

OSU Researchers Seek Control for Annual Bluegrass Range Management Course Covers Plant Growth, Use

Approximately 40 people attended the recent range management workshop held in the Jackson County Extension Service Auditorium.

Those who attended feel it was worthwhile and would like to have it again next year. County Agent Earle Josy was local coordinator for the course.

Purpose of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for those who have not previously had the opportunity to become acquainted with some of the basic principles involved in management of the range resource, the instructor, OSU Range Management Specialist Dillard H. Gates explained. This will provide a basis for a better understanding of the range resource and provide a basis for further and more complex workshops in range management. It should also stimulate awareness of all vegetation, he added.

The material covered included plant identification, plant physiology, grazing value of plants, plant ecology. Gates noted that livestock raisers are familiar with the parts of an animal, but too many of them are not so familiar with the parts of a plant.

"Your livelihood is directly dependent on plants," Gates reminded the cattlemen. "You should know plants well so you will be better prepared to make range management decisions that directly affect your livelihood."

Under plant physiology, the cattlemen learned how plants grow and their life processes. Gates told the group that the grazing value of plants is that they can provide a balanced diet the year around. The nutritional value of the plant is not constant, however, he pointed out.

Under plant ecology, the livestock people learned the home life of a plant and where the plants grow and why. They also learned about plants in relation to their environment.

Range plants fall into three broad, but easily recognized categories, he pointed out. These are grasses, grass-like plants and broad-leaf plants.

General characteristics of grasses are round or flattened hollow stems, solid at joints, two-ranked, alternate leaves, parallel veined leaves. The characteristics of a grass leaf are shown by its sheath, blade, ligule, and auricles. Characteristics of the grass flower are that it is small and inconspicuous, its pistil made up of stigma, style and ovary, its stem rarely one or six made up of anthers and filaments and its lodicules at the base of the pistil with open enveloping scales.

Various types. In commenting on the various types of broadleaf plants, Gates noted that Mules Ears Wyethia is eaten by all classes of stock, but the leaves are less palatable than arrowleaf balsam. Sawtooth butterweed is good sheep forage, fair for cows and good for deer and elk. The Aspen fleabane is fair to poor for sheep and poor for cattle. The common dandelion is common on ranges, overgrazed meadows and sages where soils are good, he said.

In discussing physiology of range plants, Gates pointed out that intensity of grazing also affects chemical composition of a plant. Animals are forced to eat more of the unpalatable and low quality portions of the plant.

Both the degree and frequency of forage removal is reflected in plant response, he said. Clipping after May 7 did more for bluebunch wheatgrass than earlier frequent clipping. Utah research showed. Next year's total yield was about cut in half and there was a 25 per cent mortality of plants clipped to May 15. This points up the need for delayed spring grazing and native range that is primarily bluebunch wheatgrass, he said.

Storage Pattern. Carbohydrate storage pattern of crested wheatgrass led to development of two systems of grazing at Squaw Butte in Oregon. One crop grazing - begin grazing about May 1 (crested wheatgrass, six inches tall) graze until about May 20 or until heads in boot. Graze closely to remove all seed heads. Subsequent regrowth will be leafy. Graze moderately again in late July, August or September if there has been enough moisture to get regrowth.

The soil fertility affects nutritive content of range forage as illustrated at Squaw Butte range experiment station. Gates said. The life cycle of a plant is influenced by its use, he continued.

Various classes of livestock exhibit different grazing patterns. Gates explained. Sheep are selective in grazing since they tend to eat plant parts rather than the entire plant. Sheep tend to prefer forbs and tender grasses.

Cattle, while they tend to eat some plants more readily than others are generally not as selective in grazing habits as sheep.

Range Condition. Ranges in good condition have greater percentages of more nutritive and palatable plants than poor condition ranges.

Gates said. Lack of sufficient desirable forage forces livestock to take less desirable forage. The nutritive value of range forages tends to parallel the range condition. Good condition range has highly nutritive forage. Also, stock responses will be favorable.

Chit Chat

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The arguments and counter-arguments over the South Talent zoning seem destined to go on and on until the Jackson County Planning Commission completes a comprehensive land use study for the area and comes up with a more workable zoning ordinance. The following letter answers our column of Dec. 10 on the South Talent problem.

"We the people of the South Talent area wish to thank you and your paper for your interest in our problems. We know that because of the many items about our efforts to improve this area we are in the spotlight. People all around us have their eyes on us. Will we sink or swim?"

