

Willamette Vetch Acreage Skids Down

Oregon's certified Willamette vetch acreage is on the skids according to late figures compiled by J. W. Ross, Oregon State college extension specialist.

As recently as 1946, about 57,000 acres were certified. Vetch field inspections this year are now complete and they cover only 269 acres. A year ago, 390 acres passed field inspection.

Prior to 1951, inspected acreage had been averaging close to 3,000 acres annually.

Why has the acreage dropped? Lack of a sufficient premium for certified Willamette vetch due to the removal of the production and marketing administration payment is the cause, Ross believes. Crop losses from winter injury and disease and insect damage also have caused some decline in grower interest.

The Willamette variety is a common vetch selection which at the time of its release was characterized by winter hardiness and disease resistance. In cases of continuous vetch cropping, however, diseases have become so destructive that it is now difficult to grow with much success.

Yet of all common vetches tested at the OSC experiment station near Corvallis, Willamette still rates superior. This is also true in the south where much seed has been sold in past years.

Ross believes the solution to vetch grower problems is a field rotation system where vetch is grown only once in three or four years on the same field. During off years, volunteer plants must be eliminated. Following a system of this type, he adds would put common vetch seed production on a more sound basis.

Despite the set-back, the certification specialist hopes growers will continue to certify a limited acreage of the improved common vetch in order that a high quality seed stock will be assured.

Flies Drink Atomic Brew

ISLINGTON, England (AP)—Some radioactive flies are buzzing around here. They got that way because they were given a drink of brew distilled at the Harwell Atomic Research Laboratories.

Scientists at the pest infestation laboratory at Slough are responsible for the condition of the flies, and the idea is to determine how far a fly flies.

The insects are released here after the atomic brew snifter.

Then flies are captured at varying distances, and a Geiger counter spots those with the tell-tale atomic aroma on their breaths.

Greatest distance covered so far is three miles. But scientists are still hoping for a real cross-country champion.

Farmers Get More Money

WASHINGTON (AP)—Prices received by farmers between June 15 and July 15 rose one per cent, mainly because of increases they got for hogs, milk, eggs and commercial crops.

The Agriculture Department, announcing this Tuesday said during the same period prices dropped for beef cattle, potatoes, wheat, cotton, calves and several other products.

The department's price index went up three points to 283, well below the record 313 of February 1951. The index of prices paid by farmers remained at 286.

OSC Grad Heads X-Ray Concern

BALTIMORE, Md. (AP)—H. D. Moreland, Oregon State College graduate, was named manager of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation's X-ray division, Wednesday.

Sales, engineering, manufacture and other functions will be under his direction. F. W. Godsey, manager of the firm's Baltimore divisions, said.

Moreland, born at Philomath, Ore., received his engineering degree from OSC in 1930 and his science master in 1932. The following year he joined the Westinghouse staff at Portland and has been with the firm since.

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Thai School Gets OSC Aid

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—The scope of Oregon State college's influence in shaping agricultural, forestry and technical programs in foreign nations may be extended through a cooperative arrangement with Kaesetsart university in Bangkok, Thailand, President A. L. Strand has announced.

More than two dozen OSC staff members are now or have been assisting with technical programs in various countries on every continent of the globe.

President Strand said E. L. Potter, professor emeritus of agricultural economics, will lead a group of OSC staff members to Bangkok about the middle of July to spend a month exploring the possibilities of Oregon State college entering into a cooperative relationship with the south Asia university. The program, including all preliminary phases, is sponsored and financed by the Mutual Security Agency.

Potter will prepare a report covering the present situation at Kaesetsart, make preliminary recommendations on current needs, assist to formulate a program that will enable the university to serve more adequately the people of Thailand, and suggest how OSC may cooperate.

If his recommendations are favorable and are approved by OSC and the Mutual Security Agency, the college would enter into a 30-month contract with the MSA to give technical assistance to Kaesetsart's rehabilitation and expansion, including advice and general assistance in teaching, research and other general functions.

Oregon State college would be expected, under the agreement, to furnish through the MSA a chief adviser and a number of specialists who may or may not be present members of the staff.

Kaesetsart university is interested in most of the same fields as OSC. President Strand pointed out, with major schools in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and cooperative sciences, and supporting work in engineering and home economics.

Thailand, a country nearly as large as Texas with three times the Lone Star state's population, is about 90 percent dependent on agriculture.

Prof. Potter, a member of the college staff since 1908, retired in 1950 after being head of agricultural economics since 1932. He previously had been head of the animal husbandry department since 1927.

Paint Blast Injures Man

GRANTS Pass (AP)—An explosion in a paint shop here Tuesday critically injured Carl Penry, 66, a janitor.

His clothing was set ablaze by the blast which blew out most of the building's windows and set fire to the roof.

He was scraping paint from the floor of the shop when the mishap occurred.

SCENES LIKE THIS aren't even common to the Klamath County after harvest begins. This is an outfit working out of Malin and Tulelake. Machines are McCormicks.

Experiment Station Field Days Set

Klamath's On Aug. 4

A tour of the Klamath Experimental Station's test areas is slated for the annual field day set Aug. 4 by Supt. Gene Gross, with three top agriculturalists due here from Corvallis to participate.

