

Herald and News

FARM NEWS

MALCOLM EPLEY, Jr. Farm Editor



The County Agent Reports ON Klamath Agriculture

By C. A. HENDERSON Klamath County Agent

POTATOES A total of 10 cars of Klamath potatoes were shipped, Monday, September 22. This is the largest day's shipment so far this season to that time and total shipments to date on that day were 51 cars. This considerably behind normal due to greenness of potatoes. Killing frosts have not yet been recorded as of Tuesday, Sept. 30. The shipments to date from Idaho have been rather heavy, passing the 6000 car mark. The first of the week daily Idaho shipments are averaging around 200 cars. Average potato production in the U.S. during years 1941-1950 inclusive was 414,325,000 bushels. This year's crop is now estimated at 377,685,000 or only slightly more than the short crop of 1951 of 325,685,000. In general potato yields in the Klamath Basin are somewhat under expectations because of the long frost free fall, heavier than average yields were expected. It now looks as though the yield will be about average and general digging will be later than usual.

SWINE There will be no swine show at the Pacific International this year. This action was taken in charge of the livestock department due to presence of vesicular exanthema in various areas of the United States resulting in numerous quarantine areas. Pacific International is located in a quarantine area.

TURKEYS The size of turkeys is getting smaller. Last year about 20 per cent of all the turkeys produced in this country were Bellsville Small Whites. Many of these small turkeys are now marketed as fryer-weights at 14 to 18 weeks old and the demand for them has been unprecedented between February and August. The production of these out-of-season turkeys so far has not been too economical and Bellville experts are trying to overcome this and are carrying on various research projects.

SAWDUST MULCH Specialists of the Oregon Forest Production Laboratory at Oregon State College have established the value of sawdust as a mulch. They emphasize, however, that it is not a fertilizer. As a mulch, sawdust helps hold soil moisture, keeps down weeds, and retards erosion. Upon complete decomposition, mulches add to the humus supply. Dr. W.B. Bolten, Soil Bacteriologist, suggests that the rate of decomposition of a mulch depends upon the nitrogen supply in the material itself and in the soil on which it is placed. Nitrogen should be added to get rapid decomposition. Between five and 10 pounds of ammonium sulfate or a similar nitrogen containing fertilizer should be applied to the soil for each ton of saw dust at the time of mulching. At the start of the second year following

application about 1/2 of this amount of nitrogen should be added.

CORN COBS This year more than 600,000 tons of corn cobs will be used in the Corn Belt. A lot of new uses for corn cobs have been developed. Corn cob flour is used in making insecticides and replacing corn meal as a mild abrasive in hand soap. Corn cobs combine with black strap molasses as an economical feed for beef cattle and is expanding very fast. Corn cobs make a fine garden mulch. More than 100,000 tons are being used each year as livestock bedding and poultry litter. A most important use is in the manufacture of furfural. Two thirds of all cobs this year will go for this purpose and will be used in defense and other industries for the refining of vegetable and petroleum oils and in making synthetic rubber, nylon, synthetic resins, and medicinal. Corn cobs are going to town in a big way.

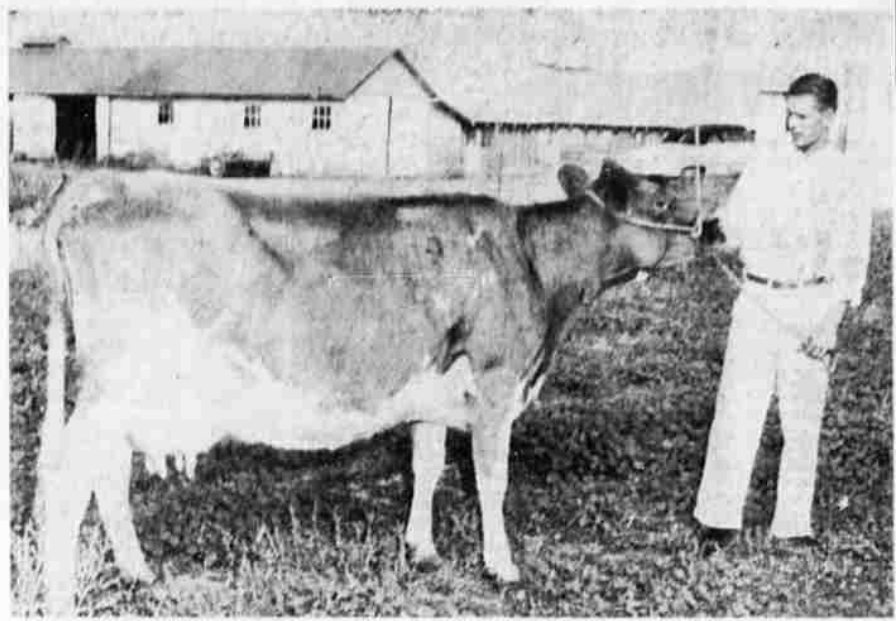
WEED KILLER AIDS TOMATOES Some of our scientists are now combining 2,4-D chemical with certain amino acids and using this product to set the fruit on tomatoes without pollination. Tomatoes developed are bigger and better. These tests are now being carried out under field conditions and they may mean a lot to commercial tomato growers.

CRESTED WHEAT BROMEGRASS The USDA reports a very small crop of Brome Grass seed this year. The brome grass crop is the smallest in four years and the crested wheat the smallest in the last 11 years. Droughts and need for hay and pasture were largely responsible for the small acreage cut for seed.

