

More Potatoes Fed to Livestock Here Than Ever Before

Henderson Tells Value of Diverted Spuds for Animals

By C. A. HENDERSON
County Agricultural Agent

Just how valuable are potatoes as a livestock feed? This is a question that potato growers and livestock feeders are giving considerable attention in the western and northwestern states at the present time. The potato feed diversion program makes possible the diversion of 12,500,000 bushels of marketable potatoes, U. S. No. 2 grade or better, for livestock feeding purposes in these eight states. Growers are paid 25 cents per 100 pounds for these potatoes and in addition, feed them to their livestock and sell or give them to their neighbors for the same purpose. It is safe to say that more potatoes are now being fed to all kinds of livestock in this area than ever before.

A bulletin published by the University of Idaho in 1940 on "Feeding Potatoes to Livestock" gives considerable worthwhile information. This bulletin states, as follows: "Potatoes are a succulent type of feed containing about 20 per cent dry matter, the major portion of which is made up of starch or carbohydrates. Potatoes are very similar in composition to corn silage and contain nearly twice as much digestible nutrients as wet beet pulp or beet tops but only one-third the nutrients of alfalfa hay. The feeding of potatoes in too large amounts or in unbalanced rations usually results in poor gains, weak off-spring and a reduced milk flow. Potatoes should be stored and fed so they will not freeze, rot, or sprout, as freezing and thawing causes sugar and starches in the potato to break down and fermentation starts, making them generally unsafe for feeding. Sprouts should be removed before feeding."

How to Feed
This bulletin advises the feeding of potatoes to dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, swine and horses. A summary of this bulletin, as well as feeding experimental work of Oregon State college and other experimental stations, and Henry's "Feeds and Feeding," all indicate that potatoes are equal to one-fourth the price of good feed barley in feeding to livestock. Generally this would be from 20 to 25 cents per 100 pounds of potatoes.

In feeding dairy cattle it is advised that small amounts be fed first and gradually increased up to from 15 to 25 pounds daily fed in combination with other feeds, particularly alfalfa hay. All agree that some cows eat more than others and that best results are secured by chopping and feeding raw, preferably in stanchions. Only sound potatoes should be fed for best results and cows should be observed closely at the start.

↑ Potatoes are somewhat low in phosphorus and approximately two per cent steamed bone flour could be added to the grain mixture or it could be so placed that animals have access to this mineral at all times. When fed to dairy cows in the amounts indicated, potatoes do not produce off-flavors in milk, and Idaho reports excellent body and texture with no tendency toward saliviness in butter. Generally, it is best to feed potatoes after milking.

Raw potatoes are considered particularly palatable for beef cattle and can be used either in a fattening ration or for wintering of stock cattle. They should never be fed as the sole diet. Alfalfa hay and potatoes make an excellent winter ration. It is generally preferable to chop for cattle although some practice feeding them whole which occasionally results in a choking. In feeding steers, potatoes should be started at 3 to 4 pounds per steer daily and gradually increased to an average of 20 pounds per steer daily. Calves and light yearlings usually can handle from 5 to 10 pounds daily. Excessive amounts frequently cause scouring. Frozen or decayed or sprouted potatoes should not be fed.

Ration Given
Idaho recommends a beef cattle fattening ration as follows: Daily for a 1000-pound steer; barley 8 to 10 pounds, alfalfa hay 15 to 20 pounds, potatoes 15 to 20 pounds. For wintering steers and cattle; alfalfa 15 pounds, potatoes 15 to 20 pounds daily. Potatoes are considered equal in value to corn silage for feeding beef cattle.

Sheep. Potatoes are well adapted to sheep feeding and should always be fed with good alfalfa hay or its equivalent. Lambs may be fed from one to two pounds of raw potatoes daily. As in the feeding of other livestock, feeding should start

with a small amount daily and be gradually increased. They may be fed whole or chopped. Cooking does not increase feeding value to sheep. Pregnant ewes may be wintered satisfactorily on a partial feed of potatoes. Two to 2½ pounds of potatoes in combination with alfalfa hay is generally maximum up to lambing time. Larger amounts occasionally result in weak lambs due to lack of calcium and phosphorus. After lambing, ewes can handle up to 4 pounds daily without detrimental results. Again, frozen, sprouted or decayed potatoes should not be fed. A satisfactory ration recommended in Idaho for fattening lambs is, barley 1 pound; alfalfa 2 to 2½ pounds; potatoes 1 to 2 pounds. For sheep feeding, potatoes are generally worth from 15c to 25c per 100 pounds.

Hogs. The Oregon station reports that 425 pounds of cooked potatoes are required to replace barley, corn or wheat, and advises that potatoes should be cooked when fed to hogs as cooking increases feeding value and palatability. Potatoes should be cooked until they are mealy and the skins burst. No more water should be used than is absolutely necessary as added water merely increases the amount of water the pigs have to consume and decreases the amount of food they can handle.