Dean F. E. Price of the OSC's School of Agriculture, is to be here along with Dr. D. D. Hill, Farm Crops Dept., and H. H. Rampton, USDA Man in charge of forage experiments, Corvallis.

The tour, Gross has announced, is to be entirely informal, starting from the Experimental area west of the Klamath Falls airport at 1 p.m. Monday.

The tour is to cover forage plot experiments including the use of lotus (Lotus corniculatus), a forage very similar to alfalfa and apparently a good forage in this country. Strains of it have been under test for some time at the "X" station here.

Fertilizer treatment on barley and Oveland Oats—and other varieties—have been conducted by Dr. Al Halvorsen on muck trials near Worden. The tour will cover that portion of the experimental area also.

The Field Day, held almost annually since 1940, is open not only to farmers, but also to interested suburban residents and others. A drainage project on the station may prove of interest to suburban dwellers.

Lodging experiments showing which varieties of cereals can withstand wind and other lodging factors are to be exposed by Gross, who has noted resistance to lodging in certain cross-varieties of oats.

Experiments on some 30 varieties of barley and 28 varieties of oats are being conducted at the Klamath station, which gathers up all varieties offered and available and tests them for use in the Klamath country. Plots of experiments are scattered throughout the Klamath Basin, but this year's tour is to be held to the experimental areas at the airport and Worden.

RAIN KILLS 10

TOKYO (AP)—One person is dead and 10 are missing as a result of heavy rains Tuesday night on Southern Honshu, largest of the Japanese Islands.

Kyodo News Agency said about 3,000 homes and 1,087 acres of farmland were flooded.

Herald and News

FARM NEWS

MALCOLM EPLEY, Jr.
Farm Editor

Guernseys Make Records

PETERBOROUGH, N.H.—L. L. Lombard, Retedale Guernseys, Klamath Falls, Oregon, is the owner of three registered Guernseys that have recently compiled Herd Improvement Registry production records according to a report from The American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Having been milked for 311 days, Kingmere Marjan, a junior 3 year-old, produced 9,831 pounds of milk and 845 pounds of butterfat.

Land-O-Dreams Melba, a junior 4-year-old, produced 10,221 pounds of milk and 510 pounds of butterfat, having been milked for 305 days.

Having been milked for 277 days, Skyloft Victory Belle, a 5 year-old, produced 9,755 pounds of milk and 487 pounds of butterfat.

"Marian" was sired by Cloverhill Katy's Master, that has 2 daughters in the Performance Register, while "Melba" was sired by McDonald Farms May King, that has 37 sons and daughters in the Performance Register. "Victory Belle" was sired by Western Gown Governor, that has 19 sons and daughters in the Performance Register of The American Guernsey Cattle Club.

These records were supervised by the Oregon State College.

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Farm Reports On Disease, Pests Needed

Because the nation's welfare depends upon farm produce, farmers must be constantly alert to signs of plant and animal disease and insect damage, warns J. R. Beck, assistant director of extension at Oregon State college.

This is an important part of the agricultural mobilization program directed by Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan, he points out. "If you spot disease or insect damage among your crops, report it immediately to your county agent," urges Beck. "Give him a sample of the insect or diseased or injured plant as soon as possible. Do not send these samples to anyone other than the agent. Carrying or shipping them around the country may spread the trouble."

"Report suspicious symptoms of any livestock or poultry disease immediately to the nearest veterinarian. Samples of material from diseased animals should not be removed. Bring the vet to the animal rather than take the animal to the vet to lessen danger of spreading the disease."

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Tulelake's This Friday

The Tulelake Farm Advisor's field tour will be held Friday, August 1, at 9 a.m., according to Ken Bagbott, Tulelake Farm Advisor. Interested farmers should meet at the Farm Advisor's office at 9 a.m. where they will visit various experimental plots throughout the Tulelake basin.

Farmers will have the opportunity to see soil sterilization plots where various chemicals have been applied to ditchbanks for weed control; barley fertilization, comparing NH3 gas and ammonia sulfate; the use of sulfuric acid to reclaim alkali soil; various cultivation practices of barley fields. If time allows, an alfalfa seed production plot will be observed; barley fertilization trials on alkali soil will be observed—comparing various kinds and rates of fertilizer.

MARGARET IN GENEVA
GENEVA, Switzerland (AP)—Margaret Truman arrived in Geneva from Paris Tuesday for a three-day visit to Switzerland and tiny, neighboring Lichtenstein.

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I-H Workers Back On Job

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Eighty employees of the International Harvester Co. Paris depot were back on the job Tuesday, ending a 47-day strike for higher wages.

The company signed a three-year contract with the CIO Automobile Workers Union providing for an immediate 4-cent hourly pay boost, annual wage increases of 4 cents an hour, a cost of living wage adjustment clause and merit pay boosts.

DIVIDEND

PORTLAND (AP)—Iron Fireman Manufacturing Company directors Monday voted a quarterly dividend of 15 cents a share.

The dividend, payable Sept. 2, is for stockholders of record Aug. 11.

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