

Soil Conservation Groups To Receive More Assistance

Oregon farmers can expect increased attention during the next two years to local problems on how soil conservation districts can best serve them, according to the Oregon state soil conservation committee.

The 1955 to 1957 biennium program issued recently from committee headquarters at Oregon State College proposes more advisory assistance in developing district programs. Increased farmer representation on the state committee is expected to further strengthen the program.

Randall Grimes, Harrisburg farmer and committee chairman,

says addition of two farmers to the committee—bringing the total to five—plus plans to hold more committee meetings "out in the state" will make it possible to work closely with conservation district supervisors. Most meetings in the past were held at OSC.

New farmer representatives are Jack Sather, Clatskanie, and William Cooper, Union. Lloyd Giff, Bonanza, vice chairman; Roy Forman, Antelope; and Grimes are other farmer members. Robert Baum, officed at OSC is executive-secretary of the committee that includes two public members, F. E. Price, dean and director of agriculture at OSC, and J. R. Beck, assistant director, OSC extension service.

Oregon now has 50 soil conservation districts created under state law through petitions and referendum of landowners. The districts embrace 33,530,000 acres of land in 29 counties and contain 40,911 farms and ranches. Fourteen counties are completely covered by districts.

During the last biennium seven new districts and seven additions to existing districts were created. New districts were in Malheur, Lane, Hood River, Linn, Douglas and Washington counties. Fourteen counties are completely covered by districts.

Boys and girls interested in starting and conducting a 4-H Club sheep project can get details and tips on sheep husbandry from a new bulletin released by the Oregon State College agricultural extension service.

The publication, "Your 4-H Club Sheep Project," was prepared by Kenneth C. Minnick, Benton County 4-H agent.

A 4-H sheep project, Minnick says, provides boys and girls an opportunity to learn how to select and raise good sheep, to accept responsibility by having a live animal to care for regularly, to develop business ability by having a business of their own, to learn how to keep and use records, and to learn how animals live and produce their young.

There is no best breed of sheep for a project, according to the author. Among things to consider when selecting the breed are personal preference, how the breed fits the community and facilities available. A section of the publication explains breed characteristics of Hampshires, Suffolks, Shropshires, Southdowns, Dorsets, Columbias, Romney and cross-breeds.

The publication also explains such individual characteristics of sheep as size, fleece, breed and body conformation and thriftiness. Tips on increasing the flock and culling are given in the same section.

Good forage is the key to a successful sheep project, Minnick says. "Bum ewes and rams must be gaining weight at breeding time. This means they should be on very good pasture. While ewes are carrying the lambs they must have plenty of feed — providing supplemental body minerals during that period is important."

The bulletin gives information on care of the ewe prior to and at breeding time and care of the lamb, including disease and insect control.

Shearing, fattening lambs, raising "bum" ewes and rams and showing are other sections of the publications.

New Farrow Stall Built

Sow-crushing of baby pigs is nearly impossible with a portable farrowing stall developed by Tom Johnson, Oregon State College animal husbandman.

Testing of the simple device showed no baby pig loss up to three weeks after farrowing. Detailed plans and building instructions will be available soon from county extension agents or the OSC bulletin "Pigs."

The stall is made from two partitions wide enough to confine the sow comfortably yet narrow enough to keep her on her underside before she rolls into nursing position. Space between the bottom of the partitions and the ground permits baby pigs to move about freely. Stalls are easily adjustable to handle different size sows.

Heat lamps suspended over the area outside the "sow" portion of the stall warm and attract baby pigs while they are not nursing. Tests indicate sows should be placed in the stall a day or two before farrowing. Stalls are roomy enough for daily feeding and watering, but Johnson suggests 15-minute exercising twice daily.

The first two days after birth is the critical period for death from crushing. After that, the sow and litter can usually be removed to a regular farrowing pen.

Besides stopping deaths from crushing, Johnson cites other advantages of the stall:

1. Less chilling. Compact design reduces drafts between pigs and heat lamps.
2. More handling ease. Cantankerous sows usually settle down quickly and quietly.

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Aged Brothers Meet After Long Absence

LOUISIA, Ky. (AP)—Two brothers in their 90's have a lot of talking to do the next few days.

They were reunited Friday for the first time in 75 years.

It was a time for tears when Paris Blankenship, 90, walked up to the home of his brother, Dan, 85, and introduced himself.

He was returning from a junket in the West that started when he was 15. A job in Minnesota first delayed his return. Travel and other jobs in other states kept him far from home.

The last correspondence the brothers had was 40 years ago when Paris wrote Dan for money. Dan sent \$30.

