

Forage ...

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are best measures of quality in alfalfa hay. The feed value of alfalfa hay is greatest when cut at one-tenth bloom. Alfalfa leaves contain 70 per cent of the protein and 90 per cent of the carotene of alfalfa hay. The best hay is that which dries fast and is put up with as many leaves as possible.

Federal grades for alfalfa hay emphasize leafiness, green color and freedom from foreign material including grasses. Under most conditions alfalfa alone will yield as much hay as mixed alfalfa and grass. A legume alone will yield more TDN's than a legume grass mixture. Alfalfa grass mixtures make desirable cattle feed because bloat hazard is reduced. Grass mixtures are objectionable to most dairymen.

For best yields in combined tonnage of two cuttings the first crop should be mowed before much second growth shows.

Hay crushers are considered valuable in speeding drying time. There is a possibility of combining crushers with use of swathers which mow 12 foot swaths and eliminate raking by leaving hay in the windrow ready for baling or field chopping. Field chopping offers cost cutting opportunities for those who feed hay on the farm or have markets for chopped hay.

There is greater danger from spontaneous combustion with field chopped hay if chopped with too much moisture. Hay must be harvested drier for chopped storage than for bale or loose storage. The finer it is chopped the drier it must be. Large capacity is important in field chopping equipment.

Ranger and Ladak are leading alfalfa varieties. Vernal is being tried by some growers. Experiment station trials have found yields very comparable for Ranger and Ladak. Vernal is yielding one-half to three-fourth ton more per acre in trials here and elsewhere.

Seeding rates vary widely. Ten pound rates per acre provide 50

seeds per square foot but some growers seed at heavier rates. A firm seed bed is desirable with drilling less than one inch deep.

Summer seedlings in grain hay stubble become established much better than do seedlings made in fall months. Difference in stand and growth the following spring are amazing between late July and early September seedling dates. Inoculation of seed with nodule bacteria is recommended as a standard practice.

Starter applications of fertilizer are helpful in establishing new stands. Ammonium phosphate at 100 pound rates per acre is helpful. New equipment for placing fertilizer below seed is now available.

Sulfur applications consistently give increased alfalfa yields. Fall or winter applications of 100 pounds of elemental sulfur per acre are recommended. For spring application, gypsum is preferred at 250 pound rates per acre annually. Superphosphate applications at 300 pounds per acre give good increases on some soils where phosphate availability is low.

It is considered that this area is at a competitive disadvantage with longer season areas in regard to production of alfalfa meal.

In alfalfa hay production the area has a distinct advantage over many others in that it is possible to obtain six-ton yields per acre in two cuttings where some areas do not produce any greater tonnage in six cuttings.

Leaf spot, mildew, and wilt are disease problems of some but not serious importance. No serious insect pests occur. It is possible that the spotted alfalfa aphid and alfalfa weevil could become of economic importance.

The committee concluded that the reason for statements like "owning land is just a way of having a job" is surplus production brought on by mechanization which released 40 million acres of land from horse and mule feed production and other technologic developments such as commercial fertilizer, insecticides and other agricultural chemicals as well as im-

proved varieties and increased irrigation.

Another conclusion was that high priced land will perhaps not become much cheaper since there is not a great deal of additional land which can be developed economically, and the amount of additional land irrigated annually does not equal disappearance to other uses such as urban development, factory sites and roadways and airports.

The committee hopes for better times for agriculture at some future date, and for the interim suggests that consideration be given to the possibilities listed in this report and in the report of the Livestock Committee.

Swine ...

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ing through a herd by the use of erysipelas anti-serum. Penicillin is also beneficial in controlling the disease.

The committee believes that some change should be made in the method of judging 4-H Club pig projects at the fall fair. It is felt that some encouragement should be given to rate of gains. It is also felt that the possibility of providing a prize gilt to a boy or girl who has continued in the 4-H Club project for some years and who is carrying a breeding project should be given some consideration.

Each Steak Requires 200 Pounds Of Grass

It takes 300 square feet of grass to make enough steak to cover an ordinary dinner plate. Or 200 pounds of grass to make one pound of beefsteak.

Researchers at the University of Illinois said the first impression might be that the steer is a wasteful converter of grass to beef. But they point out that grass is 80 per cent water. So 160 of the 200 pounds in the stack of grass is water.

Seed

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continue to produce from 3 to 6 million lbs. on 8 to 12,000 acres annually. Earlier conference reports here, before Canada, suggested the possibility of growing as much as 15,000 acres.

It is likely that Klamath will be one of the last areas to stop growing the crop. Another reason for this expectation is the limited number of alternative crops which may be produced here. Successful production of any crop requires experience. Experience in alsike seed production is an additional reason the crop will continue to be grown.