"We are an unincorporated area. We have no mayor or council elected to guide us. We may appear to be floundering aimlessly about, nonetheless we do have our county court and its commissions and laws as a governing body and our people act as the council. Perhaps all we need is a little more courage and time, but when the chips are down the majority will do what is right."

"Yes, the South Talent area is now in the throes of a zoning controversy. The opponents of zoning are asking the people to vote out the zoning protection now in effect. The very principle of zoning is at stake. This raises many questions among our people. As you know these opponents of zoning have resorted to all sorts of things, but what are they trying to prove? We don't really know and doubt if they do either."

"Are the opponents of zoning trying to twist the laws around to gain their objectives? Will a vote now in favor of zoning change their opposition to cooperation? We think not. We are sure of one thing, though, they will find it increasingly difficult to get people to sign a petition again. They are cheapening the law by their misuse of the constitutional right to petition. This is like misusing one's constitutional right to bear arms by killing one's opponent. Who or what will they try to petition out next?"

"Are the opponents of zoning trying to prove the majority of the people of this area are not capable of deciding what is good for this area? With zoning the people of the area attend regular hearings and meetings, hear both sides of each issue and then make the decisions according to the rules and regulations of the zoning ordinance in effect. This system of majority rule is as old as our country itself. Costly secret ballots are not necessary when people meet together and have the courage to raise their hands to indicate their convictions peacefully."

"Are the opponents of zoning trying to prove that 53 per cent of the people were wrong in November, 1961 when zoning was initiated into this area? The people of the area have not forgotten that before the area was zoned they had to dig up \$500 for legal counsel to prevent a 10 acre junk yard from moving in. This could have been prevented for free had zoning been in effect."

"Do the opponents of zoning want to make this area a dumping ground for all sorts of undesirable things that other zoned areas do not want or will not allow? We are not off the beaten path as our area has good access to the new freeway, a four lane boulevard and we have certain other reasons why big junk yards and the like would like to move in. We are a choosy kind of people and we want to choose the kind of things that move into the area. We have this right to choose as long as we have zoning."

"Are the opponents of zoning trying to prove hundreds of other areas all over the country haven't had a terrible time straightening out and correcting bad mistakes made because they failed to plan or zone before their area built up? Most everyone has seen this happen in one place or another."

"We would say to these opponents of zoning and say it strongly, THINK AGAIN. If they do not wish to conform to certain necessary rules and regulations, then they should move way out, even there they must plan and conform, even if the only rules are the Ten Commandments."

"We, the members of the South Talent Improvement Association even now feel certain that, as in November, 1961, the majority of the people of the area will vote Yes loud and clear for zoning. We will begin our campaign for zoning by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a very happy new year."

In the Dec. 10 column we had pointed out that if the people really want zoning they must fight for it. Observers have been predicting that the zoning will be defeated. The people favoring zoning are not organized enough to put up a consistent and strong fight. Now, however, the South Talent Improvement Association seems determined to get out the vote for the Jan. 24 election.

We also stated that zoning, fairly and impartially applied seeks to provide decent living space for the people - ALL of the people. Zoning means that factories will be located out of residential areas, fertile land will be kept for farming, businesses will be grouped together in districts which can more easily serve their patrons. It is not new. Every time a farmer repairs his fence he is reinforcing zoning. He is separating his cattle from his garden patch, from his field corn and his home.

Zoning does not mean a certain piece of land will always be farm land, residential property or commercial property. As an area becomes more densely populated the people of an area may petition for a public hearing on a zoning change, or the planning commission or county court may feel a change is needed. It may be decided that residential land would be better for commercial or industrial enterprises.

Such a change may be indicated by an increasing number of variances sought by property owners in a certain area. For variances have been liberally granted by the Jackson County Planning Commission.

Unfortunately, more people realize the need for zoning after it is too late - after industrial and commercial enterprises crowd into what was once a residential area. Zoning does not eliminate what is already existing. It does, however, prevent any expansion of that business.

The county court cannot, under state law, refuse a wrecking yard license. This is the job of the department of motor vehicles. The county court can only recommend that a license not be granted or renewed. It's not an excuse. It is in the law books. Too often, an inspector may drop into the area and find the wrecking yard is not violating the state law by having many wrecks visible from the highway, etc. The operator, somehow warned of his coming, suddenly cleans up his yard, then later gradually lets it become unsightly again.

