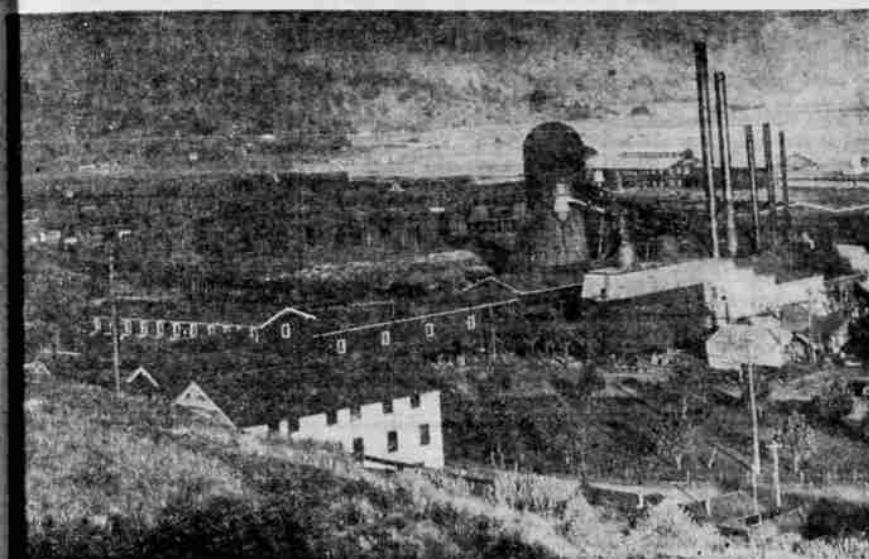




THE ALGOMA LUMBER COMPANY operated this mill near Algoma for many years. This view, taken sometime in the 1920's, shows part of the main mill and the dry yard in the background. To the right of the picture were the offices at the mill. The mill was closed down in 1943 after having operated for 30 years.

—Photo from Mary King collection, courtesy A. D. Collier

USDA Changes Wool Plan For Incentive Payments

Mary's little lamb would have to go to school for more than one day to unravel this yarn. It's about bonus payments for wool under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1956 wool incentive program.

The USDA has announced that payments under the wool program beginning April 1 will be changed so that each producer who sells unshorn lambs will be eligible for payment on the weight increase while he owned the lambs, provided he owned the lambs 30 days or more. The current program made payments only on animals marketed for slaughter.

M. D. Thomas, Oregon State College agricultural economist, says the new provision boils down to this: growers of feeder lambs will now share directly in wool incentive payments. Under the old program, only the seller of fat lambs got the bonus.

Now the original grower will be eligible for a payment based on the full liveweight of the lamb at the time he sells it. Each subsequent owner will be eligible for a payment only on that part of the weight produced during his ownership of at least 30 days. An additional requirement for the coming marketing year provides that

payments will be made only on unshorn lambs.

Thomas explains that lambs bought before April 1 and marketed later will be paid for on the old basis of full liveweight at time of final sale. This is to protect feeders and others who buy the animals before April 1 on the basis of the 1955 program.

Payments on 1955 lambs and wool will be made sometime this summer, the economist says. Claims should be filed soon with county agricultural stabilization and conservation offices.

Incentive payments for lamb wool will be based on the national average weight of wool — five pounds — per hundred pounds of animal. Further details of the wool act incentive program are available from local ASC offices.

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