

# Fertilizer Application Helps Spud Production

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Assistant County Agent

increase of as much as 100 percent in the yield of No. 1 potatoes on 1/4 acre of land can be obtained by fertilizer application to fertilizer applied to the county agent's office at the county agent's office showed any of the fertilizer used in 1938 trials to yield more than pay its cost at 60c per cwt. price U. S. potatoes.

1938 trials in cooperation of 11 different potato growers showed the fertilizers commoned at the time and in addition included various combinations of nitrogen phosphate and potash.

Fertilizers used were 16-20-0, 10-12-14, 3-10-10 and 10-10-10 to make up varying amounts of three hundred pounds per acre applications of 16-20-0 and 500 pound applications of 10-12-14 each showed up in 6 of the 11 trials to be among the three greatest percentage increases in each trial. Three hundred pound per acre application of 11-48-0 showed up among the top 3 fertilizers in 3 of the trials. A 600 lb. per acre application of 3-10-10 gave increases putting it among the top 3 fertilizers in two of the trials.

One hundred pound applications of 16-20-0 and 11-48-0 showed up better than heavier applications on well built up alfalfa or pasture land.

**Comparison**

The importance of a sound rotation program which includes alfalfa or clover was brought out by a comparison of unfertilized check plot yields. Productivity of soils as well as ease of tillage is dependent on soil structure as well as availability of plant food elements. A looser, better aerated and more desirable soil structure is obtained when organic matter is incorporated in a soil.

Fertilizer is an individual farm problem and the 1938 trials definitely showed that a complete fertilizer including potash is needed.

Crop history information is valuable when deciding on fertilizers and rates of application. Along history of depleting crops such as grains and potatoes as contrasted to alfalfa and clover will necessitate heavier nitrogen application. Phosphorous can be profitably used on any Klamath basin soil while returns to potash applications have been shown only in some instances. The peat lands surrounding the south end of Klamath lake respond to potash application in a complete fertilizer. Symptoms of potash deficiency in potatoes grown there have been noted.

Heavy fertilizer application necessitates heavier water use. Greater plant growth utilizes more water.

Recent use of additional fertilizer as a side dressing during the cultivating season has shown returns. It is planned to check extensive trials of this practice in 1946. Growers wishing to cooperate in 1946 trials should contact the county agent's office.

# H Confab to Be Held in Klamath

The district 4-H leaders training conference will be held at the Methodist church, Klamath Falls, Friday, March 15, at 8:30 p. m. The dinner will be held at 6:30 p. m. on March 14. The 20-year leadership pins at the dinner will be presented to the district 4-H leaders.

Miss Helen Cowgill, president of the Klamath County Local Leaders Association, urges attendance of leaders for this opportunity to strengthen their 4-H program.

The program Monday will commence at 10 a. m. and continue through until 8:30 p. m. Tuesday 9 a. m. until 3 p. m. Following are the programs:

- 8:00 a. m.—Music.
- 9:15 a. m.—Purpose of Conference, Introduction of delegates, H. C. Seymour, state club president.
- 10:30 a. m.—"4-H Club Work in the Postwar Program," Will L. Teutsch, assistant director of extension.
- 12:00 Noon—Luncheon.
- 1:15 p. m.—Opening music.
- 2:30 p. m.—Mrs. E. F. Wright, president, State Leaders' organization.
- 3:00 p. m.—Sections.
- 3:30-4:00 p. m.—Home Economics.
- 4:00-4:30 p. m.—Clothing I—Helen Cowgill.
- 4:30-5:00 p. m.—What Are the Cookery Club Problems?—Maryolive Snarr.
- 5:00-5:30 p. m.—Homemaking II, III, and IV—Helen Cowgill.
- 5:30-6:00 p. m.—Preparation of Food—Maryolive Snarr.
- 6:00-6:30 p. m.—Fun for All—Maryolive Snarr.
- 6:30-7:00 p. m.—Round Table—J. Allen.
- 7:00-7:30 p. m.—Forestry—Dan D. Robinson, Extension Forester.
- 7:30-8:00 p. m.—Crops, Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Miscellaneous.
- 8:00-8:30 p. m.—State 4-H Club Round Table—H. C. Seymour.
- 8:30 p. m.—Dinner, Methodist church.
- Report National 4-H Club Congress 1945—Bill Matthews.
- Address—Elwain H. Greenwood, secretary, Oregon Bankers' association.
- Address—A. L. Strand, president, Oregon State college.
- Leadership Awards.
- Tuesday
- 8:00 a. m.—Music.
- 9:00 a. m.—Sections.
- 9:30-10:30 a. m.—Demonstrations and Program Planning—Helen Cowgill.
- 10:30-11:30 a. m.—Clothing Problems II, III, IV and V—Helen Cowgill.
- 11:30-12:30 a. m.—Baking Problems and Judging—Maryolive Snarr.
- 12:30-1:30 a. m.—Round Table.
- 1:30-2:00 p. m.—Vegetable Garden Program of Work, Record Books, Demonstrations, Judging.
- 2:00-2:30 p. m.—Developing Leadership—Elmo N. Stevenson, president, Southern Oregon College of Education.
- 2:30-3:00 p. m.—Luncheon.
- 3:00 p. m.—Music.
- 3:30 p. m.—Reports—County Club Presidents.
- 4:00 p. m.—National Contests.
- 4:30 p. m.—Closing.

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