Grain should not be cooked with potatoes but should be mixed with them after cooking. The best results are secured when potatoes are fed at the rate of 4 pounds potatoes to 1 pound of grain. Pigs will not get fat on potatoes alone. It is not advisable for weaning pigs to consume more than 2 pounds of potatoes to 1 pound of grain. Barley, corn or wheat are best suited to feed with potatoes for fattening pigs, while oats are suitable for the breeding herd. Bulky feed, such as bran, millrun, should not be fed with potatoes. Potatoes should not be allowed to sour before feeding. Fattening pigs need some protein to balance the ration of grain and potatoes, also they need some alfalfa meal for vitamins. Half a pound of tankage or fishmeal daily, per pig, is sufficient and about 1 pound alfalfa meal will balance the ration.

Horses. Potatoes may be used as a substitute for part of the grain ration for horses, or if the horses are receiving no grain, potatoes may replace part of the hay. Potatoes should be fed with caution to horses. In small quantities of 3 to 5 pounds daily, potatoes have a beneficial effect on the general appearance and condition of horses. Horses at work may be fed 12 pounds of potatoes provided the roughage part of the ration is made up principally of good quality alfalfa hay. The hay should be fed at the rate of 1.5 to 2 pounds per 100 pounds of live weight, depending on the quantity of potatoes fed. A daily feed of raw potatoes should not exceed 15 pounds for horses, or about one-fourth of the dry matter. It is not necessary to cook the potatoes.

Wage Rates of Sugar Beet Harvest Told
WASHINGTON, March 20 (UP)—The agriculture department Wednesday announced minimum wage rates to be paid laborers in the cultivation and harvesting of the 1941 continental sugar beet crop would be virtually the same as last year.

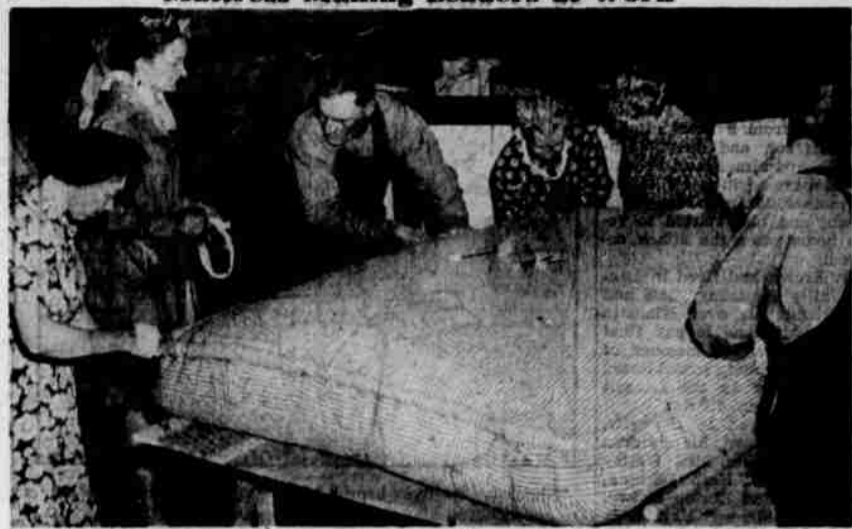
The wage rates to be paid by producers who apply for payments under the sugar act are established each year by the secretary of agriculture. The only changes from last year are to increase the piece work rate for hoeing in Kansas by 50 cents per acre and to provide hourly as well as piece rates for the districts comprising Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Kansas and southern Wyoming.

The hourly wage rate will be 40 cents for blocking and thinning, 35 cents for hoeing, and 45 cents for topping.

Rice is planted to the strains of guitar music in the Philippines, with the rhythm calling for three plantings a second.

When in Medford Stay at **HOTEL HOLLAND** Thoroughly Modern Joe and Anne Earley Proprietors

Mattress Making Leaders at Work



Leaders of the extension service's mattress-making project in Klamath county are shown at work on a mattress at the county fairgrounds exhibit building, where they met for preliminary study of their job. Left to right: Mrs. Lester Wishard, Altamont; Winnifred Gillen, county home demonstration agent; M. L. Ferguson, Fort Klamath; Mrs. Charles Thurman, Altamont; Mrs. A. J. Lahoda, Merrill; Arthur Imig, Altamont. Using surplus cotton, the mattress-making project is designed to benefit low income rural families. Centers are to be established at Dairy, Langell valley, Merrill and Chiloquin.

West Returns From Iowa Beef-Purchasing Journey

MALIN—Gerald West, local livestock breeder of Aberdeen Angus beef cattle, returned home Thursday from Des Moines, Ia., where he attended the Iowa State Aberdeen Angus Breeders' association show and sale at Des Moines March 7.