This has happened and will continue to happen until an area gets zoning. The people wanting their area protected must organize, participate actively in that organization, ring doorbells and get support for zoning. This is the kind of work which must be done after a long day's work up in the woods, after a full day's housework, after 10 headachy hours of office work. Unlike some human endeavors, democratic progress requires a lot of energetic, intelligent people at the controls.

Grants Pass Men In Colorado Sale

Hoots Angus Ranch and May Angus Ranch, both of Grants Pass, have consigned bulls to the huge National Western Stock show in Denver, Colo., Jan. 10-18.

The show annually attracts thousands of cattlemen from a wide area in search of bulls to improve their herds. This year's Angus sale will include more than 200 bulls from 17 states. They represent 57 leading Angus herds from Oregon to Massachusetts and from Minnesota to Mississippi.

The 102 individuals and the 105 bulls which will be sold as 35 groups of three will be judged on Sunday, Jan. 12. The auction of the black, hornless beef animals will start at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday, Jan. 14.

The sale is sponsored by the American Angus Association of St. Joseph, Mo. Auction manager is Milt Miller, director of the field staff of the national beef cattle organization.

Learn By Doing Theme of Meeting Of Siskiyou 4-H

MONTAGUE - "Learn by Doing" was the County 4-H officers' training theme.

The meeting was held recently at the Big Springs Hall, after rescheduling because of the President's death two weeks earlier.

Bill Ruddiman of the Agriculture Extension office in Yreka led the group and made introductions. Tentative plans of the various clubs were revealed, including community service, fund raising, work projects and fun.

After the general session the crowd divided into groups. Presidents and vice presidents met with Dr. Tom Preece, superintendent of the Yreka High School, who helped the young people in making introductions and leading their meetings in a pleasing manner.

Warren "Pop" Behnke, band and music instructor of Yreka, helped the song leaders with their work. Demonstrations were given later.

Norman Taylor and Frank Kearney of the Bank of America, Yreka, gave the treasurers instructions in the many phases of their work.

Bill Ruddiman instructed the secretaries and news reporters, making comparisons of a good set of minutes and a news report. A mock meeting was conducted by a number of leaders present, then the young people were asked to comment on the importance of the issues.

At the close of the meeting games were played under the leadership of Pat Gallagher, Big Springs club. The meeting was well attended with most of the county clubs represented.

POTATO GROWERS

CORVALLIS - Potato growers will have an opportunity to see test lots of certified seed potatoes being grown in greenhouses during a Dec. 20-21 meeting. The meeting will be held at Oregon State University.

Pesticide Resolution

A second resolution dealt with use and testing of pesticides now registered for use on a "no residue" basis. The resolution asks that the "no residue" registration be clearly defined in terms of the method of residue analysis at the time the registration is granted.

It also asks that before crop seizures are made that 1) pesticide companies be given time to withdraw the registration; 2) that registrants be allowed to present data for use in establishment of definite numerical tolerances, if such meet the desires of the company and responsibilities of government agencies involved; 3) that state and federal agencies be allowed sufficient time to remove the questionable use from their official recommendations.

Farm & Garden Imports, Grading Talked by Cowmen

MONTAGUE - Beef Imports and Beef Grading were the principal issues brought before the California Cattlemen Association at its recent annual meeting in Bakersfield.

Blair Smith, Montague, state representative of Siskiyou County, who attended along with 14 others from the county including the president, Howard Beck, Macdoel, reported the state group passed a resolution asking Congress to impose a quota on imports and that is was proposed that the present system of dual grading be abolished.

At their breakfast business meeting on the last day Mrs. Foulke was reelected president for 1964, as was Mrs. Mona Chisholm, Healdsburg, vice president; Mrs. Jack Probert, Placerville, second vice president; Mrs. Hubbard Russell, New Cuyama, secretary; and Mrs. George Thomas, Hollister, treasurer. Mrs. Chisholm is chairman of beef promotion.

California Cowbelles will give financial assistance to senior students in nutrition and food science as well as the scholarship program for incoming college students which they have carried on for some years in the past. The new program will provide scholarships for advanced students only.

At one time Australia was part of the British Commonwealth and therefore supplied those countries until 1958. Then they broke away and put their production on the world market. Because they must import many products and materials they endeavor to export their beef to keep a balance.

