

State Seed Law Vetoes Weeds

Labels Must Show Percentages Of All Contents In Sales Package

By WALT JENDRZEJEWSKI, Assistant County Agent

Oregon state seed law says "no sale" if noxious weeds are present in agricultural or turf seeds. Agricultural or turf seeds are specifically defined in the law but generally are the hay, grass, clover and garden seeds.

According to the law each lot or package of agricultural or turf seeds sold or offered for sale within the state for seeding purposes, shall be clearly and plainly labeled to show what, where grown, per cent pure seed, per cent weed seed, per cent other crop seed, per cent inert matter, name and approximate number per pound of each kind of noxious weed seed, per cent germination, per cent hard seed and the name and address of the vendor.

Seed sale for planting purposes can cost \$100 if either white top, leafy spurge or Russian knapweed are found. These three together with wild garlic and camelthorn are strictly out.

In addition to the above weeds, tolerance is set up for certain other noxious weeds.

Dodders, Canada thistle and quack grass are allowed in amounts not to exceed 1 seed per 50 grams of alfalfa, sweet clover, red clover or other agricultural or turf seed having approximately the same number of seeds per pound while 2 such weed seeds are allowed in 50 grams of alfalfa, white or ladino clover or other agricultural or turf seed having approximately the same number of seeds per lb. Not over four seeds of buckhorn plantain are allowed in five grams of any of the clovers or alfalfa.

Exemptions from labeling provisions for agricultural turf or vegetable seeds are provided when such seeds are sold to be reseeded before being sold, offered or exposed for sale, for seeding purposes; or when such seeds are held for re-cleaning; or in the case of buckwheat, flax, vetches, peas, beans or soy beans where such seed is sold or exposed for sale for milling, food or feeding purposes only.

Oregon is not unique in having a seed law. Most important agricultural states have similar laws. Variations in the different state seed laws consist chiefly of differences in the kinds of weed seeds defined or noxious.

Adoption of state seed laws has come about chiefly because agricultural seeds were in many cases the source of severe weed infestations. A lack of understanding of the serious infestations that can result from use of weedy seed and ignorance of the law or failure to comply with it are yet resulting in new weed infestations.

Higher Quality In general, however, higher quality seed is being offered to farmers since seed laws were adopted. Seed dealers are particularly careful to properly label seeds. Information for labels comes from test reports on samples analyzed at commercial or state seed laboratories. Larger seed dealers employ their own seed analysis.

Oregon seed law provided for a state seed laboratory. This is now housed in homajia huts on the Oregon State college campus. The lab handles all certified seed as well as a heavy load for individual farmers and seed dealers.

Adams Ranch Animal High

PETERBOROUGH, N. H., Feb. 5.—A registered Guernsey cow, Western Glow Nancy Lee, owned by F. C. Adams, Adamsdale Guernsey Farm, Klamath Falls, Ore., has completed an official advanced register record of 8658 pounds of milk and 444 pounds of butterfat, starting her record as a senior four-year-old.

Nancy Lee is sired by the famous Guernsey, McDonald Farms Developer, that has 35 sons and daughters in the performance register of the American Guernsey Cattle club.

This record was supervised by the Oregon State college and reported to the American Guernsey Cattle club for approval and publication.

To a navy man the navy is much more than merely working on a job; and wearing a uniform is very much more than a particular kind of work clothing.

Born: Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 26, 1880. No. 1 Honor Graduate U. S. Military Academy, 1903. Twice wounded in action, World War I. Commander-in-Chief U. S. and Philippine Forces during Japanese invasion, 1942.

Sheep Herds Here Reach Low Levels

Not since 1878 have sheep numbers in Oregon been as low as in 1947. Preliminary figures show 80,000 sheep and lambs in the state on January 1, 1947, of which 670,000 were ewes, one-year-old and over. Since 1941, the number has dropped approximately 50 per cent.

Sheep are kept in all types of farming districts throughout the state. However, most of the decrease in sheep numbers has been in Eastern Oregon. This decrease is due to a number of factors, including the scarcity of good herders, high cost of production, high returns from beef cattle, which competed for the range which sheep normally used, and the difficulty in obtaining replacements.

Moved West The rapid decrease in Eastern Oregon has brought about a decided change in the distribution of sheep throughout the state. In 1940 Eastern Oregon had three-fourths of the total sheep in the state, with one-fourth in Western Oregon. The preliminary estimate for January 1, 1946, shows that 57 per cent of the sheep and lambs are in Eastern Oregon and 43 per cent in Western Oregon.