West purchased six purebred bulls at the sale. After the sale, he personally supervised their shipment and care during the long trip home.

West purchased three purebred Aberdeen Angus for C. V. Barton, one two-year-old from the R. S. Stevenson and Sons herd of Reinbeck, Ia., a bull from the Wayland Hophy herd of Atlantic, Ia., and a bull from the E. F. Walshire and Sons herd of Mechanicsville, Ia. Two bulls were purchased for J. H. Pomroy, Kerby, Ore., one from the H. C. Miller herd of Hampton, Ia. and one from the I. E. Kemp herd of Marion, Ia.

He purchased one bull for himself from the Otto G. Nobis herd of Davenport, Ia.

Iowa is one of the leading states in the nation for purebred Aberdeen Angus beef cattle. These bulls should do their part in building up the Angus breeding in Oregon, according to West.

There were 67 bulls and 34 cows auctioned off at the sale at De Moines.

West also reported a bumper corn crop in that section and fine weather during his trip to the midwest farm belt.

West is the 4-H livestock club leader for Malin.

Spoiled Canned Foods Kill Chickens, Says Professor

Any spoiled canned foods which are even suspected of containing the botulism organisms are best completely destroyed or buried because they are just as poisonous to chickens as to man, says G. V. Copson, head of the bacteriology department at Oregon State college. Whole flocks of chickens have been destroyed by feeding spoiled corn or beans to them, causing the disease commonly called limberneck, which is in reality botulism.

"Since the same germ causes botulism in man and limberneck in fowls, it is highly dangerous to feed spoiled vegetables to chickens," says Copson. "Furthermore, any chance appearance of limberneck in chickens

Livestock Group Selects Gold Beach for Meet

Gold Beach in Curry county has been selected as the convention city for the Western Oregon Livestock association, which will meet there Wednesday and Thursday, April 9 and 10, according to announcements sent out by H. A. Lindgren, secretary-treasurer of the association and livestock field man in the extension service at OSC.

The meeting will be organized on the committee basis as was done in 1940. Announcements of committee assignments are being sent out in March. Those planning to stay in Gold Beach for both days of the convention are requested to make reservations with R. M. Knox, county agent, who is heading a committee in charge of housing.

HIT-RUN VICTIMS
The Peruvian castus andante plant suffers from "hit-and-run" motorists. Taking nourishment from the air, these plants roll along the ground and thousands of them are crushed while crossing the Pan-American highway.

In Ceylon, one-pound snails are common.

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EFFECTIVE WEED SPRAY DEVELOPED

Keen interest has developed throughout the state of Oregon in the use of selective weed spray found effective for killing annual weeds in grain or grass crops without harming the crop, say weed research men at Oregon State college. Publication of the experimental results obtained with a combination of a dyestuff, sodium-dinitro-ortho-cresylate, and common ammonium sulfate has brought a flood of inquiries to the college for further information.

The yellow dye is manufactured by only one company and is sold under the common name of sinox. It is being distributed in Oregon and can be obtained through many feed and seed stores. A bulletin on its use is in process of publication, and meanwhile additional information may be obtained from county agents or direct from the farm crops department at the college.

Soil District Meetings Set For 6 Groups

PORTLAND, Ore., March 20 (UP)—Six district meetings will precede the annual Columbia basin interstate regional meeting of the soil conservation service in Portland April 12, it was announced Wednesday.

Irrigation Engineer R. A. Work said final water forecasts for the various irrigation districts will be determined at the meetings.

The north central Oregon district will meet at The Dalles, April 1; Umatilla-Walla Walla district at Pendleton, April 2; eastern and northeastern Oregon at Baker, April 3; southeastern Oregon at Lakeview, April 5; central Oregon at Prineville, April 7, and southern Oregon at Klamath Falls, April 8.

FALSE TEETH Looseness and Worry

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RICHARD BLOHM IN REED CONCERT

REED COLLEGE, Portland—Richard Blohm, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Blohm, 1234 Pacific Terrace, will play in the Reed college chamber orchestra Friday evening, March 21. The concert will be given in the college chapel.

Blohm, a freshman, is a social science major. He was sports editor of the Klamath high school paper.

Grog Deliveries Stopped By Bill

SALEM, March 20 (AP)—Governor Charles A. Sprague signed into law yesterday 17 bills, including a measure to prohibit deliveries from state liquor stores by telegraph messenger boys.

He permitted the district attorneys' salary increase bill, affecting more than half the district attorneys in the state, to become law without his signature, to take effect.

Congratulate Mother Across Atlantic



Pauline Rathbone, 5, and brother, John, 8, shout congratulations from New York to their mother in England. She is Mrs. Beatrice Clough Rathbone, who succeeds her late husband in the house of commons as second American-born woman to enter parliament.

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