

Heel Fly Grubs Posing Problem For Cattle Of Klamath Basin

By J. D. VERTREES

Most of us still remember the very serious heel fly problem we had in the Klamath Basin during the past summer months. During July, the heel flies were especially bad, and cattle all over the Klamath country ran off valuable pounds, running in fear of the cattle grub.

Perhaps even more serious is the work of the grub up through the tissues of the animals over the next nine or 10 months of the period. The egg is laid during the period of summer when the cattle are running from fear of the fly. The egg soon hatches and the worms travel up through the leg muscles and around through the interior of the animal, emerging up through their backs in early spring.

As the grubs mature, they open holes in the hide so that air may be taken into the cysts of the grubs. The fact that grubs are damaging valuable meat as well as opening holes in the valuable portions of the hide, causes many millions of dollars of loss annually in the United States. Klamath County shares in this loss.

New chemical developments over the past years have made control an economic possibility. Old treatments were merely stop-gap treatments and were not highly effective. New treatments, today, are extremely effective if applied properly.

One of the new systemic sprays applied to cattle is highly effective if done properly. Every failure of this spray which has been checked on by entomologists in the state has resulted from faulty spraying.

Sprays go through the hair and thoroughly wet the skin of the animal. Most spraying is done when the outside hair coat of the animal is wet and the spray runs off and yet the skin is not thoroughly wetted. In addition to thoroughly wetting the skin, the entire body of the animal must be sprayed, not just the back or the sides.

When these thorough spraying practices have been followed, excellent grub control has resulted. Prices on new systemic sprays have been reduced drastically over the past year's period, making it more economical for livestock men to treat.

Additional benefits result from the spraying and that is the control of lice. Lice start building up in the fall and reach a peak during late winter months. By the time louse damage is noticed on beef cattle in February or March, we have already supported them with high priced feed costs. Parasites such as lice take a large toll in energy and weight gains and livestock demand more feed during the winter when they are covered heavily with these parasites. These same spray controlling grubs will also control these lice for the winter period.

Another treatment is a bolus which can be given internally to beef animals for the control of grubs. This is an effective method, although additional labor may be needed to treat each animal individually with boluses.

Other newer treatments written up in national news articles as yet are not available in this part of the state. Some of these will be feed additives or a treatment of a wash down on the backs of the animals and in research have proved highly effective. These soon may be on the market in this area.

Grub control and louse control will pay off if done properly. High pressure sprays are essential, and covering the entire surface of the animal is a must.



TOP FEMALE — A senior yearling Hereford, bred by Norman and Lois Jacobs of the Normandale Hereford Ranch of Merrill, NH Zato Ruperta 45, placed first in class and was named grand champion female of show at the recent California State Fair at Sacramento. The winning animal was sired by FRC Zato Heir 17. Normandale Ranch animals on the California show circuit this year have captured two or more championship ribbons at each showing. The state fair produced the largest number of animal entries in 10 years. Jacobs, at halter, will exhibit at Pacific International, Portland, and the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

170 County Youngsters Acquire Clothing Skill

About 170 Klamath County youngsters became more skilled at using the sewing machine last year as a result of enrolling in 4-H clothing projects, says Carol Armstrong, county 4-H agent.

Besides learning sewing skills, club members learn how to care for their clothing, to be better groomed, and to buy fabric and sewing tools. Older girls also learn how to buy ready-to-wear garments wisely. Wardrobe planning is given a great deal of emphasis.

By volunteer adult leaders, 4-H club members elect their own club officers and conduct their own business meetings. Clubs have a community service project during the year, too, which includes anything from cleaning up vacant lots to making cookies for shut-ins.

Four-ers have an opportunity to participate in the many community, county, and state activities, too. Fairs, camp, 4-H summer school, and 4-H club conference are a few of the available activities.



ED SEUS

Bull Sale Tips Noted

Eleven of the 16 consignors to the Modoc County rate-of-gain test have top gaining bulls on pasture, according to Norman Nichols, farm adviser.

Pasture gains were calculated as the bulls were brought from pasture to the feed lot on the Weber Brothers Parker Creek ranch.

Bulls gaining 2½ lbs. or more per day were consigned by Dudley-Parker, Frank Zelle, Estes & Estes, Burney; Gazelle; Turner, Sattley; and Lucky Hereford, Gilroy. These bulls represent the top 10 per cent of the consignments.

While gain is important it isn't everything, says Nichols. Commercial cattlemen should also look the bulls over carefully to see if they have the right conformation for their herd. When calves or yearlings are sold, they still should make an attractive product. Without good conformation or uniformity they will not be as attractive to the buyer.

Cattlemen looking for both good gain and conformation should plan to attend the Modoc Range Bull Sale Oct. 15 at Cedarville. All bulls sold at this event will be rate-of-gain tested under the same feed conditions.

Bulls will be weighed and graded on Oct. 13 at the Weber Bros. Parker Creek Ranch, Alturas.