Merrill Mariners Hold Meeting

MERRILL — Merrill Mariners met in the Presbyterian Church the evening of September 12 with Skipper Don Crawford in charge. Long Keeper Lee Haskins introduced Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Haskins, visitors.

Devotions were led by Rev. George Milne, pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

4-H NEWS

POE VALLEY GREEN THUMBS
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4-H Club Member Reports On Trip

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Jimmy Lemos presided at the meeting and directed discussion of the recent Siskiyou County Fair in Yreka. Each of the 15 members present turned in his project book.

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KLAMATH POTATO GROWERS MEET — Shown at a recent joint meeting of the Klamath Potato Growers Association and the Tulelake Potato Growers Association are the past presidents of the Klamath group. Seated (from left) are Bryant Williams, who was president in 1950; Henry Semon, first president of the group who held office from 1923 to 1945 except for two years when the late Clyde Griffiths held office, and E. C. Lemler, president in 1949. In the back row are Louie Lyon, 1948; Art Wilson, 1947; Leland Cheyne, 1953; Troy Qualls, 1955; and Carl Dehlinger, 1946. Not pictured are Randall Pope, 1951; Scott Warren, 1947; C. A. Henderson, secretary from 1923 to 1945, and Walt Jendrzejewski, present secretary.

Farmers Back Red Hat Day

Klamath County farmers are hoping that some good will come from Red Hat Day proclaimed by Governor Patterson for September 23, Walt Jendrzejewski, county extension agent, said today. He also stated:

"Thoughtless and malicious destruction of crops, fences and livestock by some hunters and fishermen has left a very bad impression among stockmen and farmers. Some wonder what the city dwellers' reaction would be to farm trucks or pickups parked without permission in the middle of trampled yards, with camp garbage dumped among the petunias, and someone shooting the canary."

"Open gates, knocked down fences and no regard for unharvested crops are the chief complaints from land owners. Most landowners feel that hunters and fishermen might at least ask permission before entering private property."

"Oregon's Red Hat Day effort, the first of its kind in the nation, is designed to bring to the sportsman's attention his responsibilities in using private, state and federal lands by making out of the sportsman's traditional red hat a symbol of vandalism and thoughtlessness, as it has so often been in the past."

"This will not automatically guarantee that everyone who wears a red hat into the woods is a good sportsman. If those who do, however, will support Governor Patterson's Red Hat Day Committee, take the Red Hat Pledge and follow it on their trips afield, the opportunities and privileges to hunt and fish over most of the lands and waters in our state will continue to be available."

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Home Extension

KENO — The Keno Home Extension Unit held its first fall meeting, Wednesday, September 13, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Marion Padgett.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mrs. Marion Padgett, the secretary, Mrs. Charles Sandusky read the minutes of the last meeting, and the treasurer's report was read by Mrs. Richard Johnson. Guests were introduced. Mrs. Veryl Young and Mrs. D. F. Shirk volunteered to take the candlemaking project on Tuesday. Gifts made from cloth was drawn as the project to be displayed at the May festival.

A letter was read from the Community Lounge in Klamath Falls inviting a representative from the unit to attend the annual meeting of the Klamath Basin Civic Service League, Inc., September 30.

Mary McConnell, 4-H leader for the basin discussed a 4-H cooking and sewing club in Keno. Mrs. Marion Padgett, Mrs. Larry Owen, and Mrs. Merle Anderson were the leaders of these groups. Project leaders for the year were chosen, and other business matters discussed.

Cake and coffee were served by the hostess.

Guests for the day were Mrs. Rudy Harbison, Mrs. Harold Collier, Mrs. R. E. Stevens, Audrey Nunn, Mrs. Larry Owen, Mrs. Vester Wilburn, Miss Mary McConnell, Mrs. T. E. Nauta, Mrs. Richard Jameson. Members present were Mrs. Mike Sohrakoff, Mrs. Marion Padgett, Mrs. Leonard Ramsey, Mrs. D. F. Shirk, Mrs. K. E. Smith, Mrs. Harold Simmers, Mrs. Doug Puckett, Mrs. Henry Buckingham, Mrs. Elmer Erel, Henrietta Hinshaw, Mrs. Veryl Young, Mrs. John Olthoff, Mrs. Robert Rowton, Mrs. Charles Sandusky, Mrs. Lane Smith.

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Swine Disease Advice Given

A combination isolation and vaccination program offers the best control for swine erysipelas, one of the most serious diseases in the United States, according to a suggestion for farmers issued today by the American Foundation for Animal Health.

The foundation recommends isolation of all newly purchased swine for a period of three weeks, during which time they should be observed closely for signs of the disease.

Erysipelas is similar to many other diseases in that it is spread by carriers, that is, animals that appear to be healthy but actually are infected. Farmers who do not raise their own pigs should buy feeder animals and breeding stock only from herds which are known to be disease free, the foundation says.