Here in Klamath county sheep numbers dropped from 102,000 in 1939 to an estimated 38,000 in 1947. Of these, 30,000 were ewes, one year old and over. Much the same reasons for general decrease over the state were factors in the decrease here in the county.

The livestock committee of the agricultural planning conference held last year recommended that there be slight increase in sheep flocks and that this increase be brought about largely by an increase in the number of farm flocks. They feel that farm flocks have a place on many farms in the area, in that they can often make use of available feed that would otherwise be wasted. Sheep are able to keep fence rows, ditch banks, etc., clean and reduce the weed and fire hazard.

Herders Few The committee also felt that "an increase in range sheep numbers in Klamath county is not possible, due to the fact that it is still difficult to obtain the proper amount and kind of labor to handle large herds." Also, lack of summer range is a limiting factor.

"If range sheep numbers are to be maintained at the present levels, it is evident that operators will have to raise their own replacements, as it has been very difficult under present economic conditions to purchase replacements.

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With Farmers And Stockmen Around The Klamath Basin

Among Klamath basin cattlemen attending the Hereford sale and show at Red Bluff this week are Henry Gerber, E. A. Geary, Ray Michaels, William Kittredge and Oscar Kittredge. Mrs. Gerber and Mrs. Geary accompanied their husbands.

Hank Semon took a lively ribbing at the County Farm bureau meeting this week. All the action the group wanted taken on any subject was referred to Hank to get it, as democratic representative to the state house of representatives, for Klamath county.

Midland Home Economics club will sponsor a public card party at the Julian Abbott residence on Saturday at 8 p. m. There will be awards for high scores. Every grange woman attending is asked to bring a pie.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Thomas, Stronghold potato growers, are spending February in Southern California and Mexico.

The Hammond ranch at Merrill has just purchased a herd of Brahmas from near Fresno, Calif. There are two registered bulls in the herd and 10 full-blooded unregistered heifers. Which reminds us of the story of the three bulls.

Jess and Jack McFall have just returned from Red Bluff where they purchased several registered Black Angus bulls from Charles McDowell. Did you ever hear the story of the three bulls?

Earl Mack's potato acreage yielded 425 sacks of spuds per acre in the 1947 harvest. That is the heaviest yield in the county that has been reported to the county agent's office—that's a lot of potatoes and no bull.

Main grange will meet next on February 10, for business. Several new members will be taken into the grange at this evening meeting.

Dr. Warren Hunt and sons shipped 1000 head of white-faces up from Southern California this week. The pasture is getting too dry there for cattle. The 1000 Herefords are at the Geary ranch on hay now.

Samford Jones, Bonanza farmer who was operated on at Hillside hospital last Monday is reported getting along fine.

A. R. Campbell and son, Harold, drove to Red Bluff this week to look over their cattle and the pasture conditions there.

William Cunningham, Pine Grove farmer, has returned from a San Francisco hospital where he had surgery. He is reported recuperating nicely.

Carl Holder, stockman from Paisley, attended the auction sale in Klamath Falls Wednesday.

Anyone knowing items of interest to or about basin farmers and stockmen is invited to send them in for this column. (Don't tell any lies about your neighbors though!).

Potato Stocks Are Short In All Producing States

The January 1 report of potato stocks on hand, made by the government, showed a total of 118,420,000 bushels as compared with 152,170,000 in 1947 and 120,490,000 bushels in 1946.

The four western states of Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California show a total of 17,720,000 bushels as of this January 1, in comparison with 32,480,000 bushels on January 1, 1947.

In 1946 these states had a total of 26,700,000 bushels on hand with an average from 1936 to 1945 of approximately 21,000,000 bushels. These are the states that generally supply all coastal markets and what they have on hand is important to potato growers.

Other states ship into the western area but Colorado is the only state of all the 11 western states that shows more potatoes on hand in 1948 than in 1947, as of January 1.

With shipments in the Klamath basin passing the 5000 car mark, by February 1, it is generally estimated that the remaining stocks on hand of marketable potatoes are about 2000 cars. Local shipments are ahead of a year ago on a percentage basis with over 70 per cent shipped to date, compared with less than 65 per cent a year ago.

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Granger



Wilbur Harnsberger, Henley farmer, is master for Henley grange for the ensuing year.

Soil Saving Plan Talked

PENDLETON, Ore., Feb. 5 (AP)—Needs for further research in methods of conserving Pacific Northwest soils were presented to a house appropriations subcommittee on agriculture in Washington, D. C., this week by Lester King of Pendleton, it was learned here today.

