



HARVEST PATTERNS— Hundreds of stacks of golden corn, prepared for harvest, form a striking design on the landscape near Tournai, Belgium. The corn is set up in neat shocks on the rolling fields and then collected by slow moving teams of horses drawing wagons. The method is essentially the same as it has been for hundreds of years.

Grassman Contest Committee Named

The nine man selection committee who will judge entries in the sixth annual "Grassman of the Year" contest was named today by J. M. Coon, chairman of the Portland Chamber Agricultural Committee, contest sponsors.

The committee, composed of agronomists from various technical agencies, successful farmers and agricultural leaders, will meet on October 16 to select the two top "grassmen" in the Oregon contest.

In announcing the nine man committee to select Oregon's "grassmen" the chamber stated that each member is particularly well qualified to serve on this committee and added that collectively this group of men holds a vast knowledge and understanding of grassland agriculture in Oregon.

Cash awards of \$300 and \$200 are provided for first and second place winners by the U.S. National Bank, Portland. The bank also provides a large plaque for the winners.

The first place winner will compete with the state winners from Idaho and Washington for the Pacific Northwest "Grassman of the Year" title and a cash award of \$750 provided by R. M. Wade and Company, Portland irrigation equipment manufacturer.

The members of the selection committee are: Senator Howard C. Belton, Canby farmer; Rex Warren, Farm Crops specialist and Dr. C. E. Poulton, range management specialist, Oregon State College; Floyd Fox, Silverton farmer and former Marion County "Grassman of the Year"; Robert L. Brown, deputy state conservationist, soil conservation service; Ed

C. Booker, range and public domain forestry officer, Bureau of Land Management; R. A. (Rube) Long, Fort Rock rancher and former Oregon "Grassman of the Year"; Harold Dutton, vocational agriculture instructor, Cascade High School, Turner; John Clouston, forester general, U.S. Forest Service.

John M. Hooper, who has headed up the Portland Chamber of Commerce's Grassman of the Year and "Grass is Gold" program for the last two years is being transferred by his firm, Wilson and George Meyer and Company, from Portland to Los Angeles.

He is credited with organizing two very successful grasslands tours and has represented the chamber throughout the region in connection with the grasslands program.

In his new capacity in Los Angeles, he will be manager of a newly created agricultural chemical sales division for the Pacific Southwest. Since 1952 he has been resident manager in Portland for the 106-year-old firm which distributes agricultural and industrial chemicals throughout the west.

He will be replaced at Portland by Clifford S. Culley who has been with the Meyer firm for 10 years and is a graduate of Oregon State College where he majored in farm crops.

Time Saving Tools Bought By State

Even in areas without electricity, state brand inspectors and livestock theft investigators can now provide power for electric clippers used in state department of agriculture work.

It's no trick of magic . . . just new portable electric converters recently purchased by the department to aid in expediting the work of these men. Formerly in eastern Oregon areas lacking electricity, state brand inspectors and livestock theft investigators relied on the slow process of hand clipping to remove hair from the livestock brand, which establishes ownership identification.

Now aided by the department's new portable converters, these men can use the faster system of electrical shearing in non-electrical areas. The converter plugs into the cigarette lighter of an automobile and has an outlet for the electric shears.

Silage Feeding Bulletin Issued

Forage crops harvested as silage rather than hay will save about 30 per cent more nutrients and will provide animals with three times as much carotene or vitamin A, report Oregon State College agricultural specialists.

Suggestions by the specialists on how to make, store and feed silage are included in a 20-page illustrated bulletin just published by the college. Other advantages listed for grass and legume silage over hay from the same crop include from 5 to 10 per cent more milk production; all-weather harvesting and storing; and lower requirements of protein supplement.

The new bulletin, "Making and Feeding Grass and Legume Silage," gives recommendations for feeding silage to dairy and beef cattle, sheep, swine and poultry.



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County Agent Reports Farm News Briefed From The County Agent Radio Programs

By RAY O. PETERSEN
Support prices on 1957 shorn wool and mohair will be the same as for the 1955-56 marketing years. The incentive price for shorn wool will be 62 cents a pound. Mohair will be supported at 70 cents a pound. The main purpose of the support price is to encourage an annual production of 30 million pounds of wool.