Consignors to the sale are in addition to those mentioned are Bartell Bros., Bieber; Floyd Bidwell, Cassel; L. W. Earnest, McArthur; Hat Creek Herefords, Hat Creek; Clyde Hill, Cedarville, W. S. Orvis, Farmington; Frank Duncan, Cassel; L. W. Kramer & Son, Bieber; Randall Collins, Alturas; Hoy's Herefords, Weed; Tom Merrill, Salinas; and Price Hereford Ranch, Cottonwood.

Ohio's soybean production of 31 million bushels places it sixth among states of the Union in such production.

Farm Force Threatened

Farming is only one of many problem areas of work feeling the impact of technological change, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, Oregon State University Extension agricultural economist.

She points out that the number of farmers and farm workers in the U.S. has been cut in half in the past four decades. In the last 25 years, particularly, there has been a persistent shift of workers out of farming into other jobs.

The employment pinch is felt when these "other jobs" face the same situation of needing fewer workers to get the job done.

In railroad transportation, for instance, the need for workers declined nearly 40 per cent from 1947 to 1959. In manufacturing, the employment peak was reached in 1943 and has never been attained since. Coal miners are another group facing widespread unemployment.

In industry, the number of white collar employees has risen, while the number of blue collar workers has dropped, especially in unskilled jobs.

Looking to the future, Mrs. Horrell says it looks like the trend will continue.

The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that for the next 10 years the most rapidly growing occupational groups will be professional and technical workers. They also foresee a substantial increase in clerical workers, skilled workers, and managerial or administrative personnel.

On the other hand, no gain at all is looked for in unskilled labor; and the odds favor a further sharp decline in farm workers.

Barley Men Elect Seus President

TULELAKE—Ed Seus, manager of Newell Grain Growers Association was elected president of the Board of Directors of the Western Barley Associates. Seus was elected president of this association at a meeting held in Portland, Ore., Sept. 8. This association will serve all barley interests throughout the United States in creating new uses for barley and developing and expanding foreign exports for U.S. grown barley.

Also serving as directors of the association are Richard Pennell, grain exporter, Portland; J. D. Urquhart, country elevator operator, Lind, Wash.; James Hill, Pendleton Grain Growers Association, Pendleton; Robert McKee, barley farmer, Lamore, Calif.; Richard Crockett, barley and wheat grower, Langdon, N.D.; Ronald Prew, cereal farmer, Pendleton; and Ray Teal, Corvallis, who will serve as treasurer for the organization.

Western Barley Associates was formed largely through the efforts of Ray Teal, Oregon State Extension Service economist; Ken Baghot, Tulelake farm adviser; Ken Farrell, University of California Extension economist; James G. Stearns, Ivan Kandra and other farmers and farm organizations.

The association is a regional group with directors from North Dakota to the West Coast. This organization is interested in expanding the sale of barley and other feed grains produced in the United States.

The association will soon become a part of the U.S. Feed Grain Council and will fill a void in this national organization which has not had a direct representation from the Western States or from the feed barley industry previously. The move will affect local farmers and grain dealers for the association is devoted to developing demand for barley and other feed grains. This in turn will help farmers and handlers obtain benefits for full production.

BLM, OSU Map Medusahead Attack

Medusahead — namesake of the snake-haired Greek goddess Medusa — is rearing its ugly head as probably the most serious new weed pest on Oregon rangelands.

Plans to combat the weed were announced this week as a cooperative program by the Bureau of Land Management and Oregon State University agricultural experiment station.

BLM has granted OSU \$10,000 a year for the next three years to conduct research to control the weed that has spread rapidly in the past few years in eastern Oregon and parts of Washington, Idaho, and California.

Oregon findings should help other states combat spread of medusahead, announced BLM officials who report infestations in Northern California and portions of the interior valley, the lower Snake River Valley of Idaho, and the Palouse region of Washington and Idaho.

Most serious infestations in Oregon are now in Baker, Malheur, Lake and Grant counties. It is also a problem in Wasco County and is showing up in other Columbia Basin counties, reported C. E. Poulton, OSU range management scientist and supervisor of the project.

Research is now underway at sites in Wasco and Baker counties. Robert B. Turner, OSU range management assistant, is conducting the field studies in cooperation with Poulton and W. R. Furtick, OSU agronomist specializing in weed control research.

Exploratory work during the past year with a \$1,000 grant from BLM was conducted by Walter Gould, OSU agronomist, who will assist Turner with some phases of the study.

Scientists on the project believe long-term success depends upon a combination of medusahead control, reseeding with desirable forage plants, followed with good range management practices.

Poulton and Furtick say that good range management is the ultimate key to reducing the medusahead problem to a point where we can live with it.

Medusahead — an unpalatable, annual weed grass — is a threat to any deteriorated range. It has spread rapidly on cheatgrass range which is not a good competitor with this weed.

Experimental controls will include chemical treatment, burning, and tillage followed by range seeding with such desirable plants as crested wheatgrass. The objective is to out-compete medusahead with good forages.

Research on sites too steep or rocky for tillage will combine chemical spraying with careful control of the grazing season and amount of use by livestock to favor desirable plants over medusahead, Poulton said.

A native of the eastern Mediterranean region, medusahead was first noted in North America in 1879 near Roseburg. The next known collection was from Steptoe Butte north of Colfax, Wash.