ALSIKE CLOVER With 40 per cent of the nation's alsike clover crop in the Klamath Basin growers are losing no time in taking advantage of the fine harvest weather of the past 10 days. However, notwithstanding the favorable harvest weather, it is generally estimated that 80 per cent of the crop is still unharvested as of Sept. 23.

GRASS Where irrigation water is available grass pastures continue to turn out a fine lot of late pasture. This will help matters in bridging the gap caused by the only moderate sized hay crop, with a greater number of livestock to be fed.

POTATOES Despite the use of rotobators, defoliant, and early withdrawal of water, the Klamath potato crop is reluctant to mature. Vines continue green but the last week have showed some evidence of late season maturity without a frost. Digging is generally restricted and it is doubtful if heavy shipments will be under way for another week.



CLOVERLAWN NARCISSUS, Bob Howard's top producing Guernsey, is a record breaker for his herd in the Tulelake area. Young Howard has a large Guernsey herd on the old Turnbaugh place.

Tule Guernsey Herd Tries For Milk Marketing Quota

By K. G. BAGHOTT Tulelake Farm Advisor

Tulelake formerly was an area where many dairies could be seen, but during the past several years all of the dairy herds have disappeared. Farmers now are raising barley, potatoes, onions, clover and alfalfa. Still some raise beef cattle but even the beef cattle numbers are relatively small.

Recently Robert M. Howard, the son of 47 Homestead Frank Howard, moved his herd of Registered Guernsey's on the Turnbaugh place which was purchased by his father. The herd consists of 22 cows, seven yearlings, several calves and a herd bull. The bull, Wandermere Frenchman, is a three-year-old that was junior champion in his class at the Oregon State Fair two years ago. His dam is classified V. G. (very good) and was the highest test daughter of her sire with 17,325 pounds of milk and 853 pounds of butterfat as a 9 year old cow. Her record was a state record when made. The bull's full sister sold for \$2,000, and one of his sisters was purchased by Wandermere Farms, Ohio for \$8,000.

Two cows of the herd made headlines of the Guernsey world last year, another is the daughter of a cow that holds the present world record for Guernsey cattle. Her record was 924 pounds of butterfat as a junior two-year-old.

The herd is young as a whole but one cow that died last winter was 18 years old; figuring her age in human years she would have been 115 years old.

Howard welcomes visitors and is happy to show the cattle to 4-H club members and Future Farm-

LEAVES 322 DESCENDANTS STUART, Fla. (AP)—If Noel R. Raulerson, who died recently at 103, didn't have a record number of descendants, he must have been close to the mark. Thirteen of his 17 children survived him. In addition there were 110 grandchildren, 165 great-grandchildren and 34 great-great-grandchildren.

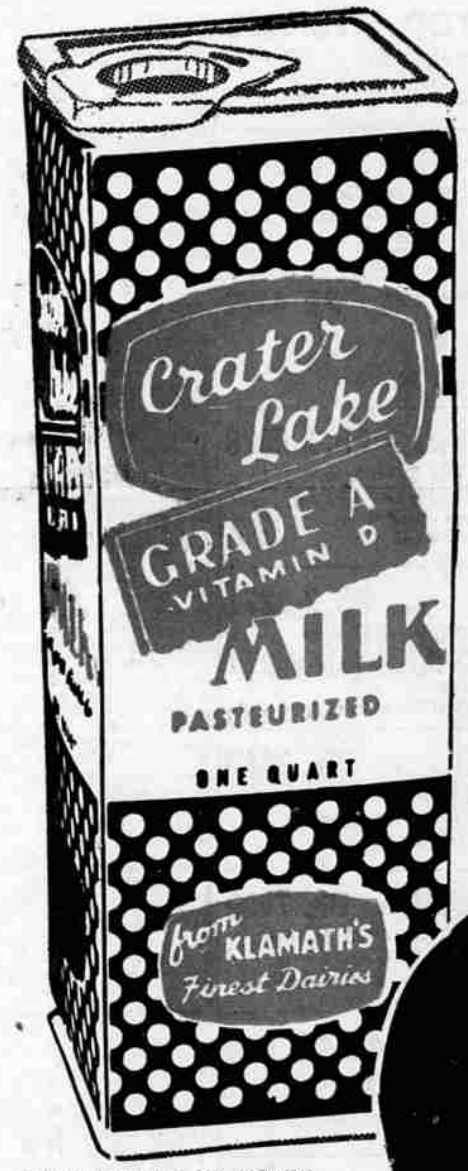
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Farm Buying Power Down The purchasing power of farm products has lost a little ground during the past year, Oregon State college extension economist report in the latest issue of "Oregon Agricultural Situation and Outlook." Prices received by U.S. farmers show a net increase of about 1 per cent from August 1951 to August 1952 but costs have come up about two per cent. Main boost in costs seem to come from higher interest rates, taxes, and increased wages paid hired workers. Oregon farm commodity prices followed the national pattern. Crop prices were mostly higher than 1951 and livestock items mostly lower. Fertilizers Available At Simplot Soilbuilders NOW SULPHATE OF AMMONIA --- SUPERPHOSPHATE SOIL SULPHUR GYPSUM Also... Others Phone 2-1438 2052 Washburn Way

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