NEW SEED CROPS — There appears to be marked interest in production of new seed crops. Different varieties of red clover have been tried, but this crop has not established itself. The same is true for white and Ladino clovers. In general it is desirable to confine production to alsike rather than a variety of clovers. Volunteer from hard seeds results in mixtures. There is a limited market for strawberry clover and a place for some seed production on alkali lands where alsike does not grow well.

GRASS SEED PRODUCTION — Dry land grasses including Crested wheat and Intermediate and Pubescent wheat grass for seed production work in well with livestock operations. Aftermath can be utilized to advantage with most grass seed crops. Increased demand for dry land grass seed, anticipated as a result of the Soil Bank Program, has not materialized. Very much expansion of dry land grass seed could easily saturate markets. Prices are down materially from a year ago. Beardless wheat grass is a more recent addition to the list of dry land grasses now coming into wider use.

Essex and Climax timothy are two varieties of an old forage standby currently in favor. These two appear to offer seed production possibilities. There is a prob-

lem of mixture from volunteer alsike.

Potomac orchard grass offers another opportunity for seed production. There is no experience with its ability here. In other parts of the state it has yielded 800 lbs. of seed per acre. If you want to grow orchard grass, demand for Potomac is likely to be good.

Among the turf grass seeds, Penn Lawn Red fescue is considered a good choice. High yielding and a favored strain of fine fescue.

The price boom is over for Merion blue grass, but it and Kentucky blue grass are still turf grass seed production possibilities.

Grass seed offers us another market — another crop — Production and harvest problems are new to most growers here, but can be learned. Grass seed production fits in well on livestock farms where grass straw and aftermath can be utilized for feed.

The committee recommends that all grass seed production possibilities be investigated thoroughly.

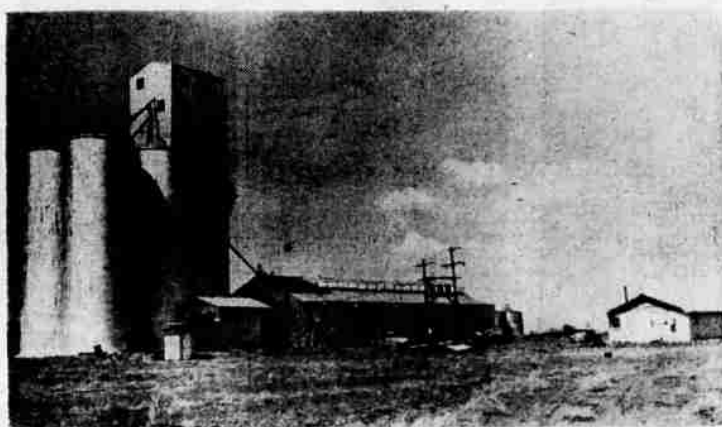
ALSIKE KLAMATH BASIN

	Acre.	Yield	Prod	Value
	lbs/acre	1000's lbs		
1957	9772	375	3,664	\$ 696,255
1956	9397	430	4,040	1,010,000
1955	6200	406	2,480	570,000
1954	7500	400	3,000	840,000
1953	12393	450	5,577	836,527
1952	12117	524	6,357	1,716,336
1951	11000	488	5,472	2,243,356
1950	7918	425	3,363	1,188,617

Sheep ...

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ewes and rams selected for farm flocks. Large rapid gaining ewes and rams should be selected to get the fastest gaining lambs and to secure lambs that will finish for market in the shortest time. Purebred breeders supply the rams needed by commercial producers. The more rigid they cull their flocks and select their rams and ewes for producing rams the more rapid progress in improving market lambs will be experienced by the commercial producers.



NEWELL GRAIN GROWERS ASSN.

The N.G.G.A. is a non-profit, local farmer owned and local farmer operated series of grain elevators located in the Tulalake Basin. It has grown over the past few years to include 4 elevators, which are located on the two leading railroads. Its membership has increased over the past three years 30% and is growing all the time.

WHAT IS A CO-OP?

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary a Cooperative is described as "An association for buying and selling to the better advantage of its members or participants by elimination of 'middle-men' profits." This is why cooperatives were originally set up but now their function has expanded to include many more benefits for the member.

WHAT GOOD IS A CO-OP?

The co-op saves the farmer money by efficient handling and marketing of his grain. It saves him money through mass buying of chemicals, fertilizers and other products the farmer needs. It gives the farmer the bargaining power to get good prices for his crops and to transport them economically. Thus the individual farmer becomes a full partner in a larger business designed strictly for him.

SHOULD YOU JOIN A CO-OP?

IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE PROFITS YOU ARE RECEIVING FROM YOUR CROPS ... IF YOU FIND THE COST OF NECESSARY MATERIALS TOO HIGH ... IF TRANSPORTATION COSTS KEEP YOU WORKING FOR THE "OTHER GUY" ... AND, IF YOU WANT TO BECOME A FULL PARTNER IN A BUSINESS DESIGNED STRICTLY FOR YOU ... THEN YOU SHOULD INQUIRE AT THE ...

Newell Grain Growers Assn.

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