Gilt and sows should be properly vaccinated before breeding time in areas where erysipelas has occurred earlier. Little pigs should be vaccinated at six to eight weeks of age.

Antiserum injections and selective antibiotics offer some help in swine infected with erysipelas, providing such treatment is done early in the course of the disease.

Symptoms of the acute form of erysipelas are similar to hog cholera. Animals go off feed, run high fevers and often die within a few hours.

The foundation points out that the disease organisms that cause erysipelas can live in the ground for years. Infected lots should be worked often so the sun and air can help get rid of the germs. Herds should be moved to clean ground and pasture after an infection.

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Grassland Preparation Said Key To Success On Ranges

FORT ROCK — Land preparation is the difference between success and failure on eroded wheatgrass seedings in the Fort Rock area according to E. R. Jackman, Oregon State College Range Specialist, here on a reseeding inspection trip.

"The reason for this kind of work," Jackman stated, "is that sometime in the near future when our population catches up more with our land it will be necessary for these desert ranges to produce as much as possible. Much of what the range now produces cannot be eaten by livestock. We will need production from this kind of land, therefore, we are getting all the information we can about how to make it produce."

Twenty-three separate reseeding areas examined by Jackman and Charles Poulton, also of OSC, in July, 1949, were revisited last week and brush encroachment and vigor of stands noted. Elna Cornett, Lake County agricultural extension agent and several interested local ranchers accompanied Jackman on the tour.

Most of the plantings had been made in the period from 1937 to 1943 and the fields that are still producing well today are those which were seeded in rye stubble while areas cleared of brush and immediately planted to grass are new loss to rabbit brush, the specialist said.

History and details of planting each plot were recorded from information supplied by local ranchers at the time the examination program was first begun.

About 3,000 acres were planted by ranchers in cooperation with the AAA program just prior to the sale of lands to the federal government's old Resettlement Administration.

Later the Soil Conservation Service, which had been given the management of the purchased lands, seeded about 2,000 acres. The acreage seeded by the ranch-

ers was superior to that of the SCS due to planting in old grain fields whereas the SCS planted areas already partially infested with small brush.

Within the past five years considerable acreage has been seeded by the Bureau of Land Management, most recent managing agency of the federal purchase areas.

As an outgrowth of the 1949 study the ASC payment program is now modified to allow for raising rye for hay or grain on land cleared from sagebrush with grass to be planted in the stubble in later years. Jackman looks forward to the day when seedings on BLM administered land can also be sown in rye stubble. Present laws prohibit any cropping of federal range land.

In spite of the low production of this drought year, Jackman feels that reseeding has a prominent place in the future of the Fort Rock area. "As soon as conditions justify," Jackman added, "wherever there is a suitable field in private ownership a man can get cheaper feed by developing what he has than by going out and buying more land. Eventually I think the way to graze this land is to try to get a legume in it so that when you get a good year there will be some nitrogen to store in growth for poorer years, with some value in carryover."

With one or two grain crops to offset the cost of brush removal and the stubble to shelter the young grass plants and insure their starting well ahead of sagebrush it is a practice that will pay its way he believes.

Navy Supply Ships Make Arctic Return

SEATTLE (AP) — District Navy headquarters reported Saturday that the first of the ships to return from a supply mission to the Arctic will arrive here early Monday.

The vessel is the U.S.S. Requisite, a survey ship. It is commanded by Lt. Cmdr. R. S. W. Hopkins.

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Pest Reporter
MRS. FARMER - Nona takes over
Since the Farmers are all harvesting, and too busy to read the PEST REPORTER anyway, I think the LADIES should take over...
News from the Gift Corner
All types of new potted plants - philodendron, Prayer-Plants, Ficus, Ivy, dozens of varieties - from 49c to \$5.00 for the Big Ones.
AND to go with them, choice Planters - of Brass, Ceramic, Dutch & Italian Pottery.
FOR GIFTS - Hand Crafted Dutch Brass, India Brass, carved and engraved - Modern California Ceramic - SPECIALTIES, all of them.
FOR THAT "SUPER" BARBECUE... Charcoal - Tongs, Lighters - Dinner Gongs - All types of Accessories as well as the necessities.
Thought for the week -
Some folks think they are hearing their cross when actually they are only putting up with themselves.
Nursery Stock News
The DAFFODILS and TULIPS are in NOW. Lilies and other BULBS will be in soon.
We really have some nice stock this fall. All shrubs and trees made a good growth this summer.
Come in and talk over your PLANTING PROBLEMS. I love to talk, and will get Ed to help you on your plan.
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