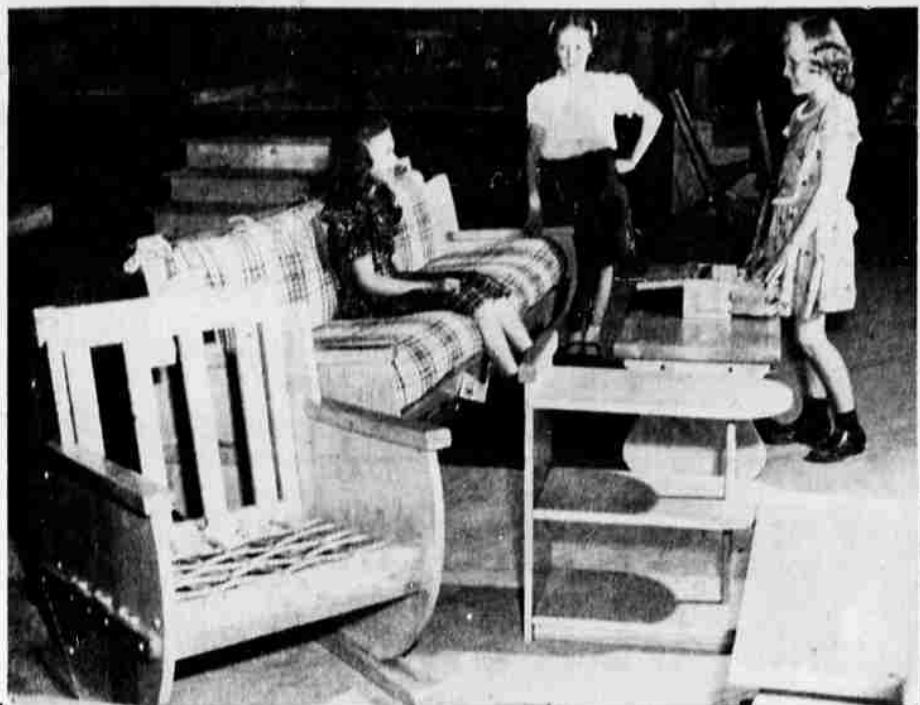




Good Spuds Need Much Care, Work

By C. A. HENDERSON
County Agent

It takes a lot of work and effort to have a potato meet all market grade requirements by the time it goes into the hands of the final consumer. Any misstep in the production schedule tends to decrease the quality of the final product.

Good seed and good soil are number one "musts." Proper fertilization, cultivation, disease control and irrigation are also absolutely necessary to get the desired quality in the consumer package. However, all of these steps avail little if improper harvesting and marketing methods are followed.

Potatoes are frequently given every care and attention throughout the planting and growing season and then at harvesting time, due to the rush of the season or other work and shortage of labor, etc., all precautions are forgotten.

Spuds are handled by the digger, receive rough treatment by the picker and hauler and get some more bruises when dumped into the bins in the cellar. This is only a starter. More bruises are added in grading, sacking, loading on the truck, loading into the car, unloading from the car onto the truck again, and to the retailer at the final market. Even so, this is not all. Further bruises occur when they are delivered; until finally any potato that reaches the consumer with less than 4 or 5 blemishes is indeed lucky.

Potatoes are a fine food product, and much can be done to improve the quality of the article that the consumer purchases and after all the consumer is the one to be satisfied. A national program of education in the handling of potatoes could well be undertaken by potato growers' association and groups.

Hay Market Bubble Busts

Some Oregon farmers had a good thing recently selling off their surplus—and not so surplus—hay to farmers in the California drought areas.

However, the cream has been skimmed off this market now, says M. D. Thomas, OSC extension economist. He says heavy rains that have fallen in California recently have materially strengthened prospects for hay crops in that state. In fact, Thomas has received word from the U. S. department of agriculture that an easier tone began to develop in the San Francisco and Los Angeles alfalfa markets by the end of March. Now, hay prices in those markets have fallen off from their highs by as much as five to ten dollars a ton.

From reports Thomas has received, he says new crop alfalfa is now ready to cut in many California localities. However, cutting has been delayed by cool, showery weather. With favorable weather, this first cutting now promises to be of unusually good quality with about average yields. Thomas points out that this is much better than was anticipated. At the present time, only moderate quantities of the new hay crop in the central valleys have been sold. Some growers there report scattered contracts calling for thirty to thirty-five dollars a ton. Meanwhile, most hay users are holding back until harvest before placing their orders.

