

# Spring Time For Planting Berries Here

By JAMES T. ELINGS  
Assistant County Agent

Spring planting is usually best for strawberries. In the Klamath area this means as soon as the danger of the more destructive frosts is past and the ground can be properly worked.

Several pre-planting factors must be considered by the strawberry grower before setting out his plants. The best yields of strawberries are obtained in fertile, well drained soils which have a high moisture holding capacity and good depth. Steep slopes, depressions or ravines and poorly drained areas are to be avoided for strawberry plantings.

The preparatory soil treatment for strawberries usually includes the use of organic matter, which is supplied by applications of manure or crop refuse or by plowing under cover crops. The water holding capacity, the soil structure and the fertility of the soil is improved by the use of manures or cover crops. For small plots about 50 pounds of manure to every 100 square feet can be used, or about a ton to a plot 50 by 100 feet.

Strawberry plants frequently die or make poor growth because the soil is not properly prepared at the time of planting. Deep planting or spading followed by fairly deep disk is necessary. Rollers or soil packers may be used on the lighter soils, but the top two inches of the soil must be left in a loose condition.

If possible, obtain certified strawberry plants. Certified plants are free of disease and are usually a more vigorous type of plant. Varieties that do well in Klamath county are Rockhill, Gem and Mastodon. All three are everbearing types.

If it is impossible to set the plants shortly after receiving them from the nursery, they should be "heeled in." This consists of digging a trench, opening the bundles of plants and placing the roots of the opened bundles in the trench. Then pack thoroughly moistened soil around the roots of the plants. If the plants are dry upon receipt from the nursery, the roots should

## Speakers At Farm Women's Dinner



Mrs. Doris Van Blokland (right) addressed the Associated Farm Women of Oregon at the district dinner meeting. Mrs. T. D. Jackson, president of the Klamath county group introduced the speaker.

be soaked in water before planting or heeling in.

The most important points in setting plants are to place them at the right depth and firm the soil thoroughly about the roots after they are set. If the plants are set too high or the soil is not sufficiently firm they will dry out and die. If set too low and the crown is covered with soil, the plants may rot.

### TASTELESS "BANANA"

The "psang-suribu," or "king banana," tree has its fruit growing directly from the trunk. The larger the tree, the larger the bunch of bananas. The fruit of this native Malay peninsula tree, however, is tasteless and is not eaten by the natives.

Orchard cover crops have served their purpose, so it's time to plow them under.

## Farm Women Hear Address

Matters of importance to farm families and the community in general were brought up at the monthly district meeting of farm bureau women held at the Winema hotel Saturday.

Mrs. Doris Van Blokland of La Grande, president of the state associated women of the farm bureau, addressing the group of 30, touched upon the restaurant inspection law grading eating places. The traffic and safety program as a uniform law between states, use of schools for community projects and a central building in town for visiting farm women.

Mrs. T. D. Jackson, president of the Klamath County Associated Farm Women, presided at the meeting, at which Mrs. Van Blokland's daughter Beverly was also a guest. Communities represented at the gathering were Bonanza, Langell valley, Merrill, Henley, Poe valley, Olene and Klamath Falls.

Mrs. Van Blokland was presented with a corsage and the book "Captain Jack" by the group.

## DDT Is Most Widely Used Insecticide On Farms Now

By JIM ELINGS  
Assistant County Agent

DDT is probably the most widely used insecticide on farms today. Its use on farm animals results in better production from the animals, better health for both humans and livestock, as well as improved sanitation.

The regular spraying of barns, corrals, and manure piles during the summer months will reduce the fly menace to almost nothing. For this type of spraying, 6 to 8 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT per 100 gallons of water is recommended, or slightly over one ounce per gallon of water.

Horn flies, the little black flies that irritate cattle during the summer months are easily controlled by spraying the cattle with a solution of 4 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT to 100 gallons of water. A pressure of 200 pounds or more is their nesting grounds in the arctic animal's hair. Several sprayings during the season are usually necessary. Control of horn flies stops the loss of blood that these pests

use, increases the animal's vitality and reduces the disease threat.

Cattle lice are also easily controlled with DDT. One good spraying in the late fall before the louse population begins to build up will keep cattle relatively free of lice the whole winter. Ten to 12 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT to 100 gallons of water applied at 400 pounds pressure is recommended. Ranchers who have sprayed for louse control say their cattle are better keepers and come through the winter in better condition than lousy cattle.

Spraying sheep with a DDT solution has been demonstrated to give good practical control of sheep ticks. The recommended concentration is 8 pounds of 50 per cent wettable DDT to 100 gallons of water. 400 pounds pressure will give good penetration of the fleece. A treatment during the fall months will keep the sheep relatively free of ticks all winter. Populations will not increase greatly on the ewes in the winter to move onto the lambs in the spring. Increased wool yields have been reported in Idaho where

## Marmot Curb Tests Made

Last week-end Stanley E. Piper of California state department of agriculture completed experimental work in control of whistling marmots in Shasta valley.

These rodents have become an economic problem in Shasta and Butte valleys and the Tulelake region during the past few years, Piper said. They are believed to have carried bubonic plague which claimed a life in Modoc county a few months back.

Piper said he is not yet sure what poison agent or what baits would be most effective and is continuing experiments.

Sheep were sprayed with DDT for tick control.

For small numbers of animals, a 10 per cent DDT dust rubbed into the hair or fleece will give good control of flies, ticks or lice.

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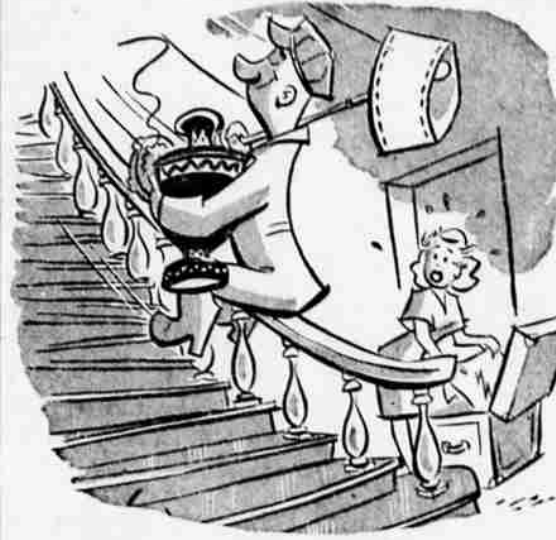
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