

State Farmers Due Credit In Seed Growing Field

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Oregon farmers can take a lot of credit for the fact that seed growing today is recognized as a major industry—not just an afterthought. In the past, the seed industry



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was treated like a little brother who had to wear "hand-me-downs." Storage methods and equipment developed for cleaning and harvesting of grain were adapted for use by seed growers. But now that "little brother" is growing up, storage methods and new equipment are being developed specifically for seed crops.

Dr. D. D. Hill, head of the farm crops department at Oregon State College, looks for many other advances in the seed growing industry, which is worth 20 million to 30 million dollars a year to the state.

Oregon currently grows more kinds of field crop seeds than any other state in the nation. Seed is grown in all parts of the state except in the Columbia Basin wheat producing counties.

Oregon grows all of the ryegrass, much of the vetch and winter peas, most of the fine fescues and the bentgrass, large amounts of red, trefoil, alsike, Ladino, crimson and subterranean clovers, not to mention the wheat grasses, blue grasses, oatgrasses and many others.

The reason Oregon has taken the lead in developing the seed industry is simply because farmers took advantage of their environment to do what they could do best. Cool growing conditions and dry harvest weather have proved ideal for production of high quality seed, according to Hill.

Hill says the rest of the country has come to recognize the West as a major seed-producing area. He expects Oregon growers in the future will be called upon to grow

specific varieties of seeds for certain areas of the country.

Plant breeders who have concentrated in the past on big money crops, such as corn and wheat, are now developing new varieties of forage crops, he noted. The seed growing industry becomes more complex with each new variety developed. Hill cited the fact that each variety requires a different production process, and that it is important to keep new varieties pure through seed certification.

Research is being conducted in Oregon by the agricultural research service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to find ways of controlling weeds and competing crops that make it hard to produce clean seed.

A new system of moving seed about in seed houses has been devised by a team of USDA agricultural engineers at OSC. It simplifies the problem of keeping seed pure. Bucket elevators and moving belts used to be the accepted way of moving seed. These were hard to clean between changing from one variety to another. In the future it is expected that seed houses will switch over to moving seed through small pipes which can be cleaned easily by blowing high pressure air through them.

Another recent advance in the seed industry is the bulk handling of seed from the field to the warehouse. Before it is cleaned, seed is now stored in boxes that hold 2,000 or more pounds instead of in small bags.

Development of new warehousing and identification methods are still needed, Hill added.

Professional Hunter Becomes 'Studio Cop' In The African Bush

MOSHI, Tanganyika (UPI) — "They don't allow you any big mistakes in this business," said George Walter Dove as he slapped a clip into his rifle. "Lose one client to a rhino, a lion or anything else and you've had your chips."

Dove, 40, has been a professional white hunter more than half his life. He has almost been killed twice but, thanks to his skill and long experience, has kept danger away from the men and women he takes out on hunting trips here in British East Africa.

"Frank Buck spoke about 'bringing 'em back alive,'" Dove continued, "and so do we white hunters—only we're talking about our clients, not animals; fall down on that job and there goes your government license to operate."

Right now this pleasant-spoken hunter with a blond goatee and Dali-type, 10-inch-long waxed mustache is working on "just about the oddest deal of my life."

He has been hired to stand guard in the nearby wild bush area where Robert Taylor and other movie players are on location for the adventure picture "Adamson of Africa."

"There's rhino, lion, buffalo and elephant around here," Dove explained, "and just in case any of 'em come around for Mr. Taylor's autograph—or for Mr. Taylor—this rifle will be wanted."

Dove chuckled wryly. "I've read about cops on the studio gates in Hollywood," he said, "and now I'm just one of 'em—keeping away the gate-crashers. Only they don't shoot 'em in Hollywood, do they?"

Flicking away a fly with his giraffe's tail whisk, Dove watched 16-year-old John Dimech going through his paces for "Adamson," which is being made for Columbia Pictures release by Britain's Warwick Films.

"Rather a young lad to be out in that sun," somebody said.

"I guess so," remarked Dove, "but I was brought up in this country after my parents brought me here from Australia. I shot my first lion when I was 11 and by the time I was 18 I was shooting elephants."

A year or two later Dove began taking out visiting hunters on safari. Hundreds of them have been Americans—"mostly very nice people and keen sportsmen."