Pressure In Silo May Be Dangerous

To farmers who are going to put their hay crop up as grass silage for the first time this year, here's an important question from M. G. Huber, agricultural engineer with the OSC extension service. Will your silo hold grass silage?

It isn't a case of simply filling the silo and forgetting it until the feed is needed. Huber points out that grass silage produces just short of two times as much pressure on a silo as other silage, corn for example.

Additional hoops can be placed around silos at reasonable cost. Nine-sixteenth inch round rods with rolled thread are suggested for this purpose.

J. Merton Stein, assistant secretary-treasurer with Klamath Production Credit association, spent last week with his family in Grants Pass.

On Thursday night, Anne Egan of Fairhaven did the cooking. Her guests were Mrs. E. D. Hickman, Vern Owens, Alfred Collier and Mrs. Geraldine Danz.

On Friday night Joan Loosely of Fort Klamath was the cook. Her mother, Mrs. Ray Loosely, Percy Murray, Mrs. Geraldine Danz and Earl Mack were the guests.

Hot, dry conditions dry cut surfaces but produce little cork. Cold temperatures result in little cork. Dried surfaces crack on handling and permit entry of rot organisms when seed is planted.

Freshly cut seed is often planted successfully. Soil conditions, however, must be favorable to cork formation. Cold, wet or hot, dry soils planted with freshly cut or poorly suberized seed frequently show a heavy percentage of seed piece rot.

Wherever Newcastle disease is suspected in poultry flocks, Dr. Dickinson urges that county agents be contacted immediately. Then three or four birds with typical symptoms can be brought to the college veterinary laboratory for examination.

Nation's Crop Outlook Good

L. R. Breithaupt, OSC extension economist, describes the nation's outlook for principal crops as "favorable."

After studying current crop and weather reports, he says the country's grain production is expected to be a good deal greater than last year. The harvest of corn, oats and other feed grains might go as much as 15 or 20 per cent higher. However, on the down side, wheat is not expected to equal last year's harvest by about 20 per cent. The wheat crop may still go over a billion bushels.

Here on the Pacific coast, the Oregon, Washington and Idaho wheat crop is expected to be exceptionally large. Though in California grain prospects are described as "poor." Meanwhile, Breithaupt points out that California is a principal domestic market for Oregon wheat.

In the export picture, all indications point toward continuing large exports of wheat for foreign relief after the 1948 harvest. With a decrease in wheat production, wheat supplies for export are expected to be somewhat smaller.

Breithaupt says wheat exports likely will still be much greater than the United States quota under the proposed international wheat agreement. This international agreement as proposed will become effective on August 1 this year. That is, if it agreed to by enough nations in the meantime.

Furniture Care Tips

Homemakers, with imagination and effort, can improve the appearance of their furniture and add to its life through care, repair, and refinishing, the home demonstration office advises.

Many pieces should have the original finish removed, then a new finish applied. Others need to be only touched up and the result is satisfactory.

Deep scratches on walnut or mahogany furniture may be made less apparent by touching up with iodine or if the scratch is very light, rubbing the spot with the cut end of a nut meat.

White spots, caused by water or hot dishes, may sometimes be removed by such a simple home-method as this. Cover the spot with salt and pour on as much olive oil as the salt will take up. Leave overnight. Remove salt by soaking again with oil. Rub spot briskly with soft cloth saturated with oil.

Dents and dark spots may also be made less apparent by various methods described in mimeograph HE 1753 titled "Touch-Ups for Wood Furniture," which may be obtained free of charge at the office of the home demonstration agent, post office building.

2.4-D Kills White Top

One of the first weeds requiring attention in the spring is white top. 2.4-D is effective in controlling top growth of white top under practically all conditions, but best results are obtained when soils are moist and plants are relatively young (when in full rosette stage to first blossoms).

Frequently a high percentage of roots are destroyed but no single treatment has been reported to give a perfect 100% kill. Two sprayings may be needed to keep down all growth for the season as all plants may not be emerged at the first spraying.

Dosage: 1½ to 3 pounds active ingredient, (parent acid) per acre in sufficient water (10 to 100 gal.) to obtain complete coverage of the weed. The label on the container will give directions for mixing and state the amount of acid in the package.

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Kerns Kernels

We have 4" and 6" steel invasion pipe in stock which can be used for well casing or irrigation. We also have some heavy 18" steel casing for large irrigation wells.

