



TRIPLET CALVES—Bernard Kittredge, 5, and Erna Polle examine triplet Holstein calves in Weathersfield, Vt. Twins in bovine families are unusual. Triplets are rare. Unfortunately for the calves, multiple birth animals are of little use for milking purposes and they'll be sold for their meat only.

California Starts Fresh Probe Into Relationship Between Kelp, Ocean Fish

SACRAMENTO, (UP) — California is trying to find out the facts behind a dual relationship between kelp and ocean fish.

The major question is this: If kelp beds in Southern California were harvested entirely would it affect the fish?

Kelp is a plant used to give body to ice cream and for a number of other purposes. Four years ago the state started its probe.

Dr. Carl Hubbs of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography and a member of the kelp study committee reported on findings of the study.

"We have developed evidence that there is a definite food relationship between certain of the fishes in the kelp beds and the giant kelp," said Hubbs, "including one of the mainstays of the sport fishing industry, the kelp bass."

But he said that the relationship does not necessarily have to be. He said the fish can occur in large numbers in areas where no kelp exist.

"It seems likely, however, that the presence of kelp may enable a given region to support a denser population of fishes than would otherwise be present," Hubbs said.

Hubbs told the Fish and Game Commission that by the end of the five-year study — costing the state \$50,000 a year — "we will have information on the food chains and feeding habits of the adult forms of the more important fishes of the kelp beds, mostly in the local San Diego-Los Angeles area."

"It would be of value to get replicate information, however, and to extend the knowledge to juvenile forms and to other areas such as the virgin areas of Baja California and the mud-based kelp beds in the Santa Barbara region," he said.

But this information cannot be obtained "within the allotted time and financing" contemplated under the present probe.

In a general discussion of the geology of the giant kelp and the effects of cutting the plant for production, Hubbs said that growth rates of young plants have been determined.

"It requires perhaps a year for a young plant to develop and become established," he said.

"Growth rates in mature plants are much faster and the regeneration time required after cutting depends upon local conditions . . . and may vary from one bed to another."

"From 10 to 60 per cent of the weight of a plant is removed when it is harvested," he said, "but in good years probably less than five per cent of the total standing crop of our beds is taken by the kelp industry."

"In poor years, however, or in areas under stress, severe or improper cutting could have deleterious effects on the welfare of a bed."

"It should be noted that the kelp harvesting companies under such circumstances are anxious to preserve the resource and conduct their operations in the best interests of the beds," he said.

The doctor said that good examples have been found of severe kelp losses caused by microbiologi-

cal, grazing or physical destructive agents but "considerable more work needs to be done in these areas."

He said there is promise that beneficial results would come from a corrective program that might be undertaken.

Recent warm ocean temperatures, for example, have caused "extensive" kelp losses in Southern California. But Hubbs said his group had found a temperature-resistant strain in Baja California, around Turtle Bay. He suggested a transplant program "might speed up the reforestation of our impoverished regions."

RIPE OLIVES AND RICE

For a colorful and delicious rice dish, combine 3 cups cooked rice with ½ cup chopped parsley, 1 chopped pimiento, ¾ cup ripe olive wedges, 1 cup grated American cheese, 2 tablespoons instant minced onion, ½ cup milk, ¼ cup melted butter or margarine and 2 well beaten eggs. Add salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce to taste. Turn into greased baking dish, and top with more cheese. Bake in moderate oven 30 to 40 minutes. Delicious with fish or meat.

Oregon Cows To Hawaii

Nearly 500 head of Oregon Hereford cattle have passed all health requirements and will soon be grazing contentedly on a large ranch on the Hawaiian Islands.

This is the largest shipment of Oregon livestock to Hawaii in some years and is the first since statehood, says the state department of agriculture.

The shipment, by boat out of San Francisco, includes 294 8-12 months old stock from a ranch in Grant County and 17 head of young stock from a Baker County ranch. The animals will be used for breeding stock. They were trucked from Oregon to the embarkation point.

Previous sizable shipment of animals to Hawaii was 200 goats

which went out by boat from Portland about two years ago. At that time, health clearance was made by the office of the federal veterinarian in Oregon, Dr. A.G. Beagle. In the recent shipment, because Hawaii is now a state, the health clearance was made by the state veterinarian, Dr. L.E. Bodenweiser.

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