



EXAMINING THE DIFFERENCE between the yield produced by three hills of Netted Gem potatoes from a plot of ground infected by early maturing disease which was treated with Vapam and three other hills which had not been treated is Clarence Hill of Henley. The tests were run for two years and the results indicate a much higher yield from treated land even under the most severe infestations.

Results Announced On Disease Tests

Dr. Roy A. Young, plant pathologist at Oregon State College, reported today on the results of tests which his department has been conducting in this area in regard to the control of a disease of potatoes called the "early dying" or "early maturity" disease which is caused by Verticillium.

The fungus which causes the disease invades the roots and moves up into the stems, resulting in progressive yellowing, wilting and dying of the plants. Dr. Young estimated that several thousand acres of land are affected by this fungus in the Klamath Basin area greatly reducing the annual yield. Loss in yield, he said, depends upon how early the disease becomes severe. Symptoms usually become apparent first around the middle of August, and in severe cases may result in the total loss of the crop because the tubers will be too small to market.

In defining the tests Dr. Young stated that the Netted Gem potato is especially susceptible to the disease and at present no satisfactory resistant netted potato of good baking quality is available as a substitute. Crop rotations with cereals or grasses help to reduce the severity of the wilt but have not been sufficient to offset the great losses from the disease, the report stated.

A new experimental soil fungicide, manufactured by the Stauffer Chemical Company, called Vapam was tested in 1955 for its effectiveness against the early maturity disease by Oregon State College on the Henley ranch of Clarence Hill where the disease has been established for nearly 27 years and has been becoming an increasingly bad problem.

The material was bladed into the soil at a depth of six inches with a blade injector developed by H. J. Jensen and G. E. Page of OSC. The soil was then packed with a cultipacker and ten days later potatoes were planted. A very striking reduction in the severity of the disease was noted, Dr. Young stated.

The same area was again planted to potatoes this year to determine whether or not there would be any residual effects from the 1955 treatments. Again, the report indicates, there was a marked increase in yield. The treated areas produced approximately 50 sacks per acre more than

the untreated sections. This indicates that the good effects in control of the disease may be carried over from one year to another, Young believes.

In the 1956 experiments Vapam was applied at rates of 40 and 165 pounds per acre. The 40 pound treatment resulted in yield increases of approximately 40 sacks per acre while the 165 pound per acre application resulted in an increase of over 100 sacks per acre. The yield from untreated plots was 245 sacks per acre while plots given 40 pounds per acre yielded about 286 sacks per acre and areas where Vapam was applied at the rate of 165 pounds per acre produced 346 sacks per acre, the report announced.

Hill reports that in addition to increasing his yield the chemical has also greatly reduced the incidence of weeds in his fields.

The new chemical may be applied either by subsoil injection or by solution in irrigation water, the manufacturers' state. It is sealed into the ground by surface application of water and as the soil dries the chemical converts into a gas and escapes making it safe to plant the seed. For further reports on the Hill tests watch the Rancher's Report column in this section of the Herald and News.

State Publishes Descriptive Book

The new "Agriculture in Oregon" booklet is available for distribution to all interested persons, announces J. F. Short, director of the state department of agriculture. The department recently published this booklet to answer questions about farming in Oregon.

In addition to details of Oregon's farm production, "Agriculture in Oregon" also explains such things as climate, soils, marketing, school organizations and federal and state agencies which serve farming in this state.

Almost six months work went into the preparation and printing of the booklet, now in its fourth edition. New features included in its 48 pages are: harvest dates, vacationing and recreation areas, specialty crops and tips for farmers with small acreage.



STIRRING UP QUITE A CLOUD OF DUST out on the Bill Williams ranch in the Mount Laki area this tractor is pulling a machine which beats up the potato vines killing them and making it possible to harvest the crop. Ivan Trapp is farming this section of the ranch and in spite of some early frosts he expects a good yield. Once worries about the weather are past all the farmer can do is handle his crop as carefully as possible and hope for a good market price.

Potato Chip Industry Grows In Pacific Northwest Area

Oregonians are making potato chips one of the state's largest industries.

Henry Willis of Tacoma, chairman of the Northwest Potato Chip Industry said in Portland yesterday that Oregonians consumed 3,500,000 pounds of potato chips in 1955, an eating capacity which has proved a boon to Northwest farmers as well as to the potato chip industry.

Announcing the month of October, 1956 as Potato Chip Month in Oregon, Willis said that farmers sold 43,200,000 pounds of potatoes for processing into potato chips last year.

Willis predicts the market for potato chips will double by 1957. The larger market will be due to a concentrated advertising campaign now being planned by the Northwest Potato Chip Industry to increase the sale of chips. The Northwest consumption of chips is about half of the national average.

Some 1500 carloads — weighing 36,000 pounds each — of potatoes from Washington's annual crop and 1200 carloads from Oregon's annual potato crop go directly for local production of potato chips. The industry-sponsored campaign would double the present market.

Companies engaged in producing potato chips in the Northwest include Nalley's Incorporated, of Tacoma, Washington, with branch

es in Spokane and Springfield, Oregon; Williams and Company of Seattle with a branch in Portland; Blue Bell Potato Chip Company of Portland, Oregon; Good-ee Potato Chip Company of Vancouver, Washington and Jackson's Incorporated, of Pasco, Washington.

The potato chip industry in the Northwest is a \$3,500,000 business in the combined states of Oregon and Washington. The five companies employ a total of over 1,000 persons but this figure does not include those engaged indirectly with the industry such as the farmer, the harvest crews, handlers and shippers.

No Change Seen In Grain Prices

Grain prices in 1957 will be about the same as those of the last two years, forecasts Ray Teal, seed and grain marketing specialist at Oregon State College.

Writing in the latest issue of the OSC Farm and Market Outlook circular, Teal says grain price changes in 1957 are likely to be minor, even though considerable grain land is placed in the soil bank program. While wheat acreage may be reduced as much as a fourth under the new program,

Lake County Gets New Wheat Seed

LAKEVIEW — Five Lake County wheat growers are getting small amounts of a new hard red-winter-type wheat this week, according to word from E. R. Jackman, range management specialist from Oregon State College, who is assisting with the county agent work of Lake County this week.

Named Columbia, the new wheat variety has been tested for several years in many places by the college experiment station before being released to the wheat growers of the state, Jackman reported. This wheat has demonstrated some advantages over the original turkey red in that it is higher yielding, has more smut resistance and is stronger stemmed.

Local growers who will get some of the wheat for trial plantings are Andy Hill, Elmo Angele, Orla Shullanberger, Don Hotchkiss, and the Lakeview FFA chapter. It will be distributed through the county agent's office here.

SPREADERS

A rope controls the speed of apron and beater on new manure spreader announced by the New Holland Machine Company. The new control which attaches to tractor seat, eliminates lever adjustment and adds to convenience and safety of operator.

A New International 4-WHEEL DRIVE

Equipped as follows:

Five 7 x 17.5 Six - ply Truck Type Tubeless

Tires; Side mount tire carrier; Directional signals; Deluxe Oil Filter; Heater and defroster; Electric Wipers.

For Only **2865⁰⁹**

JUCKELAND TRUCK

SALES and SERVICE, Inc.

11th to 12th on Klamath Ave.

Ph. TU 2-2501