



INTERESTING EFFECTS in patio design may be achieved with lumber from the western pine region. This attractive and practical patio for enjoyable outdoor living was constructed with squares formed by Douglas fir 2 by 4's nailed onto 1 by 4-inch cleats. The wood was treated with a pentachlorophenol preservative to provide resistance to decay. Note the use of wood in the board-'n'-batten siding, sunshade, picnic table, barbecue cart, and other furniture.

Latest Study Shows The Steelhead Trout To Be A Wide-Traveled Sportsman

United Press International
SACRAMENTO, (UPI)—A good phrase to describe the steelhead trout, one of California's leading game fish, is this:

"The nomad wanderers of the fish world."

It's not original. That description comes from the California Fish and Game Department in a report on a report.

The second report is one now under preparation by biologists of the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries on the wanderings of the steelhead.

California's department discusses the report in a monthly publication and says that steelhead range over much of the North Pacific Ocean in an area larger than the United States.

They have been taken south of the Aleutian chain, in the mid-Pacific Ocean and 150 miles from Kamchatka Peninsula, Soviet territory.

Research biologist Robert Y. Ting last year participated in the salmon high seas studies and is cooperating with Clifford J. Burner, assistant chief of Pacific salmon investigations, in preparing a scientific paper for publication on distribution of the steelhead.

To find out the facts, the biologists went fishing, which is a nice way to do research, to help find out the home stream of the reds, pinks, kings, chums and silvers fished in the high seas. They caught steelhead too, a total of 259.

The department says that before this the steelhead's ocean hideout was not known.

"Previously, one of the least known aspects of the steelhead was the ocean phase of its life cycle," the publication says. "The steelhead's stream distribution from Alaska to Central California is well known."

"It was not known whether the fish spent their ocean time on the continental shelf, the shallow sea immediately off the coast or range far into the Pacific."

But biologists sort of had the idea that the shallow sea was the answer. Now they know it isn't. There's plenty of proof.

American aren't the only ones to have taken steelhead on the high seas. Biologists of Canada and Japan did too.

In 1956, as an example, two Canadian research vessels took 32 steelhead along with 943 salmon and Japanese scientists reported the fish as far west as 150 miles east of the Kurile Islands in Russian territory.

Parenthetically, the department says that it is not known if the steelheads taken close to Soviet borders were born in America or not.

Although no steelhead were found in the Bering Sea near Alaska and the Soviet Union, Ting said that's no proof they aren't swimming that far.

"We only sample from May to October—with the greatest fishing effort in July and August—and we don't know their distribution the rest of the year," he said.

During the 1956 and 1957 seasons, chartered salmon investigations covered about two million square miles. That area is wider than the

United States.

Now a little about the size of the steelhead. Ting said they varied from 10 to 37 inches long with an average length of 24 inches—with in the range commonly reported for adult steelhead.

Weights varied from a half pound to 14½ pounds and the average was 7½ pounds for females and five for males.

Once they were captured, the steelhead really got the treatment—but good. The scientists took weight and length measurements, scales were sampled for age determinations and sexes were noted.

Also, the researchers took stomach analyses to determine the food preferences. The scale analysis during three years disclosed that the steelhead spent from one to four years in fresh water before heading to sea to grow the biggest.

The ocean study isn't the only one on this game fish underway by any means.

At Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River, where fish run through fish ladders of various sizes, gradients and designs at the Wildlife Service Fishway Laboratory, it was noted that steelhead can swim through much faster water than salmon. This goes up to 15 feet per second. The salmon have stopped before that.

Also, the Bonneville workers found out that steelhead prefer darkened fishways to lighted ones and they move very rapidly in the darkened fishways.

In Oregon, a fish commission field research station near Astoria tagged steelhead when they came back the second time. This proved little that wasn't already known but it was interesting that the biologists were able to tag the fish a second time. It's no secret that steelhead sometimes spawn more than once.

Don't Forget Wood When You Design New Patio

A patio is usually high on every homeowner's list of planned projects. It's in keeping with the trend toward making the outside of the house more comfortable so that more time can be spent there.

Many people also use the patio as a means of giving their home an individual look. The idea is to make the patio completely different from the neighbor's.

In the search for new and different construction materials, one of the long-standing favorites—wood—is finding ever increasing favor for patios. The Western Pine Association reports.

There are numerous advantages to a properly designed wood patio. It is an easy way of providing an absolutely level and smooth surface where there is none naturally. Built properly on a bed of sand, gravel, or cinders, it's ideal for an outdoor living area where the ground tends to retain dampness.

A wooden flooring dries quickly after a rain. With spaces left between boards the water runs off into the drainage bed beneath. This same feature makes the wood patio easy to keep clean.