Meanwhile, more wool is being used. The eleven major wool using countries of the world used eight per cent more virgin wool the first half of 1956 than they did last year. Japan used 30 per cent more wool. On a weight basis the U.S. led other countries with a 25 million pound increase.

At the same time, the USDA invited offers for the barter of \$15 million worth of wool — grease basis — for Turkish chrome ore. Commodity Credit Corporation wool stocks will be used for the exchange.

According to the Federal Crop Reporting Board, production of milk on U.S. Dairy farms during September was just under 10 billion pounds. Milk output was two per cent above September last year and about six per cent above the 1945-54 average for the month. On October 1, the average U.S. cow produced 17.6 pounds of milk. This was nearly six per cent above the previous high set last year and 17 per cent above the average. Seasonally, total milk output declined from August about as rapidly as last year, but not as sharply. Heavier feeding of grain and concentrate helped hold production up.

While milk prices to Oregon dairymen have improved from a year ago, lower feed costs helped too. But a jump of 9.5 per cent in wage rates from a year ago tended to reduce the price advantage to dairymen.

Lice on cattle and ticks on sheep always give some stockmen trouble before winter is over. Animals heavily infested with these insects do not do as well as those free of the pests. Stock that is supporting these pests require more feed and there is always the possibility of spreading some disease. Spraying with one of several insecticides, dusting or dipping cattle or sheep this time of the year will not injure stock and they will

be free of the bugs all winter. The county agents' office has a bulletin giving details for using the different insecticides which is available to anyone.

With winter weather which cannot be to far away comes muddy livestock feed yards. At best it is sometimes difficult to keep stock as comfortable as desired, but some relief can be produced if a few steps are taken before stormy weather comes.

Filling low places in yards that develop from constant cleaning; making earth and rock fills along feed mangers and along walk ways and bedding areas will help. Anything that can be done to improve drainage will prevent water from standing.

Sawdust placed in yards at a depth of 18 to 24 inches while the ground is still dry has proven to be very effective in keeping yards in good condition. It is important to get the sawdust on the ground before it gets muddy.

State Explains Peddler's Law

Recent violations of the state produce dealers and peddlers law points out that many Oregon truck drivers do not realize they must have a license to buy fresh produce for resale, reports the State Department of Agriculture.

Truck drivers often carry this produce for return payloads. In some cases the drivers neglect to obtain either the \$50 wholesale dealers license or the \$10 retail produce peddlers license required by state law.

A wholesale produce dealer is any person who deals, handles or trades in produce at places where it will be resold in its original form. A retail produce peddler sells produce from any vehicle at a house, restaurant or any other public or private place where it will not be resold in its original form.

The wholesale produce dealer also needs a \$2.50 license for each vehicle used in these wholesale transactions. The retail produce peddlers license covers only one vehicle. A \$10 license fee is required for each additional vehicle used in the retail produce business.

OSC Starts Pond Study

An eight-year study to find out the kinds of fish and management practices that will work best in Oregon farm ponds has been started at Oregon State College, according to fish biologist, Carl Bond.

There are now nearly 12,000 man-made ponds in the state, Bond reports. Many of these are now being used, or could be used, for fish production. Trouble is, present management practices for these ponds are based largely on research carried out in southern and midwestern states, and Oregon conditions are quite different.

Oregon has at least five regions that need individual recommendations for best pond fish production, Bond points out. Weather and water conditions in the coast strip, Willamette valley, and in southern, central and eastern Oregon vary enough to require different management practices. Changes in altitude over the rugged Oregon countryside present additional problems.

To give pond owners the most income and satisfaction from their ponds, usable and economically sound management practices that take local rainfall, temperature, and soil conditions into consideration should be made for each of the various regions, Bond says. This would help make farm fish ponds recreational and financial assets to the farm.

First step in the study will be a survey of what's being done in ponds already raising fish and how local weather and water conditions affect the ponds. Bond points out that a good deal of this information has already been compiled by the Oregon State Game Commission and the Fish Commission of Oregon.

Later in the study, such things as pond construction, weed control in ponds, methods and rates of stocking ponds with fish, pond fertilization, and best ways to harvest fish will be investigated. The study will also check to see which kinds of fish are best suited for pond production under various Oregon conditions.

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