

Apple History Dates Back

The history of the apple in America may be especially interesting this year when the largest commercial crop of apples since 1950 is expected in the United States.

"Most people think of apples and apple pies as typically American, because we produce more of both than any other country," says Dr. John R. Magness of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. "Actually the fruit is an immigrant. It came with the early settlers from Europe."

At the time of the discovery of America, apples were the leading cultivated fruit of central and northern Europe. So the English settlers brought them to Virginia and New England, the Dutch to New York, and the French to Canada.

Later apple plantings from seeds moved west faster than the white settlers. Some Indian tribes planted trees near their villages. John Chapman, a journeying missionary, known as "Johnny Appleseed," traveled on foot over Ohio and Indiana early in the 1800's, planting apples as he preached.

Though their ancestors came from Europe, most apple varieties now grown started as seedling trees that were developed here. Sometimes a chance seedling found in a field or fence row yields unusually fine apples. If the new tree is named and propagated by grafting or budding, it becomes a new variety.

Varieties dating back to colonial days include the Baldwin, discovered in Massachusetts; the McIntosh, discovered in Canada; the Winesap and Yellow Newtown. Other commercial varieties are more recent.

Regions of greatest commercial apple production are the Pacific Northwest, particularly Washington; areas south and east of the Great Lakes—in New York, Ohio and Michigan; and in the Eastern States from North Carolina to New England.

Wool & Lamb Promotion Set

The wool and lamb producers' self-help promotion program under the National Wool Act will be financed by deductions from the 1957 program payments on the same basis as from the 1955 and 1956 program payments, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today.

Funds for advertising, promotional, and related market development activities on wool and lambs will be obtained through deductions from 1957 wool payments made to producers in the summer of 1958. Deduction rates will be one cent per pound from shorn wool payments, and five cents per 100 pounds of live weight from unshorn lamb payments. These rates are the same as those made from the payments received by producers this year under the 1956 program.

The promotion program is implemented by agreement between the secretary of agriculture and the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., providing for advertising, promotion, and related market development activities under Section 700 of the National Wool Act of 1954. By a majority referendum vote in 1955, producers favored putting the agreement into effect.

The American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., chartered under the laws of the state of Illinois to carry forward the agreement on a national basis, is governed by a delegate body and board of directors representing state and regional producer groups and national organizations, including The National Wool Growers Association, National Wool Marketing Corporation, National Grange, National Farmers Union, National Livestock Producers Association, and the National Lamb Feeders Association.



"MAN, THAT'S COOL!" An Angus bull closes his eyes and sticks out his tongue in an expression of sheer delight during his shower bath at the Tennessee State Fair in Nashville on September 17.

Vets Report Bang's Tests

Brucellosis testing in Oregon in August found 96 reactors in 55 herds of cattle, for a monthly reactor percentage of three-fourths of one per cent, according to the August report from the federal and state veterinarians in Salem.

Total number of cattle tested during the month was 12,879 coming from 1,873 herds.

More reactors were found in Jackson County than in any other. In 816 cattle tested in 34 herds, 22 animals in four herds reacted which placed the county percentage at 2.696 for the month. The second greatest number of reactors were found in Walla Walla County, with eight cattle reacting out of 778 tested.

Thirteen counties in which testing was done had no reactors. Baker, Coos, Curry, Deschutes, Grant, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lincoln, Morrow, Polk,

Wasco and Wheeler counties were without reactors in the cattle tested.

A total of 2,123 calves in 259 herds were vaccinated for brucellosis, during the month of August.

Not a single reactor was uncovered in the 3,173 cattle tested in 592 herds for tuberculosis.

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