King, representing the Eastern Wheat League, outlined a cooperative research project to be carried out under leadership of the Oregon agricultural experiment station, the bureau of plant industry and the soil conservation service. Further details of the plan were not disclosed.

King was heard by the committee at the insistence of Rep. Lowell Stockman of Oregon and Reps. Walt Hornan and Hal Holmes of Washington. These Northwest congressmen asked the committee to make an exception in its regular order of business in order to hear King present needs of the Pacific Northwest for conservation.

While no definite promises were made, the committee assured King that needs of the region would be given full consideration and indicated it favored the type of research contemplated by the wheat league and other organizations.

All Japanese May Be "Printed"

TOKYO, Feb. 5 (AP)—The Nippon Times reported today all Japanese may be fingerprinted because of the escape of a bank robber.

The newspaper said police were unable to check on the fingerprints of the robber, who fatally poisoned 12 employees of the Teikoku bank and escaped with 164,000 yen (\$3280) January 26.

Of some 80,000,000 Japanese, police have fingerprints of only 160,000, mostly ex-convicts.

Industry, both in the consumer and seed potato production fields, and then presents facts concerning market outlets and development.

The authors list many suggestions both as to production and marketing methods, stressing also the need for more research in disease control and as to ways of getting potatoes to consumers with the least possible loss of quality.

National Potato Letter---

Location Of Potato Stock Abnormal, Light In West

Location of potato storage stocks is not normal and affects distribution differently than would more even division of total holdings. Maine alone has almost 36 per cent of total stocks. About 51 per cent is located in New England, New York and Pennsylvania. Compared with average, this area is up 38 per cent. Compared with January 1, 1947, following the tremendous 1946 crop, it is down only 8.5 per cent.

These factors combine this year to force super-wise management in marketing to avoid heavy pressure on the Eastern markets. Western areas, in contrast, have light supplies, although there is no real shortage indicated even in the West. It would be logical to move Eastern stocks westward and this will occur to some extent. Hindering this automatic adjustment of supply to price are increased transportation costs and what appears to be a lack of aggressiveness on the part of sellers. This is one clean-up season when mere order-taking will not move the Eastern crop before arrival of the early southern deals. Exports could move these potatoes and may be the solution. Even exports would have to start immediately, however, and move rapidly to meet present holdings. But dead-of-winter exports cannot go in real volume to Northern Europe because of lack of weather protection on the other side. This seems to leave a combination of a real push for wider domestic distribution, plus exports, as the only logical answer to the problem—but time is running short unless action is taken quickly.

Several Maine starch factories have installed their own power generators. This probably is not too economical but is better than no power or to limiting operations to sleepy-time hours. The same goes for warehouse operations. Destruction of navy and other auxiliary generators at Fort Fairfield by fire did not help the Maine power situation any. . . . DOA has put a big foot down on spuds that are "objectionable because of objectionable flavor." This means that potatoes treated with benzene hexachloride are too bad to use. Instructions to purchasing agents are to require a warranty by each vendor that potatoes delivered are free from bad flavor with the understanding that bad lots will be rejected wherever and whenever found, with reclaim against vendor for purchase price plus transportation and handling costs. . . . Also DOA says it will not buy potatoes infested with golden nematodes. DOA bought such potatoes last year because of inadequate warning to growers who planted in good faith on supposedly clean land. Warning this year is timely and we think DOA means what it says.

Renewed talk about advertising seems strangely out of place at a time when quality marketing seems to be at the lowest ebb in years. What is the good of advertising when shippers—only a few, we hope—are willing to put pick-outs in consumer bags? . . . There are rumblings of broadening interest in marketing agreements—East Central, Maine, Nebraska and West Coast. Nothing concrete as yet, but there is talk. Even talk is timely with the end of Steagall supports almost upon us. . . . We can understand why growers persist in planting unmarketable varieties for the sake of yield under price support but will wager our other shirt there will be some changes when the going gets tough again. . . . A yield of 182 bushels this season is to the 200 mark and 1947 was not a particularly good weather year, weather was bad at planting time and not good at harvest time.

It pays to use the Want-Ads!

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CAVALCADE of HISTORY

Born: Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 26, 1880. No. 1 Honor Graduate U. S. Military Academy, 1903. Twice wounded in action, World War I. Commander-in-Chief U. S. and Philippine Forces during Japanese invasion, 1942.

Appointed Allied Supreme Commander, Land, Air and Sea Forces in S. W. Pacific, March, 1942. Promised to return to Philippines. Kept his word, Oct. 20, 1944.

GEN DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

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