In the intermountain region, medusahead was first labeled a serious problem north of Weiser, Idaho, where it invaded a reseeded — burned and heavily grazed cheatgrass range.

Medusahead is a heavy producer of seeds that may be carried long distances by animals or wind. Idaho researchers attribute much of the rapid spread over large areas to small whirlwinds or "dust devils" common in the range country.

The slender, tough stem of medusahead — 6 to 8 inches tall in the range country — is topped with a large, bristly seed head. It remains green into mid-summer after cheatgrass has turned brown. However, the weed's summer green is misleading and it is highly unpalatable in the seed stage. The tough, bristly plant is high in silica. Because animals don't graze it, medusahead builds up a litter of plant material that prevents seed of the desirable plants from getting to the soil and germinating.

Although medusahead is found on western Oregon rangeland, higher rainfall makes it possible to crowd it out with sub-clover and adapted range grasses. Poulton explained.

Many Attend FFA Field Day

TULELAKE—The annual Future Farmer of America Field Day for the Alturas section, sponsored by the Tulelake FFA chapter on Sept. 25, brought chapter members from Yreka, McArthur, Alturas, Big Valley and Surprise Valley. The sponsoring school does not participate in competition.

Members competed in two divisions, farm mechanics, including tractor driving, arc welding and tool identification, and livestock judging which includes beef, ewe and sheep.

Beef winners were provided by Norman Mac of Merrill, the swine and Jacob of Vern Hemstreet, FFA leader and the members of the chapter.

Jacobs was in charge of the beef competition, John O'Keefe, sheep and Earl Parsons, swine.

High teams in the livestock division were Yreka, first with 1102 points; McArthur, second, 1070; Alturas, third, 1041; Big Valley, fourth with 994 and Surprise Valley, fifth, 894 points.

High individuals in livestock judging were Larry Rawlings, Yreka; Jim Earnest, McArthur; Wayne Whitely, Yreka; Chad Oil, McArthur; Larry Giessner, Ron Holloway, McArthur; Ronald Robustelli, Yreka.

High individuals in tool identification were Mike Grizel, Steve Rodin, Bill Mam, all of Alturas.

In arc welding high scores went to Steve Rodin, Ronnie Schluter, Mike Crivel, Alturas; Ron Andrews, John Joiner, Big Valley.

Winners in the swine judging were Larry Giessner, Jim Earnest, McArthur; Mike Duncan, Big Valley; beef, Larry Rawlings, David Caldwell, Yreka; Andy Olson, McArthur; sheep, Eddie Echling, McArthur, Jerry Geaney, Alturas, Donnie Crum, McArthur.

Lunch was served by the Tulelake Future Homemakers directed by Mrs. Harry Mitchell.

Prices Drop On Broilers, Fryers; Extension Expert Offers Advice

Prices on broiler fryers and turkeys have dropped to the lowest level in many years and are expected to be below average for the next several months.

John Shipman, Oregon State University extension specialist, reports that fryer prices are the lowest in 20 years. Prices on young turkeys have dropped as low as 27 cents a pound in some markets with the marketing of the largest crop of turkeys in the nation's history.

Shoppers may be ahead, says a Miss Shipman, to buy poultry and serve in weekly meals reserving freezer space for other "specials" on meat. Poultry prices are expected to stay low for many months ahead.

When choosing between whole and cut-up birds, the specialist reminds shoppers to compare prices, consider convenience, family preferences, and cooking plans. Whole birds, generally, are priced 4 to 8 cents a pound less than cut-up broilers.

If buying poultry for the freezer, check for evidence of previous freezing, advises the specialist. Usually birds labelled "Oregon grown" have not been previously frozen. If in doubt, ask the meat man. Any bird that has been thawed and has warmed to a temperature of 40 degrees or higher should not be refrozen because there's risk of spoilage. Partially thawed birds may be refrozen but quality suffers.

Some states have been quick frozen for shipment and have thawed by the time they reach the meat counter. These birds are usually labelled "do not refreeze." Miss Shipman advises shoppers to check for excess fluids in tray packs when buying broilers to avoid paying extra for water from defrosted poultry.

Freshest broilers will be those grown locally, she says. Broilers shipped in from other states are generally four days old before being placed on sale in retail markets.

Record Predator Kill

The report of the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife on predatory animal control show that two Klamath County trappers made a record kill of coyotes and bobcats during the period July 23 to Aug. 19. During this period, Arthur Cooper, whose headquarters are at Shady Pine, north of Klamath Falls, has taken a total of 29 coyotes and nine bobcats, along with seven porcupines, 10 badger and two raccoons.

William Stephens, with headquarters at Bonanza, during the same period took 23 coyotes, nine bobcats, 62 porcupines and 34 badger. This seems to be a record kill for anyone during recent years. The total kill for this period of time for Oregon by cooperative U.S. and Oregon predatory animal control hunters and trappers was 1,084 coyotes, 311 bobcats, 36 bear, 27 fox, for a grand total of 1,458 predators. In addition, 376 porcupines, 301 badger, 18 skunks, 76 raccoons and 14 opossum were taken.

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