The King Ranch of Texas alone, has invested \$3,500,000 in the Australian beef industry. Cattlemen feel the imports caused a drop in beef prices from \$3 to \$4 per hundred weight.

Since U. S. ranchers cannot compete with the low production costs and it is hard to impose a tariff in trading with the free world, it is hoped that imposing a quota may be the answer. This may be accomplished by legislation, it is hoped.

Dual grading, imposed by the government as a trial basis for

County Fair Plans Unfold at Meet With Press, Radio

YREKA - What can be expected for the Siskiyou County Fair in 1964 was at the December meeting of the board of directors when they entertained members of the press and radio and their spouses at a dinner at the Colony House in Yreka on Dec. 11.

Al Crebbin, board president, welcomed the visitors and lauded them for their good news coverage. "splendid participation and attendance of the fairs in the past" and particularly the one in 1963 when Jim Jones was secretary - manager for the first time.

A number of innovations were made, such as the lumberjack events, and kids greased pole contest. It is hoped to retain these and add a number of other attractions and encourage other industries to exhibit. Four days of fair may be held next year instead of three as in the past. The first day will be "Kid's Day" with all events geared to their enjoyment.

Jones made it clear the grounds are an interim usage facility and mentioned a number of activities that go on there throughout the year. Many civic, fraternal, youth and social groups use the buildings and grounds throughout the year for dinners, parties, shows, entertainments, exhibits and even a private wedding reception.

Jones told the group that plans are being made to have two categories for children, other than 4-H and F.F.A., to exhibit. These will include photography and model car exhibit.

Money allocated for improvements will allow the buildings of new rest rooms, a concrete strip in the barns for public walkways and extensive repairs to the rodeo grounds, and possible creation of a horse exercising area.

Seattle Man Faces Charge of Murder

WASHINGTON (UPI) - The Housing and Home Finance Agency Monday approved an application by the Lane County Housing Authority to extend the completion time for the Springfield, Ore., urban renewal project to next June 30.

The agency also agreed to increase the amount of a capital grant to cover additional work on the project.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By BART BARTLETT

As this is the holiday season for Americans, it follows that the next few days will be devoted to the festive activities that befit each family or group.

In many cases the holiday activities will reflect in some measure the national or social background of the people concerned.

Customs do vary and in some instances may be very strange indeed to some persons who follow closely a certain pattern. In any case we are sure that the spirit of the holidays will result in a tolerant attitude toward the various religions, races or creeds as they observe the holidays even though their customs may be rather novel or strange compared to the customs that have been considered normal in this country or even in this local area.

The weather for this section of Oregon promises to be neither better nor worse than is normal for this time of year. In any event, the weather will not be as severe as that being experienced by the greater part of the nation that lies to the east of the Rocky Mountains.

Study Catalogs. One constructive way to pass some of the holiday hours is to study the nursery and seed catalogs. Some good ideas may be gained from such publications that may make farming and gardening more pleasurable and profitable during the coming growing season.

"Peace on earth" is a phrase that has been overworked to the extent that it is now meaningless in the sense that anyone feels responsible for seeing that it happens.

The national leaders of the world have used the phrase so freely most often for political purposes and usually when peace was of a low priority in their programs that some of the lustre has been lost from this noble statement.

We trust that everyone who reads this column will have the best of everything during the holidays. Take care and see that the cabin does not burn down or that the family car does not, in some manner, hasten anyone's departure from this earth.

Oregon Schools Get Bomb Threats

By United Press International. Two Oregon high schools were threatened with bombing Thursday, but there were no explosions.

A youth was arrested only about half an hour after a bomb threat was telephoned to Madison High School in Portland. There was no interruption in classes.

Another caller later Thursday said a bomb had been planted in Sheridan High School in Yamhill County. The building was evacuated while a search was conducted, but no explosives were found.

Telephone Company Sued by Lift Firm

PORTLAND (UPI) - A \$71,879 damage suit was filed by Lift Truck Parts and Service Co. of Portland against the Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Co. in Federal Court here Monday.

The company, in the suit, charged that Pacific Northwest Bell listed the name of a rival company, Lift Parts Service of Oregon, in the "yellow pages" section of its Portland metropolitan telephone directory.

The company said the listing violated an agreement made earlier with Pacific Northwest Bell. The suit asked \$60,000 in exemplary damages and \$11,879 in general damages.

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