Popular species for outdoor construction are straight-grained Douglas fir of the western pine region, Engelmann spruce, larch, lodgepole pine, sugar pine, ponderosa pine, white fir, Idaho white pine, inland red cedar, and incense cedar. The two cedars have a naturally strong resistance to decay, but any of the other western pine region species readily accept preservatives.

They are soft woods, easily worked with hand or power tools, putting a patio within the realm of the do-it-yourself enthusiast. When properly treated with pentachlorophenol preservatives, the wood will stand up well for many years to come.

There are numerous interesting patterns to be worked out. The patio may be constructed as a floor applied to a frame, with the lumber running in one direction or with sections running in alternate ways or in a herringbone pattern. Other possibilities are sections of planks or individual square or rectangular sections that rest on a level bed and can be lifted up at will to clean out debris underneath.

To construct a lift-out sectional floor, sod and dirt should be removed to a depth of about six inches. This allows for a two-inch base of sand, gravel, or cinders and 2 by 4's on edge for the framing of the patio.

Before the base material is ap-

plied, the ground must be leveled. Then the base material should be spread evenly and tamped down for a firm foundation.

The square blocks can be made of short lengths of 2 by 4's held together by 1 by 4-inch cleats. The space between the 2 by 4's should be no more than a quarter-inch in view of the narrow heels that are now in fashion for women.

Another popular style wood patio consists of a frame of 2 by 4's on edge to form the outline. Inside the frame at the bottom are nailed 2 by 2-inch strips, leaving a 2-inch lip inside the frame.

Every 8 feet there should be another 2 by 2 for transverse support. The 2 by 2's or 2 by 4's are nailed down to the transverse supports with the usual quarter-inch spacing.

No matter what pattern is decided on, any lumber dealer will offer advice on the appropriate species from the western pine region to give the desired effect.

Wheat Acres May Be Asked

Farmers on land on which no wheat was seeded for grain in any of the years 1956, 1957 and 1958 and for which a 1958 wheat acreage allotment was not established, may apply for a 1959 wheat acreage allotment according to Earl Wilson, chairman of the Klamath Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation County Committee. The owner or operator of such a farm must apply in writing to his ASC County Committee by July 1, 1958. Wilson stated, otherwise, a 1959 wheat acreage allotment will not be established for the farm.

Wilson further explained that 1958 wheat acreage on a farm which did not have a 1958 wheat acreage allotment does not qualify as wheat history acreage for the purpose of establishing acreage allotments. A 1959 old farm wheat acreage allotment will not be established for a farm without wheat history in 1956 and 1957, and on which wheat was planted for grain in 1958 without a 1958 wheat acreage allotment unless an application is filed by July 1, 1958. Blank application forms are available at the ASC county office for use in filing requests for allotments.

The total estimated cost of the new San Francisco Giants Baseball Stadium, including interest on bonds, is 17.3 million dollars.

Small Chicken Under Study

Midget chickens that produce normal size eggs—yet require less space and do the job with less feed—are under study by Oregon State College poultry scientists.

Paul E. Bernier, poultry geneticist, has a collection of six true dwarf laying hens, little more than half the size of normal hens, that have matched the rest of the OSC flock—egg for egg—during the past year.

Not only have the diminutive birds shown that it doesn't take a "big hen to lay a big egg," but they can maintain their egg production on 35 per cent less feed, estimates George H. Arscott, poultry nutritionist.

The midget strain of White Leghorns weigh 2½ to 2¾ pounds compared to 4½ to 5 pounds for normal hens. Except for size, the midgets are apparently normal in all respects. Dr. Bernier says the dwarfing is caused by true mutation which insures that the strain can breed true.

The OSC research team hopes this year to start intensive research trials with the midgets to learn if their yearly and lifetime production can be maintained at levels equal to present commercial strains.

Midget chickens are not a novelty, Dr. Bernier explains, and could occur in any flock. Genetic nature of dwarfism in chickens was first analyzed by Dr. F. B. Hutt of Cornell University.

Normally, dwarf chickens would be culled from flocks on the assumption that performance would not measure up. Four of the present group of OSC midgets were supplied by Oregon poultrymen, the other two showed up in the OSC flock.

Now that the trend is away from dual-purpose chickens for both egg and meat production, the midget may have a place, say the scientists. Birds bred especially for meat production now leave little salvage value for worn-out laying hens.

Dr. Bernier isn't worried about the little birds coming out on the short end of the poultry flock "pecking order." They adjust "socially" to bigger birds — "or at least they're smart enough to know how to avoid conflict," he explained.

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