H, he has grown six acres of crops and realized \$3,000 in profit. His 4-H sheep projects have given him a flock now valued at \$1,000. From his tractor project, he has developed a profitable hay winnowing service for neighboring farmers.

Hamlin is this week in Chicago with 21 other Oregon 4-H members attending the National 4-H Club Congress. This is his third national honor this year. Earlier, he attended Boys' Nation as one of two Oregon representatives and met with the late President John F. Kennedy. This week, he received a \$500 college scholarship from Allied Chemical Corporation as one of six national 4-H field crops winners in the U. S.

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