Stout aluminum irrigation systems are equipped with automatic couplers which can be coupled and uncoupled without touching the coupler. This means less labor in moving the pipe.

Iron Age Potato Planters in two and four-row models are carried in stock. For faster, more economical planting and greater accuracy in spacing in the planting row, consider the Iron Age High Speed Planter.

The month of May is a very good time to plant lawns. Clovers and grasses germinate quickly, and a fine, green lawn results. Under such conditions weed seeds in the soil remain in comparative dormancy.

In new plantings, Vigoro lawn fertilizer should be used one week before planting or not until the lawn has been mowed twice. Vigoro promotes strong root growth and bright green leaves.

In our houseware department Lodge Cast Iron Cooking Ware is featured this week. Strong, durable cast iron skillets, Dutch ovens, combinations and griddles are on display.

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Malin Farm Bureau Raps Control Of Farm Prices

The Malin Farm Bureau held one of the most interesting, as well as profitable meetings of the year last Wednesday evening, with Jack Ratliff, the president, in charge.

A number of resolutions were passed after a great deal of discussion pro and con.

The local bureau definitely favors as little governmental control of farm prices as possible. However, it was felt that a minimum of support prices would help stabilize farm production, and benefit both the consuming public and the farmer.

As an economy measure all farmers present favored the consolidation of the Farm Labor office with the Oregon State Employment service.

All present were opposed to daylight saving time.

All opposed diverting state excise tax funds to the general fund as it would cause an increase in state property taxes.

The group urged implement dealers to remain open all day Saturday as a service to farmers.

A resolution was unanimously approved asking that existing regulations be enforced governing interstate movement of cattle cars and commercial trucks used to transport cattle across state lines. It has been suggested that shipping point corrals should be included in this disinfection to further protect us from the spread of various diseases such as hoof and mouth disease, Bangs disease, tuberculosis, and so forth.

The bureau also unanimously favored an investigation of the Oregon milk board however action was deferred until further information is forthcoming.

Last, but by no means least, all definitely favored the three-mill county road tax levy to be voted on in May. This levy will make it possible to black top our principle county roads. Good roads are cheaper than tires and repairs.

Walt and Jack Kittredge, Silver Lake cattlemen, were in Klamath Falls this week on business.

Farm Training Roster Grows

SALEM, April 29 (AP)—Oregon has 1135 World War II veterans engaged in on-the-farm training, the state department of veterans affairs said today.

This is 38 per cent more than a year ago. But Oregon still has less than half of the number permitted by the federal government.

The veterans are training either as employees of farmers or as self-employed farmers. They are trained by the state division of vocational education, which does not have enough instructors to expand the program.

The trainees are engaged in the following types of farming: general farming, dairy, livestock, poultry, furs, cash grain and seed, fruit, nursery, truck, cranberry, mint, and bee farming.

More than 400 veterans are on the waiting list to get the farm training.

Turn those no-longer-used articles into cash now! Herald and News Want Ads are inexpensive and bring quick results.

Year Of Work Climaxed By 4-H Fair Held Here Last Week-End

By JOY BIGGS

An enormous amount of work went into making the Klamath county 4-H spring fair which concluded Saturday.

Work by club members, their leaders, Club Agent Francis Skinner and Assistant Agent Joan Howell, progressed throughout the year toward this event and culminated in exhibits, demonstrations and contests well worth the attendance of every visitor.

Racks of clothes made by members were exhibited with pictures of the girls in their dresses and a

Spud Seed Rot May Be Cut

Potato seed-piece rot in cut seed can be decreased by providing proper conditions for formation of a cork layer on cut surfaces. Suberization or transformation of cell walls below the cut surface into suberin or cork takes place best at temperatures around 60 to 65 degrees and high humidity.

Cut seed stored for 24 to 48 hours under moist conditions and at temperatures around 60 degrees corks over well.

Hot, dry conditions dry cut surfaces but produce little cork. Cold temperatures result in little cork. Dried surfaces crack on handling and permit entry of rot organisms when seed is planted.

Freshly cut seed is often planted successfully. Soil conditions, however, must be favorable to cork formation. Cold, wet or hot, dry soils planted with freshly cut or poorly suberized seed frequently show a heavy percentage of seed piece rot.

Wherever Newcastle disease is suspected in poultry flocks, Dr. Dickinson urges that county agents be contacted immediately. Then three or four birds with typical symptoms can be brought to the college veterinary laboratory for examination.

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