"Of course," Dove said, "we get

the occasional snob, the one hunting for the Joneses next door back home."

Dove confided that there's very little danger on safari—except for the white hunter. He has to search out the game, often at risky close quarters.

Then he brings up his clients to within a safe distance and advises them which lion, rhino or buffalo to take a crack at.

Dove has seen more than one "good shot back home" freeze up when an elephant lumbers his way. "A little pushing from the white hunter usually unfreezes 'em," he chuckled, "and they start to shoot quite well."

Dove rates some of his women clients as top shots, recalling one Annie Oakley who chalked up 32 out of 40 animals as one-shot kills.

His business is good, Dove indicated, but it can end at any time—with the hunter's death. The hunter almost "had his chips" last year when a lioness suddenly charged him from cover.

Dove fired just as she sprang. The body landed at his feet.

WHEELING ALONG

CHICAGO (UPI)—Fourteen new mobile homes were shipped from factories last year for every 100 housing starts in the nation.

So says the Mobile Homes Manufacturers Association, which estimated that 130,000 mobile homes were produced in 1958. The Department of Commerce has placed one-family stationary housing starts at 902,600.

Prefabricated dwellings accounted for 6.8 per cent of the stationary housing total, according to the MHMA.

Edward L. Wilson, managing director, said 3½ million persons now live in some 1,200,000 mobile homes throughout the country. Their average stay in one spot is 20 months, he said.

PLANNING AHEAD

EAST LANSING, Mich. (UPI)—Instead of making sandwiches each day for school or work lunches, Michigan State University home economists suggest that you make several at a time and freeze them until you need them.

You will get best results by using butter as a spread, as mayonnaise or salad dressing tend to make sandwiches soggy when thawed.

Women Good Bartenders

NEW YORK (UPI)—Women are better students of bartending than men because they are "neater, more adept with their hands, have better memories and don't gossip."

The authority for this statement is John Boning, who has operated the Bartenders School in New York for more than 25 years. More than 12,000 students have completed the school's five-week course and about one-fourth of them were women.

Boning said: "Women make better bartender students, as a rule, because they're more careful about their own appearance and the appearance of their bars. They are better with their hands than men and can make drinks with a minimum of shadow boxing."

"Give a woman a drink recipe and she'll never forget it. And another thing—they mind their own business."

At school, the students work with artificial devices: colored water for whisky and wine, sand instead of sugar and marbles for olives and cherries.

"Off campus," Boning added, the men students prefer scotch and martinis while the co-eds go in for "something chic, such as cognac and French champagne."

Theft Proves Real Love

LOMBOK, Indonesia (UPI) — It's the marrying season on this East Indonesian island and the time of year when a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of love — and stealing.

In neighboring Bali, prospective bridegrooms steal only their brides. But here, a young man with marital aims must become a full-fledged thief before he can get a wife who will respect him.

Lombok police say this age-old custom causes them plenty of trouble, even though it's not as bad as it used to be.

Years ago, a suitor had to swipe a water buffalo to convince the girl — and her parents — of his affection and manliness. But, today, he can get by with stealing a rooster.

However, many youths want to outdo their fathers. So, if a fellow's father stole a water buffalo to get his mate, the son feels he must at least get a water buffalo, with a rooster for good measure.

A youth who does not have enough courage to steal sometimes winds up unmarried because the girls take this stealing seriously. Any self-respecting girl wants to see real proof of the love her suitor professes.

Freight Weigh System Used

CLEVELAND, Ohio (UPI) — The New York Central Railroad's Technical Research center here has put atomic energy to work weighing freight cars as they roll by at 30 or 40 miles an hour.

The new technique uses gamma rays emitted from a cobalt 60 source beneath the rails and a scintillation counter suspended over the tracks.

As the train passes over the radioactive material, the rays penetrate each car, the contents of which absorb a certain amount of the radiation depending on their mass.

The overhead counter records the degree of absorption and feeds the information to an electronic computer which figures the weight of the car and records it.

FREQUENT FOULER

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (UPI) — Vern Mikkelsen of the Minneapolis Lakers is the "roughest" player in National Basketball Association history. Before the start of this season, Mikkelsen had been disqualified on personal fouls in 119 games.